



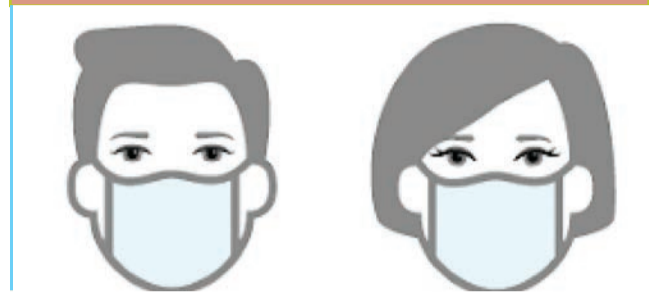
National Pg 2
Tightening security at places of business



National Pg 3
Malaria prevalence in Ukerewe



National Pg 5
Preventing spread of the coronavirus



BUSINESS
President Samia pumps in 100m/- to help Dar traders

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KQ adds flights to Europe as summer demand shoots up

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Lukuvi: Be patient as officials verify all demands for compensation

By Guardian Reporter, Bagamoyo

VILLAGERS claiming compensation of land taken by the government to pave the way for the new Bagamoyo Port and an industrial area under the Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA) in Bagamoyo District have been told to be patient as the issue was still being processed before they get their benefits.

Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development minister William Lukuvi (pictured) made this appeal when addressing residents in areas with land conflicts, beefing up a campaign initiated by Coast Regional Commissioner Abubakar Kunenge to eradicate all land conflicts in the region.

The minister said experts were still verifying areas that have been taken up by the government, noting that some people were already paid, and others will be paid after completing the verification exercise.

He instructed the district council to pay compensation to more than 1,000 people whose land was taken by the government, tasking the RC to make sure each district

Some CCM leaders involve themselves in selling land using the party's rubber stamps, so they need to stop that at once or stern measures will be taken against them

has a register of land conflict reports so that a team is formed to sort out those conflicts.

He cited Mapinga area in the district as leading in the frequency of land conflicts, a situation he said was partly due to government officials at lower levels including village governments. The conflicts have been a big headache as they threaten the peace and impact on development activities among the people, he stated.

The minister said he had already been handed names of 54 individuals claimed to be ring leaders in selling land plots in the district, who include low level government officials.

Some CCM leaders involve themselves in selling land using the party's rubber stamps, so they need to stop that at once or stern measures will be taken against them, he further stated

RC Kunenge pledged to work on the minister's directives to stop land grabbing in the region, hitting on the point that many land conflicts in the region were fanned by government officials and local leaders.

District Land Officer Wandeline Izima said that in the first phase of EPZA and port development work, 2,258 people were identified out of whom 1,155 received compensation for the land taken, as part of an envisaged EPZA area totaling 9,000 hectares.

UNESCO maintains Selous World Heritage Site status

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha



Muslim faithful take part in Eid el-Hajj prayers at Dodoma city's Mtekelezo grounds yesterday. However, the 'Festival of the Sacrifice' is officially being marked in the country today. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

SELOUS Game Reserve has finally managed to retain its World Heritage Site status though by whiskers, after a series of heated debating sessions among global conservationists, as they had expressed concern over environment destruction in the large reserve.

Dr Allan Kijazi the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, said that most reports that crucified Selous in the international community were negatively biased against the game reserve and Tanzania has managed to explain the real situation in the area.

"Our experts have worked hard to come up with an intercepting report which gives the proper perspective of the Selous and convincing 21 member countries of the World Heritage Committee at a virtual meeting chaired by China, on Tanzania's dedication to conservation, contrary to previous speculations," the top conservator explained.

As it happened the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) had previously advised the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to delete the Selous Game Reserve from the coveted World Heritage Sites listing. It cited what it said was the damage caused by the ongoing construction of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project.

Tapping water from the Rufiji basin, the project is expected to encompass well over

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'Importers now lining up cheaper fertiliser'

By Francis Kajubi

AGRICULTURE minister Prof Adolf Mkenda yesterday allayed fears of fertiliser shortage and price hike during the next farming season, saying the government has taken steps to ensure that farm inputs will be abundant and at more affordable prices.

Prof Mkenda made the assurance at the port of Dar es Salaam where he witnessed offloading of 33 tonnes of granular fertilizer by Export Trading Co. Ltd that docked last Thursday.

"I would like to guarantee the general public, especially farmers that there will be no scarcity of fertilizer or price hike. The government has done all it should

We are confident that there will be no shortage of fertiliser or surge in prices. Farmers should not be worried as the market is going to be flooded with the product

in making sure that there is enough supply of the farm inputs. Fertilisers will be available at reasonable prices than current quotations," he declared.

"We have stayed the bulk procurement system on fertilizer to allow suppliers to make individual imports," he said, asserting that this initiative has started yielding fruit as far as importers compete to float the agricultural inputs into the country.

The government has just let market forces decide the prices but with close monitoring of cap indicative prices so that final consumers are not hurt, he clarified.

The ministry had since early

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Seven students charged with arson, fail to meet bail terms

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

SEVEN students yesterday appeared before the Geita District Court, charged with arson in a fire that burnt a classroom and a laboratory here a fortnight ago.

State attorney Clemence Kato told presiding magistrate Sosthenes Kiiza that the accused persons started the fire at Geita secondary school that destroyed



properties worth 153.5m/-.

Those Geita secondary school students before the court are Paskazia Joseph (17), Henry Benedict (18), Frank Joseph (18), David Samweli (18), Samwel Leonard (16), Junior Robert (17) and Daudi Magembe (18).

They pleaded not guilty and the court said the bail was open but none of them

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Embattled Hai district commissioner Lengai ole Sabaya (C), who is suspended, and another accused person pictured in Arusha city yesterday escorted by Prisons officers to the Arusha Resident Magistrate's Court in connection with the hearing of their cases. Photo: Correspondent Allan Isack

UNESCO maintains Selous World Heritage Site status

FROM PAGE 1

125,000 hectares of land, with the mega project and related feeder roads seem to raise alarm among conservationists, citing it as some sort of industrial complex "sticking out like a sore thumb from the heart of the Selous' rich wilderness."

The EIA deputy wildlife campaign leader Shrutu Suresh, claimed that the power project contravenes international legal frameworks and will only continue to further undermine one of Africa's largest remaining wilderness areas.

The EIA launched a serious campaign against the Rufiji

hydropower project, calling upon governments around the world to support the delisting of the Selous, as well as urging all companies involved to divest from the project.

UNESCO, the World Heritage Centre and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) had earlier supported the idea of delisting Selous from that vital reference status.

Other reasons cited include poaching cases being reported from 2014 and deforestation again linked to clearing land for the dam's construction. EIA had also consulted with investors in the Rufiji project's lead construction company and

major banks financing the project.

Prof Khamis Malebo, executive secretary for the National UNESCO Committee, explained that the earlier falsified reports were geared to suggest that a vast area of forest cover in Selous was depleted to pave the way for the hydropower project.

"But in reality only a few blocks have been chopped off in Selous to clear land for the project," he said, noting that Selous Game Reserve measures over 50,000 square kilometers. It was established in 1922, and has for the past century been the largest conservation entity in East Africa, declared a World

Heritage site by UNESCO 60 years later, in 1982.

In 2019 the new Nyerere National Park was annexed from Selous to form the country's largest game park with large numbers of elephants, black rhinoceroses, cheetahs, giraffes, hippopotamuses and crocodiles.

Other than the Selous, Tanzania hosts other World Heritage Sites such as the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Kilwa Kisiwani ruins and nearby at Songo Mnara, Serengeti National Park, Mount Kilimanjaro National Park, the Zanzibar Stone Town zone and Kondoa ancient rock art sites.

'Importers now lining up cheaper fertiliser'

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this month agreed with the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) to immediately allow marine vessels with fertilizers to offload the product as soon as they sail into the port's berths.

"Vessels with fertiliser are no longer kept on an offloading waiting list. They are now treated as vessels carrying weapons and other sensitive items. We have also allowed re-exportation of extra imported fertiliser to neighboring countries as it was one of the importers' main pleas to the government," he elaborated.

Prof Mkenda stated that he personally waived conditions where prior to the shift, importers were compelled to seek for a permit from the minister for re-exporting extra fertiliser in their warehouses.

He said during a recent trip to Morocco had learnt that the surge in fertiliser global prices was due to high demand against limited supply triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Fertiliser demand between July and March takes about 75 percent of the country's annual demand which stands at around 570,000 tons for the top five cash crops and horticulture. "However, with consideration of subsistence farmers' demand, the product's demand goes beyond 700,000 tonnes a year," he stated. July to March sees high seasonal cultivation among subsistence and large scale farmers, he stated.

Global cost, insurance and freight (CIF) rates of the inputs went higher and at the local market fertiliser purchasing costs sharply increased starting 2018 when for example DAP was sold at \$416 per tonne, rising to around \$650 last month. Urea prices rose from \$359 per tonne to \$560, CAN process shooting up from \$274 to \$420 per tonne.

"The ministry is consulting with the Tanzania Railways Corporation to see how freight costs can be harmonized on the central line and TAZARA, with a view to reaching farmers with the inputs at reasonable costs.

Double handling charges by importers and distributors from the

port of Dar es Salaam to the final consumer need to be checked, the minister underlined.

TPA's acting fry bulk terminal manager, Tatu Moyo, said that suppliers' appetite had been generated since the government allowed individual importation, specifying that 11tonnes of Urea consignment by Export Trading Co. was expected at the port next Sunday alongside 4,753 granular consignment by another importer arriving on Thursday next week. A further 9,400 tonnes of CAN ordered by different importers is expected to be delivered at the end of the month.

A vessel arrived on Monday loaded with 20,000 liters of Indazole pesticides ordered by different local fertilizer suppliers, she further noted.

Hasina Abdul, expediting officer at Export Trading Co. commended the government for waiving the bulk procurement system as this relaxation widens the room for doing business.

"We are confident that there will be no shortage of fertiliser or surge in prices. Farmers should not be worried as the market is going to be flooded with the product," she affirmed.

The Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) managing director Dr Stephan Ngailo, said that currently there are 13 registered local and foreign companies importing fertilizers, noting that from 2017 to 2020 around 1.6trn/- was used in importing fertilizer.

"We are targeting at attracting more firms and businesses to invest in fertilizer production so that competitiveness is strengthened and as a result there will be more affordable prices on the market that are likely to benefit final consumers," he added.

"The ministry is consulting with the Tanzania Railways Corporation to see how freight costs can be harmonized on the central line and TAZARA, with a view to reaching farmers with the inputs at reasonable costs."

Seven students charged with arson, fail to meet bail terms

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managed to get a surety meeting the conditions set, namely each posting the title deed of a landed property or a bond of 11m/- in cash.

Attorney Kato told the court that investigations of the case number 21/2021 were still ongoing and asked that the case be adjourned. The court agreed and adjourned the case to 2nd August when it comes up for mention.

After failing to secure bail, the accused were taken to Geita prison where they will be remanded until their sureties meet the bail conditions.

Earlier, Kato alleged that on July 5 the seven accused persons

conspired and intentionally set on fire a classroom used by students taking the EGM (Economics, Geography and Mathematics) combination worth 61.9m/- property of Geita secondary school.

On July 6, the seven accused persons conspired again and set ablaze a laboratory belonging to the school, whose value is put at 91.6m, with those accused knowingly conspiring and committing the said offences at night.

Apart from the two buildings and laboratory apparatuses consumed by fire, the fires also destroyed personal belongings of students such as books that were left in the classroom, the prosecutor added.

Kenya records 618 new Covid cases and death toll of 3,800

NAIROBI

KENYA yesterday recorded 618 new COVID-19 cases, out of 5,507 samples tested in the past 24 hours, raising the number of declared infections since last March to 193,807.

The country's positivity rate was therefore 11.2 percent while the number of tests carried out since the first one last year was 2,064,700.

The positivity rose from the 8.2 per cent recorded on Monday.

Of the new patients, 580 were Kenyans and 38 foreigners, 333 female and 285 male, the youngest six months old and the oldest 103.

In terms of case distribution by county, Nairobi accounted for 272, Mombasa 52, Kiambu 41, Nakuru 30, Uasin Gishu 24, Migori 23, Busia 19, Nandi 17, Kirinyaga 12, Kilifi 11, and

Kitui and Murang'a 10 each.

Kajiado followed with nine, Kericho, Kisumu, Machakos and Siaya eight each, Vihiga and Garissa seven each, Taita Taveta and Turkana six each, Homa Bay five, Nyandarua, Meru and Embu three each, Bungoma, Kakamega, Kisii, Nyamira and Nyeri two each, and Bomet, Laikipia and Makeni one each.

In a statement, Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe said 17 more deaths raised the country's toll to 3,800, but explained that they were all late reports confirmed after the audit of facility records in November 2020 and March.

The ministry further reported 290 more recoveries, 261 of them in hospitals across the country and 29 at home, raising the total to 183,211.

AGENCIES



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister Dr Angeline Mabula (2nd-L) unveils plaque yesterday to inaugurate 24 residential houses at Inyonga in Mlele District, Katavi Region. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

By Guardian Reporter

HOME Affairs Minister George Simbachawene has directed owners of leisure places such as bars, weeding malls and other related areas to tighten security at entrances so as to bar people with firearms from entering.

This follows a recent tragic incident occurred in Sinza Dar es Salaam where a civilian killed his colleague and later committed suicide.

According to Simbachawene, the ministry has been saddened by the incident which has forced them to come up with a new system to control such incidents.

Addressing journalists soon after completing his two-day official tour

Minister directs leisure places proprietors to tighten security

in the Iringa Region, Simbachawene said that no one should be allowed to enter public leisure places with a weapon.

"All these named areas put strong security screening on all people before entering so as to ensure that they do not carry with them any kind of weapon which may affect peace in the area," he said.

Simbachawene acknowledged that the ministry has something to learn from the tragic incident as it has shown that weapon ownership and storage has some gaps which

need to be addressed.

"Weapon (gun, pistol) ownership procedures should be carefully followed and handled, this includes providing the weapon. There is a developed behaviour of granting the weapons to people who sometimes do not deserve to own them," he said.

He added; "By just having a lot of many doesn't guarantee you to own a gun/pistol, these things have procedures and not just fashion. Some conditions include being mentally fit as well as having

insecurity challenges."

He said his ministry commenced the process of identifying the owners of the weapons a month earlier and that some of the government officials involved in issuing firearms against procedures have been suspended from work pending investigation.

In his tour, the minister visited various projects calling on Chinese investors to continue conducting their activities legally and peacefully in Mufindi District and avoid fighting each other.



Morogoro regional commissioner Martine Shigella (C) has a word with NMB Bank Plc special lending senior manager Emmanuel Mahodanga (L) and senior digital manager Tito Mangesho in Morogoro municipality on Monday shortly after opening a seminar for teachers organised by the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi says Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF) is one of the ways to advertise and develop tourism including the Isles heritage.

Dr Mwinyi made the observations yesterday at Zanzibar State House when he met with ZIFF officials led by its director Prof Martin Muhando.

The President said his government supports ZIFF efforts saying it was an important way to develop and advertise Zanzibar's tourism.

He praised ZIFF officials for the huge task that has been bringing benefits to the Isles.

He stressed that the government will continue working together with ZIFF to ensure it continues to attain

Dr Mwinyi commends ZIFF for advertising Zanzibar tourism

more achievements.

In regard to film acting he said it would be better for the youth to be educated on the issue and that they should be brought together to develop their talents in various fields, and suggested that a centre should be established in Zanzibar for that.

In regard to "Bongo Flavour" music, he said it has made great strides and is now comparable to the music from outside Tanzania.

President Mwinyi also spoke on the need to establish colleges for developing talents while stressing that conducting of seminars by

ZIFF will assist the youth to a great extent.

Earlier, ZIFF Director Prof Martin Muhando said the Festival that begun 24 years ago has been of great success in Zanzibar and is expected to be held from today July 21 to 25 this year.

He said in this year's event the first winning film was from Tanzania, and added that in the past only small films were being made but as years went by more success has been realised and added that it was time for Tanzania made films to be more professional.

He said out of 65 films this year

Tanzania has 16 and assured Dr Mwinyi that they have high hopes some of them being awarded.

He said ZIFF is the second biggest festival of its kind in Africa after the one in Burkina Fasso.

He also said their main aim is to merge film and tourism industries that will have one task - to advertise Zanzibar.

He said for this year in collaboration with Germany's Deutsche Welle (DW) they plan to conduct film training aimed at having serial films and plan to select five themes and each theme will be paid USD 10,000.

Stakeholders call for youths' participation in agricultural intensification in Tanzania

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

Agricultural intensification is necessary in Tanzania to meet the demands of a rapid growing population, and to avoid dependence on agricultural imports. An overwhelming share of the Tanzanian population is young, and the issue of employment among youth is increasingly debated.

Agriculture is perceived to play a key role in creating employment opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa as urban employment possibilities are limited, and domestic demand for food is growing.

A cross-section of stakeholders in the agricultural sector have called on the government to invest in young Tanzanians trained in agriculture to enable them have demo farm which in turn help attract other to participate in agriculture for self-employment.

They argued that the government and politicians in general ought to encourage youths to play active role in agriculture to boost food production as well as income.

Speaking with this paper on the sideline of stakeholders' meeting here, one of the agriculture and livestock experts at the meeting, Abdul Kafuku noted that graduate from agriculture and livestock learning institutions like the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) should be empowered by the government to start own farms.

He argued that such graduates should be given capital and land to start their own farming activities which in turn can be used as demonstration farms to attract more youths into farming.

While acknowledging that agriculture is paying, he said, "Agriculture is so profitable but one must know what crops to produce or which animals to keep and where the market as well as having the needed capital for the project".

He said the government should emulate two former presidents, Julius Nyerere and Dr John Magufuli who prioritized agriculture as

one of the driving sectors in industrialization and employment creation, not to forget increased food supply.

Kafuku also observed that Tanzania has excess food produce after increased production by 136 percent but if youths are fully involved in agriculture, the country can produce further and be able to export a lot of food.

Aithan Chaula, a retired agricultural officer noted that youths should be empowered and convinced that agriculture is well paying as a source of income.

"There is need to change this poor trend where young people learn from their grandparents who since time immemorial have not benefitted from agriculture, making youths think it doesn't pay at all" he said.

He argued that modern agriculture should go with database of who is where, what is he or she doing as well as challenge and success realized in agriculture. Through this, the retired officer said will help young people realize that the sector is well paying just like other sectors.

Chaula who is also the Executive Secretary of the Agriculture Seeds Production Association (DASPA) added that of the greatest things to do is to make the whole agricultural process well understood.

"It is high time the government strongly chip in to support young people investing in agriculture, most of whom face a lot of challenges such as capital and acquisition of land" he said.

For his part, Sagara village chairperson, Gilbert Mlwande urged the government to increase efforts in helping farmers get farm inputs and reliable market, noting that rural-based farmers have the potential of encouraging youths to like and join agriculture production.

He added that youths shy away from agriculture due to lack of capital and resort to other income generating activities, some of which are not very stable.

Ukerewe District leading in high malaria prevalence - govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

UKEREWE District in Mwanza Region leads in high malaria prevalence for three years running - 2017 to 2019 due to its environmental considerations.

This was here yesterday disclosed by Mwanza Regional Commissioner Eng. Robert Gabriel when opening a stakeholders meeting on the national malaria eradication programme.

He said in 2017 Ukerewe District led in having 52.6 per cent malaria prevalence whereas insecticide

spraying efforts were conducted to reduce the prevalence to 38 per cent in 2020.

"Research on the disease's symptoms last conducted in 2017, Mwanza region still had a high malaria infection prevalence at 8.1 per cent. More than the national average of 7.3 per cent," he said and added that this level was at the community level, and Ukerewe district was among the districts with high malaria prevalence.

The RC said the aim of the exercise is to respond to the national slogan that says "Zero Malaria Starts with

Me, I am taking Steps to Eradicate It," adding that for that to happen, the region has begun with areas with many breeding grounds including Ukerewe District.

He called on the people to prepare themselves and allow stakeholders to spray malaria insecticide in the houses.

Ukerewe District Executive Director, Esther Chaula said various efforts were being taken to make sure they finish the problem including spraying of "Ukoko" insecticide in houses to ensure infections continue to drop to zero

per cent.

Acting Mwanza Regional Medical Officer Dr Selas Wambura said the insecticide is among essential ways in fighting malaria infections as it has been scientifically proven.

"Last year we implemented the exercise and attained 94 per cent of the target we had set even though some people refused the spraying due to misleading beliefs, but we shall make sure no house will be skipped this time," said Dr Wambura.



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Damas Ndumbaro (L, in hat) addresses residents of Makuyuni ward in Arusha region yesterday. He urged them to notify game wardens promptly whenever elephants and other wild animals stray into their residences and farms instead of hurling stones at them. Photo: Correspondent Lusungu Helela

GARI INAHITAJIKA

NINAHITAJI KUNUNUA GARI KAMA LINAVYO ONEKANA KWENYE PICHA HAPO CHINI MWENYE KUMILIKI AU ANAEJUA LIKO WAPI. TUWASILIANE KWA NAMBA 0764 464 524



AWASILIANE NA ESSAU SENGO. SIMU NAMBA 0764 464 524



Saifuddin Jamali (L), leader of the Dawoodi Bohra community in Tanzania, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday alongside other members of the community slaughtering a goat for Eid el-Hajj. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Rights activists urge the govt on gender equality matters in COVID-19 response

By Alima Nkwong, HMC

RIGHTS activists have advised government and other stakeholders to pay high consideration to gender sensitivity when handling post COVID-19 interventions given the fact that these groups of people are more exposed to the impact of the pandemic.

According to the National coordinator of the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) Onesmo Olungurumwa an inclusive approach will be sagacious especially as global reports prove that COVID interventions have been of extra harm to the women and children who he said form a part of the vulnerable groups.

"We should make sure that all the key community groups are reached while ensuring that those that are susceptible are also given a special program" he said

He underscored that during the lock down women had cumbersome role to take care of within the family milieu and as a result they find themselves overburdened

"Gender Based Violence (GBV) related challenges hiked during the lock down as per reports, causing much challenges to be directed to women" he emphasized

Olungurumwa stressed that women being the larger occupants in local markets were heavily affected by some of the COVID-19 measures as most of them experienced a drastic fall in their activities which also affected their income level suggesting that in case subsidies are to be considered to boost and revive these petite traders, women and youth should be given the top priority.

"Interventions taken to address

COVID-19 impacts should be of higher consideration to women in the formal sector, including other vulnerable groups like youths and children" he intoned.

Considering the fact that women being the most populated gender in the country makes it evident on how important their efforts through their different circular activities and in the family helps to contribute to the country's economic growth.

Researches have shown that disease outbreaks affect women and men differently, and pandemics make existing inequalities for women and girls and discrimination of other marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities and those in extreme poverty, worse. This needs to be considered, given the different impacts surrounding detection and access to treatment for women and men.

Women represent 70 per cent of the social sector workforce globally and special attention should be given to how their work environment may expose them to discrimination, as well as thinking about their sexual and reproductive health and psycho-social needs as front line health workers.



Gender Based Violence (GBV) related challenges hiked during the lock down as per reports, causing much challenges to be directed to women

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

TWO Unga residents have been arrested by the Police for violation of High Court's order that banned construction of houses in Mazizini area.

The order banning construction of houses in the area was issued by Zanzibar High Court Judge, Rabia Hussein Mohammed following Civil Case No 8 of 2020 filed against the Zanzibar Attorney General and the Minister for Lands, Water, Housing and Energy.

The two, including Eng Hawa Saidi Natepe were taken to Mazizini Police Station after they were found constructing a house despite the High Court order.

"We received information from a good citizen about the ongoing construction of the house and went to verify the reports and saw the

Police hold 2 for 'defying' Zanzibar High Court order

construction work at an advanced stage and reported the matter to the police for further steps," said Kasesa Maganga Kasesa, spokesman of Issa Ali Issa family.

He said the family was forced to file a case on January 17 2018 after receiving a letter revoking the title deed at plots Nos 475 and 476 from the former Minister for Lands, Water, Housing and Energy, Aboud Talib and given to a new owner Mudrick M. S. as per new Title Deed No 369 of 2020.

For his part the Sheha (local government executive) Hassan Mohammed Mataka said there

was no overriding High Court order allowing construction of houses to proceed at the plots until the main High Court case was finalised and judgement given.

However, when asked Eng. Hawa Said Natepe was asked to comment on the matter, she said she was not the spokesperson for the construction firm - Grasshoppers Building Limited she was representing.

For his part the Regional Police Commander for Unga Urban West Region Awadhi Juma Haji said he has not received the report of the

incident regarding the violation of High Court order, but added it was an offence doing so.

Issa Ali Issa who is blind decided to go to court after his complaints regarding revocation of his title deed to the former Lands minister, Salama Aboud Talib was not dealt with by the Second Vice President since march 2018.

He was given the two plots during the presidency of Dr Salmin Amour as compensation after the government took his former land plot for the construction of the Mombasa Market in Unga Urban West Region.

Students in Zambia resort to mask sales with schools closed owing to COVID-19

By Special Correspondent, Lusaka

STANDING at the entrance to a shopping complex in Chawama township in Lusaka, Zambia's capital is Joseph Phiri, aged 17 years old, who is ready to help direct patrons with vehicles to parking spaces.

"This helps to create a good rapport with shoppers who may need to buy a face mask or two," explained Phiri, a face mask seller.

With plenty of time on their hands, a good number of students in Lusaka are investing in short-term businesses.

Interaction with youngsters involved in the aforementioned trade revealed that it is proving to be a good business for the majority of them. They indicated that they are using the earnings to supplement their families' incomes or to raise money for school fees.

"On a good day, I make up to 450 Zambian Kwacha (about 20 U.S. dollars) as profit from selling the masks," said 24-year-old Dominic Chisulo, a university student.

Chisulo, who trades from the

entrance of one of the big shopping malls in Lusaka further revealed that selling face masks has enabled him to save up funds for his university fees.

"I will not have to worry about resources for my upkeep once schools reopen as I am saving money for that," he said, adding that some young people who are selling face masks are earning more than some of their counterparts in formal employment.

For 15-year-old Beatrice Banda, who also sells face masks around the same trading place as Chisulo, the exercise for her is a way to stay out of trouble as well as an opportunity to help complement her family's income.

"I am helping my grandmother, who is the sole breadwinner of our family, raise money for savings. This is also helping me to stay out of undesirable activities," said Banda, a grade nine student.

Institutions of learning were closed about a month ago as a measure by the government to curtail the swelling numbers of COVID-19 cases in Zambia.



I am helping my grandmother, who is the sole breadwinner of our family, raise money for savings. This is also helping me to stay out of undesirable activities



Dar es Salaam mayor Omary Kumbilamoto (C, standing) pictured yesterday presenting three out of 36 wheelchairs to people with disabilities. It is support routed through his office. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

KIGALI

THE Rwandan capital Kigali and eight other districts across the country are sent back into lockdown to curb surging coronavirus cases and deaths.

Citizens are urged to significantly reduce social interactions and limit movements only to essential services until 26th July.

Both public and private offices, except for those providing key services, were ordered closed.

Other measures due to come into force include a ban on outdoor sport and recreational activities, while schools will be closed and the number of people attending

Rwanda back into lockdown to arrest surge in COVID-19

funerals is capped at 15.

International arrivals and tourism will however continue.

A dusk to dawn curfew introduced in June across the country remains in force.

Rwanda has up until now avoided the worst of the pandemic by enforcing some of the strictest containment measures on the continent and implementing a rigorous regime of testing and

contact tracing.

But in recent weeks, cases have skyrocketed as the East African nation battles more virulent variants of the virus, including delta.

Hospitals have been overwhelmed, with a critical shortage of beds and desperately needed medicines.

The country of 13 million people has registered nearly 51,000 cases

of Covid-19 of which 607 have been fatal.

But like other countries on the continent, vaccine uptake has been slow due in part to a lack of doses and public apathy.

A nationwide campaign aimed at vaccinating 60 percent of the population by next year has so far reached just 401,160 people, according to latest government statistics.

Minister yet to receive report on Mwenge bus stand project

By Guardian Reporter

DESPITE Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Umyy Mwalimu issuing a two-week ultimatum to probe the slow construction of Mwenge bus stand in Dar es Salaam, nothing has been revealed to date.

The probe team had given two weeks to complete the work until July 4, but almost five weeks have passed with no clear answers that affect the construction which has halted for a long time.

Following the situation, on July this year, The Guardian contacted Minister Umyy who was in Bagamoyo to seek for her response on the matter who however acknowledged that she was yet to receive the report from the committee.

"I am expecting to receive the report from the committee once I arrive in Dodoma," she said.

On June 20, this year minister Umyy directed the formation of a probe team for the new Mwenge bus stand following its snail construction pace.

Addressing reporters after inspecting the project site, Umyy said she was not satisfied with what was going on, and that she had been receiving many complaints from the people regarding the project.

"This project was supposed to be completed on May 2, this year but so far, it is now June, and construction work is only 46 per cent, I am stopping all construction work from now on and forming a team to probe the project's financial spending," she said.

She instructed her permanent secretary to form the team as soon as possible, saying it should complete the probe within two weeks.

She said the team should also probe into two other projects - the construction of a soccer stadium for the Kinondoni Municipal Council and the council administrative complex.

In addition, the minister also

announced the suspension of Kinondoni Municipal Council engineer Isak Mpaki following failure to adequately advise the council on the construction of the three projects.

"There is a lot of wrong-doing regarding these projects, they are not finalised, if completed the bus stand project could earn 480m/- every year, the money that could be used for other social services projects," she said.

Kinondoni municipal council executive director Spora Liana said the cost of the project is 4.8bn/- and that the contractor - (360 JWTZ Lugalo) was handed over the project on July 27, last year.

She said by May 2 this year construction work was only 46 percent with 1.558bn/- spent.

The main challenge is the failure to procure construction material in time, few labourers, and instead of using JWTZ personnel, they employ ordinary people whose wages are delayed to the point of referring the matter to my office," said Liana.



This project was supposed to be completed on May 2, this year but so far, it is now June, and construction work is only 46 per cent, I am stopping all construction work from now on and forming a team to probe the project's financial spending



This ought to have long graduated into a modern commuter bus stand at Mwenge in Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam. However, the project has stalled, with sources saying implementation is expected to resume only after reported differences of opinion between the contractor and the Kinondoni Municipal Council are resolved. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Firm donates sanitary towels worth 2.9m/- to support menstrual hygiene among women, school girls in Z'bar

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

A Dar es Salaam-based Confidence Products has handed over 36 boxes of sanitary towels worth 2.9m/- to the Asma Foundation so as to support menstrual hygiene among women and school girls in Zanzibar.

Speaking during the handover ceremony, Asma Foundation chairperson, Asma Ali Mwinyi thanked the company for extending their support to them as the towels are going to greatly help women and girls in the Indian Ocean Archipelago.

She said that the towels will be distributed to girls at Tumbatu Secondary School in Unguja North so as to enable them to have healthy

menstruation.

Reports show that some schoolgirls, especially in poor rural areas, miss their studies every time during their menstruation period.

She noted that lack of sanitary towels contributes to hindering academic performance to some girls especially those from poor families as they fail to attend classes during menstruation. "Apart from provision of the sanitary pads, more than 400 women and girls in Tumbatu Island will be educated on menstrual hygiene so as to enable them to be more comfortable during menstruation," she said.

Asma added: "Sanitary pad deficit for our girls is a real issue and we are grateful that based Confidence

Products is tackling this matter for our leaders of tomorrow."

She said the foundation is working to ensure that its services reach more underserved communities in both Unguja and Pemba.

Fanta Kaijage, director of Confidence Products said that the company's zeal is to ensure that it produces more sanitary towels to facilitate safe menstruation for women and girls.

According to him, their baseline survey has found that majority of poor women and girls especially in rural areas face huge challenges during menstruation due to lack of sanitary towels.

"We have been supporting young girls in schools and streets to

comfortable menstruation by giving them sanitary towels, we have done this in Kagera, Mbeya, Dar es Salaam and now in Zanzibar," Kaijage said.

There are several issues around the topic including social stigmas and taboos, lack of access to menstrual hygiene products and lack of sanitation infrastructure especially in schools and public ablutions. Lack of menstrual hygiene education is a major challenge.

Adolescent girls can fail to reach their full potential simply because they are compelled to miss so many school days. In Africa it is estimated that one in ten girls miss school because of their menses. This invariably has a massive impact on their future.



Vodacom Foundation ICT specialist Omari Amir directs a Jokate Mwegelo Secondary School student yesterday on how to use a computer shortly after presenting 15 computers to the school. The support is meant to help students at the school access reading material online for free through Vodacom's e-fahamu platform. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya,

Ifakara

Tanzanians advised to adhere to Covid-19 safety precautions

PEOPLE travelling between Iringa and Morogoro regions are at risk of contracting Covid-19 following a tendency by passenger vehicle drivers to ignore safety precautions as directed by medical experts.

A random check by this reporter in various places between the two regions found that some drivers and travelers have ignored directives from the ministry of health to contain the diseases which includes sanitizing, washing hands, observing social distance and wearing masks.

Most of the passengers using public transport in the areas visited by this paper were seen caring less about the precautions as they were sitting in huge numbers in a single seat.

This paper visited Mikumi, Kilombero and Ifakara districts in Iringa and observed the trend.

According to health experts, travelling in public transport without observing social distance

and taking precautions risks spreading the pandemic.

Wearing masks that completely cover the mouth and nose reduces the spread of Covid-19.

In the fight against the third wave of Covid-19 drivers and travelers are required to take action against the corona virus especially the third wave that has been described as currently plaguing the world.

One of the passengers on one

public transport bus, Baraka Mwalisu who boarded the bus from Iringa to Mang'ula Ifakara in Kilombero district, said that despite the threat of a third wave of corona, people still behave normal.

He said people should take steps as directed by health professionals such as wearing masks, using sanitizers or washing their hands with soap.

Take precautions against Covid-19 before holding public events, urges DC

By Guardian Correspondent, Chunya

THE government in Chunya District, Mbeya Region has directed its officials at various levels to first ascertain preparations for protection against Covid-19 pandemic are in place before permitting events or meetings to take place.

Chunya District Commissioner Mayeka Simon Mayeka issued the directives here on Monday as he was speaking to a meeting of members of two tobacco primary cooperatives - from Mtania and Bitimanyanga AMCOS in Lupatingatinga Ward.

The meeting was convened for the signing of health insurance plan for tobacco farmers between the Azania Bank, the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) and Chunya Tobacco Cooperative Union (CHUTCU).

Mayeka said as for now no one has been found to suffer from Covid-19 infection but precautionary steps have to be taken.

He instructed government officials to have hand washing facilities at their offices and called on all residents of the district to wear masks.

"All events organised in the district including weddings and meetings, officials have first to be ascertained with precautionary measures against the disease and if we find such preparations to be inadequate we will prevent these events taking place," said DC Mayeka.

He said recently, his close friend who he met in the army died from Covid-19 and that a short time before his death they communicated by phone telling him he was ill.

In regard to the health insurance loan, Azania Senior Manager, Jackson Lohay said the loan

provided to tobacco farmers was interest free and farmers will repay during harvest season.

He said 700 farmers will benefit in Bitimanyanga and Mtania wards, hence including family members 2,000 people will benefit.

Speaking on behalf of NHIF Managing Director, Mbeya NHIF Regional Manager Mbala Shitindi said Chunya District was among areas with many fund's members.

He said in 2019 alone 2,500 people in the district joined the fund but in 2020 the number dropped due to Covid-19 pandemic that affected farm earnings hence some farmers opted out.



All events organised in the district including weddings and meetings, officials have first to be ascertained with precautionary measures against the disease and if we find such preparations to be inadequate we will prevent these events taking place

Contractor tasked to return 27bn/- to govt

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

WATER minister for Water, Jumaa Awesso has asked the contractor who built the Same-Mwanga-Korogwe Water project-BADR East Africa Enterprises Limited to return the government's money he got after forging documents that led him to acquire 27bn/-.

The minister made the order here on Monday during his meeting with the Kilimanjaro regional officials, saying the project, which had been delayed due to challenges of contractors, led the government to terminate their contracts.

The minister said that the contractor forged documents that led to the payment of the amount, after being arrested and interrogated by the state; he confessed to forging the documents and promised to return the money.

"This project started in 2014 but the contractor has failed to complete it on time and we have learned a lot through this project as having a head-to-head contractor is self-inflicted," said Awesso.

He said that currently, the Ministry through its internal experts of the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) is continuing with some activities in the project including the installation of pipes from Kisangara-Kiverenge -Vudoi with a length of 70 kilometers where so far they have closed 44 kilometers.

He also directed the ministry's executives to supervise and facilitate payment to all employees who were claiming their money in the project as well as NSSF benefits totaling 913.7m/- as it is their right to be paid.

In addition, the minister urged water experts in the project to stop sabotaging the project.

"For example in the Kisangara area, there is a report that 11 water pumps are needed for installation while in reality only 6 pumps are

needed," he cited.

The minister added that in the government budget 2021/22 the government has allocated 19bn/- to the Kilimanjaro region to end water problems.

The ministry's Permanent Secretary Eng Anthony Sanga said the Same-Mwanga-Korogwe water project is one of the largest projects in the country costing 262bn/- and expected to benefit 438,820 citizens once completed.

Eng Sanga said the project is funded by the government with support from the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (Badea), the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), the Opec Fund for International Development (Fodi), and the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD).

He said that following the problems with the contractors, the donors found it difficult to continue providing funds which led the government through the ministry to negotiate with the donors who agreed to continue funding the project.

"Currently the ministry is looking for new foreign contractors for some of the work while other work will continue to be done by our local experts with the aim of ensuring that by December this year the project is completed," he explained.

"The first phase of the project involves construction and operation of raw water infrastructure, a drinking water plant along with storage tanks, 12km pipelines, and an electricity line to supply power to the infrastructure. This phase will cover nine villages in over three districts," he said.

The second phase of the project involves the construction of a storage tank in Kiverenge, a water pumping station in Kisangara, and gravity main and service tanks to cater to the water requirements of 28 villages and two small towns.

The infrastructure is expected to improve the supply of drinking water for 440,000 inhabitants.



Communications and Information Technology deputy minister Kundo Mathew (C, in mask) elaborates to residents of a Muheza District village yesterday on a Halotel tower whose installation there has stalled for some two years. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

BRAC Tanzania Finance Limited (BTFL) has inaugurated a branch in Meatu District, Simiyu Region in its continued mission to promote financial inclusion in the country.

Speaking over the weekend at the launch of the facility Meatu District Administrative Secretary (DAS) Albert Rutaiwa commended the Bangladesh-based organisation for the move to open a branch in the district, saying it will increase access to finance to women engaged in entrepreneurship activities.

"I sincerely request you to inform women in need of financial assistance to enable them to make informed decisions while opting to get a loan from BRAC," he said.

"I urge women to take the loans to undertake development initiatives like businesses to

BRAC Tanzania Finance Limited extends services to Meatu District

generate income, and hence attain financial empowerment from the financial institution that we have just launched," added Rutaiwa.

The regional manager for BRAC Tanzania Finance Ltd, Elizabeth Okama said they are looking forward to supporting the economic activities of Meatu residents through access to credit facilities especially to women who are the primary focus of the organization.

"Women are the backbone of our society, and our mission is to ensure we empower them economically. Our collateral-free loan offering is specifically designed for women

entrepreneurs and farmers because we understand the challenges of women in accessing credit services. It is our greatest hope that through our loan offerings they may realize their goals socially and economically," the regional manager said.

BRAC organization is striving to provide inclusive financial services in a way that is accessible and convenient, and tailored to the local needs of its clients.

BRAC boasts 155 branches which are in 83 districts in 23 out of 26 regions in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

BRAC prides itself on being a big

supporter of women entrepreneurs and farmers with over 97 percent of its client base being women. BRAC also offers an individual loan to both male and female clients of medium-sized businesses which requires collateral.

BRAC's mission is to provide a range of financial services responsibly to people at the bottom of the pyramid, especially women living in poverty in rural and hard-to-reach areas, to create self-employment opportunities, build financial resilience, and promote women's entrepreneurial spirit by empowering them economically.



With today Eid el-Hajj, Dar es Salaam residents pictured yesterday engaged in the sale and purchase of goats for slaughter for the Islamic 'Festival of the Sacrifice'. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Special Correspondent

Dublin's Z'bar hospitality venue for full reopening later this year

THE multimillion-euro redevelopment of Zanzibar on Dublin's Lower Ormond Quay is in its final stages and it is planned to reopen fully later in 2021.

The property, which is now known as Zanzibar Locke, has been redeveloped to include 160 hotel apartments with fully equipped kitchens, a ground floor café and restaurant, a workout studio and a rooftop cocktail bar.

Locke Hotels has reportedly entered into a joint venture with Alan Clancy of NolaClan, which is the hospitality business behind House in Dublin, Limerick and Belfast, to run the property's restaurant, which is called Baraza.

The building's café and restaurant as well as its co-working and internet facilities will reportedly be open to

the public.

Locke Hotels co-founder Andrew Fowler said: "We want to be a hotel that's embedded in the local community and linked in with local businesses. We very much invite the local neighbourhood in. We want our spaces to be vibrant and buzzing."

Locke did a soft launch for the property in December of 2020, and Fowler reportedly said that it opened with approximately 40% occupancy, before rising to 54% in May and 78% in June.

Fowler reportedly said: "We were able to pivot to a more residential-style product for longer-term stays. That worked for the smaller number

of travellers who were typically staying for longer during the pandemic."

A full opening of Zanzibar Locke is reportedly planned for later this year when COVID-19 pandemic-related business restrictions ease further, and Fowler reportedly said that he is expecting the property's hotel to appeal to short- and long-stay corporate guests as well as tourists.

The overall Zanzibar Locke scheme will reportedly employ approximately 100 people.

The exact level of investment that has been put into refurbishing Zanzibar Locke has not been revealed, but with the average spend

per room on a Locke hotel reportedly being approximately €150,000, the bill is reportedly understood to be over €20 million.

Locke is also currently constructing Beckett Locke, which will reportedly include a food hall, near the Three Arena in Dublin's North Dock.

The Business Post quotes Fowler as saying, "Beckett is slightly different; it's a new build. We always saw the opportunity in Dublin as wanting to do something in the traditional core [of the city] and then something in the docks. They are two very different locations, but two very key locations."

CCM applauds Samia on mobile money levy move

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

CCM in Kilimanjaro Region has applauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan on her directive that new levies on mobile money transactions be reviewed.

The party's regional chairman Patrick Boisafi held a meeting here yesterday which brought together youth and women entrepreneurs including motorbike taxi operators and tricycle taxi riders at CCM regional offices where he said the president did the right thing because the rates are bad for small businesses.

"Our president has implemented one of the CCM manifestos that want the government to prepare good environment for the small and medium entrepreneurs to conduct their businesses freely and pay affordable taxes for sustainable development of our country," Boisafi said.

He added that, CCM in Kilimanjaro Region is happy to see that the government has made a u-turn on its newly-introduced mobile money levy after the public rebuffed the move on the ground that it was defeating Tanzania's financial inclusion goal.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said on Monday that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has heard people's complaints against the new mobile money levy and that she had instructed the ministry to work on the matter.

In an effort to raise its revenue collections by 1.254trn/- to partly finance the 36.68trn/- budget for the 2021/22 financial year, the government last month amended the Electronic and Postal Communication Act (CAP 306) by imposing a levy on all mobile money transactions, depending on the amount sent and withdrawn.

A calculation of the charges

indicate that sending 1m/- to someone and having the money withdrawn costs a total of 31,000/- if all the current and new charges are added up.

The levy, which became effective on July 15, has since been roundly criticised as people believe the amount being deducted was just too high for Tanzanians to carry.

Some have gone to the point of promoting other transaction mechanisms, including through banks and hard cash to dodge the colossal deductions.

But in what signals that the government would backtrack on the levy, Dr Nchemba said on Monday that President Samia has been personally concerned by people's complaints.

He said since the levy was now legally-binding after the Parliament approved the 2021 Finance Act and Appropriation Act, the Ministry of Finance and Planning and that of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) will have to work on the regulations and see the way forward.

He said work on the grievances was in full gear and that even the prime minister has called for a meeting where the government will deliberate on the subject.



Some have gone to the point of promoting other transaction mechanisms, including through banks and hard cash to dodge the colossal deductions

Farmers in East Zone to benefit from new farming technologies

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

FARMERS from the country's five regions will benefit from farming technologies following the establishment by Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) of the Knowledge Centre for dispensing the technologies in the Eastern Zone.

The regions that will benefit from the technologies include Morogoro, Coast, Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Iringa, and the centre will be housed in TARI building at Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere Grounds in Morogoro.

Speaking during the launching of the centre, TARI Director General Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo said the centre aims to uplift farmers from abject poverty by abandoning the use of traditional seeds for modern quality seeds.

He said another aim is to educate farmers in these regions on modern seeds technologies that withstand diseases, climate change and yield high crops.

Dr Mkamilo said apart from exhibiting the seeds produced by the new technologies that have undergone adequate research in the five regions, TARI researchers will also educate farmers on how to use better farming practices.

For his part TARI-Mlingano Centre Director, Dr Catherine Senkoro said the farmers will have the opportunity to learn about soil use depending on the crops they cultivate in their areas.

He said the farmers will also be educated on how to use leguminous crops and sesame that can be mixed with other crops to increase humus in the soil.

For his part, the coordinator of TARI-Mikochei Centre Dr Fred Tairo said they have established a technology for producing bananas, pineapples, sweet potatoes, grapes, cassava and sisal seeds in bottles, the seeds will be disease free compared to ordinary ones.

Kinyemi Khatibu, a farmer from Mlimani ward who came to the centre said he was very pleased by the establishment of the centre as it will increase his knowledge starting from farm preparation, planting of seeds, weeding as well as adding value to his crops.



Dr Mkamilo said apart from exhibiting the seeds produced by the new technologies that have undergone adequate research in the five regions, TARI researchers will also educate farmers on how to use better farming practices



Water deputy minister Maryprisca Mahundi (C) pictured yesterday following a briefing by Ishmael Kakwezi (L), an engineer with the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa), on the implementation of the 17.8 billion/- Mlandizi-Chalinz-Mboga water project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Masasi DC challenges youth groups to engage in entrepreneurship activities

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

MASASI District Commissioner in Mtwara Region, Claudia Kitta has challenged youth to form groups and engage in entrepreneurship activities which include invention of charcoal briquette making machines.

Kitta made the statement over the weekend when addressing owners of a factory which manufactures charcoal briquette

making machines which uses agricultural wastes from different crops such as rice, timber, maize, cashew nuts, ground nuts and coconut shells.

She said the government sensitizes people to establish small industries to boost the country's economy as well as individual income. She added that it is through the factories that young Tanzanians would get jobs because the government cannot employ all

the graduates.

"There are a number of opportunities in Mtwara Region; you must grab wisely to generate a good income," said the DC calling upon the residents to learn from the inventors on how to make similar machines.

Director of the factory which manufacture's charcoal briquette making machines, Abubakari Kushoka said they have been selling the machines to various

stakeholders across the country. He said the machines can use agricultural wastes from various crops with a capacity to process between three and five tonnes of waste within ten hours.

Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) Manager in Southern Zone, Manise Mpotigwa said the project was designed as part of efforts to conserve the environment and control forest destruction and tree felling caused by charcoal making.



Some of the traders until recently conducting their activities at Dar Salaam's Kariakoo Market, which was gutted by fire on the night of July 11, back in business at their temporary premises around the city's Machinga Complex yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

COVID-19 pandemic: AU underscores need for climate-resilient approach to recovery

By Special Correspondent, Addis Ababa

THE African Union (AU) has emphasized the need to integrate climate-resilient recovery approach from the brunt of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has triggered the deepest economic recession in nearly a century and the impacts on Africa have been particularly stark, the AU said in statement.

According to the AU, food insecurity and debt have been rising, and the hard-won development gains are being lost.

"As the Covid-19 pandemic unfolds in Africa, the situation remains fluid and rapidly evolving, with measures needed to ensure the trajectory of the recovery remains in line with the Paris agreement and the ambition of COP26," the statement read.

The AU's call for green recovery came shortly after the launching of a Continental Green Recovery Action Plan, which emboldens action on five priority areas that include improving climate finance, supporting the just transition to renewable energy, nature-based solutions and a focus on biodiversity, resilient agriculture, and green and resilient cities.

The continental action plan, which will run from 2021 to 2027, is expected to contribute toward attaining the targets contained in Africa's 50-year development blueprint of Agenda 2063 and to support the Continent to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the last two decades, Africa has recorded a growth rate of 4.6 percent

on average, despite an unfavorable international economic and financial environment, according to recent data from the AU.

The Covid-19 pandemic has, however, plunged the continent into its first recession in 25 years, which has exposed the vulnerability of African economies, said the AU.

According to the AU, the cumulative loss of Africa's gross domestic product is estimated at between 145 and 190 billion U.S. dollars, with worrying projections that 39 million more people could be pushed into extreme poverty if urgent and purposed measures are not taken to address the socio-economic difficulties caused by the pandemic.



As the Covid-19 pandemic unfolds in Africa, the situation remains fluid and rapidly evolving, with measures needed to ensure the trajectory of the recovery remains in line with the Paris agreement and the ambition of COP26

By Special Correspondent, Yaounde

Over 70 innovative projects are developed at girls coding camp

AFRICAN girls at a coding camp in Cameroon's capital city of Yaounde have developed more than 70 innovative and solution-oriented projects in animation, web development, robotics, artificial intelligence and fashion design, UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) said.

Over 8,500 young females successfully produced the inventions during a 10-day boot camp which was held on site in Cameroon's cities of Buea,

Douala and Yaounde, and online under the mentorship of experts from the ECA, the International Telecommunication Union and UN Women, in collaboration with the government of Cameroon, the ECA said in a statement.

The projects to be fine-tuned and presented at an innovation fair during a date to be announced in

Yaounde offer practical solutions to a range of issues from health care to road traffic management within the context of Africa's expanding and integrating economy.

"Most of the projects show the girls are very aware of their environments and are trying to solve problems using the technical skills they've acquired at the

Camp," said Sorene Assefa, who coordinated the workshop.

"What we've seen from the Camp is a movement of young female community leaders ready and passionate to change the destinies of their communities, countries and continent," Antonio Pedro, director of ECA Sub-regional Office for Central Africa, said in a statement.

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Public anxious for results as Samia demands levy review

There is an air of relief in common people levels after President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed relevant ministries to look into the recent hike in mobile money transaction levies following a public outcry that they are too high to carry. This intervention was made public by Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba who said that President Samia has heard people's complaints against the new mobile money transaction charges and that she had instructed the ministry to work on the matter. Still the minister appeared as yet clueless as to what the problem might be, and if ready solutions exist.

The public was simply being reminded that the government last month amended the Electronic and Postal Communication Act (CAP 306) by imposing a levy on mobile money transactions, depending on the amount sent and withdrawn, in an effort to raise revenue collections by 1.254trn/- to partly finance the 36.68trn/- budget for the 2021/2022 financial year. It is this overall picture that commands attention, and then it is counterpoised to the concerns raised by the public, and a sentimental view of the president's directive, when the minister says the Head of State has been personally touched by people's complaints. This is to reverse the issue to a caring president rather than technical errors that need to be rapidly solved.

It is possible the minister, like other leading officials, will be hesitant to hold the bull by the horns, and explain precisely where the fault lies, as the problem was not seen at the level of passing the levies in the legislature but in their application. There is a feeling that the minister sees the application

as having been straightforward, even arguing that 'people will get used to it,' and never realized that what is being applied isn't what was told to MPs. When it comes to sending 10,000/- the receiver is deducted an extra 500/- on top of the nearly 1,000/- earlier, whereas the minister said a 100/- levy is added to 10,000/- sent.

It is this incremental phenomenon that creeps up in the entire package presented as minimal enhancement of levy charges, which provoked the widespread disquiet. In that case it is vital for the minister to address this discrepancy and restore the margins that were stated in the Appropriations Bill. There are other actors who have stepped in purely at the bureaucratic level, chiefly the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) which has been conspicuously absent in reactions to enhanced levies. It has not and will probably not explain how the 100/- of the budget becomes 500/- in actual charges, whereas it has always been sharp and resolute when money transfer service providers act with any impropriety thereof.

The silence of the TCRA on the hikes speaks for itself, that it has okayed this interpretation of the Bill, or the Act, where 100/- in the Bill becomes 500/- in actual fact, and that means the 10,000/- in sending 5m/- shall now be translated to 50,000/- levy, and perhaps its imputation shall be based on a higher multiplier. The scenario looks like TCRA raises a 200/- additional charge to the 100/- in the Act; service providers add it to the 100/-; they recover the TCRA addition to remain with their usual margins so the total is 500/- That is why TCRA is singularly conspicuous by its silence; Dr Nchemba beats around the bush about this.

With South Africa in this mess, just how to mark Mandela Day?

This year's Mandela Day comes as communities across the world confront challenges brought on by COVID-19. Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, is observed every year on July 18 to mark the birth anniversary of the former South African president. This day is an opportunity for everyone to renew their commitment to the values that inspired Mandela.

This day was first celebrated on July 18, 2010, after the United Nations in November 2009 officially declared Nelson Mandela International Day. Originally, this day was Mandela's idea to celebrate his birthday as Mandela Day. On his 90th birthday, Mandela said, "It is time for new hands to lift the burdens. It is in your hands now." However, there were some groups that started celebrating this day from July 18, 2009.

In 2014, the UN General Assembly introduced the Nelson Mandela Prize, an award recognising the achievements of those who dedicate their lives to the service of humanity.

Nelson Mandela International Day is meant to honour the great legacy of Mandela and his values through community services and volunteering. This day also on this day, people are expected to pay attention to the serious issues happening around the world and warn those. The theme for this year's Nelson Mandela International Day is 'One Hand Can Feed Another.' This day is celebrated by organisations that work for violence against women, genocide and crimes and who come together to inform people about these issues.

18 July 1918 - 5 December 2013 was a South African anti-apartheid

revolutionary, statesman and philanthropist who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was the country's first black head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic election. His government focused on dismantling the legacy of apartheid by tackling institutionalised racism and fostering racial reconciliation. Ideologically an African nationalist and socialist, he served as the president of the African National Congress (ANC) party from 1991 to 1997. Seditious activities and was unsuccessfully prosecuted in the 1956 Treason Trial. Influenced by Marxism, he secretly joined the banned South African Communist Party (SACP).

A Xhosa speaker, Mandela was born into the Thembu royal family in Mvezo, Union of South Africa. He studied law at the University of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand before working as a lawyer in Johannesburg. There he became involved in anti-colonial and African nationalist politics, joining the ANC in 1943 and co-founding its Youth League in 1944. After the National Party's white-only government established apartheid, a system of racial segregation that privileged whites, Mandela and the ANC committed themselves to its overthrow. He was appointed president of the ANC's Transvaal branch, rising to prominence for his involvement in the 1952 Defiance Campaign and the 1955 Congress of the People.

He was repeatedly arrested for seditious activities and was unsuccessfully prosecuted in the 1956 Treason Trial. Influenced by Marxism, he secretly joined the banned South African Communist Party (SACP).

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

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

Advertising
Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
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By Steven Boykey Sidley

When all is said and done (and, of course, it never is), what will remain when the flames die down is how easy it is to make South Africa ungovernable. With the combustible recipe of tribal allegiance, mass unemployment, the cynicism of Machiavellian provocateurs and the smooth rails of social media, this was bound to happen. If one is generous, one can argue that some Zuma supporters were initially exercised by outrage and loyalty to their benefactor, expressing their dissatisfaction through the time-honoured South African ritual of breaking things. Of course, for the rest of us, the Zuma incarceration was a misty moment of judicial triumph. But OK, not everyone felt that way, and most of us thought they would rage for a day or so, and then recede, swearing never to vote for the ANC again.

But now all hell has broken loose, little of it to do with Zuma any more. How easy is it to start a riot? Very, it seems. Send a WhatsApp message to five, maybe 10 willing participants. Arrange to meet at a mall. Throw a rock, break a window. Shoppers flee in terror. Then go on social media and say come on

By Wayne Duvenage

This is not an open letter, just a train of thought that hopefully resonates, as many years for stronger and swifter action to end the crisis that is rapidly dragging our nation into a dangerous and dark place. The anarchy in parts of South Africa clearly has two sources and agendas: one political (to weaken your leadership and create instability that will count against you), the other, sheer criminality and opportunistic predation. Both agendas will feed off each other and gain momentum unless as a nation we urgently quell these negative forces.

No one would want your job today, not even the bereted man who blindly believes that his book of Venezuela solutions will take the nation forward.

There is no silver bullet for the anguish of our nation today. It requires both long and short-term issues to be addressed. While we must not ignore the various dynamics and underlying causes of our current plight - many of which will not be understood or accepted by all - the need for good governance and purposeful leadership to address poverty and unemployment is long overdue. As is the need to undo years of the decimation of our education, health

How to break a country

down, free goodies. And hundreds of people arrive. More windows broken and looting. Then cell phone videos. Then more people.

Who are these people? One wonders. One of the many videos I watched was a nattily-dressed middle-aged man trying to shoe-horn a truly massive flat-screen TV into his upscale car. This was in a mall in Johannesburg. I thought - does this guy care about Zuma? I doubt it. The looters calmly exiting the mall with bulging shopping carts, included portly mamas, smiling jean-wearing 30-somethings, groups of giggling teenagers. They all had the same look on their faces.

Joy. Glee. Getting away with something.

I have no way of knowing what the desperation levels of the looters were. Whether they had been vainly seeking a dignified job for years and had run out of rope and hope. It didn't look like it on my screen, but then this particular mall was in a nicer part of town. I am sure that in other spots, like Vosloorus, there were those among the looters who were stealing for utility rather than gees.

But here was the common theme. None of these people seemed to give a damn. Not about the jobs that will surely be lost - most of them at the tenuous bottom end of the economic scale - not about the shame of breaking a social and religious no-no, and certainly not about the long-lasting damage that will be wrought on this country's sense of itself and the rest of the world's view of it.

And whatever remains of its pride, now in tatters.

Where, we might ask, were the government institutions tasked with safeguarding its citizens? Where were the police? And where were the intelligence services? Surely they were monitoring social media, getting to hotspots either before or within minutes of trouble? Surely they have embedded human assets among cells of discontent, who keep an eye out for this sort of thing? Surely there are fast reaction teams and nimble crowd control squads? These questions are obviously rhetorical.

Like much else under this government's control, the job that they are required to do does not get done. We are adrift in a sea of non-

governance.

And the president? He came on TV and appealed for calm. Threatened the "full might" of whatever. He said nothing. He calmed no one. He had no plan. Other than soldiers in uniform with no training for the job. And so we become just another pitied country with its army on the streets.

Perhaps the most frightening aspect of all lies not in our failing institutions or citizens prepared to steal without shame. It is rather here: there are those in the body politic with large axes to grind; those with vaulting ambitions and plans to attain undeserved wealth and power. People like Ace Magashule and Julius Malema and those close to the now-empty Zuma throne.

To them, this must have been a revelation.

So easy to do this. So easy to stir the pot of violence and theft to position yourself for the next round of power politics. Just send a tweet, a WhatsApp message to 10 or 15 pliable comrades of dubious moral backbone.

Break a store window.

Break a country.

Dear Mr President, your anguish is shared by all, but South Africa needs decisiveness

and security structures, which has added to our economic woes. The deployment of people unfit for the jobs they fill must surely become a thing of the past. Millions remain flabbergasted by the likes of Gwede Mantashe and Fikile Mbalula trying to drive South Africa's energy and transport solutions.

My worry is that stones are being cast in your direction from all sides, while the choices we have as an alternative to lead this nation are too ghastly to contemplate, especially your MIA deputy, David Mabuza, who conveniently seeks medical attention outside the country while a court case that requires answers for atrocities during his days as Mpumalanga premier unfolds.

Casting stones will not take us forward. A political dispensation that failed to put its people ahead of the party as it mastered the art of abuse of power and self-enrichment is no secret today. Let's temporarily halt the blame game or debates of scenarios about what our future could or should look like, when we may not even have a future if we don't stop the current devastation.

We cannot ignore the dialogue

and work required to tackle our journey of healing. A Basic Income Grant and appointments to drive a developmental and investment environment are essential in our discourse and actions. Equally important is the need for a cultural and moral regeneration that supports and respects the rule of law. Our quiver of potential prosperity has many arrows that need sharpening.

We need action today. Action that will halt the brazen destruction, which has the heaviest impact on the poor. Action that will ensure accountability against every person who has been part of the atrocities, from the instigators to the leaders and looters.

While many are encouraged to witness communities aligning themselves with policing forums and neighbourhood-watch initiatives to safeguard lives and property, this too is unsustainable over the long term and is already giving rise to vigilante retaliation that has the potential to spiral out of control and with it, cause deeper divisions along ethnic lines that will shatter our dreams of a prosperous rainbow nation.

The last thing we need right

now is martial law or a State of Emergency with its night-time curfews that remind us of the very dark days of our past. However, we also can't ignore these options as a possible necessary evil to bring a faster end to the mayhem.

Without a swift solution, a food and economic crisis of massive proportions looms. Already, food and fuel supply lines are being choked and shops that are struggling to open are unable to replenish their shelves. Food scarcity is pushing prices way over the top of reasonable affordability, with negative consequences that are extremely worrying.

Please, Mr President, we ask that you demonstrate strong and decisive leadership in these times. Increase the outputs of your intelligence department. Ensure the police keep us better informed. Arrest and remove from society those who feed their destructive agendas with mindless rhetoric and false narratives. They have only one desire: the failure and destruction of South Africa, with a mindless vision that people will queue to elect them to build a fairyland utopia that has no hope of rational application in the real world.

Greater investments in shipping, ports and African seafarers vital for free trade agreement to stay afloat

By Brian Gicheru Kinyua, Timothy Walker and Denys Reva

TRADING under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement started on 1 January 2021, a significant milestone for Africa's political and economic aspirations. The deal created an enormous single market, uniting 1.2 billion people across 54 states with a combined GDP of \$3.4-trillion.

The standard expectation would be that AfCFTA trading – taking place on a continent of few islands and many landlocked states – would happen mostly by rail, road or plane. In fact, the first goods traded under the AfCFTA regime were carried by ship from a Ghanaian cosmetics company to Guinea on 4 January.

AfCFTA interconnectedness is needed to drive economic growth and development across the continent in the coming years. Africa's maritime industries and actors will be vital in achieving this outcome, as sea transport offers the cheapest and fastest way of moving the largest quantity of goods across long distances.

Even for Africa's landlocked countries, trade depends primarily on maritime gateways. Other types of freight are typically more expensive, less efficient and less reliable due to the generally underdeveloped railway and highway systems on the continent.

Reaching an Africa-wide consensus on such a complicated matter is an essential first step. The World Bank estimates that AfCFTA could boost continental income by up to \$450-billion, and lift close to 30 million people out of extreme poverty. Yet the success and results of the initiative depend entirely on African states' ability to increase the efficiency, capacity and safety of their maritime transport systems.

African decision makers must prioritise the expansion and improvement of the continent's maritime transport infrastructure, which struggles to deal with the current level of import and export. The development of port infrastructure in



Shipping containers sit on board cargo ship Ivana, operated by Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC), center, as it departs from the Port of Durban, operated by Transnet SOC Holdings Ltd.'s Ports Authority, in Durban, South Africa, on Friday, May 25, 2018. According to research Africa's participation in the shipping industry remains hindered by the continent's low fleet ownership. File photo

most African countries lags behind the rest of the world – only three African ports are featured on the 2020 list of top 100 global container ports.

High freight rates, poor turnaround time in cargo clearance, and inadequate storage capacities are just some of the many problems that strain African ports' competitiveness. The World Bank estimates that most sub-Saharan African ports exceed 20 days on average cargo dwell time, compared to a dwell time of three to four days in major global ports.

Historical intra-African trade levels have been low, and in 2017 were estimated at only 16.6% of total continental trade, dropping to 15% in 2019. As a result, countries focus on outward export of raw materials and commodities, and most inter-African trade occurs within the economic regions, but to a lesser

extent between regions.

Given these low figures, the precise percentage of intra-African trade presently carried through ports and by ships is unclear but is probably tiny. Yet because it remains the cheapest and fastest way of moving the largest amount of goods, it presents Africa with a golden opportunity.

African states with better developed maritime trade capacity and infrastructure will benefit more from the free trade deal. The African Union recognised this in its 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy and the Revised African Maritime Transport Charter. Both require complementary implementation to support AfCFTA goals.

Increased shipping levels will mean a greater need for safety at sea to monitor, control and direct maritime traffic. Most inter-African maritime trade will probably either be transported along the coastline or would need to pass near hotspots where coastal instability poses costly risks. African countries therefore need to ensure the security of their maritime domains.

Currently, much of the AfCFTA's focus seems to be on negotiations concerning the rules of origin for trade goods and scheduling of tariffs. Yet this is just one of the four outlined objectives. The agreement's ultimate

aim is to increase economic relations between African countries and outside of the traditional regional/customs unions.

But there cannot be a single continent-wide market without good logistics, and the maritime sector already ensures safe passage of around 80% of goods traded in Africa. The operational inefficiencies affecting the African port sector must therefore be solved urgently.

According to a report published last year by the Africa CEO Forum and Okan, investment in African ports reportedly reached more than \$50-billion in 2019. Yet just three countries – Egypt, Morocco and South Africa – handle 51% of goods transported by sea in Africa. The others, including large economies such as Nigeria, suffer from a crippling lack of capacity to increase both bulk and containerised cargo handling.

Urban populations are rising, especially in coastal megacities such as Lagos and Dar es Salaam. As a result, demand for goods typically shipped in containers by large carriers is expected to soar.

An African single market would be impractical unless it developed infrastructure that could accommodate larger vessels and more containers. Most African countries continue to export mostly bulk commodities such as oil, precious metals and raw agricultural prod-

ucts. At the same time, intra-African trade is dominated by the exchange of manufactured and processed products.

Africa's participation in the shipping industry remains hindered by the continent's low fleet ownership. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development estimates show that only Nigeria features among the top 35 owning nations with a share of 0.31% in deadweight tonnage as of January 2020. Only Liberia makes the list of top flag states with 13% of the total world deadweight.

This means that Africa would have to seek the help of foreign-owned vessels in implementing AfCFTA until such time that African-built, -crewed and -owned vessels finally carry African-made products all over the continent and the world.

DM

Technological innovation enables fish farmers in NW China to increase income while treating wastewater

By Wang Hanchao

BECAUSE of technological innovation, Helan county, Yinchuan city, northwest China's Ningxia Hui autonomous region, which faced challenges in developing aquaculture as it is located in an inland region, has managed to increase fish farmers' income while realizing effective control of wastewater.

Earlier in July, Helan's first batch of 150,000 farmed bass hit the market, about one month earlier than the fish transported from southern areas of China to the county in the past. The high quality bass have been well received in the market, with the unit price of big bass being 40 yuan (\$6.18) higher per kilogram than the rest.

There has been a time when Wang Xujun, a fish farmer in Helan whose family has been in aquaculture for over 40 years, had been distressed by the fact that fish farming appeared less profitable in recent years.

To increase fish production and make more profits, Wang tried feeding fish plenty of food, which failed to stimulate the production and only made the water thicker.

"I spent a lot of money on the feed. However, less than 30 percent of it was absorbed by fish, and all the rest turned into sewage," Wang said.

While hating to see the money on feed flow away with the tailwater, he was also worried as fish farmers were required to either treat sewage or shut down farms under tougher measures for environmental protection.

Jin Haoxuan, a teacher who specializes in water environment management in Tsinghua University, brought technologies for dealing with tailwater to Wang's fish farm. Since fish farmers couldn't make much money, not to mention they now need to bear the cost of sewage treatment, fish farmers' economic conditions must be taken into consideration in sewage treatment, according to Jin.

Considering that avoiding pollution at the source is more important than disposing of the polluted tailwater, Jin and his team members stayed in Ningxia for four years and researched into technologies related to fish farming.

Jin's team focused their attention on helping farmers make good use of water and cultivate high-quality fish, in a bid to increase their income and make them more



Wang Xujun, a fish farmer in Helan county, Yinchuan city, northwest China's Ningxia Hui autonomous region, consults Jin Haoxuan, a teacher who specializes in water environment management in Tsinghua University, about technical matters in the middle stage of fish cultivation. File Photo

motivated to protect the environment.

Fish farmers in Ningxia used to raise only grass carp and several other species that are easy to raise but priced low in the market. Due to unfavorable temperature and climate, farmers in Ningxia couldn't cultivate fish native to south China including bass, which have tenderer meat and higher prices.

The previous model of drawing water and discharging wastewater recklessly and trying to drive production through enhancing the input of feed didn't work, Jin told farmers. Noting that local farmers have the benefit of using high-quality water from the Yellow River, Jin suggested that farmers raise fish species that are hugely popular in the market.

"Bass is charged over four times the price of grass carp. We will listen to your advice if you can prove that

bass can be raised here," fish farmers said to Jin.

Jin's team then started to study the cultivation of bass based on the habits of the fish species and local conditions. Bass likes clean water and usually stops feeding when the water gets dirty. The water temperature in Ningxia is low, and every time fish farmers change water, they will cause a drop in temperature at the fish ponds. As the sunlight is strong in Ningxia, algae grow wildly due to eutrophication of water and cause oxygen deficiency for fish. Besides, with long cold days,

it is very likely that when fish from the southern areas are ready for the market, local fish haven't grown up yet.

To address these problems, Jin's team figured out a model which features small pond and fine management to allow fish farmers to maintain and control the temperature and other conditions of fish ponds.

After many trials, the team finally proved a method of raising fish at greenhouses and small ponds while purifying the water successful.

They have changed harmful am-

monia nitrogen and nitrite into harmless substances with micro-organisms, and residual fish feed and feces into fertilizers with water circulation equipment. A fish pond only produces a few glasses of such substances and fertilizers. Except for evaporation, there is almost no water loss.

The transformed fish farms need less water and have witnessed rising production and benefits. They can produce 2,000 kilograms of bass a year with 200 cubic meters of water. Besides, raising bass is now even cheaper than raising carp in the past. Ningxia used to introduce fish from south China, which led to many losses during transportation. Nowadays, the local high-quality fish hit the market earlier than those from south China, and are highly competitive in the market even with their high prices.

The fish farming model of Jin's team allows farmers like Wang to increase their income while controlling the pollution at a low cost. It has been supported and promoted by the science and technology bureau and the agriculture and rural affairs bureau of Yinchuan.

Five major fish farming households have participated in trial breeding under the model, 27 leading companies have confirmed to join, and thousands of individual fish farmers will observe the cultivation and receive training in batches.

It is believed that more fresh fish from Ningxia will be served on the tables of residents in northwest China in the near future.

People's Daily

Recommendations for reporting responsibly on suicide

By Klaudia Jazwińska

A New York City emergency room physician named Dr Lorna Breen, who helped lead the response to the first wave of Covid-19, died by suicide a few months into the pandemic.

Her death became a high-profile story that captured headlines across the United States at a time of swelling national emotion. It later inspired a bipartisan group of lawmakers to introduce the Dr Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, which was meant to reduce and prevent suicide, burnout and mental health conditions among healthcare professionals.

Though the legislation is critical for protecting healthcare workers, it's important to highlight that the media also have a significant role to play in preventing suicide.

While the story of Dr Breen's death was important in drawing attention to the toll of the Covid-19 pandemic on the mental health of medical professionals, the way in which the news was actually covered might also have had dangerous consequences.

In a case study recently published in 'Crisis: The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention', my co-authors and I found that that top US media outlets covering Dr Breen's death did

a poor job of adhering to best practice recommendations for reporting on suicide.

We modelled our report on a similar case study from 2019 about the coverage of the deaths of Kate Spade and Anthony Bourdain - and ended up finding similar results.

After reviewing all articles published by top US media outlets in the days following Dr Breen's death, we found that none of the articles abided by more than ten of 15 recommended guidelines; some articles followed only two of the 15.

Strikingly, only 75 per cent of the articles we examined even included the phone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. And language aimed at promoting public health, such as sharing the message that suicide is preventable as per the expert guidelines, was almost non-existent in the extensive coverage.

These findings are significant - and troubling - because one of the main risks raised by media coverage of suicide is contagion.

There is plenty of research that shows how irresponsible reporting can contribute to imitation suicides. For instance, a 2018 study found that the US suicide rate increased by nearly 10 per cent in the six months following the widely covered death of actor Robin Williams.

Yet, despite this knowledge, media outlets continue to cover the

issue of suicide in a way that is reckless and could expose both the subjects and readers of the stories to greater harm.

The Recommendations for Media Reporting on Suicide were first released in 2011 by Dr Dan Reidenberg, executive director of Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE), in collaboration with journalists and other stakeholders.

Over the past decade, Reidenberg has led countless media trainings and webinars around the US and globally, and he regularly advises journalists on how best to apply the recommendations to their reporting. He says he has noticed an increase in adherence to some of the recommendations over time, but there is still plenty of room for improvement.

"When journalists do stories about someone who died by suicide, they have to create a narrative, something that attracts the reader," Reidenberg said, adding: "Obviously, a celebrity can do that easily."

However, acting on the temptation to sensationalise such a story could have grave consequences.

The coverage of Dr Breen's death illustrates how traditional journalistic instincts can run counter to the public interest when it comes to reporting on suicide.

We found the New York Daily News to be the worst offender, flouting all but two of the recom-

mended guidelines in both articles we reviewed. They featured flashy headlines, included specific details about the death, and prominently displayed photos of the deceased, among other transgressions.

The New York Post's coverage, meanwhile, defied several recommendations in the headline alone: "Top Manhattan ER (Emergency Room) Doc Commits Suicide, Shaken By Coronavirus Onslaught".

The New York Times, too, reported irresponsibly by oversimplifying the cause of Dr Breen's death and glamorising the suicide by including language about heroism.

Reidenberg understands that journalists are not advocates or activists but believes that they nonetheless have a duty of care not to cause unnecessary harm to their sources or audiences.

For this reason, he thinks it is important for them to be educated about how some of the tactics they typically employ to make a story more engaging or relatable to a reader can actually be counterproductive and even dangerous when it comes to reporting on suicide.

Since 2015, the AP (Associated Press) Stylebook has had an entry on suicide that discourages reporting on the topic altogether, "unless the person involved is a well-known figure or the circumstances are particularly unusual or publicly disruptive".

It also advises against going into

detail on methods used, and cautions against the use of the phrase "committed suicide", saying that it suggests a possibly illegal act.

Reidenberg's recommendations go beyond simply preventing harm by providing opportunities to create benefit. They encourage journalists to avoid framing suicide as inexplicable or having a single cause, and instead to include crisis resources and information about how coping skills, support and treatment work for most people who have suicidal thoughts.

There are ways to sensitively and accurately report a story about someone who died by suicide without glamorising or falling back on harmful tropes. One way of doing so is by helping the audience understand why someone died by focusing on systemic issues around the training of physicians, the hours that they work, and the pressures and demands that they are under, especially during a pandemic.

"We need to tell those stories, but we have to tell them in the context of what the issue is - and the issue is suicide - and what can we do about it," Reidenberg said.

He added: "Most media stories fail to talk about what we can do about it. They tell the story of the person and their life and the decline in their life and what they've left behind, but they don't include 'What are we going to do to fix the

problem?'" In that journalists don't often cover suicide as part of their beat, they might be unaware of the ways in which this issue necessitates a different approach from most other kinds of stories.

However, as conversations about suicide prevention become more commonplace in society, we must also make space in the editorial process for considering how journalists play a role in this effort.

Dr Breen's story was an important one, and publications could and should have done a better job covering it. Reflecting on these publications' mistakes and their potentially grave consequences can help us avoid repeating them in the future.

If you have found this content distressing or difficult to discuss, you're not alone. There are resources available to help. Start by exploring the resources from the Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma, and seek psychological support if needed.

Piece originally published by The Objective, and then republished on IJNet - itself a publication of the International Journalists' Network, a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Klaudia Jazwińska is a journalist and researcher whose work revolves around the media, technology, labour and ethics.

Japan's Suga in danger of becoming another revolving-door premier

TOKYO STRUGGLING with rising coronavirus cases and a deeply unpopular Olympics, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga is at risk of becoming the next in a long line of short-term leaders.

The 72-year-old Suga, long-time right-hand man of former premier Shinzo Abe, has seen his support sink to just over 30% - traditionally considered a danger line for Japanese leaders - from around 70% when he took office last September.

Suga (pictured) took over after Abe, citing ill health, ended a tenure that lasted nearly eight years and made him Japan's longest-serving premier. Before that, Japan went through six prime ministers in as many years, including Abe's own troubled first one-year tenure.

Suga's dream scenario was to contain the virus outbreak, preside over a successful Games and call a general election. That has been upended after a recent surge in COVID-19 infections led to a fourth state of emergency in Tokyo and forced Olympic organisers to ban spectators from almost all venues.

"He's not doing a good job at handling the party and policy, and nobody likes him being in power," said Steven Reed, a professor emeritus at Chuo University. "All they need is an alternative."

New infections in Tokyo surged to a nearly six-month high of 1,308 on Thursday and medical experts have sounded the alarm. Japan's mostly voluntary restrictions have failed to curb the movement of people that can spread contagion.

Efforts by Economy Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura to get bars and restaurants to stop serving alcohol as part of anti-COVID-19 measures backfired and caused a public outcry.

Nishimura, Suga's point man on pandemic response, was forced to apologise and withdraw requests for banks to pressure establishments that failed to comply with the alcohol request and for liquor wholesalers not to supply such eateries.

Japan's vaccination campaign was also initially slow and is now facing supply bottlenecks, adding to dissatisfaction.

Japan has not suffered the explosive outbreaks



seen elsewhere but has recorded nearly 830,000 COVID-19 cases and about 15,000 deaths. Only 31% of the public have had at least one shot.

FACE OF ELECTIONS
For Suga's Liberal Democratic Party, his biggest failing is an inability to win elections. The LDP lost three parliamentary by-

elections in April, and this month the party and its allies fell short of a majority in the Tokyo assembly. The LDP gained far fewer seats than it expected in that vote, seen as a bellwether for national elections.

"The consensus among the LDP had been that unless the LDP saw significant losses (in the Tokyo election), Suga would be prime minister until next spring," said a senior bureaucrat with deep knowledge of the party.

Now, "people in the party are mulling how to replace him," the bureaucrat said on condition of anonymity.

No incumbent LDP heavyweight has publicly called for Suga to be replaced.

Suga won the LDP leadership after all major factions united around him. But he lacks his own strong base, and party divisions have deepened since he took office.

His term as LDP president expires in September, although there has been talk of postponing the party vote until after an election for parliament's powerful lower house. The general election must be held by November.

Ditching an incumbent premier is tough and the absence of an obvious successor makes it harder. Nor are there signs Japan's powerful business lobbies are unhappy with Suga.

"If it were obvious who would replace him, he'd probably be in more trouble, but who is the party going to coalesce around?" said Tobias Harris, a senior fellow at the Washington-based think-tank American Progress. A divided opposition and low turnout could also limit LDP losses in the lower house vote.

"Is there any reason to think turnout will be better than the last couple elections? So how bad will LDP losses be?," Harris said. "This seems to be the 'new normal'."

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Mining firm donates 500 bags of cement to support building of Geita regional mosque

By Guardian Reporter

GEITA Gold Mining Limited (GGML) has donated 500 bags of cement to the ongoing construction of the regional Mosque in Geita town, in an effort to cement ties with the local communities in the area.

The sizable contribution will aid the construction of what will be the first regional mosque, serving the surrounding areas of Geita town, that once completed will have an estimated capacity of 2,500 and be able to accommodate both female and male worshippers simultaneously. The function to hand over the building materials was attended by representatives from GGML and the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA), Athuman Abba Mtunguja.

Mtunguja who is also the regional secretary and secretary of the construction committee of BAKWATA lauded GGML's involvement and reiterated how important the mining firm's contribution is to the mosque construction project.

He said: "We're at a key stage in the construction, and these bags of cement are integral in keeping the project progressing in a timely manner."

"On behalf of the Regional Construction Committee for Geita and the local Muslim community, we would like to thank GGML for their donation of this cement. Also for their acceptance of the invitation to Baraza la Eid, the fundraising event we held earlier this year in May.

At the event, GGML pledged 500 bags of cement in support of the construction, and they were true to their word, Alhamdulillah today they delivered on that promise. We thank GGML for their continued support," said Mtunguja.

GGML maintains a constant dialogue with local and national government stakeholders, working closely and taking guidance in the development and planning of corporate social responsibility projects with the intention that they are fully inclusive and serve the Geita community as a whole.

One of the GGML's core values that gives them social license to do business in Tanzania is their commitment to, "the communities and societies in which we operate to be better off for them having been there, and aim to leave a legacy of enduring value".

Over the past 20 years, GGML has not only forged and maintained strong ties with the national and local government stakeholders but also with the influential community and religious leaders.



GGML representatives Musa Shunashu (2nd L) and Frank Humphrey (C) symbolically present bags of cement to representatives of the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) construction committee representative Athuman Mtunguja recently in Geita town. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

African health experts urge vaccine research to boost COVID-19 response

By Special Correspondent

GREATER investment in home-grown research and development of a safe and efficacious vaccine is crucial in order to boost the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa, experts said in a virtual forum in Nairobi

on Monday.

Githinji Gitahi, CEO of Nairobi-based international health advocacy group, Amref Health Africa said the continent's ability to defeat the pandemic hinges on domestic financing toward the development of effective vaccine candidates.

He urged African governments to increase the budget earmarked for COVID-19 vaccine research even as they negotiate with foreign pharmaceutical companies for patents to facilitate local production of the essential life-saving commodity.

Among issues discussed by

health experts who spoke at the virtual forum organized by Amref Health Africa included solving COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy that is rampant in the continent amid misinformation.

Joachim Osur, vice chancellor of Amref International University said that vaccine

hesitancy that is rife among women, youth and community health workers poses a threat to Africa's quest to flatten the curve. He cited a recent study conducted in Kenya which revealed that vaccine hesitancy among youth aged 18 to 24 years stood at 58 percent while 19 percent of com-

munity health workers were reluctant to take the jab.

Osur said that Africa's COVID-19 vaccine research agenda should prioritize community engagement in order to boost its uptake among high-risk groups including the elderly and chronically ill.

Jesca Nsungwa-Sabiiti, com-

missioner, Department of Reproductive and Child Health at Uganda's Ministry of Health said vaccine research coupled with infrastructure upgrade, data collection and public awareness is key to ensure the goal of inoculating a critical mass of Africa's populace was achieved.

TFWG: Promoting community-based forest conservation to reduce poverty

By Guardian Correspondent

SHARIFA Rashi Kibou, a single mother of three, still remembers the events of 2010 when she gave birth to her first child, a daughter.

Kibou lives in Nanjirinji A village in Kilwa District where she earns her bread and butter from sale of buns and other foodstuffs. When she became pregnant in 2010 she was worried about how she was going to take care of her baby; she was not married and the young man who was responsible for the pregnancy had abandoned her. Her parents were poor and it was unlikely that they would offer her any financial assistance. "I was worried because I had no money to buy some requirements that I would need during delivery. I also had to buy some things for the baby," she says.

At the beginning of the ninth month of pregnancy she still had not raised enough money. She became anxious. "When I attended clinic, the nurse told me that I was not getting enough food as a result of which I looked frail. Little did she know that my condition had nothing to do with not eating enough good food," she explains. The savings she had made from her petty business enabled her to buy essential items for the baby and herself although she could not get all what she needed. Luckily she had no complications during birth and she delivered a healthy baby girl.

Come 2015 and Ms. Kibou became pregnant again but this time around she had little to worry about. The village government had introduced a system through which every woman was given 50,000/- on her eighth month of pregnancy regardless of her marital status. "The village owns and manages a forest, Mbumbila forest. We sell various products from the forest and we thought it wise to help pregnant women by giving them money to buy what they need. It is all about ensuring safe motherhood," explains Mohamed MussaMkalimata, Nanjirinji A village chairman. He says that the village started conserving and managing the forest in 2012 and until last year, their annual income ranged be-

tween 300m/- and 500m/- annually, thanks to community-based forest management system (CBFM) which ensures that villagers realize sustainable benefits from conservation of their forest.

CBFM provides space for community involvement in the management of forests on village land; on forests that are owned and managed by the village council on behalf of the village assembly. Community members play a role both as forest owners and managers.

The system targets to benefit members of a community who live within or directly to forests on their own village land and as such, they are the best placed to sustainably manage the forest. It empowers communities to not only protect forests but also to make important decisions that have a bearing on sustaining benefits arising from good forest management. Such decisions may include but not limited to regulation of access and use of the forest. The authority to make decisions enhances CBFM as a power-sharing strategy that scales up local participation in forest management and the real need to bring control and forest management to local levels. The system thus aims to secure forests through sharing the right to control and manage them, not just the right to use or benefit from them.

The legal basis for villages to own and manage forest resources on village land (and subsequent formation of CBFM) in ways that are sustainable and profitable is enshrined in The Village Land Act (1999), The Local Government Act (1982), The Forest Act (2002) and The Forest Regulations (2004). In particular, the Forest Act provides incentives to rural communities to progressively reserve unprotected woodlands and forests. "In principle, villages do not have to follow government timber royalty rates but can sell their produce at prices chosen by them," reads Section 78(3) of the Forest Act. This provision thus gives village governments mandate to own, conserve and manage forest resources in a manner that enables them to real-



Residents of Sauti Moja village in Tunduru District take a rest after sawing timber from round logs harvested from the village forest using a mobile sawmill. The machine produces high quality timber and reduces waste, thus making the villagers earn more money from forest conservation.

ize sustainable benefits. Experience has shown that CBFM is the best method to fully exploit the mandate enshrined in the Forest Act.

Yet while communities through their village governments have realized substantial benefits through CBFM, they are yet to exploit the full potential of their forest resources for various reasons. "Stories of success abound in areas where CBFM is implemented but there are obstacles in realizing more benefits, including poor governance," says Mr. Cassian Sianga, senior forest expert and consultant to the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF).

It is for this reason that in 2005, NGOs working in the natural resources sector decided to form the Tanzania Forestry Working Group (TFWG) in order to improved governance of the forest sector so as to ensure equitable and sustainable forest management in Tanzania. To realize this vision, TFWG advocates improved forestry governance through information sharing and knowledge about effective policies and programmes in Tanzania.

"The overall goal of TFWG is to encourage the development of a vibrant and effective coalition of non-state organisations and individuals working to improve forest govern-

ance and management in Tanzania. The group aims to hold government institutions accountable through awareness-raising and advocacy, and provide the appropriate support needed by the government to better manage the country's forest resources," reads part of TFWG's Strategic Plan for 2021 to 2016.

Currently TFWG comprises 14 active members including NGOs and individuals. The organisations are Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF), Tanzania Forests Conservation Group (TFCG), TRAFFIC, FARM AFRICA and IUCN. Others are JET, LEAT, MCDDI, Enviro-Care and TaT-EDO.

Tanzania's forest sector has a supportive environment which enhances good governance as stipulated in the Forest Policy of 1998 and Forest Act of 2002. However, several studies have revealed the existence of illegal harvesting due poor governance at both levels, local government and central government.

If there is good governance in forest sector, then the management effectiveness of forest reserves under CBFM will improve and there will be less deforestation. This will enable rural communities to benefit from improved livelihoods.

Records obtained from the For-

est and Value Chains Development Programme (FORVAC) indicate that currently there are 2,689,342.31 hectares of forests owned and managed under CBFM and the number of villages implementing CBFM stands at 1,225.

This indicates that there is a low uptake of CBFM system among communities, calling for TFWG to find a mechanism for scaling up the model in order to not only protect and manage the remaining forests on village land but also to ensure that communities benefit from the resources.

"Improved governance of the forest sector should lead to equitable benefit sharing and sustainable forest management in Tanzania. That is why we provide a platform for dialogue in order to share information and knowledge on matters related to the forestry sector such as best practices and effective policies, laws, regulations, guidelines and programmes," says Simon Lugazo Government Liaison and Capacity Building Officer at TFCG, which hosted this year's meeting of the Tanzania Forest Working Group.

"But it is important for us to ensure sustainability of CBFM by promoting and empowering village natural resources committees

through local funding from village governments revenue collected from trade in forest products. The ultimate aim is to make village governments financially independent so that they may be able to conduct their activities and cover the costs of forest management," says Makala Japer, Executive Director of Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDDI).

He adds that TFG should identify key challenges facing CBFM and their underlying causes. "The target should be to intensify implementation of programmes by utilizing knowledge we have gained so far in order to widen the scope of beneficiaries, improve the benefits and increase the number of villages that benefit from the programmes."

During the 15 years of its existence, TFWG has conducted various activities that have helped to introduce good governance in the forestry sector. "We have introduced digital technology in monitoring and control of forest products as a means to improve tracking of forest produce and thus increase efficiency and transparency in conducting the trade. We have also improved coordination and sharing of evidence-based information, which is key to enhance learning and collective action," explains Mr. Sianga, adding that the group has facilitated space for multiple stakeholders' communication and dialogue to understand the perspectives, share experiences and opinions of the forest stakeholders and enabled forest governance issues to be shared with and discussed at the national level for informed policy change.

Looking ahead the group acknowledges the knowledge gap that exists in the forestry sector. "In some cases information is not available. It may also not be accessible and when it is, it may be unreliable. For example there is no clear statistics on how much money is generated by the forestry sector and how it is spent. Similarly data on the national rate of deforestation varies from one source to another. Information related to the forestry sector must be reliable and easy to understand so that stakeholders may take appropriate action," says Augustino Munuma from Lawyers Environmental Action Team (LEAT).

Some US veterans say blood spilled in Afghanistan was wasted

GARDEN GROVE

JASON Lilley was a special operations forces Marine Raider who fought in multiple battles in Iraq and Afghanistan during America's longest war.

As Lilley, 41, reflects on President Joe Biden's decision to end America's military mission in Afghanistan on Aug. 31, he expresses love for his country, but disgust at its politicians and dismay at the blood and money squandered. Comrades were killed and maimed in wars he says were unwinnable, making him rethink his country and his life.

"A hundred percent we lost the war," Lilley said. "The whole point was to get rid of the Taliban and we didn't do that. The Taliban will take over."

Biden says that the Afghan people must decide their own future and that America should not have to sacrifice another generation in an unwinnable war.

Al Qaeda's 9/11 attacks on America triggered a nearly 20-year conflict that led to more than 3,500 U.S. and allied military deaths, the deaths of more than 47,000 Afghan civilians, the killing of at least 66,000 Afghan troops, and over 2.7 million Afghans fleeing the country, according to the nonpartisan Costs of War project at Brown University.

"Was it worth it? It's a big ass question," said Lilley, who was on the front lines of America's Global War on Terror in Iraq and Afghanistan for almost 16 years.

He said he deployed believing troops were there to defeat the enemy, stimulate the economy and uplift Afghanistan as a whole. They failed, he said.

"I don't think one life was worth it on both sides," Lilley said as he described his service and his perspective in an interview at his home in Garden Grove, southeast of Los Angeles.

Lilley is not alone in reflecting on the U.S. withdrawal after nearly 20 years of war. Many Americans are. The perspectives of Lilley and other veterans can help inform the country about the costs of entering war and the lessons to be learned from Afghanistan.

Lilley's opinions are his own and some veterans differ, just as Americans generally have different estimations about a war that improved women's rights and led in 2011 to U.S. Navy SEALs killing al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden in Pakistan.

'VIETSTAN'

Biden's withdrawal has bipartisan support. A July 12-13 Reuters/Ipsos poll showed only about three in 10 Democrats and four in 10 Republicans believe the military should remain.

Lilley and other Marines who served in Afghanistan and who spoke to Reuters compared it with the conflict in Vietnam. They say both wars had no clear objective, multiple U.S. presidents in charge, and a fierce and non-uniformed enemy.

Part of Lilley's support network is Jordan Laird, 34, a former Marine scout sniper who described completing combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, which Laird and others called "Vietstan."

"You have a deeper understanding of the plight of the Vietnam vets who came home with lost limbs and being completely and utterly tossed to one side," said Laird, who now campaigns to improve veteran care.

He served in Sangin Valley in Helmand Province, one of the most fiercely contested parts of Afghanistan, from October 2010 to April 2011. In his first three months, he said, 25 members of Laird's unit were killed in action and more than 200 were wounded. His best friend bled to death in his arms.

While in Afghanistan, Lilley said he grew



A U.S. special forces veteran Jason Lilley poses for a portrait at his home in Garden Grove, California, U.S., July 9, 2021. Lilley spoke to Reuters about his experience in Afghanistan and his thoughts as the U.S. leaves the country. File photo

to understand why historians have called it the "graveyard of empires."

Britain invaded Afghanistan twice in the 19th century and suffered one of its worst military defeats there in 1842. The Soviet Union occupied Afghanistan from 1979 to 1989, leaving after 15,000 of its troops were killed and tens of thousands were wounded.

Lilley says he was particularly disillusioned by the U.S. military rules of engagement in Afghanistan. He and other units were not allowed to make night raids on the Taliban, for example.

"Marines aren't designed to kiss babies and pass out flyers. We are there to eradicate. We can't do both. So we tried and failed," Lilley said.

The U.S. Marine Corps referred Reuters to U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), the military command

in charge of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, when asked about Lilley's comment.

In an email, CENTCOM had no comment about Lilley's criticisms.

A turning point in Lilley's thinking came when a Taliban prisoner told him the Taliban would wait out the United States and knew Americans would lose faith in the war, just as the Soviets did.

"That was 2009. Here we are in 2021, and he was right," Lilley said. "Why did we lose guys? Why?"

RETURNING FROM AFGHANISTAN

Back from the battlefield, Lilley, physically fit and heavily tattooed, said he could not even look at the U.S. flag for several years because he felt so angry that his country had sent him

and his colleagues to an unwinnable war. He says he has seen several mental health counselors, but his greatest support network is fellow veterans.

Lilley is vice president of the veteran-operated Reel Warrior Foundation, which gives veterans a chance to break from the struggles of re-adapting to civilian life by taking them on fishing trips.

He said he is disappointed that the United States does not seem to have learned lessons from Vietnam, where 58,000 American troops were killed in a war that failed to stop Communist North Vietnam taking over the entire Vietnamese peninsula.

"We should avoid war at all costs," Lilley said. "Don't rush into the racket of war, into the machine of making money, contracts. A lot of people made a lot of money off of this."

He said it took him years to let go of his anger.

"I mean I knew what I was getting into, I mean I grew up on Rambo. I wanted to honor my family in the sense my grandfather fought in War World Two, I wanted to go down that same route and do the selfless thing, but it turns into reality quickly."

Another of Lilley's Iraq and Afghanistan veteran buddies is Tristan Wimmer, also a Marine scout sniper. Wimmer's brother Kierman, also a Marine veteran, died by suicide in 2015 after receiving a traumatic brain injury in Iraq before deploying to Afghanistan.

Wimmer, 37, now runs "22 Jumps," holding fundraising events where he does 22 parachute base jumps in a day to raise awareness about the scourge of veteran suicide. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) estimated in 2012 that 22 U.S. veterans die by suicide each day.

A VA spokesperson said via email that the department is dedicated to former veterans' physical and mental health. This starts with a program called VA Solid Start (VASS), which ensures all veterans returning to civilian life are aware of and have access to an array of help and benefits. Contact is made with them three times in their first year out of the military.

Help under VASS is tailored to a veteran's individual needs and includes access to mental healthcare and resources to ease the stress during the transition to civilian life.

Wimmer said of Afghanistan: "By any metric you choose to measure it, it was a fruitless effort. Getting rid of al Qaeda or the Taliban - we didn't succeed. Increased peace and prosperity for the Afghan people? We didn't succeed."

"In the process we sacrificed a lot of wealth, we sacrificed a lot of time, we sacrificed a lot of lives, not just American lives, but coalition lives and especially Afghan lives, to walk away essentially having accomplished not a lot. That's a really hard thing to stomach."



RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS CHEMBA BONGO 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS CHEMBA BONGO 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

BUSINESS

President Samia pumps in 100m/- to help Dar traders

By Guardian Correspondent

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has extended 100m/- to the construction of a modern roof at the Machinga Complex outdoor space to accommodate small and medium traders who were evacuated from the burnt Kariakoo market in the busiest part of Dar es Salaam city.

The open space which is just next to the Machinga Complex is being used by 1,800 fire victims of the Kariakoo market due to directives issued by the region commissioner's office.

Speaking to the traders during his special visit at the market yesterday, Dar es Salaam Region Commissioner, Amos Makalla confirmed receiving the money, noting that construction of the roof would begin soon.

He said after his recent visit at the market that also featured talks with the traders, President Samia had already learned the hard times they were passing through and decided to donate such an amount to settle some of the woes.

Makalla said the president had, before his visit yesterday, asked him how much was needed for the roofing.

"I told her that about 62m/- is needed but with consideration of the damages and losses you have incurred, and the importance of entrepreneurs on the micro economy she has decided to donate 100m/- to build a permanent roof," said Makalla.

According to him, President Samia is donating the money as a way of encouraging traders not to give up on their businesses.

The 62m/- was for just installing a temporary roof that could last for the next five years but the added money on top of will help the construction of a permanent roof.

"There were not enough funds that could enable us to build a permanent roof with our own sourced budget. At the new place all important facilities are provided to enable traders to continue with their daily activities," he said.

Makalla added that after being instructed by the President, the region commissioner sat down with the Suma JKT, to plan how the construction will be done.

He said as long as the funds are already disbursed, construction will soon begin.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Amos Makalla.

Wall Street rises after steep selloff

WASHINGTON

WALL Street's main indexes opened higher on Tuesday, as economically sensitive stocks rebounded following a sharp selloff in the previous session, while shares of IBM jumped on strong second-quarter results.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 19.8 points, or 0.06 percent, at the open to 33981.79. The S&P 500 rose 6.6 points, or 0.16 percent, at the open to 4265.11, while the Nasdaq Composite rose 55.5 points, or 0.39 percent, to 14330.462 at the opening bell. Futures tracking Wall

Street's main indexes rose yesterday, as economically sensitive stocks rebounded following a sharp selloff in the previous session, while shares of IBM jumped after posting strong second-quarter results.

Shares of International Business Machines Corp IBM.N gained 4.0 percent

in premarket trading as brokerages raised their price targets on the stock following strong quarterly growth in the company's cloud and consulting businesses.

Focus is now on earnings reports from companies including Netflix Inc .NFLX.O, Philip Morris PM.N and Chipotle Mexican Grill CMG.N later in the day. The

second-quarter reporting season is underway, with 41 of the companies in the S&P 500 having reported. Of those, 90 percent have beaten consensus estimates, according to Refinitiv data.

Analysts now see year-on-year S&P 500 earnings growth of 72 percent for the April to June period, per Refinitiv.

Wall Street's main indexes ended sharply lower on Monday, with the blue-chip Dow Jones index .DJI logging its worst day in nearly nine months as a surge in Delta variant infections sparked a broad sell-off on fears about renewed COVID-19 shutdowns and a protracted

economic recovery. Energy stocks Chevron Corp CVX.N, Schlumberger NV SLB.N, Occidental Petroleum Corp OXY.N, ONEOK Inc OKE.N, Phillips 66 PSX.N and Halliburton Co HAL.N rose between 0.8% and 2.7 percent, as oil prices edged higher after the previous session's 7 percent slide.



Kenya Revenue Authority headquarters in Nairobi.

KRA eyes Sh14bn digital services tax from foreign firms in next three years

NAIROBI

THE Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has set a Sh13.9 billion tax goal in the next three years through June 2022 from foreign firms using the Internet to market and sell products in Kenya.

The taxman has identified foreign firms, which derive or accrue income in Kenya through digital marketplaces – selling exclusively online or providing platforms for such deals – as a major driver of tax receipts in coming years.

The digital services tax, which came into effect at the start of January, is 1.5 percent of the gross transaction value. It is levied on the sale of e-books, movies, music, games and other digital content. It also applies to foreign companies. The KRA target signals that firms like Amazon and Netflix are forecast to generate sales of about Sh926 billion in the three years. "[Data on e-commerce transactions] signals a shift into the digital economy and, therefore, presents an opportunity for KRA to collect digital service tax (DST) as well as increase compliance on VAT and income tax," the KRA strategists wrote in the corporate plan for three years from July 2021.

The taxman initially targeted a share of the revenue made by the resident and non-resident firms, which sell products over the Internet, but that has been amended in the Finance Act 2021 to apply to non-resident firms effective July 1, 2021.

DST receipts amounted to Sh129 million in the first month the law was enforced, according to the KRA's corporate plan, valuing transactions through the digital marketplace at about Sh19.35 billion in January. The taxman aims to collect Sh3.4 billion this fiscal year, projecting the value of digital transactions by firms not incorporated in Kenya at Sh226.67 billion.

KQ adds flights to Europe as summer demand shoots up

NAIROBI

KENYA Airways has increased frequencies to Europe following high demand from passengers seeking air travel for summer holidays.

The carrier has increased weekly flights to Paris from three to four starting Saturday (June 17), London will get an additional flight from one to two starting June 27 while Amsterdam will get two frequencies beginning August 2.

The rise in demand is the product of increased travel to Kenya and other East Africa countries by western tourists seeking safari visits and a view of wildebeest migration in the Maasai Mara National Reserve.

KQ says it has seen an increase in demand

and that has prompted the carrier to ramp up the frequencies to cater for high number of passengers.

"We have seen an increase in demand that has been occasioned by summer demand in Europe and that is why we are ramping up our frequencies on this route," said Kenya Airways.

The airline said the demand could be short term as once the summer is over the airline could be forced to revert back to the previous frequencies, subject to demand.

The demand for summer travel has also been aided by easing of travel restrictions in Europe on the back of mass vaccination against Covid-19.

The additional flights on the European leg,



comes just a month after KQ increased flights to US from one to three weekly as demand for summer travel surged.

The airline has been struggling with low

numbers on the US route, a move that saw the carrier suspend the flights to one weekly after resuming operations last year November following months of grounding, occasioned by

the Covid-19.

The US route is one of the crucial destinations for the national carrier as it plays a major role in connecting travelers who transit through Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA).

The national carrier normally makes the bulk of its revenue at the onset of summer that runs through June to September when demand for air travel is high.

A sharp decline on summer bookings last year saw Kenya Airways losses nearly triple to Sh36.2 billion in the year ending December as the carrier sank deeper into the red following a slump in passenger numbers occasioned by Covid-19.

Erdogan calls for US funding to back Kabul airport mission

NICOSIA

PRESIDENT Tayyip Erdogan called on the United States to meet "conditions" including financial, logistical and diplomatic support, so that Turkey can run and guard Kabul airport after other foreign troops withdraw from Afghanistan.

Turkey has offered to deploy troops to the airport after NATO fully withdraws and has been in talks with the United States for several weeks.

The Taliban, who have gained territory as US-led foreign forces pull out, have warned Turkey against it.

Erdogan, speaking in northern Cyprus, acknowledged that the Taliban had reservations but said Turkey would nonetheless carry out the mission as long as the United States, a NATO partner, meets three specific Turkish requirements.

"If these conditions could be met, we are thinking of taking over the management of Kabul airport," he said, listing diplomatic backing for Turkey as well as the U.S. handover of facilities and logistics in Afghanistan.

"There will be serious financial and administrative difficulties ... (the United States) will give the necessary support to Turkey in this respect as

well," Erdogan added, after attending morning prayers during the Muslim Eid al-Adha holiday.

Turkey hopes the airport mission will help soothe US ties that are strained on several fronts including its purchase of Russian S-400 missile defences. The Taliban ruled Afghanistan with an iron fist from 1996 to 2001 and have fought for 20 years to expel foreign forces, topple the Western-backed government in Kabul and re-impose Islamic rule.

The Taliban, emboldened by the departure of foreign forces by a September target, have called Turkey's plan reprehensible. Ankara and others have said the airport must stay open to preserve diplomatic missions there. Before leaving for Cyprus on Monday, Erdogan said the Taliban should "end the occupation". On Tuesday, he said Turkey-Taliban talks would overcome any problems and should be more comfortable than past US-Taliban talks.

As part of his visit, Erdogan unveiled plans to build a new government complex for Turkish Cypriots as part of a two-state plan that is opposed by the European Union, Greece and the internationally recognised Greek Cypriot government.



Turkey's President, Tayyip Erdogan, addresses the Turkish Cypriot Parliament, in Nicosia, Cyprus

China, ASEAN embark on new journey with closer partnership

BEIJING

AS China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are commemorating the 30th anniversary of the establishment of their dialogue relations, both sides have vowed to strengthen cooperation to promote regional and global progress and prosperity.

For a world still in the throes of a ravaging pandemic and ensuing economic challenges, a closer China-ASEAN relationship will continue to become an important pillar of peace,

stability and prosperity. In early June, a special foreign ministers' meeting was held in southwest China to mark this milestone in the development of bilateral ties.

In a joint statement afterwards, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to promoting China-ASEAN relations to new heights, adhering to multilateralism, and underscored the importance of promoting common development and prosperity.

In fact, since the beginning of the year, the two sides have maintained close in-

person communication despite travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, highlighting the importance of each other in the other side's foreign policies.

Over the 30 years, China-ASEAN cooperation has thrived as the two sides helped each other succeed. Among ASEAN's dialogue partners, China has been number one on many fronts.

China was the first to join the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the first to forge a strategic partnership with ASEAN, the first to start negotiations on

a free trade area with ASEAN, and the first to give unequivocal support for ASEAN centrality in East Asian regional cooperation.

Fast growing economic and trade cooperation further consolidate and bolster the partnership.

Facing the continuous global trade and economic recession amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the two sides became each other's largest trading partner for the first time in 2020.

The two sides also jointly pushed for the signing of the Regional Comprehen-

sive Economic Partnership, which gave birth to the world's most promising free trade area with the largest population and biggest economic aggregate.

Most importantly, the two sides have always demonstrated a deep mutual trust and commitment in tackling major challenges.

Over the 30 years, China and ASEAN countries have stuck together through thick and thin and supported each other in coping with the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis, the 2003 SARS pandemic, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsu-

ami, and the 2008 Global Financial Crisis.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, the two sides have worked closely and helped each other fight against the pandemic, promote economic growth and safeguard people's livelihood, turning East Asia into a stellar exemplar in the global fight against the virus and an early bird in achieving economic recovery.

The two sides have also handled differences and disagreements through communication and negotiation based on mutual respect

and consultation.

At a time when the world is confronted with resurgent protectionism, unilateralism and hegemonism, which are posing a grave threat to world peace and development, China and ASEAN, both as staunch supporters of multilateralism and an open world economy, can become a powerful catalyst of global peace and prosperity. Standing at a historical juncture, the world can expect an even closer China-ASEAN bond in their joint quest for regional and global stability and development.



Attendees pass Ant Group's booth during the 2021 World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai on July 7. File photo

Call for more responsible, trustworthy technology

EXPERTS who attended the 2021 World Artificial Intelligence Conference called for the development of responsible and trustworthy AI, as the sector is set to transform countless aspects of everyday life.

According to the "Trustworthy AI White Paper" released by the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology during the event, major risks and challenges of AI include application hazards caused by insecure algorithms, non-transparent algorithmic models, data-derived decision bias, confirmation of liabilities and privacy leaks.

"China is pretty much in the same league with other developed countries in terms of AI advancements, so there is a genuine lack of an existing set of proven rules to regulate this market," said Xue Lan, a professor at Tsinghua University who is also director of China's national professional committee on next-generation AI governance.

"We need to develop technology and formulate governance rules at the same time, which could be the biggest challenge compounding the sector's development," Xue said.

Back in 2019, China issued principles for next-generation AI governance, pledging to develop responsible AI. The directive addressed eight tenets: harmony and friendliness, fairness and justice, inclusiveness and sharing, respect for privacy, security and controllability, shared responsibility, open cooperation and agile governance.

Xue said China has undergone two stages of AI governance, namely "responsive governance" involving taking reactive measures when problems occur, and "concentrated governance" that adopts proactive approaches to tackle issues comprehensively. "Agile governance, by comparison, manages to strike a balance in promoting technological innovation and balancing potential

risks," he said, adding this is the guiding path forward.

One critical objective is to develop "reliable" AI technology, which can be characterized by its stability, explainability, privacy protections and fairness, said Tao Dacheng, director of the JD Explore Academy, an in-house research unit of e-commerce company JD.

"The first and foremost task is to find suitable methods to quantify algorithms, models and systems in the above four aspects," Tao said.

The corporate world has a big role to play, Tao said the company will fully utilize its suite of retail, logistics, health and technology industrial chain strengths to achieve industrial breakthroughs and contribute to more fundamental research. Ant Group is training its proprietary AI technologies to simulate hacker invasions in a bid to enhance risk-detection capabilities and thus boost its defensive resilience.

According to Ant's Vice-President and Chief AI Scientist Qi Yuan, the technology is now being applied to risk-control scenarios like anti-fraud issues and safeguarding secure transactions in multiple occasions on its mobile wallet Alipay.

Executives also appealed for proper supervision over blockchain, aiming to make the technology more "manageable".

"The manageability of blockchains should include aspects such as being reviewable, editable, authorizable, manageable and auditable," said Da Hongfei, CEO of On-chain, a Shanghai-based company using technology to empower both the private and public sectors.

"This attempt will realize consensus-based on-chain governance, which can shield socially harmful information, block or intercept illegal transactions and end services that do not meet regulatory standards," Da said.

Sudan renews rejection of Ethiopia's measures over Nile Dam

KHARTOUM

SUDAN on Monday reiterated its rejection of Ethiopia's completion of the second filling of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

"The Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources renews Sudan's firm position in rejecting neighboring Ethiopia's unilateral measures, its fait accompli policies and ignoring of the legitimate interests and serious concerns of its partners in the river," said the Sudanese minis-

try in a statement.

"The best alternative to this Ethiopian approach, which will only lead to harming the distinguished and historical ties between the two brotherly countries and peoples, is to continue to negotiate in good faith to reach a binding and comprehensive legal agreement that preserves the interests of all parties and addresses their concerns," the statement noted.

The ministry further expressed belief that reaching the desired

agreement is very necessary and possible, if there is political will.

Earlier, according to official Ethiopian media, the Ethiopian government announced that it has achieved its goal in the second filling of the GERD, saying it was planning to start electricity production from the dam within months.

Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia have been in talks for years, under the African Union, over the technical and legal issues related to the filling and operation of the GERD.

Sudan proposed a mediation quartet of the United Nations, the European Union, the United States and the African Union regarding the GERD issue. Ethiopia, however, has rejected this proposal. Ethiopia, which started building the GERD in 2011, expects to produce more than 6,000 megawatts of electricity from the dam project, while Egypt and Sudan, downstream Nile Basin countries that rely on the river for its freshwater, are concerned that the dam might affect their share of the water resources.

Customers rarely seen in Khartoum's livestock markets due to high prices

WASHINGTON

KHARTOUM, July 19 (Xinhua) -- Ahead of the Eid al-Adha, the Islamic Festival of the Sacrifice, customers are rarely seen in the livestock markets in the Sudan's capital Khartoum due to the weak demand for the sacrifice sheep and the high prices, according to traders and importers.

On Sunday, the price of sacrifice sheep in the market in Khartoum recorded a significant hike of nearly 200 percent compared to last year.

"The prices range between 45,000 and 90,000 Sudanese pounds, equalling between about 100 and 200 U.S. dollars," Faddlalla Hamid, a Sudanese livestock trader at the livestock market south of Khartoum, told Xinhua.

"The markets have few customers due to the weak purchasing power, especially among employees, professionals and people with limited income," he noted.

Abdul-Jalil Haj Ali, a Sudanese citizen, told Xinhua that "this year I could not buy one sacrifice sheep because of the high prices."

"Unfortunately, the sheep's price is higher than my salary and the majority of the employees will not be able to purchase the sacrifice sheep," he added.

Meanwhile, Al-Khair Saleh who imports livestock from western Sudan to the Khartoum markets told Xinhua that "the high transportation costs, the high fodder prices, and the multiple fees imposed by the state" are the reasons for the high prices.

According to official statistics, Sudan had more than 107 million head of cattle in 2021 and exported more than one million head to Saudi Arabia worth 1,400 Saudi Riyals (373 U.S. dollars) per head.

Mohamed Yousif, director of the general directorate of quarantines and meat hygiene at Sudan's Animal Resources Ministry, attributed the hike in the sheep prices to the "presence of middlemen and brokers" who take advantage of the Eid al-Adha season to raise the prices beyond the real cost.

"There are efforts to address the phenomenon of the middlemen and brokers, including selling the sheep by weight," Yousif told Xinhua.

He further stressed that the livestock exports do not



affect the local market as there is no connection in between.

The transitional government of Sudan is making economic reforms in agreement with the International Monetary Fund,

the donor countries and the international financing institutions.

On July 15, representatives of Paris Club creditors agreed with the Sudanese government

to restructure its external debts after Khartoum implemented a package of economic reforms that enabled Sudan in late June to reach the "decision point" in the Heavily Indebted Poor

Countries (HIPC) Initiative.

According to the move, Sudan has received relief from its 14.1-billion-U.S. dollars' debts to Paris Club.

In the meantime, Sudan's Central Bureau of Statics on Sunday said the country's inflation jumped to 412.75 percent in June compared to 378.79 percent in May.

China announces five leading cities in developing int'l consumption centres

BEIJING

CHINA'S Ministry of Commerce (MOC) announced on Monday that, with the approval of the State Council, Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Tianjin and Chongqing will take the lead in developing international consumption center cities.

The move is a major strategic decision made by the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the State Council, and will play a significant role in serving the establishment of the new development paradigm, Commerce Minister Wang Wentao said at a meeting.

It is also significant for the country's high-quality growth, he noted.

Efforts will be made to pool quality international market entities, goods and services, as well as to accelerate the cultivation of local brands, Wang said.

The minister pledged efforts to develop business communities and improve market regulation services.

The MOC will work with other related departments to unveil a general plan on building the international consumption center cities and the five cities will formulate their implementation plans to advance the construction tasks, according to Wang.

Over the years, consumption has become a key driving force of the world's second largest economy amid its broader economic transformation.

China's consumption further recovered in the first half of this year, with its retail sales of consumer goods totaling 21.2 trillion yuan (3.28 trillion U.S. dollars), up 23 percent year on year, official data shows.

For the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), China is expected to become the world's largest goods consumption market, the Hainan-based China Institute for Reform and Development forecast in a research report.

WHY THE FIVE CITIES?

The five cities to take the lead in developing international consumption centers were selected based on their respective advantages in the consumption field and economic strengths, according to analysts.

Shanghai, for instance, has ranked the country's top consumption market.

With a population of over 24 million, Shanghai's retail sales of consumer goods last year reached 1.59 trillion yuan despite the impact of COVID-19, up 0.5 percent year on year and ranking first among Chinese cities.

For the 14th Five-Year Plan period, Shanghai aims to become the first Chinese city with retail sales of consumer goods totaling over 2 trillion yuan, according to a guideline released by the city on developing as an international trade hub.

As the country's capital city and an international tourism city, Beijing has also seen robust consumption growth. In the first six months of this year, Beijing's total consumption value expanded by 22.1 percent year on year, official data showed Monday.

In May, Beijing unveiled 10 special measures to advance the cultivation of an international consumption center city, focusing on new consumption landmarks, new brands, digital consumption and the development of cultural, tourism, sports, education and medical consumption.

The international consumption center cities not only have huge consumption markets, but also act as barometers for global consumption innovation, said Wang Wei, a research fellow with the Development Research Center of the State Council.

Under the new development paradigm, building international consumption center cities will help foster new platforms for both the internal and external circulation to reinforce each other, Wang said.

UZALO

MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV PGM SCHEDULE	
MONDAY 19 July	
5:30 Uwajia wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:00 KumeKucha	6:40 KumeKucha
6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI
7:30 KumeKucha Michezo	8:00 KumeKucha
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo	9:55 Habari za saa
9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu	10:55 Habari za saa
10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt
11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt	11:55 Habari za saa
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Igizo rpt: Rebecca
12:00 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanzania Yetu
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanzania Yetu	12:55 Habari za saa
12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi
13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:55 Habari za saa
13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:55 Habari za saa
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru
15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu
16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base
17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mipishi
18:15 Mipishi	18:30 Ijuzi Sheria
18:30 Ijuzi Sheria	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA
19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	19:30 Soap: Uzalo
19:30 Soap: Uzalo	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	21:30 Ripoti Maalum: Masoko Chakavu
21:30 Ripoti Maalum: Masoko Chakavu	22:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
22:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	23:00 Habari
23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base
23:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV
02:00 DWTV	
TUESDAY 20 July	
5:30 Uwajia wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:00 KumeKucha	6:40 KumeKucha
6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI
7:30 KumeKucha Michezo	8:00 KumeKucha
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo	9:55 Habari za saa
9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa
10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Jirungu Kuu rpt
11:00 Jirungu Kuu rpt	11:55 Habari za saa
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA
12:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA	12:30 Ijuzi Sheria
12:30 Ijuzi Sheria	12:55 Habari za saa
12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Shamsam za Pwani rpt
13:00 Shamsam za Pwani rpt	13:55 Habari za saa
13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:55 Habari za saa
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru
15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu
16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base
17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mipishi
18:15 Mipishi	18:30 Ijuzi Sheria
18:30 Ijuzi Sheria	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA
19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	19:30 Soap: Uzalo
19:30 Soap: Uzalo	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	21:30 Ripoti Maalum: Masoko Chakavu
21:30 Ripoti Maalum: Masoko Chakavu	22:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
22:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	23:00 Habari
23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base
23:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV
02:00 DWTV	
WEDNESDAY 21 July	
5:30 Uwajia wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:00 KumeKucha	6:40 KumeKucha
6:40 KumeKucha	7:30 HABARI
7:30 KumeKucha Michezo	8:00 KumeKucha
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa
8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo	9:55 Habari za saa
9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa
10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Usafiri wakoo rpt
11:00 Usafiri wakoo rpt	11:55 Habari za saa
11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 DWTV Journal
12:00 DWTV Journal	12:30 Soap: Uzalo
12:30 Soap: Uzalo	12:55 Watoto Wetu
12:55 Watoto Wetu	13:00 Uchumi na biashara rpt
13:00 Uchumi na biashara rpt	13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	13:55 Habari za saa
13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:55 Habari za saa
14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru
15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu
16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base (DJ Show)
17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	17:30 Kisilam
17:30 Kisilam	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
18:15 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	19:00 Shamba lulu
19:00 Shamba lulu	19:30 Soap: Uzalo
19:30 Soap: Uzalo	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	21:30 Habari
21:30 Habari	23:00 The Base
23:00 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera
00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTV
02:00 DWTV	
THURSDAY 22 July	
5:30 Uwajia wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:00 KumeKucha	6:40 KumeKucha
6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 HABARI
7:00 HABARI	7:30 KumeKucha
7:30 KumeKucha	8:00 Al Jazeera
8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Shika Bamba 5
10:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	12:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo
12:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo	13:00 Korean drama rpt: Jumong
13:00 Korean drama rpt: Jumong	13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	16:20 Igizo: Rebecca
16:20 Igizo: Rebecca	17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Korean drama: Jumong
18:15 Korean drama: Jumong	19:00 Jirungu Kuu
19:00 Jirungu Kuu	19:30 Shika Bamba
19:30 Shika Bamba	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	21:00 Igizo: Rebecca
21:00 Igizo: Rebecca	21:30 Art and Lifestyle
21:30 Art and Lifestyle	22:00 ITV TOP 10
22:00 ITV TOP 10	22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo	23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt	00:30 DWTV
00:30 DWTV	
FRIDAY 23 July	
5:30 Uwajia wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI
6:00 KumeKucha	6:40 KumeKucha
6:40 KumeKucha	7:00 HABARI
7:00 HABARI	7:30 KumeKucha
7:30 KumeKucha	8:00 Habari
8:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera
8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto Wetu
9:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt	11:35 Bongo Movie rpt
11:35 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	15:30 Mwangaza
15:30 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10
16:30 ITV Top 10	17:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo
17:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo	
MON 19 July	
06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	12:30 Eco@Africa rpt
12:30 Eco@Africa rpt	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	17:30 Meza huru
17:30 Meza huru	19:00 Rev
19:00 Rev	19:30 Eco@Africa
19:30 Eco@Africa	20:00 Abu Yako
20:00 Abu Yako	20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition	20:45 Telenovela: Lower her to death
20:45 Telenovela: Lower her to death	21:30 Capital Prime News
21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt
22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt	00:00 Al Jazeera
00:00 Al Jazeera	
Tues 20 July	
06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	17:30 Meza huru
17:30 Meza huru	19:00 Rev rpt
19:00 Rev rpt	20:15 The Decor
20:15 The Decor	23:15 Al Jazeera
23:15 Al Jazeera	
Wed 21 July	
06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	17:30 Meza huru
17:30 Meza huru	19:30 Capital Prime News
19:30 Capital Prime News	20:00 Dakika 45
20:00 Dakika 45	22:45 The Decor
22:45 The Decor	23:15 Al Jazeera
23:15 Al Jazeera	
Thurs 22 July	
06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	17:30 Business edition rpt
17:30 Business edition rpt	19:00 In good shape
19:00 In good shape	
Frid 23 July	
06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	17:30 Business edition rpt
17:30 Business edition rpt	19:00 In good shape
19:00 In good shape	
Sun 25 July	
08:00 Al Jazeera	09:00 In good shape
09:00 In good shape	10:00 Capchat rpt
10:00 Capchat rpt	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
11:00 Sports Gazette rpt	11:30 Out n'about rpt
11:30 Out n'about rpt	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
11:30 Sports Gazette rpt	12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt	12:30 Eco@Africa rpt
12:30 Eco@Africa rpt	13:00 Business edition rpt
13:00 Business edition rpt	13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the Sea
13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the Sea	14:30 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death
14:30 Telenovela rpt: Lower her to death	17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt	17:45 Bundesliga kick off
17:45 Bundesliga kick off	18:15 Capchat rpt
18:15 Capchat rpt	18:15 Mizengwe
18:15 Mizengwe	19:30 The Decor
19:30 The Decor	20:00 Korean Drama: Emperor of the Sea
20:00 Korean Drama: Emperor of the Sea	21:30 Out n' About
21:30 Out n' About	21:50 Movie: Cynas (tape no:0000)
21:50 Movie: Cynas (tape no:0000)	23:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
23:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love	01:00 Al Jazeera

WORLD

S. African court grants delay in Zuma's arms deal corruption trial

JOHANNESBURG

A SOUTH African court granted former President Jacob Zuma's request for a delay in his arms deal corruption trial yesterday, and adjourned proceedings for three weeks.

Zuma (pictured) is accused of receiving kickbacks over a \$2 billion arms deal from the 1990s. He pleaded not guilty in May to charges including corruption, fraud and money laundering. He has evaded prosecution for more than a decade, and portrayed himself as the victim of a politically motivated witch-hunt.

Efforts to hold him to account are seen as a test of the country's ability to hold powerful

politicians to account.

"The trial is adjourned to 10-13 August 2021," Pietermaritzburg High Court Judge Piet Koen said. He did not give the reasons why he allowed the delay. Zuma has started a 15-month sentence for contempt of court.

He appeared before the Pietermaritzburg court virtually but stayed silent while his legal team argued that a postponement should be granted so that he could appear in person.

Zuma's jailing this month triggered some of the worst unrest of the post-apartheid era. There were fears his latest court appearance could lead to a flare-up of violent protests from his support base. That has not materialised so far.

Agencies



China hopes WHO can maintain scientific, serious nature of COVID-19 origin tracing - FM

BEIJING

CHINA hopes that the World Health Organization (WHO) will adhere to the spirit of science, professionalism and objectivity, and work with the international community to maintain the scientific and serious nature of COVID-19 origin tracing, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said on Monday.

He said China is concerned about certain countries' move to politicize the issue of origin tracing, which is in fact a serious issue need to be dealt with through the collaboration of global scientists.

"We hope the WHO can ... resist the backlash of politicization and safeguard the sound atmosphere of global anti-epidemic cooperation," Zhao said at a press briefing when responding to a query that the WHO has proposed a second-phase study into the origin of the coronavirus in China, and called for transparency from the Chinese authorities.

"The work plan on the second-phase origins study proposed by the WHO Secretariat is at odds with the position of China and many other countries on the issue," Zhao said.

He said a resolution of the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly had clearly requested the WHO Director-General to continue to work closely with countries to identify the zoonotic source of the virus and the route of introduction to the human population.

The next phase of origins study should comply with this request and be led by member states, Zhao said.

"We hope that the WHO will have full communication and consultation with member states, listen to and take the advice of all parties, and ensure that the drafting process of the work plan is open and transparent," he said.

The spokesperson added that after a WHO-China joint research for 28 days in China, the WHO on March 30 issued a joint report with clear conclusions and science-based recommendations for the next phase global origins study.

The report concluded that lab leak is extremely unlikely, and recommended conducting further research around earlier cases globally and further understanding the role of cold chains and frozen foods in the transmission of the virus.

"The conclusions and recommendations of the report should be respected and upheld, and fully reflected in the work of the next phase origins study," Zhao said. *Xinhua*

Diplomacy: Xi sets course for safeguarding common treasures of humanity

BEIJING

CHINA is willing to work with all countries across the globe and UNESCO to jointly safeguard the cultural and natural treasures of humanity, Chinese President Xi Jinping has said in a congratulatory letter to the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO.

The world's cultural and natural heritage is an important outcome of the development of human civilization and natural evolution, and an important vehicle for the exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations, Xi (pictured) told the session, which opened on Friday in Fuzhou, capital of east China's Fujian Province.

"To well protect, inherit and make good use of these precious treasures is our shared responsibility, and is of vital importance to the continuity of human civilization and the

sustainable development of the world," he said in the letter.

Implementing the new development philosophy, China has earnestly adhered to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage with a sense of responsibility to the history and to the people, and has constantly improved its capability and caliber in heritage protection, he noted.

Xi said China is willing to work with all countries across the globe and UNESCO to strengthen exchanges and co-operation, promote dialogue and mutual learning, support the cause of world heritage protection, jointly safeguard the cultural and natural treasures of humanity, and promote the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.

"We see China as a major actor in the international scene



to help countries and sites in need," said Mechthild Rossler, director of the UNESCO World Heritage Center, noting that many of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites are in imminent danger, while some other un-inscribed ones remain under-represented. For these sites, "we need to do capacity building, we need to enhance protection globally, and I think China can play its role" in this regard, Rossler said.

Xi's letter illustrates that China attaches great importance to world cultural and natural heritage protection, said Lyazid Benhami, vice president of the Paris Association of French-Chinese Friendship.

China's endeavor to protect and restore the heritage provides positive experiences, Benhami added.

China has helped Nepal to restore the nine-storey Basantapur temple complex in the Kathmandu Durbar Square, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that was badly damaged in an earthquake in 2015, making valuable contributions to the rescue and protection of the world heritage, said Madan Kumar Rimal, head of the Nepalese History, Culture and Archaeology Department at Nepal's Tribhuvan University.

Long Ponnasirivath, secretary of state and spokesman of the Cambodian Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, said China has taken strong measures to protect the world heritage, gaining recognition internationally, and Cambodia wishes to draw more experience from China in this field.

Xinhua

Rockets land near Afghan president palace, Taliban deny responsibility

KABUL

ROCKETS hit the Afghan capital yesterday, landing near the presidential palace during prayers for the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha, but President Ashraf Ghani and many others calmly continued praying at an outdoor gathering, TV images showed.

Three rockets landed outside the palace, said interior ministry spokesperson Mirwais Stanekzai, adding that there were no immediate reports of injuries.

Taliban insurgents denied they were involved in the attack on the heavily fortified palace. Spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid told Reuters in a voice message the fighters were in a "state of defense" during the Eid religious holiday. Unlike some pre-

vious years, the Taliban have not officially declared a ceasefire for Eid this week.

Mujahid did not immediately reply when asked if the Taliban's defensive stance constituted a ceasefire.

Television images showed Ghani and dozens of others kneeling for prayer as the first explosion was heard. Most continued to pray as security guards could be seen in the background hurrying toward the sound of the blasts.

Insurgents have for years fired rockets into the city every now and then, usually inflicting only minor damage and few if any casualties.

In March last year, four rockets fell on the edge of the palace compound during Ghani's inauguration as president. Islamic State insurgents claimed re-



Security personnel inspect a damaged vehicle that was firing rockets in Kabul, Afghanistan yesterday. At least three rockets hit near the presidential palace on Tuesday shortly before Afghan President Ashraf Ghani

sponsibility.

Insecurity has been growing in Afghanistan in recent weeks,

largely spurred by fighting in its provinces as US-led foreign troops complete their with-

drawal and the Taliban launch major offensives, taking districts and border crossings.

China to make new chapter of international human rights progress with rest of world

THE 47th session of the UN Human Rights Council concluded on July 14 in Geneva, Switzerland. China's stance on human rights was widely supported and responded to at the session, and the country also received high evaluation for its sense of responsibility to drive the progress of human rights of the world.

During the session, China made proposals on human rights issues of common concern, including equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, interests and rights of vulnerable groups and poverty reduction. The country actively

shared with all parties its human rights experience, and the resolution it proposed entitled

"The Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights" was adopted. Besides, China also worked to advance international cooperation on human rights and safeguard international equity and justice.

Only by maintaining a peaceful and stable environment can human rights progress be made. As a country that proposed and has always practiced the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, China upholds the banner of peace,

development, cooperation and mutual benefit, firmly safeguards the international system with the UN at the core and international order based on international law, and adheres to a vision of global governance featuring extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits and a new vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. It is a vital force driving the peaceful development of human society.

As the world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, China is working to build a community with a

shared future for mankind with all parties concerned. Such a vision puts people above everything and places huge attention on their development. Emphasizing inclusiveness, cooperation, openness, and mutual benefits, it conforms to the aspiration of the people around the world for peace, development, cooperation and common progress, and advances the development of human society. It offers Chinese wisdom and schemes for the progress of the international cause of human rights.

Only by constantly improving economic and social de-

velopment can the protection of human rights be further enhanced. Pursuing its own development, China is also expanding mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation with the rest of the world for common development. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an important platform for building a community with a shared future for mankind. It is building a strong power of cooperation and bringing important opportunities to participating countries to enhance the well-being of the people. It has become a path of human rights leading to common progress

of the entire human race.

China established the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund, and the fund has implemented over 100 cooperation projects in more than 50 countries.

The China-UN Peace and Development Fund is also injecting strong impetus to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Helen Clark, former chief of UN Development Programme said that it is a community with a shared future that China can share peace and prosperity with its partners.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), China actively joins international human rights affairs and has become an important force reinforcing international human rights governance. It has approved or joined 26 international documents of human rights, including six core human rights treaties of the UN. Since the country recovered its legitimate seat in the UN in 1971, it has actively joined international human rights mechanisms and the making of international human rights standards.

People's Daily

Friends indeed - foreigners reveal truth about CPC members

CANBERRA/BEIJING

NOT many foreigners living in China have realized what an important and ubiquitous role the members of the Communist Party of China (CPC) play in their daily life.

Neither waving flags nor shouting slogans through megaphones, most CPC members are just ordinary people performing commonplace duties – community workers, teachers, welders, veterans, doctors, police officers and village officials.

They are from all walks of life, and in the eyes of foreigners, they are also sincere friends and public-spirited servants.

NORMAL CHINESE, PUBLIC-SPIRITED

Rod Campbell, research director at Canberra's Australia Institute, spent two years at Gansu Agricultural University in northwest China. "All my colleagues were CPC members," he recalled. "I know lots of CPC members."

They are normal Chinese people. He has seen misunderstandings in Western media about CPC members. "The simplistic nature of reporting ... is problematic. It doesn't really represent how China works."

According to Campbell, what many in the West don't know or understand is that most Chinese people are supportive of the CPC and the government.

"That's something widely misunderstood (in the West)," he told Xinhua. "There is an attitude in the West that China should somehow be like us, and that Chinese people

want, really deep down, a system like ours. It's not the case." "I try to imagine if China had, instead of the Communist Party, a different social political system ... could it achieve what has been achieved? I very much doubt it.

I really doubt it," said Michael Crook, chairman of the International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, who has spent decades in China, witnessing the tremendous development China has achieved under the leadership of the CPC.

"I know that around me, many of my friends are members of the Chinese Communist Party.

They are my friends," said Crook, adding that "the Party members ... are some of the really decent people who are public-spirited." Talking about why so many people are joining the CPC, Crook said that in his experience, "the people who join the Party, they're not joining for selfish motives.

They are joining because they care. And they want to help the people around them, and improve the society."

RESPONSIBILITY, NOT PRIVILEGE

"Through a century of growth, the Party has always led, fighting with and for the people, under the flag that's red," American Mark Levine wrote in a song he composed and posted on his WeChat account for the 100th anniversary of the CPC's founding.

Levine, 73, teaches at the Minzu University of China. He was among the 70,000 people who gathered at Tian'anmen Square in central Beijing on July 1 to attend the cel-



Luo Chaobing (2nd L), a Communist Party of China (CPC) member, learns about farmer's preparation for ploughing in Dingdan Village, Rongjiang County, Qiongdongnan Miao and Dong Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Guizhou Province. Xinhua

bration of the CPC's centenary. "If I look at what I've been able to see during my years in China, it's almost miraculous ... They (the achievements) were made by the people of China, but they were made under the leadership and the teachings of the Communist Party," he told Xinhua.

In the 2000s, Levine got a job as an English teacher in east China's Jiangsu Province -- before moving to Beijing two years later.

Levine said that while in China, he saw "even more" development than he had expected. "Great progress had been made in education, medical care," he said.

"We can see the tremendous accomplishment in the fight against COVID-19." Years of living in China have also allowed him to know CPC members better.

"They are supportive," he said. "People join the Party because they realize it's not a privilege, it's a responsibility."

MORE THAN IDENTITY

South African boxing coach Eduardo Santander has lived in China for ten years. For him, the CPC was just an obscure concept until he met a client who is a CPC member.

The man was a public servant who spoke frankly of his income, which didn't seem that high, Santander said, adding that he certainly appeared to be a very hard-working individual.

"He told me that they arranged COVID-19 tests for lots of people, and helped them with vaccinations," Santander said. "He and his colleagues always work overtime." That was when Santander real-

ized what it means to be a CPC member: they do more, and are expected to do more, than other people. "During my decade, China has had big changes. People like this man must have contributed a lot," said the coach.

Santander's observation is shared by 29-year-old American teacher Elena Portillo.

She smiles when talking about the "lovely" woman in her community who is always cheerful and helpful. "I thought party membership was only a political identity," she said.

"But in China, such an identity means a lot. During the pandemic, she was stationed at the entrance of our community, taking temperatures and registering visitors. It was winter, and she was stomping her feet in the cold wind." Xinhua

South Korea leaders apologise for navy ship virus outbreak

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea's prime minister and defense minister apologised as hundreds of COVID-19-infected sailors were flown to Seoul yesterday after a navy destroyer patrolling the waters off Africa was found to be riddled with the coronavirus.

Almost 250 of the 301-strong unvaccinated crew aboard the destroyer Munmu the Great were infected, the country's biggest cluster of COVID-19 military cases, sparking a public furor at the government's failure to protect those serving abroad.

"I apologize for having failed to take better care of the health of our soldiers who devoted themselves to the country," Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum told an intra-agency COVID-19 meeting as he promised treatment and recovery support for the crew, which includes 12 in critical condition. Defence Minister Suh Wook apologised for not immunizing the crew before they departed for the Gulf of Aden in early February on an eight-month counter-piracy mission, and said he would examine anti-virus policies for all overseas military units.

The rare double apology underscored simmering anger in South Korea over the handling of the pandemic as a fourth wave of infections sweeps through the country with just 13 percent of the 52 million population fully inoculated amid vaccine shortages.

The destroyer left South Korea just a couple of weeks before officials kicked off a national vaccination program. Authorities decided that inoculating at sea would not be feasible due to limited emergency responses and cold storage requirements for some vaccines, the defense ministry said.

Floods lay bare Europe's 'gigantic task' in averting climate damage

BRUSSELS

THE catastrophic floods that swept northwest Europe last week were a stark warning that stronger dams, dykes and drainage systems are as urgent as long-term climate change prevention, as once-rare weather events become more common.

As the waters recede, officials are assessing the destruction left by the torrents that terrorized swathes of western and southern Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, smashing buildings and bridges and killing more than 150 people.

German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, who visited the spa town of Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler on Monday, said the cost of reconstruction would run into the billions of euros, in addition to the millions needed for emergency assistance.

But the cost of designing and building better infrastructure to mitigate such events could be many times higher.

Coming hard on the heels of severe heatwaves and wildfires in North America and Siberia, the floods have put climate change at the top of the political agenda.

The European Union this month launched an ambitious package of measures to address climate change at source, focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to limit the relentless rise in the global temperature.

It is also implementing a 750 billion euro coronavirus recovery package that



Caravans, cars and mobile homes that were swept away by the flood wave hang together on a bridge over the River Ahr, in Altenahr, western Germany on Sunday. AP

is heavily weighted towards projects that boost economic resilience and sustainability.

But the devastation wrought by last week's floods has made clear that the extreme weather events predicted by climate change scientists are already happening now, and require a direct response.

"We need to build new infrastructure - containment basins, dykes, riverside overflow drainage areas - and strengthen sewerage systems, dams and barriers," said Lamia Messari-Becker, Professor of Building Technology and Construction Physics at the University of Siegen. "It is a gigantic task. This is the hour of the engineers."

'It's really happening'

After a series of severe flooding events over the past 25 years, some of the affected countries had already taken action, for instance by lowering floodplains to help them absorb more water.

At the same time, the speed and scale of the disaster, caused by exceptionally heavy rain drawn together by a powerful low-pressure system, showed just how hard it will be to prepare for more frequent extreme weather.

"As climate change continues, as extreme events continue to increase in intensity and frequency, there are just limits to the extent to which you can protect yourself," said Wim Thiery, a climate scientist at Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

Drastic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions are certain-

ly necessary, but will not substantially influence the weather, let alone cool the planet, for decades.

Long before then, countries will have to adapt or build basic infrastructure that goes beyond water management into agriculture, transport, energy and housing.

"Our cities developed over the centuries, starting from the Roman period in some cases, for climate conditions that are very different than the climate conditions we are heading into," Thiery said.

Even before last week's floods, which turned high streets and houses into piles of muddy rubble, Germany's vaunted transport and urban infrastructure had been deteriorating as a result of years of budget restraint.

In other vulnerable areas of Europe, such as northern Italy, destructive floods expose the weakness of decrepit roads and bridges almost every year.

And the coronavirus epidemic has left governments with even less spare cash to spend on maintaining their infrastructure, let alone strengthening it.

But they may have no choice.

"I think we all realise now that those extreme events are really happening," said Patrick Willems, professor in water engineering at Belgium's KU Leuven University.

"It's not just the forecast, it's really happening."

Agencies

Algeria to boost cooperation with China under BRI framework - president

ALGIERS

ALGERIAN President Abdelmadjid Tebboune said on Monday that Algeria is ready to deepen cooperation with China in various fields under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

The Algerian leader made the remarks during his meeting with visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Tebboune (pictured) asked Wang to convey his cordial greetings to Chinese President Xi Jinping, while also extending his warm congratulations to the Communist Party of China (CPC) on its 100th anniversary of founding.

Tebboune spoke highly of the outstanding achievements the Chinese people have made in the course of revolution and construction under the leadership of the CPC.

Noting that China and Algeria share a long history of friendship and mutual trust, Tebboune said Algeria's policy on China has never changed since the North African country gained independence. He cited that Algeria has always deemed China as a diplomatic priority and stood firmly with China.

As both countries have entered a new stage of development, it's hoped that they will deepen cooperation in the areas of economy, trade, investment, energy, mining and infrastructure construction under the BRI framework, so to achieve com-



mon development which will also benefit other developing countries, said Tebboune.

He stressed that Algeria has supported China in the past, is still supporting China now, and will continue to support China even more in the future.

The Algerian president also congratulated China on the 50th anniversary of restoring its lawful seat in the United Nations, adding that Algeria expects China to play a bigger role in international affairs to promote regional and global peace and stability.

For his part, Wang conveyed warm greetings from President Xi to Tebboune.

Praising Algeria as a country of heroism and principle, Wang said Algeria has always adhered to an independent policy and upheld justice in international affairs, which has earned respect from the international community.

Fifty years ago, Algeria and other developing countries, battling against pressure and interference, gave full support to restoring the lawful seat of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, Wang noted.

"Fifty years later, I came to your country to celebrate this

historic event and to show gratitude to our Algerian friends," said the Chinese diplomat.

Wang added that his visit also aimed to send out a clear message: China will continue to treat Algeria as an important partner in strengthening unity and cooperation among developing countries under the new circumstances.

China stands ready to join hands with Algeria to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries and uphold international justice, he said.

China and Algeria, Wang said, used to be comrades-in-arms who fought side by side and now have become partners in seeking common development and prosperity.

The mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries has great potential and space for development, Wang said, adding that China encourages its enterprises to invest and do business in Algeria.

China is willing to work with Algeria to translate their high-level political mutual trust into tangible results of cooperation, help Algeria accelerate the pace of industrialization, and enhance its capacity for independent development, the Chinese diplomat said.

Wang promised that China will continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines to Algeria and promote cooperation in vaccine production to help Algeria overcome the pandemic at an early date.

Xinhua

Digital technologies give a leg up to pineapple business of south China's Xuwen

XUWEN county in Zhanjiang, south China's Guangdong province, has a history of pineapple cultivation that goes back nearly 100 years. It is the largest pineapple producer in China.

This year, Xuwen pineapples became sensational on Chinese social media platforms. Short videos about the fruit have gained billions of views, and the county is visited by huge numbers of visitors on holidays. The purchasing price of premium varieties has exceeded three yuan (\$0.46) per kilogram.

Why can the Xuwen pineapples, which were non-impressive sales-wise, become a crowd-puller? What happened three years ago might answer the question.

In the spring of 2018, Xuwen embraced a big harvest of pineapples. However, the purchasing price of the traditional variety "bali" fell to 0.4 yuan per kilogram due to the sluggish pineapple market.

The county planted 350,000 mu, or 23,333 hect-

ares of pineapples, and its annual production of the fruit accounted for 1/3 of China's pineapple market. Even so, harvests were not turned into proportionate sales as a result of information asymmetry. Pineapples were always sold at a loss even in high seasons, and many of them just rotted in the fields.

To turn things around, Xuwen tailored for itself a three-year action plan, planning to build a big data bank, expand production and

sales markets, and establish purchasing and sales alliances. Besides, it also invited outsiders to visit its pineapple production bases and sent its planters out of town to learn advanced experiences.

In early 2019, a working group was dispatched by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of Guangdong Province to the county to better solve the problems during its development.

"Pooling efforts from gov-

ernment, farmers, purchasers and distributors, and releasing purchaser index and purchasing price index, we have formed a synergy among the production, purchasing and sales sides," said Li Xiaojun, leader of the working group, adding that e-commerce platforms also play a part in driving the sales of Xuwen pineapples.

Now, Xuwen's pineapple growers are connected to the farming e-commerce marketplace "Yimutian" that

displays the county's pineapple production trends, purchasing, daily information and transport information. The e-commerce marketplace also gives the purchasing price of pineapples in major production areas across the county, as well as the sales price of the fruit in major Chinese whole-sale markets. In 2019, the purchasing price of bali pineapples reached 1.6 to 2.2 yuan per kilogram, with the premium ones being sold at

2.6 yuan per kilogram.

Facing new challenges brought by the sudden outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic earlier last year, Guangdong province worked to stabilize price, expanded direct purchasing channels, launched short video marketing activities, held online match-making meetings and employed influencer marketing strategies. As of the end of March, the sales volume of Xuwen pineapples had reached half of the county's annual production, and even the immature fruits were ordered.

People's Daily

SPORT



Dar Cricket Club (DCC) A side's Dharmin Parmar (R) gets man of the match prize from a cricket follower after Parmar's team faced Patel Brotherhood A outfit in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML)'s Division B 30 Overs duel last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DCC

DCC A side wallops Patel Brotherhood A squad in Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League

By Guardian Reporter

DAR Cricket Club (DCC) A outfit has stepped up its quest for clinching this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML) Division B T30's title after walloping Patel Brotherhood A squad by seven wickets last weekend.

For the second time in as many matches, DCC A outfit's skipper, Adil Kassam, won the toss and elected to field first in the duel at Leaders Club venue.

Sending Patel Brotherhood A side to bat first seemed to be a wrong move by the DCC A squad's skipper as the former's openers, Chetan Patel and Dhavalkumar Patel, started steadily in the power play overs.

Patel Brotherhood A cricketers did not lose a wicket in the first six overs, piling 21 runs.

The worried DCC A outfit's skipper thereafter used his experience and brought his outfit's best spin bowler, Abdulwahid Mohammed, and medium pacer, Sajad Ratansi, straight in to the attack.

With the duo bowling straight six overs apiece, they did not disappoint their club's skipper, considering they took two wickets apiece.

Chetan (12 runs from 26 balls) was outfoxed by the left arm slow turning googly, which was caught by Meet Jetha.

Ratansi, with his nagging line and length delivery, trapped Patel Brotherhood A's Tarpan Tailor for leg before wicket (lbw), with the latter recording three runs from eight balls.

Harsh Patel (six runs from nine balls) went for an ambitious drive but the cricketer missed the ball and was stumped.

Pinalkumar Patel (three runs from eight balls), Patel A side's skipper, did not stay for long as Ratansi's slower ball beat the bat and DCC A squad's lightning fast keeper, Kassam, removed the bells in a flash to get another stumping.

With Patel Brotherhood A outfit having

reached 64 runs and four wickets down in 20 overs, Dharmin Parmar was introduced in the DCC A outfit's attack.

The veteran spinner did not disappoint his captain, as he bagged a five-wicket haul.

Dhavalkumar (26 runs from 61 balls) was bowled, Keyur Patel (eight runs from 11 balls) was brilliantly caught by Hozaifa, Mehul Jayantibhai (seven runs from nine balls) was bowled, Anil Thakor (six runs from three balls) was caught by Hozaifa, Pradhan Shetty (11 runs) was dismissed through lbw.

Hozaifa Hussein had a wicket of Riteshkumar Tailor (10 runs from as many balls) dismissing the batsman through lbw.

Patel Brotherhood A squad eventually scored a below par total of 97 runs all out in 26.5 overs.

The DCC A outfit's chase got off to a worst start when their skipper Kassam was dismissed for a first ball golden duck.

The skipper was caught by Patel Brotherhood A side's Thakor from delivery by Keyur Patel.

The DCC A side's dependable batsman Asad Aziz fell off cheaply too, scoring three runs from four balls.

Aziz was caught brilliantly by Patel Brotherhood A outfit's keeper, Harsh Patel, off Riteshkumar's bowling.

Another veteran batsman, Meet Jetha, came to DCC A outfit's rescue having set up 78-run partnership with youthful batsman, Sufian Usman (26 runs from 32 balls).

Sufian was bowled by Harsh Patel in the 15th over when DCC A squad needed only 14 runs to win.

Jetha made sure there were no more lapses in the chase and the cricketer finished the game with a crisp cover drive to the boundary.

The experienced performer notched 54 runs not out from 59 balls, hitting eight boundaries in the process.

At the end, skipper Kassam's decision of going to field first turned out to be a perfect move.

Parmar was adjudged the man of the match for his exploits with the ball, the cricketer was presented with a medal and cash prize of 30,000/-.

Hidaya, Pepe Kalle's famed lady passes on in Arusha

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

ONE of Tanzania's most famous personalities, Lady Hidaya Mohammed Mtumwa, who earned global fame after featuring in the popular DR Congo troupe Empire Bakuba's hit 'Shikamoo Seye,' has died.

Hidaya, famously known as 'Hidaya wa Pepe Kalle', reportedly passed on at her Kaloleni home in Arusha City Center, the family will be releasing more information regarding her untimely demise later on.

During her lifetime, 'Hidaya' has been a business woman, dealing with various investments including tour companies, car hiring entities as well as real estate, among other enterprises, but she was well known for her involvement in entertainment, precisely music events.

She met the popular Congolese singer and Empire Bakuba Band leader, Joseph Kabasele Yampanya, alias 'Pepe Kalle', during the latter's tour of Tanzania in the early 1990s when the band performed in Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Mwanza cities.

Pepe Kalle was impressed by Hidaya's mastery of Lingala language such that

immediately after departing from Tanzania, the singer went to Paris and composed the song in her honour.

The song became a popular hit across the continent and beyond, especially in Kenya and Tanzania.

Likewise, the late Hidaya, who, during her life, once lived in Nairobi, Kenya, before returning to invest in Arusha, became very famous after the hit filled East African airwaves.

The ad-libitum 'Shikamoo Marahaba' chant in the song would be a staple in local dance halls.

She had two grown up children, a son, Kasongo, who at one time lived in Dubai, and the formerly UK-based daughter, the late Leyla Mtumwa.

It should be remembered that Hidaya's daughter, Leyla Ndaya Mtumwa, was stabbed to death in the United Kingdom on March 31, 2018, allegedly by her husband, and fellow Tanzanian, Salum Kema Mobango, during an early morning family squabble at their London apartment.

Having been found guilty, her husband, Salum Kema Mobango, is currently serving a 27 years' jail sentence in Britain.

SPORTS

Youth football in focus

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

TODAY, Dear Reader, we shall deliberate upon one of the time-honoured pathways to outstanding success in football, youth development.

Indeed, there used to be a time here in this country when we treated this sober matter flippantly and in fact, gave it short shrift.

Thankfully though, our cognizance of the sheer essentiality of youth development to football quintessence on our shores has significantly improved over the last couple of years and we have even groomed quite a considerable number of young starlets-turned-football icons in the country.

Still, we can do more and our efforts in this regard are soon set to receive a hopefully transformative shot in the arm.

Indeed, the boost that I am alluding to concerns recent reports that a top-notch football center is presently being built in Tanga and its construction is being bankrolled by world football's governing body FIFA.

Set to be operational by January next year, it is envisaged by the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) that the center will serve as a hub for the development of Tanzanian children's football and also youth football.

But, hold your horses. This feel-good story gets even better. Indeed, according to the TFF, it is envisioned that national junior football teams and national women's football teams will also use the center as an ideal place to improve.

Without a shadow of doubt, this ranks as one of the most potentially helpful football developments ever to have emerged on the home front.

It is hoped then that in the years to come, the center will acquire an impeccable reputation that may come close



A Dar es Salaam youth football side prepares for one of the recent junior tournaments' fixtures that took place in the city.

to being at par with world-famous hubs of youth talent such as Barcelona's internationally renowned La Marcia football academy and the state-of-the-art St. George's football center in London, England.

Let us segue nicely now into pondering on continental football where the much-anticipated do-or-die 2020-21 CAF Champions League final was decided last Saturday between perennial heavyweights Al Ahly and Soweto juggernauts, Kaizer Chiefs, whose advancement to the tourney's high stakes climax took many observers by surprise.

As if there wasn't already a lot on the line, an extra edge of rivalry was added to the no-holds-barred contest by the interesting fact that Al Ahly's coach is none other than the immensely successful South African tactician Pitso Mosimane while Kaizer Chiefs are most naturally, a South African side to boot.

Thus, with the stage so brilliantly set, the encounter turned out to be rather a let-down for all those quarters who had been expecting a see-sawing, and pulsating football contest between two veritable aristocratic continental football outfits.

For, in the end, the final was an almost one-sided affair as Al Ahly turned on the style and produced a

genuinely masterful display to comfortably see off Kaizer Chiefs with a dominant 3-0 triumph.

For the revered South African coach Mosimane, the victory marked his second consecutive CAF Champions League triumph with Al Ahly after he unforgettably shepherded the Egyptian football behemoths to cup glory last year.

And, if there were any nay-sayers and doubters who have been questionably putting Mosimane under fire, then the South African has furnished them with the latest evidence yet that he is unmistakably a coach with the Midas Touch.

Tanzania to feature in Tokyo Olympics' opening without flag bearer

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadonda

TANZANIA will not have an athlete serving as a flag bearer at the coming Tokyo Olympics' opening ceremony, Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) disclosed yesterday.

Filbert Bayi, TOC secretary general, explained that the flag bearing event will be held later this month, while local athletes will arrive in Japan on August 1.

Bayi revealed, leader of delegation, Henry Tandau, who departed yesterday, will carry the national flag at the event.

Flag bearers carry their respective countries' national flags at the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games and, for the first time, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) asked every nation to supply a male and female flag bearer as it continues to promote gender equality.

The TOC disclosed: "Our athletes will arrive in Japan after the flag bearing event has been done, instead, our leader of delegation, Tandau, will carry the national flag."

"Tandau has already left for Japan where he will attend pre-Games meeting and arrange the arrival of our team," he said.

Commenting on the athletes' preparedness for the games, Bayi said he is confident they will perform well.

"I was in Arusha where the team is camping, I saw the athletes are in good shape and I'm sure they will do well, maybe unless something happens, but I am confident they will do well," said Bayi.

The team was, last week, presented with the national flag by Deputy Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Pauline Gekul. Three athletes, Felix Simbu, Gabriel Geay and Failuna Abdi, will represent the country at the Games.

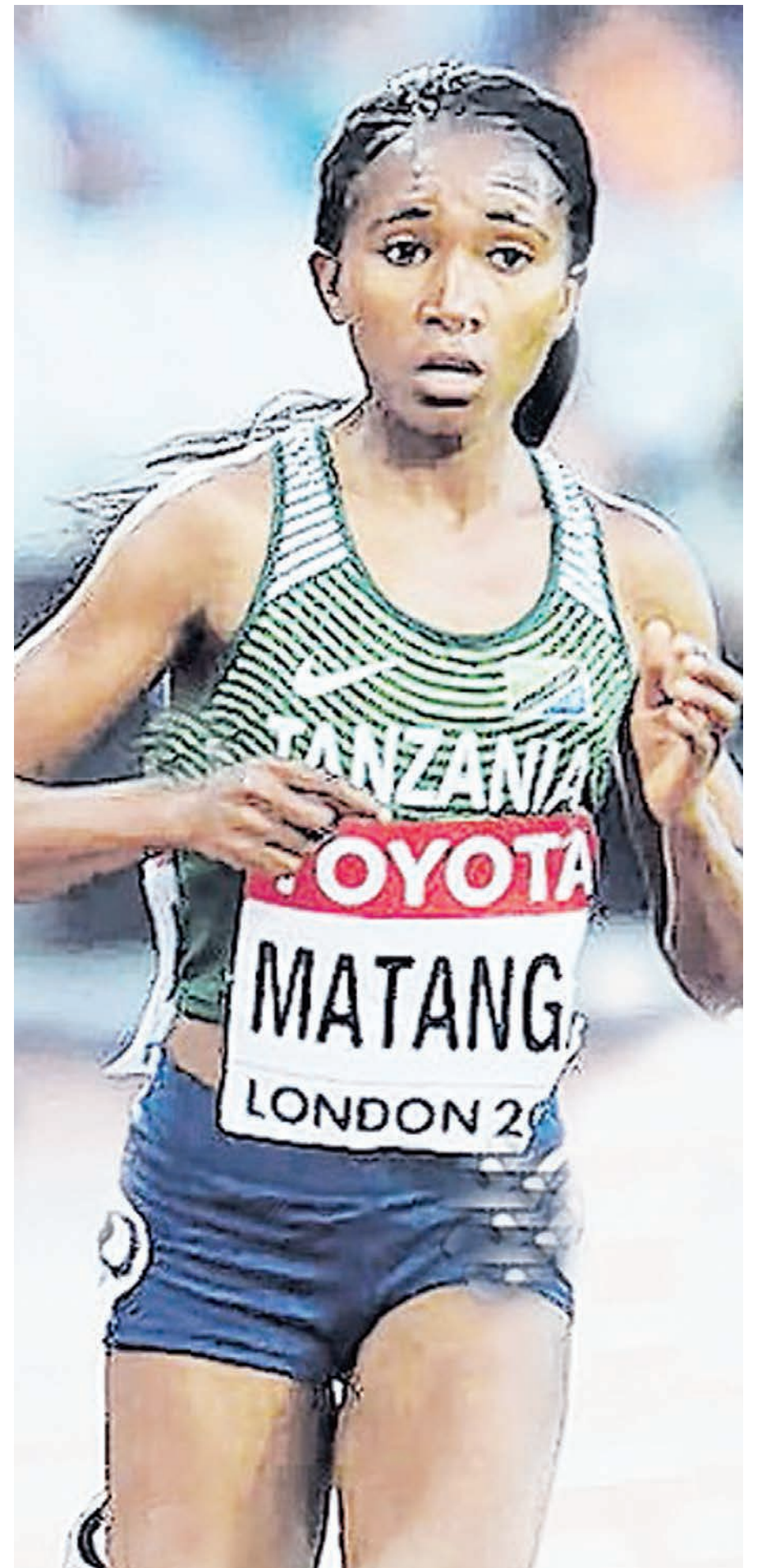
They are currently camping at Arusha College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism (Olmotonyi) under coach, Thomas John, and other coaches.

According to Bayi, all athletes travelling Japan to attend the Games will be required to show two separate, negative COVID-19 tests result certificates before they even set feet in Tokyo, including one within 96 hours of departure and another within 72 hours.

They will also be expected to download and activate one application that will monitor their location and be used for contact tracing, and another that will send out daily temperature and health check reports.

Athletes will be tested upon arrival and will have their temperatures checked each time they enter an Olympic venue.

Masks are required for the duration of the Games, and athletes will be required to replace masks as soon as they become damp and wash them once a day.



Marathoner, Failuna Abdi, is one of Tanzania's three athletes heading for Olympics in Japan.

CAF backs two-yearly World Cup, plans Super League

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICAN football's governing body CAF supports staging the World Cup every two years and is pushing ahead with plans for a continental Super League, according to a statement released on Monday.

An executive committee meeting chaired by president Patrice Motsepe in Morocco at the weekend backed a Saudi Arabian proposal at a recent FIFA meeting to change the frequency of the World Cup.

Since Uruguay hosted the first tournament in 1930, the biggest single-sport event has been held every four years apart from a break during World War II.

World Cup qualifying and tournament matches are money-spinners, partly due to TV rights, and increasing the frequency would give African national football associations a desperately needed financial boost.

Motsepe did not address fears that a biennial World Cup added to a biennial Africa Cup of Nations would lead to fixture congestion.

A possible solution would be to combine qualifying for the two tournaments as was done for the 2006 and 2010 competitions.

The executive have also instructed the club competitions committee to accelerate a feasibility study of an African Super League.

There have been no details about

the proposed competition, which was first mooted by FIFA president Gianni Infantino at a meeting with CAF officials in Morocco last year.

Infantino suggested that 20 clubs be permanent participants while others would qualify via regional competitions.

In April, 12 European clubs announced a Super League of their own before all sides apart from Barcelona, Real Madrid and Juventus pulled out due to widespread criticism.

The 2021-2022 CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup competitions will kick-off on September 10 with the preliminary and first round draws to be made not later than August 15.

Bids to host the finals of the two competitions will open this November. CAF general secretary Veron Mosengo-Omba briefed the executive on the final report on its affairs by auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers, but details were not made public.

The executive told Mosengo-Omba to quickly implement the recommendations and to explore the legal consequences of the report findings.

Cairo-based CAF is battling to improve its image after widespread allegations of corruption and its last president, Malagasy Ahmad Ahmad, was suspended by FIFA last year for financial misconduct. **AFP**

English FA commission independent probe into Euro final mayhem

LONDON

THE English Football Association have commissioned an independent investigation after ticketless fans fought their way into Wembley before the Euro 2020 final.

It has been reported that thousands of supporters gained entry to the stadium by storming the gates prior to Italy's win against England.

There were ugly scenes in the stands and concourses during the game as fans with tickets clashed with those who had broken in.

Outside Wembley, it has been estimated that 200,000 people were in the area for a match with a 67,500 capacity, with the drunken and violent scenes marring the showpiece event.

FA chiefs on Monday said they had informed the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) of the review over the weekend and vowed to identify those responsible for the "disgraceful scenes" both before and during the match.

"We are determined to fully understand what happened outside and then inside Wembley Stadium at the UEFA EURO 2020 Final on Sunday 11 July 2021," the statement said.

"We informed DCMS at the week-

end that an independent review led by Baroness Casey of Blackstock has been commissioned to report on the facts and circumstances involved. It will speak to all parties concerned and include external experts.

"A key emphasis of the findings will be to ensure that lessons are learned and such disgraceful scenes are never able to be repeated.

"We continue to work with the relevant authorities in support of their efforts to identify those responsible and hold them to account."

Police have since released CCTV images of some of those they want to question.

England trio Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho and Bukayo Saka were racially abused on social media platforms after penalties in the decisive shoot-out following the 1-1 draw.

The behaviour of both those who forced their way into Wembley and the online trolls has been widely condemned.

The shocking incidents have raised doubts about the chances of a successful proposed joint bid by the United Kingdom and Ireland to host the 2030 World Cup. **AFP**

Rennes 'open' to deal for Man United target Eduardo Camavinga

PARIS

RENNES president Nicolas Holveck has said the club are "open" to discussing a deal to offload Manchester United target Eduardo Camavinga this summer.

Sources have told ESPN that United monitoring the 18-year-old's situation at Rennes and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is also keen to add a midfielder to his squad.

Camavinga has one year left on his Rennes contract and the club president said they are willing to let the midfielder leave for the right price.

"One of the priorities is to reduce the squad," Holveck told French radio station RMC. "We still have eight or nine players who need to leave. There also remains the situation with Eduardo.

"Discussions are still ongoing, everything is open, either for a departure during this transfer window – if an offer satisfies everyone – or to extend [Camavinga's deal]

"He won't leave for cheap, we've had a lot of discussions but nothing is complete one way or another."

Sources have also told ESPN that United expect competition from Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid for Camavinga's signature this summer.

United are focusing on top priorities

to ensure they stay within their budget for the summer transfer window.

The Premier League club have already committed to £72.9 million on a deal for Jadon Sancho and are pressing ahead with a move to sign Madrid's defender Raphael Varane.

Meanwhile, Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has said Jesse Lingard is part of his plans for next season.

Lingard impressed on his return to the team following a loan spell at West Ham United after playing the second half in a 2-1 win over Derby County at Pride Park on Sunday.

The 28-year-old left Old Trafford in January to find regular first-team football but Solskjaer insists he wants to keep the England forward after finding himself short of options at the end of last season.

"Jesse has come back, been bright, he wants to fight for his place and there's nothing better than seeing players want to fight for their place," Solskjaer said.

"What he did towards the end of last season, that's the true Jesse, that's what we know he's capable of and I think we saw towards the end that we lacked some options at times and Jesse is in the plans at the moment, yeah."

(Agencies)

Grealish, Kane, Varane among summer's biggest sagas to be resolved

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

THE 2021-22 club season in Europe is less than a month away, with the Premier League, La Liga, Bundesliga and Ligue 1 all due to kick off before mid-August, while Serie A starts on Aug. 22. But despite all of the major leagues getting ready to slip into gear, the transfer market is yet to spring into life.

Big moves have been conspicuous by their absence. Liverpool made an early start by sealing a £36 million deal for RB Leipzig defender Ibrahima Konate, while Manchester United have ended a two-year pursuit of Jadon Sancho by agreeing a £72.9m fee for the Borussia Dortmund forward, with only the final paperwork preventing that transfer from being officially confirmed.

Paris Saint-Germain have had an excellent window, adding Sergio Ramos, Gianluigi Donnarumma and Georginio Wijnaldum on free transfers, as well as Achraf Hakimi from Inter Milan, while AC Milan have also bolstered their numbers by signing Olivier Giroud and Fikayo Tomori from Chelsea.

But where are the box-office deals that had been on the agenda this summer? Harry Kane, Erling Haaland, Raphael Varane and Jack Grealish are still at the same clubs as last season, while Lionel Messi ended the prospect of a move away from Barcelona by committing to a new contract at Camp Nou.

Paul Pogba and David De Gea haven't moved from Manchester United and Mohamed Salah remains a Liverpool player, despite ongoing speculation last season about a transfer to Spain.

So with the new club season around the corner, ESPN has assessed the state of play of the transfer sagas that are waiting to be settled.

Harry Kane

It is now two months since England captain Kane made it clear to Tottenham Hotspur that he wanted to leave the club this summer, but new Spurs coach Nuno Espirito Santo expects the 27-year-old to be part of his plans in the new season.

Manchester City is Kane's most likely destination, with the Premier League champions needing a replacement for Sergio Aguero following his departure to Barcelona. But with three years still to run on his Spurs contract, City are faced with having to pay at least £150m to persuade the London club to sell. Despite their wealth, courtesy of owner Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed al Nahyan, City have consistently walked away from deals they regard as too expensive – Virgil van Dijk being a recent example when City refused to pay Southampton's £75m valuation in January 2018 – and sources have told ESPN they will not pay £150m for Kane.

Kane's contract is the key factor here because Spurs are in no danger of losing their star player as a free agent anytime soon. City have several players they are willing to offload in order to make a deal happen – Riyad Mahrez, Aymeric Laporte, Gabriel Jesus, Bernardo Silva and even Raheem Sterling could be used to tempt Spurs into an agreement, but Kane may have to force the issue with Spurs chairman Daniel Levy to have any hope of getting a move this summer.

Raphael Varane

Having sealed a deal with Dortmund for Sancho, Manchester United's next priority is to sign Raphael Varane from Real Madrid. Sources have told ESPN that United are confident the France centre-back will be at Old Trafford in time for the Premier League opener against Leeds on Aug. 14. Sources have also said that Varane wants to move to United after 10 years at the Santiago Bernabeu.

The holdup at this stage is Real's determination to drive the transfer fee up for the 28-year-old, with the Spanish side initially wanting £70m for a player whose contract expires at the end of next season. Sources have said that a fee of £50m for the defender is more realistic, but Unit-



Erling Haaland



Harry Kane

ed believe that figure can be reduced even further. Real's need to raise funds and cut their wage bill in order to rebuild Carlo Ancelotti's squad is why they are likely to agree a deal, but as United have discovered several times in the past, dealing with Real is never easy.

United are also keen to sign England full-back Kieran Trippier from Atletico Madrid, with sources saying the player wants to return to his roots in the northwest of England. United want Atletico to reduce their expectation of a £35m transfer fee before striking a deal for the 30-year-old.

Barcelona

Messi's decision to sign a new contract at Barcelona is not without its consequences for coach Ronald Koeman's rebuilding plans at Camp Nou. While keeping Messi was always the top priority this summer, the Argentina captain remains a huge drain on the club's resources, despite reportedly taking a 50% pay cut to stay. Club president Joan Laporta has said that the club's finances are worse than he imagined when elected in March, with gross debt just short of €1.2 billion.

The cash shortage has led to three free-transfer signings so far – Aguero, Eric Garcia and Memphis Depay – but players are almost certain to leave the club in order to allow more deals to happen.

Antoine Griezmann, a €120m signing from Atletico Madrid in 2019, is now expected to return to his former club in a swap deal involving midfielder Saul Niguez. That deal would take Griezmann's €300,000-a-week wages off the Barca payroll. Miralem Pjanic, Ousmane Dembele, Philippe Coutinho, Martin Braithwaite and Samuel Umtiti are all available, but their Barcelona wages are likely to be an obstacle for any club prepared to make a move to sign them.

Erling Haaland

The Borussia Dortmund striker has given little indication that he wants to leave Signal Iduna Park this summer, despite emerging as the No. 1 target for every major club in Europe.

Chelsea, in need of a proven goal scorer, have attempted to test Dortmund's resolve this summer due to the German club facing the Norwegian's €68m release clause becoming active in 2022, but neither Dortmund nor the Haaland camp has taken the bait. Having sanctioned the departure of Sancho to Manchester United, Dortmund are unlikely to allow another of their star forwards to move this summer, but there is an expectation that Haaland will move in 12 months' time.

Haaland turns 21 on Wednesday, and sources have told ESPN that the former FC Salzburg forward is in no hurry to leave Dortmund, with his friends and advisers believing that another year in the Bundesliga will help his development. But with arguably the hottest property in world football becoming available for just £68m next year, expect an almighty scramble to sign him in 2022.

Paul Pogba

Ever since signing for Manchester United in a then-world-record £89.1m deal from Juventus in 2016, Paul Pogba's future at Old Trafford has rarely been out of the headlines.

This summer, the ongoing financial impact on the game of the COVID-19 pandemic has turned down the volume on the Pogba saga, but it is perhaps the most crucial period of his time at United. With the France midfielder's contract due to expire in June 2022, it is make-or-break time for United and Pogba. He either signs a new deal this summer or United risk losing him for nothing in 12 months' time. Pogba could negotiate a free agent move to a club outside the Premier League as early as Jan. 1, 2022.

Jack Grealish

The Aston Villa midfielder is regarded as a priority target by Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola, but signing him could cost the champions as much as £100m. With City also in the hunt for Kane, the potential cost means City must raise funds by selling some of those players regarded as surplus to requirements by Guardiola.

Grealish signed a five-year contract at Villa last summer that ties him to the club until 2025, but it is not known whether the England international negotiated a release clause before penning that deal. But Villa's £33m deal for Norwich midfielder Emiliano Buendia last month suggested that the club are already preparing for life without Grealish, who is not expected back at Villa until the end of this month due to a post-Euro 2020 break.

Guardiola's determination to sign Grealish makes this deal one that is likely to happen before the season starts.

Arsenal

Having missed out on European qualification last season, Arsenal have made a busy start to overhauling Mikel Arteta's squad. Nuno Tavares has already completed a £6.8m move from Benfica, while a £50m transfer has been agreed with Brighton for England defender Ben White – a deal that could be finalised before the Gunners travel to the United States for a preseason tournament in Florida.

But Arsenal face competition for Italy midfielder Manuel Locatelli and Lyon's Houssein Aouar. Juventus are in talks with Locatelli over a £34.3m move from Sassuolo, which would be an initial loan before a permanent deal in 12 months' time. Sources have said that Sassuolo will only agree to a permanent deal this summer, which could boost Arsenal's chances of signing the Euro 2020 star.

And Tottenham have emerged as the main rivals in the race to sign Aouar, who has been a yearlong target for Arsenal. Sources have told ESPN that Spurs are prepared to offer Tanguy Ndombele as part of any deal to sign Aouar, but Arsenal remain in the hunt for the France international.



Raphael Varane

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Grealish, Kane, Varane among summer's biggest sagas to be resolved

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Polisi Tanzania FC's midfielder, Pato Ngonyani, is one of the players released by the club after this season's completion.

Former Simba SC, Yanga stars shown exit door at Polisi Tanzania

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

VODACOM Premier League side, Polisi Tanzania FC, has announced that it has parted ways with a total of 13 players including former Simba SC and Yanga stars, Marcel Kaheza, Pius Buswita and Pato Ngonyani.

The earmarked players have been deemed surplus to future requirements following the expiration of their contracts with the club.

All players who were on loan at the club will not be given a chance to make their stay permanent. Instead they will be returned to their parent clubs.

The affected players are Marcel Kaheza, Joseph Kimwaga, George Mpole, Emmanuel Manyanda, Mohamed Yusuph, Erick Msagati, and Mohamed Kassim.

Hassan Nassoro, Mohamed Bakari, Pato Ngonyani, Pius Buswita, Ramadhan Kapele and Jimmy Shoji, are also in the list of players released by the side.

On Tuesday morning, a statement issued by the club read: "Polisi Tanzania would sincerely like to thank all the above mentioned players for their commitment and contribution while wearing club colours and wish them the best of luck in the future."

"We also want it to be noted that none of the players who we are still in contract negotiations will leave except for all those have been released from our team."

"The club management saw the service they gave us was enough and after their contracts expired there is no reason to extend their contracts. We released them to go and look for new challenges."

"In addition, the club has returned all the players who were with us on loan agreement to their respective parent clubs after the season ended."

"Ahead of the new season we will delve into the transfer market to rebuild our squad by adding not more than eight new faces in addition to the 19 players who we retained from last season," concludes the statement.

Monday marked the official opening of the transfer window ahead of the 2021/22 season as clubs look to formally register new signings.

Clubs will have five weeks to complete their signings, with the window closing at midnight on August 31.

“

We also want it to be noted that none of the players who we are still in contract negotiations will leave except for all those have been released from our team

Favourites Mtibwa Sugar, Coastal up against Pamba and Transit Camp FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FIRST Division League side, Dar es Salaam's Transit Camp FC, will entertain Vodacom Premier League's Mtibwa Sugar at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the first-leg fixture of the Premier League's relegation playoff today.

The hosts will be looking to gain promotion to the topflight for the first time in the club's history.

Mtibwa Sugar had to be content with a 14th-place finish in the Premier League and a subsequent playoff battle after their 2-1 loss against JKT Tanzania in the last game of the campaign on Sunday.

Coastal Union avoided direct relegation from the top-flight with a 3-1 home victory over Kagera Sugar at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga. They will take on Pamba at Nyamagana Stadium in Mwanza.

The Tanga-based outfit has often bounced between the topflight and First Division League in the past two decades.

Pamba, who were relegated from the topflight in 1999, will aim to avoid losing another playoff.

In their last playoff appearance, they lost 2-1 on aggregate to Kagera Sugar in 2019.

While both Transit Camp FC and Pamba can surely give Mtibwa Sugar and Coastal Union a tough fight, history is not on their side in the fixtures.

Since the playoff was introduced, First Division League sides have won the two-legged fixture only once.

The tight turnaround with the return leg played three days later on Saturday means injuries and fatigue could play an even larger role than normal in what are some of the highest-stakes matches for the involved clubs.

The play-off was introduced to the Vodacom Premier League in 2018/19 when the league was expanded to 20 teams.

The first leg is played at the home of the First Division League side and the second leg is played at the home of the topflight side.

Winners over two legs claim topflight status in the season that follows.

In the case of a tie at the end of the two legs, the away goals rule is used to determine the victors, meaning that goals scored on the road count double.

Should that not be enough to separate the teams, there will then be two 15-minute periods of extra-time and penalties if need be.

Geita Gold FC from Geita and Mbeya Kwanza were promoted directly to the next season's Vodacom Premier League after topping their respective groups.

Pamba and Transit Camp FC triumphed over Ken Gold FC and African Sports to set up the promotion and relegation playoffs with Coastal Union and Mtibwa Sugar.

Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC, Biashara United to discover CAF opponents next month



Tanzania's Simba SC's players jubilate shortly after registering a goal against AS Vita Club of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in this season's CAF Champions League's Group A match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on April 3. Simba SC won 4-1. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S flag bearers in 2021/22 Africa inter-club competitions, Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC and Biashara United, will next month know who they will be up against in the CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup when the competitions' draw is conducted on August 15.

Following the Confederation of African Football (CAF)'s Executive Committee (Exco) meeting held in Morocco last week, it was confirmed the 2021/22 season will kick-off on September 10, 2021.

The 12 highest ranked national associations, according to the ranking of CAF, will be allowed to engage two clubs in the CAF Champions League 2021/22 and the CAF

Confederation Cup 2021/22.

As one of the top 12 countries on the continent allowed to enter two clubs in each of the two competitions, Tanzania will have Simba SC and Yanga in the Champions League while Azam FC and Biashara United will feature in the Confederation Cup.

Registration of players for the pre-group stages round will close on August 15, leaving the four Tanzanian clubs with just three weeks to make new signings that they will want to register for CAF competitions. The CAF inter-club competitions are scheduled to start with the first preliminary round on the weekend of September 10-12, with the second leg clashes being played a week later.

The second preliminary round

will then take place on October 15-17 and October 22-24.

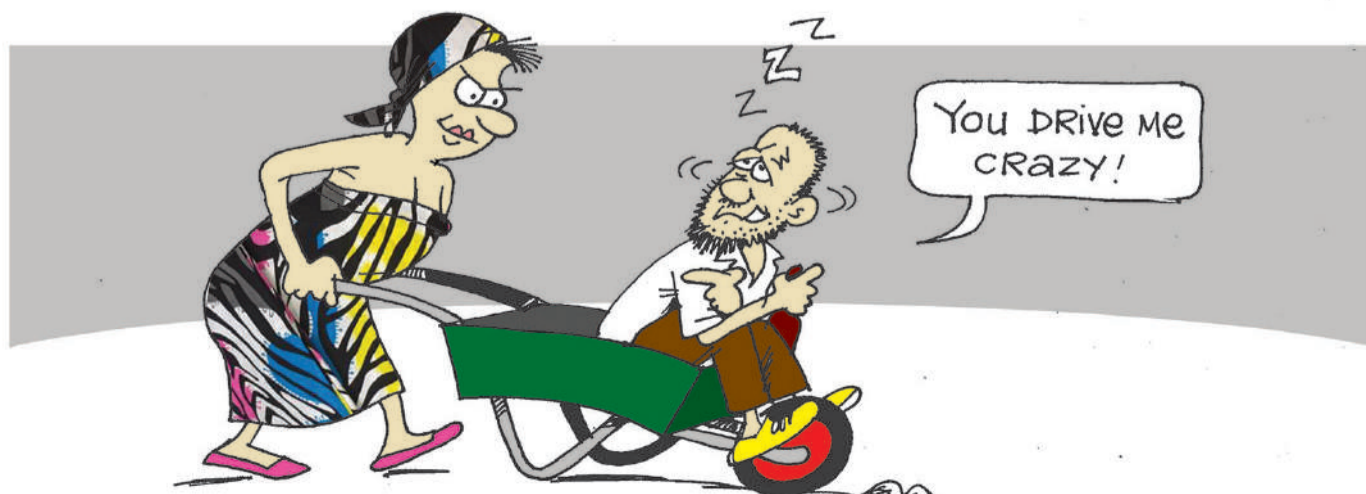
The last qualifying round for the Confederation Cup, involving teams that have dropped from the Champions League, will then be played on November 26-28 and December 3-5. The group stage matches will kick-off in February 2022.

The CAF's Executive Committee (Exco) meeting also resolved that the bids to host the finals of the Champions League and Confederation Cup for the 2021/22 season will open in November.

The two finals will be played between May 22-29 next year.

The CAF has arranged the last two finals of both club competitions as single leg ties played at a predetermined venue.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV SAA 1

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by Interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM