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Zanzibar approves 15 presidential aspirants



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Zanzibar House of Representatives contestants



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EAC launches African women platform



'Losing public servants will be reinstated'

They stand to receive their September salaries, says Deputy Permanent Secretary

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PUBLIC servants who contested in the recently concluded party nominations to vie for different positions but lost are reading to be reinstated to their positions.

Francis Michael, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Good Governance), said here yesterday that the have issued a circular to the relevant authorities to the effect that the various aspirants should be reinstated as per the law and get their September, 2020 salaries.

"There are lots of rumours going round that those civil servants who sought political posts but lost will not be reinstated. That is wrong for the law is very clear on the matter," he declared.

Deputy Attorney General Evaristo Longopa, speaking in a meeting organized by the Ministry of Water for its staff, stressed the need for public servants to use their constitutional

right and vote wisely.

"Every Tanzanian has a right to vote and to be voted but there are those who are constitutionally required to remain neutral in political activities," he said.

Those who ought to remain neutral are judges and magistrates since they are involved in adjudicating on election contentions, while others disallowed to have political affiliation include military and police officers, parliamentary employees and prison wardens.

He reminded the meeting participants that public servants should not engage in unofficial activities or projects during official hours or conduct such activities or projects within office premises or by using public property.

They should similarly be ready to declare their properties or those of their spouses when required to do so, he pointed out.

Public servants shall not corruptly elicit,

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CCM national Chairman President John Magufuli and members of the ruling party's Central Committee in buoyant mood moments before meeting in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: State House

ACT unveils polls manifesto, stresses education, rule of law

Intends to nullify, exempt repayment of all HESLB loans

By Guardian Reporter

BERNARD Membe, ACT-Wazalendo's candidate for the Tanzanian Presidency in the upcoming (late October) General Election, has declared that the party is determined to ensure that it forms a government that places a premium on the rule of law, human dignity, freedom and the well-being of the people.

He made remarks that effect at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday as the opposition party unveiled its 2020 election manifesto, which also focuses on transforming the country's education sector.

The candidate said the party would market the manifesto all over the country, "telling

people why we want to lead".

"We will share with other Tanzanians the kind of nation we're aspiring to have. We want to improve the lives of the people and we want to see that Tanzanians are happy," he said, emphasizing that the party wants to see a fair system of justice plus a strong and prosperous economy.

"The party will facilitate free education from primary to university level, while nullifying and exempting repayment of all loans already taken by Tanzanian students through the Higher Education Students' Loans Board," declared Membe.

He said the party's priorities include fighting

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HESLB extends loan application deadline

By Getrude Mbago

THE Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) has extended the application deadline for the 2020/2021 academic year for ten days, providing room for students seeking to continue with university studies to submit their requests.

The loan application window for the academic year 2020/2021 was opened on July 21st and slated for closure on August 31st.

HESLB Executive Director Abdulrazak Badru (pictured) told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the extension period starts from September 1st to 10th, where applicants need to use this extended period to submit final procedures to benefit from the loans.

Students have started applying for the loans through the board's online loan application system from July 21, he said, elaborating that

HESLB decided to allow more students to apply for loans.

"There are applications lacking some information, hence the need for applicants to improve and re-submit them," he stated.

So far, the board has received 85,921 applications where 71,888 were properly done. Around 14,033 applicants will need to correct their forms before the extended deadline, he said.

HESLB works closely with the Tanzania Posts Corporation (TPC) and the Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) to ensure successful submission of loan application forms, he said, noting that students are assisted by TPC and RITA to submit their applications on time and correctly.

HESLB will this year issue loans amounting to 464bn/- to 145,000 beneficiaries, among whom 54,000 are first year students.

The loan repayment process is progressing well, whereas monthly collections from previous beneficiaries have now reached 16bn/- from the 2bn/- which were being collected in the past five years, he pointed out.

Some applicants fail to secure loans over lack of seriousness in completing application forms, he suggested, specifying that some applicants submit their applications without

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Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) leader Zitto Kabwe (R) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a copy of the opposition party's manifesto to their presidential candidate, Bernard Membe, for use in countrywide campaigns set to lead up to the upcoming (October 28) General Election. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



SUMA-JKT equipment to enhance agro-productivity

By Francis Kajubi

THE National Service economic wing (SUMA-JKT) has procured vehicles and farm machines worth 2.38bn/- to facilitate the goal of producing 28,000 tonnes of food and cash crops in the next five years.

The purchased items include nine lorries, four staff cars, five tractors and 11 farming machines, which will also enable the agency to operate efficiently in construction projects it is executing.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a function to hand over the items to the agency, National Service commander Maj. Gen Charles Mbuge said the military department has embarked on contributing to production of food and cash crops for food security.

"With a crash program that lasted eleven months we managed to produce 10,000 tons of food crops like rice, beans, maize and sunflower. In the next five years we look forward to increasing production to 28,000 tonnes to contribute to the national food

reserve," he said.

SUMA-JKT is looking forward to the next two months to procure new farming machines like combined harvesters and horsepower tractors. The department needs 223 tractors to be confident in its agricultural activities, the commander noted.

JKT has big farms in most regions in the country

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HESLB extends loan application deadline

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attaching important documents.

"They sometimes fail to verify their credentials at RITA or with hospitals," he affirmed.

The TPC manager for business operation, Mwanaisha Saidi, urged students to use internet cafes located at TPC offices across the country to make those applications. TPC's internet cafes are supportive and cheap, she assured.

"We have provided support to 63,768 students; we are working together with HESLB to ensure they properly complete their application forms," she stated.

She also urged primary and secondary schools teachers to put more emphasis on letter writing skills as the majority of students do not write letters easily. "Some are still poor on how to correctly write addresses."

The manager warned deadline chasers that the majority of the students have been waiting for final days to submit their loan applications.

RITA marketing and public relations manager Josephat Kimaro said that the birth certificate stands as an essential document for students to access loans for further studies, thus RITA works closely with HESLB to ensure smooth loan application processes and approval.

"So far, RITA has received 97,739 birth certificates for approval of applications and 83,088 certificates have already been approved," he said.

Common mistakes in the loan application process include failure to correctly submit certificates, he said, noting that some students scan their certificates without capturing the index number, making it difficult to recognise the document in the RITA database.

The agency has so far received 16,004 death certificates of parents of current applicants which need to be verified.

HESLB started operations in July 2005, with a mandate to issue loans to needy and eligible students as provided for in its enabling legislation, he added.



Higher Education Students' Loans Board executive director Abdul-Razaq Badru (C) briefs Prof James Mdoe (R), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Education, Science and Technology ministry, who toured the board's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. With them is HESLB head of communication Omega Ngole. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

SUMA-JKT equipment to enhance agro-productivity

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and has so far injected 4.45bn/- into procuring farm machines and vehicles to ensure efficiency of services offered by SUMAJKT Cleaning and Fumigation Co. Ltd and SUMAJKT Guard Ltd.

Brig. Gen. Rajabu Mabele, executive director for SUMA JKT said that the agency has attracted the general public to trust it when it comes to services such as security and cleaning services, widening its scope to reach a booming number of clients across the country.

"The vehicles are going to make a significant contribution in delivering quality services to new and old clients who believe in our professional services. Purchasing of vehicles is part of initiatives in making sure that our services remain first class," he said.

SUMAJKT companies were set up in 2018 to diversify and specialize

in services offered by SUMAJKT, enhancing its revenue sources by offering services to public institutions as well as commercial firms.

The cleaning and fumigation company has in a short period succeeded in widening the scope of its services especially in public institutions, holding a franchise with the University of Dar es Salaam (new library), the Procurement and Supply Professionals and Tender Board (PSPTB) and the Electronic Government Agency (e-GA) both in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma.

Others are Simiyu Referral Hospital, MKURABITA Dodoma, the Commission for Management and Arbitration (CMA), DART, TTCL Data Center, the Job Ndagui Stand Dodoma, Dodoma public market, Mtwara Referral Hospital, Kibondo District Hospital, the National Electoral Commission (NEC) and Ubungu municipality offices.

'Losing public servants will be reinstated'

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compel or accept bribes from a person whom they are serving, have already served or will be serving in person or by using another person.

The deputy permanent secretary focused on the need for public servants to adhere to the statutory code of ethics and conduct as the nation moves towards the next general election.

Hek argued that civil servants are required not to deviate from the specified ethics underlining non-participation in politics, failure of which they are bound to face disciplinary measures in addition to negative impact on such political

associates.

"The code of ethics and conduct for the public service in Tanzania states that a public servant can participate in politics provided that when so doing, he or she observes limitations as provided for in the constitution," he stated.

The limitations are that one shall not conduct or engage in political activities during official hours or at work premises, that one shall not take part in political activity compromising or being seen to compromise his or her loyalty to the government, he elaborated.

The top civil servant he laid accent to the view that public servants are not

allowed to provide services with bias due to political affiliation.

Public officials are also not allowed to pass information or documents availed through official positions to political parties. "Although public servants have a right to communicate with their political representatives they shall not use such influence to intervene on matters affecting them which are in dispute between the government and any such stakeholders," he said.

Public servants are not allowed to use such influence for furthering personal ends which are not part of government policy, he emphasized at a meeting bringing together 364

participants from water funds, water basins and water authorities to discuss challenges in the water sector and how to solve them.

He used the occasion to remind the participants and others that involvement in politics at this time in the year can impact on national development.

If public servants wrongly use resources like government vehicles among others for political groups to whom they are affiliated this can negatively affect those they are trying to serve, "since it is clear that no government facilities can be used for activities of political parties," he added



Zanzibar Electoral Commission chairman Hamid Mahmoud Hamid (L), a former Zanzibar Chief Justice, presents Zanzibar Presidency candidacy endorsement forms to Tanzania Labour Party candidate Hussein Juma Salim in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

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against all kinds of oppression, pursuing the strengthening of democracy and civil rights as well resuming the process towards a new Constitution for the country.

Other priorities were listed as investing in the empowerment of women, maternal and child health, having well improved social services and investing more in agriculture by focusing on modern irrigation schemes.

The party also vowed to address water shortages across the country by initiating projects worth to two trillion shillings investments annually, with free water services provided to poor households.

It will also make sure that every

ACT unveils polls manifesto, stresses education, rule of law

Tanzanian has health insurance; every Tanzanian is paid old age pension, along with restoring the dignity and respect for every individual, especially combating stigma and harassment targeting women and children.

"We will work to ensure that we create ten million employment opportunities with five million jobs coming from the value chain of agriculture," Membe stated.

The party's leader, Zitto Kabwe, meanwhile said ACT-Wazalendo (or

Alliance for Change and Transparency) "is prepared to surprise others" in the upcoming General Election.

He said the party wants to have a government that facilitates the prosperity of the informal sector, especially small businesses mostly run by women and youth.

"We have seen very little being done in agriculture and fisheries. So, our party will invest enough efforts to ensure that we bring changes in the sectors by embarking on large-scale

projects to benefit the majority," the party leader declared.

Earlier, Bishop Emmanuel Mwamakula of the Moravian Church urged candidates to maintain peace and remain calm if election results come out in a way contrasting with their expectations.

"We also appeal to election supervisors to ensure that they conduct the electoral process fairly and announce leaders who will have indeed won," he added.

Zanzibar approves 15 candidates for October presidential election

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE number of Zanzibar presidential aspirants has now reached 15 after two more runners picked up nomination forms from the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) yesterday.

ZEC chairman (rtd) Chief Justice (CJ) Hamid Mahmoud Hamid handed over the forms to Hussein Juma Salim from Tanzania Labour Party (TLP) and Mohamed Omar Baharia from the Union for Multiparty Democracy (UMD).

Speaking shortly after being handed over ceremony TLP flag bearer, Hussein Juma Salim pledged to improve the education and health sectors. He said that if elected Zanzibar president he would improve the welfare of teachers to ensure better academic performance for students in national examinations.

He was concerned that most secondary students in Zanzibar have been performing poorly in the national examinations compared to their counterparts in Tanzania mainland.

"Salary increments for secondary school teachers will increase their working morale, hence students' better performances," said Salim.

He also promised to transform the Isle's economy insisting to start from where President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has ended. He commended the outgoing president for recording a number of development achievements in various economic sectors.

Salimu noted that his government will review the current salary scales whereas the minimum pay will be doubled to 600,000 from the current 300,000. UMD presidential aspirant, Mohamed Omar Baharia said that once elected into power, he will work to

end unemployment challenges among Zanzibar youth.

Baharia said that his government will prioritize agricultural activities as well as investing in deep sea fishing. He also promised to improve clove cultivation.

ZEC chairman (rtd) Chief Justice Hamid Mahmoud Hamid reminded the candidates to adhere to election regulations and code of ethics to ensure a peaceful general election. He warned presidential aspirants to refrain from corruption deals.

The other 13 Zanzibar presidential aspirants who have picked up nomination forms from ZEC are Dr Hussein Mwinayi (CCM), Said Soud (AAFP), Juma Ali Khatib (ADA TADEA), Hamad Rashid (ADC), Mfaume Khamis (NLD), Ali Juma (CHAUMA), Issa Muhammed Zonga (SAU), Ameri Said Ameri from Demokrasi Makini and Hamad Muhammed Ibrahim of UPDP.

Others are Shafii Hassan Suleiman (Democratic Party), Khamis Faki Mgau (NRA), Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad (ACT Wazalendo) and Othman Rashid Khamis from CCK.

ZEC announced September 11, the official day for commencing election campaigns, which are scheduled to last after 46 days.

According to ZEC, campaigns will commence on September 11 through October 26, 2020 before the pre-poll voting on October 27, 2020.

The elections for Zanzibar President, House of Representatives' members and councilors are scheduled for October 28, 2020. The commission has allocated four days-October 28 through October 31-for vote counting and result announcement, the chairman said of the sixth general elections since the reintroduction of multiparty politics in 1992.



Major General Charles Mbugwe, Head of the National Service, moves to test-drive one of nine trucks the NS has just bought alongside tractors and cars at a total of 2.3bn/-, all launched in Dar es Salaam yesterday, in an effort to boost efficiency and productivity in the implementation of its projects. Photo: Romana Mallya

CCM names its Zanzibar House of Representatives contestants come October

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE ruling CCM yesterday unveiled names of those who have been nominated to contest for the Zanzibar House of Representatives on the party's ticket.

CCM's publicity and ideology secretary Humphrey Polepole told journalists here that the Central Committee which sat on the same day nominated the last list of 50 members who are expected to contest as representatives in the Isles.

According to Polepole, the nomination process took into consideration various aspects including gender and age to fit into the current political situation but also the party's manifesto.

"We have looked at the Zanzibar economy and brought names of individuals who will bring new ideas in line with our ideologies but also the vision by our presidential candidate for Zanzibar Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi," said Polepole.

He said the aim was to see economic activities that are happening in the mainland are

also happening in the Isles.

During the meeting the central committee nominated Zawadi Amour Nassor to vie for Konde constituency and others and their constituencies in brackets as follows Shamata Shaame (Micheweni), Said Saleh (Tumbe), Tunu Mwalimu Masoud (Wingi) Maryam Thani Juma (Gando).

Makame Said Juma (Kojani), Othmna Ali Khamis (Mtambwe), Khamis Dadi Khamis (Pandani), Harus Said Suleiman (Wete) Chake Shaibu Hassan kaduara (Chakechake), Suleiman Masoud Makame (Chonga) Masoud Ali Mohammed (Ole), Makari Hamad Bakari (Wawi), Suleiman Makame Ali (Ziwani) Bahati Khamis Kombo (Chambani), Mussa Mussa (Kiwani), Abdul Husein Kombo (Mkoani), Mohammed Mgaza Jecha (Mtambile) Nadir Yussuf (Chahani).

Others are (Kijini) Juma Mkungu Juma, (Mkwajuni) Sulubu Kidongo Amour (Tumbatu), -Haji Omar Kheri, (Bumbwini) Mtumwa Peya Syussuf. (Donge) Khalid Salum Mohammed (Mahonda) Asha Abdallah mussa, (Chwaka) Issa haji gavu, (Makunduchi)

Haroub Ali Suleiman, (Paje) Dk Soud Nahoda Hassan.

Dimani - Mwanaasha Khamis Juma (Fuoni) - Yussuf Hassan Iddi (Kiembe samaki) Suleiman Haroub Suleiman (Mwana rekwekwe) Ameir Abdallah Ameir, Pangawe- Ali Suleiman Ameir (Mrembo) Mudrik Ramadhan Soraga.

Mfenesini - Machano Othman Said, Mtoni-Husein Ibrahim Makungu, Mwera - Mihayo Juma Nunga, Welezo - Hassan Khamis Hafidh, Amani- Rukia Omar Mapuri, Chumbuni- Miraji Khamis Mussa.

Magomeni- Jamaal Kassim Ali Mpendae - Shaaban Ali Othman Shaurimoyo - Hamza Hassan Juma, Jangombe- Ali Gullam Husein, Kikwajuni - Nassor Salum Ali, Kwahani- Yahya Rashid Abdallah and Malindi - Mohammed Ahmada Salum.

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Jafo urges clerics to preach peace, unity

CLERICs in the country have been called upon to preach peace and unity in the country ahead of October polls.

The call was given at the weekend by the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Seleman Jafo when opening a seminar for religious leaders on peace and tranquility during the elections period.

The seminar was organised by Markaz Islaam of Chang'ombe in Dar es Salaam in collaboration with the National Muslim Council (BAKWATA), Dodoma Region.

Jafo said peace was essential during elections to

continue making Tanzania an island of peace.

"Let's go and preach peace. We must tolerate one another. We have every reason to continue loving each other. Political leaders also have the responsibility to preach peace," he said.

He said Tanzanians are required to maintain peace during the elections and must not allow chaos during the polls.

"All countries around us had conflicts, if you go to Kongwa you will see a camp used to harbor their refugees, hence we must maintain peace at all costs,"

he said.

He called upon the Imams to put in place procedures for preaching peace after Friday prayers.

He said peace was the most important attribute in human beings, some people live in hiding, others pray with weapons beside them, "we should not let this kind of situation to befall us."

He said absence of peace also affect the country's economy.

Earlier, Dodoma Regional Sheikh Mustafa Rajabu

called on religious leaders to preach peace and that they should not allow prayer houses to be used by politicians in their elections campaigns.

"There are some mosques and churches being used as places for political speeches, here in Dodoma we should not allow such things, you are not forbidden to be a member of any political party, but leave the campaigns to politicians," he said.

The director of Chang'ombe's Markaz Islaam Dr Kamal Abdul Mut'wi said the seminar's aim was to address the issue of peace to Muslims.

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HATUA ZA MSINGI ZA KUZINGATIA KATIKA USAJILI WA NDEGE ZISIZO NA RUBANI (DRONES)

Mnamo tarehe, 23 Agosti 2020, Mamlaka ya Usafiri wa Anga Tanzania (TCAA) ilitoa agizo kupitia vyombo vya habari lililoweke tarehe 28 Agosti 2020 kuwa ukomo wa matumizi ya ndege zisizo na rubani (Drones) bila usajili.

Agizo hili linahusisha Ndege zilizopewa kibali awali na ambazo hazijasajiliwa, ikiwa ni utekelezaji wa Kanuni za ki-usalama za kudhibiti matumizi ya Ndege zisizo na Rubani za mwaka 2018 (The Civil Aviation (Remotely Piloted Aircraft System) Regulations, 2018, G.N 758).

Katika kuhakikisha agizo hilo linatekelezwa, Mamlaka inakumbusha wadau hatua za kuzingatia ili kusajili Ndege zisizo na Rubani kama ifuatavyo:

1. HATUA ZA USAJILI:

Usajili unapatia hatua kuu nne:

- a) Mteja kukamilisha nyaraka zote za usajili zinazohitajika (Fomu, Barua, mwongozo wa utumiaji);
- b) Mamlaka kuzishughulikia nyaraka hizo na kufanya upekuzi (Vetting) kupitia vyombo vya ki-usalama;
- c) Taarifa ya upekuzi kurejeshwa Mamlaka kwa ajili ya uhakiki; na
- d) Mteja atapewa usajili wa Ndege yake na kupatiwa cheti cha usajili.

2. GHARAMA ZA USAJILI:

- a) Gharama za usajili ni Dola 100 za Kimarekani au fedha za Tanzania kulingana na kiwango cha kubadilisha fedha (rate) kwa siku hiyo, malipo haya hufanyika mara moja tu.
- b) Usajili utafanywa mara moja tu kwa kila Ndege, hivyo mmiliki halazimiki kusajili au kuhuisha usajili wa Ndege yake kila mwaka

3. KIBALI CHA MATUMIZI

- a) Kibali cha matumizi kitatolewa kila wakati mteja anapotaka kutumia Ndege yake kwa kuwasilisha fomu ya maombi na Nakala (copy) ya cheti cha usajili wa Ndege yake. **HAKUNA MALIPO YOYOTE KATIKA KUOMBA KIBALI WALA UPEKUZU.**
- b) Mbali na Kibali, Mtumiaji anapaswa kutoa taarifa kwa Jeshi la Polisi na Serikali ya mtaa katika eneo analotaka kufanya kazi yake.

4. MATUMIZI KULINGANA NA USAJILI

Kila mtumiaji anapotaka kutumia Ndege anapaswa kuomba kibali kutoka Mamlaka, baada ya kuainisha eneo la kazi, kazi yenyewe na muda wa kazi. Hatua hii ni kuisaidia Mamlaka kutambua na kufatilia mahali ilipo Ndege kwa ajili ya kuhakikisha usalama kwa watumiaji wengine wa anga.

Mwombaji anapaswa kutumia ndege yake katika maeneo au mikoa aliyoidhinishwa nayo na endao mwombaji atakata kufanya matumizi nje ya maeneo au mikoa aliyoidhinishwa atatakiwa kuomba kibali kingine bila gharama yoyote.

Huduma hiyo itachukua muda mfupi na kibali kitatolewa mara moja endapo nyaraka husika zimekamili. Aidha waombaji wenye shughuli nyingi na maeneo mengi wanashauriwa kuainisha maeneo yote wakati wa kuomba kibali ili kuupuka kuomba kibali mara kwa mara.

Fomu za Usajili na Maombi ya Kibali zinapatika kwenye tovuti ya Mamlaka: www.tcaa.go.tz

Usafiri wa Anga Salama na Wenye Tija. Ni Wajibu Wetu. Kwa Kushirikiana na Wadau

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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) No. RFI-621-20-HO-C3HP HIV/TB

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Tanzania is seeking information/comments/input from capable and interested organizations in its design of a Health activity titled **“Comprehensive Client-Centered Health Program - HIV and Tuberculosis (C3HP HIV/TB)”**.

The purpose of this activity is to increase the demand for and use of quality integrated HIV/TB services, particularly by youth and women, leading to improved health outcomes. Two five-year awards are anticipated under a Contract mechanism. While one award will be unrestricted to any interested organization, the other will be restricted to Tanzania local organizations.

The full Request for Information (RFI), draft Performance Work Statement (PWS) and response requirements are available at the U.S. Government official website at <https://beta.sam.gov/>. Organizations that are unable to retrieve the RFI from the website can request an electronic copy (as attachment via e-mail) by contacting USAID at usaidtco@usaid.gov.

Please send your responses to usaidtco@usaid.gov no later than September 18, 2020, at 17:00 EAT; and insert **“RFI-621-20-HO-C3HP HIV/TB”** in the Subject Line of your email. Responders will not receive individualized feedback. Specific questions about the RFI should be directed only to the email address indicated above.

Issuance of this RFI does not constitute a solicitation.

PS calls for access to safe drinking water countrywide

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

ANTHONY Sanga, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, has urged water authorities in the country to conduct audit to establish how many people living in their localities do not have access to clean and safe water and submit a detailed report to the ministry.

He also directed them to explain measures in place to address immediate plans to end water woes in the areas, saying their main task is to ensure Tanzanians get clean and clear water.

Sanga issued the instructions here yesterday during the opening of two-days working session meeting that brought together over 364 officials from water funds, basins and authorities to deliberate on various issues in the water sector.

While appreciating the good work done by the officers to ensure increased

access of water by the public, he noted that there are challenges that derail implementation of water projects in the country.

"I would like all the relevant officers to clearly state the number of people not yet reached around their area of operation and forward the report to the ministry's data," he said, adding that the government will use this as the score card on success made in the water sector.

He added that by so doing, it will help the water authorities plan for the future including budgeting for the new financial year. The PS called on the water authorities' official to go out from their offices and meet people who need water services.

He observed that there are a lot of challenges people are facing getting access to water as some of those entrusted with the duty to ensure people get the services have raised

themselves to the level of gods and cannot be reached.

Sanga stated that there are people who call directly at the ministry for help saying that the water managers and officers are not reachable. "There are those who say it is easier to reach the minister, his deputy or the permanent secretary than reaching water manager," he said.

He noted that such poor working relations and cooperation is what delays in implementation of water projects in the country. Explaining after a visit to different water authorities in the country he realised that there was strained relations among top leadership and subordinates.

He called on the participants of the meeting to ensure they cultivate good working relations since that are the basis of good work. He urged them to closely monitor ongoing

projects, reasonable costs and timely completion of works since most of them are being undertaken using the force account.

Earlier, the deputy Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Nadhifa Kemikimba reminded the participants of their obligation in the sector, saying the sector is the engine of other sectors for economic development.

She said like any other institution, the water sector has a vision and mission that all officers should strive to maintain and abide by professional ethics to achieve the desired results.

"We have been entrusted with the obligation to ensure all people in the country get clean and safe water and we should live to that dream," she said, calling for team work and cooperation

among them.

The director of water supply and sanitation, Charles Mafie called on the participants to work diligently knowing that over 50 million people in the country need clean and safe water at their disposal.

He said the meeting was an opportunity for the participants to carry out of the needs in the sector.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)/ REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI): SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF RMU ELECTRICAL UNITS FOR GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited - GGML ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti Ltd ("AGA") subsidiary is located in North Western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria Goldfields of Geita Region, about 120km from Mwanza and 4km West of the town of Geita.

The purpose of the EOI/ RFI is to explore the supply market for competent Suppliers with the requisite technical skills and Knowledge and financial capacity to undertake the Supply and Delivery of Capital Projects Goods and Services to Geita Gold Mine in accordance with the RFI documents.

The responses to this EOI/RFI will be used to shortlist capable Service Providers that will be invited to respond to the Main Tender for the Supply and Delivery of RMU Electrical Units and Services for Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML). The details and dates for the issue of the Main Tender will be communicated to shortlisted Companies only. It is necessary to respond to this EOI/ RFI in order to be pre-qualified to be considered for the Main Tender.

Scope of work:

1. GGME0898 – Supply and Delivery of RMU Electrical Units

PRELIMINARY CRITERIA		
1	PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	20%
a)	Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.2%
b)	Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.2%
c)	Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.2%
d)	Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.2%
e)	Company Profile	2.2%
f)	List of Directors	2.2%
g)	Company Shareholding Structure	2.2%
h)	Compliance in Mining Act- Local Content	2.2%
i)	OSHA Compliance and Environment Registration Certificate	2.2%
2	PRE-QUALIFICATION DATA	10%
a)	Name of the Company/firm/supplier	2.5%
b)	E-mail address	2.5%
c)	Postal address	2.5%
d)	Mobile No./telephone	2.5%
3	CVs OF THE KEY PERSONNEL (must be filled accordingly)	10%
4	FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	20%
a)	Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%
b)	At least 2 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%
c)	Credit period (not less than 30 days)	6.7%
5	PAST EXPERIENCE	20%
a)	At least 3 Names of the applicants' clients in the past two years and value of the contracts entered into and completed satisfactorily and the duration of the contract (must be listed)	5%
b)	Signed contracts/LPOs (prove of above)	5%
c)	Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (prove of a. above)	5%
d)	Attach at least 3 recommendation letters each from different clients	5%

TECHNICAL CRITERIA		
1	Supplier must comply with the OEM(Schneider) international requirements	20%
a)	Components and construction of equipment must be OEM(Schneider) specifications to comply with Anglo gold Ashanti requirements	5%
b)	Equipment must be Factory assembled and tested according to OEM (Schneider)requirements and may be inspected by an AGA representative during assembly or construction as quality control.	5%
c)	Supplier must comply with the OEM(Schneider) international requirements.	5%
d)		5%

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



Elius Mwakalinga (L), Permanent Secretary (Works) in the Works, Transport and Communications ministry, has a word with Daniel Ojwando, Shinyanga regional manager of the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA), when inspecting the agency's workshop in Shinyanga municipality yesterday. Photo: Photo: Guardian

By Guardian Reporter, Same

THE government plans to establish new farms under irrigation in Same District, Kilimanjaro Region as a measure against rampant food shortage in the area.

Same District Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule said already the government has allocated 1,000 acres for the project.

"We have learned a lot from the yearly food shortage in our district due to drought. This year we have decided to do away with drought and vow to become a district that will be distributing food as assistance," she

New farms under irrigation in pipeline in Same District

said, adding that areas that are always threatened by drought and fail to produce food include Bangalala Ward.

She said even though farmers grow drought resistant crops, the residents were being faced by education challenges.

She said in the circumstances she has directed the district's council authorities to establish farming projects that bring quick benefits.

When asked about these strategies, the Kilimanjaro Regional Irrigation Engineer Said Ibrahim said the initial decision made by the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) was for educating farmers and preparation of the new area for the irrigation scheme that will increase farming areas.

He said NIRC has increased land irrigation area in Kilimanjaro Region from 53,000 to 85,000 hectares.

EAC launches '50 million African Women Speak Networking Platform' in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community has kicked off national launches of the 50 million African Women Speak Networking Platform (50MAWS), a digital platform aimed at empowering millions of women in Africa to start, grow and scale up their businesses.

Gracing the national launch for the United Republic of Tanzania at the Karimjee Hall, in Dar es Salaam, Umyi Mwalimu, Minister of Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children, said the government of Tanzania has received the project, and was happy to embrace the initiative to further enable women to connect, network and transact business.

"Implementing this project is critical in the empowerment of women in the region," the Minister said, adding that the platform presents an opportunity to heighten the economic empowerment of women in the region.

Mwalimu called upon womenfolk to pursue bigger entrepreneurial dreams, such as value addition in the value-chains and tapping the export markets.

"I call upon the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce to work with women and assist them to develop business proposals that can attract access to finance," she added.

Speaking during the same occasion, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sectors, Christophe Bazivamo, said that the 50MAWS Platform has been developed using information and content collected nationally and regionally, and therefore contains information closer to home and within reach in terms of reaching markets within the region.

"I am aware that women in business

present here today are already leveraging technology to market their products, designs and artworks. They are using the global social media platforms like Instagram, Facebook and others to promote their products. The good news today is that we are going local with this new platform," said Bazivamo.

The DSG said that the project was in line with Article 122 of the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC, which provides for the enhancement of the role of Women in Business.

"Our Partner States recognize the importance of women as a vital economic link between agriculture, industry and trade, and therefore undertake to increase the participation of Women in business at the policy formulation and implementation levels as well as promote special programmes for women in small, medium and large scale enterprises", he said.

In her welcoming remarks, the EAC director for social sectors, Mary Makoffu, said the platform also aims to build on the popularity of mobile phones so that the burden of learning and accessing information and services is limited, allowing women to manage their businesses and social circumstances.

"Overall, the platform intends to create a dynamic and engaging networking platform among women entrepreneurs, connecting them with one another in ways that will foster peer to peer learning mentoring and the sharing of information and knowledge," added Makoffu.

The Tanzania launch also marked the beginning of a solid partnership between the 50 Million African Women Speak Networking Platform and the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC), with TWCC

pledging its support in promoting uptake and use of the platform by their members.

The chairperson of the Chamber, Jacqueline Maleko, said that the TWCC has a 6,000-strong membership with economic empowerment of women as the main agenda.

"We are now ready to move to all regions of the country and train the women, on the use of the 50MAWS platform, to enable women network and do business with their peers across the continent," said Maleko.

The launch of the platform was preceded by training sessions on tax requirements and updates by the Tanzania Revenue Authority; access to finance and various packages designed for women in business by CRDB Bank; and practical guide on registering and using the online 50MAWS platform.

Accessible at www.womenconnect.org, and covering 38 African states under the EAC, the Common Market for East and Southern African (COMESA) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) blocs, the innovative platform aims to economically empower women by providing a one-stop shop for their specific business information needs.

The project is being jointly implemented by EAC, COMESA, and ECOWAS with funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB). Continentally unveiled during the Global Gender Summit in November 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda, the platform enables women in Member/Partner States of the three regional economic blocs and other African countries to find information on how to run businesses, where to access financial services, how to create business opportunities online and where to access training resources.



Anglican Church leaders in Tanga city led by Canon Rev Christopher Kiango (L) pictured at the weekend welcoming Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Ummu Mwalimu (C) to stand as chief guest at a fundraiser in support of church construction. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri

Don't discard hand washing behaviour, Tanzanians advised

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIANS have been urged to adhere to hand washing behaviour to keep them free from epidemic diseases such as cholera.

Peter Mwakabale, the Director of Projects from the Plan International said that studies had shown and proved that hand washing is the best way to prevent the epidemic diseases.

He was speaking during his tour in Morogoro Region, where he inspected all projects funded by the organisation.

"During coronavirus battle, we insisted on hand washing behaviour as one way to prevent it but on the other hand it has helped us to prevent epidemic diseases," he said.

Mwakabale added that it is now a right time to ensure hand washing behaviour is kept sustainably to ensure the community is kept free from epidemic diseases.

During the tour, Mwakabale handed over 66 buckets and 39 gallons each of 5 litres of sanitizers all worth 26m/- to Ifakara town council to be used in all 33 primary schools.

He said that Plan International donated the items to join hand integrated education policy to offer services without segregating students with disabilities.

The organisation has been working in collaboration with the government to improve people wellbeing including health and education for a period of 26 years.

He said the organisation has been using 39bn/- up to 40bn/- to implement its projects in five regions adding that during covid-19 the organisation spent 1.2bn/- to buy medical supplies, sanitizers and conduct training to health experts.

Furthermore, the organisation had funded the enrollment of National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) to 4700

students so far.

In Mlimba District Council, the director donated medical supplies worth 10m/- to join efforts made by the citizens to construct a dispensary in Chisano village to eliminate challenges including vaccines to pregnant mothers.

For her part, the Health Officer at Ifakara Town Council in Morogoro region Jafari Ngongomela said that the World Health Organisation (WHO) 2016 reports shows that 75 percent of diseases can be prevented by hand washing.

He said children below five years of age are at higher risk of contaminating the diseases adding that parents must ensure that hand washing is practiced throughout.

Representing Sylvesta Kilagila, he thanked the organisation for its efforts to solve challenges facing the district in health and education including training, items and insurance enrollment to students.

"The organisation has indeed done a good job, as a government we are thankful for the support to uplift the life of common people," he said.

“During coronavirus battle, we insisted on hand washing behaviour as one way to prevent it but on the other hand it has helped us to prevent epidemic diseases

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

'Create alternative teaching environment during forthcoming election campaigns'

HEADMASTERS of secondary schools in Zanzibar have appealed to the Department of Secondary Education to create an alternative teaching environment during the entire election campaign period to avoid any inconveniences to students.

They said there have been problems as some school grounds have been used as venues for campaign rallies causing inconveniences for teachers and students when in classes.

The teachers aired these complaints during a training seminar for

secondary schools' headmasters for mobilising students to carry on with studies following reduction of Covid-19 infections in the country and the ongoing election campaigns.

They said there are many challenges during election campaigns that deny students friendly times for studying in peace.

In the circumstances they appealed to the ministry to let students stay

at home during campaign rallies conducted in school grounds.

Opening the training seminar, the director of Secondary Education Asiya Iddi Issa called on headmasters to be creative and look for alternative approaches in teaching considering the fact that many students appear far behind in their lessons following long periods of absence from school due to Covid-19.

She said the time has come for teachers to conduct practical education by taking students to laboratories for science lessons instead of making them cram their lessons.

She said during the election period lesson times will be reduced hence there was the need to employ alternative methods to ensure students are well instructed and spurn politics.

SALARY AND BENEFIT SURVEY

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation—Tanzania (Baylor-Tanzania) is a locally registered NGO since 2009 mainly funded by USAID Tanzania. Baylor Tanzania work in partnership with Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MOHCDGEC) to improve provision of services for HIV and other diseases affecting children in the Lake and Southern Highland zones of Tanzania. Baylor-Tanzania is affiliated with the Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) network, a program operating out of Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, Texas, USA. Baylor-Tanzania has two Centre's of Excellence which provides pediatric HIV and other diseases prevention, care, and treatment program with the goal of reducing HIV/AIDS-related morbidity and mortality among infants, children, and adolescents in Tanzania. Baylor-Tanzania works closely with partner organizations and healthcare providers to ensure delivery of high-quality services, empowerment of health care workers, and health system strengthening at supported facilities throughout our regions and zones.

The most important asset that Baylor Tanzania has is its employees. When it comes to providing employees with a good experience, limiting turnover, and attracting top talent to Baylor Tanzania, provision of fair compensation is deemed instrumental. Baylor Tanzania is determined to provide her employees with a fair salary and benefits package. Conducting a salary and benefit survey is considered a best fit approach of which the result will help to determine whether or not Baylor Tanzania is compelled to develop employees' compensation plan.

Therefore, Baylor Tanzania is seeking a qualified and competent **Consulting Firm (experienced in Human Resource)**, to conduct salary and benefits survey under consultancy engagement and at the terms and conditions to be agreed upon. Eligible and competent **Consulting Firms (experienced in Human Resource)**, are invited to submit their Proposal for this assignment.

To assist interested firms in preparation and submissions of their proposals, they are requested to download Terms of Reference posted to our job's portal at <http://jobs.baylortanzania.or.tz/tor.pdf>

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GENDER AND EQUALITY POLICY

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation—Tanzania (Baylor-Tanzania) is a locally registered NGO since 2009 mainly funded by USAID Tanzania. Baylor Tanzania work in partnership with Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MOHCDGEC) to improve provision of services for HIV and other diseases affecting children in the Lake and Southern Highland zones of Tanzania. Baylor-Tanzania is affiliated with the Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) network, a program operating out of Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, Texas, USA. Baylor-Tanzania has two Centre's of Excellence which provides pediatric HIV and other diseases prevention, care, and treatment program with the goal of reducing HIV/AIDS-related morbidity and mortality among infants, children, and adolescents in Tanzania. Baylor-Tanzania works closely with partner organizations and healthcare providers to ensure delivery of high-quality services, empowerment of health care workers, and health system strengthening at supported facilities throughout our regions and zones.

Baylor Tanzania is seeking a service of qualified and competent **Consulting Firm**, to develop a Gender and Equality Policy under consultancy engagement and at the terms and conditions to be agreed upon. Eligible and competent **Consulting Firms**, are invited to submit their Proposal for this assignment.

To assist interested firms in preparation and submissions of their proposals, they are requested to download Terms of Reference posted to our job's portal at <http://jobs.baylortanzania.or.tz/torg.pdf>

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Tunduru District recognises, gives permits to scores of herbal healers

By Guardian Correspondent, Tunduru

MORE than 100 herbalists and other experts of alternative medicine have been officially registered and given permits by the government to provide traditional medicines in Tunduru District, Ruvuma Region.

The figure is from 228 traditional healers who were recognised for providing traditional healing in the District.

In addition, there was also another group of 106 herbalists who have been listed and were seeking permits to become traditional healers in implementation of government's directive that requires all traditional healers and herbalists to get permits before embarking on the practice.

This was revealed by Dr Makasange Kihongole, the coordinator of Tuberculosis and Leprosy at Tunduru District Hospital at different times when he was speaking with the healers in their clinics in Ligoma and Kadewele villages in Tunduru District.

Speaking to the healers he said the government, through its Traditional and Alternative Medicines Department continues to look for other healers for registration for them to offer their services to the community, and added that for those who will not heed the call, they will be arrested when found to operate without permits.

He said Tunduru District Hospital, via its TB and Leprosy Unit is currently working together with the traditional healers some of whom have been given training to correctly identify sufferers of the diseases.

He said the step will assist in the reduction of TB infection levels

including on how to protect their own selves against the disease.

He said traditional healers are experts in identifying many plants that can be used as medicines to treat humans.

Traditional healers Shaibu Mkuli of Ligoma village and Wadin Ngaharo of Kadewele village thanked the government for recognising their efforts in providing health service to the community.

He said from the training provided they were now able to identify people with TB bacteria who they referred to the district hospital for treatment.



He said Tunduru District Hospital, via its TB and Leprosy Unit is currently working together with the traditional healers some of whom have been given training to correctly identify sufferers of the diseases



Shia Ithnasher community leader Sheikh Hemed Jalala (R, in turban) has a word with journalists in Dar es Salaam at the weekend on the commemoration of the holy month of Muharram and the anniversary of death of Imam Husain, a grandson of Prophet Muhammad. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TAMWA expresses concern over surge in crime against young girls in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

TANZANIA Media Women's Association (TAMWA, Zanzibar) has expressed concerns over the recent crime incident that involved a 12-year-old girl who has been raped twice within two weeks in Mwanyanya area, Zanzibar Urban West Region.

Addressing journalists here yesterday, Tamwa Zanzibar Director, Dr Mzuri Issa described the incident as

one of the scariest cases in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Dr Mzuri stated that after the first incident her parents shifted her from Mwanyanya to Wete in Pemba where she was raped, again. She appealed to the police force to prioritise investigations into the matter for the law to take its course.

She urged parents and guardians to be close to their children so as to protect them from such cruelty acts.

"Being close to your children protects them from a number of incidents. You need to be close to them even after they undergo various types of violence," said Dr Mzuri.

She expressed dismay over continued crime incidents across the country, insisting on measures to control them as they mostly affect women and girls.

Recent data from a network of organisations against gender based

violence (GBV) indicates that a total of 108 GBV cases were reported at local government offices and police stations between January and June this year, in Pemba and Unguja.

Among them, 51 occurrences involved rape incidences of girls below 18 years.

However, Tamwa called upon parents to continue following up the filed cases so that the culprits are punished in accordance with the laws.



Enrolment for studies for the 2020/2021 academic year under way yesterday at Dar es Salaam's Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy pavilion at an exhibition organised by the Tanzania Commission for Universities and held at the city's Mnazi Mmoja grounds. Photo: Correspondent Anthony Siame

West Kilimanjaro Ranch workers 'replace' 17 stolen cows

By Guardian Correspondent, Siha

THE directive by Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina on the theft of 17 cows worth 14m/- at the West Kilimanjaro Ranch has been implemented.

Siha District Commissioner Onesmo Buswelu has handed over the cows after former workers of the ranch bought them as replacement.

DC Buswelu said the cattle have subsequently been handed over to

Ranch manager Mbelwa Lutagwelera following Mpina's directive on the immediate return of the cows, rejecting claims that they were stolen.

"I have received the cattle today after being replaced following the minister's directives during his recent visit at the ranch, who also called for further steps against all those involved in the scandal," the DC said.

He also directed the management of the National Ranching Company (NARCO) to employ qualified guards,

especially those trained from reserve forces, who are trustful and patriotic to their country.

He also appealed to workers of the ranch to guard its resources and avoid to be part of schemes of sabotage, instead they should work hard to produce more cattle for the national income.

During Mpina's visit at the ranch, DC Buswelu instructed the police to arrest all workers of the West Kilimanjaro Ranch involved in the loss of the 17

cattle.

He said since the theft was committed no report has been received by his Defense and Security Committee showing there was deliberate conspiracy by ranch workers to steal the livestock.

During his visit at the ranch minister Mpina said steps taken then of suspending two ranch employees was a conspiracy to hide a wide criminal network, hence all those involved had to be nabbed.

Morogoro launches digital platform to scale up education

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AUTHORITIES in Morogoro Region have launched digital platform dubbed; "Te-schools" for primary and secondary school students in a new drive to scale up education in the region.

Speaking over the weekend at the official launch of the platform, Morogoro Regional Education Officer, Eng Joyce Baravuga (pictured) said the new platform improves students' performance.

"It provides a room for students to learn a number of issues within and outside the country and it make them get information quickly," she added.

She said they decided to embark on the process, adding that "for now the region is aiming for the platform to start operating this year (2020) but we have discovered that it has come up fast and our goal is to cover all secondary and primary schools in Morogoro municipality."

She called on teachers and students who have received the training to utilise it to spur development in the community, and also appealed to sponsors from APSS AND GIRLS as well as NLAB to create the platform for the entire country to assist students.

She stressed that as for now the education sector will make big strides from this teaching platform as it covers many students at a time.

APSS and GIRLS Director Carolyne Ekyarisiima said the aim of the training was to make students identify the technology that will help them in their lessons.

She said due to technological advances in the world many things are run using technology that enable students in various countries know each other.

Some teachers and students who received the training thanked the sponsors saying the training will help them with the knowledge in accessing websites, and create good relationships with other students as well as reading various books online.



...for now the region is aiming for the platform to start operating this year (2020) but we have discovered that it has come up fast and our goal is to cover all secondary and primary schools in Morogoro municipality



This is how the modern long-distance commuter bus terminal under construction at Mbezi Mwisho in Dar es Salaam now looks, as captured by correspondent Sabato Kasika yesterday. It has been reliably learnt that it is expected to become operational later this year, taking over from the one at Ubungu.

Illegal fundraising: RC orders arrest of village's chairman

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

TABORA Regional Commissioner Dr Philemon Sengati has ordered the arrest of Mdaki Village Chairman in Uyui District Charles Wambo for illegal fundraising and issuing receipts thereof for the amount contributed.

The RC issued the directive here yesterday after the suspect was claimed to visit every household to demand 15,000/- saying that he was remitting the money to the police as an inducement to stop the law enforcers going to the village to conduct nightly searches of criminals.

Dr Sengati said the suspect must be arrested and taken to court to answer charges on his criminal activities. He also called the people to abide by abiding the country's laws and spurn any urge to give money for protection of their crimes, adding that the government has no such practice.

Meanwhile the RC has handed over 185.3m/-

reclaimed from embezzlers by the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Tabora Region.

PCCB Head for Tabora Region Mussa Chaulo said out of the sum 103.4m/- was returned to tobacco farmers who had sold their crop to Imalamakoye AMCOS in Urumbo.

He said another 16.5m/- was reclaimed after another AMCOS - 'Nyota ya Muungano' paid as construction cost of a warehouse which was not built by the contractor.

He further said that 38.1m/- was reclaimed after Sikonge District's Mibono AMCOS was erroneously deducted by Igalula AMCOS through tobacco sales.

He said 25.4m/- was reclaimed and returned to Western Zone Tobacco Growers Cooperative Union Ltd (WETCU) after the latter was erroneously deducted as cost for distribution of 660 bags of NPK fertiliser to farmers.

African states advised to integrate traditional medicines into all their national health systems

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICAN governments have been called upon to collaboratively work and engage stakeholders in improving access to quality traditional medicines delivered by health-care teams integrated into national health systems.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), there are now more than 34 research institutes dedicated to African traditional medicines.

In 15 countries public funding is allocated on a regular basis to traditional medicine research. Almost 90 domestic marketing authorisations have been issued for herbal medicines and over 40 such medicines are included in national essential medicines lists.

In her message for the African Traditional Medicine Day 2020, WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti said that large-scale cultivation of medicinal plants is also increasing, along with local production of herbal medicines.

In this year's celebration, countries are looking back on the progress in the past 20 years towards raising the prominence of traditional medicine in national health systems.

She said the achievements show the significant progress that has been made in the regulation and promotion of African traditional medicine.

She said more data is needed on the safety, efficacy and quality of traditional herbal preparations, as well as stronger enforcement of regulatory frameworks and better platforms to share and safeguard traditional medicine knowledge for future generations.

"Africa's biodiversity, and so too traditional medicine, is also under threat from climate change and mitigation measures are needed," said Dr Matshidiso highlighting the need to exploit African traditional medicine to its full potential.

She added: "It is my personal ambition that African traditional medicine be more fully recognised internationally. I assure you of WHO's commitment to promoting safe and effective traditional medicines for

better well-being."

Traditional medicine has been used for centuries to improve well-being and it continues to play a central role in health care.

It draws on the continent's rich and unique biodiversity of aromatic and medicinal plants. It is also a promising industry that African countries can do more to export internationally.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, African traditional medicine took the spotlight, starting with widespread discussion of COVID-organics as a potential remedy for the virus.

Action has accelerated to study this remedy, with a view to scaling-up production if it is shown to be effective.

WHO and Africa CDC have supported the process through development of a master protocol for clinical trials of traditional medicines for Covid-19 and establishment of a regional Expert Advisory Committee, bringing together experts from across the continent to oversee the study of Covid-19 organics and other potential remedies.

Forty African countries now have traditional medicines policies, up from eight countries in 2000, and many have integrated traditional medicine in their national health policies and established regulatory frameworks for traditional medicine practitioners.

Academic institutions in 24 countries now offer traditional medicine courses to pharmacy and medical students.

In 17 countries, referral pathways are established between traditional and conventional health practitioners, and eight countries are strengthening integrated delivery of conventional and traditional medicine services.

In Ghana, availability of integrated services has doubled from 19 facilities offering these services in 2012 to 40 in 2020.

Ghana, Mali and South Africa have established partial health insurance coverage for traditional medicine products and services thus protecting people from financial hardship in line with action towards universal health coverage.



SWISSPORT TANZANIA PLC UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Commentary

The Board of Directors of Swissport Tanzania Plc. is pleased to publish the un-audited financial results for the six months period ended 30 June 2020. Total revenue during the period decreased by 25% from TShs 17,240 million to TShs 12,914 million while a net loss of TShs 1,128 million was posted, compared to a net profit of TShs 1,225 million reported during the same period last year. Total operating costs declined by 10% from TShs 15,132 million to TShs 13,667 million due to various cost saving initiatives adopted by management. The sharp deterioration in revenue and profit was attributed by the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the aviation industry. During these unprecedented times, governments around the globe imposed travel restrictions to control the spread of COVID-19 virus while airlines suspended international flights and significantly reduced domestic operations. As a consequence, the number of flights and volume of cargo handled during the period decreased substantially and negatively impacted the performance of the business. Cargo volumes went down by about 40% compared to pre-Covid but were fairly stable to sustain the business. Flight frequencies were significantly down; we handled only about 20% of pre-covid-19 volumes.

Interim Dividend to Shareholders

With reference to the reported net loss, the Board has decided not to declare interim dividend for the period.

Future Outlook

The recent alleviation of travel restrictions by some governments around the globe and consequently, the slow resumption of businesses by several airlines are encouraging signs of business recovery.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For Six Months Ended 30 June	2020 TShs M	2019 TShs M	% Change
Revenue	12,718	17,123	(26%)
Other operating income	196	117	67%
Total revenue	12,914	17,240	(25%)
Total operating expenses	13,667	15,132	(10%)
Operating (loss)/profit	(753)	2,108	(136%)
Finance costs	134	281	(52%)
(Loss)/profit before income tax	(887)	1,828	(149%)
Income tax expense	241	603	(60%)
(Loss)/profit for the period	(1,128)	1,225	(192%)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the period	(1,128)	1,225	(192%)
Earnings per share	(31.33)	34.02	(192%)
Dividend per share	-	17.01	(100%)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As At 30 June

	2020 TShs M	2019 TShs M	% Change
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Intangible asset	15,729	17,289	(9%)
Property and equipment	16,534	15,880	4%
Right of use of asset	799	1,403	(43%)
Deferred tax asset	810	562	44%
Staff receivables	69	83	(17%)
33,941	35,217	(4%)	
Current assets			
Inventories	424	333	27%
Trade and other receivables	3,643	6,724	(46%)
Income tax recoverable	1,137	359	217%
Cash and cash equivalents	3,521	2,677	32%
8,725	10,092	(14%)	
Total assets	42,666	45,309	(6%)
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Share capital	360	360	0%
Retained earnings	29,173	29,215	0%
Total equity	29,533	29,575	0%
Non-current liabilities			
Lease Liabilities (long term)	465	889	(48%)
Retirement benefit obligations	2,948	2,661	11%
3,413	3,550	(4%)	
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9,063	11,609	(22%)
Lease Liabilities (short term)	657	575	14%
9,720	12,184	(20%)	
Total equity and liabilities	42,666	45,309	(6%)

A few of our airline customers have resumed operations at JNIA and KIA albeit with frequencies significantly below pre Covid-19. Our business is slowly recovering as business cautiously resumes and we expect to register a gradual increase of cargo and flight volumes towards the end of the year. To further mitigate the adverse financial impact of COVID-19, management has instituted a number of cost saving measures. The financial outlook reflects the aforementioned developments.

Management is carefully monitoring the situation and taking appropriate actions to protect the safety and health of our staff and the travelling community while supporting the airlines during the re-start of operations and responding to the rapidly changing business landscape.

Appreciation and commitment

The Board would like to thank all customers for their support and our employees for the hard work during these unprecedented times. The Board is committed to implement appropriate strategies to ensure the business remains sustainable in the post Covid-19 era.

Jeroen de Clercq
Board Chairman

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For Six Months Ended 30 Months June	2020 TShs M	2019 TShs M
(Loss)/profit before income tax	(887)	1,225
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation of property and equipment	1,143	1,579
Amortization of intangible assets	1,492	1,145
Provision for retirement benefit obligation	212	610
Working capital adjustment		
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(91)	1
Decrease in trade and other receivables	3,081	4,106
Decrease in trade and other payables	(2,546)	(1,334)
2,404	7,332	
Retirement benefit paid	(255)	(791)
Income tax paid	(774)	(1,046)
Cash generated from operating activities	1,375	5,495

Investing activities		
Purchase of property and equipment	(531)	(2,131)
Cash used in investing activities	(531)	(2,131)

Financing activities		
Loan repayment	-	(2,102)
Dividends paid to Company's shareholders	-	(1,495)
Cash used in financing activities	-	(3,597)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	844	(233)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	2,677	2,910
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	3,521	2,677



From landing to take-off: we care !

Jeroen de Clercq
Board Chairman

Mrisho Yassin
Chief Executive Officer

Imani Mtafya
Chief Financial Officer

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

A world without nuclear weapons is within reach

SIXTY-FOUR years ago the world was free of nuclear weapons, but after the production of some 140,000 of these artifacts of mass destruction, there seems to be a significant shift in the role some governments have assigned to them. They are no longer generally considered to be the best means to ensure national security.

The International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed on August 29. It was established on December 2, 2009 at the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution which was adopted unanimously.

The resolution in particular calls for increasing awareness about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Following the establishment of the International Day against Nuclear Tests, in May 2010 all state parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons committed themselves to "achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons".

We see nuclear catastrophe as one of the biggest threats to the future of humankind.

According to reports there are 14,000 nuclear warheads in existence today, with a combined destructive capability of nearly 100,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs.

As long as nuclear weapons remain in existence, it is inevitable that they will someday be used, whether by design, accident or miscalculation. The only guarantee of the non-use of nuclear weapons is their complete abolition.

We therefore advocate that the immediate, medium-term objective should be to focus on minimisation of nuclear weapons, but with total nuclear disarmament as the ultimate end goal.

We call on all nuclear powers to take urgent first steps towards nuclear

disarmament.

The challenges of achieving the final elimination of nuclear weapons are daunting and will require a significant amount of political will. But this is not a reason to despair. Small steps can be significant and what seems unthinkable now is likely to be far more achievable in a decade's time.

After the worst of times, we are perhaps entering the best of times for proponents of nuclear disarmament. At long last, advocates of the elimination of nuclear weapons have reason for some guarded optimism. The road to a nuclear-weapon-free world will be long and bumpy, but those expected to take the initiative seem to have finally decided to lead. That is encouraging.

Sixty-four years ago the world was free of nuclear weapons, but after the production of some 140,000 of these artifacts of mass destruction, there seems to be a significant shift in the role some Governments have assigned to them. They are no longer generally considered to be the best means to ensure national security. Deterrence and mutually-assured destruction have become outdated concepts in a world now more concerned with other questions and challenges, including widespread poverty, climate change, a worldwide economic and financial meltdown, and other threats such as the recent alarm over the pandemic outbreak of a new kind of influenza virus.

Above all, the motivation for seeking the elimination of nuclear weapons now seems to be a fear of the further proliferation of these weapons to other States and possibly to the so-called non-State actors, including terrorist groups. There is the rub.

Nuclear weapons are intrinsically dangerous and pose an unparalleled threat to the very existence of humankind. They do not enhance a country's security but, rather, imperil the survival of all nations, which should be the point of departure of nuclear disarmament efforts.

Tanzanians ought to pitch for agriculture technology

AGRICULTURAL technology or agrotechnology (abbreviated agritech, AgriTech, or agrotech) is the use of technology in agriculture, horticulture, and aquaculture with the aim of improving yield, efficiency, and profitability. Agricultural technology can be products, services or applications derived from agriculture that improve various.

A major turning point for agricultural technology is the Industrial Revolution. Technologies and applications in agricultural technology include: Drones, satellite photography and sensors, IoT-based sensor networks, phase tracking, weather forecasts, automated irrigation, light and heat control, intelligent software analysis for pest and disease prediction, soil management and other involved analytical tasks and biotech.

Agriculture has been wrongly perceived in the past as a 'dirty job' for the old people in rural communities but with the renaissance technology brought to agriculture, young people now see it as a potential sector to explore. This is the practical use of technology in agriculture by a few start-ups in Africa.

There are many emerging opportunities for Tanzanians doing business in agriculture especially as outlined in the country's development roadmap for the sector-Agriculture Sector Development Programme II (ASDP-II) component 3, which is about commercialization and Value Addition (building competitive commodity value chains) and requires the use of improved technologies.

Tanzanians ought to adequately prepare to pitch their agribusinesses to financiers, business services, and ecosystem partners from around the world, at the forum, so as to connect with investment-ready agricultural

companies and projects.

The "agribusiness deal room" is a landmark side event for matchmaking and will facilitate partnerships and investments in African agriculture, during the upcoming 10th AGRF Summit, which will be held virtually between September 8 and 11, this year, under the leadership of Rwandan President Paul Kagame.

The deal room is vital for Tanzanians in agribusiness so that we can pitch to investors and attract funding/partnerships that will up private agriculture enterprises in the country. The deal room links up private companies with over 50 public and private investors from around the world to explore a wide range of investment opportunities.

There are some needs for investments in agriculture and the financing can be realized within Tanzania, the question was for the private sector to see and pursue available opportunities and take the necessary steps. However, there are other needs, for example, investments in technology, it is a must for Tanzanians to open their eyes, see the needs, and pitch their businesses, to take them to the next level.

The 10th AGRF summit will bring together over two thousand delegates from governments, the civil society, the private sector, research community, and development partners from around the world and it will be held virtually from 8-11 September 2020 and will be co-hosted by the government of Rwanda and the AGRF Partners Group.

We are optimistic Tanzania public and private sector would participate fully in the summit including the deal room. We have made major framework changes in facilitating investments. We have improved the business environment after the government abolished over 105 levies.

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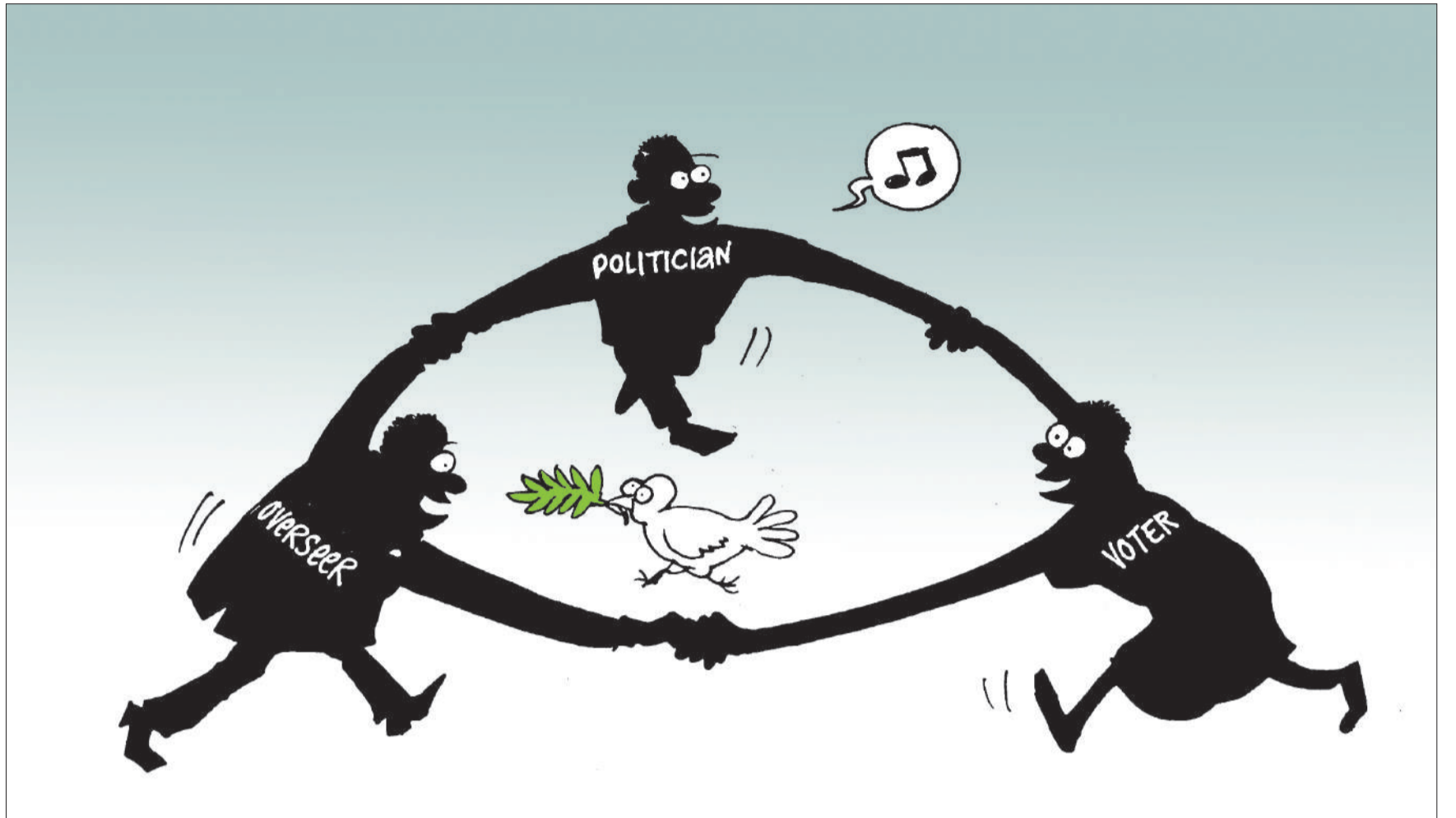
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Covid-19: Is a great unequaliser, but the crisis could enable us to build a more equal future

By Ben Phillips

ANY of the first names that the media reported as having Covid were those of the rich and powerful, from movie stars to political leaders. Be ye ever so high, the virus is above thee - or so it seemed.

Now we understand that this perception, that came in part because at first only the wealthy and well-connected were getting tested, was misleading. The data is now crystal clear: Covid risk maps on to inequality, and Covid is a great unequaliser - in health, and in wealth.

But just as the initial "optimistic" take about Covid - that it would equalize us - got it wrong, so too the now pervasive "pessimistic" take - that the huge costs of the crisis leave us simply unable to act boldly - also gets it wrong.

Somewhat counter-intuitively, when we look at when it was that countries have embarked on the boldest steps to tackle inequality, it has not been when their coffers were most full, but when they were in the midst of, or emerging from, crises. As Covid has worsened inequality, it has also helped to expose it and to demonstrate its harm.

We have witnessed, in ever starker view, the inverse relationship between the concentration of wealth and social contribution. We have watched key workers without proper protections hold our society together, while elites looked after themselves, increasing their wealth by hundreds of billions. We have seen the immorality and unsustainability of systems in which our right to life is shaped by our bank balance.

The acute crisis of the present moment has revealed the deeper crisis of our age. Public opinion surveys, and media coverage have shown that many inequality-reducing policies previously deemed "radical" are now garnering widespread support. The opportunity to properly address inequality is now.

The point is not that the crisis "will" lead to action to tackle inequality, only that it helps generate a "could". If social structures are like hard metal, crises are like heat that makes them malleable: longstanding rules and norms can be reshaped, but in which ways they are reshaped depends on how hard they are refashioned and from what direction.

If you're stirred by the idea of emerging from this crisis into a more equal world, and you're wondering who it is who can ensure that we do, history provides a very clear answer: you.

For my forthcoming book, How to Fight Inequality, I reviewed when progress had been made in tackling inequality. What I found was that if there is one generalizable lesson of



Women in Nigeria collect food vouchers as part of a programme to support families struggling under the COVID-19 lockdown. File photo

social change it seems to be this: no one saves others, people standing together is how they liberate themselves.

It can be slow and it's always complicated and it sometimes fails - but it's the only way it works. The structure will not change from the top. As young activists expressed it to me: "There is no justice, just us." That can sound quite down, but it turns out that 'just us' - organized - is powerful.

Looking at history can help guide us. Crises are important, but what matters most is how we seize them. Three vital elements for stand out for success in the fight against inequality: we need to overcome deference; build power together, and create a new story.

All successful movements against inequality have faced hostility from the powerful, and therefore have depended on people's willingness to get into trouble. The landless workers who successfully demanded access to land in Latin America, the Civil Rights movement in the US, and the trade unionists who won the welfare state in Europe, were all treated as threats to be squashed before they were recognized for prompting needed change.

Governments have not acted with the determination needed to tackle inequality without a push from the rest of us, and have consistently resisted that push at first. Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, who worked with movements for women's rights, civil rights, migrant rights and the environment across the twentieth century, summed up her key lesson as 'be a nuisance where it counts'.

Today's heroes are yesterday's troublemakers, and those who will define tomorrow will not be those whom the establishment embraces today.

Victories against inequality were rooted too in mass organizing - the change in each case was collective,

never individual - because winning the battle against inequality has required power, which for ordinary people is only ever collective. The Montgomery bus boycott is sometimes told as if it was only a story of Rosa Parks sitting down and Martin Luther King speaking. But it was planned, and trained for. Rosa Parks wasn't just tired!

And as Dr King himself pointed out, 'I neither started the protest nor suggested it.' Two years before Rosa Parks was arrested, the Women's Political Leadership Council, a group of African-American activists, had been preparing for a bus boycott. The Montgomery Improvement Association, set up after the arrest, had to maintain the boycott for 381 days. And they had to resource it from the community.

Activists printed thousands of flyers to get the message out and got hundreds of volunteers to help organize. Black churches across the city served as centres of organizing. People who didn't even use the bus helped by providing people lifts in their cars. Postal service workers helped work out the routes that the carpools should take. Taxi operators agreed to reduce rates.

The organizers of the boycott had to hold huge numbers of meetings. They had to fend off legal challenges - and violent attacks. But, because of the joined-up organization uniting faith groups, women's groups, labour unions and others, holding together even under strain, they won. As civil rights leader Diane Nash noted, 'It took many thousands of people to make the changes that we made, people whose names we'll never know.'

Victories against inequality have also depended on the stories that people have developed, the pictures they painted of a more equal world. In Britain in the early twentieth

century, suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst's water colours of women cotton mill and pottery workers highlighted their struggle for dignified working conditions.

In the 1940s, the Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, coined the phrase 'welfare state'. Progress in tackling inequality in African and Asian countries after independence was also rooted in a narrative of the meaning of independence and of national destiny. Political independence was not seen as the end but as the first stage: achieving greater equality was core to honouring those who had made a sacrifice for freedom, and core to fulfilling the national destiny.

Citizens in newly independent countries were clear that the role of the new governments was to reshape society by tackling inequality. When later the era of adjustment came, tackling inequality was excised from many countries' mainstream narratives of nationhood, where once it had been inseparable. Activist musicians and writers are organising now to ensure that the story is retold.

Looking back, we can observe how victories against inequality did not just 'happen', and were not just 'given', but were won, by ordinary people who were challenging, organized, and painted a picture of the world that could be. We have won before, we can win again.

Covid has exacerbated that feeling that we are not in control of events, that things are all just going on around us, that we are always and only objects, never subjects. But the Covid crisis has also meant that changes that had once seemed impossible have now been shown to be plausible.

The hardened structures are molten again. We can shape what happens - not alone, but with each other. Now, too, we must make our own history.

A primer on most essential, but often misunderstood, aspects of COVID-19

By Bo Stapler

AMID the daily barrage of new data on Covid-19, sometimes the most basic principles of the disease manage to evade the headlines. I recognise this by the types of questions I hear on a regular basis from friends, family and even my co-workers at the hospital. Let's address three of the most common concerns.

One: Since immunity to the novel coronavirus may not last long, doesn't the virus need to be eradicated in order for the pandemic to end?

Humans generally become immune to a pathogen - that is, a disease-causing organism - after immunisation or recovery from an infection. Depending on the particular disease or vaccine as well as host characteristics such as the age and health of the individual, immunity can last a lifetime or may be short-lived. Moreover, immunity is not an 'either/or' process. Our immunity to different pathogens doesn't just suddenly switch off. Instead, it wanes over time.

It is true that a person's immunity to the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, probably only lasts between a few months and a few years. It is also true that outbreaks of two other coronaviruses earlier this century, SARS and MERS, were indeed contained, although not technically eradicated.

However, the other four known human coronaviruses, HCoV-229E, -NL63, -OC43, and -HKU1, are considered endemic. These viruses, which have been around longer than the other three, are continuously circulating through the population and typically cause no more symptoms than the common cold.

Interestingly, there is historical evidence that the four endemic coronaviruses were likely the cause of pandemics, or at least epidemics, in the past.

Of course, this would have been long enough ago that people didn't know what a coronavirus was, but humankind managed to recover anyway. These older coronaviruses now permeate among the population.

People often become exposed to a

young age, and, as with SARS-CoV-2, the vast majority of children have no symptoms or have no more than a minor respiratory infection.

Even though immunity to these viruses diminishes over time, because they are endemic and continuously circulate through the population, every few years our immune systems are again exposed and receive a refresher course on how to kill the virus.

With possible exception to geographically isolated locations like Iceland and New Zealand, SARS-CoV-2 is on a path to becoming endemic like its older endemic coronavirus siblings.

In fact, since March, for most regions containment has no longer been as much of a strategy for managing SARS-CoV-2 as it was during the previous SARS and MERS outbreaks.

SARS and MERS have a higher fatality rate than Covid-19, and it is for that very reason that it was possible to contain them. Since patients infected with SARS and MERS were more often symptomatic, generally developed more severe symptoms, and had a shorter period of time between exposure and the onset of symptoms, cases were recognised sooner, contacts were more easily traced and further spread was prevented through quarantining.

"The coronavirus is spreading too rapidly, and too broadly for the US to bring it under control with testing and contact tracing," Dr Anne Schuchat, US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Deputy Director, is on record as having said in late June.

While contact tracing and quarantining strategies remain important during the Covid-19 pandemic, they are aimed at protecting vulnerable groups and reducing the overall transmission of the virus rather than ultimately containing or eradicating the virus.

At this point eliminating SARS-CoV-2 worldwide is essentially impossible. Fortunately, however, as was the case with the four endemic coronaviruses, eradication is not a requirement for the pandemic to end.

Two: Because the novel coronavirus is so much more deadly and harmful

than the other four endemic coronaviruses, won't society have a huge problem if it becomes endemic?

Despite all the talk about why SARS-CoV-2 is so infectious with its spike protein and ability to damage endothelial tissue (and I'm not discounting that these are important things to discuss right now), by far the biggest reason Covid-19 is so deadly is that before the autumn of 2019 no human immune system in the world had ever encountered the virus.

In contrast, the endemic coronaviruses don't spread as quickly or with such lethality because most people's immune systems have seen them before. I've seen adults, children and infants in the hospital infected with one of the four older coronaviruses. These patients almost always recover. I've cared for the hospitalised, frail and elderly suffering from Covid-19 and, as you know, recovery is far from a guarantee.

However, I can basically guarantee that the vast majority of people who recover from Covid-19 now aren't going to be dying from it in their later years - for the same reason we don't see waves of elderly people succumbing to the endemic coronaviruses.

On a repeat encounter with SARS-CoV-2, their immune systems will know what to do. Even if their immunity has waned and some develop symptoms, a re-exposure will generally result in a recovery rather than a fatality.

All this means that SARS-CoV-2 won't always be as deadly as it is now. It is destined to become the fifth endemic coronavirus and, in all likelihood, over time it will become no more deadly than the common cold.

Three: If herd immunity is the only foreseeable way the pandemic will end, don't we need a vaccine in order for this to happen?

A Medium publication dispatch. Bo Stapler, MD, is a health and science writer, interpreter of medical jargon and hospitalist physician certified in internal medicine and pediatrics.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 1 September, 2020

BACKLITE HAS BEEN AWARDED THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO THE OUTDOOR ADVERTISING FOR TERMINAL 3 BY TAA

The most exclusive outdoor signs will be installed within months.

Tanzania Airport Authority (TAA) and BackLite have signed an advertising contract for the Terminal 3 outdoor advertising rights at the Julius Nyerere International Airport. The contract runs over 5+5 years.

BackLite is a specialist, multi-national OOH Media Company and is recognized as having only prime strategic locations for the unique elegant architecturally designed signs. TAA has built a new modern International Terminal 3 to take care of leading officials, business people and tourists in the very best way.

- "These exclusive signs will ensure that the first impression for arriving international passengers will be one which matches the best airports in the world", Bengt Bendeus, Chairman of BackLite said. "Many leading international and local companies will be eager to show their presence in Dar es Salaam and Tanzania."

In total 21 exclusive signs will be installed during the months of November this year until February next year. TAA has approved 6 different models of back illuminated signs and two digital signs.

- "We are thrilled to be awarded this prestigious concession by TAA", Queen Geofrey, General Manager, Sales, BackLite, said. "The number of passengers from international flights are now coming back and increasing every week."

Contacts:
General Manager Sales, Queen Geofrey, +255 (0) 687 206 226
queen@backliteld.com ; www.backlitetanzania.com

215680507



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Tender for consultancy on two major areas i.e. Digital products/alternative channels and bancassurance as follows

1. DIGITAL PRODUCTS/ALTERNATIVE CHANNELS

- We are looking for someone who will study our business operations and product proposition and develop digital products and alternative channels to serve our customers more efficient and on agile manner
- Review our product set up in relation to our competitors and proposed for a workable digital products and channels
- Review our current core operating system and come up with appropriate digital product/channels that can fit our system set-up
- To design 6 months plan, 2 years and 5 years plan in relation to digital product and alternative channels
- Review our clientele, marketing opportunity and business environment and propose for the appropriate digital products and channels
- Review our consumer solution department and branch operations and suggest for the best set up for propelling digital agenda.
- Engage key regulators for licensing or approval necessary for launching digital products and/or alternative digital channels
- To come up with a concrete road map on implementing digital proposed product and channels
- To conduct training and coaching in relation to digital products and alternative channels

2. BANCASSURANCE

- To review our business model and to propose the appropriate mode of operandi to pursue in implementing bancassurance as a new line of business
- To assist the company to acquire all necessary licenses and regulatory approval to undertake Bancassurance
- To review our system and Human capital and to suggest on the best system and human set up for the bancassurance
- To design a road map in implementing bancassurance and future development that to cover for 6 months plan, 2 years and 5 years plan.
- Review our clientele, marketing opportunity and propose a best approach for the bancassurance
- Review our current department set up and propose the best set up that will push bancassurance agenda
- Conduct training, coaching and recruitment for key staff for bancassurance
- All application for the tender should be submitted before **7th September 2020**

All applications for the tender should be submitted to
HEAD OF FINANCE
LETSHEGO TANZANIA T/A FAIDIKA
P.O. Box 6137
Vodacom Tower, 3rd Floor, Plot no 23, Old Bagamoyo road - Dar es Salaam
Web: www.letshego.com



Request for Proposals

Consolidation of all MERL Standards, Guidelines, and Polices to one MERL TZ Training Package and Delivery of training across Programed Units

RFP No. PIT/CO/05/FY21

1. Plan is an international humanitarian, child centered, development organization, without religious, political or governmental affiliation (www.plan-international.org). Child sponsorship is the basic foundation of the organization. Plan International works with children, their families and communities in 70 countries, building skills, the structures and the resources to give children an equal chance to develop into healthy, educated and responsible adulthood. Plan International Tanzania has a physical presence and implements projects in the following regions: Dar Es Salaam, Coast, Morogoro, Geita, Dodoma, Mwanza, Rukwa, Kigoma (Refugees Emergency Program in Kibondo District). Also, through Partners and Strategic alliance, Plan International Tanzania implements projects in, Zanzibar, Ruvuma, Morogoro, Iringa, and Mtwara.
2. Plan International Tanzania has set aside funds to implement the project to **Consolidate all MERL Standards, Guidelines, and Polices to one MERL TZ Training Package and Delivery of training across Programme Units**
3. Interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org attn. Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing of the bid documents.
4. Bidders are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively and the above RFP number accordingly. Proposals must be submitted electronically to: electronic.bids@plan-international.org before 11AM Friday 11th August 2020. Late bids will be rejected, not evaluated.

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

215679207



ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

PUBLIC NOTICE

USE OF INACTIVE AND NON-BUSINESS TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FOR IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION DECLARATIONS INTENDED FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES

Tanzania Revenue Authority ("TRA" or "the Authority") wishes to notify the General Public that the Tanzania Customs Integrated Systems (TANCIS) has been enhanced to astutely monitor Inactive Tax Identification Numbers (iTIN) and Non-business Tax Identification Numbers (nTIN) which have increasingly been unlawfully used for importing and/or exporting goods for business purposes. The initiative aims at motivating lawful use of Tax Identification Numbers (TIN) in submission of correct information for taxation purposes and buttressing the doctrine of voluntary tax compliance as contemplated in **Section 5(1)(e) of the Tanzania Revenue Authority Act, CAP. 399 R.E. 2019.**

In terms **Section 22(1) of Tax Administration Act, CAP. R.E 2019**, TIN is issued to a person who is potentially liable to tax by reason of carrying out business or investment. However, in terms of **Section 22(2) of the same Act**, the Commissioner General has been vested with residual powers to require any person to have a TIN within the period the Commissioner General may determine. In the strengths of the said provision and on the spirit of introduction of **e-filing**, which has facilitated submission of information for tax purposes, THEREFORE, the Commissioner General requires any person to have a TIN to ensure that a wider range of taxpayers can easily furnish records for correct determination of their tax liabilities.

Please note that the said iTIN and nTIN were issued under **Section 22(1) of the Tax Administration Act, CAP. 438 R.E 2019** for various reasons, including acquisition of driving licence and importation of vehicles for private use. It is noted that the licence holders are either employed in the Public or Private Sector and the imported vehicles are used for business purposes unless the contrary is rigorously established. Moreover, even if the vehicles are used for private purposes it is presumed that the owners conducted business, investment or employment and earn the income for which the said vehicles were imported and for that reason such owners are, in real sense, potentially liable to pay tax on their income as envisaged by **Section 22(1) of the Act**. It goes without saying that, in terms of **Section 91 of Income Tax Act, CAP. 332 R.E 2019**, all iTIN and nTIN should be/should have been considered as business TIN and the respective holders of the same are obliged to file tax return to declare their income and pay taxes accordingly lest the Commissioner General imposes a penalty, as contemplated in **Section 78 of Tax Administration Act, CAP. 438 R.E 2019**, to those who fail to file tax return.

In view of the above, effective from **1st September 2020**, the Authority will be monitoring TIN used for the declaration of importations and exportations to ensure that they are used for business or investment by the person to whom the said TIN was issued as required by **Section 22 and 23(2) of the Tax Administration Act, CAP. 483 R.E. 2019**, respectively.

In light of the foregoing legal provisions and the launched monitoring exercise, our esteemed taxpayers who are undertaking business or investment are encouraged and beseeched to ensure that they use TIN which were issued to their good-selves for their customs declarations for goods intended for business or investments as required by the law.

For avoidance of doubt, iTIN is a TIN issued to a person for business purposes but the person appears not to have made any transactions during the year of income and is required to honour her tax obligations but has failed to do so either intentionally or unintentionally. On the other hand, nTIN includes TIN issued to a person for the purpose other than business or investment. We wish to insist that the law, as analyzed above, does not envisage such kind of TIN and therefore the respective owners should take necessary steps to ensure that such issued TIN are lawfully used, or take necessary steps for the same to be deactivated where the Commissioner General, in his wisdom, finds it proper to do so. Failure to take the necessary steps, as advised, will compel the Commissioner General to issue estimated assessments to the said holders of iTIN or nTIN, which they will be bound to astutely pay the taxes so assessed or object the same (consistent with the wisdom contained in **Section 51 of Tax Administration Act, CAP. 438 R.E 2019**) giving reasons in support of their objections.

It is presumed that a substantial number of importations are made for business purposes. Therefore, the Authority expects that corresponding income tax and VAT returns should be made following the business or investments conducted on the importations made. Please, take note that the launched TIN monitoring exercise shall involve strict scrutiny of the importations made by such TIN holder against their tax returns and those importers who do not file tax returns will be issued with estimated tax assessments as per the letters of the tax laws of our great land.

For further information and support, kindly feel free to contact us through a toll free mobile numbers **+255800750075** or **+255800780078** or email **services@tra.go.tz**.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Dr. Edwin P. Mhede, Ph.D.
COMMISSIONER GENERAL

Shinzo Abe, Japan's longest-serving prime minister, who has announced that he is resigning

By Stephen R. Nagy

THE sudden departure of Shinzo Abe from the post of Japan's prime minister leaves behind a legacy of several strong starts, both at home and abroad, as well as a few downturns. Any successor will have their work cut out for them.

The sudden resignation by Japan's longest-serving prime minister was preceded by a host of rumours throughout last month. The rumours swirling around Abe's health this last week raised speculation that he was having a relapse of his health troubles after his first stint in power as PM from 2006-2007.

Some argued that the power brokers in his Liberal Democratic Party were finding a way to gracefully allow Abe to step down so that a change in leadership would embody new energy within the LDP. This is critical in that Abe and his cabinet have had declining favourability ratings as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to spread.

Others argue that the stress of the past six months (and eight years) has taken a heavy toll on Abe and so he saw a rapid deterioration in his health.

What is clear is that he will have a mixed legacy. At the domestic level, there was initial success with Abenomics, Womenomics - Abe's effort to increase female participation in the country's economics in order to benefit the economy as a whole - and some structural reform. However, ultimately, he could not translate his political capital into the required structure reform necessary to transform Japan.

The fiercest critics will argue that he only gave lip service to Womenomics and that his economic policies served Japan's mega corporations and not ordinary citizens.

Manoeuvring around superpowers

At the international level, Abe showed himself as a highly adept leader at dealing with difficult and powerful leaders like Donald Trump, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin. He quickly pivoted after Trump's rejection of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) to sign and deliver a series of consequential agreements with Western partners other than the US. These included the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, and the Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure between the European Union and Japan.

This is in addition to other material multilateral agreements, such as the Australia-Japan-United States Trilateral Infrastructure Partnership.

Abe's tenure as prime minister has been seen as a force of stability in the international arena. The Lowy Institute's Asia Power Index has deemed Japan "the leader of the liberal order in Asia". The institute has highlighted that Japan has consistently punched above its weight in terms of its diplomatic influence under PM Abe, despite the rapidly changing power balance in the region associated with China's re-emergence as the centre of the Indo-Pacific economy.

Similarly, under Abe's leadership, Japan's developmental aid to Southeast Asia and Abe's frequent visits to the region have accrued Japan with the highest degree of trust among regional and extra-regional states. This is according to the State of Southeast Asia 2020 survey by the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.

Despite a slight slip from last year, Japan is still perceived as considerably more trustworthy than other regional players, as well as the US and the EU.

Coming into office in December 2012, Abe inherited a severely damaged Sino-Japanese links in the wake of the Democratic Party of Japan's nationalisation of the Senkaku Islands. Surprisingly, Abe resuscitated things to a functional (yet highly dysfunctional) relationship culminating in the now-postponed state visit by President Xi Jinping in late March 2020.

Abe's diplomatic efforts were set to result in the so-called 5th Political Document, which was meant to frame the tone and nature of bilateral relations for the next decade.



Shinzo Abe was an important world leader and leaves big shoes to fill

Whereas Sino-Japanese relations have nearly returned to their post-normalisation character of separating politics and economics, Japan-South Korean links have unnecessarily spiralled in a negative direction since the election of President Moon Jae-in in 2017.

While PM Abe initially had frosty relations with then-President Park Geun-hye, the two conservative leaders managed to put their differences aside to sign the December 2015 Comfort Women agreement. However, with the election of President Moon, bilateral relations quickly deteriorated.

The Moon administration effectively killed the agreement by shutting down a Japanese-funded foundation that was supposed to support the former 'comfort women'. It is also threatening to withdraw from the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) intelligence-sharing agreement, and the South Korean Supreme Court has ruled that Nissan Steel must compensate wartime forced labour.

In sum, today's Japan-South Korean relations are at a post-WWII low, and both politicians and the public in both countries view each other at record-low levels.

While important for both countries, a change in the tone and character of bilateral relations is not a priority for political leaders or their publics as the popular mischaracterisations of both countries have calcified.

Swaying Russia: A work in progress

With regards to Russo-Japan relations, Abe assiduously strived to forge a more mutually beneficial relationship with Russia and President Putin. The dedication was not just about returning what the Japanese call the Northern Territories to Japan or signing a peace treaty.

In fact, Japan views Russia as a critical partner in the future to counterbalance China's influence in the region and as a strong partner in developing a more peaceful, prosperous and stable Northeast Asia. Any new Japanese PM will have the same broader strategic priorities vis-à-vis Russia.

Without question, Abe's biggest challenge as PM has been stabilising relations with the US under President Donald Trump. Without deep consideration or dialogue with Japan, Trump

withdrew from the TPP, slapped tariffs on Japan, initiated an ill-considered trade war with China and cajoled Japan into signing a mini-trade deal in September 2019.

All this occurred as Trump denigrated the value of alliances and demanded that Japan and other alliance partners dramatically change their burden sharing agreement with the US.

Abe has responded astutely at several levels. First, he has strived to personalise the relationship at a leader level, refraining from critical comments about Trump or his administration.

Second, Abe has increased the quality and quantity of Japanese interlocutors in Washington through regular and more frequent visits of Japanese Self-Defence officials, politicians, scholars and think-tank research and business leaders.

This approach has strengthened institutional relations such that they cannot be easily fractured by an arbitrary tweet or misinformed pronouncement by Trump.

Third, Abe has invested heavily in multilateralism and the promotion of a rules-based order to secure markets for trade and to forge a constellation of states that will be compelled to enforce that order.

Abe may not be done yet

The post-Covid-19 regional economy will be deeply damaged by the pandemic, especially in the informal side of the economy, and the negative effects of climate change are mounting.

The new Japanese PM will be challenged on all fronts to ensure that Japan does not just tread the geopolitical waters. This will take stable and sustained leadership, pragmatic centrism and a long-term commitment to preserving a rules-based international order through deep and extensive partnerships in and outside the region.

Here, PM Abe may have an important role as a senior statesman, after he recovers from his illness, in guiding the new Japanese PM and political leaders to navigate the geopolitical uncertainty in a post-Abe world.

Stephen R. Nagy is senior associate professor at Tokyo's International Christian University and a visiting fellow with the Japan Institute for International Affairs.

Refugees at risk of hunger, malnutrition after relief hit in eastern Africa, says WFP

By Guardian Reporter

UN World Food Programme (WFP) has been forced to reduce its food and cash assistance for refugees in Eastern Africa by up to 30 per cent, the agency has said, voicing fears that the reductions could worsen in the coming months unless urgent additional funding is received in time.

According to WFP, over 2.7 million refugees in Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, South Sudan, and Djibouti have been impacted, with food or cash transfers reduced between 10 to 30 per cent, as the socio-economic toll of the coronavirus pandemic reduces vital funding from donors.

"Refugees are especially vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19 because they are crowded together in camps with weak or inadequate shelter, health services and access to clean water and sanitation," said Michael Dunford, WFP Eastern Africa Regional Director.

In addition to COVID, the refugees, especially women, children and elderly, are also at risk of becoming malnourished, which can in turn impact their immune systems and increase their risk of being infected by disease, a tragic vicious cycle in the midst of a global pandemic.

"With COVID yet to peak in East Africa, we cannot turn our backs on people forced to flee and stuck in remote camps," added Dunford.

COVID-19 restrictions closed schools in refugee camps, meaning children missed out on vital school meals in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Rwanda and Uganda. In these countries except in Rwanda, funding shortages meant that WFP was unable to provide take home rations to refugee children to help them study at home and stay nourished.

Extended school closures can also expose children to additional challenges, including, teenage pregnancies, sexual abuse, early marriage, violence at home, child labour and high school dropouts, eroding hard-won development gains made over several years.

Women and girl refugees are also at heightened risk of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, in addition to resorting to having sex for payment in order to survive. People with disabilities and unaccompanied or separated children are the most vulnerable, said the UN food relief agency.

World cannot let the most disadvantaged suffer

"Sadly, it is the poorest and most disadvantaged who suffer the most," said Dunford, adding, "We simply cannot let this happen. COVID-19 cannot be an excuse for the world to turn its back on refugees at this terrible time."

Given the pressing situation, WFP is ap-



Women and children stand outside tent at a refugee camp near the Kenya-Somalia border. File Photo

pealing both to traditional donors and new would-be donors, such as international financial institutions, to step forward and assist

refugees precisely because their vulnerability only increased with COVID-19.

The UN agency needs some \$323 million to

assist refugees in the East Africa region over the next six months, about 22 percent greater than during the same period in 2019.

UNECA official: Business women have big role to play in post-COVID-19 Africa

By Special Correspondent, Addis Ababa

THE United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has said that African women in business have a big role to play in a post-COVID-19 Africa.

The statement was made by Mama Keita, Director of the

UNECA in East Africa, during a regional virtual dialogue that aimed to address the economic and social challenges met by women and girls as a result of COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on economic empowerment of women.

The ECA director emphasized that "African business women could significantly

reduce the continent's high dependence on imports of essential food, medical and pharmaceutical items."

Keita, after presenting the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19, also underscored how reduced economic activities stemming from lockdown, curfew as well as disruption in international trade affected

the region.

She also appealed for innovative policies and initiatives that could make a difference for women.

"As we are building back our economies after COVID-19 and are seeking to turn vulnerabilities into opportunities, let us recall that intra-Africa trade is still very low at less than

20 percent and that women entrepreneurs have a big role to play in boosting this," said Keita.

Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region of Africa, Xia Huang, also acknowledged the disproportionate and negative impact of the pandemic on women and girls,

especially in the economic sphere, and stressed the need to place women at the center of all response initiatives.

The role of women entrepreneurs was also highlighted by Clare Akamanzi, CEO of Rwanda Development Board. She further underlined that empowering women is a pathway for achieving all of the

Sustainable Development Goals.

"Today (in Rwanda), women entrepreneurs head more than 42 percent of enterprises. They contribute 78 percent in cross border trade, and cross border trade contributes 30 percent to GDP," an ECA statement quoted Akamanzi as saying during the meeting.

Tanzania's infrastructure focuses on SADC regional trade promotion

By Special Correspondent

TANZANIA'S infrastructural development is a key goal to the country's industrialization program aimed to promote SADC regional trade for the next five years of the regional Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) set between 2020 and 2030 respectively.

The ultimate objective of the RISDP is to deepen the regional integration agenda of SADC with a view to accelerating poverty eradication and the attainment of other economic and non-economic development goals.

Tanzania has already determined to ensure the economic wellbeing, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice, and peace and security for the peoples of Southern Africa.

According to one economist from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Prof Mohammed Bakari, improvement of transport infrastructure such as ports, railways, roads and electricity power plant currently going on in the country, will help further drive the economic growth of SADC member states.

Prof Bakari highlighted his findings at his recent presentation he made for the Virtual Workshop across SADC region for Tanzania's NSAs and talked on Tanzania's Performance in three areas namely Industrialization, Agriculture and Trade.

He said Transport and storage are among the major drivers for the Tanzanian economy and the significant volume is already generated from landlocked SADC member states.

With strategic comparative advantage put in place, Prof. Bakari cited Julius Nyerere Hydro-electricity power Generation Project which upon its completion is scheduled to generate 2,115 megawatts of electricity. This is enough to cater for the southern African countries.

The long stretch of the Standard Gauge Railways (SGR) which would cover 1,450km in total which on its completion will also connect three African landlocked countries of Rwanda, Burundi and DRC.

Another one is the 1,860 kilometre-long binal railway link known as TAZARA owned by Tanzania and Zambia which is vital in boosting intra-regional trade as it joins southern Africa and Eastern Africa through its railway transport network.

The comparatively low levels of intra-regional trade have been ascribed to the fact that SADC firms have not broken into global manufacturing production networks nor created these networks regionally. Globalization and the lowering

of transport costs is a key ingredient in the emergence of intra-industry trade.

Supply side constraints, inadequate trade related infrastructure and other trade policy instruments such as Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and restrictive rules of origin in particular on items of textiles and clothing, are also cited as some of the main contributory elements to the relatively stagnant growth in the levels of intra-SADC trade.

According to the 2017/18 Bank of Tanzania (BoT)'s Annual Report, Tanzania was the fastest growing economy in SADC with a GDP growth of 7.1 percent. Tanzania's total intra-SADC trade however declined by 3.5 percent in 2017 as compared to 2016 due to fall in both exports and imports.

Nevertheless, Tanzania continued to be a net exporter to other SADC countries, recording a trade surplus of USD 445.5 million in 2017, up from USD 397.2 million in 2016.

Deputy Director for export department in the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Abdul Chacha, says: "Total Tanzania's exports to SADC member countries were US\$ 999.34 during 2018 trading period compared to US\$ 877.8 attained during 2017 trading period."

This is equivalent to 12.16 percent increase.

The figures are slightly higher from the report issued by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) on annual economic operations it issued in June 2018 for the year 2017/18.

The report showed that, "Tanzania continued to be a leading exporter of its products in SADC countries with trade surplus of US\$ 445.5 million in 2017 up from US\$ 397.2 million in 2016 which is an increase of 4 percent.

Specifically, Tanzania recorded a trade surplus with South Africa, DRC, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Angola and Botswana. Meanwhile, Tanzania recorded a trade deficit with Zambia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Swaziland, Seychelles and Lesotho.

Tanzania's major exports to the SADC region were gold, cigarettes, wheat flour, juice, ceramic, fish, glass, cement, soap, footwear, and bricks, while major imports, were motor vehicles, maize seeds, gas, iron sheets, lubricants, beer, apples and sugar.

The rules of origin are still a thorny issue and utilisation rate is low. SADC adopted product specific rules aimed at encouraging the optimum utilization of regional resources and allowing for forward and backward linkages in the various production chains.

However, several studies and audits of the implementation SADC initiatives indicated that



from a Private Sector perspective, these rules were complex and not supportive to enhancing intra-regional trade and competitiveness.

SADC rules of origin are considered to be unfriendly to most of the Member States. Most members including Tanzania considers the rules to be so complicated, hence not conducive to the region. They have been

largely taken from the EU.

The minimum standards set are too high for most products such as 60 percent of local content versus 40 percent of foreign content to be traded in the region. Some countries which benefit from this includes South Africa and other are losing miserably under the existing rules of origin.

The agriculture and food security sectors cover crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, wildlife as well as environment. The objective of these sectors is to develop, promote, coordinate and facilitate harmonization of policies and programs to promote agricultural trade.

Political will, moral obligation key to establishment of NETF

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

TANZANIA is facing serious environmental degradation and impacts of climate change: Affecting climate reliant productive sectors such as agriculture, tourism, livestock, and fisheries, among others.

Speaking on Friday last week in Dar es Salaam during Policy Forum breakfast debate focusing on "Climate change initiatives: What are the issues hindering operationalisation of the National Environment Trust Fund (NETF)?"

Consultant from Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) Abdallah Henku said that the establishment of environmental funds needed a strong political-will and exercising of moral obligations to conserve and manage environment as well as addressing climate change challenges.

He mentioned the drivers of environmental degradation and climate change as: Industrial activities, deforestation, land use and land changes, population growth and mining activities among others.

According to him Environmental Funds (EFs) are established to address environmental challenges for a long period of time, preferably between 10 to 20 years. They can be structured as endowments, sinking funds, revolving funds, or a combination of these.

The Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2004 Section 213.1 provides for a legal framework that establishes the NEF and Cap 191 requires climate change related activities to be executed in the country.

Its overall objective is to identify viable, sustainable and evidence-backed options to support operationalisation of NETF.

And its specific objectives are to identify current government revenues which are related to environmental conservation and supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation.

To identify unexplored potential sources of revenues that can be adopted by the government to support NETF.

Also to document lessons from other countries experience on how the government finance national climate change/environment trust funds.

To conduct scenario analysis to esti-



mate level of resources needed against revenues that can be collected from proposed options.

To analyse how introducing the new sources for revenues to support NETF will affect the government, producers and consumers and how the government can compensate for the diverted sources of revenues, and,

To recommend best options for raising and managing funds for NETF.

Henku said that there is an existence of environmental conservation and climate change related funds in Tanzania. These include:

Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF), Tanzania Forest Fund (TaFF), Tanzania Wildlife Protection Fund (TWPF), and the Rural Energy Fund (REF).

Apart from the EAMCEF, other funds are operated through government budgetary allocation, royalties, levies and charges/ fines mainly from the proceeds of their related products.

"Political will" and "Moral obligation" through legal mechanisms is key to the successful establishment, operationalization and sustainability."

He said that there are sustainable sources of revenue to contribute to the operationalisation of fund.

Revenue from Non-Tax revenue due to emissions from vehicles:

There is need to address environmental issues particularly environmental degradation and climate change for the good of the country, ecosystem and its people. File photo.

TRA (2019) estimated to have 2,681,058 transport vessels. Suggested for Tsh 3,000 as cost for emission test and Tsh 10,000 as a cost of contamination. This will result to Tsh30 billion annually.

Revenue from environmental management related fees and charges:

Based on 2018/19 fees and charges figures as per National Environment Management Council (NEMO), and proposed for 3%, 5% or 10% contribution, the fund will, receive between Tsh280 million to Tsh1 billion annually.

Revenue from fees (Non-Tax) collected from mining activities:

Based on 2018/19 collection from royalties and associated fees amounted to Tsh 290.6 billion. If only 3% is deducted, the fund will receive not less than Tsh8.7 billion annually.

Revenue from Electronic (e-waste) waste:

Based on 2018/19 collection from importation of electronic devices amounted to Tsh371.5 billion. If only 10% is deducted from the collection, the fund will receive above Tsh3.7 billion annually.

Revenue from excise duty on old age vehicles:

TRA stated to have imported 167,268 vehicles from 2015/16 to 2018/19. The collection from this importation amounted to Tsh 409.4 billion.

If 3%, 5% or 10% is deducted from the collection, the fund will receive between Tsh 3 and 11 billion annually.

Revenue from Tourism and Hospitality Industry:

Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) stated to have registered an increase of 200,000 tourists in the year 2018 from year 2017. If a levy of USD 0.5 is charged to each tourist for only one night, then in the year 2020, the Fund will receive not less than Tsh2.18 billion.

Revenue from drinks served on plastic bottles:

According to Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), there are 72 manufacturers producing liquid packaged in plastic bottles amounting to 648,297,319 per year.

If the suggested 0.5 shilling is charged per bottle, then the fund

will receive not less than Tsh 324.1 million annually.

Revenue from airport departure charges: According to Air Traffic Statistics through the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA), there were 2,733,641 and 2,808,444 domestic passengers for 2016 and 2017 respectively. In the same years, International passengers were 2,226,011 and 2,257,118 accordingly.

This is an increment of 2.7% and 1.4%. If charged at Tsh 5,000/= and USD 5, the fund will receive between Tsh 15.2 to 270 billion annually.

Diverted funds will definitely have burden and impacts on tax payers, consumers, effects on sectoral, macroeconomics and the general economic development of the country.

However, it should be noted that, developmental processes have immense consequences; so does the establishment of the environmental funds (EFs).

"There is need to address environmental issues particularly environmental degradation and climate change in the country for the good of the country, ecosystem and its people."

Environment is contributing to the well-being of the country's economic development through resources that is endowed with including mineral deposits, ecosystems services (regulating, supporting, provisioning and cultural).

There is need to replace in kind the reduced share of the Central Government (TRA) collection through the good of the environment, nature and people's livelihoods. Need to advocate for harmonisation and striking a balance between the already budgeted sources and the ones that are newly proposed to contribute to the fund.

Tanzania is party to many international agreements and protocols. As such, it is required to fulfill its obligations as per the requirements.

Addressing and environmental challenges including environmental degradation and climate change contributes to the country's efforts in contributing to Agenda 2030 (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 6, 13,14 and 15).

It also contributes to addressing the country's climate-reliant productive sectors including energy, transport, tourism, livestock and agriculture

which contributes to realisation of industrialisation agenda Becoming a Medium income industrialised country by 2025.

According to Bayon, R. et al (1999) there are three types of Environmental Funds, namely: -

National Environmental Funds with a mandate to support a full range of activities included in national environmental action plans;

Funds that support the conservation of protected areas; and funds that make grants to other institutions - typically NGOs or CBOs - for biodiversity conservation and/or sustainable development projects.

Given the current state of the impacts posed by climate change, and noting the interlinkages between the two; it is hereby proposed that, the name of the fund be known as the National Environment and Climate Trust Fund (NECTF).

The proposed fund will have two windows; one as an "environmental window" and the other being a "climate change window".

Despite being established through EMA, 2004, the National Environmental Fund has not been operational; among factors being attributed to its lack of funds.

Institutionally, issues related to environmental management and climate change rests in the hands of the Vice President's Office. As such, the established semi-autonomous NECTF must be under this office. Other existing structures governing these issues will remain the same.

Sustainable finance is the link between financial systems, ecosystem balance and land management.

Environmental issues pose risks to peoples' livelihoods.

Environmental protection is the primary responsibility of the government and its people.

The National Environment and Climate Fund (NECTF) is highly recommended to replace the National Environmental Trust Fund (NETF).

The proposed fund will attract government budgetary support, enjoy domestic funds, bilateral, multilateral and finances from well-wishers.

Commercialisation of biofortified crops project to arrest malnutrition in Tanzania launched

By Gerald Kitabu

THE government of Tanzania has called on increased role of both the public and private institutions to enhance research, production, promotion and distribution of biofortified crops right from the household to the national level to increase consumption of the crops as part of the strategy to arrest malnutrition in the country.

It has also directed (Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) and seed companies to make sure that the biofortified seeds are produced in large quantities and sold at affordable price so that many low income farmers can afford them.

The directive was given by Director - Food Security, in the Ministry of agriculture Dr Honest Kessy, on behalf of the Minister for agriculture, Japhet Hasunga, when launching the commercialisation of biofortified crops project in Dodoma recently. The project, to be jointly implemented by the government, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and HarvestPlus intends to increase production of biofortified seeds and grain, processing and consumption of biofortified crops among consumers in Tanzania, focusing on High-rich Iron Beans (HIB) and Pro Vitamin A Maize (PVA).

The launch, organized by GAIN and HarvestPlus in collaboration with the government, attracted senior government officials, the private sector, NGOs, researchers, processors, cooperatives and other stakeholders, who will be key in the implementation of the project.

The government of Tanzania in collaboration with other stakeholders has already released four varieties of biofortified crops, two beans varieties that contain high levels of iron and zinc, have higher yielding that will help to address the problem of malnutrition in the country. These nutritious beans and maize will also be part of the solution to fight hidden hunger.

"The beans are also suitable for physical and cognitive development of our people and children in particular "We already have seeds, funds are available through this project, what we need is to work hard by commercializing these biofortified crops," said Dr Kessy.

He said producers of biofortified seeds such as pro-vitamin A Maize, Beans and Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP), processors and traders have to play their key role of ensuring that nutritious food reach consumers across the country.

The main essential vitamins and mineral deficiencies in Tanzania are Vitamin A, folic acid, vitamin B12, iodine, iron and zinc. In Tanzania, nutrition is an issue of national importance because good nutrition is both a desired outcome for ensuring optimal human health, as well as a key determinant of development, for the individual and for society in general. Obviously, malnourished people are not as productive as they could otherwise be; for example, a malnourished child does not have the same attention in school as a well-nourished peer and will not gain the same education; and malnourished adults cannot work as productively as well-nourished peers, with consequences for their incomes and, in turn, the national income. Nutrition is therefore important for us as a country to achieve our industrialisation agenda.

According to Tanzania National Nutrition Survey 2018, approximately 31.8 percent of children under age 5 years are stunted (short for their age); 3.5 percent are wasted (low weight for height) and 14.6 percent are underweight (low weight for age) and about 28 percent of



The Director of Food Security in Agriculture Ministry Dr Honest Kessy (second right) shares light moment with TARI's Director of Research and Innovation, Dr Evelyn Rukonge (right) shortly after launching commercialisation of biofortified crops recently in Dodoma. Looking on is GAIN Tanzania Senior Advisor, Food System Transformation, Obey Nkya and other key stakeholders. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

women of reproductive age (age 15-49 years) are anemic.

To address micronutrient deficiency, GAIN has been working closely with the government and its partners to support the National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan 2016/21, which was launched in September 2017. GAIN offers high-quality know-how on transforming food systems to improve the consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, especially those most vulnerable to malnutrition.

The launched commercialization of biofortified crop project will work closely with all important players in the value chain, including seed producers, grain producers, aggregators, processors and retailers. The project will reach the market through two pathways: institutional pathway, notably government and private schools capitalizing on school feeding programmes in response to the government directive by the Minister of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, in which schools are required purchase and feed the students/pupils with biofortified foods where available. The second pathway is

through the normal market channel in which raw and/or processed biofortified maize and beans will be sold in the market.

A representative from Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) Eng Enoch Nyanda said that the government recognizes the role played by development partners as well as the private sector. The policy states very clearly the need for collaboration with the private sector and other partners such as GAIN and HarvestPlus to enhance nutrition agenda in the country. In private sector, there is capital, knowledge, technology, innovation and human resource, he noted.

"We have given partners and the private sector chance to contribute to the national economy and individual income. The nutrition issue is very important. For the nation to develop, its people must be healthy," he said.

He called for the district council to work closely with the partners and the private sector and direct enough resources for nutrition to fight against malnutrition. For the Commercialization of Biofortified Crops project, he emphasised the importance of regions where the project will be implemented, to fully support GAIN and HarvestPlus during implementation.

Assistant Director in the Prime Minister's Office,

Devota Gabriel said that nutrition issues are being implemented through ASDP II and the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP), calling for all stakeholders to effectively play their role in the fight against malnutrition.

Principal Education Officer in the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Hilda Mkandawile, explained that as main stakeholders in the development of human capital, the Ministry recognizes that a well-nourished, healthy workforce is a pre-condition for sustainable development.

"Deficiencies in essential nutrients is a challenge to individual and the nation. We are in the final stages to complete new guideline for school feeding program. We are working closely with the Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG). As you commercialize these biofortified crops, I call upon all stakeholders to lower the price of these crops so that our students, both boarding and day scholars, can afford them," she said.

A representative from the Ministry of Industries and Trade, Festo Kapela, said the Ministry through Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), will cooperate with different producers and manufacturers to ensure the food produced and other value chains are safe and meet the required standards.

Kapela who is a Trade Officer explained further that the ministry has created conducive environment to ensure small and medium enterprises advance their works comfortably including facilitating business licenses so that they can advance nutrition agenda.

TARI's Director of Research and Innovation, Dr Evelyn Rukonge who represented the Director General, Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo, commended the efforts taken by GAIN and HarvestPlus to improve nutrition in the country insisting that this initiative will help build a better food system in the country.

TARI has released many improved seeds and has gone far into value chain but what we have been lacking is the market aspect. So, through this project, we believe that things will go well," she said.

"TARI will continue working with farmers, producers and seed companies to produce and disseminate improved seeds that tolerates drought and diseases as we have been doing to other crops. We have TARI centers in Uyole and Selian that have played a key role in biofortified crops particularly on beans and maize," she explained.

The Executive Director for Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECO), Revocatus Kimario, thanked the government for the trust and confidence in the youth but called on more education and awareness campaigns especially placing biofortified video clips in the commuter and upcountry buses to reach out more Tanzanians easily.

GAIN Tanzania Senior Advisor, Food System Transformation, Obey Nkya said that already groundwork has been done by the government in collaboration with other stakeholders to address malnutrition and in particular a good foundation on biofortification is already in place.

Citing an example, he said through Building Nutritious Food basket (BNFB) project which commenced in November 2015 and ended in October 2018, the government managed to release four biofortified crops beans and Maize.

Building Nutritious Food Baskets (BNFB) was testing a scaling-up model through a multi-crop ("food basket") approach to contribute to the reduction of hidden hunger by catalyzing sustainable investment for the production and utilization of biofortified crops.

"Therefore, Commercialization of Biofortified Crops project is contributing to the government plans and strategies such as ASDP II and NMNAP, and it builds up on the previous BNFB project to produce high reach iron beans and Pro Vitamin A maize at scale, aggregate, process and ensure that these biofortified crops reach the consumers," he said.

"The government has done well so far in the fight against malnutrition, but some challenges still exist. GAIN and HarvestPlus will work with researchers, producers, seed companies processors and other stakeholders to strengthen nutrition in Tanzania.



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Doing Business report irregularities raise storm around the World Bank

By Smart Money Reporter

FOR the first time since its inception over one and a half decades ago, World Bank's Doing Business annual report will not be published this year due to a number of irregularities.

In a statement, the World Bank said for over the 17 years of its existence, the Doing Business report has been a valued tool for countries seeking to measure costs of doing business. Doing Business indicators and methodology are designed with no single country in mind, but rather to help to improve the overall business climate.

"A number of irregularities have been reported regarding changes to the data in the Doing Business 2018 and Doing Business 2020 reports, published in October 2017 and 2019. The changes in the data were inconsistent with the Doing Business methodology. The integrity and impartiality of our data and analysis is paramount and so we are immediately taking the following actions," the statement noted.

The Bretton Woods institution further noted that it is conducting a systematic review and assessment of data changes that occurred subsequent to the institutional data review process for the last five Doing Business reports.

"We have asked the World Bank Group's independent Internal Audit function to perform



Former World Bank chief economist Paul Romer.

an audit of the processes for data collection and review for Doing Business and the controls to safeguard data integrity. We will act based on the findings and will retrospectively correct the data of countries that were most affected by the irregularities," the statement added.

The statement concluded that World Bank's board of executive directors has been briefed on the situation as have the authorities of the countries that were most affected by the data irregularities. "The publication of the Doing Business report will be paused as we conduct our assessment," the statement stated.

Reports said data from at least four countries, namely: Azerbaijan, China, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were found to have been inappropriately altered in the 2018 and 2020 reports.

"We are pausing Doing Business as we conduct our assessment," the statement noted adding that The Doing Business 2021 report which was due for publication in the next two months, will not come out till further notice.

Analysts say this isn't the first time that the rankings have been mired in controversy. In 2018, Paul Romer, then chief economist at the bank, raised concerns about the report's rankings and said they were vulnerable to manipulation by the bank's staff over political bias.

Romer had specifically pointed out that Chile's ranking had dropped sharply under its left-leaning government led by President Michelle Bachelet then saying data about the country had been manipulated to show a deteriorating business environment. Romer was forced to resign from his position two weeks later.

Ericsson wants to accelerate adoption of 5G across Africa

JOHANNESBURG

TODD Ashton's immediate task as newly-appointed Ericsson vice-president and head of South and East Africa within the Middle East and Africa is to drive the adoption of 5G on the African continent.

Ashton took the new role on 1 August and prior to assuming the position, he served as head of Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In an interview with ITWeb, Ashton says Ericsson is continuously working with partners to identify and create 5G use cases relevant to the African market.

"One of our first major steps towards rolling out 5G in Africa was the announcement in November 2019 that Ericsson had been selected by MTN South Africa as a

5G network modernisation vendor."

Vendors that are positioning themselves to take advantage of the 5G growth in SA include Huawei, Ericsson, Nokia and ZTE. So far, Vodacom, MTN and data-only network Rain have announced commercial 5G launches in SA.

A key challenge of spectrum allocation in SA is that spectrum is currently used for analogue broadcasting due to delays in digital migration. "Africa is a very diverse market when it comes to technology maturity and, for that reason, we are driving 5G technology towards the advanced markets, and for the less advanced markets, we are working very closely with our partners to prepare them to catch up with the big

technology race, starting with 4G and paving the way towards 5G as a next step."

According to Ashton, Africa has a relatively low level of 4G penetration today, and he believes that by working together with customers and other stakeholders, Ericsson will accelerate the rollout of 4G and eventually 5G across the continent.

"This will, in turn, unleash the potential and creativity that exists in Africa. Many of us consider that achieving broadband for all is a basic human right and we know that for every 1 000 new broadband connections, 80 new jobs are created," Ashton adds a 10% increase in mobile broadband adoption secures 0.6-2.8% GDP growth and a doubling of aver-

age achieved broadband speed generates an additional 0.3% GDP growth.

"We are on a mission to accelerate the rollout of 4G, paving the way for 5G to empower Africa's technology-enabled economies. I've seen the impact this can have in places like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, and I'm convinced we can do even bigger things for Africa.

"We work closely with our partners, the mobile operators, in the region to bring these technologies to the people. South and East Africa is a diverse region in terms of technology maturity, but we are proud to co-operate across the different markets, bringing our technology expertise from 2G/3G in some areas and all the way to 5G in others."



Todd Ashton Ericsson vice-president and head for South and East Africa.

Kenyan processors converting powder milk to tame prices

NAIROBI

PROCESSORS have turned to conversion of powder milk into fresh product to stabilise supply to consumers and check against high prices following a shortage of the commodity in the country.

Milk intake in the informal sector has dropped from 63 million litres in January to 43 million litres in June, piling pressure on processors. Processors are using the stocks that had been stored at Strategic Food Reserve (SFR) to supplement the available stocks.

"The intake from farmers has gone down by 40 percent at the moment so we have had to reconstitute powder milk in order to ensure that there is enough supply of the commodity to our customers," said Nixon Sigey, New Kenya Cooperative Creameries managing director.

Mr Sigey, who is also the chairperson of the Kenya Dairy Processors Association said the state-owned firm is also selling powder milk to other processors and they are releasing 1,000 tonnes. The MD said the available stocks would last for the next three months giving assurance to consumers that the prices on the shelf will not go up anytime soon.

"Because of enough stocks of powder that we have, we do



Nixon Sigey, chairperson of the Kenya Dairy Processors Association.

not expect the consumer prices to go up anytime now," he said. The country recorded a glut in milk last year giving room for processors to convert excess commodity into powder.

However, the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in April, the Covid-19 pandemic and the onset of cold season impacted negatively on volumes. Farmers have also been facing challenges in regard to animal feeds as high cost made it impossible for most of them to afford them.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Peter Munya said last week that part of the one million acre Galana-Kulalu irrigation scheme will be used for planting

of maize meant for animal feeds processing in order to address the challenge of cost.

"We need to increase the feeds and we are going to use part of the Galana-Kulalu farm for this exercise," said Mr Munya. Consumer prices of milk have been relatively low since the beginning of the year with a half litre packet retailing at an average of Sh50 despite a significant rise in farm gate price from a low of Sh25 to Sh33 in March.

HNA's Swissport handed \$354m from creditors to fight Covid-19

GENEVA

SWISSPORT has secured nearly \$354 million of extra liquidity from senior secured creditors that will support operations while the aviation services company revamps amid the Covid-19 pandemic, in a move that could squeeze out Chinese owner HNA Group.

"The agreement 'in principle' on a comprehensive restructuring includes significant deleveraging and a new \$590m long term debt facility, which will replace the interim facility," the airport ground services group said without naming the creditors.

It was reported in May that a trio of distressed securities investors, led by Apollo Global Management, had bought debt of Swissport and were holding talks with the company as it seeks cash to ride out the coronavirus crisis. The latest cash injection will add to the more than \$236m of liquidity Swissport had on August 18, it said. The restructuring is expected to be completed in late 2020.

"The \$354m clearly is very important to give us the liquidity to confidently trade through the pandemic for the next months or year to come and also clearly gives us the liquidity to bridge the restructuring process," chief financial officer Peter Waller told journalists on a call on Friday. "That is a committed facility, only subject to final documentation. We actually expect to receive funds in due course in coming days."

Executives declined to comment on whether HNA would remain owner, saying detailed terms of the restructuring were expected to be released within days. "I think you are familiar with how restructurings typically turn out," Mr Waller said.

Swissport said it had managed the market disruption from the Covid-19 pandemic with stronger trading results and better liquidity than originally anticipated. Revenue for the three months to June 30 fell 70 per cent to €235.5m, with an uptick in volumes since the end of June.

Start-up to invest over 695 million/- in e-learning platform out to serve masses



An electronic learning platform illustration.

By Francis Kajubi

AN all inclusive online learning platform is being developed by SSC Capital which has set aside US\$300,000 (over 695.52m/- before the end of this year.

SSC Capital through Tanzania Angel Investors Network is also planning to invest the money in establishing an online platform that will provide insurance services according to Founder and CEO, Salum Awadh.

Awadh said the investments are intended at using digital platforms to access various services using electronic gadgets without any need for manual contacts. He said the company intends to invest in a modern system with a well-organized sustainable platform for students of all levels to access live streaming lectures.

"We have learnt a big lesson from the coronavirus outbreak that Tanzania has

no strong online learning platforms accessed by the majority because the existing ones are not designed to serve big crowds of learners but a portion of them," he said.

"We need a strong and sustainable online platform that will enable learners of all levels to study easily and at affordable costs during this period of COVID-19 outbreak," the SSC Capital's CEO added.

He asserted that his company is finalizing due diligence examination of some local technology companies from which one will assigned the role of overseeing development of the mass online learning platform.

"The platform is expected to allow over 200,000 users at a time access and deliver live streams, recorded videos, upload softcopy textbooks and other learning materials in different languages," Awadh noted adding that SSC Capital will invest US\$150,000 in the project.

Meanwhile, SSC Capital will invest the remaining US\$150,000 in developing an online insurance services access platform that will allow consumers buy products and services. Some 100 local and international companies will be listed on the portal.

"We will have all local and international insurance companies listed on the platform with prices of their products for consumers to choose and buy online," Awadh revealed adding that a dedicated website and application will be installed.

The SSC Capital CEO asserted that currently, their main task has been educating and creating awareness to attract more investors to join the company's network of investors to boost capital size and broaden the investments portfolio. TAIN has so far registered more than 19 members.

Air travellers who refuse to wear masks could face penalties - IATA



Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's director general and chief executive, has appealed to passengers to wear masks.

GENEVA

AIR travellers who refuse to wear face masks could face penalties and even be removed from aircraft, the International Air Transport Association said on Tuesday.

Wearing face coverings during travel is a key recommendation of the UN-backed International Civil Aviation Organisation's guidance for safe operations during the Covid-19 pandemic. Failure to conform means that passengers face the "risk of being offloaded, restrictions on future carriage or penalties under national laws", IATA said.

"Safety is at the core of aviation and compliance with crew safety instructions is the law," Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's director general and chief executive, said. "Failure to comply can jeopardise a flight's safety, disrupt the travel experience of other passengers and impact the work environment for

crew."

An airline has the right to offload a person whose behaviour interferes with a flight, violates government regulations and threatens the safety of other passengers, under the terms set out when issuing a ticket. However, IATA - which represents nearly 290 airlines carrying 82 per cent of global air traffic - said there are reports about travellers refusing to wear masks when embarking on a flight.

While this is confined to a very small number of individuals, some on-board incidents have become violent, resulting in costly and extremely inconvenient diversions to offload these passengers, the agency added. Masks, when properly worn, can stem the spread of Covid-19 virus through the mouth by up to 90 per cent, according to a study by the University of Edinburgh.

Other measures taken by the aviation industry to ensure the safety of passengers include offering contactless check-in and

immigration facilities, regular sanitisation at airports and on aircraft and the use of contact tracing apps.

Governments around the world are gradually easing travel restrictions as they reopen their economies. However, demand for air travel has not picked up as industry experts had anticipated.

A survey carried out for IATA by Rockland Dutton Research in June found that fewer people were willing to fly than at the peak of movement restrictions in April.

More than eight in 10 people globally said they were concerned about catching the virus while travelling, the survey found. About 45 per cent of people said they expected to travel within two months, compared with 61 per cent in April.

Last week, IATA issued a 30-page airline self-assessment health checklist to help operators navigate through the pandemic. It covered everything from pre-arrival notifications to disembarkation procedures.

MFS Africa, MoneyGram partner to address demand for mobile wallets

JOHANNESBURG

PAN-AFRICAN cross-border payment services provider MFS Africa has partnered with MoneyGram, a global player in cross-border P2P payments and money transfers, enabling MoneyGram to extend the reach of its service across Africa.

MFS Africa provides its partners with this reach via its digital payments hub, which it touts as "the largest and most interconnected payments platform in Africa." According to the companies, the partnership creates a convenient, cost-effective, and secure African transaction channel for MoneyGram's global customer base.

Dare Okoudjou, founder and CEO of MFS Africa, commented on the partnership: "MoneyGram is a prominent name in global payments, and we're really excited to help them open up Africa to the international mobile money market. In Africa mobile money has already been a massive driver of financial inclusion and entrepreneurship, but cross-border payments are inhibited. There's a patchwork of different regulatory regimes to navigate, as well as the distinct technical infrastructure that each telco, money transfer operator, and digital wallet uses.

"We're looking forward to bringing our local and regional expertise together with MoneyGram's global customer base to make transfers in and out of the continent far easier. Just in July we processed 2.5 million transactions, and with partnerships such as this one and our acquisition of Beyonic earlier this year we are gearing up to make it easier for more consumers and businesses to transfer money within, into, and beyond Africa."

According to MoneyGram it experienced a significant acceleration in the growth of its global account deposit and mobile wallet transactions, with July 2020 seeing transactions increase by 165% year-on-year (compared to its second quarter year-on-year growth of 148%).

"Our digital business has seen amazing growth over the past several years, and these new partnerships are important milestones as we execute our strategy to accelerate digital growth by expanding access to mobile wallet capabilities," said Kamila Chytil, MoneyGram Chief Operating Officer and leader of the company's digital business. "Customer demand for mobile wallets has increased significantly over the last few years and with the onset of the global pandemic, the launch of these strategic partnerships is more important than ever."

In June this year MFS Africa acquired Beyonic, a digital payments management provider of business services for SMEs, Fintechs, and social impact entities across Africa. The companies said the deal will provide the growing micro, small, and medium enterprise segment across Africa with the ability to manage digital transactions with individuals and businesses around the world.



Dare Okoudjou, founder and CEO of MFS Africa.

Norway's \$1.2tn wealth fund's CEO on fighting unpopularity

OSLO

AFTER months of drama and doubt, Nicolai Tangen is finally set to become the chief executive of Norway's \$1.2 trillion wealth fund. He says staying cool in the face of unpopularity was key.

The 54-year-old will start running the world's biggest sovereign investor on September 1. To secure the job, Mr Tangen had to strike a last-minute deal to give up the hedge fund he founded - AKO Capital - after parliament balked at the potential conflict of interest.

For months, Mr Tangen has had his face splashed all over Norwegian media as union bosses, politicians and academics listed why he was the wrong man to run their nation's wealth fund. His life as a London-based hedge fund manager, his vast personal wealth - average Norwegians would never be able to identify with him - and his hobnobbing with the world's jet-set elite made him an easy target for his critics.

Mr Tangen says that, had he known months ago what he knows now, he might not have applied for the job. But he also suggests that pleasing everyone all the time can be a path to failure. Mr Tangen draws on his experience as an investor as a reference point. "You need to be used to, and capable of, being unpopular," he said from Oslo. His new role has brought him to the Norway's capital city from London.

"When you're an asset manager, you need to be used to the fact that people don't agree with your investments," he said. "If they do, it's usually not a very good investment." He said the chief quality of a good asset manager is to be able to shift gears when the world changes, so that's what Mr Tangen did.

The financier, whose personal fortune is estimated at about \$793 million, has fallen out of favour in Norway before. In Kristiansand - a pleasant coastal town where Tangen grew up - he wanted to rebuild an old corn silo to make room for his vast collection of 20th-century Nordic art. He managed to secure 100m kroner (\$11m) in municipal funds to pay for the project.

The backlash was swift. Local media carried reports citing members of the political and business community who called it a "misuse of public money" and a "scandal". The was alleged that Mr Tangen's ties to the local power brokers had brought him unfair advantages in securing the funding. A Facebook campaign against the project got local traction and conspiracy theories soon followed. But Mr Tangen prevailed and the new museum is due to be completed in 2022.

"I've got good practice in being unpopular with the debate on the art silo in Kristiansand," he said.

So when the world once again seemed united against Mr Tangen as he prepared to take on one of the most high-profile roles in global finance, he dug in his heels. He said he never "for one second" considered throwing in the towel.

For the wealth fund, Mr Tangen's appointment as chief executive is a clear win, according to its founding chief executive, Knut Kjaer. He's gone on the record to say he was genuinely worried that Norway wouldn't be able to find anyone of Mr Tangen's calibre, after Yngve Slyngstad decided to step down as chief executive with 12 successful years under his belt.

UNDP supports tour operators with ambulance to ensure tourists safety



Dr Aloyce Nzuki (2nd R) Permanent Secretary in the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry, and the UN Development Programme Resident Representative to Tanzania, Christine Musisi (3rd R), grace the launch of a rapid response ambulance at a ceremony held in Arusha City last week. Photo courtesy of Tato.

By Smart Money Reporter, Arusha

AS the country's tourism industry begins to recover with foreign arrivals increasing since June when the government lifted a temporary ban imposed on international airlines, United Nations Development Programme is backing efforts.

UNDP in the country has backed the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators financially by converting a Toyota Landcruiser donated by Tanganyika Wilderness Camps, into a state of the art ambulance that will be used to transport sick tourists from any wilderness to hospitals.

In addition, the UNDP funds also purchased much-needed Personal Protective Equipment to protect the tourists and Tato members serving them while on Safaris against the novel coronavirus outbreak.

Officials said the main objective of deploying the ambulances is to assure tourists that Tanzania is well prepared to act promptly in case of emergency and as part of the national plan to roll out a welcome mat for holidaymakers.

"Today will go down in history as the day that marks a unique pairing of the private sector and UNDP to compliment government efforts to assure tourists of their safety amidst the COVID-19 pandemic," said Natural Resources and Tourism Permanent Secretary, Dr Aloyce Nzuki.

Dr Nzuki who was speaking in Arusha last week during a ceremony

to unveil the official launch of the ambulance that has since been deployed in the Northern tourist circuit poured praises to TATO and UNDP for their strategic partnership which seeks to restore the tourism industry which has suffered heavily from Covid-19 outbreak.

Indeed, this initiative will be rolled out on a public-private partnership (PPP) model of which the government will provide paramedics and the private sector will offer ambulances. Christine Musisi, UNDP Resident Representative said cognizant of tourism industry as an accelerator of sustainable development, with potential to contribute towards several Sustainable Development Goals, the world body felt obliged to support the course.

"We are keen to continue supporting the government in the development of a comprehensive recovery plan for the tourism industry both on Tanzania Mainland and in Zanzibar," Musisi pledged during the ceremony.

In response, Tato which is a 37-year-old lobbying and advocacy body for the multi-billion dollar industry made of 300 plus members across the country, cherished UNDP and government's commitment to revive the struggling tourism industry.

"We in Tato are so grateful to UNDP for the much needed support, this will go a long way to support the responsible and timely recovery of the industry, a major foreign currency earner, on which thousands of small businesses and jobs depend on," said Tato CEO, Sirili Akko.

Akko said in addition, tourism provides 600,000 direct jobs to Tanzanians and over one million others earn an income from the industry saying as countries begin to lift lockdowns and tourism starts to recover, Tato will continue to work with UNDP and government to rejuvenate the industry.

Official statistics from the state show that over 30,000 tourists visited the country's national parks in July alone. Tanzania National Parks' Assistant Conservation Commissioner, in charge of Business Development portfolio, Beatrice Kessy said by August 17, the country had received over 18,000 tourists, an indication that recovery is speeding up.

Serengeti, Manyara and Kilimanjaro National Parks are leading in terms of receiving a lion's share of tourists, amid the Covid-19 pandemic, after having attracted 7,811, 1,987 and 1,676 tourists respectively. For instance, Tanapa's data indicates that in August, Ibanda and Mahale National Parks drew only seven and six visitors, respectively.

However, tourists visiting all 22 national parks countrywide have sharply dropped to just three immediately after Tanzania confirmed its first Covid-19 case in March this year. "National parks used to receive 1,000 plus visitors during the low season in the past," Kessy explained while attributing the current gradual upsurge of tourists visiting the country to a recovery plan, which the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism jointly devised in partnership with private sector as well as UNDP basing on World Tourism Organisation's guidelines.

Wildlife tourism has continued to grow in recent years with an average of nearly 1.5 million tourists visiting the country annually, earning the country US\$2.5 billion, equivalent to nearly 17.6 percent of gross domestic product, cementing its position as the country's leading foreign currency earner.

The ambulance is one of the four which have been converted and will be deployed in tourism famous areas of Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Kilimanjaro National Park and Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem.

Africa's richest man makes his biggest bet yet

LAGOS

ON a peninsula east of Lagos, 30,000 workers are employed on a project that holds out the promise of transforming Nigeria's economic fortunes.

It's here that Aliko Dangote (pictured), Africa's richest man, plans to spend more than his net worth of \$13.5 billion building one of the world's biggest oil refineries. If he succeeds, he could end the irony of Africa's biggest oil producer importing \$7 billion of fuel a year, and instead see it meeting its own needs and supplying neighbouring nations.

The collapse in the oil price and Nigeria's woeful track record on industrial projects are significant risk factors. Yet Dangote's bet has the potential to revolutionize Nigeria's economy, with its operations adding \$13 billion, or 2.3% to gross domestic product, according to a 2018 estimate by Renaissance Capital. Central Bank Governor Godwin Emefiele has said that the project could employ more than 70,000 people when operational.

"Yes, the risks are high, the challenges are high," said Devakumar Edwin, chief executive officer of the refinery complex, who's worked with the billionaire for about three decades. "But the rewards are also high."

The site is stacked with superlatives. Nigeria's largest-ever industrial project, it boasts a distillation column for separating crude into various fuels at different temperatures that is the largest of its kind in the world. The 650,000 barrel-per-day refinery is just part of a \$15 billion petrochemical complex that will also house a gas processor and the world's biggest plant for ammonia and urea, which is used in making plastics and fertilizer.

Still, Nigeria's previous attempts at motor fuel self-sufficiency have come to nothing. Its four state-owned refineries, opened in the 1970s, ran at a fraction of capacity before they were closed in January for a revamp. An initial attempt by Dangote to enter the refining business foundered. In 2007 he bought one of the state plants only to see that privatization swiftly reversed by a new government.

Earlier efforts to use industrial development as a way of cutting the country's dependence on oil have mostly fallen short. Nigeria has sunk at least \$5 billion into the Ajaokuta steel mill project on the banks of the Niger River since 1979, and it still isn't in production. "As a symbol of Nigerian progress it's quite important," Charles Robertson, chief economist at Renaissance in London, said of the Dangote refinery.

Nigeria needs all the help it can get. The nation is reeling from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the record plunge in oil, which accounts for more than 90% of its foreign exchange earnings. It has been forced to devalue its currency, the naira, twice since March, and take its first-ever loan from the International Monetary Fund, which forecasts a 5.4% economic contraction this year.

Even for Dangote, who has built a business empire that includes cement factories around Africa and owns assets ranging from sugar mills to salt refining facilities, the petrochemical complex is ambitious.



"Nigeria will soon become the biggest and only urea exporter in sub-Saharan Africa for the first time," Dangote said in March. "And we are not only exporting, we are exporting big time." Fertilizer exports alone will generate about \$2.5 billion in revenue annually, he said. Roads and jetties had to be built to carry heavy cargoes, while a quarry with the capacity to store 10 million tons of granite was dug solely for the project.

The company has opened talks with oil producers for the supply of crude to the refinery, although it hopes that within two years of beginning operations as much as 100,000 barrels a day will come from two oilfields it bought from Royal Dutch Shell Plc, Edwin said. It's "a game-changing development for regional supply," said Jeremy Parker, an analyst at Citac, a London-based consultancy on the oil refining and distribution business in Africa.

It also benefits from government backing. "We are encouraging every participant to establish refineries in this country," Mele Kyari, group managing director of the state-owned Nigeria National Petroleum Corp, said on Tuesday. The aim is that in two-to-three years "you will see a country that will become a hub of producing petroleum products," he said.

Still, the project has been hit by delays with the initial opening date having been projected to be 2016, then 2019. Edwin said in a webinar on Thursday that the start of operations will now be pushed back to late 2021 due to the coronavirus. Citac says the facility is unlikely to start before 2023.

A flame rises from a gas flare torch column at the under-construction Dangote Industries Ltd. oil refinery and fertilizer plant site in the Ibeju Lekki district, outside of Lagos, Nigeria, on Friday, March 6, 2020.

It's also entering a very competitive market at a time when refining margins are being squeezed by the collapse in oil prices. In July, profit margins for refineries were at their lowest since 2010 and Patrick Pouyannet, the chairman of Total SA, described them as "absolutely catastrophic."

To be successful, the refinery will also need to displace the cartels that have dominated Nigeria's fuel-import business for more than two decades, a source of wealth for the politically connected and motivation for the continuing dysfunction of domestic refineries.

Yet once up and running, it could be a strong symbol of industrial progress in a country that has had many false dawns in its quest to lessen its dependence on crude oil. "It tips the balance in a country that is at heart very entrepreneurial," said Antony Goldman, founder and chief executive officer of Promedia Consulting, a political risk consultancy firm. It says Nigerians "we can make money from making things work."

VIEW FROM THE TOP

KRA avoids approval in raising fuel, beer taxes

NAIROBI

THE Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) will increase the taxes of at least 31 products, including fuel, bottled water, juice and beer in October, escaping the need to seek Treasury and Parliament approval in January for the increment. The taxman will increase the costs of the products by at least 5.43 percent, which will be a blow to consumers already hurt by job cuts and unpaid leave in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Analysts and consumers expected the KRA to review the prices in January in line with a new law, which takes effect at the start of next year and requires the taxman to seek the approval of Treasury Cabinet Secretary and Parliament for the new inflation tax. Under the current law, the KRA Commissioner-General only needs to issue a legal notice stating the adjustment for the new tax to become effective.

The tax increase will hit consumers hard as households and traders reel from the impact of the coronavirus disease, which has reduced purchasing power due to job cuts and movement restrictions, forcing businesses to cut down their activities.

"The Commissioner General will adjust the rates of excise duty using the average inflation rate for the financial year 2019/2020, as

determined by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. The adjusted rates will be effective from 1st October 2020," KRA Commissioner General Githii Mburu said in the notice.

The October review means that the KRA will unilaterally impose the new inflation tax, avoiding MPs who have been hesitant to approve new taxes on basic products like petrol.

The KRA will be required to seek the approval of the Treasury Cabinet Secretary before making the specific excise rate adjustment, and thereafter the legal notice will be taken to Parliament within seven days of publication for consideration.

Parliament will, within 28 sitting days of receiving the notice, decide whether to approve or reject the inflation adjustment under changes to the law made in June and which will apply from January 1. The KRA reckons it will seek the approvals in the next round of review next year.

Inflation adjustment tax was introduced in 2018 and is seen as a means of protecting the government's spending power from erosion by rising cost of living and avoid seeking MPs' nod for higher retail prices.

Super petrol was expected to increase by Sh1.12 at the pump as dealers' inflation adjusted excise duty rises to Sh22.05 a litre from the current Sh20.92. Kerosene and



KRA commissioner general Githii Mburu.

diesel prices were set to increase by Sh0.60 a litre.

Fuel prices have a big effect on inflation because Kenya's economy depends heavily on diesel and petrol for transport, power generation and agriculture, while kerosene is used in many households for cooking and lighting. Excise duty on beer will increase Sh6 a litre with the tax currently at Sh110.62 a litre or Sh55.31 a bottle, giving Kenya one of the highest rates of taxation on alcohol on the continent.

The excise on spirits is set to go up by about Sh13.40 per litre from Sh253 per litre, while wine will attract an additional Sh10.41 tax from the current Sh189 per litre. Firms like East African Breweries Limited have been increasing beer prices by Sh10 per bottle in response to the inflation-adjusted tax.

The listed brewer reported a 39 per cent drop in profit to Sh7 billion for the year ended June on reduced sales following the closure of bars and hotels to limit spread of Covid-19 and has warned of tax-induced drop in beer

demand. Tax experts, however, reckon that the KRA may not raise the targeted amounts from the increase in excise duty on beer and spirits.

"But even if you charge the rates in October, are you going to collect as much because most of the bars are still closed?" Nikhil Hira, a tax consultant at Nairobi law firm Bowmans Coulson Harney LLP posed. Other items that are set to attract higher taxation include cigarettes, fruit juices and motorcycles.

Lovers of cigars will pay Sh685 more for a kilogramme of the smoke. The Treasury is betting that the inflation tax and removal of a range of tax exemptions including for oil and gas exploration, hiring of helicopters and purchase of planes as well as importation of cars and tractors, will help to make up for revenue lost to the impact of the pandemic crisis.

As well as a drop in tax collection caused by reduced business activities in the wake of Covid-19, Kenya also cut the corporate and personal income tax rates in April to boost demand and help firms keep workers on their payrolls. For the Treasury and KRA, the new system simplifies the tax system since the increments are automatic and do not require any additional approval from Parliament because it is already in law.

WORLD

Israeli, US officials on historic flight to UAE to formalise deal

TEL AVIV

TOP aides to US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made a historic first flight from Tel Aviv to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) yesterday to finalize a pact marking open relations between the Gulf power and Israel.

Even before discussions start in Abu Dhabi, the delegates made aviation history when the Israeli commercial airliner flew over Saudi territory on the direct flight from Tel Aviv to the UAE capital.

"That's what peace for peace looks like," Netanyahu tweeted, describing a deal for formal ties with an Arab state that does not entail handover of land that Israel captured in a 1967 war.

Flight data website Flightradar24 showed the El Al flight ELY971 crossing the Jordanian-Saudi Arabian border about 25 minutes after take off, crossing into the Al Jawf Province in northern

Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia - the birthplace of Islam and home to its holiest shrines - does not recognise Israel.

Announced on Aug 13, the normalization deal is the first such accommodation between an Arab country and Israel in more than 20 years and was catalyzed largely by shared fears of Iran.

Palestinians were dismayed by the UAE's move, worried that it would weaken a long-standing pan-Arab position that called for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory - and acceptance of Palestinian statehood - in return for normal relations with Arab countries.

Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law, Jared Kushner, and national security adviser Robert O'Brien head the U.S. delegation. The Israeli team is led by O'Brien's counterpart, Meir Ben-Shabbat. Officials will explore bilateral cooperation in areas such as commerce and tourism, and Israeli defense envoys are due to visit the



Senior U.S. Presidential Adviser Jared Kushner and U.S. National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien pose with members of the Israeli-American delegation in front of the El Al's flight LY971, which will carry the delegation from Tel Aviv to Abu Dhabi at Ben Gurion Airport, near Tel Aviv, Israel yesterday. REUTERS

UAE separately.

"I prayed yesterday at the (Western) Wall that Muslims and Arabs throughout the world will be watching this flight, recognizing that we are all children of God, and that the future does not have to be pre-determined by the past," Kushner told reporters on the tarmac at Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion airport.

Israeli officials hope the two-day trip will produce a date for a Washington signing ceremony, perhaps as early as September, between Netanyahu and Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan.

FOREIGN POLICY BOOST

That could give Trump a foreign policy boost ahead of his re-election bid in November.

The Trump administration has tried to coax other Sunni Arab countries concerned about Iran to engage with Israel. The most powerful of those, Saudi Arabia, while opening its airspace to the El Al flight,

has signaled it is not ready.

In Abu Dhabi, several people were injured on Monday in an explosion that was likely caused by gas lines in a restaurant, police said. Abu Dhabi-owned the National daily reported that the blast hit KFC and Hardees restaurants. In a second incident, one person was killed when a gas cylinder exploded in a Dubai restaurant, local media reported.

With the word "peace" printed in Arabic, English and Hebrew above a cockpit window, the El Al Boeing 737 took off for Abu Dhabi from Tel Aviv, a flight of about 3 hours and 20 minutes, the pilot announced to passengers.

Like all El Al 737s, the aircraft was equipped with an anti-missile system, an Israeli spokesman said, and carried security agents of the US Secret Service and the Israeli Shin Bet to guard the delegations.

Hanan Ashrawi, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's executive committee, said Kushner and his team were "scrambling to convince as

UN says life of Congo's Nobel Laureate doctor in danger

GENEVA

THE life of a top Congolese doctor who won the Nobel Peace prize for his work treating war rape victims is in danger after a series of death threats, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said on Friday.

The threats, received in the form of phone calls to Dr. Denis Mukwege and his family as well as via social media, appeared to be linked to his outspoken criticism of violence against women and other human rights violations, another U.N. official said.

"His life seems to be at serious risk," High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said in a statement, calling for an impartial investigation into the threats.

Mukwege (pictured) received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018 for his work as a gynaecologist at the Panzi hospital which receives thousands of women each year, many of them requiring surgery from sexual violence.

The hospital is located in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo where ethnic violence is rife, involving various militia and armed groups, as well as counter-operations by the army.

He has received death threats before and survived an assassination attempt in his family compound in 2012.

"The threats appear to be linked to his advocacy and the very robust positions he has taken on accountability, on protection of women as a result of what he has seen over two decades in the Panzi hospital," said Rupert Colville, a spokesman at Bachelet's office, adding that he had also recently criticized civilian attacks in South Kivu.

Congo's government is officially responsible for Mukwege's protection, although the UN peacekeeping mission in the country also provides some, Colville said. However, questions remain about the quality of his protection, he said, adding he needed 24 hour surveillance.

President Felix Tshisekedi last week called on his government to take all necessary measures to ensure his security and to open inquiries into the threats against him.

Agencies

Japan's LDP to 'hold leadership vote on Sept 14' to pick PM

TOKYO

JAPAN'S ruling Liberal Democratic Party plans to hold a leadership vote on Sept. 14 to replace Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who is stepping down due to ill health, local media reported yesterday.

The new party leader will become the country's next prime minister, due to the party's parliamentary majority, with four possible candidates vying for the position.

Abe (pictured), Japan's longest-serving premier, told US President Donald Trump earlier on Monday that the strengthening of their two nations' alliance would be maintained even after he leaves office, a Japanese government spokesman said.

But Abe's successor will face a daunting list of economic, diplomatic and security issues.

In the race to succeed Abe as the next prime minister, former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba is the most popular choice among the public, media opinion polls showed.

But Ishiba, a vocal Abe critic, could face an uphill battle if he does declare his candidacy, with local media reporting Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga was set to receive the backing of several major factions within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Suga, one of major contenders for next premier, has indicated he would stand in the ruling LDP leadership election, a source with direct knowledge of the matter



said yesterday.

Suga said he would consider running in the election after 14 LDP lawmakers visited his parliamentary office and asked him to join the race, the source said.

Suga declined to comment on Monday when asked about the LDP leadership race at his regular news conference as the government's top spokesman.

Ishiba - who unsuccessfully challenged the out-going premier in the last LDP leadership race in 2018 and is considered less popular within the party - has yet to declare whether he will run.

LDP policy chief Fumio Kishida, who has announced his intention to stand, came in last place in both of the public opinion surveys.

Kishida voiced caution on Monday over the idea of cutting the sales tax rate to help the economy weather the hit from the coronavirus pandemic.

Brad Glosserman, deputy director of the Center for Rule-Making Strategies at Tama University, said Suga was the safe bet in terms of internal LDP dynamics, but might not be ideal come

election time. A general election must be held by late October 2021.

"He doesn't seem to have either the charisma or the vision to push Japan in a new direction. He seems to be the eternal Number Two - he delivers on promises made by his boss," said Glosserman.

Abe announced on Friday he was resigning because of poor health, his long-running battle with ulcerative colitis ending his tenure as Japan's longest-serving prime minister.

Japan does not elect its leader by direct popular vote. Under the country's parliamentary political system, lawmakers elect a prime minister.

Xinhua

China-US divergences not about power contest, says Wang Yi

PARIS

THE divergences between China and the United States are not about power, status or social system, but about the choices of multilateralism or unilateralism, win-win cooperation or a zero-sum game, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here on Sunday.

Wang (pictured) made the remarks when responding to a question by Thierry de Montbrial, president of French Institute of International Relations, about how to avoid the so-called "new Cold War" between China and the United States.

China's position is very clear, which is that all countries are equal members of the international community and enjoy the right to their own development, Wang said.

"We congratulate the United States on its pioneered development. But China also has the right to development and the Chinese people have the right to live a happy life. Our brothers and sisters in other

emerging economies and developing countries, including Africa, feel the same way. It is a very legitimate claim and very reasonable one," Wang said.

The top Chinese diplomat noted that China has always believed and maintained that the world is moving towards multi-polarity and that international relations also need democratization.

A healthy and stable world should not be dictated by just one or two countries. The sovereign equality of states is a fundamental principle of the Charter of the United Nations. As a world power, the United States should adopt an inclusive attitude towards the development of other countries and realize that the people of other countries have the same right to a better life as the American people, he said.

"If all the seven billion people in the world can move towards modernization, it will be a huge step forward for the human society as a whole," he noted.

Wang added that the United States



may be reluctant to give up its global dominance, but the tide of history is inexorable. "We firmly believe that the day of common development of mankind will come. China never wants a 'new Cold War' with anyone, and in the era of globalization, there is no room for a 'Cold War' as it is impossible to divide the world into two or three factions."

Countries have become so interconnected as a community of shared interests that the future should see the world working together to build a community of shared future for mankind, as has been proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Resist hatred

China and the European Union (EU) should jointly resist the adverse

tides of hatred and confrontation instigation, and stand firmly on the right side of history, Wang said.

Wang said the world has been undergoing changes which have rarely seen in a century, and the unexpected COVID-19 outbreak undoubtedly accelerated the changes.

"Currently, COVID-19 is eroding human life and health. The world has fallen into a deep recession. Global governance is facing serious dilemmas with huge tides of unemployment, bankruptcies and supply chain disruptions as well as the ever growing deficits in governance, development and trust," Wang said.

Facing the changes and the pandemic rarely seen in a century, mankind faces again the key choice of whether to go forward or backward, unite or divide, open up or close up, he said.

Anyone who attempts to go against the rolling trend of the times will be unpopular and can not go far, Wang said.

China-EU partnership

Although China and the European

Union (EU) have different social systems, they should be comprehensive strategic partners rather than institutional rivals, Wang said.

Wang that China and the EU should further strengthen solidarity and cooperation, press the "reset button" for dialogue and cooperation in various fields, give full play to the "twin engines," and inject a strong impetus into international solidarity and cooperation.

He added that China and the EU should strive to build a partnership from the following four perspectives: building a partnership against COVID-19 and promote cooperation in post-epidemic economic recovery, strengthening investment partnership for mutual benefit and win-win results, building a green and digital partnership and expand new growth areas for bilateral cooperation, and deepening multilateral cooperative partnership and strengthen bilateral cooperation in international affairs. Xinhua

New business models of Internet economy flourishing in Shanghai

SPREADING batter, adding egg, brushing sauce, and packing, a Chinese chef surnamed Gao finished making an appetizing jianbingguozi, a popular Chinese pancake, in less than two minutes.

Gao handed the jianbingguozi to his assistant, who glanced at the computer screen and then put the food into one of the containers of a thermal cabinet.

After no more than one minute, the food was taken by

a man surnamed Li who had just came out of the subway and scanned a QR code on the cabinet.

The above happened at a store of Hexiaoma in Shanghai, a breakfast store of Alibaba's grocery chain Hema Xiansheng. The store is located at the B2 floor of a shopping mall near an exit of the World Expo Museum Station of Line 13 of the Shanghai Metro in Huangpu district.

Consisting of a breakfast stall

and an automatic thermal cabinet, the store sells breakfast on site and also allows consumers to place orders online.

"I placed the order two stops in advance, so I got my steaming breakfast when I just arrived at the store," said Li.

"It's so convenient. Now I can enjoy freshly made breakfast even if I slept a little longer in the morning," he added.

In recent years, Shanghai has grasped the opportunities gener-

ated by the booming internet economy and enabled the over 20 million residents in the megacity to enjoy a wonderful and convenient life benefited by flourishing online platforms and ever-changing modern technologies.

"The blue marks indicate the real-time position of the couriers, while the yellow ones are their next destinations. The red marks suggest delivery delays," Li Wei, a staff member of

e-commerce grocery platform Dingdong Maicai, introduced to People's Daily, pointing to an electronic map. More than 200 marks are distributed within a 3-kilometer radius on the map.

Li, who is in charge of a distribution center of the platform on Songhong Road of Shanghai's Changning district, couldn't take his eyes off the map as a rain was about to drop at 10:00 am that day and lunch orders were flocking in. At the same time, 11

sorters were busy packing while 17 deliverymen were rushing in the rain to send products to the customers.

"Hello, we are sorry to tell you that your vegetables might arrive five minutes late because of the heavy rain," Wang Yaxu, a deliveryman of the distribution center explained to a client over the phone as the delivery time of the order was about to exceed the 29-minute time limit promised by the platform.

"That's all right. Be careful on the road," said the customer, a woman surnamed Chen who had shift grocery shopping to the online platform after the COVID-19 outbreak.

In fact, Chen had doubted whether it was a good idea to buy vegetables online at first, for she thought it would be much better to make a purchase after comparing the goods on site like she had done over the past decades. People's Daily

Lebanon's leaders agree on new PM before Macron visit

BEIRUT

LEBANON'S ambassador to Germany Mustapha Adib is set to be designated prime minister yesterday ahead of a visit to Beirut by the French president who will press for long-delayed reforms to steer the Middle East nation out of its deep crisis.

Hariri's Future Movement, the powerful Iranian-backed Shi'ite party Hezbollah and the Progressive Socialist Party led by Druze politician Walid Jumblatt were among the first to nominate Adib in formal consultations hosted by President Michel Aoun yesterday.

The bloc "informed President Aoun of its agreement to the nomination of Mustapha Adib and we expressed our readiness for positive cooperation",

Mohamed Raad, the head of its parliamentary bloc, said after a meeting with the president.

Emmanuel Macron, who arrives late on Monday for his second visit in less than a month, has spearheaded international efforts to get Lebanon's fractious leaders to tackle the root causes of a financial meltdown that devastated the economy even before the Aug. 4 port blast killed 190 people.

With the economy on its knees, a swathe of Beirut in tatters and sectarian tensions rising, the former French protectorate is facing the biggest threat to its stability since a 1975-90 civil war.

Senior Lebanese officials said Macron's mediation was essential in securing agreement on a candidate in the 48 hours before consensus



Lebanon's ambassador to Germany Mustapha Adib

emerged on Adib. Last week, they were in complete deadlock who would be the next premier.

Adib's name surfaced on Sunday when he was nominated by former prime ministers, including Saad al-Hariri who heads Lebanon's biggest Sunni Muslim party. The post of prime minister must go to a Sunni under Lebanon's sectarian system.

Adib, who has been envoy to Berlin since 2013 and was adviser to a former prime minister, was set for an overwhelming majority of lawmakers.

Aoun, a Maronite Christian, must designate the candidate with greatest support among lawmakers. Adib appeared on course for

an overwhelming majority.

Senior Lebanese officials said Macron had pressed Lebanese leaders to agree on a candidate in the 48 hours before consensus emerged on Adib. Last week, Lebanese leaders were deadlocked over who should be the next prime minister.

The Lebanese Forces, a Christian group, looked like it would be the only major party not to support him. It backed another ambassador, Nawaf Salam, a choice strongly opposed by Hezbollah.

On top of the economic crisis, sectarian tensions erupted last week in a deadly shootout between Sunni and Shi'ites south of Beirut. **Xinhua**



Minni Minawi

Sudan signs historic peace deal with five rebel groups

JUBA

SUDAN'S power-sharing government signed a peace agreement with the country's five key rebel groups yesterday, a significant step towards resolving deep-rooted conflicts that raged under former leader Omar al-Bashir.

The civilian and military leaders sharing power following Bashir's overthrow in April 2019 say ending decades-long internal conflicts is a top priority of a 39-month transition.

The deal, signed in the South Sudanese capital Juba, offers rebel groups political representation and devolved powers, integration into the security forces, economic and land rights and the chance of return for displaced people.

The groups that signed include the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and Minni Minawi's Sudan Liberation Army (SLA), both of the western region of Darfur, and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) led by Malik Agar, present in South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

More than 300,000 people are estimated to have been killed and 2.5 million displaced after the conflict in Darfur spread after 2003 as government forces and mainly Arab militia moved to repress mostly non-Arab rebels.

South Kordofan and Blue Nile remained within Sudan when South Sudan seceded in 2011 and communities there complain of marginalisation by the government in Khartoum. **Agencies**

Biden condemns violence in Portland, as Trump doubles down on 'law and order' message

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC presidential nominee Joe Biden on Sunday condemned violence in Portland, Oregon after one man was fatally shot following clashes between rival protesters.

"The deadly violence we saw overnight in Portland is unacceptable. Shooting in the streets of a great American city is unacceptable. I condemn this violence unequivocally. I condemn violence of every kind by anyone, whether on the left or the right," Biden said in a statement. "And I challenge Donald Trump to do the same."

"We must not become a country at war with ourselves," the former U.S. president continued, while accusing his Republican rival, sitting President Donald Trump, of "fanning the flames of hate and division in our society and using the politics of fear to whip up his supporters."

"The job of a President is to lower the temperature. To bring people who disagree with one another together. To

make life better for all Americans, not just those who agree with us, support us, or vote for us," he added. "Donald Trump has been president for almost four years. The temperature in the country is higher, tensions run stronger, divisions run deeper."

The remarks came a day after a motorcade of Trump's supporters drove through downtown Portland, Oregon's largest city, and confronted with people opposing police brutality and racial injustice. Local police have said they are investigating the reported deadly shooting of one of the pro-Trump protesters amid the skirmishes.

"It is still early in this investigation, and I ask everyone to give the detectives time to do their important work before drawing conclusions about what took place," Portland Police Chief Chuck Lovell said in a statement. "This violence is completely unacceptable and we are working diligently to find and apprehend the individual or individuals responsible."

In a string of tweets on Sunday,



Trump fired off at Portland's Democratic Mayor Ted Wheeler, reiterating his "law and order" message, a central theme of his reelection bid.

"The people of Portland, like all other cities & parts of our great Country, want Law & Order," the president wrote. "Ted Wheeler, the wacky Radical Left Do Nothing Democrat Mayor of Portland, who has watched great death and destruction of his City during his tenure, thinks this lawless situa-

tion should go on forever." Wheeler, in a press conference Sunday afternoon, criticized Trump's stance on racial justice, saying that "it's you who has not found a way to say the names of black people killed by police officers."

The shooting also came amid demonstrations in Kenosha, Wisconsin in the wake of the Aug. 23 police shooting of 29-year-old African American man Jacob Blake, which grew chaotic and violent at times when a teenager shot and killed two protesters.

"What we can never have in America -- and must never allow -- is mob rule," Trump said in his speech accepting renomination from the White House on Thursday. "In the strongest possible terms, the Republican Party condemns the rioting, looting, arson and violence we have seen in Democrat-run cities like Kenosha, Minneapolis, Portland, Chicago, and New York."

White House spokesman Judd Deere said on Saturday that the president will visit Kenosha "on Tuesday to meet with local law enforcement and survey damage from the recent riots."

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers, a Democrat, sent a letter to Trump on Sunday, urging him to reconsider his trip to Kenosha. "I, along with other community leaders who have reached out, are concerned about what your presence will mean for Kenosha and our state," Evers wrote. "I am concerned your presence will only delay our work to overcome division and move forward together."

In late May, George Floyd died after a white police officer knelt on the 46-year-old African American man's neck for nearly nine minutes during an arrest in Minneapolis, Minnesota, which sparked nationwide demonstrations against what activists have described as police brutality and systemic racial inequality, as well as social unrest in some U.S. cities.

Biden has made race relations a pillar of his White House run in response to the movement, while Trump has focused on violent aspects of the demonstrations and doubled down on his support for police officers. **Xinhua**

China and US need to learn from experience, properly manage differences

CHINA-US ties have been put in the most difficult situation since the two countries established diplomatic relations, as some politicians in the U.S. have kept making false statements and groundless remarks against China.

They have viciously attacked the Communist Party of China (CPC) and China's political system and deliberately distorted and even attempted to write off the history of China-US relations for the past nearly 50 years.

The U.S. side's misconceptions and spiteful words and moves about China and China-US relations may lead to further deterioration of bilateral relations. The U.S. move to turn China into an adversary is a fundamental, strategic miscalculation, said Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Strategic miscalculations have caused serious consequences in the history of China-US relations. However, more often than not, the two sides have managed to prevent the situation from getting worse through wise and rational moves, in which some basic experience is still useful today.

It is important to keep communication channels open. During the Cold War period in the 1950s to 1960s, China and the U.S. could only communicate with each other with help of a third party or through various indirect ways.



Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai and U.S. President Richard Nixon shake hands at Nixon's arrival in Beijing, China, February 21, 1972. (File photo)

In the difficult situation, the two countries still managed to maintain the communication channel of ambassador talks, which had played a major role in solving some issues.

In 1971, Henry Kissinger, then National Security Advisor of U.S. President Richard Nixon, visited China. One year later, Nixon made an "ice-breaking" visit to China, enabling the two countries to conduct face-to-face conversations.

Later in 1979 when the two countries established diplomatic relations, China and the U.S. also carried out such dialogues.

The strategic dialogues and negotiations are considered sincere, in-depth, and successful,

and allowed China and the U.S. become closer after more than 20 years of estrangement since the founding of the People's Republic of China and build mutual trust in the initial stages.

The two countries are now in urgent need of new dialogues. By using various channels of dialogues, they are more likely to talk about their core interests and strategic intentions.

China has made it very clear that its door to dialogue remains open. As long as the U.S. is ready, China is willing to resume and restart dialogue mechanisms at all levels and in all fields at any time.

Disagreements may occur during the dialogues, but that's all

right—as long as the two parties sincerely hope to talk things over.

Empty shouts and finger-pointing will not solve the problems, but can cause new misunderstanding instead.

China and the U.S. need to maintain a rational and objective attitude towards each other and base their judgment on facts rather than ideological bias.

It is not easy, yet not impossible, for the two sides to always remain calm and objective, since the China-U.S. relations and international situation are so complex. Indeed, China and the U.S. have different ideologies. But that didn't prevent the Nixon administration from altering its policy toward China nor did it stop the U.S. government led by Jimmy Carter from normalizing China-U.S. ties.

"You believe deeply in your system, and we believe just as deeply in our system. It is not our common beliefs that have brought us together here, but our common interests and our common hopes," said Nixon while addressing the welcoming banquet for his first visit to China at the Great Hall of the People.

The normalization of China-US relations has not changed the social system and ideology of China or the U.S., but has enabled the two countries to overcome difficulties and obstacles and to advance the bilateral relationship. **People's Daily**

Portland Police declare gathering near city building as 'unlawful'

PORTLAND

PORTLAND Police late on Sunday declared a demonstration in the northeastern part of the city as an "unlawful gathering" and ordered crowds to disperse from an area near a building housing offices including the police, or risk facing arrest.

"To those near the Kelly Building, this has been declared an unlawful assembly due to criminal activity," Portland police wrote on Twitter bit.ly/3gKwGso.

"Failure to adhere to this order may subject you to arrest, citation, and/or the use of crowd control agents including, but not limited to, tear gas and/or impact weapons".

The overnight demonstration followed a fatal shooting amid weekend street clashes between supporters of President Donald



Trump and counter-demonstrators in downtown Portland.

Governor Kate Brown (pictured) said on Sunday night that Oregon State Police would send personnel and resources to Portland to help keep the situation in the city under control.

"We all must come together -- elected officials, community leaders, all of us -- to stop the cycle of violence," Governor Brown said in a statement which laid out plans to end the nightly protests. **Agencies**

Demonstrations against racism and police brutality have swept the United States since the death in May of George Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man who died after a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes.

Tensions between rival protest groups have roiled downtown Portland every night for nearly three months following Floyd's death.

Abe's resignation may lead to chill in Russia-Japan relations, expert says

MOSCOW

SHINZO Abe's resignation as Japanese prime minister may lead to a chill in relations between Moscow and Tokyo, head of the Department of Oriental Studies at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and a Valdai Discussion Club expert Dmitry Streltsov told TASS.

"Our relations will inevitably cool because Abe was one of the drivers behind efforts to boost ties, particularly political ones," he said. According to Streltsov, "any politician who will replace Abe will not be as active on this track and show as much enthusiasm. It will impact relations because they largely depend on the political atmosphere," the analyst pointed

ed out. Streltsov noted that Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party pursued a long-term strategy of balanced diplomacy. "It is particularly aimed at ensuring good relations with neighbors, including Russia. Any political leader will pay enough attention to the Russian track," he explained. **Agencies**

Experts concerned over UK's reshaping of its health organisations amid pandemic

LONDON

THE British government's plan to reshape its health organizations has aroused controversy in the country and its effect on Britain's capability to deal with public health emergencies is still unclear.

The government has announced that it will form a new organization, the National Institute for Health Protection (NIHP), which will bring together Public Health England (PHE) and NHS (National Health Service) Test and Trace, as well as the analytical capability of the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC) under a single leadership team from Aug. 18.

This move came as some local media reported that government minis-

ters have been "unhappy" with PHE's work in dealing with the pandemic.

Many experts within the field have pointed out that several of the PHE's functions, which include tackling obesity and smoking, risk being "sacrificed" as fighting the pandemic takes center-stage in NIHP's focus.

The government has said besides the COVID-19, the newly formed NIHP will also conduct surveillance of all infectious diseases, provide specialistic scientific advice on immunization and countermeasures and carry out emergency response and preparedness to deal with the most severe incidents at national and local level, etc.

"There's no doubt in our minds that pandemic planning, after what's

happened, has got to be a priority. However, there is so much more that Public Health England do," Elizabeth Toberty, a GP on the committee for Doctors' Association UK, told Xinhua.

Public Health England was created in 2013 with responsibilities including preparing and responding to health-related emergencies such as pandemics.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the body has been "criticised" for its handling of the crisis, according to local media.

But for Sharon White, CEO of the School and Public Health Nurses Association, the government should be looking at why it cut funding for the body in the first place -- and said staff have done all they can with limited

budgets.

"If you take the funding away, then tough decisions around PHE has to be made. And none of us are perfect, but it does come down to money," White said.

The PHE is an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care, and a distinct organization with operational autonomy. It provides government, local government, the NHS, Parliament, industry and the public with evidence-based professional, scientific expertise and support.

Having been a nurse for over 41 years, White described the timing of the reorganization as "poor". "To try and get the best out of people right now, by disbanding a huge structure,

I don't think it is going to get the optimum results at all," White said. Toberty said that further consultation was needed from the government over the move.

"For us, the Doctors' Association (UK), we've been very clear, and we have called for a judge-led public inquiry into what happened over the pandemic...However, our big concern is over the manner, in which this change (reorganization) is taking place," Toberty said.

The PHE currently employs around 5,500 staff, made up mostly of scientists, researchers and public health professionals.

Experts are concerned that many teams working under the PHE will be lost without the direction of the

body. "Without the direction of PHE we will struggle but it won't be totally doomed as I said, because you know, we have been through lots of reorganizations in our past and we will continue to work as hard and as productive as possible, but it will impact what we do and how we work without that direction," White said.

For many within the PHE, the pace at which the move is happening with the NIHP, which will be formalized and operating from spring 2021, is of concern.

"We need to do this with an inquiry. We need to do this with the evidence knowing what exactly it is we're trying to improve," Toberty said.

Xinhua

The
Guardian

SPORT



Dallas Mavericks' Maxi Kleber (42) fouls Los Angeles Clippers' Ivica Zubac (40) during the second half of an NBA first round playoff game Sunday, Aug. 30, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. (AP Photo)

Leonard leads Clippers past Doncic, Mavericks to reach second round

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla.

THE Los Angeles Clippers knocked him around and shut his teammates down, and still Luka Doncic kept coming.

Kawhi Leonard wasn't worried, because nothing rattles him in the postseason.

"This is playoff basketball and everything is not going to go your way," Leonard said. "You're going to have downs and ups. Just got to keep playing."

Now his team will keep playing into the second round.

Leonard had 33 points and 14 rebounds and the Clippers eliminated Doncic and the Dallas Mavericks with a 111-97 victory Sunday in Game 6 of the first-round series.

Doncic capped a superb first postseason with 38 points, nine rebounds and nine assists, keeping it interesting into the fourth quarter even while playing without injured teammate Kristaps Porzingis.

But with Leonard reaching the 30-point mark for his career-best fifth straight playoff game and a strong defensive effort, the Clippers simply had too many answers.

"I'm proud of our team, how we fight," Doncic said. "I think we fight until the end. The Clippers have an amazing team so it was hard, but I think we gave everything."

The No. 2 seed in the Western Conference advanced to a second-round meeting with either Denver or Utah. The sixth-seeded Jazz were trying to close that series out in six games later Sunday.

Paul George and Ivica Zubac added 15 points apiece for the Clippers, who turned up their defense in this one after winning Game 5 with the best offensive performance in their postseason history, when they shot 63% and romped to a 154-111 victory.

Perhaps it was too much to ask to be that sharp again after a four-day layoff, but they didn't need to be even while playing most of the game without starting forward Marcus Morris, who was ejected for a flagrant foul against Doncic in the first quarter.

Leonard also had seven assists and five steals. The Clippers said he was the first player in at least the last 20 postseasons with 30 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and five steals in a game.

"You can tell he was the one guy that shoots to close out a series," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "He was calm. He got us in place."

The Mavericks had only two field goals in the first six minutes of the third quarter, both by Doncic, and by the time he made the second the Clippers had opened the half with a 20-3 run that turned a six-point lead into a 77-54 lead.

But Doncic wouldn't quit, with a 3-pointer and two three-point plays in the final 1:28 to cut it to 85-74.

He made another 3 that trimmed it to 88-82 with 9:27 to play but Dallas couldn't get any closer. Los Angeles began putting the ball in Leonard's hands and he delivered with eight straight Clippers points before consecutive 3-pointers by Reggie Jackson pushed it to 105-89.

Dallas was in its first postseason since 2016 but quickly learned about the physicality, mixing it up with Morris on multiple occasions.

The Clippers led by two when Morris was ejected for swinging his arm down and striking a driving Doncic in the head or neck area. The Clippers picked up their defense in the second period, limiting the Mavs to 17 points and 33.3%

shooting to open a 57-51 advantage at the break. Meanwhile, the Jamal Murray-Donovan Mitchell duel will be settled in the first Game 7 in the bubble.

Murray extended his torrid run with 50 more points, leading the Denver Nuggets to a 119-107 victory over the Utah Jazz on Sunday night.

Murray had his second 50-point game of the series to equal Mitchell, who finished with 44 in this one. No player has ever had more in an entire postseason.

They will go at it one more time Tuesday night, with the winner advancing to face the Los Angeles Clippers, who finished off the Dallas Mavericks in six games on the same court a few hours earlier.

Murray and his teammates are trying to become the 12th team to rally from a 3-1 deficit to win a series and the first since 2016, when the Cleveland Cavaliers completed the only one of those comebacks that came in the NBA Finals.

"They believe in me, I believe in them and we're trying to be this 12th team to come back from down 3-1," said Murray, whose right sneaker had a picture of George Floyd and his left Breonna Taylor, two Black people killed by police this spring.

Mitchell was disappointed the Jazz had missed a chance to wrap up the series in Game 5, but understands the interest in seeing he and Murray square off in the ultimate contest.

"As a fan perspective I see it and I respect it, but I can't tell you as a player that I want to play Game 7 if we're up 3-1," he said. "I don't think anybody wants to do that but we're here, so play the hand that you're dealt and we're going to go out there and execute and do what we've got to do."

The Nuggets won the opener, but the Jazz won the next three games and were in good shape to finish it in Game 5, holding a 15-point lead in the third quarter.

Murray led the charge back in that game, finishing with 42 points, and then was a sizzling 17 of 24 in Game 6, going 9 for 12 behind the 3-point arc.

"Last game he got to the rim and we wanted to take that away. Other than trapping him, we're trying to make him hit contested shots and he's doing that," Utah coach Quin Snyder said.

Mitchell also hit nine 3-pointers and increased what was the NBA's top-scoring average in these playoffs at 37.6 points per game.

In the fourth quarter alone, Murray outscored Mitchell 21-17, helping prevent the Jazz from ever getting close enough to have a real chance of finishing the series.

Murray had a little more help, with Nikola Jokic scoring 22 points and Jerami Grant adding 18.

Mike Conley had 21 points for the Jazz, but Rudy Gobert and Jordan Clarkson were each only held to 11.

A seventh game between the third-seeded Nuggets and No. 6 Jazz seems fitting. Though Denver won all three meetings during the regular season, the total margin was just 11 points.

The Jazz came into the day topping all teams in the postseason in field goal percentage and 3-point percentage, and ranking third in scoring with 121.8 points per game. And they looked early as if they would eclipse all those numbers.

AP

Other clubs left out as social media make the country a city rivals' talking shop

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

CULTURAL roots for diversified development of soccer in the country do not seem to be on the way to be consolidated by widespread use of social media, which could have been counted upon as a fall back element to develop new sources of soccer enthusiasm in the country.

Limited communications prevent the formation of local loyalties as the few available means of communication are overly dominated by the national centre, which in a sporting context is the rivalry between Simba SC and Young Africans SC (Yanga).

The past weekend was an illustration of how dominant the two clubs are, with all ears tuned to two stadiums.

What is happening with social media would also have been noticed with community radios on the one hand with their regional anchoring or at times some selected urban areas and rural proximities, that they have not changed outlooks in those areas.

This distinction between a national outlook and regional loyalties is rooted in history, where for a period in the past Tanzanians seemed capable of manifesting keen regional sporting loyalties, when there was room for regions to compete rather than equal footing.

Times changed, the focus of governance was permanently concentrated in the centre, for most purposes.

There have been efforts in the past to develop a regional sense of development for instance, implying that regions take greater initiative in what is happening and push implementing organs to maintain the pace. This could scarcely sink any roots as initiative requires ability not just to muster but control resources, and with most such fields directly under state and allied control like centrally supervised cooperatives, sources of sporting competition among regions steadily declined.

Again there was tension as to how far regional roots ought to be carried into sports and be allowed to shine, if it will not sow seeds of division.

Listening to some music legends, one



Simba SC players celebrate with the Charity Shield after cruising to a 2-0 win over Namungo FC in the coming Premier League season's opener, which took place in Arusha on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

still hears the jubilation with Morogoro winning the Taifa Cup tournament in 1970, and then Kigoma won the same tournament in 1973, and in both instances the yield in players changed the scene with the city rivals.

As champions in 1970 it was Yanga who gained most from the Morogoro newly discovered talent, while the 1973 achievement was created off mainly by the resurgent Simba side.

And surprisingly it was also at this time that the clubs developed 'swollen feet' and split in the mid and late '70s, with Pan-African FC and Red Star briefly coming up, then swallowed.

What happened in the mid-1970s was in the course of being repeated in the past decade when the company format was being hotly debated in the two clubs, with almost identical itineraries and modes of conclusion of the debate.

In both clubs it was club elders

who resisted most the shift from a membership-ordered club where the leadership held all the keys and sponsors more or less brought the cash to the leaders, to a situation where the sponsors themselves govern.

This model has trudged towards usability in Simba SC and veering on

confusion in their archrivals' camp, but this situation is of no real consequence.

Thanks to social media, club support especially for the Jangwani Street outfit seems to be overflowing - despite palpable organisational chaos visible from the outside, so long as theatrics like big signings and equally dubious battles about such signings continue.

These moves and counter moves and dramatic pursuits of appeals and objections right up to international soccer organization and even its court of appeal, Court of Arbitration in Sport, was of late feeding chocking gossip in social media and sports pages, not to speak of specialized sports newspapers.

Other sporting items helped to fill the pages - and perhaps the 'bytes' of social media - while the 'big battle' revolved around a botched signing from Ghana by Yanga, to formally lose the player to their next street rivals.

It can be said that the amount of puffing and sweating around this single signing would have been enough to register another club, get supporters in the city and elsewhere, and start preparing for the premier league. It was an avalanche of interventions.

There was still a sign of life in football generally as despite that they have 90

per cent of active soccer support in the country as loyalties shared between the city rivals, their capacities are not exactly in tune with that kind of strength.

They have an advantage in signing players, as hardly any other club has their depth of pockets and zeal about signings, but as it is elsewhere, signing is not what makes a team but - yes, teamwork.

For lack of formulas about how to organize teamwork and excel and indeed on account of being glued to the big names, the city rivals grab all attention, leave other premier league sides out in the cold to depend on their institutional backers rather than individuals, but often teach them a thing or two on the pitch.

When this happens, it reignites the rivalry as the failing side has to change the coach, et seq.

Aces A side bounces bounce back in 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial tourney

By Guardian Reporter

ACES A cricket team have bounced back in the 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A with a hard fought one-wicket victory over Gymkhana A outfit in a thrilling match, held in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Jumanne Mohamed put stellar displays with the bat as Aces A team gallantly chased Gymkhana A side's total and grabbed the much needed victory.

Gymkhana A outfit raced to 163 runs all out in 46.4 overs once they won the toss and opted to bat first in the clash, which took place at their backyard, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club oval.

The squad's ability to post the respectable score owes much to solid batting performance shown by skipper, Abhik Patwa, and Vishal Patel, who was listed as a middle order batsman in the clash.

Patwa, who had opened the innings with Abdulrahman Akida, ended with 70 runs to successfully make up for a less impressive showing by Akida.

Gymkhana A side had a shaky start given Akida experienced an early exit, as he could only manage one run before he was caught by Aces A team's wicket keeper, Jaffary Kanyita, from Salum Jembe's delivery.

It was then up to Patwa to see to it that Gymkhana A side's quest for an imposing total is intact and the experienced all rounder made his presence at the crease felt.

He posted 70 runs, which included three fours and a six. His efforts to extend his stay at the crease ended in vain, he was caught by Aces A team's Emmanuel Peter from Kibwana Salum's bowling.

After three more early dismissals, Patel helped to steady the ship with his 58 runs, which consisted of three fours and a six.

Gourav Choudhary chipped in with double digit figure, recording 10 runs.

Aces A outfit's medium pacer Jembe had a good outing, in which



Aces A outfit's batsman, Bhavesh Govind, puts his skills to show when his side confronted Gymkhana A squad in a 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam Sunday. He held an incredible last wicket partnership with Emmanuel Peter Choya to win the game for his team. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

he took three wickets and leaked 27 runs in 8.4 overs. Jembe, moreover, dashed away Gymkhana A side's hopes of posting an imposing score with crucial dismissal of Patel.

Jatin Prajapati and Peter as well helped Aces A team keep Gymkhana A side in check, as the duo ended their bowling spells with two wickets apiece.

In response, Aces A team had to deploy all skills at their disposal to ultimately grab victory, as they faced stiff opposition from Gymkhana A outfit.

Needing 164 runs to come out victorious, Aces A outfit had an impressive start to the chase, thanks to scintillating batting showing by opening batsmen, Mohamed and Ankit Baghel.

Mohamed ended one run short of a half century, nailing four fours and ending as

the top run getter in his squad. Baghel ended with 29 runs which consisted of four fours and a six.

Azim Thakur, batting at number three, notched 16 runs which included two fours.

After several early exits, skipper Bhavesh Govind made his experienced count, notching 25 runs not out which included three fours.

Govind partnered Peter to weather Gymkhana A team's bowlers' challenge and help Aces A squad post the victory, with Peter recording one run not out.

Impressive displays with the ball, shown by Mohammed Yunus, Patel and Zamoyoni Ramadhani, did little to help Gymkhana A side avoid defeat as they failed to weaken Aces A batsmen's resilience.

Yunus and Patel took three wickets apiece, Ramadhani ended his spell with

two wickets, with each of the trio bowling 10 overs.

Aces A have, in the process, brought Gymkhana A outfit's winning spell to an end. The hosts had, as of Sunday, been the only side in the 2020 KNML top tier boasting of an unbeaten spell.

The loss has, nevertheless, not affected Gymkhana A side's position in the KNML Division A's table, given they are still at the top of the log with six points.

Aces A team's victory has further been a crucial morale boost for the squad, as it was reeling from a three-wicket defeat to Caravans A outfit.

Messi skips required coronavirus testing with Barcelona

MADRID

IN another sign that Lionel Messi's time with Barcelona is coming to an end, the player did not report for required coronavirus testing scheduled for the whole squad on Sunday.

Barcelona said Messi was the only player who did not undergo the tests at the club's training center. The team is set to resume training on Monday ahead of the upcoming start of the season.

The club also reiterated its stance not to negotiate Messi's early release, saying president Josep Bartomeu will only sit down with the player if it is to extend his contract beyond next season.

Messi last week expressed his desire to leave the club, but Barcelona wants him to play out the contract that ends in June 2021. The club also said it is not negotiating a possible transfer with any other team.

Messi announced his decision to leave on Tuesday by sending the club a burofax, a certified document similar to a telegram. He invoked a contract clause that allowed him to leave at the end of the season for free, but the club claims that the clause had already expired. A legal battle is expected to unfold as Messi will contend that the season was extended beyond the date the clause expired because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Argentina great reportedly said he wanted to negotiate with the club, but Barcelona said Saturday it was not willing to facilitate his exit. The club said it would like for Messi to finish his career with the Catalan club.

The Spanish league made its first public remarks on the case on Sunday, releasing a statement that said that Messi's contract is currently valid and can only be terminated with

the payment of its buyout clause. Barcelona said the clause was set at 700 million euros.

League president Javier Tebas had said a few months ago that the league was not really affected financially after Cristiano Ronaldo left Real Madrid to join Juventus, not seeing a reduction in television audiences or rights contracts. But he said that Messi's departure could be different and could possibly be "noticeable" for the league.

There were rumors earlier in the week that Messi would show up for Sunday's tests to avoid breaking team rules while negotiating his departure, but his people reportedly told the club on Saturday of his intentions not to attend the testing.

Barcelona will resume training with incoming coach Ronald Koeman in charge after Quique Setien was fired following the team's 8-2 loss to Bayern Munich in the quarterfinals of the Champions League on Aug. 14. The defeat, one of the worst in Messi's career and in the club's history, prompted Barcelona to announce "profound" changes to the first-team and a "wide-ranging" restructuring of the club.

Koeman reportedly told Luis Suarez, Ivan Rakitic, Arturo Vidal and Samuel Umtiti that they are not in his plans for the future, but all of them showed up for the required tests on Sunday.

Suarez has been a longtime teammate and friend of Messi, and the decision to get rid of the Uruguayan striker was believed to have upset Messi and played a part in his decision to leave.

The 33-year-old Messi had been outspoken about the club's poor decisions this season, its first without a trophy since 2007-08.

AP

Why Messi, Guardiola's desire to reunite makes sense



Lionel Messi and Pep Guardiola.

By Sid Lowe, ESPN Spain writer

THE bloke in the crowd said it best, until Pep Guardiola said it better. In the midst of the noise around the Romareda, a collective murmur of incredulity, came a short and simple phrase that was just about audible and elicited the highest eulogy.

It was March, a decade ago, and Lionel Messi had just scored his third goal against Real Zaragoza when, behind the Barcelona bench, someone in the stands spat out an expletive in disbelief. Guardiola heard it, turned and grinned, leaning on the bench as if he were at the bar. "Yep," he agreed, "if it wasn't for Messi, I'd be coaching in the second division."

Instead, he was a treble winner. As for Messi, he was already the best player in the world, maybe ever. Ten years on, remarkably, he still is. The best I ever have seen and ever will see, Guardiola had repeatedly said. And however much the coach presented himself as nothing more than the fortunate beneficiary of genius, that was partly his doing. Together they built arguably the finest team there has been, and made of him the finest footballer.

Which is why, nostalgia gripping and time running out, eight years since they parted company and five years since he last won the European Cup, Messi picked up the phone and dialed Guardiola's number.

It is why Guardiola, who still hasn't worked with a player like him or won the Champions League since they were together at Wembley in 2011, replied that if his desire to play for Man City was real, he would try to make it happen. He had always insisted that he wanted Messi to stay at Barcelona, but if Messi was determined to depart, that was different. So Guardiola put the phone down and went to do just that.

Time will tell whether it happens, but there are plenty of reasons to try. Not least the memories of who they were and the hope that they might be again. Of how happy they were and how much they achieved.

Not so long ago, Guardiola told Catalunya Radio about discovering Messi. "Someone in the youth system told me there was one [lad] who was very good. He was very small, but he dribbled well and scored lots of goals," he recalled. The first time he saw him in the flesh was, by chance, in a shop at El Prat airport. "Small, shy," Guardiola remembered wondering if this kid could really be as good as they say. He soon found out that, no, he could be better.

"I saw him [play] in person and thought, 'With this guy, we'll win it all,'" Guardiola said. And that was pretty much what happened.

Together, they collected 14 trophies in four years, the last of them the Copa del Rey at the Vicente Calderón in May 2012. Messi scored that night, just as he scored in the two European Cup finals they won. That final season, he scored 50 league goals.

Fifty. He never scored as many in a season again.

They were so good against Manchester United in 2011 that in the final minutes, one opponent pleaded mercy. They beat Madrid 6-2 and 5-0. One night building up to the first of those Madrid games, away at the Bernabéu, Guardiola had an idea. It was late, but he phoned Messi and asked him to come to the training ground so he could explain what a false nine was. Guardiola built a structure and Messi made sure it worked. Football was never the same again.

In 2012, Guardiola was gone. Uneasy with the same regime that has ultimately presided over Messi wanting to depart, and over the steady catastrophic decline of the club, Guardiola was tired and burnt out. And so were the players. Things weren't right; there was tension, the relationship not ruined but frayed around the edges.

As Dani Alves puts it in the documentary "Take The Ball Pass The Ball," where once he would have thrown himself from the top of the stands for his coach, he wouldn't be volunteering to climb to such a height any more.

When he left, Guardiola said that he had to go or else they would end up hurting one another. Better to have

a clean break, and "break" was the word. It felt like something had ended, with many players looking lost in that farewell news conference, some of them aware of what they were about to lose. Perhaps aware, too, that they hadn't realised until it was too late. Messi didn't come, seen by some as evidence that his relationship with Guardiola had soured, but something he later justified by saying he didn't want his emotion exposed, sitting in front of the cameras.

All that worries me about Messi is him being happy, Guardiola had said once. It was a measure of how important Messi was, a player to build a team around, and it was worth it. "Is there a player more complete than Messi?" he once asked. "It is not about goals. Messi is the most complete player in the world. He can do everything: he associates with his teammates, he combines, he opens up space." Over the years he evolved. There have been many stages of Messi. But it all starts there, with that idea, born of the recognition and celebration of a generational talent.

In the beginning, Guardiola had defied the Barcelona board and a legal ruling to fight Messi's corner. Barcelona had gone to court to take on the Argentinian FA because they wanted to avoid losing Messi during the 2008 Olympics. But Guardiola saw how important it was to Messi and, despite Barça winning the case, told him to go to the Games anyway. Messi came back with a gold medal and grateful. Guardiola had won him over, for a time at least.

It wasn't always easy; Messi wasn't always easy. The men who have followed Guardiola can vouch for that. Hyper-competitive, more than people sometimes realise because they see someone for whom it all looks effortless, he could be sensitive too. There might be flashes of anger, not always well-articulated or easy to interpret, but they were there, and they weighed heavily on everyone. The rest of the players had to be good enough, even while no one can be that good.

Extremely demanding, Messi could be withdrawn, a look sometimes enough. Around him, people tried to second-guess him and follow what they thought he meant. The culture of the club became increasingly conditioned by him – and all the more so in recent years. Guardiola made sense of it, or tried to, striking a balance. That wasn't easy either. In his book on Messi, Sebastian Fest claims that one day during Zlatan Ibrahimovic's first few weeks at the club in 2009, Messi sent Guardiola, sitting at the

front of the team bus, a text message from the back. The message ran something along the lines of: I can see I'm no longer important for the team, so...

But it was Guardiola who went, leaving Messi behind as he headed to Bayern. The relationship was over, and it had seen better days. But there was of course respect and recognition, which would grow with the distance and the passing seasons. Guardiola spoke highly, warmly, of Messi every chance he got; Messi rarely spoke at all.

Actually, though, it was not really something Guardiola said that best expressed just how good Messi was, aware that words would always fall short. "Don't try to explain him, don't try to write about him; just watch him," he said once – and so he did. Sitting in the stand at the Camp Nou in 2015, just a fan alongside his dad and one of his assistant coaches, Manuel Estiarte, one night, he watched Messi nutmeg James Milner, drawing an astounded, tickled "ohh" from the crowd.

Few know Messi better, but even Guardiola was taken aback by this: cameras caught him blowing out his cheeks and burying his face in his hands laughing at the absurdity of it all, his father cracking up alongside him. A seasoned football manager, a serial winner who had seen it all was giddy at the silliness of it, as Estiarte's mouth hung open and Milner sat on the turf.

Not long after, in 2015, the two men faced each other in the Champions League when Bayern drew Barça. "We've not spoken since [he left]," Messi admitted on the eve of the game, quickly correcting himself to say: "Ah, yes, we came across each other at the Ballon d'Or, but all we did was say hello and apart from that we haven't. We had a good relationship when he was here, but [nothing] since then."

Asked about his former player and what plans he had to prevent him beating Bayern, Guardiola said: "You can't stop him. If he is what he is, if he plays as he can, you can't stop him. You can't defend against talent of that magnitude. Teams have tried a thousand ways of stopping him, and it makes no difference. We have to make sure he does not get the ball, close his way to goal. But there is no defensive system that can stop him, and no coach either."

The following night, he was proven right. Messi did Messi things, famously leaving Jerome Boateng tumbling to the turf. A couple of months later, he was European champion again and Guardiola was not.

Neither of them have been since then, and yet both have been recognised as the world's best for much of the time since, even if neither reached quite the same heights without the other.

If at first Messi might not have thought he would miss Guardiola as much as Guardiola said he missed him, recognition could only increase with absence and time, the difficulties in replicating those successes: the good memories further away but far from extinguished, the bad ones fading from view, eclipsed by the excellence they had achieved. Messi once called Guardiola the "best teacher," something he would be more aware of as others came and went, unable to control the class or get results from them. Guardiola watched Messi do things no one else could. Better than anyone else, he understood too why Messi couldn't do more.

Nothing compared to Messi, Guardiola knew. Nothing compared to Guardiola, Messi knew – a realisation that built with the passage of time, which was swiftly running out, and crystallised with European elimination.

A mutual need emerged. It hadn't always been there, or at least they had not always been conscious of it – Messi hadn't, anyway – but now they were. And once the idea formed, it could not simply be dismissed. How could they not want to work together again? How could they not recall better times, long for them? Guardiola and Messi were the making of each other; why wouldn't they reach for a second chance, give it another go?

Out of the Champions League again, head bowed, ashamed and humiliated, Messi turned for help. Freed from Barcelona, with some of the burden lifted, he can start again, lessons learnt and context changed, a point to prove and to drive him. Under pressure, sure, but without sole responsibility and with a coach he knows can guide him, one he'll listen to and take advice from perhaps more now than ever before.

A coach good enough, whom he trusts to fix this, a man who will embrace him, understand and care for him, as he always has. One who will make demands too, bringing the best from that tiny, timid kid he first saw almost 20 years ago. He realises, if belatedly, that these are the safest hands in which to place his final years, aware that beyond that there is nothing.

Lionel Messi couldn't let his career end like this, and nor could Pep Guardiola.

Michel Platini quizzed in Swiss investigation of \$2m FIFA payment

BERN, Switzerland

SOCCER great Michel Platini arrived at Switzerland's federal prosecution office yesterday morning to be questioned about a \$2 million payment he received from FIFA in 2011.

Platini (pictured) is formally a suspect because of the payment that led to his removal as president of European soccer body UEFA – and as a candidate to lead FIFA – when Swiss federal investigators revealed the allegation five years ago.

The 65-year-old ex-France captain is suspected of being an accomplice to criminal mismanagement, of misappropriation and an act of forgery, according to documents seen in June by The Associated Press.

Platini, a former FIFA vice president, did not comment on the case Monday when he walked into the prosecution headquarters.

Sepp Blatter, the 84-year-old former FIFA president who authorized Platini getting the money as deferred salary for work as his adviser a decade earlier, is due to be questioned Tuesday in Bern.

A criminal proceeding has been open against Blatter for the Platini payment since September 2015 when federal police questioned both men in an unannounced visit to FIFA offices in Zurich on the day they attended an executive committee meeting.

Both men were provisionally suspended from soccer, then banned by FIFA's ethics committee. Blatter's 18-year presidency of soccer's international governing body was ended by the case and his six-year ban runs until October next year.

Platini said he hoped to return to soccer when his four-year ban expired last October, months before he was made a criminal suspect. In 2015 he was described as "between a witness and an accused person" by Switzerland's then-attorney general Michael Lauber. Platini said in 2018 he was cleared of all suspicion in a letter from Swiss prosecutors.

The allegation was revived after a different prosecutor, Thomas Hildbrand, took charge of some cases in



the sprawling investigation of alleged corruption in international soccer amid turmoil in the department.

Monday is also the last official day in office for Lauber, who was recused last year from FIFA investigations.

Lauber resigned in fallout from being disciplined over undocumented meetings with Gianni Infantino, the current FIFA president who became a candidate in 2015 only when his UEFA boss Platini was suspended. Lauber and Infantino now face investigation by a special prosecutor.

Both Platini and Blatter deny wrongdoing over the \$2 million payment and neither has been charged. Blatter faces other allegations in Switzerland.

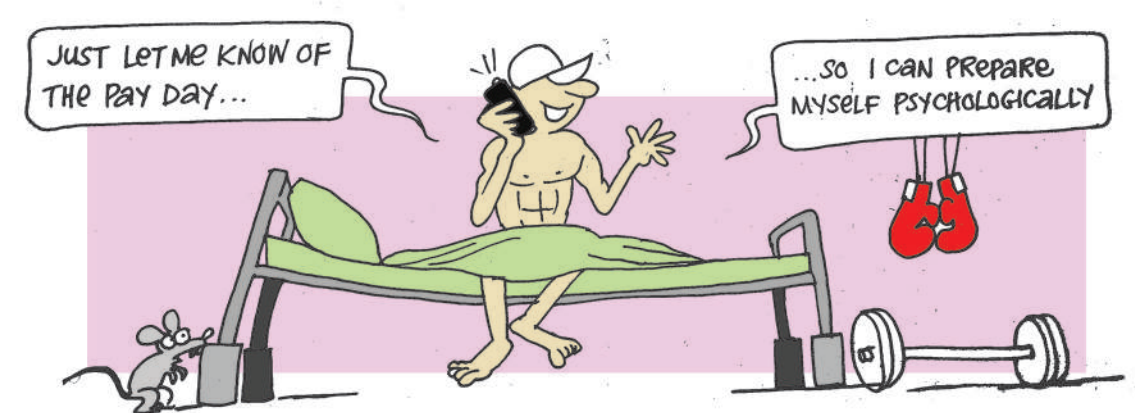
Platini submitted invoices to FIFA in January 2011 seeking payment for additional salary for advising in Blatter's first presidential term, from 1998-2002.

FIFA paid Platini several weeks later during a FIFA presidential campaign won by Blatter after his opponent, Mohamed bin Hammam of Qatar, was implicated in bribing Caribbean voters. Platini's UEFA had endorsed Blatter late in the campaign.

Five different courts and tribunals – including the FIFA ethics committee, the Court of Arbitration for Sport, Switzerland's supreme court and the European Court of Human Rights – have ruled against Platini since 2015.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko
Ronald Koeman



SPORT

Why Messi, Guardiola's desire to reunite makes sense

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Swimming coach satisfied by high performance training participants

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's national swimming team's coach, Alexander Mwaipasi, has expressed satisfaction over the standard shown by swimmers who competed in a High Performance Training (HPT) event, which held at the Shaaban Robert Secondary School's swimming pool in Dar es Salaam recently.

The inaugural competition featured more than 100 swimmers from various clubs in Mainland Tanzania.

Speaking in the city yesterday, Mwaipasi said despite the fact that swimmers stayed for about three months without training, their displays in training showed their readiness for any competition to be staged later.

Mwaipasi said surprisingly even swimmers who were below par before the Covid-19 outbreak, have improved their time.

"I see bright future for the sport in the country, I have been impressed by the development of the swimmers so far," he stated.

"We need to continue with the training in order to sharpen our Personal Best times (PBs) and later search for the Olympic Games and World Championships' qualification time," the coach said.

The event which was sponsored by ITV and Coca-Cola Company saw a total of 27 swimmers improve their PBs.

The swimmers competed in Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breast stroke and the Individual Medley (IM) styles.

The youngest swimmer of the event, a seven-year old Audrey Makwaia, managed to improve her time in all four events in which she competed in.

Other swimmers who managed to improve their time was Mohammeduwais Abdullatif who improved his time in two events, Ethan Alimanya (three events), Gianni Alimanya (three events), Aryan Bhatt (all events), Khairaan Chunara (two events) and Teah Chunara (one event).

Also in the list were Mahek Desai (three events), Franco Du Plessis (three events), Mohamed Fakii (three events), Muskan Gaikwad (one event), Sam Hardeman (one event), Sydney Hardeman (two events), Alberto Itatiro (two events), Peter Itatiro (one event), Nathan Kagoro (two events), George Kalomoh (one event) and Matthew Lubuva, who improved his time in two events.

The list also includes Dennis Mhini who improved his time in one event, Mihaly Romeo Mwaipasi (two events), Baraka Mwaipungu (three events), Ian Nanyaro (two events), Viva Pujari (three events), Aravind Raghavendran (two events), Ria Save (two events), Nawal Shebe (one event) and Prisha Shetty who also improved time in the one event in which she competed in.

Ihefu FC players should play their hearts out in Simba SC tie, says coach



Mbeya's Ihefu FC players pictured prior to participating in a previous season's First Division League (FDL) tie. The side will participate in the coming Mainland Premier League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF IHEFU FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MAKA Malwisi, head coach for Mainland Premier League new comers, Ihefu FC, has said his charges will need to up their game in Sunday league clash with

defending champions Simba SC at Soikoine Stadium in Mbeya.

Speaking yesterday, Malwisi said he watched Simba play against Namungo FC in a Charity Shield duel in Arusha on Sunday and he is now preparing his charges to be ready for the coming tie.

He said last Sunday he got a glimpse of

what to expect during his team's game against Simba SC, but he emphasized that they will be ready.

Malwisi said after the game between Simba and Namungo FC, he had discussions with his charges when he told them to focus on their performances not the way Simba played on Sunday.

"Honestly, I watched the game between Simba SC and Namungo FC, I did not go there but I watched it on TV, I did my analysis of Simba's weaknesses and strengths," he stated.

"Simba are a good side with experienced players who are also good but they have problems which we will make use of them," he disclosed.

"We respect them as champions, I'm sure by the time we play them my charges will be ready," he said.

The coach, however, said the performance showcased by Simba on Sunday does not fully reflect what will happen when his charges host the defending champions at the weekend.

"I watched them play, it was a good game but, as a coach, I know that the performance by Simba on Sunday is not what I

should expect, to me that game's main focus was on implementation of tactics and coordination," he said.

The coach also ruled out the possibilities of his side playing any friendly match, saying now concentration is on tactics, team work and coordination.

He said they will leave no stone unturned in their preparations for the Mainland Premier League games.

The coach conceded that Premier League matches are tough for a team from the lower league, but said they are preparing well psychologically, technically and tactically so as to get a right balance.

"We are aware that our good start and survival in the league will be based on thorough preparations, we have signed experienced players, our players are well motivated and everything is going on very well," he said.

Boxing referees, judges set to attend course in Manyara

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIXTEEN boxing referees and judges are tomorrow expected to attend a 10-day course organized by Tanzania's Open Boxing Federation (OBFT) in Babati, Manyara.

The OBFT Secretary General, Lukelo Wililo, said it will be level 1 and 2 and is aimed at promoting the sport in the country.

He said once completed, level 1 referees and judges can ably handle district and regional bouts while those of level 2 will be responsible for regional, zonal and national championships.

Wililo said boxing is thriving in the country and therefore, it is necessary for his federation to equip judges and referees with skills and knowledge to handle bouts professionally.

"Boxing is enjoying progress in the

country and there is a need to have qualified referees and judges who can handle the fights professionally, we have referees and judges who are doing a recommendable job," he noted.

"There is need to give them additional skills and knowledge, as you know that the sport has tremendously advanced," he said. He said the course will be both theory and practical and instructors are recognized by OBFT. He mentioned them as Liadha Kimeri, Mafuru Mafuru and Mohammed Kasilamatwe.

Meanwhile, Wililo said 10 regions have confirmed to compete at the Open Boxing Club Championships slated for next week in Babati.

The championships will be held from September 6-12. He mentioned the regions as Mwanza, Tanga, Manyara, Iringa, Arusha, Kagera, Kigoma, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Dodoma, Tanzania Peoples

Defense Forces Clubs, Ngome, National Service (JKT) and Magereza.

"The preparations for our Open Club Championships are going on very well, we are happy with the number of clubs which have registered to compete and we are looking forward to have many clubs at the championships," he said.

He said the club boxing Championships is a self-sponsored showpiece.

He said he is aware that many regions are not financially stable, he, in this case, is calling upon companies, organizations and individuals to support OBFT financially and materially so that they can host the event successfully.

He said the club championships will be used to select boxers who will represent the country at next year's local and international events.

Kisinda; Yanga fans should expect more stellar displays

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

MUCH as he put scintillating showing for Yanga in an international friendly clash with Burundi's Aigle Noir, newly signed winger Tuisila Kisinda has said his outfit's supporters should expect to see him put more impressive displays.

Kisinda netted one goal in the clash, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, in which Yanga won 2-0.

The clash also served as culmination of a week of charity activities held by Yanga, known as 'Wananchi Week'.

Kisinda, nicknamed 'TK Master', raced to a pin point pass by midfielder Feisal Salum and calmly beat onrushing Aigle Noir keeper, Tanzanian Erick Johola, to put Yanga 1-0 up on the 39th minute of the friendly.

Speaking after the final whistle, Kisinda stated he and fellow newly signed players at Yanga have a lot to prove to the squad's fans, thanks to the enthusiasm showcased by the fans since the players' arrival up to the friendly.

"I like the way the whole thing was in the venue, I still believe I have a lot to offer to this club, I truly thank the fans," he noted.

The Democratic (DRC) professional, who was roped in alongside compatriot, midfielder Mukoko Tonombe, added that he is ready for the Mainland Premier League, which is set to kick off early next week.

Yanga signed the duo from DRC soccer big guns, AS Vita club.

Newly signed striker, Ghanaian Michael Sarpong, later scored the second for the hosts on the 52nd minute of the Sunday friendly.

The towering striker beat Aigle Noir goalie Johola with a header, making the most of a Ditram Nchimbi's cross, to give Yanga the comfortable victory.

Yanga are currently shaping up for their first Mainland Premier League assignment, which will see them face Mbeya's Tanzania Prisons on September 7.



Vodacom Tanzania Plc Representative Rehema Kipanga (C) presents a runners-up medal to Namungo FC player, Jamal Issa Dullazi, shortly after the Charity Shield match pitting the club against Simba SC at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha last weekend. The clash, which ended with Simba SC notching 2-0 victory over Namungo FC, was used for launching the Vodacom Premier League's new season. Looking on (R) is Arusha Regional Commissioner, Idd Hassan Kimanta. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT



Yanga's winger Tuisila Kisinda

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kili Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasu
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

TONIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM