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TANZANIA

FRIDAY 19 APRIL, 2019

## ECONOMY



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## UK's top public prosecutor in Kenya to help in corruption probe

NAIROBI

The public prosecutor for England and Wales Max Hill is in Kenya to help his counterpart Noordin Haji in enhancing cooperation and collaboration in investigation and prosecution of corruption and terrorism cases.

Hill and his team held meetings with Haji and officials from the Criminal Justice System in Kenya where they agreed hold joint initiatives on issues to do with corruption and terrorism.

He said the Crown Prosecution Service has an office in Kenya to help in tackling organized crime like corruption.

"Corruption is theft from our people and we will work together to fight it. We want to make people safe," said Hill.

The Crown Prosecution Service is the principal public prosecuting agency for conducting criminal prosecutions in England and Wales.

Officials from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations, Asset Recovery Agency, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and Witness Protection Agency were present.

He said the CPS will continue to help Kenya and the region in capacity building on various issues including investigations of crimes.

British High Commission to Kenya Nic Hailey said Hill is in Nairobi to discuss UK support to Kenya's fight against corruption.

"Where people are hiding money in the UK, or where we can help convict the corrupt in Kenya, we will give every possible support," he said.

He called on those mentioned in corruption issues to step aside until they are cleared by authorities.

This will help in investigations and ensure there is no evidence tampering, he added

Haji said the CPS' office is helping in financial tracing of corrupt money and especially that which is hidden in UK.

"They have assisted in all cases that we have asked them. Those that are in public and private

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# Jafo, staff move into makeshift tin offices



Government business is evidently in progress in this makeshift building housing some of the offices of the Regional Administration and Local Government wing of the President's Office in Dodoma city, as captured yesterday. This follows a directive by President John Magufuli earlier this week that all government ministries formally relocate and operate from the new office complexes meant for them in the national capital, regardless of the stage construction has reached. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

The ministry's staff was struggling to adjust to the philosophy of 'sharing is caring' to honour the directive that all the 23 ministries shift to the satellite city located in Mtumba ward within this week, despite that the buildings are not yet ready

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MINISTER of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Selemeni Jafo, his two deputies and permanent secretaries were yesterday jostling for workspace with other public servants in a makeshift tin shelter to comply with President John Magufuli's shift order issued late last week.

Top administrators moved into the government satellite city to beat the deadline

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## Censoring opposition drafts: Sugu drops his speech, walks out again

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

A BITTER exchange of words flared in the National Assembly yesterday between Deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson and the Shadow Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Joseph Mbilinyi (pictured), forcing the cancellation of opposition speech on alternative budget estimates for the ministry, the second year in a row.

It all started just as Mbilinyi (Mbeya Urban-CHADEMA) was reading the opposition statement on the budget speech delivered by the minister, Dr Harrison Mwakymbembe when the deputy speaker



asked him to omit words deleted by the Speaker's Office in the original statement.

"Honourable Mbilinyi, as you are aware, some parts of your speech have been expunged as they contained un-parliamentary words. Read the new version," said the deputy speaker.

But the shadow minister re-

sponded that he did not have that version and the deputy speaker ordered the House clerk to give him a copy of the final statement that had several sections deleted.

When he got the copy, Mbilinyi started by thanking God but the deputy speaker interrupted, calling on him to read what is written in the booklet. "Please read what is in the booklet," she told the opposition lawmaker.

At this point the seemingly agitated shadow minister, popularly

TURN TO PAGE 2

## 'Visually impaired people also to cast secret ballots'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

VISUALLY impaired Tanzanians will be able to enjoy the right to secret ballot in this year's civic polls and next year's general elections following the procurement of equipment that enables them to vote in private.

With the use of tactile ballot papers for elections at all levels,

An election supervisor has to give a tactile ballot paper to the blind person when asked for it

people with disabilities will now vote at all levels, while earlier such materials were only available for presidential elections as in the 2015 polls.

The Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Parliamentary

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**SPECIAL FEATURE ON INDUSTRIALIZATION DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA**

**"NCHI YA VIWANDA"**

The Guardian Ltd, wish to inform the public and our esteemed Clients that, A special feature on Industrialization in Tanzania which was supposed to be published on 18th April 2019 was put on hold to 23rd April 2019.

We apologise for inconvenience caused.

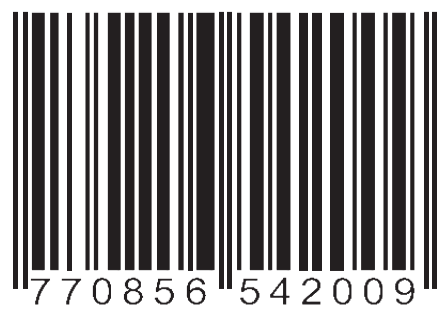
We wish you all a good Easter Holiday

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Guardian Nipashe Citi





## Censoring drafts: Sugu drops his speech, walks out

FROM PAGE 1

known for his hip hop stage name, Sugu, responded by complaining that there was a deliberate plan to stop him from reading the opposition statement. He said the opposition document was doctored by 80 percent.

But Dr Ackson said, "If you do not want to read the statement you can leave... you always leave without reading the statement." Mbiliyi then left the podium, amid boos from the opposition side of the House. This was a repeat of what happened last year when Mbiliyi protested the doctored of his alternative speech, leading to it not being read and recorded.

The deputy speaker thereafter ordered that the opposition statement should not be taken into official parliamentary records, Hansard, "because the opposition leader did not state so."

Earlier tabling the ministry's estimates the minister asked the House to approve 30,879,483,000/- for the 2019/2020 financial year whereby 15,483,073,000/- is for salaries and 9,396,410,000/- for other charges while 6,000,000,000/- is the development budget.

The minister told MPs that Tanzania will in September host the regional East African Community Arts and Culture Festival (JAMAFEST), to provide a

platform for showcasing culture as a primary catalyst to regional integration and sustainable development.

He said this year's festival with the theme, "Cultural Diversity: Key Driver to Regional Integration, Economic Growth and Promotion of Tourism" brings together regional cultural practitioners and administrators to celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage.

On achievements made during the past year, the minister listed six television stations, 15 radio channels and 72 online platforms as having been registered.

Dr Mwakymbe noted that as of last month there were 163 radio stations and 36 television stations countrywide, with online service platforms reaching 274.

At least 31 TV stations or 86 percent of the total are privately owned while government owns five TV stations, 14 percent of the total. The government owns ten radio stations, being six percent while the private own 153 stations, 94 percent of the total.

Reading the statement of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Services and Community Development, Deo Ngalawa (Ludewa, CCM) asked the government to raise the development budget for the ministry.



Traffic police officers at work at the scene of a motor vehicle accident near the Mandela Road/Sam Nujoma Road intersection in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Jafo, staff move into makeshift tin offices

FROM PAGE 1

into what was previously being used as site offices for contractors of the ministry's two storey office block.

This reporter watched as Jafo shared a cubicle with the permanent secretary while his two deputies shared another one, as was the case with the two deputy permanent secretaries.

The ministry's staff was struggling to adjust to the philosophy of 'sharing is caring' to honour the directive that all the 23 ministries shift to the satellite city located in Mtumba ward within this week, despite that the build-

ings are not yet ready.

Jafo and company will have to tighten their seat belts for the turbulent ride as the building under construction is expected to be completed at the end of next month.

As people seeking various services in the area entered and left offices housing various ministries, there was an increasing and never diminishing crowd at the Regional Administration and Local Governments block.

Immobile crowds looked on from a distance while scores of individuals came close and peeped in to see if the minister and his

team were actually in the corrugated iron sheet-walled offices.

The ministry's permanent secretary in charge of health Dr Dorothy Gwajima said that many had also come to if the staff had indeed come to work under such circumstances.

"Some thought we were simply acting. The fact is we are working and we mean business," she emphasized.

As the makeshift structure has no space that can serve as a board room, key meetings will be held in the ministry's old offices located in the Dodoma central business district, she affirmed.

Dr Magufuli had last week unveiled 10 buildings that would house offices for ministerial departments and agencies at the new government seat, also unveiling 41 houses for Chamwino State House staff.

Completion of the buildings at Mtumba area, about 30 kilometres from Dodoma city centre climaxes the shift of the capital from Dar es Salaam.

The satellite city is projected to take ten years to complete and would cost about 10 trn/-, on the basis of official estimates. The city occupies an area of 617 hectares and would also accommo-

date foreign missions and private firms.

President Magufuli said the shift would be complete once his office moves to Dodoma, which he said was imminent. He said he was still being delayed by some family issues including his mother who is unwell for quite some time now.

Making the centrally-located Dodoma the capital city and leaving Dar es Salaam as commercial hub was the brainchild of founder president Julius Nyerere. The ruling party, Tanu, resolved in 1973 that Dodoma would be the country's capital.

## Even visually impaired will this year cast secret ballots, says minister

FROM PAGE 1

Affairs, Labour, Employment and Disabled), Anthony Mavunde issued this information to the legislature here yesterday.

He issued that statement in response to Special Seats MP, Susan Mgonukulima (Chadema) who had argued that blind people are incapable of exercising the right to vote the leaders they want, due to their being helped by other people to vote.

She asserted that some of those entrusted to assist them in some cases are not honest and can pick names not of the choice of the blind voter.

Mgonukulima asked whether the government was ready to produce tactile ballot papers for such voters. "Is the government ready to ensure the special papers are there ahead of the coming civic elections?" she asked.

The deputy minister clarified that the Elections Act stipulates that if a voter has disability or cannot read and write should be assisted to vote by people whom he or she trusts, and that helper should not be an election supervisor or agent of a political party.

"An election supervisor has to give a tactile ballot paper to the blind person when asked for it," he said.



Young Scientists of Tanzania co-founder Joseph Clowry briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the exhibition for secondary schools to be held in Dar es Salaam in August. To his left is another YST co-founder, Dr Gosbert Kamugisha, while second right is Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation executive director Yusuf Karimjee. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

## Landmark bill protects European whistleblowers against retaliation

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thanks to a directive enacted Tuesday by the European Parliament, whistleblowers in the European Union will soon have safe channels to report violations of the law.

This is the first time that the EU has taken meaningful action to protect whistleblowers. Until now, witnesses to crime inside the workplace have had little protection against retaliation by their employers and thus have been deterred from notifying law enforcement.

The directive will go into effect once approved by EU ministers, following which member countries will be charged with implementing it.

National Whistleblower Centre (NWC) executive director John Kostyack praised the decision, saying: "The EU Directive on whistleblowing is a major step in the right direction. The

European Union, for the first time, has formally acknowledged the importance of protecting whistleblowers in their work against corruption."

"It is now up to the various members of the EU to implement the Directive and ensure that whistleblowers are incentivised and protected. Europe still has a long way to go, but important progress was made," he added.

European Commission vice president Frans Timmermans said: "This will help tackle fraud, corruption, corporate tax avoidance and damage to people's health and the environment."

A key feature of the directive is its protection of whistleblowers from retaliation by employers, such as termination or demotion. Whistleblowers are encouraged to make confidential reports to law enforcement authorities, and if the initial report does

not receive "appropriate" action, or if they believe there is an imminent danger to the public, or if there's a risk of retaliation, they may make a public disclosure and still enjoy protection against retaliation.

The directive was proposed last year following the public outcry over 'Panama Papers' and other tax avoidance schemes. But initial drafts would have led to completely ineffective protection, requiring whistleblowers to report internally and thus forcing the sharing of incriminating information with those perpetrating crimes.

NWC advocated against this provision, saying it would be a poison pill and could ruin the lives and livelihoods of whistleblowers in Europe.

The centre also joined a coalition of 80 international organisations calling for the European Union Council and the Member States to remove the mandatory internal reporting regime

from the law.

In two letters addressed to the European Parliament and European Commission presidents, NWC explained "the grave risks" that come with internal reporting requirements. It said that type of language "undermines the rule of law, violates international anti-corruption conventions, and violates US securities laws applicable to numerous European companies."

A critical step in the NWC's advocacy took place last November when executive director and current board chairman Stephen M. Kohn testified before the European Parliament.

Among other things, Kohn's testimony exposed efforts to create a loophole for those committing tax law violations. Fortunately, the final directive contains no tax loophole and ensures that whistleblowers are permitted to report wrongdoing to outside authorities.

## UK's public prosecutor in Kenya to help in corruption probe

FROM PAGE 1

domain," he said.

He singled out on the stalled Aror and Kimwarer dams saga which he argued the British government has assisted Kenyan police in tracing the movements of money and other issues.

He asked for patience from Kenyans in the cases saying they are moving in the right direction.

"The issues involved are complex and require delving into a web of convoluted financial transactions spanning a considerable period spread across several borders and continents," he said.

He added the inquiries are also being conducted in different jurisdictions apart from UK with often conflicting rules, regulations and procedures.

Haji said their central duty is to ensure justice is done at every stage of the investigation to all who may have been involved.

"This sometimes means that the pace of investigations may appear slow in the face of it. The investigations are ongoing. The process is informed by the need to ensure that unadulterated evidence, capable of standing up to keen scrutiny is obtained."

He added he had requested utmost speed in the conclusion of the probe to make his decision on the same.

He made the remarks following public's palpable anxiety regarding the issue.

The DPP had asked police to also investigate the tendering process, as well as the discrepancies in the identities of the parties that bid for the projects and those who won the tenders.

Investigators were also directed inquire into why the designs for the dams were being done "post-fact", meaning after the payments and contracts had been made.

They were told to check the involvement of a large number of government officials in the entire process, which explains why reactions to the investigations have taken a political turn.

At least five Cabinet Secretaries- Henry Rotich, Mwangi Kiunjuri, Eugene Wamalwa, Adan Mohamed and Peter Munya have been questioned over the scandal.



# Govt deregisters five NGOs for violating the laws

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has revoked registration of five Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for allegedly violating the country's laws and regulations that control their operations.

The registrar of NGOs in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Neema Mwanga, told journalists in Dodoma yes-

terday that the deregistered organisations had been conducting their duties contrary to the country's laws.

She said the NGOs had been providing services and financing certain groups of people in the society contrary to the country regulations that regulate their operations.

"These NGOs had violated Section 20 (I)(C) of the Non-Governmental Organisations

Act which was reviewed in 2005", said the registrar.

Mwanga mentioned the NGOs that have been officially removed from the list of registered organizations as Community Health Education Services & Advocacy (CHESA), Kazi Busara na Hekima (KBH), AHA Development Organization Tanzania, Hamasa Poverty Reduction (HAPORE), Hope 2 Others and Pathfinders Green City.

She said the government will not hesitate taking measures against any of the registered organisations engaging in activities that could threaten the national security. She said the legal measures to be taken against them, includes revoking registration.

Speaking at the Annual General Meeting of the Council of NGOs in Dodoma in March this year, Deputy Minister for

Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr Faustine Ndugulile issued a stern warning against NGOs engaging in activities that could jeopardise national security including money laundering and terrorism.

Dr Ndugulile said there were reports of some NGOs being used to conduct fraud, hence violating the very objectives for which they were established,

while some activities threatened national security.

He warned that any organization that fails to observe and undertake its activities as per the laws of the land will have their registrations revoked.

The deputy minister also challenged NGOs to expand their areas of coverage to avoid concentrating their efforts only in small areas.

Dr Ndugulile called on NGOs

registered in Tanzania to align their priorities against those of the government and stop the tendency of forcing the government to accept each and everything they advocate.

He said the government has already finalized the database for all NGOs in the country, and an electronic system has been established to ensure that all organizations are linked to it.



Agriculture deputy minister Omary Mgumba speaks at the launch of an OCP School laboratory at Isansa village in Mbozi District, Songwe Region, earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Ndugai urges good policies for industrial development growth

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

SPEAKER OF The National Assembly, Job Ndugai has urged the government to have in place conducive investment environment and policies that allow small traders and industries to grow.

He said small agricultural processing industries need an enabling environment to grow and compete both locally and internationally at this time while food production is becoming a challenge.

Ndugai also noted that lack of financial services in rural areas has been a great setback to development for a long time. "Small scale producers need good environment for growth and support to enable them reach the desired international standards" he said, adding that training is very important on this.

Speaking while officiating at the public lecture on Futures of food provisions organised by the Institute of Finance Management (IFM) in collaboration with the Netherland based University of Groningen, the Speaker called on IFM to providing training on business skills in the agriculture sector.

He also noted that investment in agricultural research is important in identifying new technologies that are useful in dealing with effects of climate change. According to the speaker more resources should be channelled to agricultural research in order to help small scale farmers cope with climate change.

Ndugai who later officiated the launching of Bachelor of Science in Economics and Finance (BEF), a new course introduced by IFM and is scheduled to start in the 2019/2020, thanked the institution for coming up with such good courses that meet the current demand.

"I congratulate IFM and wish you all the best on the move to start courses that suit the modern needs which I know will be a hot cake in the country" he said.

Earlier, while presenting the topic of 'future food provisions', Prof Jan Willem Velthuisen of the University of Groningen, noted that with the increasing population of people globally, food production remains one of the great challenges.

He argued that by 2030 the world population will be 8.3 billion people but the challenge is how to get more 50 percent of energy, 40 percent more water and 35 percent more food.

The professor highlighted five megatrends that shape the future of businesses, consumers and governments in the agri-food industry as urbanisation, resources, demography, technology and economy.

"Demographically, the number of young people in developing countries is rising very fast as on urbanization, growth of cities is at two speeds" he said, adding that seven of the fastest growing economies in the world are in Africa.

Easter at the beach!

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# No licences to AMCOS not verifying their weighing scales, warns board

By Guardian Correspondent,

Shinyanga

SOME Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Unions (AMCOS) in western zone regions are at risk of not getting licences to purchase cotton in the forthcoming harvesting season after failing to verify their weighing scales.

Speaking during the meeting with AMCOS leaders here, the Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) Western Zone Manager, Jones Bwahama said that the board will

not be ready to issue licences to any cooperative which will not fulfill the verification exercise.

The meeting brought together leaders of various cooperative unions from the regions of Geita, Mwanza, Tabora, Shinyanga and Simiyu.

"We issued directives for all cooperative unions to make sure that they verify cotton weighing scales, however, there are some who had ignored the directives...So, TCB will not issue licences to any purchasing station which had not accomplished the

exercise," he said.

TCB director Marco Mtunga reminded all AMCOS leaders in the country to conduct their activities honestly and with due diligence for the development of the unions and farmers.

"There are claims that some AMCOS leaders were sabotaging corporate assets, including selling agricultural inputs and paying farmers low prices compared to what is being sold," he said.

Luhende Richard, chairman of the Shinyanga Cooperative

Association (SHIRECU) said that all cooperatives in the region are well prepared for the coming cotton purchasing season.

"All cooperatives under SHIRECU have no problems, we have completed all the verification procedures and we are ready for the forthcoming cotton purchasing season," he added.

In January this year, the government announced to increase the price of cotton to 2500/- per kilogramme in the 2019/2020 season from the current 1,100/- following surging prices at inter-

national markets.

Speaking in the National Assembly, Agriculture Deputy Minister, Innocent Bashungwa said that despite good cotton prices at the world market, the government is implementing strategies to promote more investments in the textile industry to enhance local market.

The government announced 1,100/- as an indicative price per kilogramme of cotton for the 2018/19 harvest season, slightly down from 1,200/- of the previous season due to global de-

cline of cotton prices.

Bashungwa said that production costs for one acre of cotton is 488,000/- which can produce 1,000 kilos, equivalent to the cost of 488/- per kilo.

He insisted that stakeholders are involved in all the processes including pricing under the TCB. He said cotton pricing considers a number of criteria such as exchange rates, production and transportation costs and performance of the textile industry in the particular season.

He said that initiatives have

been taken to increase availability of quality cotton seeds whereas in the 2018/2019 season a total of 27,851 tonnes of seeds were distributed to farmers, a 36 per cent increase compared to 20,496 tonnes distributed in the 2017/2018 season.

In Tanzania, cotton is being produced in 17 regions including Mwanza, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Geita, Mara, Kagera, Tabora, Singida, Kigoma, Katavi, Dodoma, Morogoro, Coast, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Manyara and Iringa.

## Goat fattening project set to empower young entrepreneurs - PASS

By Francis Kajubi

THE Private Agricultural Sector Support Trust (PASS Trust) through its Agricultural Innovation Center (AIC) will from next month start implementing the 400m/- goat fattening project that focuses on empowering and facilitating young entrepreneurs engaging in livestock and horticulture sectors.

PASS Trust Managing Director, Nicomed Bahay, told The Guardian that the new goat fattening will be implemented at a site which is currently constructed in Kongwa district, Dodoma region.

He said that construction of the site is expected to be completed early next month whereby 10 young entrepreneurs engaged in livestock keeping will be trained on how to fatten 1000 goats. He said the goats will then be sold to various livestock markets in the country.

"So far, we have spent about 200m/-, but our target is to spend 400m/- upon completion of the project. Our plans are to establish similar training facilities in different regions across the country", said Bahay.

According to him every entrepreneur will have to fatten 100 goats after the training in a period of between 45 and 60 days. He said fattened goats are sold at good prices.

"Those who will perform well will be guaranteed to acquire bank loans of not more than 100m/- to be able to

establish their own projects", Bahay noted adding they are implementing the project in collaboration with Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECO).

He said PASS Trust through AIC is also providing mindsets transformation and farming training to the youth. He said the youth are trained on horticulture especially tomato farming using green houses as well as livestock, with keen interest on goat fattening.

PASS was established in the year 2000 under the Agricultural Sector Support Program in collaboration with Denmark's DANIDA and Swedish government with a mission to facilitate access to financial and business development services for agribusiness entrepreneurs in Tanzania.

PASS operated as a project until the year 2007 when it was registered as a Trust, a not for profit organization with the same mission.

Currently, PASS Trust is working with 15 banks that include CRDB Bank Plc, NMB Bank Plc, TIB Development Bank, African Banking Corporation Ltd, Akiba Commercial Bank Plc, Bank of Africa Tanzania Ltd, Amana Bank Ltd, Equity Bank Tanzania Ltd and Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc.

Others are Access Bank Tanzania Ltd, TPB Bank Plc, Vision Fund Micro Finance Bank Ltd, Azania Bank Limited, NBC Bank Ltd and Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank.



An assortment of clothes for sale hang from the bonnet of car, presumably to easily hook customers, as captured at Tegeta Kibaoni in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

## Turkey firm interested in having sunflower factory in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE international sunflower oil manufacturing company-Alemdar of Turkey has shown interest to construct a factory in Zanzibar.

The company's senior official, Fatma Atala said the decision to invest in a sunflower oil processing factory is in line with the government's industrialisation endeavour.

She made the remarks yesterday when a delegation from Turkey which was led by Alemdar Company chairman, Oktay Alemdar met and held

talks with Zanzibar's Second Vice President, Ambassador, Seif Ali Iddi.

She said that the programme will closely engage sunflower farmers encouraging them to chip in the sector.

Sunflower crop and its oil have huge potential inside and outside the country so what is needed is commitment of the government, investors and farmers.

For his part, Zanzibar Second Vice President, Amb Seif Ali Iddi assured the Turkish investors of full support from the government during their stay in the country.

He called on both local and foreigner investors to grab the opportunity for the sunflower farming and production as the country was implementing its industrialisation agenda.

He advised the investors to prepare applications and submit them to Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) for further steps including procedures to acquire land and other permits.

Recently, the executive director of the Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) Audax Rukonge said that Tanzania spends at least 400bn/- per

year to import edible oil in the country, an amount which even exceeds the annual agriculture budget.

According to him, if the country could wake up and decide to invest in research, quality seeds and technology, millions of Tanzanians could enjoy better life and forget about all hurdles of poverty.

He cited sunflower as among the crop which the country needs to invest more saying that many farmers were still locked away from the potentials that comes from the crop because they lack quality seeds.



Arumeru district commissioner Jerry Muro distributes identity cards to small traders at Arusha Region's Tengeru market yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

## Healthcare providers to get boost in medical equipment purchase funding in Kenya

NAIROBI

SMALL and medium private healthcare providers in Kenya can now access loans for the purchase of medical equipment simply by providing their MPE-SA/MTIBA statements.

GE Healthcare and Medical Credit Fund (MCF), part of the PharmAccess group, have entered into a partnership to enable the issuance of loans for the purchase of GE Healthcare manufactured medical equipment.

The announcement was made during a Radiology Clinical Day organised by GE Healthcare and the Kenya Association of Radiologists (KAR).

The partnership is meant to improve access to better quality healthcare for patients living in underserved areas by financing the purchase of an array of diagnostic equipment.

Under the partnership, MCF will provide access to mobile-based lending and business improvement programmes to eligible healthcare providers, while GE Healthcare will support the programme through provision of GE equipment and technical support.

Borrowers qualifying for loans include eligible healthcare facilities in the private sector offering a broad range of primary care services and especially with an explicit focus on family and mother-child care.

Under the partnership, borrowers will be able to secure loans of up to \$100,000 by providing limited information,

notably their MPESA /MTIBA statements, with a 24-month repayment plan.

"There is a case for innovative financing models and technical support to healthcare SMEs (small and medium enterprises) to support them to grow and improve the quality of healthcare services they deliver to underserved populations," said PharmAccess Foundation Country Director Kenya Isaiiah Okoth.

"Together with GE Healthcare, we are looking at social entrepreneurship in the healthcare space as an entry point to strengthen the healthcare system and to support the achievement of UHC goals," he said.

GE Healthcare East Africa general manager Andrew Waititu meanwhile said: "We are committed to developing new delivery models that improve access, clinical quality and patient outcomes as we progress towards Universal Healthcare Coverage.

Our collaboration with Medical Credit Fund is a significant step towards the attainment of this goal".

The interest rate cap regulation has further reduced lending to small and medium enterprises, with banks preferring to lend to larger, well established and less risky customers.

One of the first beneficiaries of the programme, Trinity Care Centre head of administration James Ndaba, said: "We always wanted to upgrade to the latest Ultrasound machine, but financing was a challenge."

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KILIMANJARO  
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# 'Depression a major public health problem in Tanzania'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DEPRESSION is becoming one of the major health problems in the country as many people seek psychotherapy and medications, the deputy minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Faustine Ndugulile told the House yesterday.

He noted that depression can present with several symptoms such as loss of energy, a feeling of guilt, feeling of hopelessness, change in sleeping pattern, change in appetite and even suicidal thoughts.

However, he said the government was aware of the growing health threat, and has empowered various health facilities

to offer counseling services to people affected with the problem.

On other hand, he appealed to members of the community to bring to counseling centres their colleagues who show symptoms of depression to avoid effects of the disease.

"There are enough drugs for people with such disorders or

those who have reached advanced stage of the diseases," said the deputy minister.

Ndugulile was responding to a supplementary question by the Rombo MP, Joseph Selasini (CHADEMA) who had wanted to know if the government was ready to set up counseling centres countrywide to control brain disorders among

the Tanzanians.

Earlier in his main question the Njombe Urban MP, Edward Mwalongo (CCM), sought government's plans on treating and sheltering people with brain disorders roving in streets.

Dr Ndugulile remarked that the ministry has plans to improve health service provision in the country, including brain

disorders. The deputy minister called on relatives and the public in general to bring to health centres those affected to health centres for getting treatment.

"The duty of protecting public health starts from the family level, but communities have been marginalizing the people with brain diseases and let them walk around the streets,"

he said.

He went on reminding the local governments, district administrations as well as religious leaders over their responsibility to keep those affected at proper places.

Dr Ndugulile noted that treatment for the people with brain diseases was free, insisting that such diseases can be treated.



Muhimbili National Hospital Surgery Department head Dr Ibrahim Mkoma (C) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on progress in the free treatment of Singida resident Mariam Rajab Juma (L), who is admitted to the referral medical facility with shoulder problems she has endured for five years. Looking on is a ward in-charge, nursing officer Domitina Bulele. Photo: John Badi

## Govt allocate 17.89bn/- towards implementation of water project to serve two Mwanza city wards

By Correspondent Rose Jacob, Mwanza

THE government has dishied out a total of 17.89bn/- for the implementation of a water project to serve Butimba and Igoma wards in Mwanza.

On its completion, the project is set to benefit at least 400,000 residents in the city who have been grappling for years due to lack of water.

According to the managing director of Mwanza Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (MWAUWASA), Anthony Sanga, the project is part of Lake Victoria water and sanitation programme and will take two years under China Civil Engineering Construction Cooperation (CCECC).

"The government has funded the project through a soft loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the French Development Agency (AFD)," he said.

He said that the project will involve installation of a main pipeline to transport water from a water source to the residents.

Sanga urged Mwanza residents particularly to remote areas with access to water challenges to be patient while the government is doing efforts of finding water solutions.

For his part, CCECC managing director, Zhang

Jun commended the government for trusting their company vowing to undertake and complete the projects per scheduled timeframe and with the required quality.

He also said that apart from engaging in construction activities the company has also been working closely with surrounding communities supporting to address various challenges.

"We have provided sports gears worth 5m/- to various schools in Mwanza...we have also provided 40 footballs, 400 books, 200 pens and 50 small radios to the schools...This is not the end as we will continue to extend our support whenever needed," he said.



**he government has funded the project through a soft loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the French Development Agency (AFD)**

## Researchers: There's proof of ancient giant 'lions' in Kenya

NAIROBI

A GIANT lion with enormous fangs that roamed the Kenyan savannah more than 20 million years ago was one of the largest ever meat-eating mammals, researchers yesterday.

A team unearthed the lower jaw, teeth and other bones of a new species, Simbakubwakutokaafrika, Swahili for 'big African lion'.

They calculated it would have weighed up to 1,500 kilograms and could have preyed upon the elephant-

like creatures that lived there at the time.

"Based on its massive teeth, Simbakubwa was a specialised hyper-carnivore that was significantly larger than the modern lion and possibly larger than a polar bear," said Matthew Borths, from Duke University, who co-led the research with Ohio University.

An artist's impression of the creature shows a giant big-cat-like hunter with stripey fur and enormous fangs.

The team behind the study, published in the Journal of Vertebrate Pale-

ontology, said Simbakubwa lived in what is modern-day Kenya around 23 million years ago, a key period in the evolution of carnivorous mammals.

They said the discovery could shed light on how supersized predators and prey evolved over millions of years around the end of the Paleogene epoch -- the period where mammals grew from tiny rodents into many diverse species.

AGENCIES

## 10 killed as taxi and truck collide on N1 in Limpopo

HARARE

TEN people have been killed in a head-on collision on the N1 in Limpopo, while another is in a critical condition in a Modimolle hospital.

Limpopo Department of Transport spokesperson Matome Tauatsoala said the accident happened when the driver of a minibus taxi, travelling from Zimbabwe, lost control of the vehicle and veered into the north bound lane of the N1, colliding with a truck.

The accident happened between Kranskop and Mookhophong, between 03:00 and 04:00pm yesterday.

"Both lanes on the N1 have been completely closed for two hours to allow forensic pathologists and other people to clear the scene.

"What we can tell now is that our people should exercise maximum patience. In the meantime, motorists

should use the R101 and R33 as alternatives, if they [are] travelling between Mookhophong and Modimolle," he said.

He added that the road was expected to be reopened yesterday just after 11:30.

The province is experiencing high traffic volumes ahead of the start of the Easter weekend.

The department has called for motorists to be patient with each other, particularly at toll gates, where there will be congestion.

"Please do exercise patience, do not speed, take a rest where possible. Judging by the time the accident took place, we suspect that the driver was fatigued and he lost control of his vehicle.

"We always advise motorists to take breaks whenever they feel tired behind the wheel," Tauatsoala said.

Agencies

## AU urges African solutions to ensure consensual, inclusive transition in strife-torn Sudan

CHAIRPERSON of the African Union (AU) Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, yesterday stressed the AU's resolve to ensure consensual and inclusive transition in Sudan through "African solutions to African problems."

The AU official made the remarks following his meeting with a Sudanese delegation led by Lieutenant-General Jalal Alsheikh Altayeb, a member of Sudan's Military Transitional Council (MTC) on Tuesday, spokesperson to the AU Chairperson Ebba Kalondo said yesterday.

"The Chairperson reiterated the African Union's commitment to work with all the Sudanese stakeholders towards a consensual and inclusive transition that meets the aspirations of the people and ensures the stability of the country," Kalondo stressed.

"As part of the conti-

mental solidarity and the search for African solutions to African problems, the Commission of the African Union will continue to closely monitor the situation and interact with all the Sudanese stakeholders, with the view to helping them overcome the challenges confronting their country," the spokesperson added.

The AU Peace and Security Council in its meeting on Monday had reiterated the 55-member continental union's "total rejection of unconstitutional changes of government" in Africa based on previous declarations of the AU.

The council also recognized "the legitimate aspirations of the Sudanese people to the opening of the political space in order to be able to democratically design and choose institutions that are representative and respectful of freedom and human rights."

DTB

DIAMOND TRUST BANK

## ORBITUARY



Mr. Stanley Elias Ukani

Diamond Trust Bank Mlimani City Branch

18<sup>th</sup> November 1998 - 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

May The Almighty Lord Rest His Soul in Eternal Peace, Amen.

Diamond Trust Bank Tanzania Ltd

901, 9th Floor, Harbour View Towers

Samora Avenue, P.O BOX 115 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Tel: (255-22) 2114891-2,

Fax: (255-22) 2124244



# RC challenges coffee farmers on need to boost productivity

By Guardian Correspondent, Mara

MARA Regional Commissioner, Adamu Malima has challenged coffee farmers to increase production of the crop by planting more trees that will double harvests 5000 tonnes from the current 2000 tonnes by 2022.

He was speaking at coffee stakeholders' conference held in Tarime district aimed at discussing ways to improve the crop production in five years.

Delegates also discussed challenges facing coffee farmers across the country.

He said the region has planned to continue improving coffee cultivation by investing on quality coffee seedlings to ensure quality products that can be sold within and outside Tanzania. He noted that coffee farming if well supervised can help improve the welfare of Mara farmers.

"We are putting in place strategies to assist farmers practice modern coffee cultivation since

we aim at establishing a major coffee market to be located in Tarime district", said Malima adding with the market will boost district revenues.

Coffee is cultivated in the five districts of Mara region namely, Tarime, Butiama, Bunda, Serengeti and Rorya.

Malima challenged farmers to form associations that will enable them to acquire bank loans from the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB). He said with the financial support

from TADB, farmers are likely to meet the target of increasing coffee harvests to 5000 tonnes in five years.

Zonal Manager of the Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB), Melkiad Massawe said the board's mandate is to search for internal and external markets for the crop. He said having reliable markets not only benefits farmers but also the government.

Massawe noted that to increase coffee output, farmers should adopt modern farming

technologies and consult experts and extension officers at every growing stages of coffee plants.

According to him, the major challenge facing coffee farmers across the country is fluctuation of the crop's price at the world market. He noted that price changes have been discouraging farmers from investing more in coffee cultivation.

The district Agriculture and Irrigation Officer, Sluванus Gwiboha urged farmers to ad-

here to modern coffee farming practices.

Gwiboha said with modern farming practices the district will increase its coffee harvests from the current 0.8 tonnes to 1.5 tonnes per acre which will result to increased annual production from 2000 tonnes to 3200 tonnes.

He said the district has set plans to establish special farms for growing coffee seedlings which will be distributed to farmers. He said the farms are

expected to produce 1,005,000 seedlings by 2021/2022.

He said various stakeholders have promised to provide different support to enable cultivation of the seedlings. They are Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI), TCB, ACACIA, TADB and NMB.

TADB Lake Zone Manager, Geoffrey Mtawa said the bank is ready to financially support farmers, calling upon regional authority to assist them in preparing credit write-ups.

## 200 students to demonstrate their scientific and technological projects at special exhibition in Dar

By Getrude Mbago

OVER 200 students from various schools in the country are set to demonstrate their scientific and technological projects at the exhibition aimed at encouraging and producing more competent and innovative graduates who will be able to transform their communities through innovation.

The 2019 Young Scientists Tanzania (YST) exhibitions will bring projects from various areas of science such as chemical, physical and mathematical science, biological and ecological, behavioural and social sciences as well as technology.

Speaking to reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the executive director and co-founder for Young Scientists Tanzania (YST) Dr Gosbert Kamugisha said that the exhibition expected to kick-off on July 31 to August 1, this year.

"We are doing this in order to tackle

the existing challenge of poor performance of science in secondary schools attributed by a poor teaching and learning environment, through this, we also encourage more youth to love science subjects," he explained.

He said that the young scientists who will participate in the YST 2019 exhibition are currently working on their projects through schools outreach programme.

He said the majority of the projects are geared towards finding practical solutions to development challenges in health, agriculture and food security, communications and transportation safety, energy, education, environment and climate change.

Dr Kamugisha said that young scientists with best scientific innovations will be rewarded with cash, medals, trophies and library refurbishment for their schools.

"The exhibition and the schools outreach programme are facilitated

by the continued generous support of the main sponsors Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania Limited (Shell) and Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF)," he added.

For her part, Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF) manager Devotha Rubama said the institution is concerned with minimal numbers of students in science subjects that's why is decided to invest its funds to bring more young students in science and

technology.

"The institution has provided financial support amounting to 230m/- to fund this year's project. We believe that investing in young education will assist to nurture young students to be competent in science and technology so as to be able to take part in the field," she said.

KJF is keen to see the teaching methodology and learning practices changed to suit existing demand in the

education sector.

Rubama said that the institution has been providing scholarships to Tanzania since 2012, whereby in 2018 KJF and they have decided to expand their support to YST for the coming five years.

"This year, we will also provide scholarships to two students who will win in the overall category and two students who will win in the special education category to undertake and

complete their university studies after the completion of high school education. As of now, more than 70 students benefited from KJF scholarships to pursue undergraduate and post graduate studies at local and overseas."

Patricia Mhondo, external relations manager for Shell Tanzania Ltd, said "These exhibitions and outreach programmes trigger students' passion by actively engaging them in research, problem solving and creativity in the



Tigo's South and Eastern zone manager, Abbas Abdulrahman (L), presents a dummy cheque for 1m/- in Iringa municipality yesterday to Shine Murtazah, one of the two winners of the firm's 'Cash In' promotion from the zone. The mobile phone service provider dished out over 150m/- in prize to Tigo Pesa Wakala customers in the promotion across last month. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



A vendor with used towels waits to cross a Tegeta section of Dar es Salaam's Bagamoyo Road yesterday while hunting for customers. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

## Kenya to import 200m litres of milk from other EAC countries

NAIROBI

KENYA is likely to import about 200 million liters of milk from the East Africa Community (EAC) in 2019 in order to bridge the production deficit, the dairy industry regulator said yesterday.

Margaret Kibogy, managing director of Kenya Dairy Board (KDB) told Xinhua in Nairobi that Kenya is not itself sufficient in milk production due to rising consumption fueled by rising incomes and urbanization.

"We typically rely on the EAC trading bloc which has a liberalized trading regime to meet milk consumer demand," Kibogy said during the AgriFi Food Safety Program forum.

Kibogy said that imports from outside the EAC economic bloc are limited to specialized dairy products that are not available in the region in order to cushion the local dairy sector.

According to the milk regulator, Kenya processed approximately 648 million liters of milk in 2018.

Kibogy said that Kenya is implementing a number of measures to ensure that annual processed milk reaches the one billion liters mark by end of 2022 in order to stop milk imports.

She added that Kenya's milk production increased in January compared to a similar period last year but production has been declining since February due to the ongoing drought.

KDB is currently training farmers on pasture conservation techniques in order to ensure they maintain milk production despite the ongoing dry spell.

Kibogy noted that Kenya's milk sector is susceptible to changing weather patterns due to over reliance on rain for livestock pasture.

Meanwhile, Kenya will lobby the international community to delegitimize trade in wildlife products amid threats of extinction facing iconic species like elephants and rhinos, an official has said.

Najib Balala, cabinet secretary for tourism and wildlife said Kenya is committed to leading global campaigns in support of a total ban on cross-border trade in wildlife products.

"The government will not relent in support for a total ban on trade in ivory and other endangered species internationally," said Balala.

He spoke during this year's global march for elephants, rhinos and other endangered species that drew more than 4,000 participants including

government officials and conservationists. The event was held over the weekend in the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

Kenya was among more than 130 countries that held the march to raise awareness on the threats facing wildlife that include poaching, climatic stresses and human encroachment on their habitats.

Balala said that this year's march whose theme was "No Market, No Trade" was in line with Kenya's support for an end to trade in wildlife products.

"The western Black Rhino and the Sumatran Rhino have recently gone extinct due to poaching. The emphasis now is directed towards ensuring that international trade in the endangered species is stopped," said Balala.

"Kenya's message is simple - it is not possible to satisfy the international demand for ivory, rhino horn and other endangered wildlife products," said Balala.

He said that Kenya has lost 40 elephants since 2018 compared to 400 during 2012 and 2013 while the country has lost four rhinos in 2018 compared to 60 in 2012 thanks to robust anti-poaching strategies.



# 'Fewer people died in road crashes in 2018 than in 2017'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA Traffic Police Commander, Fortunatus Muslim has said the number of road crashes has decreased in the past two years from 5,574 in 2017 to 3,732 last year.

Commander Muslim was speaking at a closing function to end journalists' training on road safety reporting which has

lasted for six months. The training was supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) through the Ministry of Health.

He said apart from road accidents the number of injuries has been reduced to 3,746 in 2018 from 5,489 in the previous year.

The traffic boss added that the number of road accidents which were caused by motor-

bikes has decreased to 876 in 2018 from the previous year's 1,459. The total number of deaths caused by motorbike accidents in 2017 was 728 compared to 366 in 2018. He said injuries decreased from 1,090 in 2017 to 694 in 2018.

"We have managed to reduce the number of roads accidents with the support of various stakeholders including journalists", said the Commander calling for jour-

nalists to continue educating the public on road traffic safety.

He asserted that the traffic department has set a six months target from January this year, to reduce road crashes by 45 percent. He said to succeed, they will engage different stakeholders including journalists in educating people road traffic safety.

Muslim said that traffic police will also conduct a number of op-

erations across the country to arrest traffic rules violators as well as educating motorbike drivers on safe driving.

The recent WHO report indicates that young generations aged between 5 and 29 years around the globe are mostly dying from road traffic.

It said road traffic related deaths have also been cited as the eighth leading cause of death

among all age groups surpassing HIV/Aids, tuberculosis and diarrhoea.

WHO Director General, Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus said that road traffic crashes have increased to 1.35 million a year and that nearly 3,700 people are dying on the world's roads every day. Dr Ghebreyesus mentioned reasons contributing to the accidents as rapid urbanization,

poor safety standards, lack of enforcement and reckless driving associated with consumption of alcohol.

The findings shows that, enforcement of laws and adoption of safety standards, such as availability of seat-belts and fittings for car occupants in both front and rear seats, remain the challenging in many parts of the world including Tanzania.



Musoma district executive director Kayombo Lipesi (L) and Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank planning and research director Dr Nyankomo Marwa (R) sign an agreement on the implementation of Musoma Rural's Bugwema irrigation scheme project earlier this week, witnessed by Mara regional commissioner Adam Malima (with cap). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Arusha and Abuja set stage for international courts programme

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

A DELEGATION of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights led by its President, Justice Sylvain Oré, will make a one-week working visit to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Court of Justice and also meet key Nigerian officials from 29 April to 4 May 2019 in Abuja.

The reciprocal visit, according to a statement from Sukhdev Chhatbar, the courts' communication officer, follows the inaugural visit by the ECOWAS Court of Justice to the Arusha-based Court in February last year during which a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed.

Speaking about the visit the President of the African Court, Justice Sylvain Oré, said: "the visit will help to enhance judicial co-operation and share experiences between the two Courts."

The visit, he added, is part of the Court's ongoing efforts to strengthen ties with Regional Courts on the continent. A similar MoU was signed by the African Court with the East African Court of Justice last month in Arusha.

The African Court delegation, which includes three Judges and senior Registry staff, is expected to pay a courtesy call on

the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Muhammadu Buhari and meet key officials in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice. They will also visit the Nigerian Human Rights Commission, the Nigerian Bar Association and meet NGOs and civil society organizations.

The AfCHPR was established by virtue of Article 1 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, to complement the protective mandate of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, with a view to enhancing the protection of human rights on the Continent.

The ECOWAS Court of Justice is an organ of ECOWAS, a regional integration community of 15 member states in West Africa. Although ECOWAS was founded in 1975 by the Treaty of Lagos, the Court of Justice was not created until the adoption of the Protocol on the Community Court of Justice in 1991.

Additionally, the ECOWAS Revised Treaty of 1993 established the Court of Justice as an institution of ECOWAS. The Protocol was amended twice; once in 2005, and again in 2006. The 2005 Supplementary Protocol expanded the Court's jurisdiction to include human rights claims by individuals.

## China and Tanzania aiming for enhanced economic, trade ties

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

CHINA and Tanzania yesterday opened a new door of communication aimed at enhancing economic and trade cooperation, especially on investment and financing.

The new door of communication was opened at a one-day 2019 Tanzania-China High-level Investment and Business Environment Dialogue jointly organized by the Prime Minister's Office for Policy and Investment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania.

Representatives from more than 20 Tanzanian government agencies in various fields, including lands, immigration, taxation and labor, attended the dialogue and explained the latest guiding policies in the east African nation. "China is willing to work together with Tanzania in opening the door of communication...so as to jointly push for breakthroughs in China-Tanzania economic and trade cooperation, especially in the field of investment and financing," said Wang Ke, the Chinese ambassador in Tanzania.

Speaking at the conclusion of the dialogue in the commercial capital Dar es Salaam, Wang (pictured) said the dialogue was a powerful demonstration of the Tanzanian government's devotion to



improving the local investment and business environment.

Wang said the dialogue was also an excellent opportunity for Chinese enterprises to get a comprehensive understanding of Tanzania's policies in various fields. Wang noted that there have been certain adjustments in taxation, investment and labor policies in Tanzania over the years, which has made it difficult for Chinese enterprises to adapt to.

"Today's dialogue points out the solution for Chinese enterprises to overcome

their struggle in business operation in Tanzania and the direction for us to tackle difficulties in the China-Tanzania economic and trade cooperation," said Wang.

Angellah Kairuki, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Investment, said the government was strongly committed to addressing existing gaps in the investment regime, starting by working on many recommendations that have been raised at the dialogue.

"I also commit to report to you on the progress the government should be able to make in this respect at the soonest possible opportunity," she said.

She said Tanzania will continue to value investment as an essential driver to the growth of the economy.

Stella Manyanya, the Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade, said the government will work on business challenges raised by the Chinese investors.

Damas Ndumbaro, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, said China remained a good friend of Tanzania, saying the Asian country has more enterprises in the country than any other countries.

"With President John Magufuli in charge of the economic reforms, China's contribution is very vital," said Ndumbaro.

## Rwanda's national carrier RwandaAir inaugurates direct flights to Kinshasa

KIGALI

RWANDA'S national carrier RwandaAir yesterday launched direct flights to Kinshasa, the capital city of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The airline's aircraft took off from Kigali International Airport in Rwandan capital city Kigali yesterday morning to Kinshasa's N'Djili International Airport, making Kinshasa the airline's 23rd destination in Africa and the 27th globally.

RwandaAir will operate three direct flights per week from Kigali to N'Djili International Airport on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays by a Boeing 737-800NG which offers 15 seats in busi-

ness class and 136 seats in economy class, RwandaAir CEO Yvonne Makolo told reporters at the airport shortly before the inaugural flight.

"We are proud and excited to add Kinshasa to our network and to offer both passenger and cargo services. This new route will support our growth and increase our footprint in Africa," said Makolo.



The flight will play a vital role in the expansion of trade, tourism and investment between Rwanda and DRC, she said. The airline also plans to operate three additional night flights a week to Kinshasa, according to RwandaAir.

"We are excited to witnessing new

successes at RwandaAir. The government of Rwanda will continue to support the growth of the airline," Jean de Dieu Uwihanganye, Rwandan Minister of State in charge of Transport said at the same event.

With a fleet of 12 aircraft including two wide-body Airbus A330, the airline currently reaches out destinations across East, Central, West and Southern Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Asia.

It plans to add Luanda, Tel Aviv, Addis Ababa and Guangzhou to its network this year. The airline also plans to enter the American market with flights to New York.

Plot 891 - 893, Isale Hivone, Mwan Kikuyu Road, Mkochoeni B, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.  
Tel: +255 22 2700717/2700725 Fax: +255 22 2702035

### INVITATION FOR TENDER

#### TENDER FOR BUSINESS PROCESS AUTOMATION.

#### TENDER No. ICAP/TC/03/2018-2019

Mailman School of Public Health Tanzania LLC- ICAP is a not-for-profit organization registered and operated by The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, in the United States of America. MSPH Tanzania LLC is also known locally as ICAP, an entity that began collaborating with the Ministry of Health in Tanzania in 2004 to reduce perinatal transmission of HIV and support the rapid scale up of HIV care and treatment. ICAP now works in close partnership with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW) and provides capacity-building support and technical assistance (TA) for the national HIV and tuberculosis (TB) programs.

ICAP – Country office now intends to identify and enlist reputable Company to develop business process Automation

- i. Convert Procurement Requisition and Purchase Order paper-based forms to electronic forms.
- ii. Develop workflow using developed electronic forms which allow multiple approvals and reminders with electronic signature capture.
- iii. The platform should allow users to access forms through Web-Based and Mobile Console.
- iv. The platform should allow capturing meta data e.g. date and time of approval etc.
- v. The platform should support bulk scanning and standard scanning to support completion of the electronic forms
- vi. The platform should allow adding new process, features and functionalities
- vii. Security at different levels
  - o User-Level Security
    - each user assigned with passwords meeting CUMC password complexity requirements
    - Integration with Office 365 applications
    - Supporting Segregation of duties and principles of least privilege access
  - o Document Level Security
    - Data Classification
    - Secured Metadata
    - Encryptions
    - Version Control
  - o System Level Security

- Auditing trail
- Electronic digital signatures

Viii Flexible and easy to understand licensing model

The interested companies can request the complete Tender document through ICAP Procurement email: [tanzaniaprourement@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:tanzaniaprourement@cumc.columbia.edu)

The Tender document should be submitted through procurement email. [tanzaniaprourement@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:tanzaniaprourement@cumc.columbia.edu) and the deadline for submission is **3rd May 2019**.

The heading of the email should state clearly **"The Tender for business Process Automation"** and should be addressed to:

**The Tender Committee**  
**Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH)**  
**Tanzania LLC - ICAP**  
**P. O. Box 80214,**  
**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**

**The proposal validity period is 90days.**

The tenders which will be submitted after deadline will not be considered and accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Note that the organization (MSPH)Tanzania LLC - ICAP is not bound to accept the lowest or highest bidder.

The quotation should be based on price and timeline of the development, testing and commission of the individual forms, however the contract with vendor can be for multiple forms and application.

The evaluation of proposal will be conducted as per Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) Tanzania LLC – ICAP Guidelines.

**Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) Tanzania LLC – ICAP provides equal opportunity for all bidders**



## There is a reason for having UN Chinese Language Day

CHINESE Language Day is celebrated on April 20 globally. At present, one out of five people around the world understand the language. UN Chinese Language Day event was established by UNESCO in 2010, seeking to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six of its official working languages throughout the organisation. April 20 was chosen as the date to pay tribute to Cangjie, a mythical figure who is presumed to have invented Chinese characters about 5,000 years ago.

The first Chinese Language Day was celebrated in 2010 on the 12th of November, but since 2011 the date has been the 20th of April, roughly corresponding to Guyu in the Chinese calendar. Chinese people celebrate Guyu (which usually begins around April 20) in honour of Cangjie, because of a legend that when Cangjie invented Chinese characters, the deities and ghosts cried and it rained millet; the word Guyu literally means rain of millet. In the same vein, the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) has introduced a Diploma in Chinese language, which is geared towards preparing local teachers to teach the language in primary and secondary schools.

The UDSM Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Prof Florens Luoga, told a press conference in Dar es Salaam that the institute would be expected to offer the course in the 2016/2017 academic year.

Thousands of students are now reportedly learning Chinese at different levels in higher learning institutions.

In 2016, the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training launched officially the Chinese language programme in six pi-

lot secondary schools, the move that aimed at meeting the need of market demands as innovation of science and technology is at stake.

Mandarin is the standard literary and official form of Chinese, spoken by over 730 million people.

The ministry has selected 35 teachers, who were trained over the last nine months, to lead the classes which will be compulsory for two years of senior secondary school but optional thereafter.

In the same vein, the South African government was one of the first in Africa to announce plans to integrate Mandarin Chinese into its public school curriculum, and since then others have followed. In December last year, Uganda announced that Mandarin would become a compulsory high school subject and in January, Kenya announced that by 2020, primary (elementary) school students would be able to choose Mandarin as a subject.

South Africa announced in 2015 that it would introduce Mandarin, with the department of basic education arguing that learning another foreign language would help South African children compete in a shifting global economy. Immediately, researchers raised questions on why African languages were not similarly prioritized to build domestic capacity first.

Mandarin is largely being introduced through the various Confucius Institutes, China's international cultural centers similar to the British Council, the Goethe Institute and Alliance Française. The department of basic education has arrangements with Japan, Korea, Cuba, Belgium, the US and others, although these focus on infrastructure and improving math and science.

## This progressive loss of forest cover calls for unremitting remedial action

TANZANIA lies in the African Great Lakes region and boasts over 61,500 km<sup>2</sup> of surface area that is covered by lakes. This makes up 6 per cent of the national surface area and 88 per cent of this area is covered by the three major lakes. Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika are part of the two great lakes in our nation, with Lake Victoria being the largest freshwater lake in Africa and Lake Tanganyika being the second-deepest lake in the world.

In 2012 experts cautioned that Lake Manyara is drying up, saying that unless drastic measures are taken, the water body could disappear in ten years' time.

An ecologist with Lake Manyara National Park, said that the current water depth was only 30 centimetres. The lake could in the past drown an adult human but now it is reported that people can cross the waters with ease.

Last year also a senior Tanzanian government official voiced concerns over Lake Manyara's diminishing water levels, calling for more efforts to save the key tourist attraction from drying up.

The lake is home to diverse landscapes, flamingoes and hippopotamus. The effects of human activities in the lake had resulted in the disappearance of some water species, including the flamingoes.

This week the Parliamentary Committee on Industries, Trade and Environment called for urgent steps to address alarming rates of deforestation as three lakes near extinction.

Tabling the committee's report on the financial year 2019/20 budget estimates for the President's Office (Environment), the committee deputy chairman Col (ret) Ali Khamis Masoud said lakes Manyara, Jipe na Chala all face extinction. Lake Jipe is in the Mwangi District in the Kilimanjaro Region on the border with Kenya.

Lake Chala is a crater lake at the edge of Mount Kilimanjaro. The lake is home to the endangered Lake Chala tilapia. The lake

once had Nile crocodiles; however, they were considered a nuisance to the local population and have been entirely wiped out over the years.

Available evidence points to human activity within and around water catchment areas feeding the water bodies including excessive cutting of trees as the main problem.

To save the country from the effects of deforestation including desertification and dwindling water resources, the committee called on the government to significantly scale up environmental protection programmes, starting from the coming financial year.

At present around 61 per cent of the country was in danger of turning into desert, with the most affected regions as Dodoma, Singida, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Manyara and parts of Kilimanjaro.

Studies show that a forest the size of a football pitch is being felled in the country every hour. These figures have made Tanzania one of the five countries that lead in deforestation in the world.

Tanzania has in recent years emerged on the list of countries facing water scarcity, we should therefore take measures to address free fall deforestation caused mainly by avoidable causes.

The country is likely to become water-stressed by 2025 if resources are not managed well, experts have warned in recent expert gatherings.

Environmentalists warn that more than 370,000 hectares (915,000 acres) of tree cover is being cut in Tanzania every year, mostly for fuel.

Statistics show that 2.3 million tonnes of charcoal are consumed in the country annually, roughly half of it in Dar es Salaam, and the demand is projected to double by 2030. A forest inventory by Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) in 2015 found that forests and wooded areas cover over 48 million hectares of land, underlining that wood remains the main source of fuel for Tanzanians, even in urban areas.

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## Land is power: How land rights can enfranchise Liberia's women

By Loretta Alethea Pope Kai

LIBERIA is in the throes of finalising one of Africa's most progressive land rights laws but its potential will be thwarted if women are excluded.

In the 42-year history of International Women's Day, there have been huge advances in women's rights across the world. But despite these strides, many are still fighting for basic human rights, including to life and security.

This is certainly true in my country, Liberia.

In 2018, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ranked Liberia 155th out of 160 countries on gender equality, based on reproductive health, empowerment and economic activity. But this appalling statistic is not because women aren't trying to make a change.

We built a movement for peace during the country's 14-year civil war and served as caregivers on the frontline of the Ebola crisis in 2014-2015. We campaigned for Ellen Sirleaf Johnson, Africa's first democratically elected female president, whose election could have been a turning point for gender equality.

So why are Liberian women still fighting for power? In Liberia, power is tied to land.

### LIMITED LAND RIGHTS

Agriculture and forestry are the engines of Liberia's economy, contributing around 40 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product. Yet, while 80 percent of agricultural workers and a fifth of forestry labourers are women, their access to and control of land is limited.

In 2006, the Liberian Legislature voted in the Community Rights Law, which established a process for communities to collectively own land.

While that law was a crucial moment for community rights, the freedoms that came with it were only accessible to men.

Since rural communities traditionally only involve men in decisions around land, women have been left landless and excluded from decision-making structures.

My organisation, Foundations for Community Initiatives (FCI), an NGO based in Liberia's capital, is working to change that. FCI was founded in 2004 and is focused on integrating women into leadership positions and promoting women-centred community-based initiatives around natural re-



source rights.

Over the last decade, we have worked with the government and other NGOs to develop a law that addresses women's land rights. This work culminated in September 2018 when President George Weah signed a new Land Rights Act into law.

The Act is one of the most progressive land rights laws in Africa and is the first Liberian law that recognises women's rights to land.

Prior to this, women were considered outsiders to the communities that they married into and were rarely allowed to participate in decisions about land.

Although the 2003 Inheritance Law defined some land rights for married women (granting them just a third of their husband's property post-mortem), married women had no land rights outside of inheritance and unmarried women were not able to own land privately or collectively.

In practice, this means that unmarried women - who represent 62 percent of Liberian women - can't own land or have their own house and often have to squat with their families. These women are often unpaid labourers within

their families, having to tend to the land and take care of relatives at the same time - yet they can't own or make decisions about the very land they stand on.

With the passage of the Land Rights Act, women are defined as part of their community, able to participate in land governance decisions and management bodies, and all women, married or not, are able to own land privately, jointly and collectively.

### SUPPORT NEEDED

This is a big step towards equality, but women's rights are still at stake.

Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world and the law's success is dependent on its enforcement and implementation in an area where state institutions are weak.

The Liberian government needs donor and NGO support to ensure that this revolutionary law achieves its potential, because it relies on transforming gender norms.

Traditional and cultural practices have often marginalised and excluded women, so communities need increased skills and awareness to become agents of change.

At FCI, I educate women,

**In 2006, the Liberian Legislature voted in the Community Rights Law, which established a process for communities to collectively own land.**

men, and youth about this law. Our training builds awareness about the law and increase women's confidence and ability to participate in decision-making processes.

This confidence building is essential. While 73 percent of Liberian women are illiterate and therefore cannot read the Land Rights Act, you don't need to be able to read the law to know your rights.

Women who believe that they can make decisions about land and understand the land rights this law gives them, can fight for land ownership.

Our training is slowly working towards these goals, but we need help from donors and the government in order to succeed. Laws are dependent on implementation - we need to ensure men aren't allowed to use loopholes to avoid behaviour change.

FCI will work with the community committees to develop bylaws that protect women, but these bylaws will be unenforceable if the government does not develop further regulations to support them.

Right now, Liberia's Land Authority is defining the regulations that will govern implementation of this law. They must strengthen and uphold the Land Rights Act, showcasing that we can achieve gender equality by guaranteeing women's land rights, in Liberia and worldwide.

After all, land is power.



BY ANDREWS ATTA-ASAMOAH AND  
OMAR S MAHMOOD

As General Awad Ibn Ouf declared the removal of President Omar al-Bashir from office on 11 April, the streets of Khartoum burst into celebration. It was hard to imagine that the Sudanese Army and security forces would give way to unarmed civilians calling for an end to al-Bashir's rule. These forces had been the main pillar on which he built his powerbase. Yet they did.

Since then, Awad himself and intelligence chief Salah Gosh have resigned in the face of persistent public opposition, as the protesters wanted more than just al-Bashir's removal, but rather a wholesale systematic change.

Awad's successor, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, has tried to assuage demands by announcing changes to the military's roadmap, but has still stuck to a two-year timeline to hand over power to a civilian rule. His ascension puts a more palatable face on the Transitional Military Council, but the insistence on a prolonged transition increases the likelihood of protracted conflict between the military and civilians.

At least four striking features of the evolving situation are worth considering. First, the context in which the masses had the courage to gather on the streets of Khartoum and other cities is indicative of strong resolve for change. This is especially true as al-Bashir's regime quelled previous protests with brutal force.

In a religiously conservative society such as Sudan, the central role of women in the push for change also defied all expectations and brought to the fore the extent of national discontent.

Before the final April gathering outside the military headquarters, months of demonstrations had hit a stalemate, but the protests remobilised around

## There's much work to be done in Sudan

the anniversary of the overthrow of military leader Gaafar an-Nimeiry on 6 April. The recent resignation of Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika after popular pressure may also have served as inspiration.

Despite the odds, the protesters ensured a change in Sudan's leadership twice in a matter of days. This has rewarded the hard work and sacrifices of an emboldened movement, one that sees the potential for success, and will probably not be sated until further demands are met by the military.

Second, the 6 April protests turned around fissures in the security response as some members of the Sudanese army offered protesters protection against national security forces trying to disperse them. This raises questions regarding the unity of the Sudanese security forces going forward.

At the same time the formation of the Transitional Military Council has generated perceptions of a military hijack of a civilian cause, thereby requiring the continued presence of protesters on the streets, even after al-Bashir's ousting.

While Awad resigned largely due



to pressure from the masses, his successor al-Burhan has reiterated a two-year timeline. The military evidently wants to play a pivotal role in the transition to civilian rule. However protesters are distrustful because of the role the army played in propping up al-Bashir, and the potential for allowing his continued influence, or at least his system, to persist through their hold on power.

Discussions between al-Burhan and some key opposition leaders have begun, indicating a greater level of confidence and potentially the formation of a military-civilian transitional arrangement. But compromises on both sides are needed for Sudan's sake, given that the change has resulted in new pivotal roles for not just the opposition, but the current military leadership itself.

Third, until his fall, al-Bashir was heavily involved in various regional initiatives, some of which may suffer as a result of his de-

parture. In South Sudan, for instance, the removal of al-Bashir has created uncertainty about the appropriate successor to his role as guarantor of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

In the ongoing Gulf Cooperation Council crisis, al-Bashir played off both sides to his benefit. He contributed troops to the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabian war effort in Yemen while allowing Turkey and Qatar to undertake a massive renovation project in the old port of Suakin. Nonetheless, al-Bashir's Gulf allies didn't come to his rescue in the days before his removal, and some even expressed support for the new leadership.

Yet with such divergent interests and the negative impact the Gulf Cooperation Council crisis has had in other Horn of Africa countries, whether the new military leadership will be able to balance regional geopolitics as skill-

fully as al-Bashir did is uncertain.

Fourth, despite al-Bashir's political prowess and the protester demands for civilian rule, his fall was primarily the result of an inability to resolve structural issues associated with Sudan's economic problems.

The real challenge ahead, therefore, is for any emerging military or civilian leadership to reorient the economic foundations of the country away from its dependency on oil revenue and quickly satisfy the masses' demands. If it doesn't, any new leadership will face the same economic challenges that led to al-Bashir's ousting.

There is no indication that the current crop of military leaders has what it takes to resolve the underlying drivers of Sudan's economic challenges. The deep-rooted nature of the needed economic reforms also necessitates a lengthy process regardless of who is in control. Combined with distrust for military rule, however,

achieving true economic reform under such a system seems even trickier.

This implies that despite the commendable fight the masses have put up to see al-Bashir out, the solution to the issues bedeviling the country is far off. Even the outcome of negotiations between the military leadership and protest leaders will only set the stage for how future issues are resolved, rather than providing actual solutions.

The real work to create a Sudan in which all citizens live in peace, prosperity and democratic freedom has only just begun. And it will certainly be a lengthy and bumpy road.

But the prospect for a new Sudan has now emerged in a way that wasn't apparent a week ago. This could dramatically transform the country and serve as an inspiration for the region and beyond.

Agencies

## Cyclone Idai is over - but its health effects will be felt for a long time

HARARE

The private sector is part of a country's economy that is not controlled directly by the government; it is a term that combines households and businesses in the economy into a single group. The resources of production owned by the private sector are owned in the form of private property.

The private sector includes entities such as households and individuals, for-profit enterprises, partnerships, corporations, non-profit organizations, charities, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The private sector is contrasted with public sector, which is a comparable term for the governmental sector.

It is argued that the reason for the private sector's low share in developing countries is due to the fact that for governments in low-income countries, creating additional public-sector jobs is administratively easier than establishing an unemployment insurance scheme or subsidizing job security in the private sector.

The distinction between private sector and public sector reflects the two alternative methods of solving the allocation of resources in an economy: markets or government.

Markets utilize private ownership of resources—thus the term private sector—for voluntary allocation decisions. In contrast to the public sector, the private sector—with the exception of nonprofit-making organizations, charities, and non-governmental organizations—mainly searches for profit opportunities.

Private companies and organizations produce goods and services in response to supply-and-demand forces in the market, with the final goal of making a profit for the owners and shareholders of the private enterprise.

The private sector plays a key role in accelerating economic growth in market capitalist economies. The private sector is the foundation of the market capitalist economic system.

Without the private sector the capitalist market cannot exist, and vice versa. For example, the development of the private sector in transition econ-

omies was vital, and the final goal of transition was associated with the private sector being converted into the dominant sector in the economy.

In all industrialized or advanced capitalist economies, the absolute and relative size of the private sector is very high. Hence, in a capitalist market economy the private sector is mostly responsible for most of the country's investments, for the generation of new job opportunities, and for the improvement of standards of living, and it is the source of most technological developments.

The government in market capitalist economies undertakes the following responsibilities to promote and support the private sector: They include creation of proper legal environment for the private sector to function, through private property rights and contract law, introducing customs and tax laws that should encourage private investment, often providing basic infrastructure produced by public enterprises such as water, power, land, transport and communication services and other necessities, and initiating macroeconomic policies and expenditure to increase the demand for the private sector produced goods.

The private sector increases into two ways through privatization of state-owned enterprises and through the creation and establishment of new firms. In this way, the share of the private sector in the economy grows. Privatization represents the transfer of state-owned assets to private ownership, alongside the creation and fostering of private businesses.

Privatization is an alternative way of distributing and choosing the means of generating wealth. Consequently, it also may be considered a distribution of political and economic power in the economy.

The increase of the private sector further implies the abandonment of government control over economic activity, as well as the abandonment of state monopoly in certain sectors.

However, as the private sector increases, both income and wealth inequality increase, and intergenerational mobility decreases. It is true, however, that Tanzania was once a place of sub-



stantial intergenerational mobility. Sons often did much better than their fathers.... However, over the past generation upward mobility has fallen drastically.

Very few children of the lower class are making their way to even generate affluence.... In modern world, it seems, you're quite likely to stay in the social and economic

class into which you were born.

Supporters of the private sector mistrust government-initiated economic activities because they believe that the private sector is both efficient and enterprising.

This further increases efficiency because of the increase in macroeconomic productivity due to the adoption of new technology.

Critics of the private sector argue that the private sector does not produce public goods, that it creates private monopolies, enhances income and wealth inequality, and discourages intergenerational mobility.

Public goods are commodities where the exclusion principle breaks down, and they are non-

rivalries. Such goods include, for example, lighthouses, national defense, police, fire brigades, and traffic lights.

In nearly all industrialized or advanced market-capitalist economies, public goods are provided by the government and funded through the collection of state revenues.



# Anti-corruption campaign insincere

By Nyasha Chingono

**T**HE failure by President Emmerson Mnangagwa's government to tackle high-level corruption—which has contributed immensely to economic decay—has raised serious questions about his sincerity to fight the scourge.

In his inaugural speech in November 2017 after seizing power in a military coup that toppled long-time leader Robert Mugabe, Mnangagwa depicted himself as a pragmatic leader who was ready to undo nearly four decades of corruption that has contributed to the country's economic collapse.

"As we focus on recovering our economy, we must shed misbehaviours and acts of indiscipline which have characterised the past. Acts of corruption must stop forthwith. On these ideals, my administration declares full commitment, warning that grief awaits those who depart from the path of virtue and clean business," Mnangagwa said.

Mnangagwa promised "swift justice" for economic saboteurs and swore to uphold high moral standards.

This he said to wide adulation from praise singers, while critics were also willing to give him a chance to prove that he was taking a different path from his long-time mentor, former president Robert Mugabe, who presided over decades of corruption.

Although Auditor-General Mildred Chiri has often been commended for unearthing corruption in parastatals, municipalities and state-affiliated companies, her reports have over the years gathered dust as no action has been taken.

A recent audit by Ralph Bomment Greencare and Reynolds exposed Mines minister Winston Chitando's involvement in shady business dealings where he allegedly presided over the misuse of a US\$115.5 million loan at troubled coal-mining giant, Hwange Colliery Company Limited.

The forensic audit also uncovers corporate governance failures, massive fraud and tax evasion at the partly state-owned company and implicates former Hwange managing director Thomas Makore and senior executives in financial irregularities.

Another audit also exposes massive corruption, tax evasion and corporate governance rot at the Zimbabwe National Road Administration (Zinara), where the cash-rich road funder lost millions of dollars through wanton financial waste and unsubstantiated payments to board members and senior company officials.

Police say they are currently investigating cases of corruption at Zinara, although it is yet to be seen if the real fat cats that have benefitted from sleaze there will be brought to account.

Seventeen months after Mnangagwa took the oath of office, no meaningful arrests or convictions have taken place except those perceived to be the President's political rivals.

High-profile corruption cases in the Mnangagwa era include former Information Communication Technology minister Supa Mandiwanzira, who was last week cleared by the High Court of all the criminal abuse charges he was facing.

Former Energy minister Samuel Udenge, who had been jailed for four years for prejudicing the Zimbabwe Power Company (ZPC) of US\$12 000 after he issued a tender irregularly, was freed on US\$1000 bail pending appeal last year after appealing against his conviction and sentence by the Harare Magistrates Court. Udenge was part of the G40 faction.

Stephen Chan, a professor of World Politics at the University of London, said prosecutions in Zimbabwe were aimed at eliminating political foes and had failed to stem corruption in the southern African nation.

"In Zimbabwe, many of the corrupt oligarchs are closely linked with senior government figures. No meaningful prosecutions will be brought against allies in good standing. It will be like China, where prosecutions occur to get rid of political threats or enemies or as an act of political vengeance. Zimbabwe, however, is not like Nigeria. There is much corruption in Nigeria, but that country has a problematic but thriving economic and export sector. Zimbabwe has corruption while it begs others for money, and has nothing to give in exchange," Chan said.

Former Finance Minister Tendai Biti, who heads the parliamentary portfolio committee on Public Finance, said Mnangagwa's anti-corruption rhetoric was a farce while his treatment of high-level corruption cases flies in the face of his "open for business mantra".

"Mnangagwa's legacy is that of corruption. He has been sitting on the Zinara report for years; surely he cannot be a champion in the fight against corruption. Mnangagwa is the centre of corruption, you can't trust a mosquito to cure malaria," Biti told the Independent this week.

Biti claimed that the government had attempted to gag parliament's probe into Zinara.

"I am glad that our committee has teeth now but they are trying to muzzle



parliament probe into Zinara. We are however going to stick to our mandate, so much work needs to be done," Biti said. Zimbabwe scored 22 points out of 100 on the 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index reported by Transparency International. Corruption Index in Zimbabwe averaged 24.81 points from 1998 until 2018, reaching an all-time high of 42 points in 1998 and a record low of 18 points in 2008. The Corruption Perceptions Index ranks countries and territories based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be. Public sector corruption has spiked over the years.

Economist John Robertson said government corruption was bleeding the country while thorough audit systems should be employed to stem graft in public entities. He said Mnangagwa should justify all government expenditures through accounting audits.

"Government corruption is bleeding the country and that needs urgent attention. The President should make sure that all expenses are justified and accounted for so that we know what is going on," Robertson said.

"The problem is that corruption has become part of the culture where people feel entitled. They don't call it corruption anymore."

In January Mnangagwa moved to disband the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission which was accused of being corrupt and meddling in Zanu PF internal affairs.

The International Crisis Group's

senior consultant for Southern Africa, Piers Pigou, said government should walk the talk on corruption if the international community is to fully re-engage with the southern African nation.

"Unless the state is seen to be more seriously walking its talk on this, certainly questions will be raised in the international community, but more importantly domestically as well," Pigou said.

Meanwhile, Siphosami Malunga reports that a few weeks ago, a coalition of civil society organisations from Matabeleland met President Emmerson Mnangagwa to discuss issues affecting Matabeleland region.

One of the issues was Gukurahundi. Following the meeting, the government has issued a statement setting out some commitments to issue birth and death certificates to victims of Gukurahundi and also allowing victims' families to conduct reburials of victims. It has also indicated that victims must be allowed to tell their stories unhindered by state law enforcement agencies.

The National Peace and Reconciliation Commission has been conducting public hearings on the Gukurahundi issue and other past atrocities.

Government also says it will address other issues, for instance Matabeleland Zambezi Water Project, affecting Matabeleland in a bid to deal with underdevelopment and marginalisation in the region in its implementation matrix.

Admittedly, and positively, this is the furthest the Zimbabwean government has ever gone on Gukurahundi. For many years, during former president Robert Mugabe era, it stifled all debate on it and refused to take any

**In Zimbabwe, many of the corrupt oligarchs are closely linked with senior government figures. No meaningful prosecutions will be brought against allies in good standing. It will be like China, where prosecutions occur to get rid of political threats or enemies or as an act of political vengeance.**

responsibility. It has moved from pretending that Gukurahundi never happened, and was inconsequential, to recognising that it left a trail of death, despair, misery, pain and a profound sense of injustice on the people of Matabeleland.

And that despite years of not doing so, there is need to address this more urgently than ever. This realisation has taken far too long for victims, but it is nonetheless welcome and a step in the right direction. It is never too late for justice.

But, even then, there are many signs that the government may be going about this the wrong way. After denying Gukurahundi for over 30 years, and ignoring its impacts, including the rendering of thousands of its victims stateless, refusing to allow them to mourn and bury their loved ones, forcing them to endure the agony of living amongst mass graves, refusing to allow them to speak about their pain and refusing to compensate them and hold perpetrators accountable, the government has a lot of work to do.

Government now appears to have woken up to the reality of its terrible actions of the 80s, but it must recognise that it remains the perpetrator here. Nothing bestows the right and moral authority on a perpetrator to unilaterally deliver justice to a victim.

Justice requires confronting the crime in all its elements – exposing it, identifying who did what, where, when, to whom, why and how? Engaging the crime and its consequences from the perspective of the victim is important.

Enabling the victims to say what constitutes justice, even more. Allowing the perpetrators to share their own perspective (and even justification) of why they did what they did is key.

It requires the crime and the pain it leaves to be laid bare for all to see, to lament and condemn. To say "never again shall we as a society allow such a thing to happen in our country, to our own, innocent civilians and citizens". It requires repentance on the part of perpetrators, to open the possibility for forgiveness by victims.

To achieve all this, addressing Gukurahundi requires a proper and dedicated process that places victims at the centre.

## Before next round of instability in the National Assembly...

By Brutus Garba

**T**HE battle for Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives began immediately after the presidential and National Assembly polls had been won and lost. And the battle promises to continue until early June when the ninth National Assembly is due to be inaugurated. But whether the battle will continue beyond the inauguration is what nobody can say with certainty at this point. Only the leadership of the ruling All Progressives Congress, APC, seems to be in the position to determine what will happen in the Senate in the post-inauguration period. Reason: The leadership of the party is taking a path that can only be a source of instability in the Senate as the ninth session is about to begin. History supports this fear. A background into how the APC leadership is about to create crisis in the upper chamber of the federal parliament and the consequences it portends will suffice. When the APC won the majority in both chambers of the National Assembly in the March elections, as is the convention across the world where democracy is practised, it became obvious that it had the number to produce the leadership. But the victory that ordinarily should be a point of strength has now become a problem. Immediately after, the National Chairman of the party, Mr Adams Oshiomhole, as he is wont to do, began to make reckless statements.

He listed what is acceptable to the party and what is not, concerning the emergence of the National Assembly presiding and principal officers. The offices, as is customary in the polity, should be zoned. But even while that

had yet to happen, at least officially, and without any consultations whatsoever, Oshiomhole met with the senators elected on the platform of his party and arrogantly announced that the APC had decided to zone the Senate President to the North-East. Notwithstanding the indiscretion displayed by the party leadership because it did not consult with stakeholders on the decision, the step was widely welcomed because North-East was the zone the APC earmarked the Senate President for the eighth National Assembly before the number three office accidentally went to the North Central. But Oshiomhole did not stop there.

He went further to say that the office had been zoned to a particular individual. That is what is creating controversy in the polity. Critics say what the party National Chairman has done is not only strange to democracy as it was devoid of any consultations with stakeholders, it is also a sure path to instability in the ninth Senate. History, in fact, does not support imposition of the Senate President, especially since the nation returned to participatory democracy in 1999. Analysts point to the emergence of Senator Evan(s) Enwerem as Senate President of the first Senate to buttress their position that imposition of the occupant of the office has been nothing but a source of instability in the red chamber. Ahead of the inauguration of that Senate, Senator Chuba Okadigbo, as then-popular choice for Senate President, was already coasting home to victory when the Obasanjo-led executive, apparently uncomfortable with the strong personality of Okadigbo, interfered with the process, causing Enwerem to emerge. The inter-



ference was all that was needed to sow the seed of instability in then-Senate. Consequently, the first Senate ended producing five Senate Presidents. As even a student of Politics 101 will know, the country couldn't have benefitted from an unstable Senate in terms of quality legislation and oversight of the executive.

With the benefit of this hindsight, analysts say Oshiomhole will do the polity a whole world of good by backtracking on his mission to impose the Senate President. They argue that the zoning of the number three office would

have been enough while leaving the emergence of the candidate to the party's North-East Caucus of senators-elect to guarantee a popular choice. But like the hunter's dog that is destined to be lost because it does not hear the owner's whistle, Oshiomhole has continued on the path to impose Senator Ahmed Lawan as Senate President.

Meanwhile, there are two other contenders from the North-East for the number three office - Senators Ali Ndume and Danjuma Goje - even if some people say the aspiration of Goje does not look

serious. Ndume has continued to insist that the ninth Senate should be allowed to choose the Senate President without encumbrances to ensure that a popular number three citizen who enjoys the confidence of his colleagues, and not the one imposed from outside, emerges. Many analysts agree with him on the grounds that, apart from the fact that the process will guarantee the independence of the upper chamber as the Senate President will have any IOU to repay anybody, that is the only way to give stability to the next Senate. And the analysts don't overlook the fact that Ndume is overtly qualified for the job. He has been in the National Assembly since 2003 when he was elected into the House of Representatives (Chibok/Dambo/Gwoza Federal Constituency). And within four years at the House, Ndume distinguished himself, a situation that saw him being unanimously elected in 2007 as the Minority Leader of the sixth Assembly.

His profound devotion to the principles of representative democracy where the will of the people is paramount inspired his candidacy for the Senate to represent Borno South in 2011 even when that contradicted the wish of then-governor of his home state, Borno. As a man with firm convictions and principles, Ndume changed his political affiliation from the All Nigeria People's Party (ANPP) to the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and successfully actualised

his senatorial ambition.

Ndume has since made highly impactful legislative interventions that contributed immensely to sustainable development especially in his capacity as the Chairman of the Senate Committee on MDGs in the last (7th) Assembly.

His political career is guided by a firm adherence to the fundamental constitutional responsibilities underlying his mandate. This inspired his revolutionary decision to join over 20 of his distinguished colleagues to move from the PDP to form a bloc called the 'new PDP'. This group subsequently merged to form the APC and was significantly responsible for its emergence as the ruling party at the federal level in 2015. Ndume launched his second bid for the Senate on that platform and was re-elected for second term to represent the people of Borno South.

He became the Majority Leader of the Senate upon the inauguration of the eighth National Assembly on June 9, 2015.

A visionary and talented political leader who commands the respect of his colleagues through integrity, Ndume is a member of the Presidential Committee on the North-East Initiative that was inaugurated on October 26, 2016 and currently the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Establishment and Public Service.

He is highly reputed for building consensus among divergent groups and possesses an impeccable political acumen.



# Zambia partnering with China in boosting agricultural production

NDOLA

CHINESE investments in Zambia's agricultural sector will enhance technology adoption in the country's farming industry, which will result in higher food productivity, a senior government official has said.

Minister of Agriculture Michael Katambo said in an interview with Xinhua early this week that Zambia is partnering with foreign investors, especially the Chinese in the farming industry to improve national food production.

"Our partnering with Chinese in agriculture sector will scale up investment in the farming

industry in our country," he said, adding the Chinese have shown an interest in investing in the country's aquaculture sector.

Katambo said Zambia should be turned into a regional food basket in the next few years because of the anticipated increase in investment.

Agriculture sector is one of the major revenue generation contributors towards Zambia's economic growth, he added.

The government, he said, has set aside 100,000 hectares of land across provinces to open up farming activities on a commercial basis. "We are encouraging all our private partners to help develop the undeveloped farming

blocks across the country. We want to be a food basket in the southern region," he said.

This, he said, can only be achieved when the agriculture sector engages in modern agriculture technology to enhance farming activities.

According to him, the construction of multi-purpose dams such as Muwomboshi dam in Central province and Kafulafuta dam on the Copperbelt province will help harness water for improved irrigation activities.

"Farmers will benefit a lot to grow food all year round through enhanced irrigation system," he said.

Meanwhile, Zambia should emulate China's

long-term economic planning model to improve economic development for the benefit of its citizens, an expert said on Tuesday.

Owen Sichone, a lecturer at the School of Humanities at the Copperbelt University, said China's long-term economic growth model has resulted in an industrialized economy which accelerated the economic growth of the Asian nation. "Despite China being faced with problems, the country was still determined to achieve its long-term economic growth by building industries that have brought about development," he said.

The expert said China's economic growth

path has tremendously improved as a result of industrialization which has come about through long-term implementation plan.

Zambia, he said, should take advantage of the sound China-Zambia bilateral relations to foster and transform its economy by learning from China's long-term model.

According to him, income savings have also contributed to building a strong economy in China and transforming people's lives.

"Zambians should also think of Chinese way of saving, when you save you will have income and you will be independent," he said.

AGENCIES

## Jua Kali: Building resilience through the reduction and diversion of waste

CASTRIES

JUA Kali is a social enterprise tackling waste management and helping to reduce reliance on St. Lucia's only landfill, which will reach the end of its lifespan in 2023. The company, with its slogan "Trashing the Idea of Waste," hosts waste collection drives through pop up depots that encourage residents to bring in glass, plastic and tin cans in exchange for supermarket shopping points.

This is happening as St. Lucia, like other small island states, faces climate resilience issues with freshwater quality and deterioration in marine and coastal ecosystems.

Jua Kali is the brainchild of Laurah John. She talks to IPS about why she established Jua Kali and the challenges that she has faced on the project.

**Inter Press Service (IPS): Tell me about your background.**

**Laurah John (LJ):** I am a purpose driven, creative rebel and sustainability change agent or at the very least I try to embody those traits through my work with Jua Kali Ltd. - a profit-for-purpose, social enterprise that seeks to provide innovative and sustainable resource recovery solutions to address waste management issues in Small Island Developing States through strategic partnerships.

Before Jua Kali, I was a Social Development Practitioner/Short-term Consultant for the World Bank and Caribbean Local Economic Development project. I was also employed with the Ministry of Social Transformation.

**IPS: What led you to establish Jua Kali Ltd.?**

**LJ:** In 2012, I completed a Master's in Urban Studies from the Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada. My master's thesis, "Wasted Lives: Determining the Feasibility of Establishing a Test Case Resource Recovery Programme in the Urban Poor Community of Faux-a-Chaud, Saint Lucia" sought to explore Resource Recovery as a tool for alleviating urban poverty, enhancing environmental



Jua Kali founder Laurah John. Jua Kali is a social enterprise tackling waste management and helping to reduce reliance on St. Lucia's only landfill. Courtesy: Laurah John

sustainability and bettering communities. This research formed the basis of a business idea that led me and an eight person team to win the 8th [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation] UNESCO Youth Forum Startup Weekend in 2013 and led to the creation of Jua Kali Ltd. in August 2014.

**IPS: Tell me about your slogan, "Trashing the Idea of Waste".**

**LJ:** We acknowledge waste as a design flaw in how we built our societies and do not see it as acceptable. We are challenging the public to re-think the concept of waste and question consumption patterns and how that contributes to the problem. We are

empowering consumers to recognise that they have the right to leverage (their dollar) and demand that producers create better quality products that address the end-of-life reality of their goods.

Producers take limited resources to create goods that are bought then thrown out. If we no longer believe that waste is ac-

ceptable, it means that this product, once utilised, needs to feed into some other process for continuity - closing the loop!

**IPS: How do you host collection drives and are you satisfied with public reception?**

**LJ:** The collection drives are based on the Pop Up shop concept - hence the name Pop Up depots - where we set up shop with our tents, tables, chairs and army of volunteers, to create an area where the public may drop-off used household materials like plastic bottles and containers, glass jars and bottles, as well as cans and tins. In return, they receive points on their Massy Stores Loyalty Card. We set up twice a month.

We are very satisfied with the public's reception! From our very first day back with the depots (Mar. 2, 2019), many people came up to us to say how happy they were that the depots had resumed, what a great initiative it is, and that they hoped it was coming back for good - encouraging words that reinforced that we are on the right path.

**IPS: What are some of the challenges you face in this project?**

**LJ:** Raising awareness is our biggest challenge. Airtime is expensive and although we have some sponsorship in this regard, much more is required to have a consistent presence to remind the public of the depots. Additionally, where people receive their information changes depending on what part of the island they reside. This requires a communications strategy that is both robust and multidimensional, pulling on a variety of platforms to target different audiences.

**IPS: Where do you see Jua Kali in 5 years?**

**LJ:** As a regional leader in socio-environmental stewardship.

**IPS: Why is waste diversion and re-**

**duction so crucial to the climate change and environmental discussion?**

**LJ:** To appreciate the importance of waste diversion and reduction activities and their contribution to the climate change and environmental discussion, we must first understand the severity of their impact. Typical disposal and treatment of waste in a landfill can produce emissions of several greenhouse gases (GHGs), most significantly methane, which contributes to global climate change. Other forms of waste disposal also produce GHGs though mainly in the form of carbon dioxide.

Additionally, improper waste disposal can create or exacerbate disasters, for example, by clogging waterways leading to flash flooding and creating hazardous public health conditions by contaminating water sources, creating breeding grounds for disease borne vectors such as mosquitoes. Furthermore, on a small island like Saint Lucia with a limited landmass, sending our trash to a landfill takes up valuable productive land. There has to be a better way!

**IPS: Do you think the Caribbean is giving sustainable waste diversion and reduction due attention?**

**LJ:** More and more, Caribbean countries are giving attention to the waste issue, primarily because of how visible it has become with the increased use of plastics, the international campaign against plastic pollution and the detrimental impact this can have on tourism based economies. There is also a growing awareness and research to highlight the negative impact of waste on water quality and fisheries. As such, this is driving action towards supporting initiatives like ours. Could it use more attention? Definitely, but we are making headway.

I would like to encourage the public to believe that small, individual actions to reduce or divert waste together will make a difference! #bethechange

## Farmers in Kenya count losses as crops wilt owing to delayed rains

NAIROBI

A FARMER in Muringato, Nyeri County, discards maize stalks on April 15, 2019 following crop failure. Many other farmers are equally counting losses.

Mzee Paul Sichere Mukhanji, a farmer in Shitaho village in Kakamega County, is a distraught man.

Since he retired from the Department of Public Works 22 years ago, the 82-year-old has been eking out a living growing maize, beans and bananas on his four-acre parcel of land. He needs money to pay the medical bills for his bedridden wife, who is battling complications from diabetes and high blood pressure.

This year, the weather has complicated his predicament. The delayed rains have scuttled his plans to plant early and look forward to a bumper maize harvest.

He is one of the millions of farmers across the country who keep looking at the sky for answers, wondering when the rain will come, but get only a blank response from the azure skies.

DROUGHT

The Nation spoke with farmers in Nyeri, Meru, Uasin Gishu, Trans-Nzoia and Tharaka-Nithi, areas largely known for their agricultural produc-

tivity, and it was the same story of despair as their crops wilted under the scorching heat.

In Kakamega, Mzee Mukhanji's weary face told of the anxiety and frustrations he was undergoing after the dry spell set in just when farmers in the region were set for the planting season. "I planted maize and beans on my farm two weeks ago, hoping the rains would come, but that has not happened. The year has been tough and it looks like we could have a failed harvest," he said.

There is no end in sight to his troubles, with the meteorological department and government officials predicting tough times ahead, especially for maize, the staple food crop.

Kenya produces 40 million bags of maize a year, against an annual consumption of 52 million. The deficit is normally met through imports from East and Southern Africa, but the regions have also been affected by drought.

ALTERNATIVE CROPS

Kenya Meteorological Department acting Deputy Director Bernard Chanzu asked farmers to "seek alternative means of survival" since the rains will be insufficient.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mwangi Kiunjuri also asked farmers to go for fast-maturing crops to mitigate the effects of the drought.

In Kieni, Nyeri County, farmers hard hit by the drought said they had hoped that this year's harvest would help them recover from the previous failed seasons.

Nyeri County has experienced total crop failure for four seasons due to erratic weather. But that did not deter them from trying again. Ms Mary Mwangi, for instance, said she planted maize in readiness for the long rains. "They have wilted because of the scorching sun," she lamented.

Last week, the county received heavy rain for half a day, giving the farmers hope. "The rain cheated us. We went back to plant, but it has stopped and we have no food. And the price of everything has shot up," Ms Mwangi

said.

FAILED HARVEST

In Meru County, farmers who had planted expecting the long rains to start on March 15 are counting their losses.

Mr Japhet Mwangera, a farmer in Imenti North, said he had planted maize and beans and spent over Sh10,000 preparing his farm, yet the seeds did not germinate.

Mr Silas Mugendi, a farmer in Mitheru village in Tharaka-Nithi County, planted after a recent downpour, but his crops have since dried up.

"I thought it was the appropriate time to plant after it rained heavily, but I didn't know that it would last only a day," he said.

In the North Rift, maize farmers are counting their losses after most of the their seeds failed to germinate. Most of the farmers have been forced to plant afresh.

Mr Peter Kutit, a large-scale seed grower, said that half of his 400 acres of seed maize had been destroyed by the drought.

REPLANTING

He noted that the weather reports keep changing, and that farmers are not sure of getting enough rain this year.

"The cost of production has gone up by 100 per cent because we have to replant. We had prepared the land using expensive fertiliser. Unfortunately, the rains have not come and a lot of crops have not germinated," Mr Kutit said at his farm in Birunda.

Mr William Koros from Endebess, Trans-Nzoia County, projected that maize production will be almost nil this year since most farmers did poorly in the early March to May planting season.

"A farmer who planted at that particular time has registered total failure. And because of the prices the government was offering maize farmers last year, most of them sold their produce at throwaway prices of between Sh1,000 and Sh1,600 per bag," he said.



## Ethiopia eyes boost in sesame exports to China in midst of growing demand

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIAN sesame producers and exporters are interested in augmenting their share in the Chinese sesame market amid a growing demand from Chinese consumers.

Speaking to Xinhua, Haile Berhe, President of the Ethiopian Pulses, Oilseeds and Spices Processors-Exporters Association (EPOSPEA), said that export to China currently constitutes close to 70 percent of the east African country's total export of the product to the global market.

"China's sesame market has become the major destination for Ethiopian producers and exporters as the demand for Ethiopian produced sesame among Chinese buyers also increased," Berhe said.

"With the growing trend of sesame export to China, it has become very difficult to imagine the export of sesame without

the Chinese market in it," Berhe said.

Sesame, together with coffee, considered as one of Ethiopia's top export commodity as well as the backbone of Ethiopia's economy.

The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources recently announced that sesame production during the current Ethiopian 2018-2019 fiscal year that started on July 9 to hit 350,000 tonnes.

The ministry further estimated the east African country's revenue from the export of sesame to reach some 500 million U.S. dollars during the current fiscal year.

The EPOSPEA, which was established in 1998 with the objective of building the capacity of its more than 130 active members in the global market, also aspires to maintain and further strengthen its members' approval among Chinese counterparts.

According to Berhe, the first China International Import Expo (CIIE), scheduled to be held from Nov. 5 to 10 in Shanghai, China, would help Ethiopian exporters to maintain their stronghold in Chinese sesame market, eventually helping them to further penetrate the vast market.

"Our association, with more than 130 active members, highly promotes our members to participate in the CIIE as well as other trade fairs and expos so as to assess opportunities that are available in linking up with our Chinese counterparts," he added.

The country, during the previous Ethiopian 2017-2018 fiscal year that ended on July 8, has already exported about 245 million U.S. dollars of goods to China, according to the Ethiopian Ministry of Trade.

AGENCIES



# Four times when you could recognise your passion

I'D start something with massive outbursts of energy, put in all my efforts and free time, produce great results and then, out of God knows where, my interest just fades away and a small voice inside whispers... "this isn't it...there's something out there for you," and then boom I would leave it halfway there and jump onto my next thing just like that!

Mind you, as a millennial who's full of energy, time and of course limitless opportunities to pursue your dreams you may land yourself in such an endless circle of doing a lot of things every day and before those dreams come to fruition, you are out of interest and onto the next one, that thing that catches your interest at the moment.

Because not everything that pops up might be an opportunity, it's therefore important to focus so as to avoid mistaking distractions for opportunities and eventually resulting to a ton of wasted years doing so much and nothing much to account for.

Life is short right? The best time to live is now, tomorrow isn't guaranteed either so it's important to drive head-first into discovering and living our passion and creating a career around it.

## Keep a list of hobbies

Do you love travelling? swimming? Watching movies? reading books? what



is it that really gets you? It's imperative we recognize, keep a list of our interests because this is the little but yet so significant indicators of helping us real-

ize what we are passionate about.

If you love travelling for instance and writing as well, think about travel writing and building

a career out of it. What about that who has an interest in swimming and practices? They can offer paid classes as well and boom a career journey worth pursuing is then built.

Well, the possibilities are limitless but even with hobbies, you ought to work really hard at them too. Mark you, the cash has to come at the end of day literally!

## Talk to friends

People around you might see something about you that you don't. I talked to a friend one day and she said I do better at speaking and presenting ideas something I hadn't realized myself. Well, being good at something doesn't necessarily amount to you having passion around it but well, apparently, a talent or gift you possess might be your pathway and stepping stone to building a passion and pretty much a career around it. What are the common topics you love discussing with them, what do you mostly spend hours and hours on the net surfing and reading about? All this rhetoric questions could give you the answers you need.

## Truly discover yourself

Well, what consumes most of your free time? What are your



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likes and dislikes or what problems would you love to solve? these and many more other questions would help you discover yourself. However, life is full of trial and error but it's best you recognize and find the best areas for you to experiment with in the first place. Assess your relationships, ask others for feedback on your behavior and habits as well. Discovering yourself not only allows you to discover what you are good at or your passion and interests but also helps you in discovering your purpose

## Research various careers

The fear to explore makes a lot of people get trapped in one unsatisfying career all their life

missing the golden opportunity to realize what there are passionate about either way. Research, explore, talk to people in various career fields as well, read and ask as many questions as possible.

Thank God for technology, you don't need a classroom to learn due to the fact that some online courses are free and with practical training and certificates as well. Take advantage of this.

If you could do one thing to transform your life, I highly recommend you to find something you are passionate about and do it for a living. I mean thoroughly building a career out of it. If you jump out of bed each day excited to go to work, then you found your passion

# Carbon pricing should drive African development and not hinder it

By Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

GOVERNMENT leaders often ask me how they can achieve development goals, such as expanding energy access, while tackling climate change. Some say, "Shouldn't we use our coal resources to give people electricity first, then go low-carbon later?"

The answer is no. A mounting body of evidence shows that development and climate action go hand-in-hand. In fact, research from The New Climate Economy shows that bold action on climate could deliver \$26trillion in economic benefits globally between now and 2030. With such unequivocal evidence, the question shifts to "how?"

This week, representatives from government, business and civil society are gathering at the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition's High-Level Assembly to discuss how carbon pricing can be used to shift investments towards low-carbon and climate-resilient projects, and how carbon pricing can address broader social concerns.

These issues are salient across the world, in developed and developing countries alike. But developed countries need to set the example, by moving faster and quicker on carbon pricing. That said, African countries can benefit, too. Carbon pricing offers African economies, in particular, a powerful vehicle for delivering on other social and economic priorities. I urge African countries to focus on three priorities, and carbon pricing plays a key role in each of them.

First, deliver electricity to those without it. In remote areas of Africa, installing standalone renewables (such as solar home systems) can provide electricity more quickly than connecting to the traditional grid. With new battery technology and mini-grid systems, decentralised renewables can deliver reliable energy to whole communities at a time, helping to grow inclusive, rural economies. At the same time, building utility-scale renewable power plants is now cheaper than building coal plants in most regions. After factoring in the health costs of air pollution, the calculus tips further towards renewables.

Africa's wealth of solar, wind and geothermal resources gives us a big natural advantage. And while we need to consider a carefully planned transition to rely on these abundant resources, we must phase out fossil fuel subsidies and begin pricing pollution, to remove the man-made disadvantage currently baked into the system.

Second, prioritise resilient infrastructure. Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Madagascar recently brought home the terrible tragedies that more frequent, more intense storms can cause. The Red Cross estimates Cyclone Idai damaged or destroyed up to 90 per cent of the city of Beira. For the



sake of our lives and our livelihoods, Africa's new infrastructure, including early warning systems, must be able to withstand a changing climate.

In our need lies our opportunity. The world is expected to invest \$90trillion in infrastructure by 2030, with most of the growth in emerging and developing economies. Since Africa is constructing much of our infrastructure now, we have the chance to make it sustainable, efficient and resilient from the start, leapfrogging over the challenges other countries face as they upgrade dirty and dated infrastructure.

To finance this need, carbon pricing programmes offer an important avenue for generating revenues governments can invest in resilient infrastructure. For instance, Colombia introduced a carbon tax in 2017, generating \$127million that year. The government will use the revenues to support essential environmental and rural development projects.

Third, create the conditions for the right investments. A shrinking oil market will deliver shrinking revenues for fossil-fuel rich economies relying on oil exports for growth. As more and more countries and car manufacturers commit to phase out internal combustion engines and switch to electric vehicles, the reality is that their assets could soon be stranded. India and France will end sales of non-electric cars by 2030 and 2040 respectively. Volvo aims for 50 per cent electric sales by 2025, and Volkswagen will stop producing petrol and diesel vehicles in 2026.

As markets shift, so must Africa. Carbon pricing signals the direction of that shift, towards cleaner 21st century technologies and industries, providing companies and investors with strong financial incentives. Rolling back fossil fuel subsidies, which artificially prop up outdated energy technologies, is

also essential to creating the conditions for growing sustainable, resilient economies.

African countries need both domestic and external investment, public and private, to transition quickly to low-carbon, resilient economies. The private sector is already helping to shape a cleaner, more productive future. Blended finance -- a mix of public and private investment -- is also ramping up. For example, the African Development Bank recently invested \$25million in a renewable energy equity fund that plans to add 533 megawatts of electricity across sub-Saharan Africa. This initial public investment is expected to attract private investors to commit a further \$60million to \$75million, potentially tripling the level of investment.

According to the World Bank, existing carbon price programmes around the world generated about \$33billion in 2017. Across the board, revenues from carbon prices can help fund governments' development priorities. More broadly, carbon pricing shapes decision making well beyond any government's purview.

There are many specific development priorities that Africa must achieve to improve the lives of our people today and in the future. Carbon pricing can facilitate the delivery of all these objectives. Putting carbon pricing policies in place now can ensure that African countries are full participants in and drivers of the world's emerging new climate economy.

Okonjo-Iweala is Co-chair of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate

Adesanmi: The Music May Have

Stopped, But The Dance Must Go On

Matthew Kukah

The tragic crash of Africa's best and one of the world's leading airlines, Ethiopian airline last week must be seen as one of the greatest air tragedies in Africa in particular and the world at large. May God grant eternal peace to the all the departed and console the families.

The news that Professor Pius Adesanmi was one of the passengers on the ill-fated flights made the accident even more personal to us in Nigeria and some of us who knew him personally. In real life, I did not know Pius that well because we only met on two different occasions.

I first met him on October 1, at the Covenant Church Headquarters when he and I appeared as speakers at the lecture series. At that event, it was he who approached me, bowed and shook my hand vigorously. I am Pius, Pius Adesanmi. He was pugnacious yet gregarious, in-your-face, yet polite. Unfortunately, I had not heard his name before and was struggling to catch up with him warmth, charm and broad smiles. He showered encomiums on me, prefixing it all with his Catholic identities. He told me that he had been an altar boy, came from a strict Catholic family, which was closely related to Cardinal Onaiyekan.

He then went on to talk to me about how much he had been influenced by my writings. We exchanged contacts and he did promise that he would be happy to visit me in Sokoto during one of his home visits. We parted and did not catch up again because after the lectures, I had to head back to Abuja that same evening.

We exchanged one or two emails during the course of the year. He told me that he had some ideas and programmes that he believed could help some of our Universities and hoped that through me he might link up with the Catholic University in Abuja. We agreed to stay in touch. Somehow, I went quiet and I did not hear from him again.

We had had our own views about the policy direction of our country. I recall reading his comments on my views about where our country was going and the reservations I had expressed about the hazy trajectory of the anti corruption war. Like many others who came after me with their pens, I decided to stay quiet in part because I did not want our differences in political views to in-

terfere with our budding friendship. When he did not respond to my email correspondence, I more or less decided to give him some space.

I think last year or so, I stumbled on the news that he had been involved in a car accident while on a trip home. I sent him a mail to express my sympathies and wished him well. Strange enough, he still did not respond. That's where our relationship stood before this tragedy occurred. On Sunday, March 10th, I had stopped to buy a newspaper and ended up with the Tribune. I had no idea that Pius had become a columnist for the paper. When I read his column that Sunday, I took notice of that fact that his frustration had reached a crescendo.

I had to read over and over again, the last paragraph of that piece in which he stated that a thousand years from now, he hoped that in the course of the excavation of who Nigerians were, they would at least discover fragments of his writings which would point to the fact that not all Nigerians agreed to live as slaves. When, like millions of others, I woke up to the news that he had died in that plane crash, it became clear that those words had become his prophetic epitaph.

To think about Pius is to think about Literature and its contributions to society. Art and Literature cast both present and future often in the face of Janus, looking both backward and forward. The challenge for society often is to find the balance. Decaying social conditions often provide a rich opportunity for writers. The challenge for the writer is how to turn that skill into a tool for development and progress. Often, because the writer is considered a critic, we often mistakenly think that they cannot offer a roadmap for their societies.

My lecture at the 80th birthday of Wole Soyinka was titled, 80 Years of Genius and Prophetic Outrage. The highpoint of the lecture for me was the attempt to interrogate the notion of art as an imitation of life. My argument was that so far, our writers have focused on art as an imitation of life. This is why we can often recognise the various characters in our daily life or environment. Somehow though, we often do not wish to be like those who read about. When, on other hand, life imitates art, then, we find ourselves trying to model ourselves after some of the characters. This for me was the real challenge.

So far, there is a sense in which

our writers have pandered to the weak social fabric of our society to create their stories. The result is that the average Nigerian novel set in Nigeria will hardly rise beyond the foibles of the Nigerian society. Look no further than Nollywood! The result is that we have difficulties finding inspirations from what we read or view. Often cynicism conquers hope and faith. A writer is in a sense a prophet, but not every prophesy is necessary an announcement of doom.

The challenge now as I concluded is for Nigerian writers to focus more on life imitating art. Like many of his admirers, Pius celebrated the first coming of President Buhari as the dawn of the messiah. However, his messianism soon fumbled and the result was that he soon found himself at the opposite end of the same spectrum. Writers must write to raise the hopes of their people and project a future that looms in the horizon. Professor Adesanmi has left us a great treasure trove of fine writing which will outlive him. I pray that God grants him eternal peace. For the Catholic that he was, I have celebrated Mass for his intentions and I am sure he could not have asked for more from me.

As for the future of our country, one would wish that the sacrifices of people like Pius would encourage us to renew our energies and commitment to a good society. We must look beyond the current crop of opportunists who are ready to sacrifice this nation to the gods of their ambitions. Pius must live on beyond our hearts. It is my hope that his writings will become the subject of further interrogation within the academic circles. The music may have stopped, but I am sure that the dance must go on and on.

The late Vaclav Havel, one of Europe's greatest writers both former President of Czechoslovakia and later first President of Czech republic said: I am not an optimist, because I am not sure that everything ends well. Nor am I a pessimist, because I am not sure that everything ends badly. I just carry hope in my heart. Hope is the feeling that life and work have a meaning. You either have it or you don't, regardless of the state of the world that surrounds you. Life without hope is an empty, boring, and useless. I cannot imagine that I could strive for something if I did not carry hope in me. I am thankful to God for this gift. It is as big as life itself.



By Correspondent Prosper Makene

**D**ISCOVERY of massive natural gas in southern regions of the country is an important milestone to foster rapid economic growth and propel the country to semi industrialized middle income economy.

China Petroleum Pipeline Engineering Company Limited (CPP)'s General Manager, Joseph Frankly said in Dar es Salaam this week the country is set to become a gas economy hence provide an effective solution to reliable electricity while avoiding importing fuel for power generation.

"Natural gas will not only provide an effective solution to shortage of electricity but also is significant in rapid acceleration of the development process in Tanzania through provision of employment, saving the nation foreign currency which leads to improving the wellbeing of the people," Frankly said.

He further said that CPP has constructed the over 540 kilometres gas pipeline from Mtwara to Dar es Salaam in record time with four stations and Tegeta's Dar es Salaam receiving terminal station

"We have been working with Tanesco and TPDC in implementing this giant project and we promise to continue working with these government institutions for many years to come in order to improve the sector for the benefit of the country," he added.

The Chinese contractor which also built Kinyerezi I gas supply station, Ubungu I and II station as well a hot tapping project at Mkuranga, is currently involved in maintenance work for the next five years of the project's initial

## CHINESE CONTRACTOR OF MTFWARA-DAR GAS PIPELINE TOUTS GAS ECONOMY



CPP and Tanesco engineers install pressure reducing station at Kinyerezi I gas power supply plant in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Prosper Makene.

years of existence. "CPP has built over 100,000km of oil and gas pipeline, over 200km offshore, 32 million oil storage tanks, 50 refining facilities, 22.5 million tons of liquefied natural gas terminal and 100 oilfield processing plant in Africa," the CCP's General Manager noted as the Chinese contractor marks a decade of service on the continent.

CCP is part of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) specializing in pipeline engineering and construction. The company was given a tender to construct the US 1.2 billion gas pipeline project in 2013 and completed the work in 2014. The funding was through a loan from Chinese state owned Exim Bank.

Apart from doing its professional work in the country, the company also invests in communities through corporate social responsibility and has so far donated 200 school bags, 200 notebooks, 15 footballs, 20 volleyballs and 20 set of teaching tools to Nangurukuru primary school in Kilwa district of Coast region.

"CPP also has contributed a number of bicycles, motorcycles as well as constructing of rural roads, water wells to benefit neighbouring communities around our project areas," Frankly stated. Tanzania has over 53 standard cubic feet of natural gas reserves found in Lindi and Mtwara regions.

## Weak economy stifles property industry while boosting tourism

CAPE TOWN

South Africa's sluggish economy has been a double-edged sword, slaying the property industry with low growth but creating a cheap destination that's boosting tourism.

At the confluence of the two industries is a new Cape Town hotel by Maryland-based Marriott International, the world's largest hotel group. The 188-room AC Marriott hotel, belonging to one of 30 brands in the group that includes Protea, Westin and Ritz-Carlton, formally opened on April 16.

According to the World Travel & Tourism Council, the travel and tourism industry in South Africa is the largest on the continent, making a \$10.2 billion (R136.1 billion) contribution to GDP in 2017. Kenya is second with just \$2.8 billion. South Africa's value is expected to hit \$14.9 billion (R197.9 billion) by 2028.

Marriott is betting on that expansion with 62 hotels in South Africa, including its acquisition of Protea, and eight more planned with a total of 1 500 more rooms, according to Jerome Briet, chief development officer for Middle East and Africa at the hotel chain.

"The reason we want to continue pushing Cape Town is we feel there is more to do on our mid-scale brands," Briet said in an interview, referring to three- and four-star accommodation that might be edgier in style than other types of hotels. "There is a lot of growth potential for us here on that front."

The push for mid-level accommodation may be part of a wider trend, where providers in the Cape pursue lower-cost travellers who flock to establishments in the city and on the Atlantic Seaboard such as backpackers, rather than just the rich.

With the country's weak currency, valued at around R14 to the dollar, coupled with South Africa's sunshine and the handy fact that United Airlines this week announced that it would start direct flights from the US to Cape Town, Cape Town's tourism appeal is strengthening.

Seen at the opening of the new hotel - (from left): President and MD of Marriott International Middle East and Africa Alex Kyriakidis, Amdec Group CEO James Wilson, Marriott International president and CEO Arne Sorenson, and AC Hotel by Marriott GM Michael Liffmann. Image: Supplied

"One of my kids said 'I think I'm going to move to Cape Town,'" Arne Sorenson, president and CEO of Marriott International, said to laughter at the opening of the hotel.

"As more and more people discover the sites, the history, the food, the architecture, the natural beauty, the weather of this place, with the right kind of tourism policy you should see arrivals to Cape Town and South Africa continue to grow."

Tourism rebound  
 The hotel began accepting guests in December, the start of the country's tourist high season that lasts through March. It was then, after the Western Cape's worst drought in a century and a recession last year, that tourism numbers began to show a rebound.

Visitors to Growthpoint Property's V&A Waterfront, Africa's most-visited attraction with about a dozen hotels, a large mall and scores of offices, fell by as much as 25% during the drought and were still down by about 10% more recently, according to V&A Waterfront CEO David Green.

The city-funded Cape Town Tourism agency is more optimistic, saying that the Waterfront reported a 2% decline in visitors for December compared to the same month in 2017,

as did the Two Oceans Aquarium and Cape Point.

"Tourism, in general, is in a period of slow recovery following the drought and recession, and the figures reported bear this out," Cape Town Tourism CEO Enver Duminy said in an emailed reply to questions. "The recovery of water supplies in the latter part of 2018 following healthy rainfall and the implementation of additional water supplies came a little too late to counteract bookings to the city."

Robben Island, where former President Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, showed the highest increase year-on-year for December at 28% more visitors, most likely attributable to favourable operating conditions, according to the tourism agency. It says the attraction suffered a year of challenges that left its numbers 10% down for the whole of 2018.

Yacht Club

The Marriott was built by the privately-held Amdec Group, which developed the luxurious Melrose Arch area in Johannesburg, and which developed the entire R1.5 billion Yacht Club precinct in Cape Town. Aside from the hotel, which Marriott operates for Amdec, the development

combines office space with 170 one- and two-bedroom apartments.

While the tourism climate is rebounding, the property development environment remains under duress, with some listed companies trading at a discount to their asset value, investment opportunities limited by the sluggish economy, and higher yields making capital raising more expensive.

Against this backdrop, Amdec CEO James Wilson says optimism is behind it pursuing Harbour Arch, a six-tower development in the Cape Town CBD, which obtained site development plan approval from the city on April 16.

"If anyone doesn't think we're optimistic then we're as stupid as our money because we're investing R15 billion in the CBD [for Harbour Arch]," Wilson said at the opening of the Yacht Club. The development is already earning returns for investors, with some buyers of the apartments priced from R2.4 million to R7.5 million reselling the units for R1 million in profit, he said. Amdec, which has assets of about R20 billion, has sold some R3 billion in apartments over the past two years, the CEO said in an interview.



AC Marriott hotel in Cape Town.

## Smart housing could help reduce environmental impact of rapidly urbanising African continent

NAIROBI

Hundreds of millions more Africans are predicted to live in cities over the next three decades as the continent rapidly urbanises. Many of these new urban Africans, however, are likely to end up in informal settlements. Already an estimated 200 million Africans live in informal settlements - often without access to energy and sanitation.

The growing class of urban poor need access to decent housing. But the challenge is that the global housing sector already emits almost a third of global greenhouse gas emissions and uses up to 40% of the planet's total resources. New approaches are clearly needed.

As the housing sector grows — and it must grow if we want an equitable world — we need to reduce its environmental impact, not raise it," said UN Environment acting executive director Joyce Msuya. "Smart design is the only way to meet our housing needs and stay within planetary boundaries."

UN Environment, UN Habitat, the Yale Center for Ecosystems in Architecture and associated partners are working on these designs, one of which is on display at the UN Environment headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

3D-printed modular structure  
 First unveiled at the fourth United Nations Environment Assembly, the 3D-printed modular structure, made from biodegradable bamboo, aims to spark ideas and debate on how future biomaterial processes can help meet the Sustainable Development Goals, Habitat III New Urban Agenda and Paris Agreement.

The pavilion shows how post-agricultural waste — like bamboo, coconut, rice, soy and corn — can be turned into construction materials. It demonstrates solar energy and water systems that make homes self-sufficient and zero carbon. It highlights how micro-farming can be achieved with plant walls. All these features, and more, are integrated, monitored and managed by sensors and digital controls.

"As urbanisation gallops forward, people around the world are tired of seeing precious natural habitats paved over with toxic, energy-intensive materials such as concrete and steel," said Anna Dyson, director of the Center for Ecosystems in Architecture at Yale University. "In the 21st century, global construction practices must innovate towards nature-based solutions for future cities. Our research consortium with East African collaborators is devoted to advancing state-of-the-art locally produced building systems."

It is fitting that the pavilion is based in Kenya, as the government there has prioritised affordable housing as a key pillar of its Big Four Agenda, which aims to make the East African nation an upper middle-income country by 2030. Over the next five years, the government plans to build over 500,000 affordable houses across the country to meet the ever-growing housing demand.

Sustainable construction  
 To achieve the low-cost housing agenda, however, the industry needs to embrace technological changes that will result in the use of innovative sustainable construction, the aggregate effect of which would be to lower the embodied energy and average cost of manufacturing and housing.

"Architecture must address the global housing challenge by integrating critically needed scientific and technical advances in energy, water, and material systems while remaining sensitive to the cultural and aesthetic aspirations of different regions," said Deborah Berke, dean of the Yale School of Architecture.

The pavilion serves as a starting point for those in government and industry to think about what they can do better. It is part of a series of demonstration buildings, which started with a 22m<sup>2</sup> "Ecological Living Module", powered by renewable energy and designed to minimise the use of resources such as water. This module was displayed at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2018.



# CHINESE INVESTOR OF 3.4BN/- MTWARA CASHEW NUT PLANT SETS MAY STARTING DATE

By Beatrice Philemon

**A**N over 3bn/- (US\$1.5m) cashew nut processing factory, Yalin Cashew-nut Company Limited will start operation in May this year.

The cashew-nut processing plant which is owned by Chinese investors based in Hong Kong, will process 27 metric tons of cashew nuts per day and will target exporting to China and other countries.

Speaking to Property Watch last week after President John Magufuli visited the factory, Yalin General Manager, Sulaiman Millanzi said the factory has a surface area of 6,429.2 square meters.

"We are on schedule to start operations if we get a few utilities in place such as water and electricity," Millanzi said while revealing that in phase one, the plant will employ 250 people. Phase one's processing machines will have capacity of 6,000 metric tons per annum and will process and roast the nuts. He said all the machines have already been import with fitting due to commence soon.

"People will work in various sections of the factory after getting training relating to their job description," the Yalin GM added. He said construction work of the plant that officially started last year is at final stages while recruitment of staff is ongoing.

Millanzi further noted that Yalin investors chose to come to Tanzania because of good investment climate and government's push for industrialization saying demand for processed cashew-nuts globally is also high.

"The demand is very huge for cashew nut products in the global market including China and Asia hence our decision to invest in the factory," Millanzi affirmed.

China which is one of the world's biggest markets for cashew-nuts does not grow the commodity but relies on imports mainly from Africa. The Asian nation has a huge network of cashew-nuts processing factories.

The company also plans to use cashew-nut husks to produce different products such as snacks, domestic utensils, produce oil, protein flour that will be sold both in the local and international markets.

"We have already done it in China and we will do it in Tanzania as well because we want to give more value to the commodity to benefit the country and Mtwara residents as we implement government's semi-



The main entrance to a dilapidated Mtwara Cashew-nut Factory whose site is now seeing a new Yalin Cashew-nut Factory being constructed. File photo.

industrialized plans by 2025," Yalin GM.

Speaking after laying a foundation stone at the plant's site, President Magufuli ordered state utility firm, Tanesco and Mtwara Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Authority, to immediately supply water and

electricity to the company so that it start operations by May.

President Magufuli also ordered Tanesco in Mtwara to refund Yalin 27m/- which the company had paid to purchase a transformer to supply the

factory with electricity.

"We want to create employment for Tanzanians, reduce poverty, improve people's lives in Mtwara region through industrialization," Magufuli said warning state utility officials against frustrating investors.

## Kenya housing levy sparks anger

NAIROBI

There has been an angry response in Kenya to a decision by the authorities to introduce a new salary levy to help build low-cost homes.

From next month, employees will pay 1.5% of their pay to the housing fund and that amount will be matched by the employer. The anger stems from suspicion that the extra money could be lost through corruption, correspondents say.

The government aims to build 500,000 affordable homes by 2022. The total monthly payment per person will not exceed \$50 (£38), but it is hoped that \$500m will be raised every year.

The Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) says the move to introduce the levy is against a court order, which suspended its introduction pending a hearing on the FKE's objection. A trade union umbrella body has also opposed the money-raising move.

Is it a tax?

President Uhuru Kenyatta wants his second term in office, which began in November 2017, to be defined by what he has called the big four: universal healthcare, improving food security, boosting manufacturing and building affordable housing.

The housing levy has been called a tax but at the end of last year Mr Kenyatta said "this is not about tax as it has been made to look, but a saving and a contribution towards owning a house", the Star newspaper quoted him as saying. One consumer rights organisation questioned whether people should be forced to pay the levy, adding in a tweet that the "government has no history of successfully managing any 'fund.'"

## New firm takes over Rwf5bn Nyandungu eco-tourism project

KIGALI

Government has contracted a new firm for the development of the Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism Park project after terminating the previous contractor.

The terminated contractor, according to officials, was particularly found to be wanting in terms of expertise in landscaping.

The implementation of the wetland eco-tourism park project was expected to take five years, starting from 2017 through 2021, but the project stalled last year after the first contractor failed to deliver.

The wetland, that must be both rehabilitated and turned into recreational park, stretches through the sectors of Nyarugunga of Kicukiro District and Ndera of Gasabo District along the Special Economic Zone.

Jules Djangwani, the project coordinator at Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), told The New Times that the budget has been

increased from Rwf2.4 billion to Rwf5.04 billion following the redesigning and various other changes.

"The budget has increased because there are changes and additional elements from initial quotation. For example, the design of the man-made lakes changed to be able to synchronise with a river that crosses through the proposed park. There are also additional infrastructures," he said.

According to Djangwani, the project will have the main funder as the Green Fund (FONERWA), which will provide the initial Rwf2.4 billion, while the additional cost will be met by two other partners. Other works include the redesigning and relocating of the amphitheater among others," he said.

He said that Afrilandscapes Ltd is the landscaping firm that have been awarded the contract to landscape, design and building, manage and do irrigation services. "After government realised that

the previous firm lacked expertise in landscaping, we decided to terminate the contract and hired another firm towards the end of 2018 which has recently embarked on the operations," he said.

He said that there is hope that the new firm will respect the deadline since the firm is composed of experts specialised in landscaping and environment protection.

The new firm has been given 36 months to execute the project, of which 12 months are for maintenance after completion. The park will have to also generate revenues, he said. He said that there are two joint supervisor companies; Gasabo 3D Design Ltd (G3D), and ASTRIK International Ltd, that are also behind the project design.

The project is expected to provide social and economic benefits to the communities around and support innovative approaches to restore and conserve wetland ecosystems on 130 hectares and support livelihood diversification to enhance incomes for local

communities.

The new firm to undertake the project is also behind the redesigning of roundabouts in Kigali City to transform them into green spaces. It is also charged with implementing part of urban forestry policy on the city's major roads.

According to Djangwani, the park is composed of five zones that will start from La Palisse Hotel Nyandungu, stretching all the way to the road to Ndera sector, an area commonly known as Kuri 15.

"We have started planting forests composed of native species, paving bicycle and pedestrian pathways, excavation of the man-made lakes for recreational purposes and setting up a drainage system to control flooding among other activities," he said. Djangwani said that there will also be an information area near the main entrance of the park for researchers and tourists who want to know about the conservation park.

The recreational features will also include restaurants and bars for tourists or travellers, a parking area, medicinal herbs garden, gardens for wedding ceremonies and photographs, observation deck to view and take pictures of bird species as well as amphitheatres for meetings and events. "A river will divide the park into two parts," he said.

Income generation According to the business plan, the park will have several revenue streams. For instance, visitors will be charged entrance fee, guide fees for those that need them while specific areas in the park will be hired for wedding and photo shoot venues.

The park may also choose to rent out certain areas for entertainment and cultural events provided they fit the ethos of the park. Preliminary projections of the study showed that the eco-tourism park could generate over Rwf1bn in profit in the first 12 years of operation.

## Africa's sole nuclear plant undergoes revamp to extend lifespan by 20 years



The 1,860-megawatt Koeberg facility in Cape Town.

CAPE TOWN

Eskom, the state utility that supplies 95% of South Africa's power, is overhauling the continent's sole nuclear plant with the aim of extending its lifespan by at least 20 years.

The revamp of the 1,860-megawatt Koeberg facility comes as Eskom struggles to produce enough electricity to meet demand and is grappling to address construction glitches and cost overruns at two new coal-fired power stations. The nuclear plant is one of the cheapest to operate in the utility's fleet.

Koeberg "has been well-maintained over its 35-year history and hence only a relatively small number of large components require replacement," Eskom said in an emailed reply to questions. "These replacements have been timed to so they coincide with routine unit shutdowns for refueling and maintenance."

Located on the Atlantic coast about 27 kilometres

north of Cape Town, Koeberg's first unit was completed in 1984 and the second a year later. The plant would have been decommissioned in 2024, assuming it operated for 40 years.

Eskom said it began planning the overhaul in 2010, has committed the necessary funds and is implementing it in several stages. Water storage tanks used for refuelling one of Koeberg's units have already been installed, a new reactor vessel cover is being manufactured and the plant's steam generators are scheduled to be replaced in 2021, it said. The utility didn't specify how much is it spending.

The Koeberg plant has performed "exceptionally well," delivering consistent power supply to the grid, and the cost of keeping it going is insignificant, Eskom chief executive officer Phakamani Hadebe said in an interview on Tuesday.

Nuclear plants in other countries with similar designs to Koeberg, which operates pressurised water reactors,

have secured approval to operate for 60 years and some are considering applying for a further 20-year extension, according to Eskom.

Former South African President Jacob Zuma favoured adding 9 600 megawatts of atomic power to the national grid. Those plans were scrapped early last year shortly after Zuma relinquished control of the ruling African National Congress to Cyril Ramaphosa, who said the country couldn't afford the plants.

Considering the problems South Africa would have faced building more new coal-fired power stations or additional nuclear facilities, extending Koeberg's lifespan makes sense from a cost and timing perspective, said Chris Gadomski, a nuclear industry analyst at Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

"Everything in the reactor with the exception of the reactor pressure vessel would be replaced as the lifetime is extended beyond 40 years," he said.



Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism park project is under construction.



## CONSTRUCTION

# The Guardian PROPERTY WATCH

DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

BEIJING

Asian cities are expected to attract more than \$20 trillion in investment in environmental improvements by 2030, according to a recent report by the International Finance Corporation, with sustainable real estate projects being one of the pillars of this green investment revolution.

For one real estate private equity firm, however, this trend for the next decade is not only the future, but just the latest step in a sustainable real estate journey that has prompted the nine-year-old company to incorporate its cultural DNA directly into its name.

After investing in more than three million square metres (32.4 million square feet) of sustainable real estate projects in China and Indonesia since 2010, Diener Syz Real Estate - a FINMA (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority) accredited private equity real estate investment manager focused on emerging Asian markets - has rebranded itself as Asia Green Real Estate, a name that its five partners and management see as a natural evolution and product of the company's philosophy and practices.

Asia Green's investments, in aggregate, have achieved energy savings of 22 million kWh per year, water savings of 370 million litres per year, and carbon dioxide savings of more than 13,000 tons per year.

Emphasizing green investment

"It's a natural progression for us," Asia Green partner and Head of China Andrew Goodridge explained to Mingtiandi. "Our investments have always focused on sustainability, and the new name not only explains who we are but also allows us to leverage on what we're doing."

Asia Green, which has offices in Shanghai, Chengdu, Hong Kong, Jakarta and Zurich, has been investing in sustainable real estate projects, first in China starting in 2010 and more recently in Indonesia, where the company made its first investment in 2014.

"Ten years ago some people were reluctant to invest in sustainable real estate projects, because they weren't confident in the returns," said Goodridge, who was responsible for strategic partnerships with Shui On Land in Shanghai before helping to co-found Asia Green. Over time, people started to understand that being green does not necessarily mean

## INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE FIRM FINDS NEW NAME, AND PROFIT, IN HELPING ASIA GO GREEN



Asia Green's South Quarter mixed-use project in Jakarta.

being less profitable, and with major investors such as Allianz requiring sustainability as a prerequisite for new investments, Goodridge says that green certifications "have become part of the checklist" for many investors.

In addition, many international corporate giants such as Google, Kering and Unilever routinely require sustainability components on their new office leases. "Multinationals now routinely require sustainability for their headquarters and offices," Goodridge points out, "so by building green, we ensure that our projects are on the list for top tenants." This trend is also gaining traction among domestic companies, as more and more people realize the benefits and impact of sustainable developments.

Achieving sustainability and profitability

With sustainability having become a must-have for commercial tenants and for residential buyers, Asia Green sees green design and construction as a necessity for

profitable real estate investment in the region.

"Asia Green manages both income and development funds, and we see sustainable projects as a must-have for both strategies," Goodridge told Mingtiandi. While conceding that initial development costs could potentially be a little higher for green projects, the 18-year industry veteran point out that for "commercial projects you will get higher rental rates, lower operating costs and will achieve higher resale values", thus more than offsetting the initial costs.

For residential developments, the company sees that consumers are looking more and more for homes with sustainable components with health benefits, such as building with environmentally friendly materials, incorporating energy and water saving features, and implementing clean air systems, especially in the Tier 1 and some Tier 2 cities. Residential buyers are willing to pay a premium for green-certified developments, as they provide bet-

ter comfort and wellness for the occupants.

For example, Asia Green invested in a development project in Chengdu with one of China's largest and most sustainable developers. The 350,000 square metre residential project has many green features such as low-e glaze windows, radiation heating/cooling utilizing the ground source pump system, as well as clean-air systems. It has applied for 3-star China Green Star rating as well as EDGE certification, and is a pioneer in green residential projects in the Chengdu market.

Aligning with government direc-

tives In China, Asia Green focuses on two main geographical areas - the Yangtze River Delta and the Southwest region - where it has invested in nine projects across five cities. The rapid development and rise of the China's Southwest region is consistent with the government's Go-West, as well as the Belt and Road policies.

In addition, the company's focus on sustainability has kept them tightly aligned with the Chinese government's initiatives, including the country's 13th Five Year Plan, issued in 2016, which requires that 50-percent of all new urban buildings be green certified. To that extent, Asia Green has a partnership with IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, on its sustainability initiatives.

"In China there has been a change in recent years from pursuing fast growth to ensuring quality growth, and the government is helping to ensure that companies are building sustainability into projects," Goodridge explains. "This is changing not only government rules, but also helping to shape corporate and individual priorities."

Over the last few years, Asia Green started to certify its investments using the EDGE sustainable building program for emerging markets developed by the IFC and the Green Building Council Institute. In

addition, the company has its own internally developed "ECO-Tool", which measures resource use, health, and comfort.

An example of Asia Green's investment in sustainable real estate is the World Financial Center (WFC) project, a landmark 280,000 square metre transport-oriented mixed-use development (office, retail, parking) in the southern core CBD area in Chengdu (the provincial capital of Sichuan), where the company owns several floors of office space. WFC has been pre-certified as LEED-Silver, and the developer is applying for LEED-Gold for the final certification.

Asia Green has also obtained EDGE certification for the space that it owns and manages in the building. In addition, Asia Green's tenants in WFC and other projects are also planning to apply for additional green certifications, a demonstration of the growing recognition of the importance of sustainable working environments among corporate end-users.

Expanding into Southeast Asia Confident in the value of its approach to sustainable investments, and having built a team of real estate investment professionals in China and Switzerland, the company began expanding beyond China by taking on its first investment in Jakarta, Indonesia about five years ago.

Asia Green has invested in seven projects in Southeast Asia's most populous nation, including office space in the award-winning 470,000 square metre South Quarter mixed-use project in Jakarta.

South Quarter was built by Indonesian developer PT Intiland Development, and is a combination of office, serviced apartments and a shopping centre. The project has won awards from the Green Building Council of Indonesia as well as grabbing prizes in national and regional design competitions.

For now, Asia Green's leadership say that they will continue their investment focus on China and Indonesia. However, the company is constantly exploring new markets, and anticipates investments in other emerging Asian markets in the future.

"Our focus is very much on other fast growing markets in Asia," Goodridge says. "Indonesian corporates and consumers are beginning to demand more sustainable projects, and as we grow our team we see opportunities to pursue profitable opportunities in more Southeast Asian markets in the next few years."

## Abu Dhabi enacts new property ownership rules for foreigners

ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi's government has made changes to real estate laws allowing foreigners to own freehold property in designated zones to increase foreign direct investment and boost the economy.

"The modernisation of the real estate law reflects the government vision to support and develop the business environment in Abu Dhabi, along with the development of investor services and procedures," said Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

Until the changes, ownership of property was only allowed for UAE and GCC nationals. Now residential units in special designated investment zones, such as the one close to the international airport, will be registered under Abu Dhabi's freehold law, with property ownership deeds issued to investors.

Foreign investors in Abu Dhabi property were previously granted leasehold arrangements with a maxi-

mum 99-year time period. "The government wants to stimulate fresh demand for Abu Dhabi real estate and this is one of things that will help do this," said Craig Plumb, head of research at consultancy JLL. "None of the current 99-year leases held by foreigners have expired so nobody really knows whether the valuation of a freehold investment would be more than that of a leasehold. You can't calculate any additional property value from this."

"But certainly, from a sentiment point of view, it could buoy the market to know that as a foreigner you can hold property in perpetuity."

The legal changes will also help to level the playing field between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, where foreigners are already allowed to buy freehold property in investment zones. Abu Dhabi developer Aldar Properties welcomed the law on Wednesday. Its Alreeman scheme, with plots of land for sale and residential development, is in such an investment zone.



The Wahat Yas model at Cityscape Abu Dhabi 2019.

"This is a game changing announcement that will not only drive the maturity of Abu Dhabi's real estate market, but also increase transparency and provide clarity of title for property owners, increasing long-term investment, injecting more liquidity into the market and encouraging longer-term residency,"

Aldar chief executive Talal Al Dhiyebi said. The changes were enacted after a study examined the needs of the real estate sector, including meetings with investors, developers and others, the Abu Dhabi Executive Council said.

Abu Dhabi, like the rest of the UAE, wants

to attract more foreign investment to boost the non-oil economy.

It has begun rolling out a Dh50 billion stimulus package announced last year under the name Ghadan 21, and taken other measures to streamline the investment environment and make it easier to do business.

## UOL buys out Marina Square: Singapore's Marina Mandarin

SINGAPORE

Listed developer UOL and its subsidiary, United Industrial Corp (UIC), have agreed to pay S\$675.3 million (\$499.26 million) to take 100 percent ownership of the Marina Square shopping centre and the Marina Mandarin hotel in Singapore.

The pair of companies controlled by Singaporean tycoon Wee Cho Yaw are buying out a combined 24.27 percent stake in the Marina Square mall from OUE, formerly an affiliate of UOL, and two privately held companies. The deal also involves the holding company for the retail centre agreeing to acquire OUE's 25 percent holding in the Marina Mandarin Hotel, according to announcements to the stock exchange by companies involved.

UOL said in its statement that the acquisition would help the group to increase its net tangible assets from over S\$9.525 billion to approximately S\$9.532 billion. The company also expects the deal to boost its pro forma profit after tax and minority interests from S\$433.7 million to S\$437.4 million.

Marina Square Mall sells for S\$2,857 per square foot

UIC is acquiring a 10 percent stake in Marina Square from OUE, with another 10.27 being acquired from Finnegan Investments Ltd and Mackmoor Pte Ltd giving up a 4 percent holding. The combined 24.27 stake is costing UIC a total of over S\$485.3 million, which values the 1985 vintage retail complex at just under S\$2 billion.

As the first major project to be completed on Singapore's Marina Bay land reclamation area Marina Square, which is dwarfed by the Suntec City complex

across the road, has fought repeated tenant turnover in recent years through a series of renovations over the last decade. The complex now includes a Pororo Park children's playground, a Marks and Spencer department store and a Zara store among its largest tenants.

The transaction values the 700,000 square foot (65,032 square metre) centre at approximately S\$2,857.

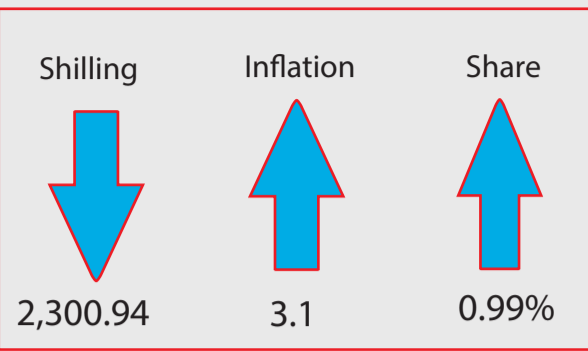
Hotel sells for S\$1,322 per room In the hotel transaction, Marina Centre Holdings Limited, the holding company for Marina Square now fully controlled by the UOL Group, is acquiring OUE's 25 percent stake in the vehicle which owns the five star property for S\$190 million, according to the announcement.

Marina Square Singapore The deal values the hotel, which carries the Mandarin Oriental Hotels branding, at nearly S\$1,322 per room, with UOL Group having 100 percent ownership in the property following completion of the transaction. According to OUE, the net asset value of its stake in Marina Square was S\$52 million at the end of December 2018, with the Marina Mandarin holding worth S\$154 million.

As part of the deal, an OUE subsidiary has also agreed to terminate the hotel management agreement under which it had operated the Marina Mandarin on or before 31 December 2019, assuming completion of the sale and purchase by that date.

In comments to the media cited in Singapore's Business Times, Liam Wee Sin CEO of UOL Group indicated that the transaction "will also give us an opportunity to rebrand and rename the 575-room hotel."





**Total Market Capitalization**

TZS 19,091.90 bln (USD 8,338.84 mln)  
Indices April 16, 2019

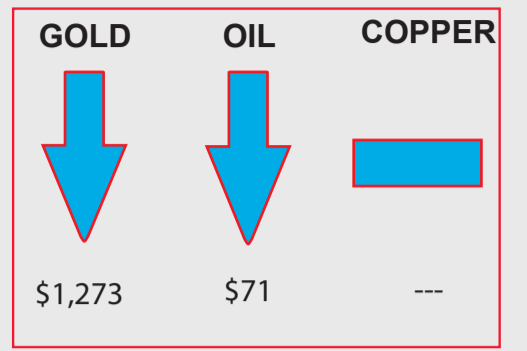
TSI	3,256.85	-68.53
DSEI	1,980.73	-45.71

**AVERAGE PRICES FOR FOOD CROPS TSH/100KG**

Maize	53640.00	Finger Millet	144052.63
Rice	183125.00	Wheat	129866.67
Sorghum	80476.19	Beans	175416.67
Bulrush Millet	84066.67	Round potatoes	71458.33

**Exchange Rates (DSE)**

Currency	Buying	Selling
EUR	2,578.38	2,605.09
USD	2,278.12	2,300.91
KES	22.57	22.75
GBP	2,986.62	3,017.64



**Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange**

Date: April 16, 2019

Company	Closing	Prev	Chg (%)
CRDB	125.00	125.00	0
ACA	5,150	5,600.00	-8.04
DCB	340	340	0
DSE	1,260	1,260	0
EABL	4,760.00	4,880.00	-2.46
JHL	9,150.00	9,150.00	0
KA	120.00	120.00	0
KCB	1,020.00	1,020.00	0
MBP	490.00	490.00	0
MCB	500.00	500.00	0
MKCB	800.00	800.00	0
MUCOB	400.00	400.00	0
NICO	170.00	170.00	0
NMB	1,980.00	2,340.00	-15.38
NMG	1,500.00	1,400.00	7.14
PAL	400.00	400.00	0
SWALA	490.00	490.00	0
SWIS	1,700.00	1,700.00	0
TBL	10,000.00	10,000.00	0
TCC	17,000	17,000.00	0
TCCL	600.00	600.00	0
TICL	385	385.00	0
TOL	660.00	660.00	0
TPCC	2,100.00	2,100.00	0
TTP	120.00	120.00	0
USL	10.00	10.00	0
VODA	800.00	800.00	0
YETU	600.00	600.00	0

**DSE MARKET SUMMARY**

TSI	3,256.85	-68.53
DSEI	1,980.73	-45.71

**TRADING STATS**

Market Cap (bln)	19,091.95
Equity Turnover	229,689,375.00
Total Volume	659,575
Total Deals	48

**TOP MOVERS**

CRDB	125	583,371
NMB	1,980	50,990
NICO	170	19,500

**GAINERS & LOSERS**

Company	Price	Change
ACA	5,150	-8.04%
NMB	1,980	-15.38%
EABL	4,760	-2.46%
NMG	1,500	+7.14%

**Interbank Foreign Exchange Market (IFEM)**

Date	Amount Traded (Mn USD)	High	Low	Weighted Average
17/Apr/2019	2.20	2,308.00	2,298.45	2,300.94
16/Apr/2019	2.10	2,308.00	2,298.40	2,300.84
15/Apr/2019	1.70	2,316.00	2,298.40	2,300.93
11/Apr/2019	1.50	2,309.00	2,298.45	2,300.94
10/Apr/2019	1.65	2,310.00	2,298.50	2,300.96
9/Apr/2019	1.30	2,310.00	2,298.40	2,300.92
8/Apr/2019	1.25	2,310.80	2,298.45	2,300.93

**Inter-bank Local Money Markets**

Date	Volume (million-TZS)	High	Low	Weighted Average Rate (WAR)
17/Apr/2019	41,200	5.50	5.00	5.29
16/Apr/2019	53,550	5.50	4.90	5.24
15/Apr/2019	18,450	6.00	5.25	5.44
11/Apr/2019	39,000	6.00	5.00	5.15
10/Apr/2019	43,300	6.00	4.90	5.18

**Tanzania Shilling On Average bases**

The USDZTS traded at 2,310.0000 on Monday April 15. Historically, the Tanzania Shilling reached an all time high of 23660 in March of 2019 and a record low of 1014.30 in December of 2004.

**Gold slips to 2019 low as global economic outlook improves**

- \* Bullion down about 1.3 percent so far this week
- \* Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust near their lowest since Oct
- \* Palladium trading below previous session's 2-week peak

**LONDON, April 18.** (Reuters) - Gold traded near its lowest level since end-December on Thursday as indications that the global economy might not be as pain-stricken as previously feared prompted investors to take risks ahead of a slew of economic data.

Spot gold eased 0.1 percent to \$1,273 per ounce by 0722 GMT, having fallen to \$1,270.99 earlier in the session, its lowest since December 27.

The metal has so far lost about 1.3 percent in the holiday-shortened week, and is on track for a fourth straight weekly decline. Most markets are closed for Good Friday on April 19.

U.S. gold futures lost 0.1 percent to \$1,275.60 an ounce.

"What we see here is the moderation of some of the extreme concerns about the global growth outlook," said Michael McCarthy, chief market strategist at CMC Markets.

"Recent data over the last 10 sessions or so have eased concerns and safe-haven assets have been under significant pressure."

Among a string of positive economic indications were data from both United States and China that tempered concerns about global growth and took the sheen off safe-haven bullion.

China's economy grew at a steady pace in the first quarter, defying expectations of further weakness, while trade deficit in the U.S. fell to an eight-month low in February, boosting the country's economic growth in the previous quarter.

The two counties have set a tentative timeline for the next round of trade talks and aim to conclude negotiations by early June, according to a Wall Street Journal report on Wednesday.

"Gold prices continue to sag on better economic data broadly while trade optimism appears poised to finally deliver a deal by early June at the latest," OANDA senior market analyst Edward Moya said in a note.

"The yellow metal is also weaker from momentum on China's surprising better-than-expected GDP, retail sales and industrial production data."

Asian shares remain close to a nine-month peak. Focus has now turned to the release of Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs) for the manufacturing and service sectors in Europe later in the day to provide more cues on the strength of the euro zone economy.

Investors also await the U.S. retail sales data later in the day.

Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust, the world's largest gold-backed exchange-traded fund, were at 752.86 tonnes on Wednesday, still around their lowest levels since Oct. 27.

Elsewhere, silver was unchanged at \$15 an ounce and platinum dipped 0.1 percent to \$881.85.

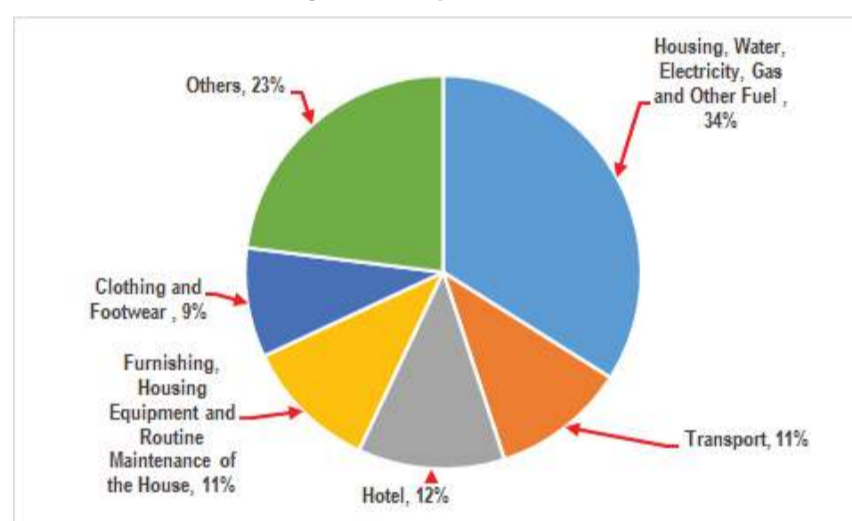
Palladium slipped 0.8 percent to \$1,389.68 an ounce, having jumped 3.9 percent to a two-week high of \$1,406.81 in the previous session.

**All Share Index : 18 April 2019**

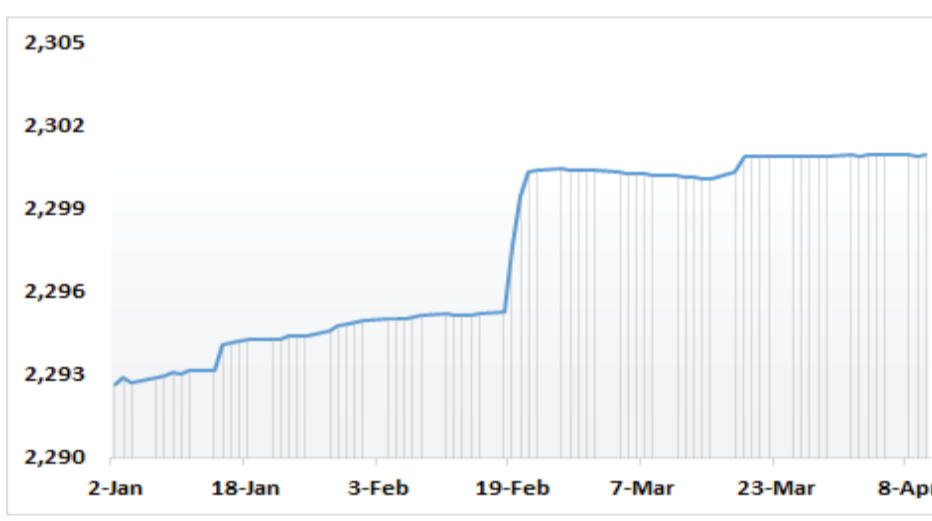
Africa	Actual	Change	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
NSE-All Share	29,746	250.33	0.85%	2.05%	-4.43%	-27.07%
FTSE/JSE TOP 40	52,385	204.95	-0.39%	0.43%	3.96%	2.66%
JALSH-All Share	58,665	237.43	-0.40%	0.43%	3.34%	1.65%
Egypt EGX 30	14,922	51.24	-0.34%	-1.22%	0.07%	-15.72%
Casablanca CFG 25	11,056	7.71	-0.07%	0.53%	0.63%	-14.21%
NSE All Share	158	0.29	0.18%	-0.49%	-1.58%	-14.73%
Nairobi 20	2,889	10.22	-0.35%	2.29%	-0.50%	-22.85%
DSEI	1,981	45.71	-2.26%	-4.22%	-4.84%	-19.30%
TUN	6,942	6.24	-0.09%	0.14%	1.63%	-2.15%
GGSECI	2,360	9.61	-0.41%	-0.74%	-2.12%	-31.35%
Gaborone	7,864	0.00	0.00%	-0.16%	-0.18%	-7.08%
NSX Overall	1,397	2.23	0.16%	1.18%	4.23%	-1.94%
SEMDEX	2,160	7.82	-0.36%	-0.85%	-1.39%	-5.19%
Zimbabwe Industrial Index420	0.70	0.17%	1.17%	-1.98%	-1.98%	32.69%

The DSEI decreased 52 points or 2.55% since the beginning of 2019, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks this benchmark index from Tanzania. Historically, the Tanzania All Share Index DSEI reached an all time high of 3686.97 in January of 2019 and a record low of 1161.30 in December of 2010.

**Inflation 3.1% - February 2019: Top Movers**



**Fluctuation of a Shilling**



**Oil prices slip, but ongoing supply cuts support**

**LONDON, April 18.** (Reuters) - Oil markets fell on Thursday despite a surprise decline in U.S. inventories, but the price drops were tempered by a smaller-than-expected reduction in gasoline stocks and ongoing OPEC-led supply cuts.

Brent crude futures were at \$71.43 a barrel at 0700 GMT, down 19 cents, or 0.3 percent, from their last close and further away from Wednesday's five-month high of \$72.27 a barrel.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were at \$63.62 per barrel, down 14 cents, or 0.2 percent.

Both contracts had traded slightly higher earlier in the day.

U.S. crude inventories fell by 1.4 million barrels in the week to April 12, compared with analyst expectations for an increase of 1.7 million barrels, Department of Energy (DOE) data showed on Wednesday.

"The unexpected drawdown in U.S. commercial crude oil stocks was balanced by lower-than-expected withdrawals in the country's gasoline and distillate inventories," said Abhishek Kumar, head of analytics at Interfax Energy in London.

Gasoline stocks fell by 1.2 million barrels, less than analyst expectations in a Reuters poll for a 2.1 million-barrel drop.

Distillate stockpiles, which include diesel and heating oil, fell by 362,000 barrels, also not as much as forecasts for a 846,000-barrel drawdown, the EIA data

showed. Graphic: U.S. crude inventories, weekly changes since 2017, click tmsnrts.r/2XIX17b

Prices have been supported this year by an agreement reached by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, including Russia, to limit their oil output by 1.2 million barrels per day.

Global supply has also been tightened further by U.S. sanctions on OPEC members Venezuela and Iran.

Iran's crude exports have dropped in April to their lowest daily level this year, tanker data showed and industry sources said, suggesting a drawdown in buyer interest ahead of expected further pressure from Washington.

Growing U.S. oil production and concerns over the U.S.- China trade dispute are keeping prices in check.

"A persistent rise in U.S. oil output, together with lingering demand-side concerns emerging from the U.S.-China trade dispute, is limiting price gains," Kumar said.

U.S. crude oil output from seven major shale formations was expected to rise by about 80,000 bpd in May to a record 8.46 million bpd, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said in its monthly report on Monday.

Surging U.S. production has filled some of the gap in supplies, although not all of the lost production can be immediately replaced by U.S. shale oil due to refinery configurations.

**Fuel Wef. Wednesday, 6th Mar 2019**

Town	Petrol (TZS/Litre)	Diesel (TZS/Litre)	Kerosene (TZS/Litre)
Dar es Salaam	2,098	2,131	2,096
Arusha	2,191	2,195	2,286
Pwani	2,102	2,135	2,101
Dodoma	2,157	2,189	2,155
Geita	2,263	2,296	2,262
Iringa	2,162	2,195	2,161
Kagera (Bukoba)	2,313	2,346	2,312
Katava (Mpanda)	2,306	2,339	2,304
Kigoma	2,329	2,362	2,328
Moshi	2,181	2,185	2,276
Lindi	2,141	2,236	2,155
Manyara	2,225	2,229	2,320
Mara	2,276	2,309	2,275
Mbeya	2,205	2,238	2,204
Morogoro	2,123	2,156	2,121
Mtwara	2,127	2,222	2,169
Mwanza	2,248	2,281	2,247
Njombe	2,190	2,223	2,189
Rukwa (S'wanga)	2,271	2,304	2,269
Ruvuma (Songea)	2,213	2,308	2,220
Shinyanga	2,227	2,260	2,225
Singida	2,188	2,221	2,187
Songwe (Vwawa)	2,214	2,247	2,213
Tabora	2,252	2,285	2,251

**Foreign Exchange- April 17**

	Actual	Chg	%Chg
EURUSD	1.13034	0.00234	0.21%
GBPUSD	1.30519	0.00039	0.03%
AUDUSD	0.71947	0.00197	0.27%
NZDUSD	0.67343	0.00267	-0.39%
USDJPY	111.99	0	0.00%
USDCNY	6.68275	0.02945	-0.44%
USDCHF	1.0086	0.0008	0.08%
USDCAD	1.32915	0.00575	-0.43%
USDMXN	18.8349	0.0361	-0.19%
USDINR	69.371	0.1490	-0.21%
USDBRL	3.9043	0.0012	0.03%
USDRUB	63.8986	0.1819	-0.28%
US Dollar	96.92	0.12	-0.13%
BTCUSD	5,244.58	42	0.81%

**Exchange Rates for April 18, 2019**

Currency in 100 Units	Spot Buying	Spot Selling
<b>EAST AFRICAN CURRENCIES</b>		
Kenya SHS	2,253.37	2,271.41
Uganda SHS	57.41	61.52
Rwandan Franc	251.53	254.55
Burundi Franc	218.12	219.77
<b>OTHER SELECTED CURRENCIES</b>		
USD	227,815.84	230,094.00
Pound STG	297,322.45	300,410.73
EURO	257,454.68	260,121.27
Canadian \$	170,802.10	172,458.40
Switz. Franc	225,806.17	227,973.84
Japanese YEN	2,034.43	2,054.23
Swedish Kronor	24,671.95	24,907.88
Norweg. Kronor	26,898.06	27,151.02
Danish Kronor	34,494.56	34,838.97
Australian \$	163,822.37	165,506.61
Indian RPS	3,282.18	3,313.95
Pakistan RPS	1,531.45	1,620.38
Zambian Kwacha	18,373.74	18,668.88
Malawian Kwacha	289.30	308.71
Mozambique-MET	3,537.51	3,567.35
Zimbabwe \$	42.63	43.49
SDR	316,657.19	319,823.76
Gold (T/O)	290,625,352.56	293,599,230.71
S. African Rand	16,293.16	16,444.33
UAE Dirham	62,031.22	62,634.47
Singapore \$	168,440.55	170,099.80
Hong Kong \$	29,040.36	29,330.02
Saud Arabian Rial	60,747.65	61,353.49
Kuwait Dinar	749,369.57	756,589.50
Botswana Pula	21,460.25	21,858.93
Chinese Yuan	34,061.34	34,394.75
Malaysia Ringgit	55,121.18	55,632.01
South Korea Won	201.06	203.05
Newzealand	153,320.06	154,899.28

**World Commodities (\$) 5 April 2019**

Energy	Price	Day	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Crude Oil	62.0835	0.06%	3.27%	10.47%	0.07%
Silver	69.2927	-0.10%	1.32%	5.01%	3.25%
Natural gas	2.641				



## BRI an opportunity for global energy transition

BEIJING

THE Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has provided an opportunity for the world to transition into a sustainable energy future, experts say.

Through the BRI, countries and regions could enhance energy connectivity and take a proactive approach when planning their energy infrastructure, said Zou Ji, president of the Energy Foundation China, in an interview with Xinhua.

For many countries and regions along the Belt and Road, the demand for energy, especially electricity, is tremendous. Instead of consuming coal to meet the demand, countries and regions should seek clean energy alternatives, which could be more cost-effective in the long-term, said Zou.

As China has been pushing green development, it has plenty of experience in energy transition in fields including green finance and technology trans-

fers, which can be shared through the BRI, Zou said.

The BRI, proposed by China in 2013, aims at building a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient trade routes of the Silk Road to seek common development and prosperity.

Under the BRI, a Chinese construction company has undertaken the construction of solar power projects in Morocco, which is expected to provide clean energy for more than 1 million Moroccan households.

In Vietnam, a power generation station operated by a Chinese company has turned 70,600 tonnes of garbage into 18 million kilowatt hours of green electricity, boosting local economic growth while reducing pollution.

Wu Gang, chairman of Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology, China's largest wind turbine manufacturer by new installed capacity last year, said Chinese firms have helped cut the costs



of the wind power equipment manufacturing industry by half.

The company built its first wind farm in Panama in 2013, which produced green power that accounted for about 8 percent of the country's power consumption just a year after its operation.

In addition to clean energy collaboration through the various projects, the BRI has offered a new form of inter-governmental cooperation, which integrates collaboration in various fields including technology, trade, and investments, Zou said.

"It is an open platform that promotes multilateralism and a new version of globalization," Zou said.

The Energy Foundation has been actively par-

ticipating in the BRI to facilitate the global energy transition. The non-profit has a 1.7 million-U.S. dollars budget to support BRI-related projects this year, Zou said.

Specifically, the foundation will work with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to fund clean energy-related projects in the Asia Pacific in the next three years, he said.

The second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF), scheduled to open in Beijing in late April, will offer new opportunities for governments to enhance policy coordination and for non-governmental agencies to step up collaboration on specific projects, Zou said.

Xinhua

## East African states join hands to eradicate FGM

MOMBASA

COUNTRIES from East Africa have signed a declaration to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and in particular the one that has cross-border dimensions.

Senior officials from Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya on Wednesday signed the declaration at the end of a three-day meeting held in Kenya's resort city of Mombasa.

Senior government officials from the five countries committed to supporting cross-border cooperation by facilitating information exchange on trends and good practices, establishing Standard Operating Procedures for girls and women at risk, law enforcement, and community dialogue.

"Enact and harmonize national laws and policy frameworks on Female Genital Mutilation through African Union, East African Community and Inter-Governmental Authority for Development," they said in a joint declaration.

Statistics indicate that more than 200 million girls globally have undergone FGM, including those in 30

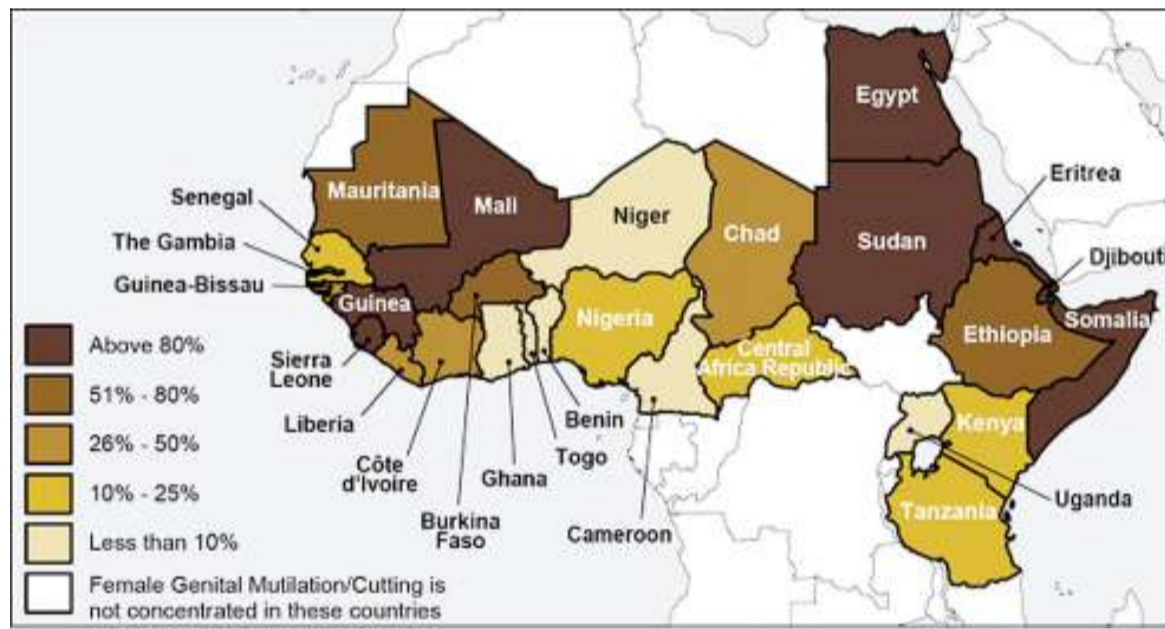
countries in Africa. Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda saw almost one quarter of the global burden of FGM, which means 48.5 million girls and young women, according to data from UNICEF, the UN children education fund.

According to findings from a report commissioned by UNICEF in collaboration with Kenya's Anti-FGM Board, 70 percent of respondents of the survey from Uganda, and 60 percent from Ethiopia, traveled to Kenya to undergo FGM.

Participants committed to eliminate the vice by strengthening regional coordination in the areas of legislation and policy framework, cooperation, communication and advocacy, evidence, research and data.

Kenya's Anti-FGM Board chairperson Agnes Pareiyo noted that factors that have contributed to cross-border FGM include shared traditions, fear of arrest, and lack of proximity to circumcisers, quality and affordability of FGM services, income sources of circumcisers, and absence of strong regional monitoring systems.

The national prevalence of FGM



Prevalence of female genital mutilation in Africa, based on 2004-2015 survey data.

in Kenya has declined from 32 percent in 2003 to 27 percent in 2008 and 2009 to 21 percent in 2014, Pareiyo said. Despite the decline nationally, she said, the prevalence among some practicing communities still remains high with Somalis at 94 percent, Samburu 86 percent, Kisii 84 percent, and Maasai 78 per-

cent.

The officials noted that FGM is irreparable and irreversible abuse that poses a serious threat to the health of women and girls including their psychological, sexual and reproductive health, which can increase their vulnerability to HIV and adverse maternal and child

health outcomes including death.

"Ultimate success of both national and cross-border programs will require continued political will, sustained advocacy and scaled-up programs and investment," said Anurita Bains, the acting deputy regional director for UNICEF.

Xinhua

## Concerted efforts urged to enhance peace, security along Ethio-Kenyan borders

ADDIS ABABA

A REGIONAL conference on peace along Ethiopia-Kenya borders has emphasized on the need to employ concerted efforts to ensure sustainable peace that enables addressing poverty and development challenges of cross-border communities of the two countries.

The Ethiopia-Kenya Cross-border Peace and Development Initiative has organized the high-level conference from April 17 to 18 in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa to explore ways of enhancing peace and security among communities living along the borders of the two countries.

The conference is believed to

support other initiatives that are aimed at addressing conflicts and to ensure sustainable peace and economic growth along the borders of Ethiopia and Kenya, in the areas of Moyale-Marsabit, Omo-Turkana and Mandera.

The two-day conference is expected to deliberate on ways of ensuring sustainable peace by uncovering causes of the complex violent conflicts in Ethio-Kenya border areas.

In his key note address, Ethiopia's State Minister of Peace, Zeinu Jamal, said the conference would facilitate for open discourse among the stakeholders and uncover underlying causes and structural bottlenecks for instability in the area.

Recalling a recent incidence in Moyale that had devastating impacts on the lives of communities in the area, the State Minister said, "regrettably, a high number of people died, hundreds of populations became displaced and their livelihoods destroyed, development opportunities lost and poverty aggravated in the area."

Speaking on his part, Josephat Nanok, Governor of Turkana County, Kenya, said the communities along the borders of Ethiopia share similarities in many aspects, but deadly conflicts occur in those areas.

"We had chronic conflicts among communities across these regions, and most of these conflicts go

around competition of natural resources, fetching in Lake Turkana - Omo River Delta, pastures and livestock," he said.

Mohamud Mohamed Ali, Governor of Marsabit, Kenya, on his part underlined the need to employ joint efforts to address the conflicts that may arise among the communities in the cross-border areas, and realize common goals of development and prosperity.

"Destiny of Ethiopia and Kenya is interconnected and our identities are intertwined. We the leadership in Kenya, nationally and locally believe in the shared identity of our peoples and the common destiny of our countries," he said.

"We are willing to stand up to

all challenges to craft common promises of all socio-economic integration. I have no doubt our counterpart in Ethiopia shares this commitment. Because it is only by working together that we have a chance of creating the bright future for our communities.

Together we must therefore work for peace and fight the battle against common challenges, poverty, ecological fragility and underdevelopment faced by cross border communities," he said.

The conference is attended by government officials from Ethiopia and Kenya as well as representatives of UN, EU, and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), among others. Xinhua

## Four African countries back Botswana's plan to lift ban on elephant hunting

GABORONE

ANGOLA, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, which together host the largest population of elephants in Africa, have thrown their weight behind Botswana's plan to lift elephant hunting ban.

In a joint communique released Wednesday following a Kavango-Zambezi Trans-frontier Conservation Area (KAZA-TFCA) meeting in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, the four countries said they support Botswana's new policies and programmes on elephant population management.

The KAZA-TFCA was established in August 2011 to sustainably manage the Kavango-Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders.

The communique signed by environment ministers from the countries after the meeting said they recognise that the KAZA-TFCA is inhabited by humans.

Kitso Mokaila, Botswana's environment minister, appreciated the support the southern African country received from the other KAZA-TFCA members, saying residents in the northwestern Botswana have been reeling from the human-wildlife conflict for years now.

"Our people staying in the pristine Chobe National Park and surrounding villages were no longer harvesting reeds and sedges while growing of crops was being destroyed by the roaming elephants," said Mokaila.

It is estimated that over 250,000 elephants are hosted by KAZA-TFCA members.

A ministerial committee, set up by President of Botswana Mokgweetsi Masisi last year, recently submitted a report recommending the lifting of the hunting ban introduced in 2014 to deal with elephant overpopulation.

It sparked intense local and international debate as some countries from the West referred it as "blood law."

## Kremlin not looking forward to Mueller report's release

MOSCOW

THE Kremlin does not look forward to the release of US Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report on Moscow's alleged interference in the 2016 US presidential election, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said, adding that Moscow had more important issues on the agenda.

"It is America that is looking forward to the report's release but we aren't. This is not an issue for us, it is not a thing that interests us or causes us concern," Peskov (pictured) pointed out.

"All the reports on the matter that have been released so far contain nothing but cursory statements," he noted, adding that "we have more interesting and important things to do."

CBS reported earlier that US Attorney General William Barr would hold a news conference to discuss the Mueller report release. US President Donald Trump, in turn, announced plans to address a press conference later.

The US Department of Justice plans to release a redacted version of the report on April 18.



On March 24, the Department issued a report on the Mueller investigation findings, which particularly states that there was no collusion between Moscow and the Trump campaign team. Nevertheless, the report still clings to the assertion that Russia tried to influence the US elections through the Internet Research Agency and via alleged hacker attacks.

US intelligence continues to accuse Russia of interfering in the American political process in 2016. Ex-FBI Director Robert Mueller has been investigating these allegations since May 2017.

The White House occupant and his aides have repeatedly rejected all 'collusion' accusations between Trump's campaign team and Russia. Moscow has also refuted these allegations. Agencies

## Russia bans exports of oil, petroleum products to Ukraine

GORKI

THE Russian government has banned exports of Russian oil and petroleum products to Ukraine, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said at a cabinet meeting yesterday.

"The Russian government bans exports of Russian oil and petroleum products to Ukraine," the head of the cabinet said.

Medvedev has also declared extension of the ban on imports of certain Ukrainian goods. "We are forced to protect our interests and strike back," he said at a meeting of the cabinet when speaking about Ukrainian restrictions against Russia. Agencies

## China aids Uganda in tax system reforms in efforts to fast track economic growth

KAMPALA

IN Uganda, China is among others financing the transformation of the African country's customs department, a key factor that the World Bank says is critical in fast tracking the country's economic development in the face of dwindling donor support.

The World Bank said in its 2018 Uganda Economic Update that tax collections currently account for 14 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP), lower than regional peers, and short of the government's target of 16 percent. Informality, tax exemptions, and inefficiencies in revenue collection deny the country up

to 40 percent of revenue, according to the report. CHINA'S ASSISTANCE

China is Uganda's major trading partner with imports from the Asian country amounting to 24 percent of the total imports to Uganda, according to Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), the government tax body.

Uganda also ranks third in Africa as the destination of China's Foreign Direct Investments, according to China's ministry of commerce. This calls for an efficient tax system that will further facilitate the trade and investment between the two countries.

In June last year, Uganda got assistance from China to modernize the customs department. According

to Uganda's finance ministry, China would provide non-intrusive scanners, modernized customs risk management, supervision and communication system, capacity building, customs service and enforcement support, among others.

Dicksons Kateshumbwa, Commissioner Customs at URA, told Xinhua in an interview on Wednesday that Uganda is already reaping benefits out of this cooperation. Kateshumbwa said URA sends some of its officers to China for further training, especially in new areas of technology.

Chinese customs officials also come to Uganda and share their expertise with their Ugandan counterparts. "We

have had increased capacity building for our staff but also we have acquired some of the latest technology from China," he said, noting that seven new scanners from China will arrive at the Kenyan seaport of Mombasa this week destined for Uganda. He said the scanners would be installed to supplement the existing ones at the country's critical borders.

The scanners will strengthen URA's capacity to detect any concealment, which would directly result into increased revenue and management of risks and security, according to the Commissioner.

URA and China's customs are piloting an electronic system where they

will exchange the certificates of origin of goods instead of doing it manually. "We are cooperating on integrating our certificates of origin."

When you export goods, you have certificates of origin which confirm the origin status of goods for purposes of tax treatment," Kateshumbwa said, noting that the move would quickly facilitate trade and investment.

Uganda and China through the World Customs Organization (WCO), last year signed an agreement on mutual Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status. Kateshumbwa said the move aims at strengthening trade facilitation between the two countries.

Under the agreement, companies

that obtain the AEO status in the two countries will enjoy simplified customs procedures, such as reduced examination or prioritized clearance, when they export products to the other country.

According to WCO, an AEO is an organization or company involved in the international movement of goods that has been certified by, or on behalf of, a national customs administration and complies with WCO or equivalent supply chain security standards.

To boost domestic tax revenue collection, URA has procured the services of Chinese firm Aisino Corporation to provide electronic tax solutions. Xinhua





Dale Steyn

## Match-winners galore, South Africa can end World Cup agony - Steyn

MUMBAI

SOUTH Africa are loaded with match-winners and, with a little bit of luck, can end their World Cup agony at this year's 50-over tournament in England, fast bowler Dale Steyn has said.

South Africa's World Cup adventures have ended prematurely in unfortunate circumstances on numerous occasions earning them the 'chokers' tag at the 50-over event.

Ranked fourth in ODIs, Faf du Plessis' side, however, have not lost a 50-over series in the last 12 months, winning home and away against Sri Lanka, in Australia, and at home to Pakistan and Zimbabwe.

All of it convinces Steyn that the team could break their World Cup duck this time.

"We're going with good expectations," Steyn told reporters ahead of the Royal Challengers Bangalore's IPL match in Kolkata.

"If you're not going to the World Cup expecting to win, then you probably shouldn't go. But I'm not going to lie, we have some fantastic players."

South Africa in the past fell foul of an unfair rain rule, paid for miscalculating the Duckworth-Lewis run-rate requirement, and suffered comical run outs to crash out of the competition.

Four years ago, they fell short in a thrilling semi-final when New Zealand's Grant Elliott hit Steyn for a six off the penultimate ball of the match to seal victory.

Steyn, who has taken 196 wickets in 125 ODIs, showered rich praise on fast bowler Kagiso Rabada and pinned hopes on the 23-year-old to lead South Africa's bowling attack in the future.

"We're led by Faf, who's been in fantastic form lately. And in the Indian Premier League, Imran Tahir has been right up there in terms of wickets," said Steyn, who is hoping to make South Africa's 15-man squad for the May 30-July 14 tournament.

"From Quinton de Kock all the way down to number 11, they're all match-winners. We just need to go there and hope a bit of luck - weather, a missed no-ball - goes your way, and you could win the tournament.

"You look at KG (Rabada), he's been bowling exceptionally well. Kagiso is a wunderkind. Just hope he continues that kind of form."

South Africa open their World Cup against England at The Oval on May 30.

REUTERS

## Sevilla tour to promote tourism - Kigwangalla



Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Hamis Kigwangalla (2nd L), in a group picture with government officials and representatives of Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and gaming firm, SportPesa, after a press conference for unveiling Spanish club Sevilla FC tour to Tanzania, which took place in Dodoma. Others are Deputy Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Juliana Shonza (3rd L), the ministry's Deputy Permanent Secretary, Nicholas William (L), SportPesa Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas (3rd R), TFF secretary general, Wilfred Kidao, and SportPesa's Chief Operating Officer, Luca Neghesti. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

MINISTER for Natural Resources and Tourism, Hamis Kigwangalla, has said a post-season tour of Spanish club, Sevilla FC, to Tanzania is an opportunity to promote the country's natural attractions.

The minister made the statement in Dodoma on Wednesday after betting company, SportPesa, had announced to bring Sevilla FC to the country for a sports tour.

While in the country, Sevilla FC, the one-time La Liga champions and five-time UEFA Europa League

champions, are set to play one of SportPesa's local partners, Young Africans SC (Yanga) or Simba SC, at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The minister said that Sevilla FC's presence in Tanzania will promote the country worldwide since the Spanish club is one of the biggest sides with many fans all over the world.

Kigwangalla said many people in the world will want to know about Tanzania, so it is an opportunity for the country to promote tourism through Sevilla FC visit.

He said that the government plans to use the opportunity in

partnership with SportPesa with the aim of promoting the country's tourist attractions before and after the match between either Simba or Yanga.

"The Tanzania government, through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, will fully exploit the opportunity to promote the country through the tour of the five-time UEFA Europa League champions as part of their preparations for the 2019/2020 season," he disclosed.

"Through Sevilla tour, the club with famous international players, natural attractions we have in the country, including various national

parks, will enjoy promotion."

"The players will take pictures in the attractions and spread the pictures in social media, football fans would like to know the place the players are in and they will likely develop interest in visiting the attractions."

"We will boost the number of tourists in the country and I know they will be keen on touring Zanzibar as well. It is a chance to promote tourism in Zanzibar as well."

"Through the tour, we have offered Sevilla FC to tour one of our tourist attractions free of charge once they arrive in the country."



Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) hangs on the rim after slamming a dunk against the Indiana Pacers in the final minute of the fourth quarter of Game 2 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series, Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in Boston. The Celtics won 99-91. (AP Photo)

## Irving scores 37, Celtics beat Pacers 99-91 for 2-game lead

BOSTON

A POOR third quarter did the Indiana Pacers in during Game 1 of their first-round series with the Boston Celtics.

In Game 2, Boston seized on a fourth-quarter collapse by Indiana.

Kyrie Irving scored 37 points and Boston rallied late in the fourth quarter to beat Indiana 99-91 Wednesday night and take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Coming out of a timeout and with a chance for Indiana to tie, the Pacers' Wesley Matthews threw an inbounds pass into the bench on the other side of the court with 12.1 seconds left. On the ensuing play, the Celtics' Al Horford passed to Jayson Tatum, who was fouled on a two-handed dunk. He completed the three-point play to make it 97-91 with 8.8 seconds left.

The Pacers turned it over again and the Celtics were able to close out the game at the free throw line.

Tatum scored 26 points, including his thunderous dunk down the stretch

to help punctuate a 10-0 run by Boston over the final five minutes.

Irving said being able to have this kind of performance at TD Garden after sitting out the playoffs last season wasn't lost on him.

"It's just been a long journey," Irving said. "From having those two knee surgeries and watching the team last year and finally getting chance to lace them up for the Boston Celtics in the NBA playoffs - it's nothing like it."

After scoring only eight points in the third quarter of Game 1, the Pacers scored only 12 points in the fourth of Game 2.

"It's always been one quarter that kills us in the second half," Thaddeus Young said. "We're getting good looks and shots are not falling. ... We gotta put together a 48-minute game and we haven't been able to that."

Bojan Bogdanovic led Indiana with 23 points. Young added 15 points. Myles Turner finished with six blocks.

Game 3 is Friday in Indiana. Darren Collison scored seven points

during a 10-0 run that gave the Pacers a 70-58 lead in the third quarter as turnovers began to pile up for the Celtics.

Indiana led 79-68 entering the fourth. Horford opened the final period scoring on a hook shot in the lane and Tyreke Evans responded with a 3-pointer on Indiana's first possession.

But then Boston got hot, using a 16-0 run, including eight straight by Irving, to take an 86-82 lead with 5:04 to play. Indiana missed 10 straight shots during the run, finally breaking a nearly eight-minute scoring drought with a 3-pointer by Matthews in front of the Celtics' bench.

Bogdanovic hit a 3-pointer from virtually the same spot as Matthews to put the Pacers back in front. Gordon Hayward responded with a jumper, before Bogdanovic hit another 3 over Horford that made it 91-89 Pacers with 2:16 remaining.

Following an Indiana miss, Tatum connected on a 3-pointer from the corner. And after Horford blocked Bogdanovic at the rim, Tatum found a cutting Hay-

ward for a layup and the Pacers were undone by their late turnovers.

"Missed a couple of good looks. Held them under a 100. The defense was still there. They made more timely baskets than we did," Matthews said.

Horford was a game-time decision with an illness but was able to remain in the Celtics' starting lineup. He was noticeably a step slower at the outset and didn't take his first shot until late in the second quarter. He didn't score his first points until the fourth, finishing with four points, 10 rebounds and four assists for the game.

"It wasn't just about putting points on the board, it was just about doing the little things," Irving said. "It was a gritty win."

Meanwhile, saddled with early foul trouble and faced with an aggressive defensive scheme that kept him in check for the first two quarters, Giannis Antetokounmpo set the tone immediately in the second half.

Antetokounmpo scored 13 of his 26 points in Milwaukee's big third quarter

and the Bucks beat the Detroit Pistons 120-99 on Wednesday night to take a 2-0 lead in the first-round playoff series.

After scoring 10 points and playing only 14 minutes in the first half, Antetokounmpo scored Milwaukee's first seven points in the third quarter.

"It is about will," Antetokounmpo said. "I knew they were going to put guys in the paint, crowd me. I just tried to have patience."

As the Bucks took the court after halftime, Eric Bledsoe had some words of advice for the team's leader.

"Eric told me, 'Be aggressive, it is going to come.' That is what I tried to do," Antetokounmpo said.

The Bucks outscored Detroit 35-17 in the period to take a 93-76 lead into the fourth.

"I don't think he felt great about how he played in the first half," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said about Antetokounmpo. "When he feels that way, he's going to do something to change it."

Bledsoe led the Bucks with 27 points, and Khris Middleton had 24. Milwaukee

is trying to win a series for the first time since 2001.

"We knew they was going to come out with fight," Bledsoe said. "We just had to match their intensity."

Luke Kennard had 19 points for Detroit. Reggie Jackson and Andre Drummond each added 18, and Drummond had 16 rebounds. Detroit star Blake Griffin sat out again with a left knee injury, but received a technical for the second straight game for arguing from the bench.

"For the most part, we came out and competed and we definitely made them feel us," Jackson said.

Game 3 is Saturday night in Detroit. Detroit clawed within seven in the fourth before the Bucks put it away, capped by a hard drive by Antetokounmpo on a break. He banked in an awkward reverse-angle shot while crawling to the floor after being fouled by Drummond. He completed the three-point play to make it 105-87.



## 'That's why we love football', says Spurs manager Pochettino

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

TOTTENHAM Hotspur manager Mauricio Pochettino hailed his team as "heroes" after Wednesday's astonishing Champions League quarter-final with Manchester City ended in an away goals win for his team after ending 4-4 on aggregate.

The 4-3 win on the night for Manchester City was so nearly 5-3 – and progress to the last four for City – but Raheem Sterling's stoppage time effort was ruled out by a VAR review which correctly spotted Sergio Aguero off-side.

"It was unbelievable - the way it finished," said Pochettino.

"I am so happy, so proud. My players are heroes to be here. I am so happy for them, so happy for the fans," added the Argentine, who was without injured leading scorer Harry Kane.

Pochettino said he had gone through a wild mix of emotions during the final moments as four words flashed up on the big screen - "No goal, VAR, offside" - confirmed that Sterling's goal had been overturned.

"In a moment many things happened in your head, the disappointment was massive but they changed the decision," he added.

"That is why we love football. Today we showed great character and great personality it was an unbelievable game."

Spurs midfielder Christian Eriksen, who gave the ball away in the build-up to Sterling's disallowed goal, did not disguise his relief.

"I must be one of the luckiest guys on the planet tonight. I thought it was all over but it was a fun game. It was a rollercoaster, we gave them a lot but also got a lot. It was a weird game," he said.

Tottenham's South Korean forward Son Heung-min, whose two strikes were part of the four goals scored in the opening 11 minutes, said it was an unforgettable game.

"I have never seen something like this. It was tough and crazy but we are very proud of our team mates. It was madness," he said.

"Sometimes you are annoyed with VAR but today it is thank you. We fought together for 90 minutes. We

showed unbelievable character and fight."

Meanwhile, Tottenham Hotspur's Moussa Sissoko did not realise his side had advanced to the Champions League semi-finals until a member of the coaching staff informed him in the dressing room that Manchester City's last-gasp goal had been disallowed.

With City leading 4-3 and the aggregate score reading 4-3 in favour of Tottenham on away goals, Raheem Sterling's stoppage time goal sparked wild celebrations at the Etihad Stadium before it was overruled when VAR adjudged Sergio Aguero offside in the buildup.

Sissoko, who was replaced in the first half after he picked up an injury, was so distraught after Sterling scored that he immediately walked down the tunnel to the dressing room and did not realise that the goal had been disallowed a minute later.

"I was on the bench when I saw the goal that made it 5-3," Sissoko told French sports newspaper L'Equipe. "I was so upset that I returned directly to the dressing room."

"I was alone, no one had accompanied me, no TV screen was broadcasting the game. In my head we were eliminated. Then one of the staff members entered the dressing room and told me: 'Incredible, we did it!'"

"I said: 'How did we do it?' At that moment, he told me that the goal had been disallowed."

"So I put on a t-shirt, I forgot about my injury and I ran outside to join the others, not to miss the celebrations for such a historic moment. It was an incredible, emotional shock."

The result ensured Tottenham, who last made the European Cup semi-finals in 1962, reached the last four for the first time since the creation of the Champions League. They will face Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam with the first leg in London on April 30.

Meanwhile, Tottenham Hotspur striker Fernando Llorente said scoring the decisive goal against Manchester City that sealed the London side's progress to the Champions League semi-finals on Wednesday was "one of the best moments" of his career.

REUTERS

## Guardiola vows Manchester City will 'stand up' in title race after 'cruel' exit

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola said his team would "stand up" and fight for the Premier League title after their dreams of a quadruple were ended by Wednesday's dramatic exit from the Champions League to Tottenham Hotspur.

City went out on the away goals rule after their 4-3 win at the Etihad Stadium left the two legged quarter-final standing at 4-4 on aggregate.

Guardiola's side thought a late goal from Raheem Sterling had earned them a place in the semi-finals but the effort was ruled out after a VAR review confirmed that Sergio Aguero was offside in the build-up.

"It is cruel but it is what it is and we have to accept it," said Guardiola.

"After 20 minutes we were 3-2 up. In the second half we created a lot of chances and we scored the goals we needed. Unfortunately, it was a bad end for us so congratulations to Tottenham and good luck for the semi-finals," said the Spaniard, whose team were also eliminated by English opponents, Liverpool, in the quarter-finals last season.

Guardiola said he continued to back the use of VAR, which also allowed Fernando Llorente's decisive goal for Spurs despite suspicions of handball.

But he questioned the decision reached over Llorente's goal - which officials concluded had rolled off the Spaniard's hip and into the net in the wild encounter at the Etihad.

"I support VAR but maybe from one angle Fernando Llorente's goal is handball, maybe from the

referee's angle it is not," he said.

A packed stadium had roared City on in the second half with a thundering strike from Aguero 59th minute seeming to send Guardiola's side on their way to the last four.

"I am so proud of the players and the fans," said Guardiola.

"I have never heard noise like that since I have been in Manchester but football is unpredictable."

City host Spurs again on Saturday in the Premier League as they battle with Liverpool for top spot having seen their dream of a quadruple end.

Having won the Carabao Cup (League Cup), City are in the FA Cup final and are two points behind Liverpool, with a game in hand, in the league.

"We have to stand up and react. It is a close (short amount of) time and the same team. We can't think too much now. We have to try to sleep as much as possible and the day before the game we are going to prepare for the game," he said.

"We have fought for nine or 10 months in the Premier League and still we are there. It is in our hands. Today is tough and tomorrow will be tough too but the day after we will be ready."

Meanwhile, However, City defender Benjamin Mendy said they could not complain about the decision.

"We cannot complain about the VAR. Those are the rules and we have to respect them," Mendy told City's website. "We don't have time to think about this because we play Tottenham again on Saturday."

REUTERS

## Spurs, City put on show in classic European night

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

IT was Pep Guardiola's Jose Mourinho moment. A late, dramatic winner in a Champions League tie, followed by the victorious manager sprinting down the touchline to celebrate wildly with his players.

But then, in the flash of a video screen, it wasn't.

The Etihad Stadium went from raucous noise to mournful silence as Raheem Sterling's 93rd-minute hat-trick goal, Manchester City's fifth on the night, was ruled out -- correctly -- following a VAR review that ruled that Sergio Aguero had been offside at the beginning of the move for the goal. It was a tight call, but it was the right one, and Guardiola was forced to sheepishly retreat to his bench, knowing that his team had just two more minutes to score to claim the crucial goal required to eliminate Tottenham and reach the semifinals.

Back in 2004, there was no such pin-pricking of Mourinho's balloon as he celebrated Porto's late winner at Manchester United -- a goal that propelled the Portuguese club to Champions League glory that season. But on this occasion, it was like Guardiola had been abruptly woken from a dream to find himself in a living nightmare. City could not score again and Spurs went through on away goals, with the score tied 4-4 on aggregate.

"It is cruel," Guardiola said. "But it is what it is and we have to accept it."

Once again, City had fallen short in the Champions League. Once again, Guardiola had failed to take his team to the final, having now not done so since guiding Barcelona to victory against Manchester United in the 2011 final at Wembley.

But such was the drama of this quarterfinal second leg in Manchester that the events in stoppage time were only a small element of the story of the tie.

The damage was done to City in the first leg, when Spurs won 1-0 after Aguero had missed a penalty -- awarded by VAR -- inside the first 10 minutes. It was also a night that saw Harry Kane -- ranked No. 1 among the world's strikers in the ESPN FC 100 -- suffer the ankle injury that threatens to rule him out for the rest of the season and, potentially, the Champions League final.

Yet what happened in the first leg was only a taste of what was to come at the Etihad on a night of football



Soccer Football - Champions League Quarter Final Second Leg - Manchester City v Tottenham Hotspur - Etihad Stadium, Manchester, Britain - April 17, 2019 Tottenham's Danny Rose in action with Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne during their Champions League Quarter Final Second Leg match at Etihad Stadium in Manchester, Britain on Wednesday. REUTERS

madness: a pulsating encounter that will go down as a Champions League classic.

City went ahead inside four minutes, leveling the tie on aggregate, when Sterling curled past goalkeeper Hugo Lloris from 12 yards. The Etihad erupted, but within five minutes the home side were 2-1 down with Son Heung-Min -- scorer of the only goal in the first leg -- netting twice on the counterattack.

City now needed to score three more times without response to stay in the Champions League and keep their Quadruple dream alive. Bernardo Silva pulled one back within two minutes of Son's second to make it 2-2, and it was then 3-2 on 21 minutes after Sterling converted Kevin De Bruyne's cross at the far post.

Just let that sink in: 3-2 after 21 minutes. This was video-game football, attack versus defence, with attack winning every time. Sterling and Son were running riot, terrifying their direct opponents whenever they had the ball, while De Bruyne was also producing his best performance of the season.

But at 3-2, City needed one more goal to go through, and nobody scores more late goals than Manchester City. And the loss of injured Spurs midfielder Moussa Sissoko on 41 minutes, which forced Mauricio Pochettino to change his formation by introducing Fernando Llorente as

a lone striker, appeared to play into City's hands.

Spurs were now light in midfield and had lost their biggest strength -- pace on the counter -- and they began to ship water as the second half progressed. City pushed them deeper and deeper toward their own goal, and the pressure told when Aguero scored from De Bruyne's pass on 59 minutes to put Guardiola's team ahead for the first time in the tie.

Rather than sit back and play the game out, City went for the kill. One more goal would surely finish Spurs off.

But it didn't come, and then came the first crucial VAR intervention, when Llorente deflected in Kieran Trippier's corner before Turkish referee Cuneyt Cakir was called to review it on the video screen by VAR. Cakir took an age, reviewing numerous angles before shrugging his shoulders and awarding the goal, judging that the ball went in off Llorente's hip rather than his hand. It was the right call.

But City still had 17 minutes plus stoppage time to tilt the pendulum back in their favour, and they pushed once again, pouring forward and targeting the byline. The clock ticked on, into stoppage time, until Christian Eriksen's loss of possession gifted the ball to Aguero, who laid it off for Sterling to score.

Guardiola sprinted to celebrate

and the Etihad went wild, but VAR had one more card to play. Bernardo Silva's outstretched leg had diverted the ball toward Aguero and the cold, emotionless VAR once again called a big decision correctly: Aguero was offside and the goal would not count.

City would not win and the Quadruple dream was over, for another year at least. The Champions League, the biggest prize of all, continues to elude City's owner, Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed al Nahyan. Perhaps Guardiola & Co. can take solace in knowing they will get another shot at Spurs on Saturday, in the Premier League.

It is Spurs who march on, with a semifinal looming against Ajax -- a tie they will expect to win, even without Kane and Son (the latter will miss the first leg through suspension). Pochettino is eyeing Champions League glory, not Guardiola, but the Spurs coach insisted it was all down to his players.

"My players are heroes, making the semifinal, making history," he said. "I am so proud of them. This team has such strong mentality that all is possible."

"But to reach a semifinal in the Champions League, you need fate, good spirit, lots of preparation in preseason. It is a long time ago that we started to build this achievement."

(AGENCIES)

## Klopp: Thankful I have time to prep for Messi

LISBON

LIVERPOOL face a testing Champions League semifinal against Lionel Messi and Barcelona, but have made a statement by reaching the last four for the second straight year and are equipped to deal with the very best, manager Jurgen Klopp said.

Liverpool beat Porto 4-1 at the Dragao Stadium on Wednesday to advance 6-1 on aggregate with their attacking trio of Mohamed Salah, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino all on target once again.

With their defence marshalled by the hugely impressive Virgil Van Dijk, Liverpool, who reached the final last year, are now undefeated in their last 17 games in all competitions as they seek a Premier League-Champions League double.

"We have been together for a while, we needed to be more mature," Klopp said.

"The boys made their own experience in this competition, especially last year. It's the second time in a row we are in the semis."

"That says something, it's a big statement for the club. OK we play Barca, maybe it's not too easy," the German added with a smile.

On facing Messi, who scored twice in Barca's 2-1 win over Manchester United on Tuesday, Klopp said: "Thank God I don't have to think about that tonight and thank God I have a few more nights to think about it!"

"I think everybody tried it so far and nobody can really do it. We still will try it. But we are looking forward to it, but we have so many jobs to do before we meet Barcelona. So let's first play these games and then let's



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah scores their second goal against FC Porto during their Champions League Quarter Final Second Leg match at Estadio do Dragao in Porto, Portugal on Wednesday. (Agencies)

prepare for Barcelona. Then we will see. I have never played Barcelona in a proper game, so [it's] my first time there and I'm looking forward to it."

Liverpool certainly made it look easy in the second half against Porto after a tough opening 25 minutes.

Yet after Sadio Mane latched onto

a Mohamed Salah ball to open the scoring following a VAR review, Liverpool were in charge and never lost their composure.

"I was thinking it's offside, to be honest. And I told the boys 'keep going, keep going' and they say 'no, you have to wait because it's a goal'."

the Senegalese said.

"I was surprised. It was an important goal but the main point today was to qualify for the semis."

Klopp said they were expecting the early Porto onslaught.

"It was very, very difficult. We knew that before, that it will be a proper whirlwind here and that's what they did," Klopp said.

"We know these games in the Champions league, they [Porto] are a completely different animal in home games. And it was clear that we had to be ready for that," he added.

"In a deep defending situation we were ready for that, we couldn't put proper pressure on them in their build-up. A little bit disorganisation, but it's all good."

"A difficult game but we won it and so I am completely fine. Going to the semifinals, I think we are the only ones who were last in the semi-finals and again in the semi-final so that's really special for us."

(AGENCIES)

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Spurs, City put on show in classic European night

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**TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**FRIDAY**

10:59 Jikoni Na Jane  
11:00 DADAZ (live)  
13:30 Kasi Za Wana  
14:00 Radio:PlanetBongo Live  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELUKI  
17:55 Kutasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Skonogo  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MJADALA  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL)** is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV.

**eastafrica RADIO**

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

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Karatu Hotels overbooked ahead of Ngorongoro Half Marathon

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

ALL roads are currently leading to Karatu, Arusha where Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Khamis Kigwangalla, is expected to grace this year's Ngorongoro Half Marathon, slated for Saturday.

The minister is also set to run a section of the race, just as he did during the last year event.

According to organizers, more than 1000 athletes will participate in the Ngorongoro Half Marathon which gets flagged off from the Lodua Gate in Ngorongoro, covering 21 kilometers down to Karatu, passing through the town and on to Rotia Hill then turn back to Karatu again, where the finishing point is erected at Mazingira Bora grounds.

Anybody planning to stay in Karatu this weekend should better seek alternative abode because the 2019 instalment of Ngorongoro Half Marathon has filled the town's hotels and lodges with guests, officials and athletes.

For the main 21 kilometers' race, the winners stand to get 1m/- in prizes for both men and women categories. The first runners-up are to be awarded 500,000/- apiece while the two third placed athletes will receive 300,000/- apiece.

Organized by Meta Sports Promotion, the race is sponsored by the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority and as usual, targets to promote tourism attractions in Ngorongoro including Olduvai Gorge, Laetoli, the Crater as well as the war against poaching and illegal harvesting of natural resource.

Meta Petro, an official from Athletics Tanzania (AT) who is also the race coordinator, said preparations for the race, which will be flagged off at 6.00am on Saturday by the minister, are ready.

On his part, Alfred Shahanga, the secretary general of Arusha Athletics Association, said the Ngorongoro Half Marathon also aims at identifying and recruiting the sport's new talents, who are going to compete leg-by-leg with professionals as well as other runners from neighbouring countries.

During the last year's Ngorongoro Half Marathon, Kenyans topped the race in the form of Joseph Mbatha, who won the race having registered an hour, four minutes and 54 seconds. He however did not beat the 2017's first winner, Faraja Lazaro (JKT), who clocked one hour, three minutes and 42 seconds.

Another Kenyan, Bernard Mussa (1:05:09), completed the race in the second position. Paschal Mombombo from Hanang' (1:06:05), who finished third, was the only Tanzanian runner who made it to the top three.

Even in the ladies' category, it was Monica Cheruto from Kenya (1:18:07), who topped the bill last year, followed by Tanzanians, Failuna Abdi (1:18:20) in the second position and Fadhila Salumu (1:19:58) in the third position.

## Govt lauds Mengi for supporting Serengeti Boys



Serengeti Boys' skipper, Maurice Michael (R), dribbles past Uganda player during the 2019 AFCON U-17 Championship's Group A match that was played in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

**T**HE government has expressed appreciation to IPP Media Chairman, Dr Reginald Mengi, for his continued support to the national U-17 football team, Serengeti Boys, and to the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports.

Alongside Mengi, the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI)'s chairperson, Subbhash Patel, has also been recognized for his contribu-

tion to the team.

Tabling the ministry's 2019/2020 budget estimates yesterday, the Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakymbe, noted that the team's performance that made it secure a place in the 2019 AFCON U-17 Championship is greatly due to support from the two men.

"The team's participation in the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Games, to a great extent, was made possible due to Mengi's support," the minister said.

Mwakymbe added that the

IPP Chairman, who is as well Serengeti Boys' patron, has been so instrumental in ensuring the team performs well in the ongoing CAF tournament.

He said Patel gave the team 11,000 bottles of drinking water and juice as well as providing accommodation and offices to 27 officials of the Confederation of Africa Football (CAF) at his five star hotel, Sea Cliff, during the ongoing CAF tournament.

The business tycoon, according to the minister, also offered free accommodation to players and officials of three teams that are battling it out in the AFCON

U-17 Championship at his other hotel, Whitesands.

"Failure to recognize such great contributions by great Tanzanians in my speech could clearly mean that demonic heart is slowly getting at me," the minister noted.

He mentioned others, who also contributed to the team, as Sahara Energy and Engen that contributed fuel for vehicles used for transport during the ongoing AFCON-U17 Championship. He also thanked local artiste Rayvanny, who performed at the opening of the tournament.

Tanzania has failed to qualify for the 2019 FIFA U-17 World Cup this year after losing 3-0 to Uganda in the group stage of the CAF U-17 Championship. Serengeti Boys had suffered a 5-4 loss to Nigeria in the opening match.

Following their second successive defeat, Serengeti Boys have failed to reach the FIFA U-17 World Cup finals, which will be played in Brazil.

After losing 5-4 to Nigeria in a thrilling encounter in their first match on Sunday, Oscar Mirambo's boys needed to beat Uganda to remain in the running for a place in the semi-finals.

## ... Serengeti Boys still in contention for 2019 AFCON U-17 Championship last four - coach

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SERENGETI Boys head coach, Oscar Mirambo, has said people should not count his side out of qualification for the semi-finals of the ongoing African Cup of Nations (AFCON) U-17 Championship in Tanzania.

Serengeti Boys that have conceded back to back losses to against Nigeria and Uganda in Group A of the championship will tomorrow play Angola in a match seen by many people as mere formality due to the team's poor results.

But the defeat to Uganda on Wednesday, Mirambo admitted that his charges have made matters worse.

However, he said his charges are capable of winning tomorrow's game convincingly and at the same time pray that Nigeria and Uganda register a barren draw.



Serengeti are at the bottom of Group A with no point while Nigeria are the group leaders with six points. Uganda and Angola have three points apiece.

For Serengeti Boys to progress to the semi-finals and qualify for the FIFA U-17

World Cup, they need to record more than four goals against Angola tomorrow and pray Uganda and Nigeria register a barren draw.

"First of all, we must accept the challenge in front of us and then have faith that we can do the impossible, I am sure our chances to reach the semi-finals are there," he said.

Serengeti Boys have scored four goals and conceded eight and, due to this, on paper it is impossible for the squad to post more than four goals against Angola that have conceded one goal and scored the same number. Surprises, though, are still plenty in soccer.

After good preparations for the continental showpiece, many domestic football fans had hoped that Serengeti Boys will qualify for the FIFA U-17 World Cup but the results have so far been against

the expectations.

People, though, should understand that results are not always important in the AFCON U-17 Championship as the tournament is mainly for development of the teams and a platform where unpolished gems are discovered and gain experience.

Mirambo further said the U-17 players are using the tournament to prepare for senior national team.

"The team can proceed to the semi-finals of the tournament but the other good thing is that this tournament has prepared the players for a big stage," he said.

A section of Serengeti Boys' players are expected to land deals with foreign clubs as the AFCON U-17 Championship has attracted scouts from all over the world.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

