



National Pg 3 Laws governing procurement of goods



National Pg 4 Tanzania-IFAD relations



National Pg 5 Importers of banned plastic bags



Concern as wildebeest numbers drop by 72pc in Selous, Mikumi



SPECTACULAR 'RITUAL'

A glimpse of the Great Wildebeest Migration, the annual movement of giant herds of grazers across Northern Tanzania and Kenya. Over two million wildebeest, zebras and gazelles move through the Serengeti National Park (Tanzania) and Masai Mara Game Reserve (Kenya) ecosystems in a regular pattern every year in search of lush pasture and life-giving water. The epic journey, said to have neither start nor end point but rather to move rhythmically clockwise, is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest wonders of the natural world. File photo

The study, which covered 104,14 square kilometers recorded 27 wildlife species, mostly mammal species, one reptile and one avian species

By Henry Mwangonde

THE number of wildebeests in the Selous-Mikumi ecosystem has fallen by record 72- per cent in the last two decades, a recent census shows. Speaking during the launch of the findings of the Selous-Mikumi national parks partial census conducted in 2018, the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla said a further study needs to be conducted to find out reasons behind the sharp decline. "The study that was conducted dwelt on numbers and not on the cause of the decline. That is what now needs to be studied," he said. The study, which covered 104.14 square kilometers recorded 27 wildlife species, mostly mammals, one reptile and one avian species. The report cautions that there is

need for close monitoring following the wildebeest decline as the average population estimate from 1994 to 2006 was around 69,000 wildebeest. But from 2009 to 2018 the average population estimated declined to around 19,000 which represents a 72-percent decline, which merits scrutiny. The decline of the wildebeest is a concern for conservationists as the animal sustains wildlife tourism pullers among carnivorous animals such as lions, leopards and cheetahs. The largest number of animals in the ecosystem was buffalos which numbered 66,546 followed by hippo (31,086) larger antelope (23,250) and wildebeest (22,740). Others include zebra (22,690), impala (19,296), warthog (17,475) and elephant (15,500). On the other hand, TURN TO PAGE 2



Govt forms grape crop viability research team

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has formed a 12-man team to carry out research on grapes, whether the crop is beneficial to the farmers and in terms of government revenue. The team will take 10 days to do its work, as it is directed to find out the extent of diseases that afflict the crop. This was revealed here yesterday by the Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe (pictured) when speaking at a grape stakeholders meeting. The crop grown in Dodoma Region is the backbone of the regional economy and there was every reason to put in place strategic plans to develop the crop, he said. "The 12-man team chaired by Gingu Mibavu from the policy and planning unit of the office of the Director of Public

TURN TO PAGE 2

JPM: Valley dwellers not eligible for any flood aid

By Getrude Mbago

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday warned people living in valleys all over the country to move to elevated areas, saying that the government will not give humanitarian assistance in case of floods. Speaking while opening the offices of Kigamboni District in Dar es Salaam, he said there are people who are not willing to leave flood-prone areas despite knowing that the places are dangerous during rainy seasons. Those areas can only be used for temporary economic activities like horticulture but not permanent settlement as is the case with the Msimbazi Valley where obdurate residents need to be rescued when it rains heavily. "Now that you have been warned, I do not expect

any complaints when you don't receive assistance from the government...Stop constructing in valleys," he said. The president also urged people to start harvesting rain water for later use. He also fired Kilosa District Council trade officer Daniel Maleki who was recently arrested for tearing and burning pages of the Quran. "We cannot live with such people in the government. I commended minister Jafo for the measures he took but I announce today that the official has been sacked," he declared. On the new Kigamboni District, the president commended those who supervised the construction of the buildings. He, however, directed them to reinvigorate

TURN TO PAGE 2

VP appeals for clarity on climate change financing

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Samia Suluhu Hassan has called on developed nations to honour their promise for funding to mitigate effects of climate change in Africa. Speaking in Addis Ababa at the 33rd African Union (AU) Ordinary Conference for Heads of State and Government early this week, the VP also urged African countries to seek alternate sources of finance to contain effects of climate change. At the global climate change conference in Paris in 2015 where the current framework was negotiated, developed countries reaffirmed the commitment to mobilize USD100 billion a year in climate finance by 2020, and continue mobilizing

finance at the level of USD100 billion a year until 2025. The VP said African countries contribute less to greenhouse gas emissions but they are suffering from the consequences of climate change while the promise of funding for mitigation by big polluters was not forthcoming. Effects of climate change are seen in pulling back development efforts in African countries due to destruction of infrastructures from hurricanes, floods and drought, she said, urging the setting up of a special fund and alternative sources in that regard. Developed countries emitting more greenhouse gases pledged in the Paris Agreement to avail

TURN TO PAGE 2

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Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment) Mussa Hassan Zungu (L) exchanges greetings with the Ambassador of the Netherlands to Tanzania, Jeroen Verheul, in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM directs NHC to collect all debts

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed the board of directors of the National Housing Corporation (NHC) to ensure that it collects all the debts from its tenants before June, this year.

He gave the directives in Dar es Salaam yesterday in a meeting with the NHC's management and board members.

The Prime Minister wanted all the tenants including government entities to ensure that they pay their outstanding renting charges.

"I have a very long list here of all the debtors, and others are seen being already moved out of the houses without paying the rents, all of them

have to be hunted wherever they are to clear their arrears," he said.

He wanted NHC to inform all the defaulters in writings and make sure that they pay the monies by May 30, 2020.

"I want also the list of all public entities that are indebted by the corporation so as to work on them, I call the permanent secretaries to discuss on how they are going to pay the debts," he said.

He further said that in the total debts, government organizations are owed 4.3bn/- saying that if the entire amount would be paid on time, will help NHC implement other plans and projects.

Meanwhile, the premier urged the corporation to venture into building

better and cost-effective residential houses, taking into accounts that housing demand is high in the country.

"We want to see NHC builds houses that can be easily sold," he said, adding that by building affordable houses, the presence of the corporation will be relevant.

He called on NHC management and quantity surveyors to think of ordinary Tanzanians when building houses, wondering as why houses are sold at higher prices when materials are available within the country.

Majaliwa also tasked the corporation to venture into electronic revenue collection system, describing the system as cheaper and reduces unnecessary inconveniences to

tenants. "The system gives room for tenants to pay through their mobile phones and banks."

NHC board chairman Dr Sophia Kongele said that the corporation failed to collect over 4bn/-tenants who have been vacated and is yet to collect 1.2bn/- from the current tenants.

Apart from that NHC has been implementing different construction projects and so far it has executed 16 projects worth 16.8bn/- and ten projects worth 69.4bn/- are under implementation.

She further said that NHC is looking for funds to implement giant projects in Dar es Salaam's Morocco Square, Seven Eleven (Kawe), Golden Premier Residence (Kawe) and Regent Estate.

Concern as wildebeest numbers drop by 72pc in Selous and Mikumi

FROM PAGE 1

the least abundant species were bush pig (1,208) and lesser antelope (1,579).

The study shows lesser antelope species declined rapidly in number in the ecosystem by 97percent from 50,000 in 1998.

Positive results came up whereby no fresh carcasses (less than one-year-old) were recorded and the carcass ratio dropped from 39-percent in 2014 to 16-percent in 2018, indicating significant management intervention of curbing poaching.

Conservationists say that more efforts and time is needed to reach eight percent carcass frequency which represents natural mortality.

The survey was conducted from the 21st October to 24th November 2018 with considerable funding from the German Development Bank (KfW) through the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS).

The census was intended to establish the population status and geographical distribution of large animals and human activities in the Selous -Mikumi ecosystem.

"The census is an outcome of the cooperation between Tanzania and Germany, who have jointly made it possible to carry out this important work. Having good data is a crucial basis for decision making," said Regine Hess, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tanzania.

JPM: Valley dwellers not eligible for any flood aid

FROM PAGE 1

their efforts and make sure that all important services are brought close to the community.

"I want the Kigamboni District Hospital which is now in the final stages to be capacitated with key equipment and human resources for quality health service provision," he explained.

He urged top officials of the district to move their residence to Kigamboni within a week.

"Those officials will stay for one year in the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) blocks in Kigamboni without paying rent, and if there will be any challenges raised on their stay, let me be informed of that," the president directed.

Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) was directed to set aside 2bn/- for the construction of houses for Kigamboni district civil servants.

The construction of that accommodation must be completed within six months, he emphasized.

The president also directed the PMO Minister of State (Labour, Youth and Employment) Jenister Mhagama and the NSSF Director General William Erio to work on the delay in construction of a double lane 2km road from the Nyerere

Bridge to district council offices.

"I have been informed that the contractor is now demanding to be paid 36bn/- instead of 21bn/- signed in the agreements...So my instructions is that if the contractor refuses to take the 21bn/-, then anti-corruption bodies should commence work on the matter," the president directed.

The inaugurated building cost 6.8bn/- in total, where the municipal council footed 5.2bn/-and the District Commissioner's office put in 1.6bn/-.

Minister Jafo said that the completion of the two office buildings will improve public service provision in the district.

"This shows how the government is serious in serving the public, like bringing important services close to the people. I commend President Magufuli for blessing the implementation of all these projects," he added.

Now that you have been warned, I do not expect any complaints when you don't receive assistance from the government

VP appeals for clarity on climate change financing

FROM PAGE 1

more funding to mitigate the effects of climate change especially for developing countries, she stated.

The Paris Agreement is based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) relating to greenhouse-gas-emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance that was signed in 2016.

Representatives of 196 state parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC in Le Bourget, near the French capital of Paris reached the framework accord and it was adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015.

As of November 2019, all UNFCCC members had signed the agreement, with 188 having become party to it and the only significant emitters which are not parties are Iran and Turkey, observers noted.

The agreement's long-term temperature goal is to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C.

This would substantially reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, through the peaking of emissions as

soon as possible, in order to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases.

The balance is meant to be achieved in the second half of the 21st century, as it also aims to increase the ability of parties to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change.

They also need to make financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development, a conference brochure intoned.

The issue of education was also discussed at the AU meeting in which Tanzania said it backs the call that requires African countries to increase their budgets to the education sector to enable African youth receive quality and competitive education.

A report on the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) tabled by the new AU chairman, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa cited Zimbabwe as having ratified and signed the mechanism.

VP Suluhu praised the country for that achievement, noting that this is despite the hard times Zimbabwe was passing through due to economic sanctions, among other factors.



Zanzibar Chief Justice Omar Othman Makungu (R) welcomes Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein, who shortly later graced the climax of the Law Week celebrations held in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

FROM PAGE 1

Prosecutions (DPP) will do the work jointly for one week and tender its report.

"We hope it will help us to know the number of grape farmers as well as the challenges they face, including challenges faced by processors. Hence

Govt forms grape crop viability research team

it will help us a lot in our strategies," the deputy minister noted.

Another government strategy is to revive all water dams constructed

for irrigation of grape farms in three districts that cultivate the crop, namely Bahi, Chamwino and Dodoma.

He called upon grape farmers to

form cooperative societies in order to access loans from financial institutions.

Catherine Mwambe, the Director of Doniya Estate which processes grapes,

said levies were a hindrance to wine producers.

"In a single day come more than five institutions coming to collect levies. We

do not even get a profit, all the money ends up just paying various levies," the director lamented.

The cost of production is high and the local grape market is still small, in which case the government needs to intervene and set up a friendly environment in the grapes business, she added.



Muheza district commissioner Mwanasha Tumbo pictured yesterday helping in clearing the Upare site set aside for the construction of a village dispensary. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Dr Shein calls upon procurement officials to be professional, faithful

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has called upon officers dealing in procurement in government institutions to be faithful, diligent, professional and open.

Speaking after laying cornerstone new High Court building in Tunguu, South Zanzibar Region as part of Law week celebrations, he said the officials should also abide by the laws governing procurement of goods and equipment for the government.

President Shein said the government has been putting up good and safe working environment so that the wananchi receive better services without any inconveniences.

He said the decision taken to build a new High Court building at Tunguu was based on several considerations including the need for better and safe working environment as the former High Court building at Vuga did not meet these standards.

He said in the building at Vuga constructed one hundred years ago was sufficient depending on the needs, the environment and technology in those days but as now court activities have increased many fold.

"On the legal sector, the government has made huge renovations to our

court buildings as well as improving the infrastructure at the Ministry of Constitutional and legal affairs and the Office of the Attorney General so that they have a conducive environment to offer better services to the people," said Dr Shein.

He said in Tunguu area, apart from the new High Court building, the government will also build a Law School and called on the relevant ministry to ensure the project is done step by step during the coming Financial Year 2020/21 budget.

On his part, the Zanzibar Chief Justice Omar Othman Makungu said the construction of the new High Court building goes in tandem with the implementation of building new court buildings in the East Africa Zone.

"On the legal sector, the government has made huge renovations to our court buildings as well as improving the infrastructure at the Ministry of Constitutional and legal affairs and the Office of the Attorney General so that they have a conducive environment to offer better services to the people"

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania, Germany organise dinosaur exhibition in Berlin

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism through the National Museum in collaboration with the Museum für Naturkunde - Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science, in Berlin, Germany, plans to hold a major exhibition of the Dinosaur (the great wonder lizard) and fossil heritage in Tanzania in 2020.

The exhibition will be organised by the German Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin in cooperation with the National Museum of Tanzania.

The exhibition supported by the German Federal Foreign Office aims to raise awareness of the natural

heritage and fossil natural resources in Tanzania as well as promote domestic and foreign tourism.

It is an important opportunity for Tanzanians and foreign visitors to learn in detail about the dinosaur, the animals that have lived on the planet and also in Tanzania over 100 million years ago.

At this exhibition, the German partners will be responsible for producing an original cast of the famous Brachiosaurus brancai (Giraffatitan), importing, constructing and developing the exhibition with digital elements, and ensuring that the materials used to produce the exhibition are in line with the climate

conditions of Tanzania.

Similarly, the exhibition aims to promote local tourism and attract more tourists from abroad so that they can see the places where these historic animals were found in our country.

The remains of these animals were first discovered in the Tendaguru area of the Lindi region, and were recently

also discovered in the Ruhuhu basin in Ruvuma Region, and the Rukwa valley in Songwe.

The exhibition will also be useful for training, research and educational opportunities for staff who will participate in the care and maintenance aspects of various collections, including the fossil remains of the animals.

Tanzania is one of the few countries in the world that has large remains of Dinosaurs that make a significant contribution to better understanding the ecology and natural heritage of the world. The discovery of Dinosaur fossils in Tendaguru in the Lindi region led to archaeological and paleontological studies from various universities and institutions around the world to conduct research in the country.

As a consequence of the good results of these studies, the remains of the Dinosaurs have also been found in other regions such as Songwe and Ruvuma region, and can lead to many more discoveries of important fossil remains in the country.



Bureau Burundais de Normalisation et Contrôle de la Qualité

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF AN INTEGRATED STANDARDISATION, QUALITY ASSURANCE METROLOGY AND TESTING (ISQMT) FOR THE BUREAU BURUNDAIS DE NORMALISATION ET CONTRÔLE DE LA QUALITÉ (BBN)

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20190526

The Burundi Bureau of Standardization and Quality Control (BBN) in partnership with TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is seeking consultancy services for the for the **Design, Development and Commissioning of an Integrated Standardisation, Quality Assurance Metrology and Testing (ISQMT) for the Bureau Burundais de Normalisation et Contrôle de la Qualité (BBN).**

Terms of reference for this consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarkea.com/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarkea.com. The closing date for submission of this tender is on **Wednesday, 4 March 2020.**

Interested and qualified firms/consortiums must submit their bids through TMEA's mail box using the email address, procurement@trademarkea.com. **The email subject line should clearly indicate the tender reference number, and procurement title description.** Emails that are not titled as indicated may not be received. All attachments must be **5 MBs or less.**

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF NON-TARIFF BARRIERS IN THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND ALSO DEVELOP THE FOLLOWING: A TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE NATIONAL MONITORING COMMITTEES; AN INTEGRATED EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY WIDE NTB SMS/ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM; AND A NON-TARIFF BARRIER TOOLKIT AND FACTBOOK.

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20181142

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an organisation funded by a range of development agencies to promote regional trade and economic integration in East Africa.

East African Community (EAC) with the support of TMEA is seeking proposals from qualified firms/consortium for the Consultancy to Measure the impact of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) in the EAC and also develop a training programme for NMCs; an integrated EAC Wide NTB SMS/Online reporting system; and an NTB toolkit and factbook.

Terms of reference for this consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarkea.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarkea.com. The closing date for submissions is **Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 11.00 am (Kenyan Time).**

Applications are only open to firms/consortium. Interested and qualified consultancy firms/consortium must register and apply online ONLY on the TMEA procurement portal at the website: <http://procurement.trademarkea.com> and all attachments must be **10 MBs or less.**

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender seven (7) days or less prior to the submission deadline.



Zanzibar unveils drive to fight plastic waste in Indian Ocean

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR government has unveiled new programme aimed at curbing plastic and other environmental pollution generated by manufacturing and prevent it entering the Indian Ocean.

Deputy minister in the Office of the Second Vice President, Mihayo Juma Nh'unga, made the statement yesterday in the House of Representatives when responding to a question by Paje MP, Jaku Hashim Ayoub who had wanted to know government's strategy to address the increasing plastic waste in the Indian Ocean, which in turn pose a serious challenge to marine resources.

"As government we're fully aware of the challenge, which poses many threats to the health of ocean, including the scourge of marine plastic pollution. And we've taken several initiatives

including building modern dumpsite at Kibele, which is used to destroy all waste including plastics," he said

He also revealed that his office has been working to come up with a national strategy on waste management and control which is to be presented at the top government level for approval in this fiscal year.

The deputy minister said, they have been providing community awareness on waste management through various channels including meetings and running sanitation campaigns in the beaches.

"The government in its public education programs asked public to reduce the use of plastic materials to reduce the production of plastic waste" he said.

However in his supplementary question, the representative has also wanted to know the plans to have

a plastic recycle factory in order to reduce the plastic waste in addressing environmental impacts.

Responding to the question, Deputy Minister Nhung'a said that the amount of plastic waste produced in Zanzibar is not enough to establish a factory.

He explained that the establishment of such factory would need to import large quantities of plastic waste from abroad which is danger to the human health and environment as well.

The minister added: "it is also a danger for the tourism industry which has become an important pillar for Zanzibar's economy, so the Government does not see any necessities of establishing a factory that will turn importation of plastic waste".

He said the Government recognizes and appreciates the efforts of some entrepreneurs who collect some plastic waste and recycle it for other use.



Kaliua district commissioner Abel Busalama (3rd-R) leads a delegation yesterday in checking an assortment of items donated by NMB Bank Plc. Representing the bank at the event was Western Zone manager Sospeter Magesse (C). Photo: Guardian Correspondent



MFUKO WA MAENDELEO YA KIPINDI CHA PILI CHA AWAMU YA TATU

UTANGULIZI

Kipindi cha Kwanza cha Awamu ya Tatu ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii - TASAF kilitokeleza kuanzia 2012 na kukamilika Desemba 2019. Utekelezaji ulifanyika katika halmashauri 159 za Tanzania bara, Unguja na Pemba na kufikia kaya milioni 1.1 zenye zaidi ya watu milioni 5.

Tathmini ya utekelezaji wa sehemu ya kwanza inaonyesha kuwa kwa kiasi kikubwa utekelezaji wa Mpango huu umefanikisha azma ya serikali ya kupunguza umaskini nchini. Takwimu zinaonesha kwamba umaskini wa mahitaji ya msingi umepungua kwa asilimia 10 na umaskini uliokithiri umepungua kwa asilimia 12 kwa kaya maskini.

Utekelezaji umewezesha walengwa kujikita kwenye ufugaji, uvuvi, kilimo na biashara na kujiimarisha kiuchumi. Vile vile Mpango umeongeza idadi ya watoto kutoka katika kaya maskini kuandikishwa shule kwa kiwango cha asilimia 7.2. katika sekta ya afya, Mpango umeongeza mahudhurio ya kliniki kwa watoto walio na umri chini ya miaka 5 kwa kiwango cha asilimia 1.5

Kipindi cha Pili cha Awamu ya Tatu ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF)

Kipindi cha Pili kinatolewa katika halmashauri 185 za Tanzania bara, Unguja na Pemba katika vijiji/mitaa/shehia zote ikiwa ni pamoja na Vijiji/Mitaa/Shehia zaidi ya 5,000 ambavyo hazikufikiwa katika utekelezaji wa kipindi cha Kwanza. Kipindi cha Pili cha Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF) kitafikia kaya milioni 1.4 zenye watu wapatao milioni 6 kote nchini.

Madhumuni ya Kipindi cha Pili cha TASAF ni kuwezesha kaya zilizoandikishwa kutumia fursa za kuongeza kipato, huduma za kiuchumi na kijamii na kuendeleza rasilimali watu hususan watoto.

Taarifa ya Utafiti wa Mapato na Matumizi ya Kaya wa mwaka 2011/2012 inaonesha asilimia 28.2 ya watanzania wanaishi katika umaskini huku asilimia 9.7 wanaishi katika umaskini uliokithiri hivyo utekelezaji wa Kipindi cha Pili utawezesha kaya maskini kujikwama kutoka kwenye umaskini na kufanya kazi na kujiimarisha kiuchumi na kuiwezesha nchi kufikia uchumi wa kati ifikapo mwaka 2025

Utekelezaji wa Kipindi cha Pili cha Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF)

Shughuli kuu zitakazofanyika ni kutoa fursa ya ajira za muda kwa kaya maskini zenye watu wenye uwezo wa kufanya kazi kushiriki katika shughuli za uzalishaji na kuboresha miundombinu ya barabara za vijijini, elimu, afya, maji na hifadhi ya mazingira. Kuhamasisha walengwa kujiunga katika vikundi vya kuweka akiba na kuwezesha katika shughuli za uzalishaji mali na kutoa ruzuku kwa masharti ya elimu na afya kama kichocheo cha mahudhurio ya watoto shuleni na kliniki ili kupata elimu na huduma za afya na hivyo kuwajengea maisha bora. Aidha wadau katika ngazi mbali mbali watajengwa uwezo kwa njia ya mafunzo ambayo yatawawezesha kutekeleza na kutimiza majukumu yao kwa ufanisi.

Matarajio

Matarajio ya Serikali kupitia utekelezaji wa TASAF ni kupunguza kiwango cha umaskini kwa kutoa fursa kwa walengwa kushiriki kwenye kazi za kilimo na uzalishaji na hivyo kuchochea ukuaji wa viwanda, kuboresha miundombinu ya elimu afya hivyo kupunguza vifo vya mama wajaawazito na watoto na kuongeza kiwango cha wanafunzi wanaomaliza darasa la saba na kupitia miradi ya kuongeza kipato kaya maskini ziveze kuboresha lishe kwa watoto wenye umri chini ya miaka mitano, na kupunguza udumavu na utapiamlo kwa watoto.

Kipindi cha Pili cha Awamu ya III ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF) kitazinduliwa rasmi na Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, Mhe. Dkt. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

Kwenye Ukumbi wa Mikutano wa Kimataifa wa Julius Nyerere Dar es Salaam, tarehe 15/02/2020

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Fire Brigade revenue collection to be made via GePG - Masunga

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

FIRE Brigade and Rescue Services Commissioner General John Masunga has directed that all revenue collection is effected electronically.

He also expressed his surprise on how come the Brigade is not well known by the wananchi despite its huge work in saving lives of people and their property.

Masunga was speaking here on Tuesday when speaking to workers of the Brigade during his reception at the institution's headquarters.

Masunga called upon workers to ensure all collection of revenue is done through Government electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) system to

avoid loopholes for revenue loss.

"All workers and staff of the Brigade are not allowed to collect revenue in cash and whoever will do that will be dealt accordingly," he said.

He said as of now the government collects revenue electronically therefore even the Fire Brigade is not supposed to go against the procedure.

He explained that revenue collection via GePG system simplifies the task of knowing all collected revenue as well being certain of its safe keeping.

On discipline Masunga stressed the need for all workers in the Brigade, both fire workers and civilians to maintain discipline of the highest standard for better performance.

He also informed that some of the problems in the Brigade will be dealt within a short time, and revealed these to include lack of modern fire fighting and rescue services equipment.

On workers monetary claims, he said "these have already been verified and will be paid out any time from now when the Treasury is ready."

On his part, the Brigade's Commissioner for Administration and Finance Mbaraka Semwanza said he will ensure there would not be any7 collection of revenue that will be done outside the procedure set down by the government and whoever will go against the procedure will be dealt with accordingly.

Guterres appoints Judge Iain Bonomy of UK and Northern Ireland to serve as Mechanism Judge

By Guardian Reporter

THE Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres has appointed Lord Iain Bonomy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the roster of Judges of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals ("Mechanism") with immediate effect.

Judge Bonomy was educated in Scotland, graduating from Glasgow University. He practised as a solicitor from 1970 until 1983. In 1984, he was admitted to the Scottish Bar and, in 1993, was appointed Queen's Counsel.

From 1990 to 1996, he served as a criminal prosecutor (Advocate Depute and Home Advocate Depute) and, in 1997, was appointed as Senator of the

College of Justice (Judge in the Court of Session and the High Court of Judiciary, the highest court in Scotland).

From 2004 to 2009, Judge Bonomy served as a Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia ("ICTY"), where he sat on many high-profile cases and presided over the trial of former Serbian President Milan Milutinovi. Following his departure from the ICTY, Judge Bonomy was appointed as a Judge of the Court of Appeal in Scotland, and subsequently served as a Surveillance Commissioner for the United Kingdom and later a Judicial Commissioner in the Office of the Investigatory Powers Commissioner.

Judge Bonomy was appointed to the Mechanism's roster of Judges following

the resignation of Judge Ben Emmerson on 19 July 2019, and will serve the remainder of Judge Emmerson's term of office.

In accordance with its Statute, the Mechanism has a roster of 25 independent Judges who serve both branches of the Mechanism.

The International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (Mechanism) was established by UN Security Council Resolution 1966 (2010) to complete the remaining work of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, which closed in 2015 and 2017, respectively. The Mechanism has two branches, one in Arusha, Tanzania, and one in The Hague, Netherlands.

Tanzania vows to reinforce the current relations with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

By Special Correspondent, Rome

THE government has vowed to reinforce the current relations with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to meet the global agenda of ending hunger by 2030.

In 2015 the global community adopted the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development to improve people's lives by 2030 and Goal 2 is to end hunger, achieving food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga made the commitment yesterday when speaking at the 43rd session of the annual Governing Council meeting of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). "Our achievements in the agricultural sectors are heavily contributed by the cordial relations

with IFAD and other partners," he said.

He also said that recently, Tanzanian government in partnership with IFAD has established and came up with Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP) for 2016-2021, and agreed to collaborate in transforming agricultural sector in the country in plants, livestock and fisheries sub-sectors.

Among other things, Hasunga said that, IFAD has become an important partner in construction and financing programs and projects that aim to fight poverty in rural areas and increase the possibility of ending hunger completely.

"IFAD has been at the frontline in modernizing agricultural activities in many developing countries including Tanzania", the Minister said.

The minister has also has expressed Tanzania's acknowledgement to IFAD

for the various projects that have been implemented in Tanzania, stressing that the government will not wait until 2030 to end hunger but will make it as soon as possible.

He said the effort intended to address the challenges of rural poverty through introduced development strategies and economic growth plans.

Hasunga explained that, the Tanzanians economy continues to improve through the agriculture which contributes 28.7 percent of the national income, 30 percent of the foreign domestic income, employment for 65.5 and industrial equipments 66 percent and 100 per cent of the national food demand.

Speaking about economic growth in Tanzania the Minister said that the national economy is growing for 7percent in mainland and 6.6 percent on Zanzibar.



NBC director of insurance Benjamin Nkaka (R) exchanges views with participants of an entrepreneurship forum for women and youth organised by GS1 in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister promises heavy punishment to all importers of banned plastic bags

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment) Mussa Zungu has promised dishonest traders who are importing banned plastic carrier bags colluding with counterparts in neighbouring countries very heavy punishment as economic saboteurs.

Minister Zungu said in Dar es Salaam on Monday that the government was aware of the illegal trade of banned plastic bags between local and foreign traders, adding that harsh punishment awaits the dishonest traders who he described as crude saboteurs of government revenue.

"Our investigations have revealed that deceitful traders in neighbouring countries are colluding with local counterparts bringing banned plastic bags in our country. They are sabotaging crudely government revenue in this illegal trade because we know what they are doing. We are putting our things right. We shall punish these saboteurs of the national economy," he warned.

To make matters worse, the minister said, the traders were importing sub-standard carriers that were littering the environment and were promoting

illegal and unfair competition with local industries. He also said some of the bags in circulation were locally and illegally produced.

Zungu called on Tanzanians to be wary of bags, saying that carriers that have not been cleared by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) could endanger health of users. "These carries do not have TBS logo and do not meet the GSM 70 benchmark. We shall be forced to take stern measures to protect local industries and environment."

The minister said personally he would not accept to be part of a group that undermines the government of President John Magufuli because, he said, unfit plastic bags were banned since June last year. "The ban created opportunity for making alternative bags. This opportunity is being abused. Culprits will be punished severely."

"These carries do not have TBS logo and do not meet the GSM 70 benchmark. We shall be forced to take stern measures to protect local industries and environment."

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TFS offers forest land to villagers

TANZANIA Forest Services Agency (TFS) has allocated part of its Kiwira Forest farm of 12 acres to the people of Igoma ward in Mbeya District to be used in development activities.

TFS Director for Forest Resources Zawadi Mbwambo officially handed over the area to the wananchi after completion of the process to remove it

from TFS jurisdiction.

"From today I hand over the 12 acre area of the forest to the wananchi to use it in their development activities, but before they start using it we have decided to harvest all trees therein so

that it remains free for wananchi's use," he said.

He said the decision to offer them the land comes from the existing good relationship between Kiwira Forest farm, the wananchi and Mbeya District

Council authorities.

Speaking at the event, Mwazazi Village chairman Anderson Mussa said the area will be beneficial to the wananchi for their own development.

He said the area will be planned

on how it will be used including the construction of a bus stop, police station, primary court and a health centre, the offices they could not build due to shortage of land area.

Many residents thanked TFS for the

decision to allocate the land because the forested area contributed to criminal activities as unruly youths used it to smoke bhang, banditry and even rape.

For his part Kiwira Forest Farm chief conservator Lucas Sabida said the allocation of the land to the wananchi is a result of good relationship that existed between the forest farm officials and the wananchi.



Buckreef Gold Company is pleased to announce that it has advertised, issued, received and is reviewing the qualified bid responses for the Buckreef Gold Project's Request For Proposal for its mining process.

The RFP included as part of its requirements a thorough and working understanding of current laws and regulations for mining processes and operations which are located in the United Republic of Tanzania, including, but not limited to "The Mining Local Content Regulation, 2018", and compliance with this regulation. The Project is located near the Mnekezi Village, Geita District, Tanzania.

In short, the Company has accepted and is reviewing bids for work necessary for mining processes which include, but are not limited to, advising and taking an active role in final feasibility with particular emphasis on developing processing solutions for the recovery of gold. To be considered, bidders were required to offer and qualify as independent third parties to the Company for transparency, technical expertise and soundness, unbiased expertise to execute process testing, provide engineering services to develop and verify the CIL/CIP process plant proposed by the Company. Additional transparency requirements are to meet with Company's authorized persons; engage in conversations about the process testing and project engineering; engage in discussions and respond to inquiries. Outstanding references were required and have been received among qualified bidders. A qualified bidder is required to develop Project resources and involve consultants and subcontractors to the extent authorized by the Company, and add value to the Project. Qualified bidders are also required to visit the Project site to establish equipment and infrastructure and evaluate what is available on site; identify the available feedstock and discuss representative sample requirements for further mineralogical and metallurgical testwork required to verify a required flow sheet and equipment sizing for the proposed plant. Qualified bidders are further required to assist in formulating the basis for the initial - tph gold processing plant, and provide engineering and consulting services for design of suitable processing plants. Qualified bidders are required to provide Engineering, Procurement and Construction Management services as appropriate to facilitate implementation of the processing plant. The foregoing are the simplified and general requirements of qualified bidders.

The Company will choose among the field of qualified bidders, an organization which will ensure the path and process forward, including team objectives, and local legal requirements. The Company will also choose an organization with a history of success and one which will be flexible in the event the understandings of the Company and bidder require supplementation in our agreement for a smooth process forward.

The Company anticipates an expeditious analysis to conclude the RFP process, and further expects to move forward from the RFP process to a master services agreement which incorporates more specific terms and

requirements of the Company followed by government oversight and review in the very near future. The finalization process includes a review by the STAMICO technical team with subsequent review for clearance with the Tanzanian Mining Commission. The Company has worked with this process before and anticipates no problems or significant delays.

The Company is pleased to provide these updates on the RFP process and will advise promptly when the process is concluded.

James E. Sinclair, Chairman Buckreef Gold Company

215626301



Embassy of the United States of America

Vendor Fair

The United States Embassy cordially invites local vendors to attend a Vendor Fair in Dar es Salaam on **March 5th 2020**. Venue details will be shared with those who successfully RSVP.

This is an excellent occasion for the Tanzanian business community to learn of the countless opportunities that exist to supply goods & services to the United States Embassy.

We'll outline our unique requirements and help explain the registration processes that must be completed.

Embassy procurement agents will be on hand to answer questions as well.

To secure your space, please send an expression of interest & information on your business to DarGSOProcurement@state.gov by February 25th, 2020.

215626301

'Government spent 90bn/- on training of teachers, tutors'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government has spent 90bn/- for training education experts, tutors in teachers training colleges as well as procuring teaching and learning facilities in those colleges.

This was said here yesterday by Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dr Leonard Akwilapo when speaking at the stakeholders meeting under the Teacher Education Support Programme (TESP).

Dr Akwilapo said the amount was spent for building and revamping teaching and learning infrastructure in public teachers' training colleges, special primary and secondary schools as well as training tutors and teachers in those colleges and schools.

The five-year project is being funded by Global Affairs Canada, to improve basic education for girls and boys in Tanzania by improving the management of teacher education and teacher professional development, and by improving the quality of relevant, gender-sensitive education for over 50,000 student teacher trainees in 35 Teacher Training Colleges across Tanzania.

According to Dr Akwilapo, the meeting was aimed at discussing and assessing achievements recorded since the TESP inception in 2018.

The programme work with the Ministry of Education as well as the government Teacher Training College management teams, to provide technical services, capacity development, coaching, mentoring and advice to improve the quality of teachers entering the profession, thereby improving the quality of basic education and learning outcomes

for girls and boys in primary and secondary schools across Tanzania.

He further said that apart from training and refurbishing colleges, through the project "we've started building a new Kabanga Teachers' Training College which will be completed in June, this year."

He commended the role played by the Canadian government, saying: "This project complements government's efforts to improve education sector in the country."

TESP coordinator, Ignas Chonya, said that the project is designed to improve basic education for boys and girls in Tanzania. He said: "It is meant to support the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in the project planning, monitoring and coordination; train teachers' college instructors on improved methodologies for teaching basic numeracy and literacy, including how to address the differing needs of girls and boys, integrating environmental sustainability, and improving child protection by avoiding the use of corporal punishment and promoting safer schools, especially for girls as well as providing specialized training for science, mathematics and laboratory teaching to science and mathematics instructors."

The project also assess opportunities to use ICT to improve teacher training and classroom learning; provide technical advice and expertise to the Ministry of Education to review and update the teacher education curriculum, with a view to integrating gender-sensitive pedagogy and child protection measures; and provide training to improve the leadership and management skills of Ministry of Education officials.



Christine Lucas, coordinator of Vodacom Tanzania Foundation's Instant Schools project, addresses parents of Standard Five students at Dar es Salaam's Diamond Primary School at the weekend on the digital reading programme dubbed 'Soma Kidigitali' under which students will have access to various lessons delivered through mobile phones. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

LAPF to hand over Msamvu bus terminal project to Morogoro Municipal Council

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa,

Morogoro

LOCAL Authorities Pension Fund (LAPF) has been tasked to hand over the operation of the Msamvu bus terminal project to the Morogoro Municipal Council so as to increase revenue collection.

Currently the Msamvu terminal is being operated jointly by the Municipal Council and LAPF through the Morogoro-based Msavu properties Company Limited.

Ruth John, the Morogoro district council Administrative Secretary (DAS) said that it is high time for the LAPF management to hand over the terminal after President

John Magufuli has already given permit for LAPF to submit the project so as to enable the municipal to run its development projects than depending on government's subsidies.

She made the remarks here when tabling estimation of annual budget in 2020/21 totalling 73,372,267,796.32/-.

She assured the Morogoro

municipal council's counseling committee members that all the handing over processes will be conducted in writing considering the government has paid its dept to LAPF.

Under the joint venture agreement, in the first phase Morogoro municipal council share profit was 40m/- and LAPF 100m/- whereby in



HAKI Maendeleo chairman Wilfred Warioba briefs chief guest Stockholm University professor Paula Uimonen on the organisation's constitution at the installation of its board of directors in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

RESIDENTS of Kigongo and Busisi on the outskirts of Mwanza have been lauded for their willingness to demolish their houses to pave way for construction of Kigongo-Busisi bridge crossing Lake Victoria.

Visiting the site of the project yesterday at Kigongo area, Minister for Work, Transport and Communication, Isack Kamwelwe noted that situation implies that despite being compensated by government, people have received the project with joy to ensure that it is being implemented for their benefits

Minister extols Mwanza residents' willingness to pave way for Kigongo-Busisi bridge construction

and of the entire nation.

In that regard, he has called on the society to emulate the move of villagers of Kigongo and Busisi when it comes to a point of implementing social-economic projects in their areas to bring development.

He noted that the contractor for the project, M/s Yooshin Engineering Corporation is at the site and government has already given advance

payment for the project to start this week.

"I beg the authorities in the villages to give high cooperation to the contractors all the time so that they can implement the project properly for the well-being of people at present as well as future generations," he noted.

He pointed out that the implementation of the project is good news to the communities around as it

will offer employment opportunities to them during the implementation time and make them generate income for themselves and families.

In case the contractor needs to employ casual workers, the village leaders should assist to identify people with good behaviour to get chances of employment, noting that those with a record or habit of theft should not be considered in the process as they

can cause loss to the contractor, he remarked.

Acting Manager of Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) in Mwanza Region, Engineer Pius Mwami unveiled that the government has until now given the contractor advance payment amounting to 58.3bn/-

According to Mwami, the government has also used over 3.1bn/- to compensate people at the two

TNBC wins praise from forestry stakeholders

By Guardian Reporter

PARTICIPANTS in the forestry task force have praised public-private sector consultations sponsored by the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC), saying the coordinated joint dialogue was bearing fruit.

The TNBC has several task forces which include one on forestry, and others on improving business environment, tourism, industries, agriculture and economic empowerment.

Members of the TNBC forestry task force met recently in Dar es Salaam to review their work. The task force was challenged to come up with strategies that would guarantee sustainability of the forestry sub-sector for the benefit of the current and future generations. The task force collects views from forestry stakeholders and presents them to the TNBC secretariat.

The forestry task force or working group chairman is Prof Adolf Mkenya who is also the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Prof Lucian Msambichaka said consultations have attracted valuable views from different groups in the private and public sectors. Prof Msambichaka, a renowned economist, called on the leaderships at various levels to organise young people into hard-working groups to benefit from forestry initiatives. He said local

industries were dependent on forestry products, explaining that that was enough evidence that the sub-sector was creating jobs for young people.

"It is high time Tanzanians stop complaining casually. On the contrary people should seize opportunities availed by the forestry sector, work hard, generate personal income and promote the national economy. Proper use of forestry products was important in achieving the national goal of making Tanzania a middle-income industrial nation by 2025, he explained.

Julius Kandawala said for a long time there had been a dialogue vacuum between the private and public sectors.

"I feel proud and overjoyed to take part in these consultations because they have successful results. We are on a right course. With this cooperation we shall achieve our national development goals."

Kandawala said in the present world meaningful national development in any country depends on cooperation between the government and the private sector. The government, he said had the duty to create a conducive environment for the private sector to contribute to national growth and prosperity.

The TNBC Executive Secretary, Dr Godwill Wanga said the secretariat would continue to meet with members of the task forces in order to achieve the goals for which the task forces were established.

villages in the process to give way for the implementation of the project.

Giving details, Eng Mwami said that 132 people have been compensated at Kigongo Village while at Busisi Village there are 33 and therefore making the total number of the people who have been compensated for the project to reach 165.

Speaking at the event the scores of people thanked the government under President John Magufuli for implementing that project in their area and compensate them immediately, saying with that move by government the nation will move forward in development in different fields.

Lake Victoria island faces shortage of health workers

By Guardian Correspondent, Ukerewe

LAKE Victoria's island of Sizu is in a serious shortage of health personnel the situation that put thousands of residents at risk.

The island has more than 6,000 people without reliable healthcare services the situation that puts more women and children at serious risks.

This was said by the assistant medical officer at Sizu dispensary, Elizabeth Amos, when presenting a report on the dispensary.

She said the centre has only two health workers who provide services to residents at the area and beyond. She said the common diseases at the area are malaria, Urinary infection disease, diarrhoea, worms, and pneumonia and skin diseases.

Amos added that drug availability at the centre has improved for 80 percent, as a total number of 13 women give birth every month at the dispensary. "The biggest challenge is shortage

of health workers, patients building, electricity, ambulance service, poor use of national health insurance service and the habit of some women to give birth at their homes," she explained.

For his part, Ukerewe District Medical Officer (DMO) Dr Raphael Mhana said the government continues to employ new health workers to

address the existing shortage.

Dr Mhana added: "The dispensary has a plan to cut down the number of maternal mortality rate and child mortality by encouraging women to give birth at the health centre as well as attending clinic during pregnancy."

However, for his part the Mwanza Regional Commissioner John Mongella questioned on the poor distribution of drugs after witnessing only 25 patient's cards out of 300 patients who have been recorded to receive drugs.

The RC said they will see how the dispensary will be rehabilitated and expanded in order to ensure quality health service to the people at the area.

The RC called on the public to be responsible in protecting various resources in order to make it useful for the future generation.

Monica Magesa, a Sizu resident, said sometimes they fail to access health services at the centre because of the absenteeism of health workers who left the dispensary closed.



The dispensary has a plan to cut down the number of maternal mortality rate and child mortality by encouraging women to give birth at the health centre as well as attending clinic during pregnancy.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Umyy Mwalimu cuts a ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday to inaugurate United Bank for Africa (UBA) accounts for children and juveniles. To her right is UBA managing director and CEO Usman Isika. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

TCRA trains college students on correct use of social networks

TANZANIA Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Southern Highlands Zone has given training to students of Mpuguso Teachers College in Rungwe District, Mbeya Region on the correct use of social networks and called upon them to abide by laws to avoid legal action.

Speaking to students and college staff TCRA Zonal Head Asajile John said the aim of the training is to enable college students to understand the laws and opportunities of the social networks and their correct use.

John said the training also aim to educate students to use the social networks for more knowledge instead of engaging on things not beneficial to them.

He said there has been a problem of people using social networks in contravention of the laws by posting fake news, insults and other inappropriate communication.

Some students at the college said the training given will help them to make better use of social networks, different to what they have been doing.

One of the students Elizabeth Pancras said before the training she did not know some of the laws that govern the use of the social networks but now she is now well conversant with the laws.

"From the training I have discovered that registering a simcard biometrically using finger prints is free as many did not know about this," she said.

Another student Zefania Daniel, a second year student at the college thanked TCRA for the training and said that they are expected to be a mirror in the society for making better use of the social networks.

She said the training will help them to select the right information from the networks and that they will become change agents encouraging others to do the same.

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

Team up in fighting forest fires, DC tells stakeholders

STAKEHOLDERS in forest sector have been urged to team up and fight against fires, which remain a serious challenge facing the industry.

Njombe District Commissioner, Ruth Msafiri made the call here yesterday when speaking at the two-day training that involved forest stakeholders from southern highlands zone, which was organised by Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS).

Msafiri said that it is important for key players in the sector to recognize the value of forests, and enhance initiatives aimed at addressing forest fires.

However, she has urged stakeholders to have effective plans in their areas including having bylaws that will require people to follow them for controlling fire incidents that occur several times.

For his part the Tanzania Forest Service (TFS) Officer, Bakari Mohamed said the workshop objectives are

to increase public awareness and reminding them on the importance of fighting fire incidences when they occurs.

Mohamed added that, "it is good to identify the existing challenges so that they can be addressed together with identifying the sources and impact of the mentioned challenges and how to deal with them".

Serious strategies are needed concerning the issue of proper use of fire fighting to go in line with timely reporting of fire incidents. The Mufindi District official said.

However, stakeholders have continued to call for more community awareness education especially during the summer season which has recorded a big number of such incidents.

Upon completion of the workshop, stakeholders will come up with strategies for developing sustainable fire control. The training involved forest stakeholders from various sectors in southern highland zone.



It is good to identify the existing challenges so that they can be addressed together with identifying the sources and impact of the mentioned challenges and how to deal with them



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Management and Development for Health (MDH) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization whose primary aim is to contribute to address public health priorities. All job positions below require significant field work. MDH seeks to recruit qualified individuals to fill the following AFYA KWANZA positions:

Position : DISTRICT CLINICAL & STRATEGIC INFORMATION MANAGER-1 post
Location : DAR ES SALAAM
Reports to : DISTRICT PROJECT MANAGER

Duties and Responsibilities.

The following are the major responsibilities and duties of the District Clinical and Strategic Information Manager:

A. CLINICAL SERVICES SUPPORT:

- Under the technical supervision of the DPM, the DCSI manager provides the strategic information leadership to the supported programs including PMTCT, C&T, and TBHIV integration, Quality Improvement, Early Infant Diagnosis, Laboratory Support, Supply Chain Management and Community Linkages in the assigned district.
- Coordinates, manages and builds capacity of district CHMTs in program management including monitoring and evaluation.
- The DCSI manager will act as the focal person for strategic information focusing on clinical services including TB/HIV integration, care and treatment, PMTCT and EID and pediatric care and treatment and assures that related activities are implemented as per MDH and district work plan;
- DCSI manager shall support the District Project Manager for the timely development of efficient work plans for the districts and the monitoring of the progress of planned targets, budgets and activities to ensure they are accomplished in effective, economic and efficient manner.
- Responsible for the effective planning and documentation of the communication and support provided to respective district, including but not limited to supportive supervision and mentorship
- Work with existing and potential implementing partners in PMTCT, HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment services
- Work with senior leaders, managers and grants team in developing and reviewing district sub-grantees' proposals on target setting, financial budget management and adequate allocation of resources;

B. STRATEGIC INFORMATION SUPPORT:

- Strongly related to assuring the technical performance, under the supervision of District Project Manager, the DCSI manager shall work closely with M&E and strategic information department in assuring data capturing, recording, storage, usage, quality, and proper reporting for effective program management
- Responsible for coordinating program monitoring and reporting activities for Care & Treatment, TB/HIV, Prevention, Community linkage and PMTCT programs by districts at site level
- Provide technical assistance to strengthen the national and district M&E system for both care and treatment, TB/HIV, Community based care and PMTCT
- Build capacity of site staff and district clinical monitors to set a functional groundwork for efficient data collection, compilation, use, and timely reporting at site and district level
- Support the implementation and updating of the SOP for how data for each indicator are to be collected, managed, verified and used at each level of the health information system.
- Coordinate district and site level reporting activities during reporting period.
- Perform final review and verification of the quality and completeness of the quantitative monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual reports from respective district and sites.
- Facilitate utilization of reports at site level and district level for program planning, management, monitoring and evaluation
- In collaboration with the strategic information department, participate in periodic data quality assessment activities to track progress in data management at individual sites, and rectify data issues.
- Conduct secondary analysis of data and writing conference abstracts and manuscripts for publication.
- Liaising with the Evaluation and Research Manager in identifying areas for operational research.
- Performing any other work related duty assigned by supervisor.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Medical Doctor
- Master of Public Health or Epidemiology or its equivalent.
- Three or more years of experience working in HIV/AIDS care and treatment programs
- Experience working with CHMT
- Experience in M & E and Data Management
- Experience in data collection tools and data quality methodologies
- Leadership skills to plan, coordinate, organize, interact and deliver best results to achieve targets
- Experience in preparing project workplan and budget
- Experience in reading, analyzing and reporting data to assist in determining progress and decision making processes
- Experience in working, supporting and building capacity of data coordinators and data clerks

Position : REGIONAL VMMC DATA OFFICER-1 post
Location : GEITA
Reports to : VMMC PROJECT MANAGER

Duties and Responsibilities.

The following are the major responsibilities and duties of Regional VMMC Data Officer:

- Develop, implement, and oversee VMMC/EIMC monitoring and evaluation activities
- Developing, modifying, and maintaining databases in the respective district.
- Developing data input controls, range and logic checks, and other data management processes based on input from other team members.
- Build capacity to Health Care Providers in recording and reporting VMMC programmatic data
- Collaborate with technical team to develop, design Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on data management Processes.
- Collaborate with Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC), RHMT and CHMT on emphasizing the availability and use of National VMMC/EIMC monitoring system at the facility/site level and council level.
- Designing, modifying, generating, and maintaining database reports using Microsoft Access in collaboration with other SI team.
- Training data team in the use of data entry and cleaning programs.
- Ensure the quality of data; completeness, timeliness, accurate, and reliability of data updated in the DHIS2 database on monthly basis.
- Perform active data cleaning, and prepare analysis datasets; analyse and tabulate data; and create graphic representations of statistical information
- Monitor district progress on weekly basis and work with VMMC Project Manager to report on weekly and monthly district performance.
- Facilitate routine reporting of VMMC/EIMC report on monthly/quarterly basis for program performance monitoring
- Mentor facility staff on data analysis and reporting to ensure data driven decision making
- Any other duty as assigned by immediate supervisor.

REQUIREMENTS:

- University degree in Computer Science, Statistics, demographic, public health or other related field
- Minimum of two years of data management and or programming
- Excellent in analysis and presentation skills
- Good in both oral and written English and Kiswahili
- Able to work independently and in team
- Able to generate reports from various data bases
- Experience in working in donor funded programs and clinical research trials will be an added

TO APPLY:

Interested candidates should submit an application letter indicating clearly the position applied for, a detailed copy of their CV, and names and contact information (email addresses and telephone numbers) of three work related referees.

Applications should be submitted by Sunday 23rd February, 2020, to the Director of Human Resource through e-mail hr@mdh-tz.org or dropped by hand at the MDH Head Office in Mikocheni, along Mwai Kibaki Road, Plot No. 802.

Kindly note that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

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We ought to promote full and equal access to participation of women and girls in science

THE International Day of Women and Girls in Science is the 11th day of February, by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on 22 December, 2015. The day recognises the critical role women and girls play in science and technology.

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is implemented by UNESCO and UN Women, in collaboration with intergovernmental agencies and institutions, as well as civil society partners, that aim to promote women and girls in science. The day's purpose is to promote full and equal access to participation in science for women and girls.

Science (from the Latin word *scientia*, meaning knowledge) is a systematic enterprise that builds and organizes knowledge in the form of testable explanations and predictions about the universe.

Modern science is typically divided into three major branches that consist of the natural sciences (e.g., biology, chemistry, and physics), which study nature in the broadest sense; the social sciences (e.g., economics, psychology, and sociology), which study individuals and societies; and the formal sciences (e.g., logic, mathematics, and theoretical computer science), which study abstract concepts.

There is disagreement, however, on whether the formal sciences actually constitute a science as they do not rely on empirical evidence. Disciplines that use existing scientific knowledge for practical purposes, such as engineering and medicine, are described as applied sciences.

Science is based on research, which is commonly conducted in academic and research institutions as well as in government agencies and companies. The practical impact of scientific research has led to the emergence of science policies that seek to influence the scientific enterprise by prioritizing the development of commercial products, armaments, health care, and

environmental protection.

Science in a broad sense existed before the modern era and in many historical civilizations. Modern science is distinct in its approach and successful in its results, so it now defines what science is in the strictest sense of the term.

Science in its original sense was a word for a type of knowledge, rather than a specialized word for the pursuit of such knowledge. In particular, it was the type of knowledge which people can communicate to each other and share. For example, knowledge about the working of natural things was gathered long before recorded history and led to the development of complex abstract thought.

This is shown by the construction of complex calendars, techniques for making poisonous plants edible, public works at national scale, such as those which harnessed the floodplain of the Yangtze with reservoirs, dams, and dikes, and buildings such as the Pyramids.

However, no consistent conscious distinction was made between knowledge of such things, which are true in every community, and other types of communal knowledge, such as mythologies and legal systems. Metallurgy was known in prehistory, and the Vin a culture was the earliest known producer of bronze-like alloys. It is thought that early experimentation with heating and mixing of substances over time developed into alchemy.

Neither the words nor the concepts "science" and "nature" were part of the conceptual landscape in the ancient near east.[29] The ancient Mesopotamians used knowledge about the properties of various natural chemicals for manufacturing pottery, faience, glass, soap, metals, lime plaster, and waterproofing; they also studied animal physiology, anatomy, and behavior for divinatory purposes and made extensive records of the movements of astronomical objects for their study of astrology.

AU summit African leaders' call for action to end malnutrition by 2025 indeed laudable

THE United Nations recently said the number of people going hungry has increased for the third year running. A report from the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the UN Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organisation said reaching the target of zero hunger by 2030 is an immense challenge.

The new edition of the state of food security and nutrition in the world annual report released indicates that more than 820 million people worldwide are not getting enough food, with the situation most alarming in Africa.

Africa has the highest rates of hunger in the world and the rates are rising in some of the continent's sub-regions. The report says that in East Africa more than three in 10 of the population are undernourished.

The annual UN report also found that income inequality is rising in many of the countries where hunger is on the rise, making it even more difficult for the poor, vulnerable or marginalized to cope with economic slowdowns and downturns.

Since 2011, almost half the countries where rising hunger occurred due to economic slowdowns or stagnation were in Africa.

The last year's report introduces a new indicator for measuring food insecurity at different levels of severity and monitoring progress towards SDG 2: the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity.

This indicator is based on data obtained directly from people in surveys about their access to food in the last 12 months, using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES). African countries have made progress

toward eradicating malnutrition and stunting but need to do more to hit United Nations malnutrition targets by 2025. This was the main message of a meeting that took place during the 33rd African Union Summit.

Speakers at a meeting of the African Leaders for Nutrition (ALN) included the heads of state of Madagascar, Cote d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone, national ministers of health as well as African Development Bank (AfDB.org) President Akinwumi Adesina, head of the African Development Bank.

Leaders acknowledged the scope of the challenge but sounded a note of optimism. "We can conquer hunger in Africa," said Madagascar's President Andry Rajoelina, one of five African Leaders for Nutrition champions. "I call on all our partners to continue to work with us to address hunger and malnutrition."

Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara said leaders should take it a step further. "I have proposed for the AU to focus on tackling malnutrition as a theme for 2021," he said.

Stunting has declined by eight percentage points across Africa since 2000, an advance on one of the UN's 2025 targets. African countries have also shown strong progress toward achieving the target of 50% of the world's children being exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life. The other targets are: halting the epidemic of obesity; reducing anaemia in women of reproductive age; reducing low birth weight and reducing wasting.

The ALN, a partnership of the African Union and African Development Bank, brings together heads of state, Finance Ministers and other leaders to raise awareness and accountability, and reinforce investment by African governments to end malnutrition among children.



By Henning Melber

IF you asked a typical American about conspiracy theories, he or she probably wouldn't have any trouble rattling off an extensive list of theories ranging from the Kennedy assassination to 9/11. But if there's one potential conspiracy that most Americans are totally unaware of, it's the supposed CIA plot to kill UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld.

Dag had been the Secretary General for eight years, but died in an accidental plane crash in 1961, while en route to a cease-fire negotiation in the British protectorate of Northern Rhodesia. But, over the years, there have been multiple claims that the plane was shot down, and that he was actually killed in an assassination plot that involved some combination of the CIA, a Belgian Mining Company, a South African paramilitary unit, and British intelligence. Why? Because he was pushing for Congo's independence, which would have hurt the interests of any of those forces.

Adding fuel to the theories, was a copy of a secret government document that surfaced in South Africa 18 years ago, which suggested that the CIA, MI5, and the South African government were in on Dag's death. They presented statements from CIA director Allen Dulles, saying that "Dag is becoming troublesome ... and should be removed." Unfortunately the original documents couldn't be found, so there was no way to verify the copies.

But last year the South African government claimed to have found the original document, which has led the UN to reopen their investigation into Hammarskjöld's death. The CIA has, of course, dismissed these claims as "absurd and without foundation."

UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld was one of only four people to have been posthumously awarded a Nobel Prize (for Peace), and was described by the then-US president, John F. Kennedy, as 'the greatest statesman of our century'. His death in 1961 has sparked many theories, among them that a South African right-wing paramilitary organisation, or South African mercenaries, were responsible.

Shortly after midnight on 18 September 1961, a plane crashed when approaching Ndola, a mining town in Northern Rhodesia (today Zambia) bordering the Congo. On board were UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and 15 other people. They were on their way to meet Moïse Tshombe, leader of the secessionist Katanga Province, to find a solution to the conflict in the Congo.

All but one of those on board died in the wreckage. The bodyguard Harold Julien succumbed to his injuries six days later in a local hospital. He could have been saved if treated properly. His eyewitness report of the crash was also neglected.

South Africa must investigate death of Dag Hammarskjöld



Dag Hammarskjöld

Foul play was not ruled out. The inquiry by a United Nations Commission noted that "the Rhodesian inquiry... had reached the conclusion that the probable cause of the crash was pilot error. The Commission, while it cannot exclude this possibility, has found no indication that this was the probable cause of the crash."

UN Resolution 1759 (XVII) of 26 October 1962 therefore tasked the secretary-general "to inform the General Assembly of any new evidence which may come to his attention". This left the door open for a return to the matter.

Fifty years later, Susan Williams published a book which pointed to omissions, flaws and failures of the earlier investigations. It triggered a new inquiry conducted by an independent commission of jurists. It submitted its report in 2013.

As a result, official investigations by the United Nations were resumed. The United Nations Association Westminster Branch in London has since then provided regular updates on developments.

In 2017, the former Chief Justice of Tanzania, Mohamed Chande Othman, was appointed as Eminent Person, tasked with further investigations. He concluded in his first report that an aerial attack "would have been possible using resources existing in the area at the time" and "that there is likely to be much relevant material that remains undisclosed".

Othman identified "the continued non-disclosure of potentially relevant new information in the intelligence, security and defence archives of Member States" as "the biggest barrier to understanding the full truth". He

stressed that "the burden of proof has now shifted to Member States to show that they have conducted a full review of records and archives in their custody or possession, including those that remain classified, for potentially relevant information".

In support of Othman's report, UN Secretary-General António Guterres recommended "that relevant Member States appoint an independent and high-ranking official to conduct a dedicated and internal review of their archives, in particular their intelligence, security and defence archives, to determine whether they hold relevant information".

Following a Swedish draft resolution co-sponsored by 70 member states, the General Assembly extended Othman's mandate. He presented his second report in September 2019.

New information, Othman concluded, "highlights the fact that there were many more foreign mercenaries in and around Katanga, including pilots, than had been considered by earlier inquiries". These had the logistics and necessary conditions (suitable planes and airfields) to intercept the plane. For Othman, "it remains plausible that an external attack or threat was a cause of the crash".

New information also confirmed that the crash site was discovered much earlier than officially reported - and testifies to the deliberate neglect of the only survivor. As Othman notes, this "calls into question the acts of various Governments directly after the crash and leaves open the issue of why the earlier crash discovery time was not reported".

Othman based his conclusions partly on reports of the "independent high-

ranking officials" appointed by several member states. However, states where most discoveries could be expected did not comply. South Africa finally assigned a high-ranking official at Dirco in May 2019 with the task. But no report has so far been submitted.

Othman therefore recommended:

- That an independent person be appointed to continue the work;
- That key member states be again urged to (re)appoint independent high-ranking officials to determine whether relevant information exists within their security, intelligence and defence archives;
- That a conclusion be reached as to whether member states have complied with this process; and
- That key documents be made public.

In December 2019, another Swedish draft resolution was adopted with a record number of 128 co-sponsoring countries (including South Africa, but as before without the support of the US and the UK). It extended Othman's mandate.

This has a significant symbolic meaning. The Westminster Branch of the UK's UN Association considers "a record number of co-sponsoring Member States to be a clear indication to those few states which have failed to cooperate". It should be a strong reminder that it is time for South Africa to deliver.

It is one thing if the US and the UK are unwilling to assess and disclose classified material. The assumption that they want to avoid embarrassment by not sharing what they know is not too far-fetched. But South Africa has long since eschewed the traditions of the apartheid regime.

Concerned about apartheid, Hammarskjöld had visited South Africa in early 1961.

His death was celebrated in the white settler-minority communities. It is inconceivable that local archives contain no information on what happened at Ndola. South African agencies and individuals played an active role in the region. This needs to be closely investigated.

Democratic South Africa should deal with such skeletons in its closet. It must come to terms with a past which is not one of today's government. As Guterres stated in his letter to the General Assembly:

"It remains our shared responsibility to pursue the full truth of what happened on that fateful night in 1961. We owe this to Dag Hammarskjöld and to the members of the party accompanying him. However, we also owe this to the United Nations."

China's Belt and Road Initiative and Africa's development

By Chazha Ludo Macheng

From the G20 Summit 2017 to the EU-Africa Business Summit 2019, Africa remains relevant in the international arena. The current interest of the rising economic giant (China), in Africa has stirred international attention as it solidifies a path for the 'New Scramble for Africa'. Preoccupied with her past and possible 'worst-case scenarios' painted by the West, Africa could possibly be missing out on a worthwhile opportunity to support its own development through the Belt and Road Initiative.

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), engineered and revered by Chinese President Xi Jinping, is an effort focused on the development of infrastructure and the construction of an economic belt, which will consequently connect Asia, Europe and Africa. Its intent is to boost the world's economy, especially international trade, finance and tourism. Critics, however, have summed it up to be nothing more than "an effort to mask the strategic expansion of Chinese power".

Nevertheless, the "threat" caused by the BRI can be viewed as exaggerated. Subsequently, there are equal benefits and drawbacks to the BRI, or African development. Irrespective of the investor, Africa must learn from its colonial past.

Various authors have purported that it is through large scale "commitments" that China is leveraging the massive loans it holds over



Gabonese President Ali Bongo Ondimba, second left, and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, left, review honour guards during a welcoming ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, 7 December 2016. File photo

small states worldwide to snatch assets and increase its military footprint. The British and the Dutch empires were the poster children of strategic, and economic imperialism, having milked the African continent for all it's worth, leaving it high and dry. This was done in the name of "trade and aid". In 2012, the vice president of China Exim Bank, Zhu Hongjie, called for an "expansion of foreign aid", including "concessional lending", to improve the efficiency with which China's aid can promote China's export while at the same time help-

ing reputable Chinese enterprise to increase the development capacity of developing countries.

In 2015, China loaned \$12-billion to African countries, and in the same year, a further \$3-billion, allowing us to witness the force of Chinese globalisation. Moreover, the share of African workers in Chinese infrastructure projects on the continent is often perceived to be too low. In Nigeria, politicians worrying about jobs for locals recently discussed a loan offered by China Exim Bank, which supposedly came

with the condition that the projects must be done by Chinese workers. What is more worrisome is that "of an estimated 10,000 Chinese businesses in Africa, 90% are privately owned, rather than state-run, therefore indicative of the fact that private Chinese industry is taking hold of Africa".

A similar scenario is seen in Kenya, where direct investments by foreigners are facilitated by the Investment Promotion Authority, which grants licenses to foreign companies without the obligation of partnership with a

local company. In 2012, there were reportedly 67 Chinese companies registered in Kenya, including 25 in the building and construction sector and nine in real estate.

The argument therefore is: In the likelihood of a "masked Chinese agenda" disguised within this new Sino-Africa relation, the responsibility is left to African leaders to be vigilant in securing the continent's interests having learnt from colonial predecessors. "China needs Africa and Africa needs China, we need to strengthen our ties," said Tony Dong, the Head of the

Federation of Sino-European Entrepreneurs.

China has the skill set, technology and financial capacity to assemble Africa through the BRI. This also comes at a time when Africa needs to improve its infrastructure, particularly energy, roads and railways. For instance, countries such as Gabon are a prime example of this as its partnership with China makes provision for growth.

For years, Gabon, a central African country, had wanted to improve the transport network of its crumbling French colonial buildings and dilapi-

dated roads. On the surface, this (Sino-Africa relations), appears as a simple mutual trade. Although a more primitive look at this partnership implies the question of whether this is truly an authentic common trading agreement, or a repackaged colonialistic strategy. This is not to say the BRI undertaking is a bad initiative since it will spur development across the African continent if it's successfully implemented. However, one must not easily dismiss the negative implications behind supporting the BRI. Support means boosting China's political and economic power across much of the world. This could be easily achieved by exploring ways to best utilise the BRI's immense offerings and grow Africa's interests.

Therefore, whether China or another investor supports colonialism in the name of development, a tougher and goal-oriented approach should always be used by African governments towards implementation and sustainable development, says one analyst.

In conclusion, there are advantages to be shared between countries involved in the BRI. Of course, like any other large-scale initiative, there are risks. If these risks are properly managed, they will not hamper the progress of continental upgrading. Consequently, although China claims to come in peace bearing gifts, a cautionary tale for Africans to remember is that "clean gloves hide dirty hands".

Agencies

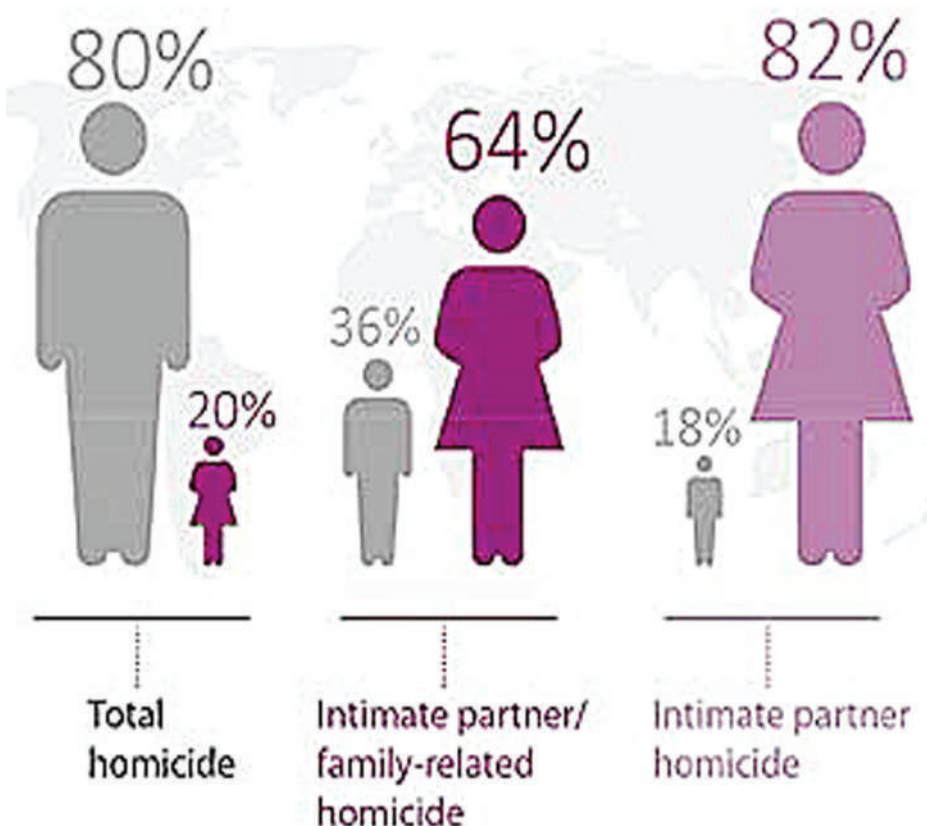
Do I need permission to breathe? - A migrant woman's story

NEW YORK

"I soiled my pants, I could feel the wetness seeping into my waistband, my eyes started to become blurry. Only the sound of the blaring television assured me that I was still alive. I tried to stop thinking and make my mind go completely blank. Over the years I have adapted and now I can make my mind go numb. But the only nagging question ringing on my mind during the last 45 seconds was: will this stain the carpet? Should I clean myself first or should I clean the carpet first? Which one is safer? Did he notice the stain?"

I laid there without a word hoping and praying that he does not notice the wetness. I am pretty sure he will start to bash me noticing the stain. We just bought the carpet two years back and it is messed now for me. I laid down holding my breath.

His grip started to get loose. I saw him examining the wet spot on his jeans and his eyes change to a different color of red. A little later he moved his foot that was firmly digging on my chest. His mother scrunched her nose and tucked a portion of her garment to block the smell. She held my son by his arm and pulled him out of the closet. I saw my son being dragged to the kitchen. Although the blood on my eyes was making it hard to see, still I was relieved that my 6-year-old did not have to see his mother soiling her garments and her face red with blood. I laid there for roughly five minutes until my husband left the room." She takes a pause, touch-



Although women and girls account for a far smaller share of total homicides than men, they bear by far the greatest burden of intimate partner/family related homicide, and intimate partner homicide. File photo

ing the old cut on her lips and wipes the corner of her eyes marked with various shades of blue and purple. She speaks like this with vivid descriptions every time she comes to the shop. Then as expected, comes the routine realization of guilt, regret, and anger followed by her denial and helplessness. "It is not his fault. It is not. He is a good man, he buys me food, he gave money for laundry but sometimes he loses his patience. He is not a bad man." She nods her head and forces a faint smile. He holds my hands and gestures me begging to stay calm.

This story is of a girl named Selina, who is a regular at the Asian store down the road.

Selina was only 16 years old when a family came to meet her as she came back home from school one day. All she knew was: the family lives in America and

is affluent. She was married that evening. After a year, her husband brought her to the United States. For the last 7 years, she has never been permitted to meet anyone from her family or go back home. She does not have access to a telephone nor is she permitted to go out of the house alone. The only surrounding she knew was the house she lives in, the grocery store and the route to her son's school. Coming from the same country as me, she speaks to me every chance she gets when her mother in law is not with her. I have seen her many times in the shop, hesitant, perplexed and with bruises. Today she came fully covering her face, limping and looking for a stain remover for her carpet.

I took another look at her face and at the fresh bandage covering her forehead and after 3 years of trying to gather some courage,

I finally picked up my phone and dialed. (1)

Domestic abuse and violence are the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically; however, the one constant component of domestic violence is one partner's consistent efforts to maintain power and control over the other. (2) Sometimes in the early stages of a relationship, it cannot be determined if one person will become abusive and to what extent that might lead to. Domestic violence intensified overtime. Outwardly an abuser seems like a wonderful person, liked by his colleagues and friends but gradually may become aggressive and controlling. Also, an abuser may have episodes of being violent and being loving or caring moments later. The abused might stay in a constant state of denial hoping for the episode to pass and then get back to normality.

The question comes in relation as to why the abuser does not voice her concerns or reach out for help. Also why they do not break the cycle of abuse? In the majority of countries with available data, less than 40 percent of the women who experience violence actually speak up and seek help of any sort. Among women who do, most look to family and friends and very few

look to formal institutions and mechanisms, such as police and health services. Less than 10 percent of those women seeking help for the experience of violence sought help by appealing to the police or other organizations. (3) Between 960,000 and 3,000,000 incidents of domestic violence are reported each year, while many other incidents go unreported. (4) It is estimated that more than ten million people experience domestic violence in the U.S. each year. (5) In many cases, it has been seen that there is a massive gap between the number of abused women reaching out for help than the actual number of women facing abuse.

The victim's reasons for staying with their abusers are extremely complex and, in most cases, are based on the reality that their abuser will follow through with the threats they have used to keep them trapped: the abuser will hurt or kill them, they will hurt or kill the children, they will win custody of the children, they will harm or kill pets or others and will ruin their victim financially. The victim in violent relationships knows their abuser best and fully knows the extent to which they will go to make sure they have and can maintain control over the victim. (6)

There is a growing body of research data demonstrating that immigrant women are a particularly vulnerable group of victims of domestic violence, where a widely utilized technique to dominate the abused is isolation. It is an important factor in marital abuse among South Asian immigrant families. It lends

itself to the invisibility immigrant women experience based on their gender status in the United States. Drawn from unstructured interviews with abused South Asian immigrant women, three different levels of isolation are explained. The first level involves the quality of a woman's relationship with her spouse; the second is related to the frequency and quality of social interaction with friends, relatives, and coworkers; and the third is explained in terms of the level of access to and participation in the ethnic community and other formal institutions. (5) This group of women tends to have fewer resources, stay longer in the relationship, and sustain more severe physical and emotional abuse. It has been seen many times that abusers of immigrant domestic violence victims actively use their power to control their wife's and children's immigration status and threats of deportation as tools that play upon victim's fears so as to keep their abused spouses and children from seeking help or from calling the police to report the abuse.

Due to the language barrier, the immigrant women who have limited speaking ability of the language spoken in the foreign country get sidelined by default. During their doctor's visits, children's school visits and other social interactions they remain highly dependent on their spouses or upon family for getting their point across. So, if they want to voice out their concerns they are barred and monitored. It is a well-known common practice of many first generation and second-generation

families to keep the families' personal identification documents like passports, birth certificates, health insurance cards, social security cards and financial documents under the control of the male of the house. The women are always under constant surveillance and monitoring. Another interesting factor adding to the muted voice of abused women is financial dependency. Following traditions and cultural norms, regardless of educational background or social standing, a major portion of the immigrant women are required to put their earnings or savings into a joint account that she and her partner share. And in most cases, she holds no access or decision-making ability of her own money even if she is earning.

An update to Selina's story: One phone call made by her neighbor 2 years back, changed her life for the better. It took her 2 months to heal physically in a hospital, took 23 sessions of physical therapy to walk properly and hours of counseling to get back her mental health and stability. She now works in a bakery and can speak basic English after a year of training offered by her local shelter. She is living in a one-bedroom apartment with her son and she recently sent \$50 to her ailing mother back home from her paycheck. Every time her cell phone rings, she smiles and pauses before answering. She loves the fact that she can breathe without taking permission from anyone and can speak with anyone she wishes to.

AGENCIES

The coronavirus will not cripple China's economy

By Zhang Jun

Just five days before the Chinese New Year, the authorities in Beijing finally declared the coronavirus epidemic that originated in Wuhan to be a major public health emergency.

Because Wuhan's municipal government had initially withheld information and failed to control the virus effectively, about five million residents and temporary workers left the city for the Lunar New Year holidays before the city was officially closed off on January 23. As a result, the virus spread rapidly throughout China and beyond, leading to the current high-profile international health emergency.

Unsurprisingly, China's economy is slowing down. The services sector, which includes retail, tourism, hotels and transportation, and accounts for more than half of the country's GDP, is suffering severely.

Disruption in this sector will in turn affect manufacturing. And growing international concern at the continued spread of the virus might further strain trade and limit the movement of people. But the key question is whether we believe it will last longer.

My answer is no. The coronavirus epidemic is very unlikely to last long. Despite all its problems,



China undoubtedly still has an unparalleled ability to mobilise resources in response to a large-scale emergency. During the past two weeks, for example, official efforts aimed at controlling panic have been first-rate.

In addition to ordering a nationwide mobilisation of medical personnel and resources (including from the military), the authorities have been assessing major hospitals' capabilities to diagnose and treat coronavirus patients. More important, as part of a national disease-control campaign

announced on January 20, officials are identifying and observing any citizens who had travelled to and from Wuhan since the outbreak began.

Meanwhile, urban communities and rural villages alike have tightened access restrictions in order to reduce unnecessary movements and aggregations of people, even establishing temporary rationing systems to distribute face masks to families and individuals. In addition, holidays have been extended and schools remain closed. By helping to minimize

the public's exposure to the peak of the epidemic, these steps are playing an effective role in curbing the spread of infection. There is a higher probability that the increase in the number of infections will slow in the coming weeks.

It is still too early to assess the full economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak. However, the key factor will not be the epidemic's range or severity, but rather its duration. The sooner the epidemic is over, the quicker China's economy will recover, given its trend growth. Although

severe control measures will weaken current economic performance, they might help to end the outbreak earlier.

In any case, as both a theoretical and empirical matter, epidemics can cause only short-term economic slowdowns. Having said that, external shocks will not significantly alter the Chinese economy's medium- and long-term growth trend. Once the coronavirus storm passes, therefore, the economy will

bounce back and return to its previous course.

Back in 2003, for example, most economists and researchers estimated that the SARS outbreak would lower China's second-quarter GDP growth by about one-fifth, but shave less than 0.5 percentage points off the full-year figure. These forecasts reflected the limited number of regions and sectors affected by SARS, as well as the expectation that the outbreak would last no more than three months.

In the event, second-quarter GDP growth fell by two percentage points, much as expected. At the time, China's economy was expanding by about 10% annually, and the SARS-induced slowdown was quickly offset by subsequent strong growth. So, on a graph of Chinese growth from 2002 to 2007, the impact of the SARS outbreak is not even visible.

Although the scope of the coronavirus outbreak now exceeds that of SARS, its duration is still the key factor for assessing the size of the impact on the economy. Current data suggest that the epidemic will likely reach a turning point in the next two weeks. That would mean China might conquer the virus in the first quarter, which is essential to mitigating the epidemic's impact on overall growth in 2020.

True, China's annual GDP growth of just over 6% in

the past several years is much slower than at the time of the SARS outbreak. But the Chinese authorities can still ensure a robust recovery through targeted fiscal- and monetary-policy adjustments that support small and medium-sized enterprises and service-sector businesses affected by the coronavirus epidemic.

According to my preliminary estimates, the worst-case scenario is that the epidemic lowers GDP growth in the first quarter by a third or half, leaving the figure 2-3 percentage points lower than in the first quarter of 2019. But if things start to look up in the second quarter, the ensuing rebound will partly offset that drop. And with the necessary macroeconomic policy adjustments in place, economic growth will accelerate again during the second half of the year.

Provided there are no further external shocks, continued policy loosening should limit the full-year decline in GDP growth to 0.5-1 percentage point. That would imply a 5-5.5% full-year economic expansion in 2020, which is still largely in line with China's current growth trend. But it is not yet clear whether the Chinese government, currently preoccupied with tackling the epidemic, will cut its GDP growth target for this year accordingly.

Agencies

Indonesia's feminist online magazine has new perspectives on gender issues

By Ainur Rohmah

Women in Indonesia still face challenges ranging from deeply entrenched patriarchal attitudes - due to cultural or religious beliefs - to a lack of government support for legislation that can guarantee their rights and protect them from various forms of violence.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim-majority country, was ranked 85 out of 153 countries in the World Economic Forum's 2020 Gender Gap Index after scoring poorly on economic participation, education and political empowerment.

In a country where conservative values are still widely held, issues around gender inequality, sexuality and related rights are almost never discussed in the public sphere. Media outlets focused on women often only position them as objects and commodities, with content focused on lifestyle, fashion and beauty, without discussing the issues that empower them.

But a Jakarta-based online magazine, Magdalene, is changing the game. The feminist magazine publishes articles in two languages - English and Indonesian - offering new values and perspectives on women and raising a range of issues including religion, politics and social conditions.

"We want to provide quality content and represent women's experiences that are more authentic and inclusive with a gender-based approach," said Magdalene co-founder Devi Asmarani, adding: "We criticize all the practices that have been taken for granted, which perpetuate various



injustices and inequalities."

Articles written by Magdalene's journalists and contributors will hardly be encountered in conventional media, such as 'I Like Women and My Mother Wants Me to Suffer Because of It', '6 Feminist Influencers That Will Change The Way You See Yourself and Others' and 'New and Important Sex-Ed Film Shatters Stereotypes'. They also have a podcast and even a book, which was published last year.

Magdalene was co-founded by Asmarani alongside fellow journalists Hera Diani and Karima Anjani in 2013, primarily with a view to promoting gender equality, women's empowerment, pluralism and tolerance. They claim to channel the voices of feminists, pluralists and progressives - or just those who are not afraid to be different in terms of their gender, colour or sexual preferences.

Even though the issues Magdalene's journalists discuss

seem heavy, their delivery is light, with language that's easy for ordinary people to understand. Most of their readers are women aged between 18 and 30, but they don't all fall in that demographic.

Magdalene has also attracted some male readers, who make up about 30 per cent of their audience. One of those men is Riza Akbar, who said Magdalene helped him understand gender relations and how he should position himself as a man:

"Magdalene opened my horizons about many things, and it makes me grateful that they exist."

As is common among independent media organisations, Magdalene's most difficult challenge is related to funding. For the first five years, Asmarani and Diani paid their employees' salaries with money from their own pockets. They don't even have a physical office.

"If it weren't for passion, maybe we would have stopped," said Asmarani, who also works as Magdalene's editor-in-chief. There are now 12 staff members at the organisation, among them the editorial team, journalists and apprentices.

"The point is that we really lack human resources and funds," said Asmarani, who has been a journalist for more than 20 years.

Magdalene's business model includes selling merchandise and holding events. They also created a creative agency called Working Room, which hires writers, editors and designers to create and produce content for individuals and companies. This revenue stream delivers the most funding to Magdalene.

"It's difficult for media like us to survive if we don't have a diverse and strong business model. If we rely on advertising, it certainly won't be able to support us because our traffic is not as much as is the case with other mainstream media," Asmarani said.

Even though the team still struggles to find reliable funding, Magdalene's performance over the past six years of operation did not disappoint. Traffic is around 500,000 users per month. In the past year, since they have been able to work full-time to produce more content, the increase in traffic is almost 200 per cent.

"We can survive because we offer something different: quality. We have loyalists, but that is not enough," said Asmarani, adding: "We must have a good business so that we can be sustainable."

A Magdalene reader, Yani Susanti, said the online magazine has opened her eyes to feminism and gender-related issues. "The issues raised so far by Magdalene cannot be freely discussed in my family and environment. This has become a kind of guidance for me," she noted.

Ainur Romah is a freelance journalist published in, among other media outlets, the South China Morning Post, the Washington Post and the Globe Post.



The bank that listens

TIME EXTENSION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) OF PROVISION FOR VARIOUS SERVICES TO CRDB HEAD OFFICE, ZONAL OFFICES AND BRANCHES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

1. CRDB Bank Plc is seeking for Request For Proposal (RFP) from qualified Firms for provision of various services to its Head Office, zonal offices and branches across the Country. The requested services have been categorized into 5 lots mentioned below:-
 - LOT 1:** Provision of cleaning services
 - LOT 2:** Provision of support and maintenance of Air Condition
 - LOT 3:** Provision of support and maintenance of Fire Extinguishers and Fire Detection System
 - LOT 4:** Provision of fumigation services
 - LOT 5:** Provision of service and maintenance of the Bank's motor vehicles
2. Interested Firms/Companies/Service providers for the above listed services should have and submit minimal requirement but not limited to the following:-
 - Possession of registration certificate from relevant authorities, business license, company certificate of incorporation, TIN, VAT Registration.
 - The company must have not less than three years experience in the field.
 - The company must have experience in similar nature of work and complexity in different organizations.
 - Submission of key staff CVs demonstrating their ability to carry out the assignment.
 - Documentary evidence of financial capability, experience and capacity to undertake the assignment including three (3) years company financial statements/audited financial reports.
 - Company profile, Key references of provision of similar services
 - Current physical location (which will be inspected for verification); that is a valid right of occupancy of office premises or lease contract
 - Submission of certified power of attorney document
 - Submission of certified declaration on Litigation information regarding your firm.
3. The bank now invites eligible Firms/service providers to submit RFP for the above mentioned services for Selection and engagement process for the bank to be provided with the required services.
4. Interested eligible Firms/service providers shall obtain RFP Documents from the office of the **CRDB Bank Management Tender Committee Secretary, CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor Office, Accommodation Scheme Building, and through zonal offices from 8:00AM to 5:00PM Local Time on Monday to Friday excluding public holidays.** The RFP document can also be downloaded from the CRDB Bank Plc website's tender portal.
5. All RFP responses in one original, duly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the respective zonal offices as per the RFP document with exception of Eastern Zone which shall be submitted at **CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor Office, and Accommodation Scheme Building before 03:00pm on 18th February, 2020.** All RFP responses clearly marked, should be addressed to the Secretary Management Tender Committee CRDB Bank Plc P.O.BOX 268, Dar es Salaam.
6. All RFP responses will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidder's representatives who will choose to attend the opening ceremony at CRDB Bank Plc respective zonal offices with exception of Eastern Zone which shall be submitted at **CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor Office, and Accommodation Scheme Building on 18th February, 2020 at 03:00pm.**
7. Late RFP responses, a portion of it, Electronic versions, Responses not received, not opened, not read out in public at the opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

The Managing Director
CRDB Bank Plc
P.O.BOX 268
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



The bank that listens

TIME EXTENSION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL OF SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A MODERN KITCHEN FACILITY FOR CRDB BANK Plc NEW HEAD QUARTERS BUILDING

1. CRDB Bank Plc is building its New Head Quarters on Plot No.25 AND 26 along Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road and Plot No. 21 along Barack Obama Drive. As an integral part of this project, the bank plans to build and equip a modern kitchen facility. In this regard, the bank is looking for a firm that will be responsible for supply, installation and commissioning of this facility.
2. The bank now invites eligible Firms to collect the relevant RFP documents from the following address; 1st Floor, CRDB Head Office, along Azikiwe Street, Office Accommodation Scheme Building, Opposite New Post Office, P. O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam.

Alternatively, interested firms can submit a request for soft copies to the following email address: tenders@crdbbank.com
3. A shortlist of firms will be developed on the basis of the proposals submitted to CRDB Bank Plc. The selection will be conducted through a two-staged "Quality Based" process. Initial short listing shall be conducted based on Technical and Functional Capabilities, Experience and skills whereas the second short listing shall be done based on a presentation covering previous similar assignments, experience and capabilities in conjunction with due diligence of reference sites and Head Offices of the participating firms.
4. Interested eligible firms may obtain further information from the office of the CRDB Bank Tender Committee Secretary, **CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor, Office of Accommodation Scheme Building, from 8:00AM to 5:00PM Local Time on Monday to Friday** excluding public holidays.
5. All Tenders in one original, duly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the Tender Box on the 1st Floor, CRDB Head Office, along Azikiwe Street, Office Accommodation Scheme Building, Opposite New Post Office, P. O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam before 1500hours local time on **24th February, 2020.** All Tender clearly marked, should be addressed to the Secretary Management Tender Committee CRDB Bank Plc P.O.BOX 268, Dar es Salaam.
6. All Requests for proposal will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidder's representatives who will choose to attend the opening ceremony at **CRDB Head Office Meeting Room situated on the 1st Floor on 24th February, 2020 at 1500 hours' local time.**
7. Late Tenders, Incomplete Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, and not opened and not read out in public at the Tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

The Managing Director
CRDB Bank Plc
P.O.BOX 268
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

BYTSION TADESSE ABEBE

How effective is the African Union's (AU) policy of choosing a theme each year to drive its agenda across the continent? In 2019 the theme was refugees and finding durable solutions to forced displacement. This year it's about 'Silencing the Guns' and creating conditions that enable development.

Is this exercise merely a question of hosting a range of meetings across the continent, or is there real impact on the ground? Given the vast scope of these themes, it's difficult to see what can realistically be achieved in only one year. Looking back at the 2019 focus provides useful lessons that could help deliver more concrete results on the current and future themes.

Last year's theme of refugees, returnees and internally displaced people achieved results in five areas. A strong

Do the African Union's annual themes deliver?



A review of the 2019 forced displacement theme provides useful lessons about how to get results. File photo

partnership between the AU and the United Nations (UN) was key to these achievements.

First, it strengthened normative frameworks on forced displacement. South Sudan, Equatorial Guinea and Somalia ratified the AU's Convention for the Protection and Assistance

of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention). Although still way behind the goal of achieving universal ratification, it is welcomed. Ratifying treaties doesn't guarantee implementation but it plays an important role in reminding state parties about their respon-

sibilities.

Conflict remains the single most important driver of forced displacement in Africa

Second, there was a renewed political commitment by some African states. Rwanda and Niger for example have facilitated humanitarian evacuation of 5 06

stranded African refugees and asylum seekers from Libya since 2017, most of them in 2019.

Third, implementation of the 2019 theme was inclusive. The participation of civil society organisations was facilitated through the AU-UN Humanitarian Matters and Disaster Risk Management Cluster. A steering committee ensured that academia and other stakeholders, including refugees and internally displaced people, could directly engage with governments, the AU and the UN.

Fourth, the 2019 theme secretariat was run jointly by the AU and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). It was effective at supporting the coordination of activities, drafting communiqués, and making contact with stakeholders.

Fifth, awareness about

forced displacement in Africa was enhanced. Four continental meetings highlighted the importance of implementing the 1969 Organisation of African Unity Refugee Convention and the Kampala Convention, and called for solidarity and responsibility sharing. Another meeting with the Pan-African Parliament helped galvanise support.

Africa hasn't made any significant move to deal with the 25.2 million forcibly displaced people

Gender and youth issues were also emphasised. A dialogue with refugee women was held in June and the 2019 AU Humanitarian Summit focused on gender aspects of forced displacement. Youth consultations were conducted in December 2019.

The effectiveness of the 2019 theme was limited by

two major challenges. First, forced displacement wasn't among Egypt's six priority areas of its chairmanship for 2019. Although it hosted various meetings on the topic, Egypt could have contributed more by allocating resources, designating a focal person in the secretariat, and working more closely with the theme's champion, President Obiang Nguema of Equatorial Guinea.

The second problem was that the theme didn't make a significant contribution to durable solutions, which means local integration, repatriation and resettlement.

Except for the 5 066 humanitarian evacuations by Rwanda and Niger and 48 000 migrant voluntary returnees through the AU-EU-UN Tripartite Task Force, Africa hasn't made any significant move to deal with the 25.2 million displaced people comprising 7.4 million refugees and 17.8 million internally displaced people.

Agencies



Absa Bank Tanzania ready to realise possibilities and unlock Tanzania's growth

Barclays Bank Tanzania changes its name to Absa Bank Tanzania Limited; recommits to Tanzania's growth

One of the country's largest banks reaffirmed its commitment to Tanzania's growth and economic development today, as it changed its name from Barclays Bank of Tanzania to Absa Bank Tanzania.

Absa Bank Tanzania pledged to build-on its long history of serving Tanzania by continuing to unlock potential in the country. "Today we begin a new chapter as Absa Bank Tanzania, adopting our parent company's name. As an organisation, we believe in bringing possibilities to life which means making meaningful contributions to customers, the country and the communities in which we operate," said Abdi Mohamed, Managing Director of Absa Bank Tanzania.

As a subsidiary of Absa Group Limited, a member of the Top 40 Index on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (one of the continent's largest stock exchanges), Absa Bank Tanzania is poised to deliver award-winning expertise to enable people and businesses to realise their possibilities.

The company has been part of the fabric of Tanzania for more than seven years and has a long history of investing in sectors key to the development of the economy including: trade, industry, agri-business, energy, small-to-medium enterprises, and infrastructure.

"We have provided financing totally to TZS 530bn in the last 2 to 3 years in the key sectors of the economy such as the Public sector, Manufacturing, Agriculture, Construction, Oil & Gas Trading, Telecommunication and SMEs among others. We will continue to play a key role by investing in these sectors as well as supporting the ordinary citizen who seeks quality financial services and safe investments for their hard-earned money," said Abdi Mohamed.

The bank now marks the start of a new era as Absa Bank Tanzania, a truly African bank, with global scalability and reach. It is poised to further unlock Tanzania's potential and support the country's accelerated economic growth with its

new business strategy.



In an increasingly globally competitive world, one of the country's, and indeed continent's greatest resource is its young and growing workforce. Absa has been nurturing the potential of Tanzania's youth by contributing to the education eco-system for years. "We've created platforms to address knowledge gaps, provided opportunities to increase young people's employability prospects, and provided technical assistance to institutions and administrators to improve the delivery of quality education to Tanzania. Our commitment to these efforts remains firm," said Abdi Mohamed.

The Bank's commitment to education follows its parent company Absa's track record. They have invested over USD 24 million in the last few years in education and skills development by; offering support of more than 3,600 student scholarships, providing over 1,200 students with workplace experience, and registering over 215,000 new users onto its ReadyToWork platform across Africa.

In recognition of the role of entrepreneurship in accelerating the country's economic growth, Absa Group Limited raised over USD29 million in financing small-to-medium enterprises in 2017, and reached more than 64,000 small-to-medium enterprises through its business development support initiatives, and over 76,000 consumers with business and financial literacy training.

In line with our parent company Absa Group Limited being a force for good in the society, Absa Bank Tanzania hopes to make it easier for entrepreneurs in Tanzania to establish and grow their businesses. Africa is a continent of doers, always going above and beyond to get things done. We are inspired by this spirit that thrives on turning every challenge into an opportunity. As an organisation, we believe in getting things done, and in helping people find a way to get things done. "At Absa, we call this spirit 'Africanacity,'" said Abdi Mohamed.



Absa Bank Tanzania also unveiled a new marketing campaign, centred on the unique concept of Africanacity in support of the launch of its new brand. The new Absa brand has also been rolled out to Absa Group Limited's Barclays banks in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania, and Zambia, and was successfully launched in Uganda and Mozambique in November 2019.

Absa Group Limited is a truly African banking group with presence in 12 African countries, international offices in London and soon to open one in New York. The process of rebranding branches, ATMs, forms, addresses, stationery, platforms and more across 12 countries will be one of the continent's largest rebranding programmes. It is expected to be completed in mid-2020, and product and service functionality will not be affected by the rebranding programme.

"Absa bank continues to be optimistic on Tanzania's economy and has leveraged on the positive economic climate as well as the enabling policies issued by the Bank of Tanzania. Consequently the bank has invested 15bn TZS during our transition to the new brand, mainly in technology upgrades, premises upgrades and training."

"Financial inclusion is another important area for Absa and we will work with all the stakeholders in this area to ensure that Absa supports the achievement of greater financial inclusion in the country."

Abdi Mohamed, Managing Director.



Barclays Bank Tanzania has officially changed its name to Absa Bank Tanzania, and 10th February 2020 marked an official switch from the familiar light blue to bright red. Seen in the picture at the ribbon cutting ceremony (from left to right) are: Irene Singati-Giattas who is Head of Compliance and Legal at Absa Bank Tanzania Limited, Godfrey Nyaisa who is the CEO at BRELA, Dr. Benard Kibese who is the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Tanzania, Abdi Mohamed who is the Country MD at Absa Bank Tanzania Limited, Tuse June who is the Executive Director at Tanzania Banking Association and Simon Mponji who is the Chairman of the Board at Absa Bank Tanzania Limited.

Peddling hope between a rock and a hard place

By Marianne Merten

In a low growth, low tax revenue, high unemployment economy, further dampened by governing ANC policy flip-flops, delivering a State of the Nation Address (Sona) is daunting. It's unclear if on Thursday night President Cyril Ramaphosa will do more than spin hope.

Cosatu's recent, if controversial, push to make government workers' pensions and social savings available to slash Eskom's R450-billion debt (Reporter's Notebook: Cosatu's proposal for PIC-funded R250bn bailout and Eskom's municipal debt take centre stage) may well be mentioned in President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address (Sona), if for no other reason than in support of social compacting.

Social compacts between labour, business and government have been a theme throughout Ramaphosa's speeches over the past two years or so, although more elusive in reality beyond the optics of an investment conference.

Yet social compacts, and the municipal district development model are the mainstay of the current five-year Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), the overarching plan of government to coordinate, implement and account for its actions, plans and programmes to 2024.

State-owned enterprises (SOEs) should definitely get a mention in Thursday's Sona.

But it gets tricky beyond saying SOEs are receiving attention. Unless it's announced, the grapevine has it right: the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), which is running a healthy surplus, could also be tapped to finance struggling SOEs.

Eskom's rolling power outages have, again, become a daily norm at an estimated cost of R2-billion a day to South Africa's already battered economy that's unlikely to hit even 1% growth.

The Post Office appears in turmoil again, potentially undermining social grant payments, while Denel is struggling to get out of its difficulties. The Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) with its dire audit isn't exactly keeping trains rolling safely and on time.

SAA best illustrates how Ramaphosa's hands are tied - by the factional battles in the governing ANC he leads, by the tripartite alliance politicking and by lack of government balls to stay the course of its decisions.

On 5 December 2019, the government announced that SAA was in business rescue. Since June 2017, the national flag carrier had received at least R15.7-billion in taxpayer-funded bailouts without being able to climb out of its financial and governance turmoil.

"This is the optimal mechanism to restore confidence in SAA and to safeguard the good assets of SAA and help to restructure and reposition the entity into one that is stronger, more sustainable and able to grow and attract an equity partner," said Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan. "Our desire is that the restructured airline will mark the beginning of a new era in South African aviation and must be able to bring in millions more tourists into SA, help create more jobs in tourism and related sectors of the economy..."

The ANC National Executive Committee (NEC) lekgotla of January 2020 seemed to be on the same page.

"SAA should be retained as a national airline, which will require substantial restructuring. Cabinet should take the operational decisions needed to achieve that aim," said the official ANC statement of 22 January 2020. It added later: "We must avoid political interference in operational matters, other than interventions in the case of mismanagement and possible company failure."

There was a twist. The government guaranteed the R2-billion SAA raised from commercial banks, but did not come to the table with a further R2-billion that the December statement had indicated would be made. Another plan was made.

On 28 January 2020, the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), another SOE, stepped up with R3.5-billion. DBSA board chairperson Enoch Godongwana, wearing his hat as ANC economic transformation chief at the ANC NEC lekgotla briefing, had hinted at a solution which would be announced later at the appropriate forum.

Agencies

BUSINESS

ADVICE

AngloGold picks Harmony to buy S.African assets

JOHANNESBURG

AngloGold Ashanti picked Harmony Gold as the buyer for its last remaining South African operations, according to people familiar with the matter. The two companies are finalising the exact terms of the deal for the Mponeng mine and surface facilities, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the information is private.

AngloGold is selling the assets as Chief Executive Officer Kelvin Dushnisky focuses on more profitable mines in Ghana, Australia and the Americas. Harmony - backed by billionaire Patrice Motsepe's African Rainbow Minerals - is hunting for deals to replenish declining reserves in South Africa. Harmony paid \$300m for AngloGold's Moab Khotsong mine in 2017. AngloGold spokesperson Chris Nthite declined to comment.

Harmony is looking at potential acquisitions in South Africa and has a plan to finance the deals, Chief Executive Officer Peter Steenkamp said on a conference call Tuesday to discuss the company's half-year results. The company is looking at assets with at least 1 million ounces of reserves and a 10-year life span, he said.

AngloGold's mines could be used as "criteria if we are to evaluate any assets" in South Africa, Steenkamp said. "We understand and we do have the ability and expertise to run underground mines," he said. "We will not necessarily shy away from underground mines."

AngloGold's Mponeng mine, the world's deepest, produced 265 000

ounces of gold in 2018, while output from its surface operations, which extract the precious metal from ore dumps, totaled 171 000 ounces. Those South African assets accounted for about 13% of AngloGold's production that year.

AngloGold said last week it plans to provide an update on the asset sale on February 21. In November, AngloGold narrowed the list of bidders for its South African assets to Harmony and Sibanye Gold, people familiar with the matter said at the time.

The strategic rationale to find a buyer "trumps a straight valuation call" for the operations, said James Bell, an analyst at RBC Capital Markets in London. AngloGold needs to sell the assets before it can move its primary listing from Johannesburg to London, "something that we think could drive a material re-rating in time."



AngloGold said last week it plans to provide an update on the asset sale on February 21. In November, AngloGold narrowed the list of bidders for its South African assets to Harmony and Sibanye Gold, people familiar with the matter said at the time

US revokes WTO subsidy preferences for South Africa, other countries

WASHINGTON

The Trump administration is changing a key exemption to America's trade-remedy laws to make it easier to penalise about two dozen so-called developing countries including China, India and South Africa.

The US on Monday narrowed its internal list of developing and least-developed countries in order to reduce the threshold for triggering a US investigation into whether nations are harming US industries with unfairly subsidised exports, according to a US Trade Representative notice.

In doing so, the US eliminated its special preferences for a list of self-declared developing countries that includes: Albania; Argentina; Armenia; Brazil; Bulgaria; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; Georgia; Hong Kong; India; Indonesia; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; Malaysia; Moldova; Montenegro; North Macedonia; Romania; Singapore; South Africa; South Korea; Thailand; Ukraine; and Vietnam.

USTR said the decision to revise its developing country methodology for countervailing duty investigations was necessary because America's previous guidance - which dates back to 1998 - "is now obsolete."

The development marks a noteworthy departure from two decades of American trade policy regarding developing nations that could result in more stringent penalties for some of the world's top exporters.

The move also reflects President Donald Trump's frustration that large economies like China and India are permitted to receive preferential trade benefits as developing nations at the World Trade Organization.

During his visit to Davos, Switzerland, last month Trump said the WTO hasn't treated America fairly. "China is viewed as a developing nation. India is viewed as a developing nation. We're not viewed as a developing nation. As far as I'm concerned, we're a developing nation, too."

The goal of the WTO's special preferences for developing nations is to help poorer countries reduce poverty, generate employment and integrate themselves into the global trading system. Under WTO rules, governments are required to terminate their countervailing duty investigations if the amount of foreign subsidy is de minimis, which is normally defined as less than 1% ad valorem.

But WTO rules provide a different standard for so-called developing nations that requires investigators to terminate duty investigation if the amount of subsidy is less than 2% ad valorem. The Trump administration has sought to end these special preferences for nations that fall under certain categories, like those who are members of global economic clubs like the Group of 20, the OECD or who are classified as high-income nations by the World Bank.

Last July, Trump issued an executive memo that asked US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer to determine whether there's been "substantial progress" toward limiting the number of countries considered developing nations.

The US may act unilaterally if not, Trump said. Several of the de-listed countries in the USTR notice have already agreed to relinquish their developing-country rights in future trade negotiations, including Brazil, Singapore and South Korea.

MARKETING

UBA unveils four products as it eyes bigger presence in the banking sector

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to dominate the local banking industry, United Bank for Africa in Tanzania has introduced four new products in the market targeting almost all groups in the society.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of UBA Malaika, UBA Janja, UBA Hazina and UBA Kizazi kipya, UBA Tanzania's Managing Director cum CEO, Usman Isiaka said the bank is aiming to make banking a lifestyle among consumers hence invests heavily in innovation.

"The formulation of these product is consistent with the bank's customer-first philosophy, where we are doing things not the way we like but exactly what the customers want, where they want it, and in the exact way they want," Isiaka said.

He further noted that the launching of the products, especially the UBAMalaika and UBAJanja Accounts aligns well with the government's financial inclusion objectives as spelt out by Bank of Tanzania because children and teenagers will be indirectly exposed to banking services at infancy stage.

"In UBA, we focus on coming up with various products and services delivered on a platter of cutting edge technology and customer service excellence to improve our market share and competitiveness in the industry," the UBA Tanzania CEO added.

He said the new products have been packaged with special features and benefits



UBA Tanzania managing director, Usman Isiaka speaks during the launch of four new products in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Health minister Umyy Mwalimu graced the event. Photo courtesy of UBA.

that suit specific requirements of the various age groups and encourages a saving culture. "With eyes on the future, and conversant with the new trend in customer behaviour, the bank is constantly innovating, taking strategic steps to integrate more people into the digital financial services net, drive down cost of service and build consumer confidence in all platforms," Isiaka noted.

Backing his boss, UBA Tanzania's Head of Retail Banking, Geoffrey Mtawa said the four products are part of the bank's wider effort to becoming the number one

retail banking service provider in the industry.

"This is why our retail team has reviewed and introduced a bouquet of retail products to suit the needs of diverse individuals in the market," Mtawa said while promising that the bank will keep innovating and developing products and services aimed at making banking seamless and effortless for millions of its existing and potential customers.

He said UBA Malaika's is designed for parents who are keen to safeguard their children's future right from

pregnancy level up to the age of 12. UBA Janja is for 13 to 17 year olds who are young and diverse while UBA Kizazi kipya is for the trendsetters, fashionable and dynamic youth who make banking a lifestyle at the age of 18-25.

Hazina is for those who wish to fulfill their dreams and aspirations by saving money to meet their future funding needs be it for education, business set up or implement a project and targets adults aged 25 and above.

Speaking at the launch, Minister for Health, Umyy Mwalimu urged the bank to

integrate its banking and insurance services plus products with National Health Insurance Fund. "Only eight percent of Tanzanians are subscribed to national health insurance which if we take Toto Afya Card service which fetches 50,400/- as fee per annum more children will be insured," she said.

Mwalimu reiterated government's commitment to improve the country's health services noting that banks have a crucial role to play in ensuring that universal health coverage is realised sooner rather than later.

PARTNERSHIP

Mara RC touts FahariKilimo Account as smallholder farmers' saviour

By Guardian Reporter

A tailor made account targeting farmers christened 'FahariKilimo' from CRDB Bank Plc has been hailed as a saviour to smallholder cotton farmers as they get credit access for agro-inputs but also training.

Mara Regional Commissioner, Adam Malima who is also Chairman of a Cotton Development Committee in the country told a stakeholders meeting being held in Simiyu yesterday that FahariKilimo has solved many of the challenges faced by smallholder cotton farmers in the Lake Zone.

"This account has also assisted in strengthening the cotton value chain which has in turn increase quality and quantity of the commodity," Malima said while noting that agro-inputs credit being provided by the bank to the farmers has been a big relief because they are no longer vulnerable to dishonest middlemen.

He revisited last year's crisis when cash crunch faced the cotton season but pointed out that CRDB worked in collaboration with the government to bankroll the whole exercise hence bring relief to farmers.

The CRDB cum Private Agriculture Support System organised cotton stakeholders conference which was attended by farmers, agro-dealers and government officials from Mara, Mwanza and Simiyu regions was aimed at taking stock of progress made in the sector.

The Mara RC further commended the bank's leadership for disbursing more than 100bn/- so far to improve the cotton sub sector value chain system. "The bank has shown true patriotism and commitment in supporting cotton farming in line with government efforts by giving cotton buyers credit but also helping farmers find markets for the commodity," he added.

Malima's observation was



Simiyu regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka speaks at the cotton stakeholders meeting yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

backed by Simiyu RC, Anthony Mtaka who said the government considers CRDB as a true partner in revolutionising the agriculture sector in the country. Mtaka said with CRDB's financing, his region produced 160 million kilograms of cotton last year.

"Let me call upon our cotton farmers to continue exploiting opportunities being provided by CRDB Bank so that we can continue to increase yields but also add value to the commodity," he noted.

CRDB's Credit Director, Xavery Makwi FahariKilimo Account was tailor made for

farmers to help them meet their production needs hence help revolutionise agriculture in the country. "So far we have enrolled more than 30,000 farmers and still counting," Makwi said while stressing that the account has no administrative costs.

"But we have also given loans to cotton ginneries so that they can operate smoothly," he added noting that some of the beneficiaries of the loans include Gaki Investment Company Limited, Fresho Investment Company Limited, Aham Investment Company Limited, Nsagali Company Limited and Birchard Oil Mill

Limited. PASS Lake Zone Manager, Langelika Kalebi said the institution will continue working in partnership with CRDB so that smallholder farmers and Agriculture Marketing Cooperative Societies can be strengthened to revolutionise the sector. "We are also focused at value addition and growing the value chain of agro-products in the sector," Kalebi noted stressing that credit and capacity building are important to commercialise the agriculture sector.

PROGRESS

SA negotiator is appointed sec general of Africa Continental Free Trade Area

ADDIS ABABA

South Africa clinch a massive victory at the African Union's (AU) summit in Ethiopia on Monday after Wamkele Mene was installed as the new secretary-general of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Mene, who served as the country's chief negotiator at AfCFTA, bested Nigeria's preferred candidate, Cecelia Akintomide, and will be stationed in Accra, Ghana. International Relations and Cooperation Minister Naledi Pandor welcomed Mene's appointment.

The AfCFTA forms part of broader efforts to remove tariffs on up to 90% of exports to foster more trade among countries on the continent as Western countries usually trade more with African nations individually than the latter do with each other.

In October last year, Business Day reported on Mene's criticism of attacks on foreign nationals in South Africa, saying the violence would put South Africa on the backfoot of negotiations around the AfCFTA which the South African economy stood to benefit from.

Mene holds a BA in law from Rhodes University, an LLM in banking law and financial regulation from the London School of Economics and Political Science as well as a Master's of arts in international studies and diplomacy from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

Reigniting industrialisation

Speaking at the AU's ordinary session on Sunday, President Cyril Ramaphosa said the AfCFTA would enable the continent to work together through intra-Africa trade and reignite industrialisation and pave the way for Africa's integration into the global economy as a player of considerable scale.

"It is a realisation of a dream of our forebears to see the rich resources of Africa being marshalled for the collective benefit of Africans," Ramaphosa told heads of state the colonial era of Africa being a pit stop for assembly was over.

Speaking on Ghana's readiness to host the headquarters of the AfCFTA, President Akufo Addo said \$3m had been advanced by his government for the establishment and operation of the secretariat. He reiterated Ghana's determination to establish a world class secretariat by the end of March as mandated by the AU's assembly.



Wamkele Mene, secretary-general of AfCFTA.

MOBILIZATION

Shinyanga RC pleads with banks, companies to bail out burdened education sector

By Guardian Reporter

SHINYANGA region is facing acute shortage of classrooms, desks and teachers' houses among others hence has issued a passionate plea to well wishers who include NMB Bank Plc to assist.

Regional Commissioner, Zainabu Telack said yesterday after receiving construction materials, desks and medical equipment all valued at 35m/- from NMB Bank to back her region's education and health sectors that the former is hardest hit.

"I am ordering our executives to urgently prepared a report of the exact needs that we have in the education sector so that we can present to NMB and other likeminded donors to help us because we are over burdened in this area," Telack said.

She saluted the bank's leadership for the consideration saying it will go a long way in improving education and health services in the region. "We have received with excitement this NMB donation but we still have more needs of classrooms, desks and other infrastructure in the education sector," the RC added noting that the government policy of universal primary and secondary education has attracted massive enrolments of pupils and students.

Briefing the RC before presenting the donation, NMB's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magessa said the bank allocates a percent of its net profit annually to invest in education, health and disaster relief support.

Magessa said last year, the bank's support to Shinyanga region was worth 110m/- in the above mentioned priority areas while also expanding its banking services to ensure that more people especially those in rural areas.

"This consignment of donation includes 100 desks, 10 mattresses, 630 timber pieces, 360 iron sheets, 10 beds all valued at 30m/-. This year, we expect to donate more because we know that



Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, Zainabu Telack.

there are many villages with unfinished schools," he noted while inviting the public to open accounts with the Dar es Salaam based lender

manually or digitally through mobile phones. Shinyanga District Medical Officer, Dr Amos Mwenda said the donation came at the right time be-

cause it will help reduce the burden which the hospital has especially in attending pregnant women.

"We are currently struggling to

built a new district hospital hence need support from all likeminded people in the country," Dr Mwenda stated.

DEMAND

Scarcity of abattoirs hurts Rwandan pig farmers

KIGALI

Local farmers have cited the insufficient number of quality pig slaughterhouses as one of the major obstacles to penetrate the local and regional markets

Rwanda has only two standard pig slaughter houses, located in Rubavu and Kicukiro districts, which farmers say are inadequate to handle the growing population of pigs in the country.

Jean Claude Shirimpumu, the Chairperson of Rwanda Pig Farmers Association (RPFA), revealed that most of the pork sold on the local market comes from pigs that are slaughtered through poor conditions, mainly in banana plantations.

This leads to the production of low quality pork, which can be harmful to people's lives. "Two pig slaughterhouses are not enough to serve the big number of pig farmers," he noted. DR Congo is currently Rwanda's biggest pork market with over 90 per cent of national produce being exported to the country, according to figures from National Agriculture Export Board.

"Pig farmers encounter losses as we export live pigs which we should have processed. Our wish is to export pork as

it is believed to be lucrative," Shirimpumu said. He went on to request the Government to establish standard abattoirs countrywide.

"It will subsequently boost pork exports and improve the quality of pork that is consumed locally." Rwanda has a population of 1.7 million pigs, and with the number of pigs growing at a rate of 239 per cent, Shirimpumu said, pork production could increase from 20,000 tonnes to 67,000 tonnes every year.

RDB interventions John Gatete Kalanze, Sector Capacity Building Analyst at the Rwanda Development Board (RDB), assured that through its five-year strategic plan the Board plans to build standard pig slaughterhouses across the country.

"RDB plans to unveil modern pig abattoirs countrywide that will particularly be built in Integrated Polytechnic Regional Colleges (IPRCs). We therefore believe that this project will significantly benefit pig farmers," he noted

Gatete went on to say that RDB in partnership with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) were currently implementing \$20 million project meant to support local agricultural suppliers and to



Peter Ngiruwumugenga is one of the model pig farmers.

promote e-Commerce in the agriculture value chains which he noted that piggery was among the sectors that were given priority.

"As the project is about to hit its phase one, in the phase two we are planning to support livestock infrastructure by notably availing standards abattoirs

and cold rooms among other facility that we believe will impact piggery in Rwanda. As the country is hilly pig rearing has to be emphasised," Gatete assured. He noted that besides standard abattoirs, the project looks to expose locally made agricultural and livestock stuff through the e-Commerce platforms.

Officials from RPFA said they export a number of piglets to DR Congo, Burundi and Tanzania among other East African region countries for breeding purposes. So far, three pig breeds - Large White, Pietrain and Landrace - are being multiplied and distributed to farmers countrywide to

spur production, according to officials.

Pig farming in Rwanda has been growing progressively after the number of pigs increased by 76 per cent in the last seven years to over 1.7 million, according to statistics from the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI).

TAILOR MADE

Samsung targets Africa's mid-tier sector with latest Galaxy

NAIROBI

The newest addition to the Galaxy range has arrived, just a few months after the company launched the Galaxy Note in October last year.

The Galaxy Note 10 Lite is expect-

ed in stores today and has already launched to Europe and Middle East regions. According to Samsung, this offering meets the requirements of the upper-middle-class customers following a backlash over the pricing of the Note 10 and Note 10 Plus.

"The Note 10 Lite is a top premium model in which all the facilities (including the all-new intelligent S Pen) was incorporated and at a premium level, we thought the retail price at that time was 119,000 KES (about US\$1,190) for this device when we launched it in October

last year. But again, we received a lot of feedback from the market...can there be a Note that is affordable with premium features?" said Charles Kimari, the head of Internet and Mobile for Samsung East Africa. Samsung says users can purchase the device at a rate that

is 40-50% cheaper than other models in the same range. The Samsung Note 10 Lite will retail at about Ksh58,000 (US\$580). Some users in Kenya may compare the phone's features to other cost-competitive devices, but a message posted by renowned tech blogger Evan

Blass revealed that Motorola might be working on a new Verizon-exclusive flagship phone called the Edge+, that is thought to be an ultimate rival to the Samsung Galaxy Note 10 Lite. The new device also faces stiff competition from the developers of the OnePlus 7T.

STOCK-TUMBLE

Apple sees \$27 billion of market value wiped out



Apple CEO Tim Cook.

NEW YORK

Apple saw as much as \$27 billion worth of market cap erased on Monday following reports of its Chinese iPhone factories resuming production at a sluggish pace.

Foxconn, the world's largest contract device manufacturer and a key element of Apple's supply chain, was forced to shut down operations for weeks following an extended Lunar New Year holiday and the escalating coronavirus outbreak. The company recently gained permission to open its Zhengzhou plant, Reuters reported, but only 10% of the factory's employees have returned to work.

Foxconn hasn't yet been allowed to open its Shenzhen factory, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters. Employees at the Shenzhen plant were told to stay home from work on Tuesday, and authorities are expected to examine the closed facility later this week, according to Reuters. Apple stock slumped

as much as 1.9% in early Monday trading.

The two factories account for most of Apple's iPhone production, and the weeks-long delay could bite into the company's upcoming earnings if device supply can't meet demand. The company is expected to reveal its first 5G-capable iPhone line-up in the fall, though other reports forecast a budget iPhone arriving as early as March.

Reliable Apple analyst Ming-Chi Kuo already slashed his forecast for iPhone shipments in the first quarter by 10%, citing the coronavirus outbreak for the sizable disruption. Trying to quantify the sales hit caused by the outbreak is a "mathematical gymnastics exercise," Wedbush analyst Dan Ives wrote in a Sunday note. The research firm expects full production won't resume for another one or two weeks, and that the supply chain hit "will be a shock to the system." Ives' note came before Reuters reported the opening of one iPhone plant on Monday. Ives holds an "outperform"

rating for Apple shares, with a price target of \$400 per share. The virus' spreading beginning in late January, and has since claimed more than 900 lives and infected more than 40,000. Two of the deaths have taken place outside of mainland China, with one victim in Hong Kong and another in the Philippines.

The Cupertino, California-based company issued "wider-than-usual" guidance for its second quarter in its January 28 report, noting coronavirus uncertainties could harm device shipments if the outbreak isn't contained in a timely fashion. Apple shares reached new highs following the report's release but have since fallen modestly as markets digest the outbreak's affect on global growth, supply chains, and future guidance.

Apple closed at \$320.03 per share on Friday. The company has 28 "buy" ratings, 16 "hold" ratings, and four "sell" ratings from analysts, with a consensus price target of \$336.49, according to Bloomberg data.

TRADE WAR

China says Huawei is victim of 'witch-hunt'

LONDON

China just ramped up its rhetoric over Huawei's involvement in Europe's 5G networks. Speaking to the BBC on Sunday, China's ambassador to the UK described British politicians voicing concerns about Huawei's role in the country's 5G network as a "witch hunt."

A group of six senior Conservative party politicians wrote a letter on Saturday protesting the UK's decision last month to allow Huawei to build "non-core" parts of its 5G network, citing cybersecurity fears.

Sir Iain Duncan Smith, former Conservative party leader and one of the authors of the letter, said: "You have an organisation from a country that is an aggressor in terms of cyber warfare and a company that is clearly totally and utterly in the hands of the Chinese government who demand absolute obedience on these matters."

Ambassador Liu Xiaoming said the group was unfairly persecuting Huawei for geopolitical reasons. "Huawei is a private-owned company, nothing to do with the Chinese government. The only problem they have is they are a Chinese company," Liu responded.

The UK's decision to partially include Huawei in its 5G network came as a massive blow to the Trump administration, which

has been lobbying its allies to freeze Huawei out of their 5G equipment entirely on the grounds that the company provides technological "backdoors" for Chinese government espionage. Huawei has repeatedly denied this.

Boris Johnson and Donald Trump do not see eye-to-eye over Huawei. Multiple US lawmakers including Vice President Mike Pence voiced their outrage at the decision, and President Trump was reportedly "apoplectic" in a phone call with Prime Minister Boris Johnson, at the end of which the US President slammed down the phone. The UK isn't the only European country where Huawei is fighting for recognition. On Sunday the Chinese embassy in Paris warned France against freezing out Huawei in the wake of reports that several French cities might place restrictions on the company.

The embassy appeared to make a veiled threat that any persecution of Huawei could lead to a trade war with major European 5G competitors like Nokia and Ericsson. "We do not wish to see the development of European companies in China affected due to discrimination against Huawei and protectionism in France and other European countries," it said in a statement. It further urged France to draw up "transparent criteria and treat all companies in a similar way."



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV

<p>MONDAY 10 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Jagina rpt 11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:00 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi 18:45 Kesho leo 19:00 Afiya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Insta Moja 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV</p> <p>TUESDAY 11 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamsam za pwani 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Shamsam za pwani 11:20 Kipindi maalum: Rapta rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Afiya ya jamii rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi maalum: KTMDA 13:30 Shamba lulu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Yu wapi 18:15 Mapishi rpt 18:30 Uchumi na biashara 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Tanzania yetu 21:35 Chetu ni chetu</p>	<p>22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 12 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok 11:20 Uchumi na biashara rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 19:00 Ijue Sheria 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe? 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:40 Kipindi Maalum: Watumishi Housing 22:15 Ripoti Maalum 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 2:00 DWTV</p> <p>THURSDAY 13 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto 10:30 Igizo: Mkaguzi 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Igizo: Mkaguzi 11:15 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Watumishi housing rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Ripoti Maalum rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Ripoti Maalum Rpt 13:30 Tanzania yetu 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri wako 19:30 Isidingo</p>	<p>20:00 Habari 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>FRIDAY 14 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 09:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 17:30 Ibadu ya kiislamu 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>SATURDAY 15 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 10:45 Usafiri wako rpt 11:15 Shamba lulu rpt 11:45 Mapishi rpt 12:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 12:40 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:40 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 15:15 Igizo: Mkaguzi 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:20 Igizo: Mtego 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Igizo: Dhoruba 19:00 Art and lifestyle 19:25 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Shangkewa 21:30 Kesho leo rpt 22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja 22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:00 Isidingo rpt 01:30 DWTV</p> <p>SUNDAY 16 Feb</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha</p>	<p>7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 The Great queen Seondok 16:45 Igizo rpt : Mkaguzi 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Biko 21:10 Mizengwe 21:30 Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo Movie: 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost</p> <p>CAPITAL</p> <p>Tues 11 Feb</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Life is a teacher 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jagina rpt 20:00 Series: The other side 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 22:30 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Wed 12 Feb</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: The other side 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jagina rpt 20:00 Series: The other side 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 22:30 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Thurs 13 Feb</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: The other side 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jagina rpt 20:00 Series: The other side 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Dakika 45: 22:45 The Décor 23:15 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Thurs 13 Feb</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: The other side 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape</p>	<p>17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the spotlight 19:30 Tanzania yetu 20:00 Series: The other side 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Capchat rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Frid 14 Feb</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: The other side 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Drive it 19:30 Eco@Africa 20:00 Aibu yako 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt 00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Sat 15 Feb</p> <p>08:00 CNN International 09:00 Drive It rpt 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt 10:00 Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Innovation rpt 11:00 Out n' about rpt 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Usafiri wako rpt 12:30 Eco@Africa rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Ilijmae 14:30 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:45 Bundesliga kick off 18:15 Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe 19:30 The Decor 20:00 Korean Drama: Ilijmae 21:00 Out n' About 21:30 Movie: Street Kings 23:00 The other side rpt 01:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Sun 16 Feb</p> <p>08:00 CNN International 09:00 In good shape 10:00 Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Ilijmae 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt 13:00 In good shape rpt 13:30 Series rpt: The other side 15:15 Aibu yako 15:30 Drive it rpt 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt 16:45 Mizengwe rpt 17:00 The Decor rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt 19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights 20:00 Korean Drama: Ilijmae 21:00 Shift 21:15 Capchat live 22:15 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 00:00 Al Jazeera</p>
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GROWTH

Turkish Airlines posts increase in load factor, passengers in January

ISTANBUL

Turkish Airlines, which has recently announced the passenger and cargo traffic results for January, recorded 80.6% load factor in this month while its number of international passengers increased with double-digit of 10 percent.

Commenting on the announced numbers, Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee, M. Iker Ayçi stated, "Our performance during January indicates that we are on point to reach our 2020 goals. The increase in our international passenger numbers once again demonstrates that we are successfully maintaining the course on our goal to be the preferred brand of the globe."

According to January 2020 Traffic Results; International load factor increased by 1.6 percentage points to around 80% and domestic load factor decreased by 0.3 percentage points to around 87% compared to the same month of the last year.

International-to-inter-

national transfer passengers (transit passengers) increased by nearly 4% and international passengers excluding international transit passengers increased by around 19% compared to the same period of last year. The total number of international passengers increased by 10% in January compared to same month of last year.

In January, we realized increases in the number of passengers in Far East, Africa, Europe, North America and Middle East, by 13.6%, 11.8%, 8.7%, 7.1% and 3.2%, respectively. In January, cargo/mail volume increased by 8.4%, compared to the same period of 2019. Main contributors to the growth in Cargo/mail volume are Far East with 19.6 %, Domestic with 12%, Europe with 6.4% and North America with 4.3% increase.

"As the flag carrier airline, we will continue to greet our passengers with Turkish hospitality on their flights while continuing to enhance our service quality and improve our performance every month," Ayçi noted.

In January, we realized increases in the number of passengers in Far East, Africa, Europe, North America and Middle East, by 13.6%, 11.8%, 8.7%, 7.1% and 3.2%, respectively. In January, cargo/mail volume increased by 8.4%, compared to the same period of 2019. Main contributors to the growth in Cargo/mail volume are Far East with 19.6 %, Domestic with 12%, Europe with 6.4% and North America with 4.3% increase.



Turkish Airlines board and executive committee chairman M. Iker Ayçi.

WORLD

African students stay with Wuhan amid epidemic

WUHAN

AMOO Musa Olalekan has been staying in his dormitory and writing thesis these days as a final year master student in Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan, the epicenter of the novel coronavirus outbreak.

"I have stayed in my dorm since the inception of this outbreak. We are told not to go outside, but I know this is to prevent us from being exposed to the virus," said the 28-year-old Nigerian majoring in crop breeding and genetics.

Olalekan is among the 3,000 to 4,000 African students in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, which is home to a number of prestigious universities attracting many international students.

NORMAL CAMPUS LIFE AMID EPIDEMIC

Life continues as normal on campus. "During my spare time, I watch movies, chat online with my friends, and also sleep," Olalekan said.

Apart from having dinner in a halal canteen, Olalekan likes to cook for himself.

"Having some rice, chicken, peppers, tomatoes and a few eggs in refrigerator, I can cook some basic food to eat. If I use up all the food items, I can go

to the supermarket in my school to buy things," he said. "But the price has gone up these days, I used to pay 2.9 yuan (41 U.S. cents) for 0.5 kg of tomatoes, which now costs me around 8 yuan."

Olalekan said his university is working hard to keep the students safe on campus. "They provided us with masks, thermometers, disinfectants and other materials."

"I am among the volunteers who work with the international office of the university to ensure the safety of the international students in their respective dormitories on a daily basis. We are advised to check our temperature daily and also to maintain good personal hygiene through washing hands regularly as well as maintaining a clean environment," he said.

"For now, my friends and I are all healthy. We will surely overcome this threat," Olalekan said.

Huazhong Agricultural University has 442 international students, and 166 of them are currently living on campus. They mainly come from Pakistan, Egypt, Bangladesh, Thailand, Vietnam and Sudan, according to Wang Zhongjian with the international office of the university.

Obame Mba Seraphin Lary, from Gabon, is a junior student with the Civil Engineering Department of Wuhan University of Technology.



A student (C) from Benin, western Africa, chooses to stay in Wuhan, Hubei Province to fight the novel coronavirus outbreak.

"I am fine. I am just in my dormitory and taking care of myself. I watch movies, cook, and sometimes go cycling on the campus," the 26-year-old said. "I have enough food to last a week. And there are three to four supermarkets near my dorm, I can buy food there whenever I need. The university also provides us with vegetables, including onions, potatoes and tomatoes."

Lhocine Walid, an Algerian student preparing for his PhD in business administration at Wuhan University of Technology, said they have a WeChat group for communication.

"The teachers offered us help in case of any problem. The office is always at our disposal to answer all our questions. The university distributed food in addition to some masks and gloves."

Likewise, many international students in Wuhan have received care and help from their universities, teachers and friends.

Huang Chao, director of the international student office of the School of International Education of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, said the university has 2,025 registered international students, of whom 1,046 are still in Wuhan now.

STAY WITH CONFIDENCE, LOVE

This is Lhocine Walid's fourth year in Wuhan. "The virus came at an unexpected moment. Our embassy proposed to take us back to our country but I decided to stay here in Wuhan. I have been here for many years and Wuhan be-

came my second home. I shared with its people happy moments and I am willing to be with them in this difficult situation," Walid said, adding that he has faith in the Chinese government as he knows that they are doing their best to solve the problem.

Hanane Thamik, a Moroccan student in Wuhan University said she decided to stay for many reasons, although many of her compatriots have left.

"By staying here, I want to show to those who think badly about China that I'm not afraid of staying with Chinese people. I'm sure that they will take care of me the same as they take care of Chinese citizens."

Thamik said the university provided her free masks, treatment and three meals a day and the teachers cared a lot about her safety.

Having spent eight years in Wuhan, Sadi Makangila Patrick, a doctoral student majoring in English language and literature at Central China Normal University, also chose to stay.

When hearing the megacity was locked down to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus, Patrick said he was a bit worried. His family members and friends all sent regards to him from his hometown in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

However, the bravery demonstrated by the medical workers and volunteers made him feel moved and gave him more confidence.

"Wuhan is my second hometown. I believe the epidemic will be brought under control," he said.

Xinhua

Russian military conduct patrol mission in Syria without Turkish side

MOSCOW

TURKISH servicemen did not take part in Monday's joint patrol mission in Syria's al-Hasakah governorate, which was conducted by the Russian military police unilaterally, Major General Yuri Borenkov, chief of the Russian Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Parties in Syria, said on Monday.

"The Turkish side did not arrive for a joint patrol mission and Russian military police units conduct-

ed patrolling unilaterally," he said, adding that the mission was conducted along the route Skeirek-Dellik-Kasrah-Arada-Qebira-Kasrah-Tawrat-Gafkat-Dell ik-Sheirek in the al-Hasakah governorate.

It was the third time over the past week when Turkish servicemen skipped joint patrolling in Syria.

"The patrolling mission was conducted in accordance with the plans. No incidents were reported during the mission," he noted.

Russia's air taskforce conducted an aerial patrol mission along the route Qamishli airfield-Qwaires airfield-Metras airfield.

The Russian general also said that illegal armed groups continued to violate the ceasefire in the Idlib de-escalation zone.

"A total of 21 shelling attacks were reported during the day," he said, adding that militants of illegal armed groups had shelled a number of settlements in the Latakia, Idlib and Hama governorates.

The Turkish national defense ministry said earlier on Monday that at least five Turkish soldiers had been killed as a result of shelling in Syria's Idlib.

Following this incident, Turkey delivered strikes at 115 Syrian army targets in retaliation for the attack on its soldiers in northern Syria.

Turkish servicemen came under fire from the Syrian government army twice in the past seven days. Ten servicemen and three civil personnel were killed.

Idlib is the only large Syrian region that is still controlled by illegal armed groups.

A northern de-escalation zone was set up in Idlib in 2017 to give shelter to militants and their families who were reluctant to voluntarily surrender arms in Eastern Ghouta and in Syria's southern regions.

Twelve Turkish observation stations are operating in the Idlib governorate.

Agencies

Iran attack: Over 100 US troops diagnosed with brain injuries

WASHINGTON

THE US military on Monday disclosed a more than 50 percent jump in cases of traumatic brain injury stemming from Iran's missile attack on a base in Iraq last month, with the number of service members diagnosed climbing to over 100.

No US troops were killed or faced immediate bodily injury when Iran fired missiles at the Ain al-Asad base in Iraq in retaliation for the US killing of Revolutionary Guard General Qassem Soleimani in a drone strike at the Baghdad airport on Jan 3.

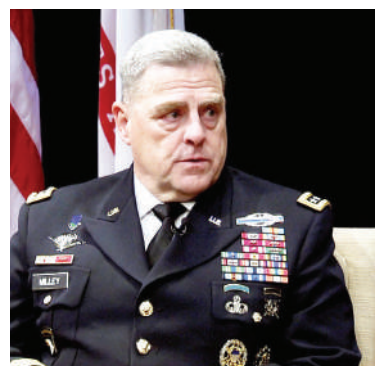
The missile attacks capped a spiral of violence that had started in

late December. Both sides have refrained from further military escalation, but the mounting number of US casualties could increase scrutiny on the Trump administration's approach to Iran.

Reuters was first to report earlier on Monday that there were over 100 cases of traumatic brain injury, up from the 64 previously reported last month.

The Pentagon, in a statement, confirmed that so far 109 US service members had been diagnosed with mild traumatic brain injury. It added that 76 of them had returned to duty.

The US military in the past had said to expect an increase in num-



bers in the weeks after the attack because symptoms can take time to manifest and troops can sometimes take longer to report them.

Army General Mark Milley (pictured), chairman of the Joint Chiefs

of Staff, said last month that the service members suffering from traumatic brain injuries had been diagnosed with mild cases. He added that the diagnosis could change as time passed.

Symptoms of concussive injuries include headaches, dizziness, sensitivity to light and nausea.

Pentagon officials have repeatedly said there has been no effort to minimize or delay information on concussive injuries. But the disclosures following Tehran's attack have renewed questions over the US military's policy regarding how it internally reports suspected brain injuries and whether they are treated publicly with the same urgency as loss of limb or life.

US Republican Senator Joni Ernst said more answers were needed.

"I've called on the Pentagon to ensure the safety & care of our deployed forces who may be exposed to blast injuries in Iraq," Ernst said on Twitter.

US President Donald Trump appeared to play down the brain injuries last month, saying he "heard that they had headaches and a couple of other things" following the attack, prompting criticism from lawmakers and a US veterans group.

Various health and medical groups for years have been trying to raise awareness about the seriousness of brain injuries, including concussions.

Agencies

Africa stands with China to defeat coronavirus

By Mwangi Wachira



CHINA'S response to the coronavirus has earned praise from the World Health Organization, as well as many countries. The response has also strengthened Africa's solidarity with China.

The symptoms of coronavirus infection are so common that it took some time to realize that we are dealing with a new virus. But once the new virus was identified, China's response set new standards for the world. Newspaper reports in Africa are praising the scale and speed of the response.

Wuhan's new 1000-bed Huoshenshan hospital covering 60,000 square meters has been built in just 10 days by 7,000 people working 'round the clock. It is now operational. A second hospital with 1,600 beds will open its doors by this coming weekend.

The scale and speed are unmatched anywhere in the world.

To many Africans, what is even more awe inspiring is what is not visible. Translating the idea of a dedicated hospital into blueprints for thousands of components, assembling them into a model, agreeing on specifications and standards, contracting different entities to make or build the components, preparing the site and erecting the hospital about one month after the enemy was identified is a feat in which every citizen of China can take pride.

Equally compelling is convening 1,400 medical specialists to handle intensive care, diagnosis and infection control units with a unity of purpose. The specialists bring skills gained from past battles: fighting SARS, a relative of the new coronavirus, or Ebola virus in Africa. This large team appears to be working with the precision of a military operation.

The Enemy

But coronavirus is also awakening racism. Africans are recalling other global health emergencies.

The 1918 flu pandemic, first detected in the US heartland, affected nearly a third of the world's population. No country or region was blamed for the emergency. No stigma was attached to US citizens. But the 1957 flu that was first identified in Singapore and Hong Kong was quickly labelled "Asian Flu." We must guard against compounding the tragedy of coronavirus with racism or bigotry. The virus is the enemy.

While no cases have been reported in Africa, countries are screening people coming from China. At the same time, China is helping African governments by monitoring Africans in China. So far, there does not appear to be a need to evacuate Africans although a few countries have done so. Moreover, there does not appear to be a necessity for general quarantine of everyone coming from China.

Hope

African media is also reporting signs of hope, even as the people of Hubei Province and the city of Wuhan bear the pain of quarantine.

For example, we know that although there are over 20,000 identified cases worldwide and over 400 people have died, near 1,000 have recovered and the rate of recovery is steadily growing. Clearly the medical and health professionals on the frontline, supported by scientists in China and the world are starting to understand the new enemy.

They are inching their way towards a strategy, a set of protocols or procedures for tackling either the coronavirus or associated infections.

Africans are hanging on to this ray of hope. The African continent, country after country, stands in solidarity with China, confident that China has the scientific knowhow and technical capacity to manage this health emergency.

Those like Egypt or South Africa that manufacture medical supplies and equipment have delivered their assistance to China. But for African countries that cannot extend such assistance, goodwill towards China runs deep in Africa - a continent that has pinned its hope for genuine development on the partnership with China.

The Flowers Will Blossom

We must say to the people of Wuhan that Spring cannot be far; the flowers will blossom again. We must believe that we will triumph with China leading this effort.

People's Daily

The author is a former World Bank economist, former Kenya President advisor, and Kenyan economist living in Washington, DC.

Agencies

Launch of multi-million USD initiative to benefit African women

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN leaders are putting women first in efforts to drive the continent's economic growth through the launch of a women-empowerment initiative, dubbed the African Women Leadership Fund.

The ground-breaking partnership, formally signed between the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) and the Standard Bank Group in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, over the weekend, "will be transformational in breaking down structural barriers to inclusive investing in Africa," the ECA said on Monday.

"The launch of the African Women Leadership Fund will provide capital

to both first time and experienced fund managers in support of UN Sustainable Development Goals 5 (Gender Equality) and 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and the African Union Agenda 2063," an ECA statement said.

Over 20 million U.S. dollars was raised for the fund on Saturday toward a goal of 100 million dollars. President Paul Kagame of Rwanda was instrumental in leading the way, pledging 500,000 dollars.

Senegal's President Macky Sall also committed 500,000 dollars. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa also pledged to contribute to the fund. Private sector participants pledged the rest.

Among the world leaders who witnessed the official launch of fund were United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, AU Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat, Ethiopian President Sahle-Work Zewde, and former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

"We are turning the tables and making women the decision-makers of investable money in Africa," ECA Executive Secretary Vera Songwe said. "We want women to be on the supply side of money, not only on the demand side."

"The goal here is to give women-led financial investment activities a huge injection of jet fuel to bear out the proven positive correlation between

gender balance, higher financial returns and developmental impact," Songwe said.

The African Women Leadership Fund, among other things, envisages empowering women financial leaders who will drive economic growth, job creation, and create prosperity.

Noting that women-owned funds and businesses in Africa struggle due largely to lack of successful fundraising, insufficient exposure to systems and procedures, and lack of track records, the ECA also stressed that women-owned funds and businesses also contend with "gender-based social expectation, resistance to women in leadership roles and lack of a support network."

"The fund will empower Africa's women by giving them access to financial resources and investment management expertise," the ECA said.

Sola David-Borha, chief executive of Africa regions at Standard Bank Group, said the fund aligns with the Bank's purpose to drive Africa's growth and "presents an opportunity for Standard Bank to leverage our footprint and expertise on the continent, and the relevant experience of our asset management arms... to build Africa's economies."

"Africa is our home. We drive her growth," David-Borha said. Women fund managers will receive a deployment of capital, and subsequently

invest in majority female-owned businesses, in which sectors such as education, manufacturing, health-care, clean energy and agriculture are said to be priority areas.

The initiative also envisages providing technical assistance for fund managers and entrepreneurs, ranging from building capacity, direct mentoring to leveraging technology in health and education.

According to the ECA, a portion of the funding for the women's initiative will be secured from 10 million dollars pledged recently by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and 8 million dollars pledged by Norway's Prime Minister Erna Solberg.

Xinhua



The logo of the African Union (AU) is seen at the entrance of the AU headquarters on March 13, 2019, in Addis Ababa. (AFP)

AU delays plan to start using fund for security operations

ADDISABABA

THE African Union has agreed not to start financing security operations from a new fund until 2023 because it has received fewer contributions than hoped.

The AU, which groups 55 African countries, had hoped to start tapping the fund this year for peacekeeping missions, mediation and conflict prevention on a continent facing severe threats of violence and terrorism.

But at the end of a summit in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, it decided not to start using the fund yet after it emerged it had less than half of the US\$400 million it had targeted.

The failure to secure as much funding as planned is a new setback to security hopes in Africa following an increase in attacks by Islamist militants in the vast Sahel region of western and north-central Africa.

It also follows a drawdown of AU peacekeepers in Somalia as external donors reduce funding, aiming to transfer responsibility to Somali forces.

AU nations have so far raised only US\$164 million, said Donald Kaberuka, the AU's special envoy for the fund.

Fewer than 30 member states have paid their full contributions and five have never paid their annual dues, according to an internal document seen by Reuters.

North African states, including Egypt and Algeria, are challenging their yearly contributions and want Central African states such as Cameroon and Central African Republic to pay more, five AU officials told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

Kaberuka said the decision on how much each country would pay had been postponed until later this year.

"Most countries do agree about the financing mechanism," he said, adding that "for those who disagree we have until July 2020 to find a solution."

FURTHER DELAYS AHEAD?

Prolonged disagreements on how much each member state provides could cause further delays for the fund in the future.

"The AU is trying to be more self-sufficient, less reliant on donors," said Elissa Jobson, Director of Africa Regional Advocacy for the International Crisis Group think tank. "This delays that process."

But a senior AU official told reporters the huge threat posed to Africa by violence and terrorism, and governments' inadequate resources to tackle them, means more international support is needed.

"We still need first for the United Nations Security Council to take its responsibilities and the rest of the international community not to let down Africa," said Smail Chergui, commissioner of the AU's Peace and Security Council. *Xinhua*

West understands that global problems cannot be resolved without Russia - Lavrov

MOSCOW

ALL of Russia's partners, including those who have imposed anti-Russian sanctions, admit that global problems are hard or even impossible to resolve without Russia and all stand for dialogue with Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with the Rossiiskaya Gazeta daily.

When asked whether it is right to say that there is the so-called Lavrov school in the present-day diplomacy, the Russian top diplomat said he would refrain from personifying diplomacy of today. He stressed that Russia's foreign policy is determined by the president. "Indeed, the goals and the modality of our foreign policy

are determined by the course set by the head of state. This course that is committed to paper in all editions of Russia's foreign policy concept since 2000 has made it possible to us to develop principally new qualities on the international arena, to restore our status as a great power," Lavrov stressed.

"I would call things by their true names, the status of a key player on key global problems, the status of a country without which global problems are difficult, if not impossible, to resolve.

And it is recognized by all out partners, including the Western nations which keep on saying that the tough course towards Moscow should be continued," he said.

Agencies

2019-nCoV outbreak in China only poses temporary economic difficulty - expert

RIO DE JANEIRO

THE novel coronavirus outbreak in China is only a temporary difficulty, and China will find a solution, said Hsia Hua Sheng, Associate Professor of Finance at São Paulo School of Business Administration.

"Even with this temporary difficulty, China is still one of the most competitive countries in the world," Hsia told People's Daily.

"On the one hand, we can see the effort and determination of the government into financial services. For

example, the Chinese central bank injected 1.7 trillion yuan (\$244.12 billion) through reverse repos into the market earlier this week, demonstrating its determination to stabilize market expectations and boost market confidence."

He added, "on the other hand, the collaboration of all the Chinese people to overcome this temporary virus is very positive," noting that the creativity of China's skilled workers helps to create a digital solution to combat the coronavirus with the Chinese government.

He said that the role of China in the

global economy is very important. "The temporary slowdown of Chinese consumption in and out of China (for example, tourism) will affect the GDP negatively of major tourism oriented countries."

"This problem will also affect global production activities, like the automotive industry," said Hsia, adding many multinational firms have to stop their production outside of China because of the lack of components made in China as China has a huge relevance in the global supply chain.

People's Daily



Trump says call for 7-9 years prison term for adviser Stone is 'horrible'

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump described a demand by prosecutors on Monday for a federal judge to sentence his longtime adviser Roger Stone to 7-9 years in prison as "horrible and very unfair" and said such a "miscarriage of justice" should not be allowed.

Stone (pictured) is due to face sentencing by U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson on Feb. 20, after a jury in November found the self-proclaimed "dirty trickster" guilty on seven counts of lying to Congress, obstruction and witness tampering.

The government said that under U.S. sentencing guidelines, he faces a range of seven years and three months to up to nine years, and told Jackson he "should be punished in accord" with those. Such a term would "accurately reflect the seriousness of his crimes and promote respect for the law".

Stone is one of several people close to Trump who faced charges stemming from then-Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

"This is a horrible and very unfair situation. The real crimes were on the other side, as nothing happens to them. Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice!" Trump said on Twitter here after midnight on Monday.

Trump has the power to pardon people for federal crimes, although he has yet to use it in the cases of other former aides convicted in the wake of the Mueller investigations.

During the trial, prosecutors pressed their case that Stone lied to lawmakers about his outreach to WikiLeaks - the website that disclosed many hacked Democratic emails ahead of the 2016 U.S. election that proved embarrassing to Trump's Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton - to protect Trump from looking bad.

Stone, who has labeled himself an "agent provocateur" and has the face of former President Richard Nixon tattooed on his back, was charged with obstructing justice, witness tampering and lying to the U.S. House of Representatives' Intelligence Committee during its investigation into Russian election interference.

Stone's colorful trial featured references to the film "The Godfather Part II," an impression of Senator Bernie Sanders by prosecution witness Randy Credico, and testimony by political heavyweights including former Trump campaign chief executive Steve Bannon and former Trump deputy campaign chairman Rick Gates.

Those witnesses said they believed Stone had inside information about when WikiLeaks might release more damaging emails about Clinton. In truth, he had no such information.

Stone was also accused of tampering with Credico's testimony, when Credico was summoned to testify before Congress and speak with the FBI. In emails and texts, Stone told Credico among other things: "Prepare to die," "You're a rat. A stoolie," and "Stonewall it."

Agencies

Trump's US\$4.8t budget gets chilly reception from Congress

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump's US\$4.8 trillion budget plan for the coming fiscal year drew a prompt rejection on Monday from congressional Democrats, who said it betrayed his promise to protect popular health and safety-net programs.

The White House presented the budget as a blueprint for the president's policy priorities. It includes funding to build a wall on the US border with Mexico and fight the opioid crisis, but cuts billions of dollars from safety net programs under the banner of welfare reform.

The budget is largely a political document that serves as a starting point for negotiations with Congress. With an eye toward reducing debt and deficits, Trump once again proposed steep cuts to housing, environmental, transportation and other programs that have been rejected by lawmakers in past years.

"We're going to keep proposing these types of budgets and hope that at some point Congress will have some sense of fiscal sanity and join us in trying to tackle our debt and deficits," Russ Vought, acting director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, told reporters.

Democrats said Trump's proposal upended his promise in last week's State of the Union speech to "always protect" the popular Social Security pension plan and the Medicare health plan for seniors.

"Americans' quality, affordable health care will never be safe with President Trump," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

"Everyone knows the latest Trump budget is dead on arrival in Congress," said Sheldon Whitehouse, a Democrat on the Senate Budget Committee.

Trump's budget would reduce Medicare spending by lowering drug costs and tightening eligibility requirements for Social Security's disability program.

It also would enact new work requirements for people who get food stamps or use the Medicaid health plan for the poor.



US President Donald Trump

Last year Trump signed a two-year budget deal with Congress that increased federal spending on defense and several other domestic programs, adding to a growing government debt.

Trump's proposed military spending adheres to that plan. But his proposed spending for domestic agencies, like the Education Department and the Environmental Protection Agency, is 6 percent below the US\$635 billion outlined in that agreement.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Mike Enzi, a Republican, said earlier this year that he intends to stick to the spending levels in the congressional budget deal, which would in effect ignore Trump's proposed domestic spending cuts.

GROWTH PROJECTIONS

Trump's proposed budget for fiscal 2021 includes US\$2 billion to fund further construction on the border wall with Mexico, a project that is especially popular with his political base, and funding for an infrastructure bill that is unlikely to be passed by Democrats and Republicans in Congress.

It forecasts US\$4.6 trillion in deficit reduction over 10 years and assumes economic growth at an annual rate of roughly 3 percent for years to come.

Vought said those figures were based on an assumption that Trump's policies would be enacted.

The economic projections are optimistic. The Congressional Budget Office predicts the US economy will grow 2.2 percent in the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, and grow less than 2.0 percent in future years.

The economy grew 2.3 percent in calendar year 2019.

Trump has taken credit for the strength of the US economy thanks in part to tax cuts he championed and Congress passed earlier in his term.

The White House proposal slashes spending by US\$4.4 trillion over 10 years, and aims to reduce the deficit by US\$4.6 trillion in that time period.

While Trump campaigned on a promise of eventually eliminating the country's huge debt, each year of his plan projects significant budget deficits that actually would add to the US\$22 trillion debt.

This year's deficit will hover at around US\$1 trillion and decline next year to US\$966 billion if his plan were to be enacted. Even so, over 10 years, deficits would add US\$5.6 trillion to the debt, not counting interest payments.

Agencies

NEW DELHI

INDIA'S ruling party was projected to lose a key state election yesterday, the vote count showed, in its first electoral test since deadly anti-government protests erupted nearly two months ago.

The Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi won a bigger majority in a general election in May, but it has lost a string of state elections since then.

The protests, in which at least 25 people have been killed, erupted across the

India's ruling party routed in key state election

country in mid-December, after the BJP passed a new citizenship law critics say violates India's secular constitution and discriminates against minority Muslims.

In counting for state polls held in India's capital New Delhi, data from India's Election Commission showed the liberal Aam Aadmi Party, led by the city's chief minister, Arvind Kejriwal, leading 57 out of 70 seats.

The BJP ran a campaign accusing pro-

testers of supporting India's arch-rival Pakistan and was projected to win 13 seats, up from three in 2015 but far below its own expectations. The party's local chief Manoj Tiwari had predicted it would win a majority.

AAP activists in distinctive white boat-shaped caps danced outside party headquarters in New Delhi as the result became clear, TV channels showed.

Neelanjan Sircar, an assistant profes-

sor at Ashoka University near New Delhi, said that local issues, including delivery of basic services like education and health, appeared to sway voters toward the AAP, even as the BJP ran a polarizing campaign on the back of Modi's image.

"Modi is a larger than life character at the national level, which obviously gives the BJP a huge advantage in national politics," Sircar said.

"But it doesn't translate to state level

politics, where the BJP often doesn't have a charismatic face."

Besppectacled former bureaucrat Kejriwal, 51, formed AAP in 2012 amid an anti-corruption movement that swept India.

The party won a stunning victory in 2015 state elections in the capital, wiping out the BJP and Congress, the party that has ruled India for half its post-independence history.

Agencies

China deserves praise, not ill will, for efforts to curtail spread of coronavirus

THE novel coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan, Central China's Hubei Province, has become the focus of international attention. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared on January 30 the epidemic public health emergency of international concern.

Over the past few days, leaders of various countries and heads of many international organizations have shown their sympathy and support for China's fight against the epidemic and have generously provided aid such as much-needed medical supplies.

However, senior officials and media outlets of some Western countries have ignored China's enormous efforts to combat the epidemic and launched attacks against the country.

Their acts disregard the facts

and are extremely immoral, just as a Chinese proverb describes - dropping stones on someone who has fallen into a well.

Major disasters are the severest test of human nature. Human rights violations against Chinese, even Asian-looking people, such as racial discrimination and border entry rejection, deserve the vigilance of the international community.

Infectious diseases, which may break out in any region of any nation, are humanity's formidable enemy.

Folke Henschen, the author of The History and Geography of Disease, once said, "human history is also the history of diseases." In human history, smallpox, plague, cholera, leprosy, tuberculosis, measles, rabies, malaria, yellow

fever and other infectious diseases have all posed great threats to humans.

The Plague of Athens (430BC-427BC) devastated the ambitious city-state of Athens.

The Antonine Plague (165AD-180AD) killed almost one-third of the Roman Empire's population. The Black Death that erupted in 1347 swept across Europe, resulting in the deaths of an estimated 25-30 million people.

Before it was eradicated, smallpox plagued humanity for at least 3,000 years. In the 18th century, the number of Europeans who died of smallpox was estimated at over 150 million. And in the 20th century alone, smallpox took the lives of more than 300 million people.

The death toll of the 1918 influ-

enza pandemic is estimated to have reached 50 million, while World War I resulted in the deaths of about 40 million.

The outbreak of Influenza A virus subtype H1N1 in Mexico and the US in March 2009 lasted for more than a year, affecting 214 countries and regions and resulting in approximately 284,500 deaths.

In 2014, the Ebola virus disease spread to multiple countries in just a few months, killing more than 7,000 people in West Africa. Infectious diseases have killed more people than wars and natural disasters.

To combat infectious diseases, humanity has continued to improve medical technology and public sanitation, which has ensured health security and pro-

moted scientific and technological progress. In this sense, fighting diseases, especially infectious diseases, is one of the driving forces in the development of human civilization. Accounts of inoculation against smallpox in China can be found as early as the late 10th century, and the procedure was widely practiced by the 16th century.

At the end of the 18th century, British doctor Edward Jenner created and promoted the smallpox vaccine, which greatly curbed the possible outbreak of the variola virus and reduced the death rate.

In 1928, British bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, a powerful antibacterial drug, ending the era when infectious diseases were incurable. In 1972, Chinese scientist Tu Youyou successfully extracted artemisinin

for the treatment of malaria, which has saved millions of lives worldwide, especially in developing countries. Tu was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 2015.

Since the 18th century, some European countries have taken the lead in the construction of urban sanitation facilities, improving water and sewage systems as well as centralizing waste treatment and disinfection.

All these measures have effectively prevented infectious diseases such as the plague. In modern times, the concerted efforts of the international community have eradicated some once rampant infectious diseases.

For example, the World Health Organization announced in December 1979 that the world was

free of variola virus.

The ongoing epidemic of the novel coronavirus-related pneumonia is another example of infectious diseases that has alarmed humanity.

Faced with this major public health emergency, the Communist Party of China (CPC) has been leading the Chinese people in the war to prevent and control the spread of the epidemic.

The CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core attaches great importance to the prevention and control of the epidemic, and to the interests of the people. It has set up a leading group responding to the pneumonia outbreak, and established an all-around and multi-level epidemic prevention and control system.

People's Daily

'Never happened': Model denies trapping Weinstein accuser



Mexican model Claudia Salinas leaves court after testifying in Harvey Weinstein's rape trial, Monday, Feb. 10, 2020 in New York. The Mexican model and actress denies a Harvey Weinstein accuser's claim that she stood by and did nothing while the once-powerful movie mogul groped the woman in a Beverly Hills hotel in 2013. (AP Photo)

NEW YORK

In the strongest defense testimony yet, a Mexican model on Monday denied a Harvey Weinstein accuser's claim that she stood by and did nothing while the once-powerful movie mogul sexually assaulted the woman at a Beverly Hills hotel in 2013.

"Never happened," Claudia Salinas told jurors Monday at Weinstein's rape trial in New York City, forcefully repudiating model Lauren Marie Young's testimony last week.

Young testified that Salinas closed the door behind her and Weinstein as they went into the bathroom, where she alleges he stripped off his clothes, grabbed her breast and masturbated. Once it was over, Young said she found Salinas standing outside the bathroom and shot her an evil look before leaving as quickly as she could.

"If I had done that, I would remember that," Salinas testified. "I would never close the door on anybody."

Salinas, now working as a social media influencer, took the witness stand as the defense called witnesses for a third day after more than two weeks of prosecution testimony. Among the prosecution witnesses were six women, including Young, who say the once-powerful Hollywood boss subjected them to vile sexual behavior.

"My name has been used in a disparaging way. Ms. Young's testimony that I've heard in the media is fictitious and flat out untrue," Salinas said in a statement sent to The Associated Press after she testified. "Under no circumstances would I ever have anything to do with an assault on a human being. This accusation was a vicious attack on my reputation."

The biggest remaining question at the landmark #MeToo trial is whether Weinstein will testify. Weinstein declined to answer a reporter's question about it as he left court on Monday, deferring to lawyer Arthur Aidala who declared: "It was a great day for the defense today."

Weinstein's lawyers say no decision has been made on whether he will take the stand.

Weinstein, 67, is charged with raping a woman in a Manhattan hotel room in 2013 and forcibly performing oral sex on a different woman in 2006, but other accusers, such as Young, were called as witnesses as part of a prosecution effort to show he has used the same tactics to victimize many women over the years.

Young's allegations were included in criminal charges filed against Weinstein in California on Jan. 6, just as his New York case was

starting.

Weinstein has maintained any sexual encounters were consensual.

Salinas met Weinstein in 2003, she said, and appeared in his 2009 film "Crossing Over" with Harrison Ford. She said she never had a romantic relationship with Weinstein, adding that he had a "very strong personality" and "at times, he wasn't nice to me."

Salinas disputed other parts of Young's account, saying that while they did meet up at the hotel the night of the alleged assault, it wasn't because Weinstein wanted to see her.

Asked on cross-examination if she told investigators last year that it was possible Weinstein took Young to the hotel room, Salinas replied: "What's true is that I wasn't there in a bathroom scenario. It could have happened but it didn't mean I was there."

Jurors also heard Monday from the former roommate of the woman Weinstein is on trial for allegedly raping, Talita Maia said that the woman spoke highly of Weinstein and once called him her "spiritual soulmate."

Maia, a Brazilian actress who lived with the woman in the Los Angeles area, was with her on the New York trip and said nothing seemed amiss when they met Weinstein for breakfast after the alleged rape.

The accuser testified last week that she didn't tell anybody what happened but was "pretty shut down" at breakfast.

"Did she seem like herself to you?" Weinstein lawyer Donna Rotunno asked.

"Yes," Maia responded. Maia said she was testifying in response to a defense subpoena, telling jurors: "I don't want to be here at all." On cross-examination, she testified the two women had a falling out in 2016, but added, "I don't hate her or anything like that."

The Associated Press has a policy of not publishing the names of sexual assault accusers without their consent. It is withholding name of the rape accuser because it isn't clear if she wishes to be identified publicly.

Maia said she and the woman met Weinstein at a Hollywood party a few months before the alleged rape and that she believed the woman and Weinstein were in a relationship at some point and had stayed friends afterward.

Maia said she initially didn't know who Weinstein was, but once she found out he was a Hollywood bigshot, she teased him by saying "that's why everybody is being so nice to you."

Maia said the woman she was summoned to testify about put her arm around Weinstein and said: "No. It's because he's so cute." AP

Rondo, Davis lead Lakers to 125-100 rout of Suns

LOS ANGELES

RAJON Rondo's Los Angeles Lakers teammates have been encouraging him to be more aggressive and shoot the ball instead of trying to distribute it to everyone. On Monday night, he took the advice to heart.

The 13-year veteran point guard scored a season-high 23 points, including 15 in the second quarter, as the Lakers rolled to a 125-100 victory over the Phoenix Suns.

"He's always had that confidence but he wants to get everyone involved. We've been on him to shoot those shots and he showed you all what he can do. He does it in practice all the time," Anthony Davis said.

Los Angeles put the game away in the second, which was only the fifth time in Rondo's 13-year career he has scored 15 or more in a period.

"We dared Rondo to shoot from the perimeter and he made us pay," Suns coach Monty Williams said.

The Lakers had dropped three of their last four at Staples Center but didn't have any problems against the undersized Suns. They outrebounded Phoenix by 30 (59-29) along with a 58-38 advantage in points in the paint.

The Suns had only one big man suit up after Deandre Ayton injured his left ankle in Saturday's loss to Denver. Dario Saric and Aron Baynes have also missed extended time due to injuries.

Davis had 25 points and 10 rebounds but it was a big game for the bench. Besides Rondo, Dwight Howard had 14 points and 15 rebounds. It is the Lakers' 40th win of the season, the first time since 2010 they have reached that before the All-Star break.

"It was a great game for our bench. Rajon had great pace all night and he was taking all the looks he was getting. Dwight controlled the glass," said LeBron James, who had 17 points, nine assists and eight rebounds.

Mikal Bridges scored 18 points for Phoenix, which has lost six of seven. Cheick Diallo - who started in place of Ayton - added 15 points. Jevon Carter and Ricky Rubio scored 13 apiece.

"It's tough with the size difference and you are missing three rotation bigs. You can always have a plan until the ball comes off the rim," said Devin Booker, who had 10 points after going just 2 of 11 from the field. "When they have three big guys crashing the boards they can still get tip outs."



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kentavious Caldwell-Pope, right, shoots as Phoenix Suns forward Kelly Oubre Jr. watches during the first half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Feb. 10, 2020, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

Both teams started out hot in the first quarter. The Lakers made 10 of their first 13 from the floor and the Suns were 9 of 13 as there were 18 lead changes and four ties in the first 12 minutes.

Los Angeles led 31-30 at the end of the first quarter before breaking it open in the second with an 18-4 run as it made eight of its first nine shots. Rondo scored the first eight points in the period, including a pair of 3-pointers.

The Suns trailed 61-52 at halftime and got within 63-57 early in the third quarter on Cameron Johnson's 3-pointer. The Lakers scored the next six points and would extend their lead to 27 during the fourth

quarter. Meanwhile, in San Francisco, once Jimmy Butler came back, Miami's longest losing streak of the season was gone.

Butler had 21 points and 10 rebounds in his return to the lineup and the Heat won in Andre Iguodala's first game back in the Bay Area, thumping the Golden State Warriors 113-101 on Monday night.

"We look like a totally different team when our max player is out there," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said of Butler. "He makes it look a little bit smoother, a little bit more settled with our offense. The ball gets to the right places. He finds a way to get to the free throw line. All these things that are necessary

when you want to win on the road."

Butler was crisp after sitting out with a right shoulder strain he suffered against the Clippers on Feb. 5. The All-Star forward scored 13 points in the first half, shot 9 of 15 overall and had five assists to help the Heat end their three-game skid.

"That's what my team needs me to do, be that way on both ends of the floor," Butler said. "We have a couple of new guys that are just as effective as I am. It's really great and it's really fun to go out there and compete with them."

Jaë Crowder added 21 points and eight rebounds. Bam Adebayo had 13 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists. Kelly Olynyk had 12 points and a career-high 11 assists.

Iguodala, a key member of the Warriors' three championship teams from 2015-18, had two points and five rebounds in 17 minutes against his former team.

"I don't know what his plus-minus was but good things happen when he is on the floor, regardless of what happens in the box score," Spoelstra said.

Damion Lee scored 26 points with five 3-pointers for Golden State (12-42). The loss ends the Warriors' five-year streak of finishing .500 or better.

The Warriors were hurt by 17 turnovers.

"It's just a matter of taking out those mistakes," Lee said. "You can't have (17) turnovers and try to beat a team that's top four in this league."

The Heat led comfortably most of the game to win for the first time on their six-game road trip that stretches beyond the All-Star break.

Crowder, who had 18 points in his Miami debut against Portland on Sunday, made a step-back 3-pointer that put the Heat up by 18 midway through the second quarter. Olynyk later added another 3-pointer that made it 52-31.

Golden State trailed by 24 but got within 73-69 following three free throws by Lee.

Miami pulled away early in the fourth quarter, getting a dunk from Iguodala and back-to-back 3s by Duncan Robinson and Crowder.

AP

SportPesa Jackpot winner gets cash prize

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

DAR ES SALAAM resident Yassin Ridhiwani Ally, who won SportPesa Jackpot prize worth over 437m/-, was presented with the cash prize in a function, which took place at SportPesa office in the city yesterday.

Ally, aged 35, laid his hands on 437,631,320/- in cash prize after he had placed right bet on 13 matches.

SportPesa Tanzania's Chairman of Board of Directors Tarimba Abbas congratulated Ally for the win.

Tarimba pointed out SportPesa are honest in the betting industry and for that matter they are the best company in the industry in the country.

He thanked Tanzania for playing crucial role in his company's success.

He said: "I use this opportunity to announce a new winner of SportPesa Jackpot prize, Ally, we believe his dream will come true after winning the prize, honestly, it was not easy for him."

"An average Tanzania will hardly feel cash worth 437,631,320/- is little amount cash. SportPesa are pleased to see Tanzanians improve their lives. I call on Tanzanians to continue betting via SportPesa, given we will be turning people into millionaires every week."

"SportPesa presents prize to every person who has won as long as he or she is aged above 18. We thank this week's winners and request them to use the prize wisely, the government also gains from the games given it has got revenue totaling 87m/-."

"We also have other winners who have placed right bets on 10, 11 and 12 matches, therefore SportPesa hands over cash prize even to the ones who did not place right bets on all 13 matches."



Yassin Ridhiwani Ally, who emerged as this week's SportPesa Jackpot winner, holds a dummy cheque at SportPesa office in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He was presented with cash prize once he placed right bets on 13 matches. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

"The most important thing is the tax Ally will pay as per the tax laws, he will pay 20% of the cash prize which totals 87,526, 264/- which will be directed to the government, we are proud of it," he disclosed.

Ally noted he had started betting through SportPesa five months back, he was later motivated to keep on betting after he had seen people win 825m/-.

He disclosed: "I started betting through SportPesa five months back once I saw winners Magabe and Kingslay

get their cash prize, I believed the game and started betting. I thank God I have won."

"I thank SportPesa for changing my life. I have been selling snacks and drinks to get cash and meet my daily needs but I will operate a big business, which will somewhat pay me well," he said.

"I have today believed I'm this week's SportPesa Jackpot winner, although SportPesa informed me of the win on Sunday."

"I use this chance to tell Tanzanians SportPesa hand

over cash prize whenever they get winners and, therefore I call on others who are yet to believe the firm and start betting they should start betting given they can win."

"SportPesa operate betting games which are supervised by the government. We congratulate them they success they have enjoyed in the betting industry," Elibariki Sengasenga, a representative from Gaming Board of Tanzania, disclosed.

Summer an 'important chance' for Manchester United, says Woodward

LONDON

ED Woodward has said the summer transfer window represents an "important opportunity" in Manchester United's bid to build a squad capable of challenging for the Premier League and the Champions League.

United splashed out to sign Sporting Lisbon midfielder Bruno Fernandes in January and Woodward has told fans there will be more money available to manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer at the end of the season.

"Our recruitment process focuses on analysis and selection of players over the course of a season, with a view to the following summer transfer window," Woodward said.

"As part of the rebuild we see this coming summer as an important opportunity.

"There has been no shortage of investment in players over the past few years, with over £200 million spent since Ole became manager. Our aim is to ensure that we continue to achieve consistency in quality of recruitment.

"The recruitment department is working to a clear plan and philosophy, along with Ole and his coaching staff. Our focus is on bringing in a combination of experience and the best young players with potential to develop further, fusing graduates from our academy with high-quality acquisitions."

Solskjaer has taken his squad to Marbella for a warm weather training camp as they prepare for the second half of the season, which kicks off with a trip to Chelsea on Feb. 17.

United sit eighth in the Premier League table with 13 games left to play and face a battle to force their way into the top four and earn a place in next season's Champions League.

"The signing of Bruno Fernandes and return of key players from injury will be a boost to Ole and the squad as we head into the second half of the season," said Woodward, who was speaking at a quarterly fans' forum.

"We remain in contention in the Europa League and the FA Cup, as well as for Champions League qualification, so there is still lots to play for.

"As a club and a board, we do recognise that we are not yet where we want to be. It is the overwhelming priority of

everyone at the club to get us back to regularly challenging for Premier League and Champions League titles.

"Although progress may not always be smooth, everyone across the club is focused and committed on playing their part in helping achieve those aims."

Meanwhile, Manchester United's preseason plans are on hold because of the coronavirus, sources have told ESPN.

United have discussed the possibility of returning to Asia this summer, but talks have stalled while the club seek advice about the virus, which has infected more than 40,000 people globally, mostly in China.

Manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and his squad have been sounded out to spend at least some time in China during their preseason tour. United look to promote club-themed entertainment centres in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenyang, which are due to open before the end of 2020.

Nothing has yet been finalised, but there have also been talks about playing friendlies in other parts of Asia and India in July before the start of the Premier League season on Aug. 8.

United played warm-up games in Singapore and Shanghai last summer and visited China for a two-game tour in 2016. They also held a supporter viewing party in Shenzhen for the 4-0 win over Norwich in January as part of their "I Love United" series.

Coronavirus has been declared a "serious and imminent threat" to public health by the U.K. government as the number of deaths in China approaches 1,000.

Striker Odion Ighalo, signed from Shanghai Shenhua on deadline day, has not travelled with Solskjaer and his squad for a warm weather training camp in Spain over fears he would not be able to clear U.K. immigration upon return, having been in China less than 14 days ago.

Ighalo, 30, has remained in Manchester and is yet to take part in a full training session with his new teammates.

Sources have told ESPN that United will "wait and see" before making any firm plans for their summer tour. They have spent four of their last six summers in the United States and a return to North America remains a possibility if the situation in Asia does not improve.

(Agencies)

Pele depressed over health issues - son

RIO DE JANEIRO

BRAZIL legend Pele is depressed over his poor health and reluctant to leave the house because he cannot walk unaided, his son Edinho said in an interview published in Brazil on Monday.

Pele, widely considered to be one of the greatest footballers in history and the only player to win three World Cups, spent most of his career with Brazilian team Santos before moving to New York Cosmos in the 1970s.

He will be 80 in October and has had hip trouble for years, which led to him now needing a frame to walk. Many of his recent public appearances have been in a wheelchair.

"He's pretty fragile," Edinho told TV Globo. "He had a hip replacement and didn't have an adequate or ideal rehabilitation.

"So he has this problem with

mobility and that has set off a kind of depression. Imagine, he's the king, he was always such an imposing figure and today he can't walk properly.

"He's embarrassed, he doesn't want to go out, be seen, or do practically anything that involves leaving the house. He is very sheepish, reclusive."

Edinho said he had argued with his father because he had not done the physiotherapy called for after a hip operation.

In April, Pele spent time in the American Hospital in Paris as he was being treated for a urinary infection.

This summer will mark the 50th anniversary of the striker's third World Cup title, won in Mexico in 1970 with what many people believe is the greatest team of all time.

(Agencies)

Jose Mourinho: Special One or Incredible Sulk?

BY IAN DARKE, ESPN.COM WRITER

JOSE Mourinho; magician or myth? Special One or Incredible Sulk? His success, or lack thereof, at Tottenham Hotspur might settle a few arguments, but either way, he remains the world's most talked-about manager, which is the way he has always liked it.

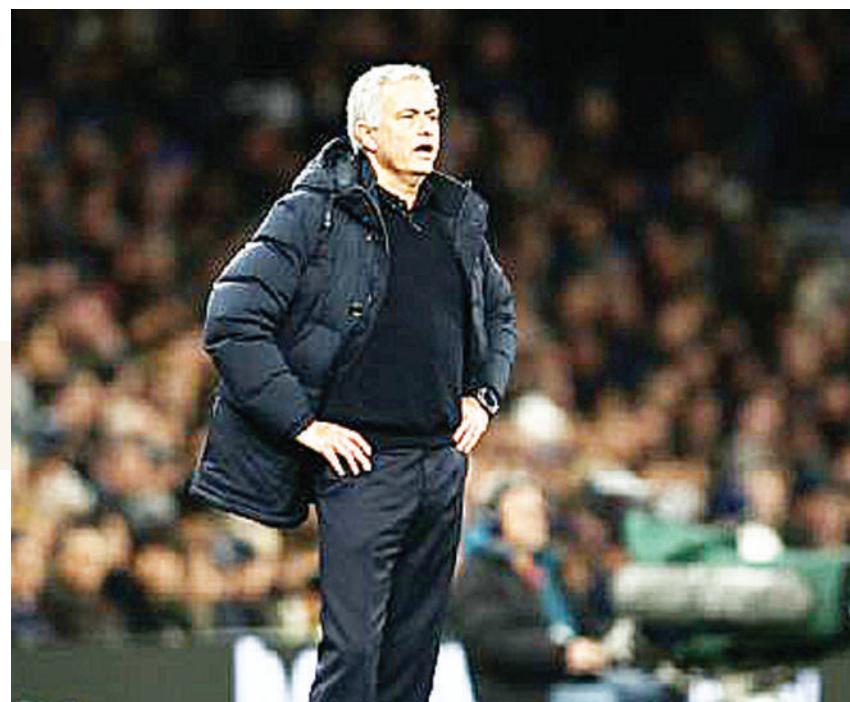
Mourinho was refreshed by the sabbatical he took after a less-than-stellar spell at Manchester United, but you sense he missed the spotlight, the daily cut and thrust with the media. Now it has got to the point where his reputation as a "born winner" needs a coat of paint. Perhaps he needs to prove that he is not yesterday's man in a Premier League era dominated by Jurgen Klopp and Pep Guardiola's attacking styles.

Mourinho would no doubt scoff at that suggestion and point to his creaking trophy cabinet, which includes Champions League wins in 2004 and 2010, plus eight league titles -- in four different countries -- among 20 pieces of silverware.

He might also remind you that his first title, in 2004-05 with Chelsea, was won with two exciting wingers in Arjen Robben and Damien Duff. He might add that his Real Madrid team scored more than 100 league goals in each of his three seasons at the Bernabeu.

But a decade-and-a-half since he enchanted us in those early days at Stamford Bridge, has the charmer become a surly dinosaur?

In the opening honeymoon weeks at Tottenham, it almost seemed as if Mourinho was trying to reinvent



Jose Mourinho has picked up good results with Tottenham, but performances have been mixed. (Agencies)

himself as a cool, urbane character, swerving controversy and even using a little diplomacy and charm; Dele Alli was an early beneficiary, for example. More recently, though, he has shown signs of reverting to type with complaints on several topics.

Results have been pretty good, with seven wins in the Premier League against four defeats and two draws. Spurs have climbed from 14th, when he took over in November, to sixth, four points off the Champions League places. Talking of which, a round-of-32 tie against RB Leipzig begins on Feb. 19.

All of which has been achieved de-

spite the absence of top scorer Harry Kane since New Year's Day and the protracted sale of Christian Eriksen to Inter. There have been other injury concerns, notably the loss of midfielder Moussa Sissoko.

So what is not to like about Mourinho's brave new world in North London? Nothing except the fact that it is hard to spot any tangible improvement when you actually watch his side play. Recent wins over Manchester City in the Premier League and Southampton in the FA Cup came in spite of being outplayed for long periods; Spurs have frequently looked laboured by a malaise that,

in fairness to their manager, crept in during the latter days of former boss Mauricio Pochettino's time in charge.

You could argue that Spurs' rapid climb up the table is more a reflection of the erratic form shown by rivals such as Chelsea and Manchester United, but fans will not care the reason if Mourinho can get them into the top four by the end of a difficult season.

Perhaps Mourinho can also deliver the trophy that eluded Pochettino by winning the FA Cup; Spurs have a tasty-looking tie at home to Norwich in the fifth round at the start of March.

But you wonder if, in the long term, Mourinho's pragmatic approach is a good fit at a club that prides itself on adventure. Think Danny Blanchflower, Cliff Jones and Jimmy Greaves and, later, Glenn Hoddle, Paul Gascoigne, David Ginola and Gareth Bale.

At Manchester United, Mourinho's teams were rarely easy on the eye, even if he did achieve a second-place finish -- what United would give for that this season -- and win the League Cup and Europa League.

Can he produce an entertaining Tottenham team? He has not done so yet. Pochettino did and reached a Champions League final. Spurs fans expect flair, goals and entertainment and they can be demanding, so Mourinho will not survive playing the boring football he often produced at Old Trafford.

In short, he is under pressure to prove he can be Jose 2.0. No one can seriously doubt that Mourinho really was a "Special One." His time at Tottenham might tell us if he still is.

Which Liverpool star deserves to be Footballer of the Year?

BY MARK OGDEN, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

THERE are two certainties between now and the end of the Premier League season: The first is that Liverpool will end a 30-year wait to be crowned champions of England and the second is that, when league-wide player of the year awards are handed out, the winner will come from Jurgen Klopp's all-conquering team.

That is not to downplay Kevin De Bruyne's contribution at Manchester City, because the Belgian international has been outstanding for Pep Guardiola's side. However, even if last season's domestic treble winners end this campaign with another three trophies -- the Carabao Cup, FA Cup and Champions League -- the best and most influential players have unquestionably plied their trade at Anfield.

It is has become a question of which Liverpool player is crowned, rather than if one of them wins, but how do you separate the contenders?

Alisson has been outstanding in goal, Virgil van Dijk has once again been a colossus at centre-half, and both full-backs, Trent Alexander-Arnold and Andy Robertson, have been, by some distance, the best in their position in England and, arguably, the Champions League.

Fabinho has become a crucial cog in Klopp's midfield; up front, Roberto Firmino has developed into one of the best centre-forwards in the game, while Sadio Mane and Mohamed Salah have scored 25 league goals between them to shoot Liverpool 22 points clear at the top of the table.

In recent weeks, captain Jordan Henderson has emerged as a leading candidate because of his increasing importance and is favourite with the bookmakers to win PFA Player of the Year, voted for by his professional peers, ahead of Mane and Van Dijk.

He is not prolific in terms of scoring or assists, but lifting the European Cup last season seems to have injected Henderson with new-found confidence and belief, after it initially appeared he would have something of an impossible job to live up to the iconic status of his predecessor Steven Gerrard.

Nobody questions the 29-year-old's credentials anymore and that is testament to the former Sunderland player's impact, particularly over the past 18 months.

Despite Henderson's impressive season, though, he is not the obvious choice for individual honours. If you take him out of the Liverpool team, his qualities will be missed, but with Fabinho, James Milner, Geor-



Trent Alexander-Arnold, Jordan Henderson and Andy Robertson are all candidates for Footballer of the Year. (Agencies)

gino Wijnaldum and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain available to Klopp, his absence is not one that could be described as critical for the Liverpool manager.

It is a different story, though, for Van Dijk, Robertson and Alexander-Arnold.

No defender has won the FWA Footballer of the Year award -- voted for by hundreds of journalists who cover England's top flight throughout the season -- since Liverpool's Steve Nicol in 1989, but Klopp's defenders have been so important that it is surely time for the baton to be

passed.

Van Dijk, who was voted 2018-19 PFA Player of the Year, has been a transformative figure for Liverpool since arriving from Southampton two years ago. He lost out to Man City's Raheem Sterling for the FWA award last season, but Van Dijk has since ensured Liverpool's previous defensive frailties have become a thing of the past.

The Dutch international's "normal" level of performance is so far above any other centre-half in the Premier League that his contribution can be overlooked or taken for

granted, but his importance would soon be realised were he to suffer a significant injury.

The same applies to Robertson, who has been a revelation at left-back since arriving from relegated Hull City in 2017. In addition to his defensive attributes, he has six league assists this season and has created nine "big chances," a metric defined by Opta as "a situation where a player should reasonably be expected to score."

Alexander-Arnold, though, has set himself apart in an impressive field. He is the best right-

back in the world and has been absolutely crucial in Liverpool's incredible season.

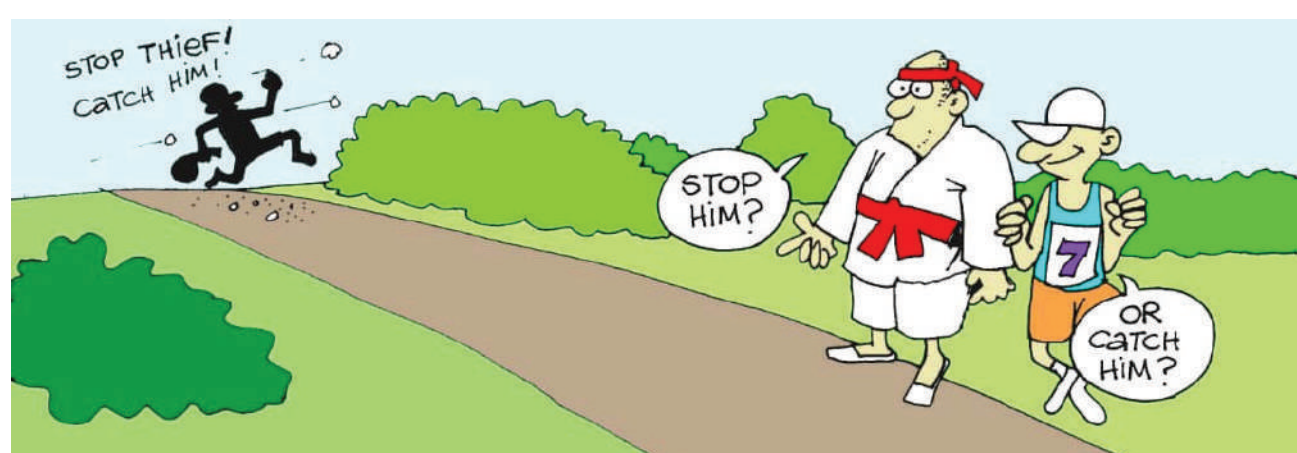
Defensively, the 21-year-old is improving all the time -- his 151 recoveries leads the league among players in his position -- and his physique ensures he has the strength and pace to hold his own against anyone, but the Liverpudlian has made his greatest impact going forward and nobody has found a solution to the threat that he poses.

Already this season, he has notched 10 assists and created 13 big chances. He has also scored twice. Alexander-Arnold's long passing into the front three allows Liverpool to rapidly turn defence into attack, while his crossing from more advanced positions is another lethal weapon in Klopp's armoury.

If you had to create a prototype of the complete footballer for the modern game, you would probably end up with Alexander-Arnold, but defenders tend to be overlooked when awards are handed out.

Henderson may yet end up with the prize, then, largely because of the momentum that has started to build through the media and from former players. Liverpool have more impressive candidates, though, and Alexander-Arnold is most deserving.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Jose Mourinho: Special One or Incredible Sulk?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 18



Morogoro Municipal Council's Cultural Officer, Sophia Kingwahi, speaks to the press in the region last weekend shortly after the municipal had presented her office's budget estimates worth 25,775,000.00/- for 2020/21 financial year. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

Mayanga regains form at Ndanda FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

VITALIS Mayanga's one goal and an assist for Ndanda FC against Mbao FC in Vodacom Premier

League clash last weekend was a timely reminder of his qualities as he seeks to once again rebuild a career in Tanzania's top-flight.

The 21-year-old forward's ability has never been in doubt, but his

commitment to a professional career has been questioned in the past at Stand United, African Lyon and KMC FC.

After a nightmarish half season with KMC FC, where he barely played and ended serving an indefinite disciplinary suspension, Mayanga hopes that is all behind him now that he is back to where he feels he belongs at Ndanda FC.

Mayanga was a December-January transfer window capture for Ndanda FC from KMC FC.

He has returned to the club he last played for last season before being lured by a good offer from the Kinondoni Municipal Council-owned side.

His return to Ndanda FC came as something of a surprise to many fans, but his mandate from the club is clear.

He has been brought in to help the team score goals. His job is to help the team go forward and win games to avoid relegation.

Having scored just 10 goals from their 20 league games, it is evident Ndanda FC's struggles stem from their blunt attack.

Head coach, Abdul Mingange, has since pinned his hopes for goals on Mayanga's goal scoring form.

He has regained the kind of form he displayed last season which saw him regularly linked with a move to one of the Vodacom Premier League's top three.

The forward scored two goals and provided another assist as Ndanda FC beat Mbao to move five points clear of the bottom-placed Singida United.

"It is good to score but I don't care how many goals I score, that is not important. It's no use I score 10 goals but the team gets relegated," he disclosed.

Last season Mayanga scored 10 goals in all competitions for the club.

He nearly single-handedly carried Ndanda FC on his shoulders as they finished at respectable ninth place.

Ndanda are next in action away to fellow relegation candidates, Singida United, on Friday in what is the definition of a relegation six-pointer.



Vitalis Mayanga

Morogoro clamps down on residential areas' festivals

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

MOROGORO Municipal Council has set up charges for people that organize festivals in residential area with a view to curbing moral decay.

The council's Cultural Officer, Sophia Kingwahi, disclosed the development in the region last weekend during the presentation of her office's budget estimates for the 2020/21 financial year.

Sophia disclosed festivals held in residential areas are charged a much higher fee, given they are associated with moral decay.

The official was responding to a question tabled by Elizeus Rwegasira, Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA)'s district's secretary, on why residential areas' festivals are charged 50,000/- per one event while people hosting festivals in halls pay 20,000/- per event.

"In 2019 events hosted in residential areas were not charged but, as there is an increase in cases of people dancing indecently in public, the Municipal Council introduced by-law on the issue," Sophia noted.

"Over five women were nabbed for dancing indecently in public in 2019, the situation forced the regional authority to come up with new solution for it," she disclosed.

She said the municipal's Culture Department works under National Arts Council of Tanzania (BASATA), which has been tasked with approving entertainment events, which take place across the country.

"Military reserves will conduct patrols tirelessly and people, who will be found misbehaving in events, will be punished as per the laws," she noted.

"This is an endless operation, please don't hesitate to inform my office of any ceremony, which has people dancing indecently, because such traits breach morals," she insisted.

Ruth John, Morogoro District Executive Secretary, who chaired the meeting, disclosed the municipal's Culture Department's budget estimates worth 25,775,000.00/-, have been given green light.

The estimates are expected to be collected from hall's registration, gate collection, live band performances, soccer matches' entry fees, live concerts, tourism activities and slot machines.

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV SAA 1

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kili Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

FIFA eager to promote women, junior soccer

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) has said it is committed to promoting junior and women football among all its member associations.

The world soccer governing body's new regulations released recently are part of Forward 2.0 program seeking to ensure that member associations do not concentrate on senior national teams at the expense of youths.

In a bid to curb the problem of overlooking youth football, FIFA has introduced tough funding regulations in which member associations will be forfeiting a good chunk of funding if they do not participate in junior competitions.

The FIFA funding for each member associations is at \$1 million per year with \$500 000 allocated to administration while another \$500 000 is for specific activities.

"Such activities include organizing men's, women's and youth competitions (two age groups for both girls and boys)," FIFA noted in its communique to member associations.

"Each competition should involve at least 10 clubs for at least 90 matches and for at least six months each year and having active junior men's and women national teams, each one participating in at least four matches per year."

Failure to fulfil the activities will lead to FIFA deducting \$50 000 from the special activities funding.

There was no immediate comments from either Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Secretary General, Wilfred Kidao, or the federation's information officer, Clifford Ndimbo, on the federation's readiness to implement the FIFA regulations as the officials' phones went unanswered.

However, the TFF current leadership seems to have put much emphasis on beach football and youth football for both men and women as there are sound and active junior national teams.

Almost all elite clubs in the country as well have female teams, which are participating in the Women Premier Lea.

The country's junior national teams, Serengeti Boys and Ngorongoro Heroes, as well as women teams of all age groups, were all active last year competing at different continental events.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

KEEP YOUR KITCHEN CLEAN -EAT OUT!

