



**National Pg 3**  
50,000 Z'baris vaccinated against Cpvind-19



**National Pg 4**  
284 poachers arrested in Ruaha park



**National Pg 5**  
Facelift of all govt buildings



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## 'Help African court, carry out decisions'

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR yesterday challenged member states of the African Court on Human and People's Rights (AfCHPR) to support it by enhancing implementation of its decisions.

Haroun Ali Suleiman (pictured), the Minister of State in the President's Office (Constitution, Legal Affairs, Public Services and Good Governance) said in a speech he delivered in behalf of President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi that available data indicates that only seven percent of the court's decisions since its inception have been fully implemented.

"As it has been revealed in the court's annual activity reports to the African Union, implementation of the decisions of the court by state parties remains low," he said at the opening of a three-day conference in Dar es Salaam, to discuss matters pertaining to the implementation and impact of AfCHPR.

The Isles leader said the court, in marking 15 years since it became operational, it has during this period developed a remarkable



**Let us make sure that we implement the decisions accordingly knowing that a court whose decisions are not implemented loses credibility and legitimacy**

jurisprudence in respect of rights protected in the African Union charter.

Countries will contribute towards the success of the African court by fully implementing its decisions, the speech underlined, asserting that the African court is "our own institution. We created it, and it is the interest of all of us as Africans to make sure that this institution doesn't fail to meet its objectives."

Member states attending the conference ought to learn from one another on best practices for engagement with the court and particularly in relation to implementing decisions of the court, he stated.

"Let us make sure that we implement the decisions accordingly knowing that a court whose decisions are not implemented loses credibility and legitimacy," the Isles leader cautioned.

AfCHPR president Iman Aboud said the conference aims to discuss and come up with solutions for improving the conduct of

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# Govt lands 500,000 Sinopharm vaccines



President Samia Suluhu Hassan holds talks in Glasgow, Scotland, yesterday with the British Prime Minister's Special envoy for trade between Tanzania and the UK, Lord Walney. The president is in Glasgow for the 26th United Nations Climate Change conference of the Parties - COP26 (Oct 31 - Nov 12). Photo: State House

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIANS have responded positively to the vaccination campaign, the government said yesterday as it received another consignment of 500,000 doses of Sinopharm vaccines from China.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, the minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, said shortly after receiving the vaccines at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam yesterday, that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine from the US was finished and 88,546 doses of the recently distributed Sinopharm vaccine have been given to people across the country.

Dr Gwajima said the Sinopharm vaccine from China came through bilateral channels via the strong relations between the two countries.

"We have received 500,000 doses from China through bilateral channels. More doses will arrive through this channel to complement our efforts to vaccinate 60 percent of Tanzanians in the next few months," she said.

The distribution of Sinopharm was now underway after the completion of the Johnson

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## USAID grants \$30.5m to uplift wildlife corridors

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

A \$30.5m five-year conservation project is being launched by the government in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to address bottlenecks to wildlife movement and long-term preservation of biodiversity in the country.

Kate Somvongsiri, USAID Tanzania mission director said that the project, known as 'USAID Preserve Natural Resources' is implemented by Research Triangle Institute International, a non-profit research and global development institute.



**...approximately 25 percent of the country's foreign income comes directly from tourism - the majority of which is wildlife-based**

He said that at the current rate of species decline, Tanzania is on track to lose a significant amount of tourism, which would have major economic ramifications.

"Although we cannot reverse previous damage to wildlife and natural resources, moving forward, the project will foster sustainable management at the community and national level," the director affirmed.

In the spirit of the on-going United Nations climate change conference, dubbed COP 26, climate change is not just an existential threat, but is currently

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## Activists condemn desecration

Those with albinism live in fear

By Guardian Reporter

HUMAN rights activists have condemned the desecration and theft of remains of a man with albinism in Tanga region, urging swift legal actions as it signals the return of barbaric incidents against people with such conditions.

In a joint statement yesterday, the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) and the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) said that



the desecration was a criminal act, underscoring the need for the public authorities to take serious legal actions against the perpetrators.

"We understand the matter has been reported to the police, but we do not want this to end up with investigations. The police force must take further steps against all those responsible and make sure they are taken to court," the NGOs emphasised.

Anna Henga (pictured), lead panelist and LHRC executive director said such incidents had gone down in previous

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## 'Help African court, carry out decisions'

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duties at the court and carrying out its decisions. Those present include high ranking judicial branch officials from various African countries.

The court's registrar Dr Robert Ewo said last week that of the 120 decisions made by the court since its inception, less than 10 percent are fully implemented, a situation posing a great challenge of the court.

"Over the past 15 years, the court has achieved quite a lot. We have received over 330 cases and

delivered decisions in over 120 cases, but challenges remain in implementing those decisions by the member states," he said.

The court is there to help African countries to meet their commitments on human rights, he declared, stating that the court made decisions on the rights to freedom of expression, rights of indigenous peoples and the right to participate in government, among other issues, that help to improve the socioeconomic and political landscape of a country, he added.

## Court reschedules judgment ordering Kenyatta to appoint six rejected judges

NAIROBI

KENYA'S Court of Appeal has temporarily suspended an order directing President Uhuru Kenyatta to in two weeks swear in six judges he had rejected.

Justices Roselyn Nambuye, Wanjiru Karanja and Imaana Laibuta have granted the orders pending a ruling on November 19.

President Kenyatta had rushed to the Appellate Court last week to challenge the decision of the High Court.

He indicated that he had no intention to appoint the six judges as ordered by the lower court the week before.

Kenyatta, in his court papers, said the judgment, if implemented, is likely to put his office and that of Chief Justice Martha Koome at a conflict.

As a result, the President wanted the Court of Appeal to suspend implementation of the order pending determination of his appeal in which he is arguing that the High Court judgement is unconstitutional.

In the four-page draft memorandum of appeal filed last Wednesday, the President says the orders issued by the three-judge bench comprising of Justices George Dulu, James Wakiaga and William Musyoka are based on foreign precedents.

"The judgment is clearly an attempt to rewrite or otherwise amend the Constitution in a manner not contemplated under Chapter 16 of the Constitution," says the President through lawyer Waweru Gatonye.

AGENCIES



Laxmi Bhawani (2nd-L) of UNICEF's Zanzibar office pictured in Zanzibar yesterday presenting to Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi a copy of a UNICEF journal with a special report calling for the enhancement of efforts to fight violence and humiliation targeting women and children in the Isles. Photo: Zanzibar State House

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and Johnson vaccine last month, she stated, noting that up to October 31, a total of 88,546 people had taken the Sinopharm vaccine, equivalent to 8.3 percent of the Sinopharm doses received.

Dr Gwajima said since Sinopharm is administered in two shots, available doses will be used by 250,000 people, as those taking the first dose need to make sure they complete the second dose.

"There has been great response from the public in the uptake of the vaccines. Tanzanians who have not received the jabs should do

## Govt lands 500,000 Sinopharm vaccines

so to protect themselves against Covid-19," she stated.

Regions which have recorded good progress in vaccine roll out are Coast, Ruvuma, Mbeya, Mtwara, Dodoma, Kagera, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Mara and Songwe, she explained, urging other stakeholders to join government anti-pandemic efforts, including boosting the supply of vaccines to make people safe.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Mingjian said at the occasion that the vaccines delivery was a

significant gesture on the part of the Chinese government to support Tanzania to fight the pandemic. The delivery represents China's goodwill in supporting Tanzania towards curbing the pandemic, the envoy underlined.

"I'm glad to see Chinese vaccines play an important role in assisting Tanzania to control the spread of the virus and protect the health of the Tanzanian people," she said, hailing the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan for enabling Tanzania to achieve remarkable

progress in the prevention and control of Covid-19.

"China is ready to provide more support to Tanzania's anti-pandemic efforts," she declared, emphasising that China was willing to support the country's economic and social development as best as it can.

On October 8, Tanzania received 1,065,600 doses of the Sinopharm vaccine from China under the COVAX mechanism, meant to boost Africa's vaccination campaign against COVID-19.



The US Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Donald Wright (R), has a word with Zanzibar Education and Vocational Training minister Simai Mohammed Said in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## USAID grants US\$30.5m uplift wildlife corridors

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putting in peril development gains and exacerbating global inequities; increasing water and food scarcity, she stated.

The need for humanitarian assistance and displacement was contributing to conflict, she said, underlining that the world faces a profound climate crisis, thus activities like the conserving natural resources project are essential in preventing worst-case climate scenarios.

Over the past few decades, Tanzania has lost at least one-third of its plant ecosystems and seen a tripling of its number of threatened species. "In addition, approximately 25 percent of the country's foreign income comes directly from tourism—the majority of which is wildlife-based," the director intoned.

At the current rate of species decline, the impact on economic stability is expected to be significant, but over the next five years, the

USAID project in tandem with the government, local communities and the private sector shall address major challenges in wildlife corridor conservation, she said.

The project is geared to create an environment where opening up movement corridors improves the quality of life for not only wildlife, but also the surrounding communities, as achieving its objectives needs that the project strengthens institutional capacity of public and private sector stakeholders.

By enhancing private sector engagement, the USAID project will strengthen regulatory action and foster an enabling environment for natural resource management, she stated.

To leverage its community impact, the project seeks to engage and empower women and youth at the local level, encouraging them to participate in decision making processes, assume leadership roles and take ownership of surrounding natural resources, the director added.

## Activists condemn desecration

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years due to collaboration between the government and different stakeholders, including the media.

Such incidents violate human rights and devalue human dignity as stipulated in the country's constitution and various international protocols on human rights, she emphasised, noting that the increase noticed in such occurrences has resulted in people with albinism living in fear compared to previous years.

The desecrated remains were identified to be those of Heri Kijangwa (45), who died from skin cancer on June 4 last year and was buried at Tanda village in Lushoto District three days later.

It is reported that the perpetrators dug up Kijangwa's grave on Tuesday last week and stole the coffin containing his remains.

The police in the region have arrested three people, members of the same family, in connection with the incident.

The police effort is chiefly a follow-up on a statement released in Dar es Salaam on Friday by 'Under the Same Sun' (UTSS), an activist organization for people with albinism, with a copy relayed to The Guardian.

The deceased was a laboratory technician at the Temeke Referral Hospital in Dar es Salaam and was also completing his Master's studies in public health at the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, being among beneficiaries of an education programme sponsored by UTSS, the statement indicated.

NAIROBI-BASED Buruburu Girls High School has been closed indefinitely.

The closure follows a school fire that broke out in one of the dorms on Sunday evening.

The school's board of management made the decision after a meeting with some parents on yesterday.

The board chairman, Lazarus Opicho, said the school will allow students to go home for a few days as investigations into the fire commence.

"Parents will be allowed to go home with the girls and the date when they are supposed to come back will be communicated. Any girl who will be found to be involved in the fire incident will face the law," he said.

For those whose parents will not make it, they will remain in school under tight

## Girls school closed after dorm fire

security.

As at yesterday morning, 59 students were receiving treatment at Metropolitan hospital, the facility said.

The learners are being treated for smoke inhalation.

According to a statement from the hospital, thirty others who were treated have been discharged.

The fire is reported to have nearly reduced one of the 45 cubicles that houses students from different classes to ashes.

According to the school's management, the fire started at a cubicle in Kingdom dormitory with reports that there were prior warnings from unnamed students that they will torch the school.

Buruburu sub-county police boss, Francis Kamau, confirmed that the fire started around 5pm and was later contained.

"We are yet to establish the cause of the fire but we have commenced investigations into the incident," he said.

Soon after the fire broke out, several parents arrived at the school and demanded to be allowed to take their children home, leading to a standoff.

Videos of the Kingdom Dormitory which was on fire were shared online. They showed several students in uniform jumping out of the burning building.

Agencies



# Unplanned settlements near rivers, and valleys a big challenge - NEMC

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has said the problem of unplanned settlement near rivers and valleys in major cities is growing fast, a situation which needs immediate action.

NEMC Director, Dr Samuel Gwamaka made the statement when speaking during the opening of a one day meeting between the council and ward executive officers from Dar es Salaam Region. The familiarisation meeting was also aimed to inform the officers on the 2004 environmental law and its regulations.

"The construction of houses in condemned areas has been a threat to many lives especially during heavy rains which cause floods sometimes in residential areas," he emphasized.

Gwamaka mentioned another problem as waste management whereby people use river valleys as

dumping sites.

"Most of us are aware of this problem, most of the valleys are used as dumping sites which is very wrong because those waste move to the ocean and are eaten by fish and eventually we eat those fish with some poison," he explained.

He stressed that sand business is also a critical problem in various valleys which cause erosion and flood during heavy rains; he therefore tasked the ward executive officers to address the problem and take actions against those dealing in that business.

The director said there are escalating unplanned construction of small industries in residential areas including bars, entertainment buildings and worshiping houses which cause noise pollution and raise many complaints from people living in the surrounding.

Meanwhile, the Regional Administrative Officer Hassan Rugwa commended efforts by

NEMC to organise such training which he said is very crucial to the people who always deal with small and big industries in their respective areas.

He underscored that environmental conservation should be the task of everyone to ensure a healthy environment passed down to the next generation.

"This environment we are enjoying today is the result of environmental conservation by our elders, don't think that it just happened, it is because our ancestors did something to protect the environment from pollution," he highlighted.

Rugwa noted that ward executive officers are important stakeholders in development because if they fail to be strong in their areas the government projects also fail.

"There is a saying that if you need to go fast, go alone but if you need to reach far go with others," he said while commending NEMC for deciding to move with others.



Jenista Mhagama (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Employment and People with Disabilities) and Dr Khalid Salum Mohamed (L), Minister of State in the Zanzibar Second Vice President's Office (Policy, Coordination and House of Representatives), pictured in Dodoma city yesterday launching a special emblem of celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of Tanganyika's Independence. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

## Govt launches commemoration of sixtieth Independence anniversary

THE government has officially launched the emblem for the country's 60th independence anniversary celebrations to be held on December 9th this year at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Likewise, celebrations activities kicked off yesterday by the Prime Minister's Office addressing journalists regarding the entire conduct of the celebrations nationally.

Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Coordination, Labour, Youth and Employment) said during the launch that due to the anniversary's importance this year, the government has decided to allot activities to be conducted in the country's various areas.

"The aim is to make Tanzanians reflect and look back from where we came from especially in regard to achievements attained that clearly show 60 years' development for our country and its people," she said.

She further said the celebrations' activities will involve ministries and all government institutions "to explain steps that each sector had made since independence, where we are now and where we are heading."

"The schedule for ministers' meetings with the media on the country's history since independence will begin today November 2 under coordination of the Ministry of Information in collaboration with the relative sectors," asserted the minister.

Mhagama further said there will be special interviews between media organs and government officials, both in service and those retired, important personalities, the private sector and private individuals.

She said the celebrations will also involve essay competition for primary and secondary schools' students, sports like football, volley

ball, basketball, athletics and cycling. Mhagama also said there will also be arts competitions and traditional ngomas, zonal and national forums, youth exhibitions that show innovation and skill in various sectors as well as national trade exhibition that will be preceded by investors' forum.

She said these events will be conducted in all regions, both in the mainland and the isles beginning today to November 30 this year.

She said on December 2 this year an official launch of the celebrations' Apex Week will be conducted, adding that "the launch will take place at Dodoma and the official guest will be the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa."

She further said there will also be the unveiling of various development projects by national leaders including those from the three pillars of state.

## Majaliwa orders facelift for all govt buildings

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed refurbishment to be done to all government buildings and other public institutions including those owned by National Housing Corporation (NHC), failure of which they should be sold to other people for their better upkeep. He has also tasked members of parliament to deal with the issue of Value Added Tax (VAT) that has made NHC built houses to be sold at higher prices, saying the issue was a legal one whose law was enacted by the Parliament.

Majaliwa made the remarks yesterday as he was laying the foundation stone for the NHC project to build 1,000 housing units at Iyumbu Ward in Chamwino District.

"Ministries and various government institutions should have in place plans to refurbish aged staff quarters, you NHC have many houses countrywide, here in

Dodoma, apart from the 1,000 to be built, there are also old ones," he said.

He added: "If you cannot take care of them, sell them so that new owners can renovate them so that you remain with a few houses that you can be able to take care of."

He also called on NHC to be more creative in regard to quality standards of houses to make them more attractive as well as abide by the needs of people with disabilities.

"Furniture making workshops should also be improved by providing them with more capital, and the carpentry workshops for making doors and windows which you have now established should also be strengthened," he added.

He stressed for the expansion of office and staff houses projects countrywide saying every department should satisfy itself in having adequate buildings for service delivery.

He said the Dodoma NHC housing project has enabled the government

to attain its targets in providing employment to Tanzanians whereas 800 jobs have been created.

For his part, William Lukuvi, the Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development said houses at Iyumbu Housing Estate were for sale while those at Chamwino were for renting, but one individual will not be allowed to purchase all the 300 units to rent to others.

NHC Board Chairperson, Dr Sophia Kongela said in order to alleviate the housing shortage, the board has embarked on making sure NHC enhances its financial capacity to build houses for people in the middle and low income groups, adding that the big snag was VAT, as it increases the prices for its houses.

Earlier, NHC Managing Director Dr Maulidi Banyani said the Iyumbu Housing project will cost 71bn/- upon completion adding that the first phase will involve 404 units to cost 21.4bn/- to be completed by December this year.



## Request for Proposals

RFQ Title: Printing Services  
RFQ Number: 2022-PACT/10/03  
Date of Solicitation: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021  
Closing Date and Time: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)  
Questions and Clarifications: Due by 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project:

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and the government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

The Adolescents and Children, HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) project is a five-year, USAID-funded global project to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. ACHIEVE is implemented by Pact, in partnership with Jhpiego, Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WIHER. The overall goal is to improve access to HIV-inclusive services to improve the health and well-being of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). The project is working to support and strengthen the capacity of the national and community-level social services workforce, systems, and structures to ensure quality services for OVC, at-risk AGYW, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) at the National and across all regions of Tanzania. The project began in April 2019 and has initiated activities in seven countries from USAID country mission buy-ins: Tanzania is one of the seven countries implementing ACHIEVE and got its buy-in in June 2020.

### Overall Objective:

Pact Tanzania is seeking a capable vendor for the printing of various tools and guidelines for the governmental and stakeholder's usage. The overall objective of this assignment is to produce 208,782 copies of various Tools and Guidelines as per below table of requirement.

### A. Requirement/ Scope of Work

#### Description of Items

S/N	LOT Number	Document Name	Specification	Quantity
1	LOT 1	Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence and HIV Curriculum	A4: 66 pages, Cover Paper Type; Cover Paper weight; 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss; Inner Paper Weight: 115gsm.	975
2	LOT 2	CBIM Coaches card (1 per coach)	Non-tearable paper, bound with spiral ring, full colored, custom paper size (8 by 17 cm)	457
3		Furaha Family Handbook	A4; 100 Cover Paper Type: Art Gloss: Cover Paper weight: 300 gsm; Inner Paper: Art Gloss; Inner Paper weight; 115gsm.	6,000
4	LOT 3	Furaha Pre assessment forms (adolescent girls and caregivers)	A4: 5 Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	12,000
5		Furaha Post Assessment forms (adolescent girls and caregivers)	A4: 5 Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	12,000
6		HURU Teachers Manual	A4: 78 pages Cover Paper Type; Cover Paper weight; 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss; Inner Paper Weight: 115gsm.	975
7		HURU Lesson Book	A4: 122 pages, Cover Paper Type: Art Gloss; Cover Paper Weight: 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss: Inner Paper Weight; 115gsm.	975
8	LOT 4	HURU Pre assessment forms	A4: 5 pages, Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	87,700
9		HURU Post Assessment forms	A4: 5 pages, Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	87,700

### Scope of Work

The selected vendor (s) will have the following scope.

- Vendor to visit Pact office to see the sample of the tools to be procured as per the quality of the materials needed. This applies only for LOT 2: CBIM Coaching Cards.
- Pact will review the samples submitted by the vendors with reference to the samples Pact shared with the vendors and select the best vendor.
- Ensure a good arrangement of the document(s) before mass printing. This includes -
  - Page set up.
  - Typesetting as per the government standard format (Font style, size, line spacing, etc)
  - Align, update, and format table of content against document content and PlanRep System.
  - Align, update, and format a list of tables of figures.
  - Insertion of appropriate logos and back page.
- Obtain approval of the final arranged document(s) from Pact Tanzania in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania (if need be) upon submission of a printed sample of the guide.
- Deliver the Printed tools or guidelines to established destinations/delivery points as per list of distribution shared by Pact Tanzania.
- A vendor should communicate any substantial alteration of the document to ACHIEVE -technical team through the Pact-Procurement team.

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Various Printing Services" to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) before Friday, 12th November 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Printing Services" before COB Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### B. Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

### C. Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:

- Draft inception report detailing methodology & timelines for providing printing services.
- Quote, valid for at least 90 days
- Current company profile.
- Delivery time (estimated work completion timeline after receiving an order).
- Quality of the work (measured on the sample submitted upon request).
- Copies of registration, certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry relevant license or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of client served.
- Current Audited financial statement.
- Payment terms.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by 16th November 2021, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "Tender for Various Printing Services."

#### Office Address:

The Tender Committee  
Pact Tanzania  
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria  
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

PACT will open all bids on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 11.30 am** in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Quotes must be in Tanzania shillings and include taxes and distribution costs separately:

- Each LOT should have its separate quotation.
- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted
- All quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 90 days following the submission as mentioned above.



## TMDA cautions healthcare providers about products

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

Tanzania and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) has cautioned health-care providers to report suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs) seen or reported to them by affected consumers of medical products, including the COVID-19 vaccine which will help them take appropriate actions.

According to TMDA, statistics show that it receives fewer reports on ADRs at an average of 6,000 to 8,000 reports per year, so the awareness of reporting directly the effects of medical products to healthcare professionals is still limited, but also information received is of poor quality and lacks some of the useful information.

TMDA acting director general Dr Yonah Mwalwisi made the remarks recently here, when speaking on behalf of the director general Adam Fimbo at the inauguration of the vigilance technical committee (VTC) for medicines, vaccines, medical devices and diagnostics.

"The amount of information available to us is small compared to the number recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) of collecting at least 200 reports to inhabitants, one million per year," he mentioned, while explaining that with a population of 60 million in the country, they are required to collect 12,000 reports annually in order to provide scientific evidence on the safety of medical products and to take appropriate action.

Dr Mwalwisi stressed that access to detailed information about ADRs of the medical products and the vaccine helps the authorities to make various decisions including removing the product from the market, suspending or changing the use purposely to protect community health.

"TMDA Act, Cap 219 mandates the authority to establish a vigilance technical committee to provide independent advice on all matters

related to vigilance of the regulated products," he insisted.

"This new committee with 16 members including specialists in the pharmaceutical and medical equipment industry who are professors and specialist doctors, will be very helpful in ensuring systems of Drug safety monitoring, market coverage is improving," he said.

According to the Project Director of USAID Medicines, Technical and Pharmaceutical Services programme (MTaPs) Dr Edgar Lusaya they have provided financial support for the preparation and conduct of five-day training for VTC committee members so that they can monitor ADRs.

"This committee is challenged to work on a comprehensive drug safety consultation and especially at this time when we are talking about the Covid-19 vaccine, where there are challenges in reporting the after effects to our stakeholders, we must make sure we address them," he urged, adding that USAID has been able to provide guidance on how to work on medical and medical equipment committees.

Paediatricians from the Ministry of Health Furaha Kyesi mentioned that reporting of ADRs rely on the patients' knowledge and health-care providers' reporting. The reports of ADRs and Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) amongst children have been few, so there is a serious need for health workers to educate the public on direct reporting on the matter.

"There is a knowledge gap in sensitizing the public on what to do when they are harmed after receiving medication or vaccinations. If a parent sees a child experiencing side effects, including crying for more than 48 hours or if he/she develops convulsions after the vaccination, he/she should return to the health facility to report, so as to get assistance," she advised.



Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) executive director Judith Karangi (L) with African Continental Free Trade Area secretary general Wamkele Mene during a recent visit to the AfCFTA offices in Ghana. Among other things, they exchanged views on how to sensitise entrepreneurs on the importance of utilising the continental market. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

A TOTAL of 284 poachers were nabbed between 2019 and 2020 in Ruaha National Park.

The poachers had invaded the Park and established settlements while engaging themselves in various human activities including hunting and fishing.

Conservation officer from the Tourism and security Division at Ruaha National Park, Jackson Laizer told this paper that the number of the arrested poachers followed concerted efforts by anti-poaching personnel aimed at protecting the rare national resources and the government revenue.

He said the poaching activities

## 284 poachers arrested in Ruaha National Park

they were fighting includes invasion of the Park areas, hunting of small game including deer, zebras as well as introduction of livestock, and fishing. "Through our defence and security department here in the Park, game wardens make frequent patrols on foot, aircraft and road vehicles in all Park areas.

"Also through our good neighbourliness department, we provide education to the people in

the surrounding areas on the effects of poaching in the Park and the country in general," he said.

He added that in 2020/21 period, a total of 230 poachers were nabbed in the park and dealt with according to the laws.

He said poaching has greatly contributed to the habit of wildlife shifting about quite so often thereby making difficult for tourists to view the wildlife, thereby reducing the

numbers of tourists visiting the park.

For his part, Jacob Kasiri, information officer from Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) for the southern zone said the southern tourist circuit was bestowed with many various tourist attractions, and the government was continuing to improve roads and other infrastructures, and other services to attract more tourists and investors in tourism.

## Ewura to act tough on unlicensed fuel traders

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

ENERGY, and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) expects to conduct a crackdown to identify all unlicensed traders in kerosene, diesel and petrol aimed at control fire incidents in various areas.

EWURA Lake zone manager, George Mhina made the remarks here yesterday at a task force meeting involving energy stakeholders and Kahama Municipal Council officials in Shinyanga Region.

The stakeholders met to discuss how best to solve the existing complaints in the oil and gas sectors

raised by some people.

He said Lake Zone regions were leading in fire incidents in houses due to unauthorised storage of gas and diesel in residential areas.

"We shall continue to hunt for these people in Shinyanga and Geita regions to nab all unlicensed fuel traders who sell the fuel in water bottles in their houses or shops.

"Selling the fuel without following procedures was against EWURA's directives and called on such people to surrender themselves before the crackdown begins," said Mhina.

"Fuel is a dangerous liquid that is stored in tanks buried in the ground,

but some small traders sell it in water bottles displaying them to the open sun the practice that can cause fire.

He said EWURA licences fuel station owners after satisfying legal conditions, and not anyone else.

Representative of EWURA Director General Wilfred Edwin said as for now there is a procedure that requires owners of fuel stations in urban areas to make sure they also put up other stations in rural areas to control unlicensed fuel dealers.

He added that marking kerosene, diesel and gas before entering the market has minimised adulteration of the fuels.



Members of REGROW project's executive committee tour Ruaha Game Reserve at the weekend. The thrust of the project is on enhancing the management of protected areas, promoting nature-based tourism in southern Tanzania and contributing to the diversification of livelihoods in selected communities. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

### THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



#### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licences under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicants: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS / TRUSTEES & NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Ushindi Imara Limited (Mkombozi FM)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Mrashani Edgard Thadeo (Tanzanian) Sarah Charles Mwalongo (Tanzanian)	60 40
2.	Registered Trustees of House of Prayer Shield of Faith Christian Fellowship Church (Mamlaka Radio FM)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Mulilege Mkombo Myondi (Tanzanian) Greener Sakajinga Pulingi (Tanzanian) Justin Dawson Materu (Tanzanian) Paul Privatus Mwashimanga (Tanzanian) Anna Lous Alphonse (Tanzanian) Matilda Frank Mshanga (Tanzanian) Eddie Benson Mwamfupe (Tanzanian)	Not Applicable
3.	Engeju Media Group Limited (Healing FM)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Joseph Aminiel Lembae (Tanzanian) Obedi Leskari Melishoki (Tanzanian) Unsubscribed shares	75 5 20
4.	Burigi Media Limited (Burigi FM Radio)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Ezra John Chiwelesa (Tanzanian) Baraka Erasto Mwizagi (Tanzanian) Startech Company Limited (Tanzanian)	40 10 50
5.	Ayoma Company Limited (Ayoma FM)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Collins Thobias Otto (Tanzanian) Beatrice Kemilembe Mshumbusi (Tanzanian)	50 50
6.	Villaone Media Company Limited (Villa FM)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Nelson Shadrack Kinyele (Tanzanian) Yusta Fredy Kinyele (Tanzanian)	50 50
7.	Kimofe Tanzania Limited (Manjama FM Radio)	Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio)	Jumanne Kiangio Shauri (Tanzanian) Simon Frank Lupatu (Tanzanian)	95 5

Pursuant to Section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of The Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the applications.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General  
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority  
P. O Bo 474  
14414 DAR ES SALAAM  
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2  
Fax: +255 22 2412009  
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz



# Unplanned settlements near rivers, and valleys a big challenge - NEMC

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has said the problem of unplanned settlement near rivers and valleys in major cities is growing fast, a situation which needs immediate action.

NEMC Director, Dr Samuel Gwamaka made the statement when speaking during the opening of a one day meeting between the council and ward executive officers from Dar es Salaam Region. The familiarisation meeting was also aimed to inform the officers on the 2004 environmental law and its regulations.

"The construction of houses in condemned areas has been a threat to many lives especially during heavy rains which cause floods sometimes in residential areas," he emphasized.

Gwamaka mentioned another problem as waste management whereby people use river valleys as

dumping sites.

"Most of us are aware of this problem, most of the valleys are used as dumping sites which is very wrong because those waste move to the ocean and are eaten by fish and eventually we eat those fish with some poison," he explained.

He stressed that sand business is also a critical problem in various valleys which cause erosion and flood during heavy rains; he therefore tasked the ward executive officers to address the problem and take actions against those dealing in that business.

The director said there are escalating unplanned construction of small industries in residential areas including bars, entertainment buildings and worshiping houses which cause noise pollution and raise many complaints from people living in the surrounding.

Meanwhile, the Regional Administrative Officer Hassan Rugwa commended efforts by

NEMC to organise such training which he said is very crucial to the people who always deal with small and big industries in their respective areas.

He underscored that environmental conservation should be the task of everyone to ensure a healthy environment passed down to the next generation.

"This environment we are enjoying today is the result of environmental conservation by our elders, don't think that it just happened, it is because our ancestors did something to protect the environment from pollution," he highlighted.

Rugwa noted that ward executive officers are important stakeholders in development because if they fail to be strong in their areas the government projects also fail.

"There is a saying that if you need to go fast, go alone but if you need to reach far go with others," he said while commending NEMC for deciding to move with others.



Jenista Mhagama (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Employment and People with Disabilities) and Dr Khalid Salum Mohamed (L), Minister of State in the Zanzibar Second Vice President's Office (Policy, Coordination and House of Representatives), pictured in Dodoma city yesterday launching a special emblem of celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of Tanganyika's Independence. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

## Govt launches commemoration of sixtieth Independence anniversary

THE government has officially launched the emblem for the country's 60th independence anniversary celebrations to be held on December 9th this year at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Likewise, celebrations activities kicked off yesterday by the Prime Minister's Office addressing journalists regarding the entire conduct of the celebrations nationally.

Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Coordination, Labour, Youth and Employment) said during the launch that due to the anniversary's importance this year, the government has decided to allot activities to be conducted in the country's various areas.

"The aim is to make Tanzanians reflect and look back from where we came from especially in regard to achievements attained that clearly show 60 years' development for our country and its people," she said.

She further said the celebrations' activities will involve ministries and all government institutions "to explain steps that each sector had made since independence, where we are now and where we are heading."

"The schedule for ministers' meetings with the media on the country's history since independence will begin today November 2 under coordination of the Ministry of Information in collaboration with the relative sectors," asserted the minister.

Mhagama further said there will be special interviews between media organs and government officials, both in service and those retired, important personalities, the private sector and private individuals.

She said the celebrations will also involve essay competition for primary and secondary schools' students, sports like football, volley

ball, basketball, athletics and cycling. Mhagama also said there will also be arts competitions and traditional ngomas, zonal and national forums, youth exhibitions that show innovation and skill in various sectors as well as national trade exhibition that will be preceded by investors' forum.

She said these events will be conducted in all regions, both in the mainland and the isles beginning today to November 30 this year.

She said on December 2 this year an official launch of the celebrations' Apex Week will be conducted, adding that "the launch will take place at Dodoma and the official guest will be the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa."

She further said there will also be the unveiling of various development projects by national leaders including those from the three pillars of state.

## Majaliwa orders facelift for all govt buildings

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed refurbishment to be done to all government buildings and other public institutions including those owned by National Housing Corporation (NHC), failure of which they should be sold to other people for their better upkeep. He has also tasked members of parliament to deal with the issue of Value Added Tax (VAT) that has made NHC built houses to be sold at higher prices, saying the issue was a legal one whose law was enacted by the Parliament.

Majaliwa made the remarks yesterday as he was laying the foundation stone for the NHC project to build 1,000 housing units at Iyumbu Ward in Chamwino District.

"Ministries and various government institutions should have in place plans to refurbish aged staff quarters, you NHC have many houses countrywide, here in

Dodoma, apart from the 1,000 to be built, there are also old ones," he said.

He added: "If you cannot take care of them, sell them so that new owners can renovate them so that you remain with a few houses that you can be able to take care of."

He also called on NHC to be more creative in regard to quality standards of houses to make them more attractive as well as abide by the needs of people with disabilities.

"Furniture making workshops should also be improved by providing them with more capital, and the carpentry workshops for making doors and windows which you have now established should also be strengthened," he added.

He stressed for the expansion of office and staff houses projects countrywide saying every department should satisfy itself in having adequate buildings for service delivery.

He said the Dodoma NHC housing project has enabled the government

to attain its targets in providing employment to Tanzanians whereas 800 jobs have been created.

For his part, William Lukuvi, the Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development said houses at Iyumbu Housing Estate were for sale while those at Chamwino were for renting, but one individual will not be allowed to purchase all the 300 units to rent to others.

NHC Board Chairperson, Dr Sophia Kongela said in order to alleviate the housing shortage, the board has embarked on making sure NHC enhances its financial capacity to build houses for people in the middle and low income groups, adding that the big snag was VAT, as it increases the prices for its houses.

Earlier, NHC Managing Director Dr Maulidi Banyani said the Iyumbu Housing project will cost 71bn/- upon completion adding that the first phase will involve 404 units to cost 21.4bn/- to be completed by December this year.



# Request for Proposals

RFQ Title: Printing Services  
RFQ Number: 2022-PACT/10/03  
Date of Solicitation: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021  
Closing Date and Time: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)  
Questions and Clarifications: Due by 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project:

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and the government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

The Adolescents and Children, HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) project is a five-year, USAID-funded global project to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. ACHIEVE is implemented by Pact, in partnership with Jhpiego, Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WIHER. The overall goal is to improve access to HIV-inclusive services to improve the health and well-being of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). The project is working to support and strengthen the capacity of the national and community-level social services workforce, systems, and structures to ensure quality services for OVC, at-risk AGYW, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) at the National and across all regions of Tanzania. The project began in April 2019 and has initiated activities in seven countries from USAID country mission buy-ins: Tanzania is one of the seven countries implementing ACHIEVE and got its buy-in in June 2020.

### Overall Objective:

Pact Tanzania is seeking a capable vendor for the printing of various tools and guidelines for the governmental and stakeholder's usage. The overall objective of this assignment is to produce 208,782 copies of various Tools and Guidelines as per below table of requirement.

### A. Requirement/ Scope of Work

#### Description of Items

S/N	LOT Number	Document Name	Specification	Quantity
1	LOT 1	Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence and HIV Curriculum	A4: 66 pages, Cover Paper Type; Cover Paper weight; 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss; Inner Paper Weight: 115gsm.	975
2	LOT 2	CBIM Coaches card (1 per coach)	Non-tearable paper, bound with spiral ring, full colored, custom paper size (8 by 17 cm)	457
3		Furaha Family Handbook	A4; 100 Cover Paper Type: Art Gloss: Cover Paper weight: 300 gsm; Inner Paper: Art Gloss; Inner Paper weight; 115gsm.	6,000
4	LOT 3	Furaha Pre assessment forms (adolescent girls and caregivers)	A4: 5 Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	12,000
5		Furaha Post Assessment forms (adolescent girls and caregivers)	A4: 5 Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	12,000
6		HURU Teachers Manual	A4: 78 pages Cover Paper Type; Cover Paper weight; 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss; Inner Paper Weight: 115gsm.	975
7		HURU Lesson Book	A4: 122 pages, Cover Paper Type: Art Gloss; Cover Paper Weight: 250 gsm; Inner Paper; Art Gloss: Inner Paper Weight; 115gsm.	975
8	LOT 4	HURU Pre assessment forms	A4: 5 pages, Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	87,700
9		HURU Post Assessment forms	A4: 5 pages, Cover Paper Type Bond; Cover Paper Weight; 80 gsm; Print options; Both sides; Inner Paper: Bond: Inner Paper weight 80gsm: Inner Print options: Both sides:	87,700

### Scope of Work

The selected vendor (s) will have the following scope.

- Vendor to visit Pact office to see the sample of the tools to be procured as per the quality of the materials needed. This applies only for LOT 2: CBIM Coaching Cards.
- Pact will review the samples submitted by the vendors with reference to the samples Pact shared with the vendors and select the best vendor.
- Ensure a good arrangement of the document(s) before mass printing. This includes -
  - Page set up.
  - Typesetting as per the government standard format (Font style, size, line spacing, etc)
  - Align, update, and format table of content against document content and PlanRep System.
  - Align, update, and format a list of tables of figures.
  - Insertion of appropriate logos and back page.
- Obtain approval of the final arranged document(s) from Pact Tanzania in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania (if need be) upon submission of a printed sample of the guide.
- Deliver the Printed tools or guidelines to established destinations/delivery points as per list of distribution shared by Pact Tanzania.
- A vendor should communicate any substantial alteration of the document to ACHIEVE -technical team through the Pact-Procurement team.

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Various Printing Services" to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) before Friday, 12th November 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to [ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org](mailto:ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org) with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Printing Services" before COB Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### B. Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

### C. Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:

- Draft inception report detailing methodology & timelines for providing printing services.
- Quote, valid for at least 90 days
- Current company profile.
- Delivery time (estimated work completion timeline after receiving an order).
- Quality of the work (measured on the sample submitted upon request).
- Copies of registration, certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry relevant license or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of client served.
- Current Audited financial statement.
- Payment terms.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by 16th November 2021, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "Tender for Various Printing Services."

#### Office Address:

The Tender Committee  
Pact Tanzania  
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria  
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

PACT will open all bids on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 11.30 am** in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Quotes must be in Tanzania shillings and include taxes and distribution costs separately:

- Each LOT should have its separate quotation.
- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted
- All quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 90 days following the submission as mentioned above.



## 7th EAC University Students Debate scheduled for Dec 16

By Guardian Reporter

THE 7th East African Community University Student's Debate on regional integration is set to be conducted from December 16 to 17, 2021 in Entebbe, Uganda, a space where young people can learn more about the benefits, challenges and opportunities in the EAC integration.

The debate's theme is: "The Role of Science, Technology and Innovation in EAC Regional Integration and Socio-Economic Development in the phase of Covid-19 pandemic."

A statement from EAC availed to the media stated that the objective of the 'EAC University Student's Debate' is to strengthen youth participation in the EAC's integration agenda and processes.

On the one hand, the debates and outreach activities create an ideal environment for students to play an active role in the EAC integration process.

The EAC University Student's Debate puts on a pedestal the youth to participate, dialogue and contribute to policy formulation on issues that constitute the EAC Youth agenda.

The EAC Secretariat, through the EAC University Students Debate, identifies the youth in the region as key stakeholders in the EAC process and as important actors in achieving the objectives of the community.

"The debate is expected to bring together representatives from universities, academia, policy makers, media, youth leaders, entrepreneurs and one high school will also participate in the event. The event will take place in Entebbe but will be streamed live on the EAC website, Twitter and Facebook accounts in order to reach as many young people in the EAC region as possible. At the end of the debate, the expected outcome is the creation of a long-term bond between students, which shapes and nurtures the identity of East African youth," read part of the statement.

This 7th edition will entail debate by the students on diverse subjects

such as the state of the Private Sector before the pandemic; legislation in regards to Private Sector development; the impact of Covid-19 on the Private Sector; reforms that EAC Secretariat and Partner States may put in place to strengthen and build a stronger Private Sector; border management to minimize the risk of the Pandemic, interstate conflicts and tensions between Partner States; border management for secure, safe and easy movement of people and goods amidst the pandemic.

The EAC University Student's Debate on the Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on implementation of the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocol aims to evaluate the status, progress, challenges and opportunities of the two pillars of EAC integration in light of the pandemic.

The best debaters will be appointed as EAC Youth Ambassadors 2022-2023 with an obligation to spearhead peer learning, sensitization and out-reach programmes in their respective universities, border communities in collaboration with the EAC Secretariat, Development Partners, the East African Legislative Assembly and EAC ministries in partner states.

There will be a gala dinner where awards will be given to the best debaters and the winning team.



**On the one hand, the debates and outreach activities create an ideal environment for students to play an active role in the EAC integration process**



Ubungu Municipal Council authorities have earmarked this area - in Dar es Salaam's Mbezi Luis suburb - for small traders who were supposed to have "checked in" there by yesterday after vacating the pedestrian paths, service roads and other unauthorised spots they had occupied for years. However, it is clear that the relocation will take much longer than expected, as the traders appear far from impressed. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## Telco, UNICEF announce new partnership to step up digital learning for children in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

UNICEF and Airtel Africa yesterday announced a five-year pan-African partnership to help accelerate the roll-out of digital learning through connecting schools to the internet and ensuring free access to learning platforms across 13 countries.

By providing equal access to quality digital learning, particularly for the most vulnerable children, the partnership will help to ensure that every child reaches their full potential.

Airtel Africa, is the first African private sector partner to make a multimillion-dollar commitment to 'reimagine education', a global

initiative launched by UNICEF in 2020 calling for public and private sector investment in digital learning as an essential service for every child and young person across the globe.

This initiative aims to give children a chance to catch up on their learning needs amid the on going global pandemic.

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore said: "Hundreds of millions of children in Africa have seen their education disrupted or put on hold because of the COVID-19 pandemic. By championing digital education for children in Africa, this partnership with Airtel, Africa will help put children's learning back on track."

Olusegun Ogunsanya, CEO of Airtel Africa said: "As a business, we have focused on education as a key area of our corporate social responsibility, and we are delighted that this partnership with UNICEF will enable us to accelerate results. It also coincides with the launch of our new sustainability strategy, which lays out our commitment to education." He added: "We are excited to be working with UNICEF to advance the education agenda on the continent through facilitating connectivity and online access to play a role in driving change."

Airtel Africa's financial and in-kind contribution for this partnership is \$57 million over five years to 2027.

The programme will call on technology and expertise, in addition to direct financial support to connect schools and communities to the internet, enable free access to online educational content for learners.

It will also provide vital data insights to inform UNICEF's work to scale-up digital learning and help ensure it is sustainable and meets students' needs across Africa.

The Airtel Africa and UNICEF pan-African partnership will benefit learners in Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.



Works and Transport deputy minister Godfrey Kasekenya (R) gives on-site instructions yesterday to Tanroads' (Tanzania National Roads Agency) Arusha regional manager, Reginald Massawe (L), and a supervisor with the Loliondo-Mto wa Mbu road project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## YST exhibitions will now be held at district level - Ndalichako

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Young Scientists of Tanzania (YST) exhibitions will now be held at district level to allow more students and schools to participate, Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof Joyce Ndalichako said on Sunday.

Prof Ndalichako was speaking at the YST awards ceremony and exhibition 2021 that was held virtually. Since its inception, the YST exhibition had provided opportunities to secondary school students to showcase their innovation, adding it has encouraged more students to prefer science subjects in their career.

The minister said unlike other years, this year the exhibition was held in 24 regions, noting it was a great success.

"For first time YST has recorded

great success for organizing the exhibitions in 24 regions and in each region over 12 secondary schools participated. It is our hope that more schools will participate in coming years," she added.

Director General of the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Dr Amos Nungu said the commission was part of the YST exhibition adding that it has been mandated to promote science and technology in Tanzania.

"We are proud to be part of the sponsors. I would like to reaffirm the government's commitment to continue collaborating with other stakeholders to promote science and technology in the country to solve societal issues," he said.

Dr Nungu added that the event was important to prepare youngsters to solve problems in the society in different cadres such as health and

transport.

The YST executive director and co-founder Dr Gosbert Kamugisha said the top projects from each of the Regional Exhibition went forward to participate in the National Exhibition.

"YST puts great emphasis on the independent professional selection of projects and in the independent judging of projects. For Young Scientists Tanzania the integrity and independence of the judging process is sacrosanct," he said.

He said back in 2009, along with fellow Co-Founder Joseph Clowry, they envisioned a science for Development model that incorporated two complementary strands: A science outreach and mentoring programme in secondary schools and an exhibition to give the students a much needed platform to showcase their research.

"We know that this approach works and as a result our young students are transforming Tanzania. In the hands of our talented Young Scientists I know that the future is bright," he noted.

Karimjee Jivanjee foundation chairman, Yusufu Karimjee said the foundation had offered more than 37 university scholarship sponsorships to emerging overall winners.

He said some of the students offered sponsorship had already graduated their degrees in medicines and pharmacy in universities across the country. The cooperate manager from Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania Ltd Msomi Mbenna reaffirmed the commitment to continue supporting the YST exhibition. "We are proud to be part of the sponsors in the YST exhibition journey to enable students to solve societal problems."

## Appeal to health officials: Sustain positive outcomes of Tuimarishe Afya project to help more communities

By Correspondent Allan Ntana, Tabora

REGIONAL and District Council Health Management Teams (RHMT's and CHMT's) in Kigoma, Tabora, Rukwa and Katavi have been ordered to supervise and sustain all positive outcomes and projects produced by the Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS Tuimarishe Afya) project so as to benefit more communities.

The 2-year health strategic project was implemented by the government of Tanzania in collaboration with Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) and Swiss Centre for International Health from November 2019 to October 2020.

Speaking at the HPSS Zonal Capitalisation Workshop held recently here, acting Tabora Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) Hamis Mkunga said the project has improved performance of health facilities in the four regions.

He said the project interventions have improved the coordination structure of Community Health Fund (CHF) at district, ward and village level where Enrolment Officers (EO's), IT technicians and Accountants were trained on how best to execute their roles and responsibilities.

He added that the training was conducted to health care workers, teams of the improved-Community Health Fund (iCHF) and health care providers to every health facility so as to improve their performance.

Mkunga clarified that among the challenges that the project has resolved were poor management of iCHF materials at council level, high volume of expired families against renewals, increased trend of EOs drop out, changes of identification

cards which led to delay in procurement processes.

Dr Nassoro Kaponta who represented Tabora Regional Medical Officer (RMO) said the project has improved communications between Prime Vendor (PV), councils, timely delivery of orders to respective health facilities and fill-rate of the consignments. He urged the regional and council health management teams to make full use of the knowledge and skills shared to take care of the interventions initiated by the project.

HPSS technical support officer Emanuel Mwangi hinted on the note that the project targeted to promote and strengthen health systems, improve effectiveness and efficiency of regional and district council health management teams. He said the inception of Tuimarishe Afya project in Western zone regions has increased iCHF collections to 541.6m/- and health facilities claim reimbursement to 276.2m/-.

Geoffrey Maleale from Katavi Regional Administrative Secretary office testified that all iCHF coordinators, accountants and IT technicians have given adequate skills and knowledge and are executing their duties accordingly.

Kigoma Regional Medical Officer (RMO) Samwel Chacha said the project has enabled all public health facilities to provide quality iCHF services where members and their dependants can easily access health services at all levels.

He commended a good job done by the project vowing that they will sustain all health promotional activities and interventions done by Tuimarishe Afya project.



# Amref trains healthcare givers in Simiyu Region

By Guardian Reporter

TO improve reproductive health services in the country, AMREF Health Africa has invested in construction of maternity wards, toilets and training programme to health care givers in Simiyu Region.

Through its four year project dubbed 'Safe Deliveries' 2017 - 2020, literally known as Uzazi Uzima, Amref Health Africa tackled gaps in maternal health capacity, ensuring that those most in need are reached with essential health services in the region, with financial support from the Canadian government through Global Affairs Canada and James Percy Foundation.

Speaking at a special event to receive the donated facilities for the project implementation at the weekend, Simiyu Regional Medical Officer Boniface Marwa, said current improvements made in the health sector had increased the number of pregnant women giving birth at various health facilities. He said the number of pregnant women giving birth at home with assistance of traditional birth attendants has been declining as years pass by.

"These projects have significantly contributed to changing the status of health care delivery in Simiyu region, when the project started in 2017 the number of mothers attending health facilities was estimated at 68 per cent, as we speak more than 92 per cent of pregnant women give birth in health facilities," said Marwa.

The increase in women giving birth at health centres has been attributed to improved delivery services. The delivery services were previously too unfriendly, henceforth not maintaining the confidentiality of mothers when they go to give birth.

Dr Aisa Muya, Amref Health Africa project manager, briefing about what has been achieved through the project said that it covered feasibility studies in 24 health facilities thereafter constructed four

operational theatres, 15 maternity wards, 15 youth friendly services and ten bore holes and toilets.

During the project, 51 health workers from dispensaries were trained on basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEmONC) and eight health workers on comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care services.

"The project also covered training of 60 health workers in health centres and dispensaries in essential newborn care, purchased one ambulance for referrals at the regional referral hospital and sponsored two health workers on an aesthetics and solography studies to provide comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care services," said Dr Muya.

According to her, the project also provided orientation to facility-based managers and health workers for enhanced health management information system (HMIS) including improved community to facility linkage such as data collection, consolidation, analysis and reporting.

Trained 800 oriented community health workers (CHWs) and equipped them with working gears including purchasing bikes. The CHWs were useful in community sensitization and successful referrals, 77 traditional birth attendants (TBAs), traditional healers and community influencers on gender and referral provision.

"The project also covered regular supportive supervision and on-site mentorship to CHWs to improve quality data collection, sensitization activities to school children on their rights to access reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) and nutrition services" she added.

The Uzazi Uzima project in Simiyu region is a partnership among Amref Health Africa, Marie Stopes and the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, with Deloitte as a service partner.



Ruvuma regional commissioner Brig Gen Wilbert Ibuge (C) leads members of the region's defence and security committee on a tour of Liula water source at Mahilo in Songea municipality yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

# Dar health investor asks for more govt's support

THE government has been urged to create better working environment for private hospitals so that they continue providing competitive health services to Tanzanians.

Founder of KAM Dar es Salaam Pharmacy Limited, the company that run dispensaries, hospitals, pharmacies and the KAM College of Health, Dr Kandore Masika made the call over the weekend when speaking at function to familiarize with health sector professionals.

Dr Masika said that there are many

Tanzanians who have invested in health sector and need full support from the government and other stakeholders because they are not after profit like other investments adding that it is very rare to see foreign investors who have invested in the health sector.

Dr Masika said as a local investor

in the health sector he will be very happy if he will receive assistance from the government in getting foreign aids to support the development of health sector.

He said the government should not isolate private sector when it comes to facilitation because they are doing the same thing to provide

service to Tanzanians.

Dr Masika said 'Public Private Partnership (PPP) is important for the development of the health sector in Tanzania and government officials should not look at private investors like their enemies, but rather their partners in development.

# Mining company commits to community development plan in Geita for 2021/2022

By Guardian Reporter

GEITA Gold Mining Limited (GGML) and Geita Town and District Councils have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) worth 9.2bn/- in relation to the firm's corporate social responsibility (CSR) plan for 2021/2022.

By signing the MoU, GGML reaffirms its commitment to the Tanzanian government and people by complying with the amended Section 105 of the Mining Act, which contains provisions on the corporate social responsibility plan of a mineral rights holder.

The implementation of the CSR plan will benefit Geita's communities in the areas of environment, infrastructure, health, education and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

During the brief ceremony which was held over the weekend, Geita Regional Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule, expressed the government's appreciation for the strong and healthy partnership between GGML and the Geita community.

RC said: "GGML continues to be lauded as great examples of how CSR is executed and others are even using the company as a case study in higher learning institutions in the country."

She further said: "Tanzanians need to represent us well in such companies as GGML, they should work with integrity."

GGML strives to support the Government of Tanzania's aspirations of sustainable social and economic development in host communities. The company also seeks to work with local authorities and communities in identifying, implementing and managing key projects for the sustainable future of the Geita Region.

"We are delighted to reaffirm our commitment to the Government of Tanzania and the Geita communities. Now in our fourth CSR plan since the amendment of the Mining Act, we are optimistic

we can build upon previous projects to enhance ownership by the communities but also pledge to continue collaborating on sustainable projects that can outlast the life of the mine," said Richard Jordinson, Managing Director of GGML.

GGML has worked closely with local government authorities to support a number of community projects in the Geita region through public-private partnerships, including the Geita Town potable water project that helped increase the number of people with access to clean and safe water from just 3% to almost 40% between 2016 and 2020.

GGML also runs programmes at the national level, notably the GGML Kili Challenge against HIV/Aids, which has contributed 1.3bn/- for HIV prevention and care and treatment projects across the country since 2018.

Consistent with GGML's core value of providing sustainable socio-economic development to the Geita community beyond mining activities, GGML has implemented various projects in the local community of Geita, including water supply, education and economic development activities in agriculture, transport and services, which have attracted over TZS 50 billion since it started operations in 2000. The company has remitted and paid more than US\$1.7billion (3.9 trillion/-) in taxes to the government since its inception.

Beyond CSR and taxes, the company has a strong local business content and enterprise development component, as evidenced by the 676bn/- spent on procurement of goods and services from indigenous Tanzanian companies by the end of September 2021.

To sustain the participation of Tanzanian businesses in the company's supply chain, GGML has partnered with the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) to up skill over 350 Geita-based businesses through training.



Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (2nd-R) presents 600,000/- at the weekend to one of the leaders of persons with albinism (PWA). It was assistance by Malt Super Brands Limited director David Mulokozi (2nd-L) in support of an upcoming PWA general meeting. Photo: Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson

By Guardian Correspondent

# Profitable transport business mostly depends on access to good roads - RC

NJOMBE Regional commissioner, Marwa Rubiriya has called upon the region's transport stakeholders to protect roads in the country by carrying the allowed load weight in their trucks.

The RC made the remarks here at the weekend when closing a one-day training seminar for transport stakeholders on the law governing road weight - the EA Community Vehicle Load Control Act of 2016 and 2018 regulations thereof.

"You have to agree with me that if we want to be good, successful transporters, we must have good, robust roads in order to reap more benefit from your businesses," he said.

He said the government was spending a lot of money in road construction in the country, and he hailed the Works and Transport ministry through TANROADS for seeing the importance in organising the training seminar.

Welcoming the official guest - Njombe TANROADS Manager, Eng. Ruth Shalluah, said the training is the continuation of the provision of education on the 2016 EA Community Vehicle Load law and regulations thereof, the education that has been given by road transport

stakeholders in the country since 2018, since before the application of the law in March 2019.

"Hon RC, the training aims to enhance the understanding among transporters and the government which is the law's administrator, as well as to weigh bridges workers to enable them perform their duties effectively," said Shalluah.

For his part, Eng. Leonard Saukwa, Weigh Bridge Supervisor from the works and transport ministry told reporters that apart from providing

the needed education on the law, the seminar also aimed to educate stakeholders on how to obtain permits for transporting special types of cargo.

The training was also planned to be held in Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, Morogoro, Dodoma, Njombe, Mbeya, Rukwa, Ruvuma, Kigoma, Geita, Tabora, Mwanza, Arusha and Tanga regions and so far, apart from Njombe Region, it has also been held in Dar es Salaam, Mtwara Morogoro and Dodoma regions.



TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2021

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Africa should adapt to climate change effects

President Samia Suluhu Hassan flew to Glasgow, Scotland in the UK on Saturday to attend the 26th United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). Moreover, the President is expected also to address the Summit tomorrow.

A statement issued by the acting Director of Presidential Communications said that the head of state is also expected to meet with her counterparts from different countries for bilateral talks.

She is also expected to meet with heads of institutions, organisations and business people for the sake of enhancing the cooperation and relationship between Tanzania and the international communities.

The COP26 summit brings parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Last Thursday, President Samia attended a virtual meeting on a just ended climate transition organised by the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change.

During the meeting, participants are expected to discuss different issues on climate change as well as challenges on implementation of the development agenda in Africa.

Contemporary climate change includes both global warming caused by humans and its impacts on Earth's weather patterns. There have been previous periods of climate change, but the current changes are more rapid than any known events in Earth's history. The main cause is the emission of greenhouse gases, mostly carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane. Burning fossil fuels for energy use creates most of these emissions. Agriculture, steel making, cement production, and forest loss are also significant sources.[3]

Temperature rise is also affected by climate feedbacks such as the loss of sunlight-reflecting snow cover, and the release of carbon dioxide from drought-stricken forests. Collectively, these amplify global warming.

The global centre on adaptation says climate change will push 120 million people into extreme poverty by 2030, and a third of them will be Africans if nothing is done to mitigate its effects. The findings are in the center's report on Africa released recently.

Releasing the report looking at present-day and future climate change risks in Africa, the head of the Global Centre on Adaptation, Patrick Verkooijen, says the climate crisis may create millions of poor people on the continent.

"In fact, worldwide climate change, if unchecked, will push 122 million new people into extreme poverty by 2030, of these in sub-Saharan Africa alone, 43 million new poor people pushed into poverty by climate change, and even if development is rapid and inclusive up to 12 million people in Africa could be pushed into poverty in this time due to climate change alone," said Verkooijen.

The Netherlands-based organisation that works on climate adaptation solutions around the globe said Africa's failure to adapt to the recurrent climate shocks will also increase the cost of borrowing, reducing investment opportunities for its people.

According to the Africa Development Bank (AFDB), the continent needs \$7-\$15 billion a year to create adaptation programmes. Akinwumi Adesina, the Africa Development Bank president, says it is making \$25 billion available to scale up climate change adaptation actions and drive investment in green growth.

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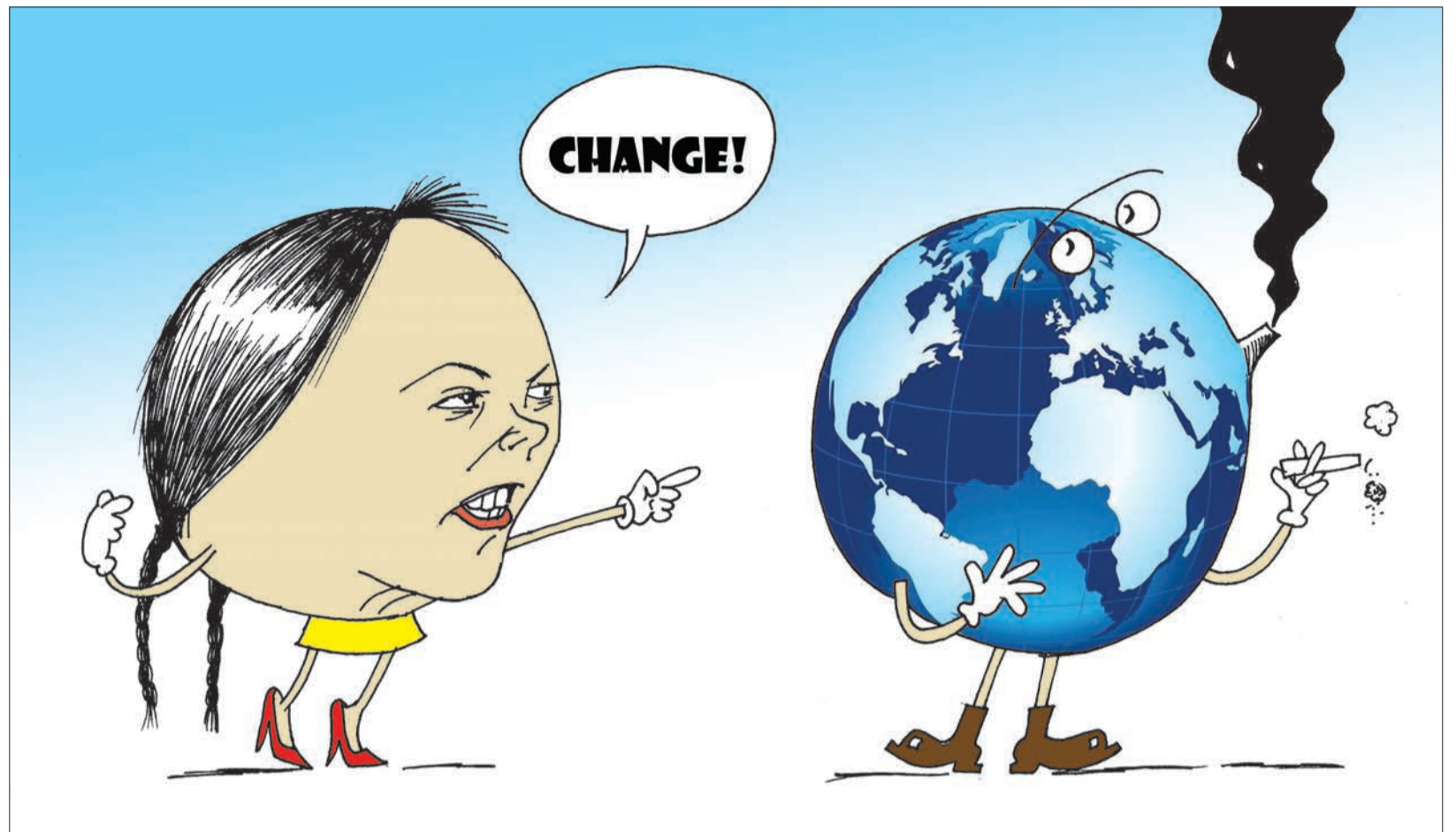
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By Chukwumerije Okereke

WITH the gas scarcity hitting Europe and prompting fears of a cold winter and

business closure, many European governments have rapidly rolled out measures to protect their citizens and businesses from soaring prices.

So far, the European Union has pledged to set out recommendations for member states including compensation for vulnerable households, tax cuts and state aid for companies. The French government has offered to protect drivers with a temporary freeze on gas prices and a tax cut on electricity bills. In the UK, ministers have already been forced to step in to fund a fertiliser plant that had been shut down due to soaring natural gas prices and many other options including potential state-backed loans for energy companies are being considered.

The situation has also prompted some constituencies that have long supported strong climate action including the early retrenchment of gas plants to question their governments' commitment to rapid decarbonization and call for a slower approach. Others voices are calling on government to come clean on the cost of decarbonization and the potential implications of current climate policies on long terms energy prices and the future prosperity of their countries.

### Climate

The panic people feel about not having enough petrol to drive their cars to work or enough gas to hit their homes in Europe is perfectly understandable as are the steps by governments to reassure and protect their citizens and businesses. These reactions are wholly rational. Indeed, the prompt intervention by European governments is a perfect example of responsible and responsive leadership characteristics of many liberal democracies in the West.

But at the same time, these reactions also underscore other important and sometimes inconvenient truths about the need to fight climate change and poverty together and the importance of putting equity and justice in center of the global green transition project which citizens and governments of rich countries so often fail to appreciate. Worse still, these reactions also reveal a degree of duplicity and hypocrisy in the approach of rich countries towards the fight against climate change where standards adopted at home are often different from those promoted abroad especially with regards to fossil fuel subsidy and the possible role of gas as a transition fuel in poor countries.

## Gas scarcity: Europe's duplicity and need for just global transition



### Net zero carbon

The fact made abundantly evident by the reaction of much of the societies in Europe is that when people are facing the threat of hunger, loss of shelter, cold and dark winter or the absence of decent livelihood, there is a tendency to push concern for climate action or the source of fuel that is heating households to the back of the queue. This is a fact that many developing countries have been making in climate diplomacy circles but which so often seems lost on, or at least underappreciated by governments, scholars, the media and climate advocates in rich countries whose dominant tendency and preference is to divorce discussion about emission reduction from the need to fight global poverty and hunger and inequality.

It is instructive that while the net zero by 2050 has taken hold in industrialized countries with several national governments, cities, and businesses making ambitious pledges, little or no space has been found for the idea of net zero global poverty and net zero global hunger in the public discourse in rich countries. Yet, when one looks, one sees that the same IPCC Report which assessed that global net anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will need to decline rapidly and reach net zero around 2050 for the world to stay on the path of 1.5 degrees also suggested that a focus on equity and justice would be required to ensure that climate action is combined with efforts to achieve global sustainable development.

### Injustice

Resource rich but economically poor African countries have been

saying that while they are willing to play their part in the global fight against climate change, there is need for greater appreciation of their current development status and the potential role that gas could play as a transition fuel in helping them achieve energy security.

However, such pleas have been dismissed as a sign of lack of commitment to green transition and several rich countries and international development finance organizations have made clear their intention to end all new funds allocated to gas projects. Here is another example of an approach to global green transition that fail to sufficiently differentiate the situation between developed and developing countries and the historical responsibility that rich countries have in shirking the carbon space within which the transition to global net carbon zero economy is expected to take place.

But the problem is not only about the West dictating the route of development for poor African countries, it is also that recent events highlight a degree of hypocrisy and duplicity on the part of rich countries. For one need not look far for strong indications that Europe's reliance on fossil fuel is not waning. In 2019, gross inland consumption of natural gas in the EU increased by 4.2% compared with 2018 and to a level not seen since 2010. Natural gas dependency in EU reached an all-time high of 89.5% in 2019, up from 83.8% in 2018. In Germany, coal still accounts for about 10.6% or 22.6GW of total power with natural gas accounting for 14% or 30GW.

Only last month it was announced that Russia and EU have completed a 1,200km subsea pipeline to convey

gas worth of up to 110bn cubic meter per annum to EU while another major gas pipeline that will supply China is ongoing. In the US natural gas share of the total energy supply mix in 2017 stood at 40% with renewable energy contributing only 19.8% of energy generated in the country.

So while gas continues to be a key part of Europe, Russia, US, and China's energy future, African nations who are the main victims of climate change, who contributes only 0.65% of total GHG emissions of the world and whose populations are severely energy poor are being told they must rely on modern renewables imported from Europe and China to power their industrialization. And while the rich countries are placing carbon embargo on Africa, they are failing woefully in their promise to provide the much-needed finance and technological support promised under the UN backed international climate agreement which Africa needs to scale up investment in renewable energy.

Consider the case of Nigeria which has the 6th largest deposits of gas reserve in the world estimated at a minimum of 100 trillion cubic feet but also less than 8GW of installed electricity. Meanwhile 85m or 43% of the Nigerian's 200 million population is living without access to electricity. Further the population is projected to be 400m by 2050 and energy consumption is projected to grow by 30% in the following 15 years. It is easy to see the injustice, and incongruity of requesting Nigeria to leave its gas in the ground and embrace massive importation of solar panels from Europe to address its energy needs.

## It's essential to speed up on COVID-19 vaccination drive

FIFTEEN African countries, nearly a third of the continent's 54 nations have fully vaccinated 10 per cent of their people against COVID-19.

The global goal of fully vaccinating 10 per cent of every country's population by 30 September was set in May by the World Health Assembly, the world's highest health policy-setting body. Almost 90 per cent of high income-countries have met this target.

Seychelles and Mauritius have fully vaccinated over 60 per cent of their populations, Morocco 48 per cent and Tunisia, Comoros and Cape Verde over 20 per cent. Most of the African countries that have met the goal have relatively small populations and 40 per cent are small island developing states.

All these countries have enjoyed sufficient supplies of vaccines, and many could access doses from separate sources in addition to those delivered through the COVAX Facility, the global platform to ensure equitable access to vaccines. Half of the 52 African countries that have received COVID-19 vaccines have fully vaccinated just 2 per cent or less of their populations.

Nine African countries, including South Africa, Morocco and Tunisia, had reached the 10 per cent goal at the beginning of September and another six managed to sprint ahead to reach the target this month due to rising vaccine deliveries.

Twenty-three million COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Africa in September, a ten-fold increase from June. Yet just 60 million Africans have been fully vaccinated so far and 2 per cent of the more than 6 billion vaccines given globally have

been administered on the continent.

WHO has assisted 19 African countries in conducting intra-action reviews, which analyse their vaccination campaigns and offer recommendations to improve them. The reviews show that uncertainty around deliveries has been a major impediment for many countries.

Prior to COVID 19, a vaccine for an infectious disease had never been produced in less than several years - and no vaccine existed for preventing a coronavirus infection in humans. However, vaccines have been produced against several animal diseases caused by coronaviruses, including infectious bronchitis virus in birds, canine coronavirus, and feline coronavirus. Previous projects to develop vaccines for viruses in the family Coronaviridae that affect humans have been aimed at severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

A COVID 19 vaccine is a vaccine intended to provide acquired immunity against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus . Virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID 19). Prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, an established body of knowledge existed about the structure and function of coronaviruses causing diseases like severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). This knowledge accelerated the development of various vaccine platforms during early 2020. The initial focus of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines was on preventing symptomatic, often severe illness. By 19 March, the global pharmaceutical industry announced a major commitment to address COVID-19. The COVID 19 vaccines are widely credited for their role in reducing the spread, severity, and death caused by COVID-19.



# After 20-month lockdown, UN plans to return to near-normal by mid-Nov

UNITED NATIONS

**T**HE United Nations, which suffered a pandemic lockdown over the last 20 months - with most staffers tele-working from their homes - is expected to return to near-normal, come November 15.

In a letter to New York-based staffers, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says that "in the light of improved conditions" relating to the spread of corona virus infections, "the exception, which currently allows staff members to telework up to four days per week, will be discontinued, beginning November 15."

As of that date, he says, requests for telecommuting may be authorized by managers in line with the policy on Flexible Working Arrangements, ST/SGB/2019/3, and subject to the nature of the functions being performed, as well as to work exigencies.

"Managers are encouraged to afford flexibility to staff members in line with the lessons learned over the past 20 months regarding adaptability and flexibility in our working methods. Furthermore, the requirement for core working hours will remain suspended", the letter adds.

Last month, New York city Mayor Bill de Blasio mandated vaccinations for thousands of City employees, including police, fire fighters, sanitation workers, hospital staff and municipal employees who will be put on "no pay leave" if they are not vaccinated - either for medical, personal, political or religious reasons.

But, so far, the UN has not placed any such penalties on un-vaccinated staffers - even though some private sector employers in the US have told their employees: "Get Vaccinated or Get Fired."

The Secretary-General's authority, as the UN's chief administrative officer, applies primarily to staffers, not to hundreds of diplomats, who are subject to restrictions only by the 193-member General Assembly, the UN's highest policy-making body.

UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric told reporters late October "the vaccination rate for UN staff ...

is about 87.08 per cent that are fully vaccinated, staff in total".

In a letter to UN-accredited journalists last month, Tal Mekel, Chief, Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU) in the Department of Global Communications, was more specific.

"As the transition continues from Phase 2 to Next Normal - gradual return to the workplace at UN Headquarters - additional precautionary measures will be taken in an effort to ensure a safe work environment for everyone."

"As you may know, COVID-19 vaccinations are now mandated for UN staff performing certain tasks and/or certain occupational groups at UNHQ whose functions do not allow sufficient management of exposure."

All journalists were requested by MALU to send information relating to date of vaccination, location of vaccination (city) and proof of vaccination (as attachment).

Asked about the status of the unvaccinated, Mekel told IPS: "Access is suspended until vaccination status is confirmed."

Guy Candusso, a former First Vice President of the UN Staff Union in New York told IPS: "I believe the policy before COVID was to allow telecommuting for up to 3 days per week. But in any case, it should depend on the nature of the work."

Asked whether it is wise to get staff back into the building when infection rates are still relatively high in New York city - and while about 13 percent of UN staff remain unvaccinated - he said: "there will never be 100% of staff vaccinated for various reasons. But of more concern is how many diplomats, consultants, office cleaners and cafeteria workers have been vaccinated."

"Only when you look at the whole picture can you make an informed decision," he added.

The Secretary-General's circular says "the overwhelming majority of staff have reported that they have been fully vaccinated."

Still, says the circular, the UN will take precautions compelling all personnel to continue to wear masks in common areas, such as corridors, elevators, and restrooms.



The empty racks on the UN's third floor, home to several news organizations.

Masks are also mandatory in enclosed meeting spaces where the vaccination status of all participants has not been confirmed.

However, vaccinated personnel are no longer required to wear masks while working at their individual workstations.

Personnel who are not vaccinated will continue to be required, at all times, to wear masks throughout UN premises and to observe physical distancing wherever it is possible to do so, he added.

Prisca Chaoui, President of the 3,500-strong staff coordinating council in Geneva, which is home to multiple UN agencies, told IPS that at the UN Office in Geneva (UNOG) "we conducted a survey that showed that more than half of those who took part in it wanted to get access to the compound."

"But our management decided not to".

"Other international organizations in Geneva such as WTO, WIPO, ITU and WMO are gradually imposing the pass to access the premises or a negative test within

the last 48 hours."

She said UNOG staff are required, as of 3 November, to be back in office for two days a week.

"This is a welcome step as we need to be physically back to office even though staff have never stopped to work since March 2020, but we wish it were possible to get more safety measures such as the proof of vaccination or a negative test result".

Still, she said, some staff are concerned about the return to office without these measures being imposed.

"I believe there should be a harmonized approach as each organization is currently taking its own decision, depending on the duty station, which is normal in a way, as the epidemiological situation is different from one place to another."

But in locations where staff have access to vaccination, such as Geneva, this shouldn't be the case. In Geneva, which is host of many international organizations, there is a disparity in the measures adopted, which

shouldn't have been the case.

"I believe that safety measures, including the COVID pass, are important for a safe return to office.

In his circular Guterres says one of the reasons to return to near normal conditions is that COVID-19 pandemic in New York City have continued to improve and stabilize, and the host country is further opening for international travel starting on 8 November 2021.

In addition, the overwhelming majority of UN staff have reported that they have been fully vaccinated.

"I want to once again thank all colleagues for your efforts during this unprecedented period. You have helped ensure the uninterrupted work of the Organization and support for Member States as needed."

Ian Richards, former President of the Coordinating Committee of International Staff Unions and Associations (CCISUA) told IPS that in a survey carried out at the UN in Geneva, staff said it wanted

administration to request either proof of vaccination, recovery or a negative test to enter the building and cafeteria, like at the WTO and WMO.

Many said it would make them feel safer returning to their offices, especially as infection rates in Geneva have been shooting up, much of the building is open space and authorities are recommending teleworking, he added.

"Administration refused staff's safety request saying that it would prevent delegates attending meetings. While we understand that there are political considerations, we don't quite buy this argument", said Richards.

He also pointed out that Geneva-based diplomats have all been able to get vaccinated and those travelling in from abroad will have a PCR with them or can easily get one.

"We hope the administration will reconsider its decision so we can help our offices get back to business in the safest way possible."

IPS

# Fight against climate crisis being hacked off at the knees in DRC

By Onke Nguka

**I**N Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), a department is working against efforts to limit global carbon emissions by lifting a longstanding moratorium on the Congo Basin forest - an area integral to the Central African region's climate. This comes ahead of the UN's climate crisis COP26 meetings, where world leaders are expected to discuss a progressive way forward to reducing carbon emissions while maintaining a 1.5°C global temperature goal.

In July, the DRC's Minister of the Environment and Sustainability, Eve Bazaiba announced that her department will be lifting a moratorium on industrial logging that has been in place since 2002.

Bazaiba and her staff did not respond to questions posed by the Daily Maverick, but she has previously been quoted as saying the moratorium did not stop illegal logging. She added that the ban was prohibiting potential revenue for the central state and that lifting the moratorium would bring about a new plan for the management of the forest.

Bazaiba succeeded Claude Nyamugabo as Minister of the Environment and Sustainability. Nyamugabo was taken to court by activists after questionable forest concessions that violated the moratorium and involved Belgian, Chinese and Congolese companies. DRC President Félix Tshisekedi earlier this month called for an audit of the concessions and all contracts to be suspended pending the investigations.

The concessions Nyamugabo is involved in include forest areas with carbon-rich peat soils - decayed organic material that releases high amounts of carbon when disturbed.

Serge Sabin Ngwato is a Greenpeace DRCforest campaigner, which is part of the 44 Congolese and international organisations calling for the moratorium to remain in place. He told Daily Maverick that if the moratorium was lifted, the impact would be felt most by local and indigenous communities at the forefront of protecting forests in the DRC. He said the expected 20 million hectares earmarked for logging would also have devastating effects on the environment.

"I think the role of the Congo forest is so important for the stabilising of the climate. Lifting the moratorium will increase the climate crisis, not only for the DRC but for the continent and our global planet. It will destroy biodiversity and increase the level of poverty for the indigenous people who are living and are dependent on this forest," Ngwato said.

The government is seeking \$1-billion (R15.25bn) to carry out new forest management plans from the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) ahead of COP26, which could be used to garner further climate funding at the conference. The initiative - a coalition of donors between Norway, France, Germany, The



Netherlands, South Korea, the European Union and the UK - has so far given about \$170-million in forest protection investment to the DRC.

The Congo Basin, considered to be one of the "lungs of the Earth", is home to the world's second-largest rainforest after the Amazon. It holds the largest extensive tropical peatlands and is also responsible for reducing 1.5-billion tons of carbon from the atmosphere, which comprises about 4% of the world's emissions.

The basin spans across six countries; Cameroon, DRC, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, stretching across 3.7-million square kilometres. It is also home to endangered wildlife, indigenous plant species and a source of food, water and shelter for locals, who are also dependent on the forest for charcoal. Making charcoal, a cheap form of energy, is among the leading causes of deforestation in the region.

In an open letter published on Thursday to entities including CAFI, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership and the European Union, 27 scientists warned that the consequences of the moratorium's lifting could be catastrophic. The scientists warn that an additional billion tons of carbon would

be released into the atmosphere and wildlife species could become extinct.

The Congo Basin is an important source of moisture for the West African region and plays a key role in the region's precipitation.

Mishandling of the forest not only has negative effects on those living in and around the Congo Basin forests, but also has negative environmental implications that ripple through the continent.

As world leaders head to Glasgow, Scotland to convince developed nations that they need climate financing to adapt to the consequences of the climate crisis, lifting a near 20-year moratorium that mitigates climate impact ahead of the talks is not a convincing standpoint.

Although Bazaiba has touted the move as one for the DRC's economic gain, in their open letter Ngwato and the scientists said the logging industry had not brought about any economic benefits to local and indigenous communities.

"Contrary to frequent claims, the logging industry has too often not brought any social or economic benefits to local people, only the loss of resources they depend on - while

serving as a major vector of corruption at all levels of government. It is now widely recognised that forests under the control of indigenous peoples and other local communities can deliver far better environmental, social and economic outcomes," the scientists wrote.

Communities rely on the forest for resources ranging from food and water to medicinal plants. According to Ngwato, indigenous communities are already battling to lay claim to the land in and around the forest, and lifting the moratorium would only pose a further challenge for them.

In 2018, the DRC suffered the second-largest forest loss after Brazil, according to the World Resources Institute (WRI), with rates 38% higher than the previous year. Most of the loss has been attributed to slash-and-burn agriculture and the harvesting of wood for fuel. The rest of the loss has been attributed to new and medium-sized agriculture, as well as conflict-induced displacement.

Africa is among the most vulnerable regions as far as climate crisis effects are concerned. Strapped for resources it needs to adapt to the consequences of a changing climate, the continent needs every bit of help to mitigate and adapt to the crisis. A lifting of the moratorium strays from the adaptation and mitigation ideals of the Paris Agreement - goals that are key to developing nations securing climate financing and staying off extreme climate crisis consequences.

Lifting the ban on industrial logging would also go against the pledges made by Tshisekedi to limit the country's emissions by 17% and restore forest cover to 63.5% by 2030 after meeting with US President Joe Biden earlier this year.



# Dissecting democratic dividends: Sudan's coup is all about the military

By Peter Fabricius

**M**ILITARY coups are making a big come-back in Africa. After a steady decline this century, there has been a sudden spike, with five putsches in just over a year: two in Mali; one in Chad; one in Guinea; and now Sudan on 5 October. Armed forces commander General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the joint leader of the military-civilian government in Sudan, arrested the government's civilian leader Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other civilian leaders and suspended the transitional government.

Burhan's drastic move may have dashed the hopes engendered by one of the most inspiring and promising democratic moments in the continent's recent history when in April 2019, after months of large popular streets protests in Khartoum and with a push by the military, long-time President Omar al-Bashir's regime was finally toppled.

Protest leaders and the military then negotiated a transitional government in which they would share power until democratic elections in 2023. Under the agreement, Burhan was meant to hand over leadership of the overarching Sovereignty Council to a civilian leader in November.

The protesters, led by the Sudanese Professionals Association and Forces for Freedom and Change (FCC), were back on the streets this week to oppose Burhan's betrayal of a transitional government he had helped to negotiate and vowed to uphold. But the military seems unrepentant, using live ammunition and killing at least 10 protesters this week, according to media reports.

Africa and the wider international community also condemned the coup. An emergency meeting of the African Union's (AU's) Peace and Security Council suspended Sudan

under the organisation's rule against "unconstitutional changes of government".

AU Chair Moussa Faki Mahamat demanded the release of detained political leaders, strict respect for human rights and the resumption of negotiations between the civilians and military on the transition.

The US suspended \$700-million in aid and the World Bank also suspended its aid. World Bank president David Malpass warned the coup could have a "dramatic impact" on the country's social and economic recovery. The International Monetary Fund seemed to contemplate similar action. The EU warned the new regime faced "serious consequences", including withdrawal of financial support. The United Nations and the Arab League say they are "concerned" about the takeover, calling on "all sides" to respect the 2019 accord on the transition.

Andrews Atta-Asamoah, senior researcher at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), sees this strong reaction as evidence that Burhan has badly misread the mood of the Sudanese people, the international community and the strength of their commitment to the Sudanese transitions.

He noted that the tensions within the transitional government had been growing for some time. They had become evident with protests by different factions and had partly erupted on 21 September with a coup attempt, aborted at the last minute.

Burhan and other military and civilian leaders had been meeting the US Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa Jeffrey Feltman before the 25 October coup to iron out these differences. Some saw the 21 September events as a "military dress rehearsal for a coup". That assessment may have been right.



A Sudanese protester flashes a victory sign near burning tyres during the weekend protests in Khartoum.

But Atta-Asamoah said the emergence of pro-army protests at that time as well as anti-government protests in eastern Sudan and splits within the FCC civilian front should not have been taken as signs that the majority of Sudanese would accept a return to military rule. They remained opposed to it.

He also suggested the coup could cause a split in the military and even a counter-coup.

The latter may yet happen, unleashing an even more uncertain future for Sudan. But that Burhan cares very much about the mood of the people or a violent unravelling of the democratic transition is doubtful.

He justified his actions as an attempt to protect the country by preventing a civil war. He claimed he would appoint a technocratic government to run the state until the scheduled elections in 2023.

And the military leadership has recently complained of increasing economic hardship in Sudan and blamed the civilian leadership - which controls the economic aspects of government - of mismanaging the economy.

But these are the promises and justifications of military officers after they seize power. And recent events give reason to suspect the military acted instead to protect its own inter-

ests. The timing of the coup suggests that Burhan was concerned about handing over power to a civilian for the second half of the transition, without guarantees that military interests would be protected.

Burhan and the military appear to have been worried about the work of the committee tasked with recovering state assets from members of the Bashir regime. In Sudan, the military had and continues to have extensive economic interests.

Burhan and his fellow officers were also concerned about the transitional government's decision to surrender Al-Bashir to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to face charges of war

crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide against the people of Darfur.

Though Burhan and the military leadership were quick to sacrifice Al-Bashir to the revolution in 2019 to save themselves, the transitional government's decision to cooperate with the ICC may have been a bridge too far for them, apparently sparking fears of a wider witch-hunt against military officers.

Atta-Asamoah suggests that the AU's reaction to recent coups has not served as a deterrent. At a recent ISS webinar - before the Sudan coup - senior ISS researcher David Zounmenou said the AU's inconsistent application of its rule against coups was partly why this measure was not deterring coups.

He cited the sharp difference in approach towards Mali - suspended from the AU and Ecowas after the 2020 and 2021 coups - and that towards Chad, which was allowed to remain a full AU member, pending a promise by the coup leaders to transition to elections and civilian rule.

Coups are never a good idea, even if some may be more justifiable than others. But in Sudan's case, the blame seems to be heavily weighted towards the military side. Hamdok has been criticised for being too consultative - and therefore indecisive - and this may have slowed the reforms that were necessary to turn around the economy, which had stagnated under Al-Bashir.

So the democratic dividend was not fully forthcoming economically for ordinary Sudanese. But this could hardly justify a coup. And there are no indications that the management of the economy will be any better under a military government.

But that was probably not the objective. The military was most likely very narrowly focused on its own interests. And to hell with the rest.

DM

# Abiy's offensive against Tigray collapses: Dreams of a 'new Ethiopia' arise

By Phillip Van Niekerk

**O**VER the weekend, fighters from the Tigrayan Defence Force seized control of parts of Dessie, a city 400km from Addis Ababa, and captured Kembolcha, with its major airport.

Abiy gambled everything on a massive offensive that he launched on 9 October, throwing tens of thousands of poorly trained and poorly equipped rookies into the fight and bragging that it would take 10 days to recapture Mekelle, the Tigray capital.

## That offensive has collapsed.

Over the weekend, fighters from the Tigrayan Defence Force (TDF) seized control of parts of Dessie, a city 400km from Addis Ababa, and captured Kembolcha, with its major airport. The French analyst René Lefort wrote that in 1991 when the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) overthrew Mengistu Haile Mariam's military junta (the Derg), it took them only a few days to travel from Dessie to Addis.

Some of the TDF military leaders were among those who liberated Ad-

dis that day, among them General Tsadkan Gebretensae, the TDF commander and military strategist who is credited with outplaying and outfoxing Abiy's forces. No one knows the geography of the country or the road into Addis better than he does.

Having failed with the ground attack, the Ethiopian air force has repeatedly bombed Mekelle over the past fortnight, killing many civilians. The Amhara ethno-nationalists have resorted to ever more extreme language, with calls for the extermination of the Tigrayans that were reminiscent of Rwanda in 1994.

How was this setback possible, with Abiy holding such a huge advantage in numbers against a largely guerrilla force from a landlocked province, without an air force or international support? Why have the sophisticated weaponry and drones from Iran, Turkey and China proved no match for this low-tech army of footsoldiers?

"PM Abiy threw an ill-trained peasant army against a battle-hardened, formidable army with an iron will to fight and expected to win," explained Rashid Abdi, the Kenyan expert on the Horn of Africa.



Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed.

Ethiopia is a multi-ethnic country with a long history of inter-ethnic conflict, violence and resentment. The country has 80 ethnic groups, but the top five - Oromo, Amhara, Tigrayan, Afar and Somali - represent 85% of the population. The political system that kept these tensions in check has been breaking down for decades and the forces of violent ethno-nationalism have grown.

The immediate trigger for the military conflict was Tigray's decision to hold an unauthorised election in 2020 after Abiy postponed the country's elections, citing Covid-19 as a pretext.

On 4 November 2020, Abiy sent a

combination of ENDF troops, the Eritrean military and Amhara militias into Tigray, claiming he was responding to an attack by the Tigray military on a federal military camp.

Abiy sought to exploit the anti-Tigrayan resentment of the Amhara ethno-nationalists to crush the Tigrayans, who had been dominant in the country's political system during the authoritarian rule of Meles Zenawi between 1991 and 2012. After Abiy's succession to power in 2015, they remained a significant check on his power.

The ensuing conflict has been particularly violent, with upwards of several hundred thousand dead - but these are just estimates; no one seems to be counting and few independent reporters have been near the battlefields. Reports of atrocities have been random and episodic.

After the November invasion drove the TDF into the mountains, the Amhara fighters were accused of ethnic cleansing of Tigrayan villages and Amnesty International claimed that troops from Eritrea massacred hundreds of unarmed Tigrayan civilians in the town of Axum.

The turning point in the war came in

June, when the TDF routed the ENDF and recaptured Mekelle. Since then, it has been a slow march to the south and the east, a war on several fronts, while Abiy tried to rebuild his army; he also signed military cooperation agreements with Russia and Turkey.

Abiy has attempted to starve the encircled Tigray into submission by blocking food aid convoys from reaching up to a million people, mostly women and children, who are near starvation. UN officials who complained of this use of hunger as a weapon - a war crime - were expelled from the country. Abiy's incitement of ethnic hatred in a combustible world further undermined the standing of this former hero of progressives worldwide, who won the Nobel Peace Prize a short two years ago.

His legacy, if he falls, will be a shattered country and ruined economy. With the destruction of the ENDF, and the Eritreans staying out of the recent fighting, the conflict could be entering a new phase between the Tigrayans and the Amhara that will go on even after Abiy has fallen. The more extreme Amhara faction has launched a "call to arms". The Tigrayans are mindful of the fact that they represent less than 5% of

the country's population and cannot rule Ethiopia alone, so they have been building alliances with other ethnic groups and political movements.

Their victories this weekend coincided with Abiy's recent losses on other fronts to the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), now allied with the Tigrayans. There are reports that the Tigrayans have agreed to let the OLA be the ones to march into Addis, an important symbolic gesture - but the OLA do not have the same firepower as the TDF.

The Oromo should be the big winners, but they are divided between those in opposition and those in Abiy's Prosperity Party. Abiy himself is Oromo, but his support within that group is mixed.

Further ethnic conflict will cause broader turmoil in the Horn of Africa that was highlighted this past week with a military coup in Sudan.

The brutality and hatred that has been aroused by the war have cast doubt on the very survival of Ethiopia. But Ethiopia is a multi-ethnic country and dismembering it, similar to what happened to Yugoslavia in the 1990s, might precipitate a level of death and suffering that is unimaginable. DM

**CAPITAL RADIO**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



## 'Only five African nations might achieve COVID-19 year-end vaccination target'

By **Chukwuma Muanya**

THE World Health Organisation's (WHO) Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti said on Sunday that just five of the 54 African nations could achieve the year-end target of vaccinating 40 per cent of their populations, except something drastic, happens in the face of rising demand for essential commodities like syringes.

She said Seychelles, Mauritius and Morocco have already met the goal that was set in May by the World Health Assembly, the globe's highest health policy-setting body. At the current pace, just two more countries, Tunisia and Cabo Verde would join the club.

The WHO official was joined at the event, facilitated by APO Group, by Director-General, Rwanda Biomedical Centre, Dr. Sabin Nsanzi-mana, and Director of External Affairs for PATH in the Africa Region & PATH Country Representative, South Africa, Sibusiso Hlatjwako.

Also on the ground to respond to questions were WHO's New Vaccine Introduction Officer, Dr. Phionah Aduhebe, and Deputy Incident Manager for COVID-19 Response, Dr. Thierno Balde.

Moeti feared that limited access to key items such as syringes might slow the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines on the continent.

The United Nations Children

Fund (UNICEF) has reported an imminent shortfall of up to 2.2 billion auto-disable syringes for COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunisation in 2022. This includes 0.3ml auto-disposable syringes for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccination.

The Botswanan physician said there "is no global stockpile of the 0.3ml specialised syringes, which differ from the 0.5ml syringes used for other types of COVID-19 vaccines and routine vaccination."

"The market for 0.3ml auto-disable syringes is tight and extremely competitive. As such, these are in short supply and will remain so through at least the first quarter of next year," she added.

The regional director said Kenya, Rwanda and South Africa and others had experienced delays in receiving syringes.

Moeti continued: "The looming threat of a vaccine commodities crisis hangs over the continent. Early next year, COVID-19 vaccines will start pouring into Africa, but a scarcity of syringes could paralyse progress. Drastic measures must be taken to boost syringe production. Countless African lives depend on it."

Also, according to a new policy brief launched yesterday, and co-authored by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, delivering immunisation and nutrition programmes



is necessary to maximise results and minimise costs of critical health services, as well as enabling more people to be reached, particularly in vulnerable communities.

The document titled 'Equity from birth: an integrated approach to immunisation and nutrition' stressed that malnutrition and infectious

diseases cause millions of preventable child deaths yearly and contribute to a vicious cycle of poor health, stunted growth, poverty and exclusion, while malnutrition - both undernourished and overweight - could severely decrease COVID-19 survival rate.

Ahead of the December 7 to 8

Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G) held in Tokyo, Gavi and SUN are calling on global leaders and key decision-makers to prioritise this two-pronged vaccine-nutrition approach through clear commitments.

United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and SUN Movement

Coordinator, Gerda Verburg, said: "Delivering immunisation and nutrition services together will ensure that more people can be reached, especially the vulnerable, women and children. This would also contribute to building communities that are resilient to COVID-19 and future pandemics."

## Harness labour migration to spur economic development, EAC partner states urged

By **Guardian Reporter**

THE East African Community (EAC) partner states have been urged to harness labour migration for economic growth by putting in place the right policy frameworks.

Addressing the 5th EAC forum of ministers responsible for labour and employment in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection, Simon Chelugui called on the EAC partner states to always negotiate as a bloc with other regional economic communities and big economies in order to reap from the economies of scale.

Chelugui, who also chaired the forum, underscored the importance of aligning national social security laws to extend access to social protection and portability of benefits for workers across the region.

The CS singled out key issues that need to be ad-

ressed to promote labour migration in the region, namely: harmonisation of labour laws, and enhancement of the use of ICT in collection, analysis and dissemination of labour market information, data and statistics on migrants.

Chelugui urged partner states to consider sharing Honorary Consuls services in key labour destination countries to improve the provision of necessary consular assistance and protection of the social, economic, labour and human rights of EAC migrant workers.

He called upon Partner States to promote ethical recruitment of migrant workers according to international standards and principles of International Migration Law, adding that Kenya had already established an oversight and community Feedback mechanisms for the recruitment industry.

He highlighted the key challenges to labour migration in the region as infringe-

ment of migrants' rights; trafficking in persons; smuggling of persons and child labour; forced returns; inadequate return and reintegration frameworks; high cost of remittances, and gender segregation; restrictions on freedom of expression and movement.

Addressing the forum, EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki said the labour and migration sector had registered several achievements such as the development and adoption of the EAC Common Market Scorecard on Free Movement of Labour, Rights of Establishment and Residence, 2018.

Dr Mathuki disclosed that the Secretariat was developing an implementation plan to implement the Scorecard.

He also informed the meeting that with support from the African Union Commission Joint Labour Migration Programme (AUC-JLMP) where IOM and ILO are implementing partners, the EAC Secretariat has re-

ceived technical and financial support to develop the EAC Labour Migration Policy which will facilitate, and coordinate labour migration areas related to harmonisation of national policies and legal frameworks governing labour migration.

The SG expressed his commitment to establishing a standalone Sectoral Council responsible for Labour, Migration and Employment given the importance of Labour to the Socio-economic development and transformation of the Community. This was in response to a request by the Ministers to promote the Forum into a Sectoral Council.

International Labour Organization (ILO) Country Director for Tanzania, Wellington Chibebe, informed the forum of Africa's high informality rate which currently is estimated at 82.9 per cent.

"When measured in terms of gender, the informality rate of women at 86.6 per cent is higher than that of males, which stands at 80

percent. Africa's informality rate translates into 379 million people being in informal employment. The problem of informality is higher in Sub-Saharan Africa than in North Africa at 84.9 percent and 70.8 per cent in North Africa," said Mr.Chibebe, adding that the COVID-19 pandemic had exacerbated the situation by reversing the previous gains significantly.

Chibebe revealed that the social protection expenditure in Africa amounts to less than 5 percent of GDP compared to a global average of 12.9 per cent.

"This is why the ILO Regional Office has developed a regional strategy to support constituents' initiatives towards universal social protection at the national level.

The aim is to more than double Africa's social protection coverage to 40% by 2025! In this regard, the partnerships with the African Union, World Bank, UNDP, UN Country Teams and other key actors have been significantly en-

hanced. We look forward to partnering with the EAC in this endeavour," said the ILO Country Director.

Chibebe noted that one vital lesson learnt from the pandemic was the importance of digital technology in response to crises.

He said that the pandemic presents an opportune moment to accelerate Africa's digital transformation and create decent and resilient jobs in the digital economy, adding that it was in this context that the ILO launched the ILO/ITU/ AU joint continental programme on "Boosting decent jobs and enhancing skills for youth in Africa's digital economy."

Chibebe said that it was widely recognized that trade integration can play an important role in driving growth and employment.

"It is also widely accepted, however, that the gains from trade do not accrue automatically nor equally, and policies matter both for gains to materialize and for the redistribu-

tion of the gains. A new generation of employment policies that are closely coordinated with economic policies, including trade and social protection policies can provide a framework to better realize productive and inclusive job gains in the African Continental Free Trade Area," Chibebe said.

Simovska-Nikolic Mira, the Movement Operations Manager, IOM Tanzania, on behalf of IOM Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa, Mohammed Abdiker, told the forum that labour migration was integral to regional integration and had the potential to transform and contribute significantly to inclusive economic growth in the region.

Noting that while labour migration can create and strengthen bonds between Partner States and societies, Mira said that it could also be a source of division within and between States and societies, often leaving migrants vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

## Mozambican farmers benefit from climate-smart agriculture project

By **Special Correspondent**

A group of 15 small-scale farmers, comprising 11 women and four men, in the Baca-Baca community in Mafuane, Namaacha district of Mozambique, has benefited from the climate smart technologies agriculture project launched in December 2020 by the Centre for Coordination of Agriculture Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA).

The project is implemented by CCARDESA in collaboration with SADC Secretariat with support from the European Union under the Global Climate Change Alliance plus (GCCA+) programme.

The Mozambique project is one the four projects launched by CCARDESA, with technical support from Bembani Group, to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on food and nutrition security using Climate Smart Technologies. The other three are in Eswatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CCARDESA was founded by SADC Member States to harmonize the implementation of agricultural research and development in the

SADC Region

The projects are an extension of the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) programme which seeks to strengthen the capacity of SADC Member States to undertake regional and national adaptation and mitigation actions in response to the challenges caused by the effects of climate change.

The EU has contributed €8 million to the GCCA+ project to increase the capabilities of SADC Member States to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, and to have their voices better heard in the international climate change negotiations.

The project will directly and indirectly benefit approximately 150 people.

Project Management Officer, Luis Edgar Francisco Huamusse, said the farmers have 0.75 hectares under maize, and planted 2 000 heads of cabbage, 1 850 onions, 800 tomato plants, and one hectare of cucumber, beetroot, and lettuce in a greenhouse. The crops are in the development phase and in good condition while 5 000 heads of cabbage will be transplanted on a quarter of a hectare outside the greenhouse.



The project uses gravity irrigation system which has been installed to draw water from Rio Moveve for irrigating the crops.

Huamusse said the communities around the project are responding positively to the project, becoming fully involved in the production process. Potential markets for the produce from the project have already been identified locally in the towns of Boane and Namaacha, in the city of Matola and in Maputo.

"We also have potential markets in neighbouring countries such as Eswatini and South Africa," he said.

The farmers have been provided with technical support to use climate smart techniques and practices to produce 20 tonnes of vegetables per year and improve income generation and market access in local communities and beyond, including management of pesticides to control pests and diseases.

As a way to build an inter-dependent ecosystem relationship, the project seeks to build two build fishponds, one for hatching and one for fattening the fish. The project is also planning to extend into eggs production by rearing layers chicken. Plans are underway to build an aviary with a capacity for 1000 laying hens.

There also plans to build the capacity of the beneficiary farmers in climate smart agricultural and resilience technologies, sustainable management, and enhance their capacity on cooperatives.

COVID-19 has caused a humanitarian crisis, negatively impacting the food and nutrition status of millions of households worldwide.

The escalating threat on livelihoods, food and nutrition security due to increasing cases, lockdowns and health-related restrictions calls for urgent interventions to minimise the impact to the most affected communities.



# From Taliban to Taliban: Cycle of hope, despair on women's rights

LONDON

SECONDARY schools have reopened for boys but remain closed to the vast majority of girls. Women are banned from most employment; the Taliban government added insult to injury by saying women in their employ could keep their jobs only if they were in a role a man cannot fill—such as being an attendant in a women's toilet. Women are mostly out of university, and due to new restrictions it is unclear when and how they can return. Many female teachers have been dismissed.

The policy of requiring a mahram, a male family member as chaperone, to accompany any woman leaving her home, is not in place according to a Kabul official but Taliban members on the street are still sometimes enforcing it, as well as harassing women about their clothing. The Taliban have systematically closed down shelters for women and girls fleeing domestic violence. Women's sports have been banned.

The Taliban have appointed an all-male cabinet. They abolished the Ministry of Women's Affairs, and handed over the women's ministry building to the reinstated Ministry of Vice and Virtue, which was responsible for some of the worst abuses against women during the Taliban's previous period in power from 1996 to 2001.

This was the situation two months after the Taliban had regained control of the Afghan capital, Kabul, as the US and its allies departed, wrapping up their 20-year engagement in Afghanistan's 40-year war.

Afghan women are fighting for their rights. They tried to negotiate with the Taliban, and when that failed, they protested. The Taliban broke up their protests, beating protesters and the journalists covering the protests, and then banned unauthorized protest.

The US and the whole international community seem a bit stunned and unsure of what to do. It forms a sadly perfect bookend to the days after the 9/11 attacks, when the US and its allies grieved and raged and then emphasized Taliban abuses of women and girls to help them build support for their invasion of Afghanistan.

The US has long had an uneven and self-serving-track record on defending women's rights abroad. But the US is not alone being unsure of what to do to protect the rights of women and girls under Taliban rule.

Even governments priding themselves on their commitment to women's rights have struggled to find solutions. They have also struggled to make the rights of Afghan women and girls a top priority at a moment when troop-contributing nations are licking their wounds, and concerns about Afghanistan again becoming a host to international terrorist operations could overshadow concerns about human rights.

## Humanitarian crisis

Taliban attacks on rights are not the only problem women and girls are facing. Afghanistan's economy is in free fall, set off by widespread lost income, cash shortages, rising food costs, being severed from global financial systems, and an abrupt halt

to the development assistance that made up 75 percent of the previous government's budget.

This crisis, like most humanitarian crises, will cause the most harm to women and girls. Officials with the UN and several foreign governments are warning of economic collapse and risks of worsening acute malnutrition and outright famine. Surveys by the World Food Program (WFP) reveal that over nine in ten Afghan families have insufficient food for daily consumption, with half saying that they ran out of food at least once in the previous two weeks. One in three Afghans is already acutely hungry.

In December 2020, the UN Children's Fund, UNICEF, had already warned that an estimated 3.1 million children—half of Afghanistan's children—were acutely malnourished. Other United Nations reports warn that over 1 million more children could face acute malnutrition in the coming year. By mid-2022, 97 percent of Afghans may be below the poverty line.

Healthcare workers and teachers, many of them women, have not been paid for months, and the healthcare system is collapsing. Where schools for girls are open, few students attend, out of fear that they cannot move to and from school safely, along with financial problems, and a sense of despair about their future. And unpaid teachers may or may not teach.

## Weak international response

Even as it became increasingly clear over the course of years that cheerful US and NATO statements about their progress in defeating the Taliban were papering over huge and growing cracks, few could imagine a Taliban return as abrupt as the one that took place in August 2021. Few would have predicted this level of humanitarian crisis and collapse of essential services within weeks of the end of a 20-year military, political, and development engagement by at least 42 countries costing an estimated \$2.3 trillion.

The early weeks of resumed Taliban rule seemed marked by indecision and slow response by the international community, in spite of a G7 pledge on August 24, following an emergency meeting, that "We will work together, and with our allies and regional countries, through the UN, G20 and more widely, to bring the international community together to address the critical questions facing Afghanistan."

A special session of the UN Human Rights Council on August 24 produced no meaningful progress. The UN Security Council in September renewed the mandate of the UN mission in Afghanistan but did not take specific steps to strengthen the mission's human rights work, which faced staffing gaps and problems after some staff left their posts or were evacuated.

A subsequent meeting of the Human Rights Council produced agreement to appoint a special rapporteur on human rights in Afghanistan, with a mandate including monitoring and advocating for the rights of women and girls. This is a less powerful mechanism than the fact-finding mission a broad coalition of human



Taliban violations of the rights of women and girls are uniquely extreme. No other country openly bars girls from studying on the basis of gender.

rights organizations had called for.

The resolution creating the role of special rapporteur provided the person with greater staffing resources than most special rapporteurs but did not accelerate the onboarding process. Under the standard timeline, the rapporteur and their team won't be in place until mid-2022.

An announcement by the International Criminal Court's prosecutor called into question the role that body will play in protecting human rights in Afghanistan. The court's Office of the Prosecutor had been considering action in Afghanistan since 2007 and opened an investigation in 2020.

Alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity within the court's jurisdiction in Afghanistan include: attacks against civil servants including female officials; attacks on schools particularly girls' schools; and rape and other sexual violence against women and girls. The investigation was suspended nearly as soon as it was opened, however, while the Office of the Prosecutor considered a request from the former Afghan government to defer to national proceedings.

The prosecutor on September 27, 2021, announced that he would seek authorization from the court to resume investigations in the absence of any prospect of genuine national proceedings, but would focus on crimes committed by the Taliban and Islamic State and "deprioritize" other aspects of the investigation.

This approach sends a message that some victims in Afghanistan are more entitled to justice than others, and risks undermining the legitimacy of the court's investigation.

There is significant variety in the views of key countries about engaging with the new Taliban authorities in Afghanistan. Regional politics are fraught and complex. China and Russia may see themselves as benefiting from a shift in global power dynamics due to the US defeat in Afghanistan, and they and others including Pakistan and Qatar seem more ready than countries that contributed troops to engage with the Taliban. China, Russia and Pakistan were among only five countries that voted against the Human Rights Council resolution to establish a special rapporteur.

## "Feminist foreign policy" and the Taliban

Women's rights activists have made important progress around the world in the 20 years since the Taliban were previously in power, from 1996 to 2001. These advances make the Taliban's violations of the rights of women and girls even more cruel and intolerable than they were in 2001 and should help spur action by countries that have made progress to right these wrongs.

In recent years, several countries—including Sweden, Canada, Mexico, and France—proclaimed that they have a "feminist foreign policy." According to the Swedish government, a feminist foreign policy "means applying a systematic gender equality perspective throughout the whole foreign policy agenda."

Feminist foreign policy is also a recognition that you cannot have human security when half the population is oppressed and living in fear. As Germany's foreign minister wrote in 2020, "Numerous studies demonstrate that societies in which women and men are on equal footing are more secure, stable, peaceful, and prosperous."

## What Concerned Governments Should Do

How should a world increasingly embracing "feminist foreign policy" respond to Taliban violations of the rights of women and girls in 2021?

The first step is to muster political will. Lack of political will may be a particular challenge in the wake of the withdrawal of foreign troops, but it is not a new problem. During the decades of international presence, troop-contributing nations paid lip service and contributed funding toward women's rights, but rarely political capital, and over time the lip service and cash dwindled too.

In 2011, the Washington Post reported that efforts to support women's rights were being stripped out of US programs, quoting an official who said, "All those pet rocks in our rucksack were taking us down." In a disturbing indication of lack of focus on women's rights, many government and aid organizations have in recent weeks sent all-male delegations to meet with the Taliban, undermining any efforts they are making to press for greater respect for women's rights.

Then there is a need for the international community to reach as much consensus as possible about what the problems are and what should be done. There are signs that even countries that have been more open to engaging with the Taliban have been disappointed by their unwillingness to appoint an inclusive government and their violations of women's and girls' rights.

The Taliban government excludes not just women but also largely excludes religious minorities and most non-Pashtun ethnic groups. Even China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran have all called for the Taliban to form an "inclusive government." Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that banning girls from education in Afghanistan would be "un-Islamic." Qatar's foreign minister called the Taliban's ban on girls' education "very disappointing."

The Taliban's unbending stance on the rights of women and girls is so extreme that this, and its opposition to an inclusive government, may drive broad concern about their actions and help the international community build consensus about how to engage. The US may not be the most able leader for this process and may prefer not to lead.

Other countries and institutions, including countries that have pledged to have a feminist foreign policy, majority Muslim countries, and organizations like the EU, should consider taking on greater leadership than they have so far, in response to a weak response from the US.

Next comes the need for a plan. Whatever the plan is, it should avoid any actions that would worsen Afghanistan's deepening humanitarian crisis and disproportion-

ately affect women and girls. There are signs of emerging agreement for humanitarian assistance and essential services, with the United Nations Development Program having made arrangements to pay salaries of healthcare workers on a temporary basis.

But major issues remain unresolved, suffering from a lack consensus by the international community, including how to respond to Taliban efforts to exclude women from working for aid agencies. Women workers are essential to ensure that aid reaches women and women-headed households, so permitting women humanitarian workers to do their jobs is not setting a condition on humanitarian assistance so much as an operational necessity to be able to deliver that assistance.

The international community has struggled to identify what leverage they have that can be used to influence the Taliban. The situation has been complicated by opaqueness on the Taliban side. Governments and donors need to figure out what the Taliban want from the international community, how much and where the Taliban are willing to compromise to get what they want. And they need to identify what other pressures—including the demands of their own members and the risk of Taliban fighters defecting to the Islamic State—constrain the Taliban from compromise.

Equipped with this knowledge, the international community should recognize that almost every country on the planet—except six, conspicuously including the US, plus Iran, Palau, Somalia, Sudan, and Tonga—has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Afghanistan ratified the convention in 2003. The convention requires countries to "pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women."

This promise has not been fulfilled in any country; no country has achieved full gender equality and disparities in access to education and employment, wage gaps, and failure to adequately respond to gender-based violence are common around the world. But even in that context, Taliban violations of the rights of women and girls are uniquely extreme.

No other country openly bars girls from studying on the basis of gender. It is shocking to see a country intentionally destroy its system for responding to gender-based violence and dismantle institutions such as the Ministry of Women's Affairs that were designed to strengthen compliance with CEDAW.

The leverage the international community has to influence the Taliban needs to be deployed in defense of the rights of women and girls. Doing this will be a complex, difficult, and long-term task. But as

CEDAW members, and, in many cases, countries that used women's rights to sell a war and spent 20 years promising eternal solidarity to Afghan women and girls, the international community owes them this effort.

IPS



# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS NACHO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 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# TRA pays Shanta Gold over 9.8bn/- as part of long-awaited refunds of value-added tax

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

**E**AST Africa-focused gold producer Shanta Gold has confirmed receipt of US\$2.1 million (approx. 4.9bn/-) from Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) being part payment for its long-awaited Value Added Tax (VAT) refund.

In its third quarter report for the year ending September 2021, Shanta Gold said although it has so far received US\$4.2 million (approx. 9.8bn/-) in VAT refunds so far this year, the company's amount actually increased from US\$27.4 to US\$27.7 million which is subject to verification by the TRA.

When The Guardian asked TRA's Director of Taxpayer Education, Richard Kayombo as to why was Shanta Gold's VAT amount increasing instead of decreasing with two instalments paid so far this year, he said, "The law bars the tax body from discussing such matters with the media."

But according to Shanta Gold CEO, Eric Zurrin said the company is positively engaging with the revenue authority to clear the outstanding balance. Zurrin said the



Shanta Gold CEO Eric Zurrin.

company's outlook remains positive as it works towards its updated five-year plan and ambition to become a mid-tier gold producer in Africa by 2023.

The updated five year plan was announced mid this year resulting in reserve-based mine life being extended to 2026 at New Luika Gold Mine and to 2029 for the Singida Mine. "2021 has proven to be a year of ongoing exploration success, and our third quarter performance is no exception. With new high-grade resources discovered at both New Luika and West Kenya and a rapidly approaching first production at Singida on target for early 2023," he said.

He said the plan reflects Shanta's commitment to operating as a low cost gold producer, reflected in the decreasing cost base forecast be-

tween 2021/25 with an average consolidated adjusted operating cost and all in sustaining costs of US\$778 per ounces and US\$986 per ounces respectively over the planned period.

Zurrin said that mine construction at the company's Singida Mine is on track as per the mine plan adding that as planned, the project is expected to commence production in early 2023. He said the company's total gold production during the third quarter was 14,194 ounces as compared to 14,020 ounces produced during the second quarter.

"We remain excited about our near and longer-term prospects across our diversified portfolio of assets in East Africa," Zurrin said noting that Shanta Gold reduced its production guidance mid this year due to weaker output in the second quarter and a revised operating plan.

## Zambia lifts ban on Uganda's Lato milk, Kenya set for talks

KAMPALA

ZAMBIA has now allowed imports of Uganda's Lato Milk whose sale was stopped in Kenya over standard concerns.

The deal opens up a new market for Ugandan dairy farmers that remains out of reach for their Kenyan counterparts, with Zambia having barred milk imports from Kenya 13 years ago, also on quality concerns.

Pearl Dairy Farms Limited has suffered major losses since Kenyan authorities on December 27, 2019 blocked Uganda's milk and dairy products on the grounds that Kampala has no capacity to produce the commodity that it claims, arguing that part of the exports are imported to Uganda as powdered milk before being reconstituted. The firm is the

largest processor of milk in Uganda with a daily capacity of 800,000 litres. Its brand was popular in Kenya and retailed at lower cost when compared with local ones before the ban.

Uganda's minister of agriculture, animal industry and fisheries Frank Tumwebaze said countries that doubt Uganda's capacity to produce quality products should visit the country and ascertain for themselves that it is able to meet the quality demands.

"People deny us market for our milk and dairy products on account of quality...we are ready to be inspected. Pearl Dairy is an example of one of the good investments. Let them come," he said. "Zambia sent their inspectors here and that is why they were able to certify that this is a

good product for their market."

A Kenyan delegation is slated to visit Uganda this month to discuss the impasse on milk trade between the two countries as well as carry out a verification mission to authenticate if Uganda has ability to produce surplus and quality product. Countries have been leaning on quality reasons to bar milk imports, a move seen by some economic experts as a form of protectionism of their own dairy sectors.

Zambia's ban on Kenyan milk imports 13 years ago followed a petition by the Zambian Dairy Processors Association (ZDPA), which claimed that Kenya raw milk exceeds its national total bacteria count (TBC) maximum of 200,000 per millilitre. Kenya follows the global benchmark of one million TBC per millilitre.



Uganda's Minister for agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Frank Tumwebaze.

## Uncertainty with agency mum on olive oil quality

NAIROBI

THE safety of a popular Spanish olive oil retailing in the local market remains uncertain as the standards regulator stayed silent two months after it allegedly commenced an investigation.

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (Kebs) had in August said it would look into the safety of the pomace olive oil, that had been withdrawn from shop shelves in the United Arab Emirates amid claims that some grades of the product may contain some cancer-causing substances.

Efforts to reach Kebs managing director Benard Njiraini were unsuccessful as he did not reply to our email nor respond to the calls. The Business Daily, however learnt that Kebs lacked adequate capacity to conduct the tests, leaving consumers at a crossroad.

"That parameter is not one of the specified in our standards and we lack the capacity to test it," a source at Kebs told the Business Daily. Spanish authorities in July banned exports of pomace olive oil amid claims that some consignments contained high levels of potentially cancer-causing chemicals in oil extracted from pulpy residue.

Mr Njiraini had two months ago said samples of the Spanish olive oil in the Kenyan market would be tested for

safety before a decision is taken. "Kebs is therefore undertaking sample collection for analysis and results will help us make the decision," he said then in an e-mailed response.

"Our procedures include in-depth investigations before reacting to any allegations, which entail the collection of random samples and subjecting them to Lab analysis. If the products are imported and had been issued with a certificate of conformity, we contact the inspection agency to ascertain the results of certificate of analysis of that product."

Kebs had said it would contact its Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVOC) agents to ascertain the results of the certificate of analysis of the products on sale in the Kenyan market. Pomace oil is extracted from the olive pulp leftover from the production of higher quality oils using chemical solvents.

The grade four olive oil was found to be contaminated with the chemical alpha benzopyrenes, which is carcinogenic. An export ban on other grades of the product has since been lifted by Spanish authorities. Olive oil has become popular in diets in the world – propped by its numerous health benefits, including cutting the risk of heart attacks.

It is an oil high in an ingredient known as monounsaturates needed to



Kenya Bureau of Standards' managing director, Bernard Njiraini.

control cholesterol levels, and vitamin E, which helps to stave off heart disease. The popularity of olive oil has, however, become problematic globally amid concerns that some crooks may be taking advantage of the craze to sell cheap and unsafe versions.

## Ethereum jumps to record high amid crypto's decentralisation

NEW YORK

ETHER, the second-largest cryptocurrency, soared to a record above \$4,400 Friday on bullish sentiment surrounding the most used blockchain network.

The digital asset gained as much as 4.8% to \$4,459.20, topping the previous record of \$4,379.62 in May. The token traded around \$4,387 as of 2:41 p.m. in New York. Other tokens including Binance Coin and Solana rallied. Ether is now worth more than \$520 billion, according to data from CoinGecko.com.

Ether's latest milestone comes as the digital token has far outperformed Bitcoin throughout this year with a sixfold increase amid surging retail and institutional investor interest in the space. Ether underpins the affiliated Ethereum Network, the dominant blockchain used for thousands of decentralised applications.

The system got a further boost this week after a successful upgrade designed to make it faster and more energy-efficient.

Outstanding futures in Ether soared to \$12.5 billion, exceeding the May peak to notch a new record high, Bybt data show. Similar to Bitcoin, funding rates – or the cost of keeping a bullish bet open – have climbed this month on online exchanges. On CME, the futures curve has also steepened in a sign of optimism over the price trajectory.

"On-chain activity metrics for Ethereum appear to have found support and are reaching multi-month highs," said Sean Farrell and Will McEvoy, digital asset strategists with Fundstrat in a report Thursday. Measures including transaction rate, new addresses and active addresses have shown strong growth this month after suffering declines in May, the strategists said.



## Absa Tanzania chief salutes customers for brand loyalty amidst COVID-19 outbreak



Absa Bank Tanzania's managing director, Abdi Mohamed.

By Smart Money Reporter

**C**ONTINUED customer support and the general good working environment being provided by Bank of Tanzania has made things much better for Absa Bank Tanzania Limited.

Absa Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed said in Dar es Salaam last week at the end of this year's customer service month that the bank has continued to deliver the best services and products in the market despite the onslaught of the coronavirus outbreak.

"On behalf of the board, management and all employees of Absa Bank Tanzania, I am honoured to take the opportunity to say thank you to our esteemed customers and partners for their continued loyalty and support," Mohamed said.

He stated that as the regional bank is emerging from the intense crisis of the Covid 19, Absa Tanzania remains committed to bringing value to customers

in line with the theme of the recently completed customer service month, namely 'Power of service.'

"Through our collective experience, we have all discovered a new strength, resilience and, technological advancements to render us a better business for customers and partners," Mohamed added.

The Absa Tanzania chief executive further added that the strength of the bank's team which is comprised of employees who work tirelessly with their energy and skills to meet the needs of customers and partners, needs recognition.

"The wellbeing, health and safety of our employees and customers remain our top priority as we continue to focus on placing this at the centre of all that we do now and in the future. To our

customers, we continue to provide you the best products and services to ensure we play an integral part in your lifestyles as we respond to your needs according to changing times," he noted.

The Absa Bank Tanzania CEO noted that, they had maintained strong working relations with their regulatory partners, ensuring compliance to all regulations, a set-up that has facilitated them as bankers to continue providing the best services during and beyond the pandemic.

Because of delivering best services and products in the market, the bank was named as the 'Best Financial Institution in using ICT,' by Ministry of Information, Communication Technology. "We thank our regulatory partners for the utmost support, commitment and guidance given to ensure we continue to provide exceptional service to all our customers," Mohamed added.

## Data, fintech and digital services lift MTN Nigeria in third quarter

LAGOS

MTN Nigeria's data, fintech and digital services swelled in the third quarter (Q3), helping the telco cement its market position in Africa's most populous nation.

MTN, which has been growing alternative sources of revenue outside voice, maintained an accelerated growth trajectory, with massive adoption of its data, fintech and digital services in the nine months ended September.

Nigeria is Johannesburg-headquartered MTN's most profitable and biggest market out of the 21 countries it has a footprint. In the nine months to September, MTN added 2.5 million active data users to reach 33.2 million, and data revenue rose by 51.5%.

Fintech revenue grew by 55.2%, as customers continued to increase their use of the telco's broader fintech services. Similarly, digital revenue surged by 56%, as the active user base grew and penetration of MTN digital products deepened.

The telco says the active user base for digital services rose by 295.6% to 5.8 million, led by Ayoba - MTN's instant messaging platform - with approximately 2.9 million active users. MTN's enterprise business also followed other segments with a positive performance, which was underpinned by an increased user base and the uptake of the telco's enhanced services.

Karl Toriola, MTN Nigeria CEO, comments: "The resilience we are building in the business is reflected in our performance, demonstrating our ability to achieve continued growth despite the ongoing impact of SIM registration and activation restrictions on subscriber growth. While our overall subscriber numbers have continued to decline over the last quarter, this has been at a reduced rate, and we have seen our data subscriber numbers return to growth, increasing by 2.5 million. "We expect the decline in the



Karl Toriola, MTN Nigeria CEO.

overall subscriber base to bottom out and return to positive net additions in Q4 2021, as we progressively ramp up our SIM registration and activation infrastructure, while adopting and aligning with the new regulations.

"Overall, service revenue continues to grow, increasing by 23.7%, ahead of the rate of inflation and supported by voice revenue growth of 10.6% and accelerated data revenue growth of 51.5%." Addressing financial metrics, Toriola says, in Q3, service revenue was up by 23.7% and earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) grew by 27.4%.

The EBITDA margin improved by 1.6 percentage points to 52.6%, while capital expenditure was up by 34.4% to N261.1 billion (up 27.9% to N166.5 billion,

excluding the right of use assets). Earnings per share were up 52.7% to N10.8 kobo. Looking ahead, Toriola says, in the remainder of the year, MTN will build on the momentum from Q3 to deliver its service revenue growth target.

"We remain focused on accelerating the expansion of our 4G coverage and rural connectivity programme, while providing home broadband.

Our network investments help us accelerate the growth of our platform businesses to unlock their full value. In addition, we will continue to sustain our expense efficiency programme to strengthen our financial position and support margins.

At the same time, we strive to minimise the impact of foreign exchange availability on the business."

## Mozambique pays two more Ematum debt instalments

MAPUTO

INDIFFERENT to the theatrical trial taking place at the BO and the assumption of guilt by Credit Suisse Bank for granting illegal loans to Mozambique, the government has paid two more instalments of Ematum's unconstitutional debt.

Finance Minister Adriano Maleiane confirmed to @Verdade this Thursday that two more repayments of Ematum's debt were made through the 2021 State Budget. "The country is responsible. What it promises, it fulfils. Everything that was done in good faith, we pay. In relation to Ematum, we are paying," Minister Maleiane said in response to questions.

The payments cover about US\$45 million in interest of the debt of US\$850 million contracted in 2013 by Ematum with sovereign guarantee, in violation of the Constitution of the Republic and the Budget Law, and which were restructured in May, 2019. In March this year, US\$22.5 million were paid, and in September, another US\$22.5 million.

It will be remembered that, under the restructuring, the initial Ematum loan was transformed into Commercial

External Debt, the government negotiating to pay initially only the interest, and, from 2028, to both pay interest and repay capital. Calculations by @Verdade estimate that this debt alone - just part of the US\$2 billion in debt illegally contracted by the government - will cost the country US\$1.8 billion, by 2033.

Overall, the government has already repaid US\$392 million in interest on loans taken out by companies ProIndicus, Ematum and MAM. These repayments take place while, in Maputo, the trial of 19 citizens accused of receiving bribes related to these debts proceeds. None of them, however, is responsible for the sovereign guarantees issued in favour of Credit Suisse and VTB.

Paradoxically, a few days ago, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, Credit Suisse "admitted to defrauding U.S. and international investors in the financing of an \$850 million loan for a tuna fishing project in Mozambique, and has been assessed more than \$547 million in penalties, fines, and disgorgement as part of coordinated resolutions with criminal and civil authorities in the United States and the United Kingdom."



Mozambican Finance minister, Adriano Maleiane.

## Mastercard partners with MoneyFellows launching innovative digital solutions

CAIRO

MASTERCARD has partnered with MoneyFellows, a collaborative group lending and savings platform, to offer MoneyFellows customers a range of new digital solutions and services that will help drive the expansion of Egypt's digital economy.

MoneyFellows has taken the traditional group lending and savings model, or "Game'eya" as referred to by Egyptians, into the digital age by offering customers affordable credit and saving opportunities to meet their financial needs with ease and convenience. MoneyFellows allows its customers to make payments for their monthly installments through a seamless user experience.

As part of the new partnership, MoneyFellows customers can now receive funds through Mastercard prepaid cards. The partnership is expected to open the doors to thousands of new customers over the coming years, allowing many to embrace digital payments for the first time.

"Our partnership with MoneyFellows is another milestone in Mastercard's continuous support to fintechs and our efforts to drive financial inclusion across Egypt. We are responding to the market's needs for digital financial services and strive to use our expertise and technology to create a system that facilitates easy, safe, and secure transactions for all. We are delighted to partner with MoneyFellows as we take an age-old practice and bring it into the digital age," shared Mohamed Assem, Egypt's Country Manager, Mastercard.

Consumers have adjusted their purchasing patterns to embrace emerging payment technologies, which has been further accelerated by the pandemic. According to the Mastercard Payments Index, new payment technologies are becoming more widely adopted, and customer demand for new, rapid, and flexible digital experiences is increasing, with 83% of consumers in Egypt having access to more ways to pay compared to the previous year. 94% of Egyptian consumers stated that they are willing to explore using at least one innovative payment method in the coming year, such as cryptocurrency, biometrics, contactless payments, or QR codes.

"Joining forces with Mastercard will help us digitize and simplify our operations as well as offer more convenience to MoneyFellows customers," said Ahmed Wadi, Founder and CEO, MoneyFellows. "The technology and vast global network Mastercard provides will pave the way to extend the umbrella of financial inclusion to new untapped segments and more customer acquisition as well as cross-border expansions. We are excited about such a fruitful cooperation that will certainly flourish with many synergies."

Since its establishment, MoneyFellows has been active across the market to establish engagement and partnerships in different sectors, with an ever-growing list of partners that include key market players in telecom, transport, e-commerce and leading banks in Egypt.



# IMF stimulus money should be spent prudently to offset COVID-19 fallout

By Geoffrey Nangai

FINANCE and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said while presenting this year's national budget in June, that the government through its stimulus package will inject more money into circulation.

It only took courage to believe his assumptions as the country was already grappling with the effects of the coronavirus outbreak that has seriously affected the country's economy due to lowered revenue and an increasing external and public debt.

To walk the talk, Bank of Tanzania, a month later injected Tn/- in the financial institutions market for lending at an interest rate of three percent so that banks can lend to the private sector as a mitigation measure to address the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a surprise, the government on September 7 announced that it had secured 1.3trn/- from International Monetary Fund (IMF) under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) and Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) also targeting to address shortfalls caused by the pandemic.

This emergency financing would help finance Tanzania's urgent balance of payment needs stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. The country's economic outlook indicated a deceleration by 4.8 percent mainly due to declining tourist numbers as lockdowns loomed large worldwide.

According to a statement by the IMF Director and Chair Bo Li, Tanzania required urgent financial assistance to implement the Covid-19 Socio-economic Response Plan (TCRP) and avert severe health, social and economic consequences of a reported third wave of the virus.

"Emergency support under the Rapid Credit Facility and Rapid Financing Instrument will



substantially contribute to filling immediate external financing needs and help catalyze donor support," Li said in the statement. The emergency IMF financing no doubt will help in interventions needed to mitigate the severe socio-economic impacts of the pandemic and help the country stand on its feet again.

Government has already set priority areas for the IMF emergency funding in sectors that include health, water and sanitation, education, regional administration and local government (RALG); and tourism, among other sectors. The Health and RALG sectors take the lion's share of the emergency funding accounting for 466.9bn/- and 302.7bn/- respectively.

Through the emergency IMF financing, the government is seeking to take a systematic approach of killing two birds with one stone; thus, intensifying the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic but at the same time address the country's long-term economic challenges.

Trickle-down effect on the

private sector

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office Investment and Private Sector, Geoffrey Mwambe held a meeting with members of Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) in Dar es Salaam last week under the theme 'Enhancing participation of the private sector in strategic projects for sustainable economic development,' during which he urged them to grab opportunities created by the 1.3trn/- emergency financing as the government will float tenders for various projects.

It's now official that many prioritized infrastructural projects in sectors that include health, water and sanitation, education, infrastructure and tourism will be implemented by the private sector in a period of nine months according to the IMF's terms and conditions.

Consequently many people in the manufacturing sector, construction sector, procurement and supply, tourism and local government are set to benefit once the projects are implemented as part of the value chain supplying goods

and services.

After the award of the tenders to the private sector to implement prioritized projects, there will be more money in circulation in the economy to grassroots level. During Mwambe's meeting, TPSF members, however, voiced their concern over terms of payment. They requested the government to consider paying 50 percent advance payments once the project is awarded to allow smooth implementation.

Similarly, the private sector called for the removal of red tape in the procurement process to enable them to complete projects timely. The government however needs to ensure accountability and value for money for all projects that will be implemented with the IMF's financing. As President Samia Suluhu Hassan has warned, those who will misuse the funds whether from the public or private sector, will face her full wrath.

It is equally important for the government to invest in human resources especially for the health sector as a long-term goal of keeping Tanzania's health sector afloat and improve the doctor - patient ratio.

**Geoffrey Nangai (pictured) is a Corporate Communications Executive based in Dar es Salaam. Send your feedback to: [geoffnangai@gmail.com](mailto:geoffnangai@gmail.com) / 0758897538.**

## IMF calls for urgent action to address gaps in climate mitigation ambitions and policies

GLASGOW



CLIMATE change presents a grave threat to macroeconomic and financial stability and policymakers attending Cop26 must address critical gaps in ambition and policy to achieve emissions curbs that can help to contain global warming, according to the International Monetary Fund.

The window of opportunity for limiting global warming to 1.5°C to 2°C above pre-industrial levels is closing rapidly, the fund said in a note late on Sunday, the first day of the Cop26 meeting of world leaders in Glasgow.

The Paris Agreement provides a mandate for countries to lower their carbon emissions to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, preferably at about 1.5°C. "Unchanged global policies will leave 2030 carbon emissions far higher than needed to keep 1.5°C alive," said IMF managing director Kristalina Georgieva (pictured).

"Cuts of 55 per cent below baseline levels in 2030 would be urgently needed to meet that goal and of 30 per cent to meet the 2°C objective." World leaders at the conference will aim to strengthen commitments made in Paris in 2015 to stabilise the planet's climate and look to speed up action to achieve a zero-carbon future by 2050.

Limiting global warming to the Paris Agreement mandate requires cutting global carbon emissions by 25 per cent to 50 per cent below 2021 levels by 2030, followed by a steady decline to net-zero emissions near the middle of this century, the Washington-based lender said. "Despite countries variably committing to net-zero emissions targets and strengthening 2030 targets, there remains a large near-term gap in mitigation ambition," Ms Georgieva said.

About 135 countries accounting for more than three quarters of global greenhouse gas emissions have committed to net zero by mid-century. But they fall short in pledges for the near term, the fund said. Even if current commitments for 2030 were met, this would only amount to between one third and two thirds of the reductions needed for temperature goals, according to the IMF.

The IMF called for enhanced external financing to support stronger mitigation ambition for emerging markets and developing economies. Advanced economies must fulfil their commitment to provide \$100 billion a year in finance to low-income countries from 2020 onwards, the fund said.

The fund also proposed an international carbon price floor among a small group of large emitters. Such a floor would be equitable, with different prices for countries at different levels of economic development, alongside financial and technological assistance for low-income participants.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

# Traditional medicines should be equally supported and fairly researched

By Motlalepula Matsabisa

TRADITIONAL medicine has been used for centuries, and today it still has a vital role to play in health care and in improving the well-being of people across the globe. Celebrating African Traditional Medicine Day on 31 August each year shows the importance of traditional medicine - especially African traditional medicine - as part of the indigenous medical knowledge systems (IKS).

In fact, traditional medicine is regarded so important that the African Union has decided to designate 31 August of each year for the recognition and celebration of African Traditional Medicines Day. More recently, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Africa CDC established a Regional Expert Advisory Committee, bringing together experts from across the continent to advise and make recommendations regarding scientific research and clinical trials on traditional medicines for Covid-19, including technical and scientific assistance to member states wishing to conduct Covid-19 clinical trials.

The Regional Expert Advisory Committee would also advise the WHO and CDC on how to respond to current and new pandemics through the application of traditional medicinal products. This is another indication of the important role traditional medicines and traditional health practitioners could play in health and formal economies. I am currently heading this committee of African experts.

Traditional African medicine is a holistic discipline involving the use of indigenous herbalism combined with aspects of African spirituality. On the continent of Africa, about 80% of the population are said to rely on traditional medicine for their basic health-care needs, according to the WHO. In some cases, traditional medicine is the only health-care service available; it is accessible and affordable to many people on the continent and the developing Third World. This makes traditional medicine the major provider of health-care services in Africa, including all other developing countries; therefore, it cannot be underestimated.

The role of traditional medicine in combating Covid-19

I am involved in the research and development of traditional medicines in

order to develop safe, efficacious, quality, and well-researched medicines that are easy to use, based on indigenous medical knowledge and the country's floral biodiversity. I am also conducting research aimed at products of plant origin that can address metabolic disease such as diabetes, cancer, Alzheimer's, hypertension, etc.

I also have an interest in developing new interventions and products for infectious diseases such as malaria and the current Covid-19 pandemic. The aim is to develop well-researched traditional medicinal products supported by controlled clinical research findings. It is quite possible that cures - or at the very least - medicines and vaccines for all modern-day illnesses, diseases, and pandemics have their origin in traditional medicine or natural products, and so there is hope that more such drugs and vaccines can still be developed. This has always been the case in the role that traditional medicine plays, not only on the African continent, but also worldwide.

Even though various effective vaccines have been developed to combat Covid-19, this deadly pandemic requires all the efforts from different aspects of health interventions. There is possibly not one single intervention to stop the Covid-19 pandemic, so we are looking at non-pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical interventions, including the development of herb- and traditional medicine-based pharmaceuticals for Covid-19. The core of my research is to find appropriate and relevant health solutions based on indigenous knowledge and products.

Traditional medicines can play a role in all the phases of the Covid-19 disease. The phases include the acute Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III, or better known as long Covid or post-Covid syndrome. Traditional medicine products can work as antivirals, as antioxidants, treatment for respiratory conditions, as well as viral entry inhibitors and immune modulators to curb the cytokine storm associated with Covid-19.

Traditional medicine and past pandemics When looking at past pandemics such as the 1889 Asian or Russian flu, the 1892 Australian flu, and the 1918 Spanish flu - it is clear that traditional medicines also contributed to combating these pandemics. Together with physicians, traditional practitioners have treated patients during



the pandemics by systematically selecting and using certain plants indicated for the symptoms associated with the pandemics.

Those plants could still be relevant for Covid-19 today. For the Asian influenza, the H1N1, Swine flu, H5N1, Avian influenza or bird flu, the H3N2 H7N9 of 2013, a medicine called Tamiflu or Oseltamivir was used, which is derived from the star anise flower (Illicium verum Hook), a Chinese culinary spice plant. Tamiflu is now being sold and marketed by Roche. A new HIV antiviral compound, Patentiflorin A, which is found more effective at inhibiting the HIV-reverse transcriptase enzyme than AZT, has been discovered from the plant Justicia gendarussa.

Moreover, only 20% of the 360,000 plant species in the world have been systematically researched, with only 10% of these reported to be used in traditional medicines. South Africa has 30,000 indigenous plants, of which 4,000 are reported to be used in traditional medicines. Drugs derived from

plants constitute close to 30% of all prescription medicines, and these plant-based medicines treat 90% of all known human diseases.

I have mentioned Metformin for the current treatment of type II diabetes, which was discovered in 1922 from the plant Galega officinalis, while most anticancer medicines are derived from plants. The list of current prescription medicines that are plant derived is endless, including artemisinin for malaria, quinine for arrhythmia, digitoxin for heart failure, aspirin for pain, cyclosporine for transplantation, theophylline from the Theobroma tree for asthma - all derived from plants, and the list goes on. We as Africans are happy to buy our own products if they are sold to us from Europe. This is our biggest weakness. We do not want to support local produce and local innovations.

For these reasons, therefore, my argument is that before traditional medicines can be outrightly rejected, it should be given an equal chance to be fairly researched. When HIV first became known, everybody was talking about developing HIV vaccines, and lots of investment went into research. However, to this day we have not found a vaccine against HIV.

Let traditional medicines be given a chance to be equitably funded, well researched and tested, without positioning them as replacement for vaccines, but rather as alternative treatments or cures for COVID-19 and any other emergent disease, epidemic, or pandemic. There is an urgent need to institutionalise traditional medicines, not just to tolerate it, but to give it an equal chance and research funding to respond to Covid-19. Traditional medicine products should be given an equal opportunity for market approval, authorisation, and formal sales.

Economic potential of traditional medicines

Just like other medicines produced by large pharmaceutical companies, traditional medicine has huge economic potential. The global economy - which is made up of only 20% of the world's plants researched thus far - has projections for 2026 showing a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.8% with a market value of

USD136 billion.

In South Africa, the traditional herbal market amounts to R20 billion, making it the largest health industry in the country. This sector excludes cannabis and tea products. Cannabis alone has a market projection of USD73.6 billion for 2027, with a CAGR of 18.1%, while the global tea market in 2020 was USD115 million with a CAGR of 9.5%.

In South Africa, traditional medicines are supporting a minimum of 140,000 households; therefore, if research can be strengthened, we can see more households supported and more jobs created. These jobs can be throughout the traditional medicine value chain, from development to retail, marketing, and distribution.

Employment can also absorb the technical skills developed by graduate students trained in our higher education sector. Through traditional medicines, we can contribute to universal health coverage - new medicines and new health solutions. Through the development of traditional medicines, we could see the contribution of traditional medicines to the sustainable development goals, such as improving health and well-being and reducing poverty and hunger, as well as quality education to the targeted communities. Africans need to conduct proper peer-reviewed research on traditional medicines to build confidence with patients and consumers of traditional medicines.

**Professor Motlalepula Matsabisa is the director of Pharmacology in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of the Free State and also the chairperson of the World Health Organisation's Regional Expert Advisory Committee on Traditional Medicines for Covid-19.**



## WORLD

## South Africans vote in ruling ANC's toughest local polls yet

JOHANNESBURG

THE ANC's rise to power in 1994 drew a line under centuries of racist oppression of the country's majority Blacks by the descendants of white settlers.

But critics say the liberators have proved less effective at more mundane tasks like fixing drains, supplying clean water and keeping the lights on.

Failures to maintain roads, sewerage treatment plants and creaking coal-fired power stations could cost the legacy party of late liberation hero Nelson Mandela. Analysts expect its vote share to fall below 50% for the first time, from 54% in the last local polls, itself the ANC's worst outcome yet.

Polls opened at 0500 GMT and are scheduled to close at 1900 GMT.

"I'm here to vote for change," said 67-year-old pensioner Xinyenyani Mthembu at a polling station in Soweto township.

"I have been very much loyal (to the ANC) for so many years because there were improvements but it's not enough. Much could have been done," he said, adding he was changing his party of choice for the first time.

The ANC seeks to win back metropolitan areas it lost to opposition-led coalitions in 2016, including the respective political and commercial capitals, Pretoria and Johannesburg.

"We need the government to build houses, water facilities, electricity," said a 36-year-old male who identified himself only as Richard, as he waited to cast his vote at a polling station in Diepsloot township. "We need a government that really works for people."

President Cyril Ramaphosa, who remains popular, promised on the campaign trail to make service delivery a priority. ANC defenders say reversing decades of apartheid-era neglect in Black neighbourhoods was never going to be a quick fix.

"I'm here to vote for the ANC. There is a say-



An early voter casts her ballot at the Mklomelo Secondary school in Folweni near Durban, on Saturday. South Africa voted yesterday for the local elections. AFP

ing that it's better the devil that you know than the one that you don't know," said Nkateko Maranele, a 26-year-old student.

Ramaphosa also won praise for mobilising government grants that prevented COVID-19 economic woes becoming a hunger crisis.

But his party has been dogged by corruption scandals and faces criticism over some of the world's highest recorded unemployment, with a third of the population out of work.

Analysts said getting less than half the vote would be a psychological blow, and would raise the previously unthinkable possibility that the ANC could one day be in

opposition.

That still seems a way off. Its main rival, the Democratic Alliance (DA), has struggled to shed its image as a party of white privilege, and it suffered a backlash in October from a divisive poster campaign addressing racial tensions between ethnic Indian and Black communities.

Other parties include the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) - a Marxist group of former ANC youth leader Julius Malema - and ActionSA, a moderate, pragmatic newcomer led by former DA Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba.

(\$1 = 14.8 rand)

## Xi urges concrete actions to address climate change, energy issues

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Sunday called on the international community to take concrete actions to address climate change and energy issues.

Xi made the remarks while addressing the 16th G20 Leaders' Summit via video link in Beijing.

Climate change and energy issues are today's prominent global challenges, which concern the common interests of the international community and the future of the Earth, Xi said.

The willingness and motivation of the international community to work together to cope with challenges continued to rise, and the key is to take concrete actions, he said.

He called on the world to adopt comprehensive and balanced policies, and balance environmental protection and economic development, as well as addressing climate change and safeguarding people's livelihood. Major economies should strengthen cooperation in this area, he added.

Xi urged for fully and effectively implementing the United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, upholding the role of the UN as the main channel, following the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, abiding by international law, and being action-

oriented.

He also highlighted the importance of taking stronger actions and enhancing cooperation.

The Chinese president also called on developed countries to increase their support for developing countries, saying that the G20 members should take the lead in the promotion and application of advanced technologies, and developed countries should earnestly fulfill their commitments to developing countries in providing funds to help them cope with climate change.

In the past 15 years, the cut of China's carbon emission intensity has greatly exceeded the climate action goals of 2020, Xi said.

He stressed that China would successively release implementation plans and supporting measures for major areas and industries to achieve carbon peaking, and establish the "1+N" policy framework for carbon peak and carbon neutrality.

China would continue to promote the transformation and upgrading of energy and industrial structures, promote the research, development and application of green and low-carbon technologies, support qualified localities, industries, and enterprises to take the lead in reaching the peak, and make positive contributions to the global efforts on addressing cli-



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the 16th G20 Leaders' Summit via video link in Beijing on Sunday. (Xinhua)

mate change and promoting the energy transformation, Xi said.

At present, the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has triggered multiple crises, Xi said, adding that the development achievements made by the international community over the years have been seriously eroded and developing countries are facing unprecedented challenges and tests.

The COVID-19 pandemic has once again shown that all countries, with high stakes in each other's future and converging interests, form a community with a shared future for mankind, Xi said, noting that promoting sustainable development in developing countries will benefit the people of the countries concerned, and also affect the future and destiny of the whole mankind and the Earth.

China recently has launched

the Global Development Initiative and called on the international community to accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promote a stronger, greener and healthier global development, Xi said, adding that the G20 should build consensus and step up actions in this regard.

Xi stressed giving priority to development and acting on the people-centered philosophy. He urged all parties to take improving people's well-being and achieving all-around human development as the starting point and the ultimate goal, place development cooperation in a more prominent position in global macro-policy coordination and the G20 agenda, and strive to address problems including poverty and imbalanced development.

He called on the G20 to stick to being action-oriented and promote practical cooperation. All sides should increase input in development, attach importance to the needs of developing countries, and strengthen cooperation in critical areas including poverty reduction, food security, industrialization and connectivity, said Xi.

He added that China successfully hosted the International Conference on Food Loss and Waste in September this year, and stands ready to contribute more Chinese wisdom and solutions through the G20 platform.

The G20 should pursue mutual benefit and build partnerships, Xi said, adding that all sides should support the United Nations in playing a coordinating role, deepening global partnership for development, and building a global community of shared future for development. Developed countries should earnestly honor their development assistance commitments and provide more resources to developing countries.

The Global Development Initiative proposed by China will further synergize with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and jointly advance global development, Xi said.

A leaders' declaration was adopted at the summit.

Xinhua

## Britain warns France: Back down in 48 hours or face trade trouble

LONDON

BRITAIN warned France yesterday to back down in a fish row within 48 hours or face legal action under the Brexit trade deal.

"The French have made completely unreasonable threats, including to the Channel Islands and to our fishing industry, and they need to withdraw those threats or else we will use

the mechanisms of our trade agreement with the EU to take action," Foreign Secretary Liz Truss told Sky.

"The French have behaved unfairly. It's not within the terms of the trade deal. And if somebody behaves unfairly in a trade deal, you're entitled to take action against them and seek some compensatory measures. And that is what we will do if the French don't back down."

Britain and France clashed again in a post-Brexit fishing row on Sunday, with London denying it had shifted its position and Paris insisting it was now up to Britain to resolve a dispute that could ultimately hurt trade.

The two sides painted different pictures of a meeting between Prime Minister Boris Johnson and President Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines of a Group of 20 summit in Rome.

Johnson said Britain's position was unchanged but added he had been "puzzled" to read a letter from Paris to the European Union asking "for Britain to be punished for leaving the EU".

"I don't believe that is compatible either with the spirit or the letter of the Withdrawal Agreement of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement and that's probably all I'll say about that," he said, referring to the Brexit

divorce and trade deals.

Macron, also speaking at a post-summit news conference, said he wanted a deal. "I don't want escalation. We need to be serious," he said in Rome. "I don't want to have to use retaliation measures, because that wouldn't help our fishermen."

Macron said Paris had given proposals to London and "now the ball is in Britain's court."

Agencies

By Bloomberg

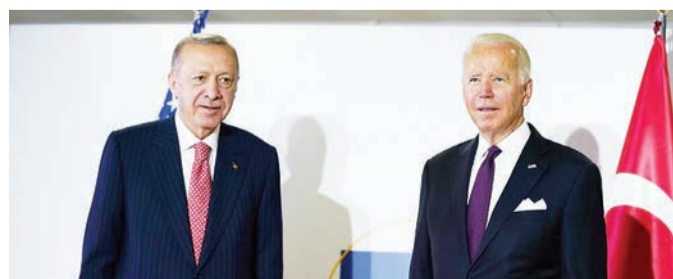
PRESIDENT Joe Biden and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan sought to defuse tensions over Turkey's failed bid to buy fighter jets from the US at a meeting on Sunday in Rome, focusing instead on their broader defense interests as NATO allies.

"I've seen a positive approach from Mr. Biden," Erdogan told reporters later, saying he urged the US leader to convince Congress to permit the sale of F-16 fighter jets to Turkey. They also discussed a dispute over \$1.4 billion that Turkey paid for F-35 warplanes that it was subsequently barred from receiving,

the Turkish leader said.

Even so, the two made little tangible progress beyond an apparent effort to set a floor under tensions that have hurt the lira and unnerved geopolitical watchers.

Biden made clear to Erdogan that there was a process underway that Turkey would have to go through for its request to purchase F-16 jets in place of the F-35s, a senior US official who requested anonymity to discuss the meeting said. Turkey's possession of a Russian S-400 missile system continues



US President Joe Biden meets with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during the G20 leaders summit on Sunday in Rome. AP

to be a concern for the US Congress and the Biden administration, the official said.

The two leaders spoke for almost an hour on the sidelines

of the Group of 20 summit. Erdogan said they "emphasized the need" for closer talks between their finance officials as well as between the State De-

partment and the Turkish Foreign Ministry.

The meeting was brought forward from a chat planned for the COP26 summit in Glasgow this week. Erdogan has been eager to talk about the F-16 issue.

"We focused on how we can move this process to a good position based on this payment," Erdogan said. "The modernization of what we have and the issue of new F-16s came to the fore. Our defense ministers are following the process."

Biden "underscored his

desire to maintain constructive relations, expand areas of cooperation, and manage our disagreements effectively," the White House said in a statement. "He expressed appreciation for Turkey's nearly two decades of contributions to the NATO mission in Afghanistan."

Washington barred Ankara from purchasing and co-developing the F-35 jets after it bought the Russian air-defense missiles that NATO allies fear could be used to collect intelligence on the plane's stealth capabilities. Turkey has refused to

jettison the S-400 as demanded by Washington. The US has denied making any financing offer over Turkey's request to purchase F-16s, after Erdogan said that may be a way of returning the \$1.4 billion.

Turkey said it sent a formal request to the US on Sept 30 to purchase 40 new F-16 Block 70 aircraft and nearly 80 kits from Lockheed Martin Corp to modernize its existing fighters.

A Pentagon delegation visited Ankara on Oct 27 and discussed issues resulting from Turkey's removal from the F-35 program, which was finalised on Sept 23. Agencies

## Global COVID-19 situation likely to be under control in few months – security official

MOSCOW

THE epidemiological situation all over the world can be brought under control in the next few months, however, one needs to be ready to deter such threats in the future, Deputy Chairman of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev stated in his article published by the Rossiyskaya Gazeta newspaper.

"There are strong indicators that the [COVID-19] situation will be generally brought under control in the next few months. But what is also obvious is the need to be constantly prepared to repel such threats in the future," the deputy chairman noted.

According to Medvedev, the global community needs to focus on all systems responsible for the life, health and well-being of citizens.

"Also, it is crucial to introduce new technologies, eliminate inequalities in society, support the most vulnerable groups of people and prepare emergency fund.

"Everyone should be safeguarded access to quality health-care services, both emergency and planned, to medicines, vaccines, means of protection, which allow people not only to survive in such challenging times but also to live their full lives every day," the Security Council's deputy chairman went on to say.

Furthermore, Medvedev emphasized that the COVID-19 was likely to persist for a very long time. "Even after mass vaccination and the development of the herd immunity, the possibility of new local [coronavirus] outbreaks remains," he noted.

Overall, Medvedev highlighted the fact that the events of the past two years had already left an indelible mark on the history of civilization.

Thus, the deputy chairman referred to the words of Russian writer Fyodor Dostoyevsky - 'everyone is really responsible to all men for all men and for everything.' "Currently, each of us needs to rethink the degree of personal responsibility for their own health and also for safety of other people.

For everything that happens to our world, and, in general, for the fate of all mankind," Medvedev concluded. Agencies

## Indonesia sets 2024 deadline to move its new capital to Borneo

By Bloomberg

INDONESIA is moving ahead with the plan to relocate its capital to the island of Borneo in the first half of 2024, after the proposal languished for months amid the pandemic.

In the draft submitted in September, Southeast Asia's biggest economy plans to move the capital from Jakarta to an area of 56,180 hectares in East Kalimantan province.

The bill also states that the president, with approval from parliament, gets to decide who will govern the capital, scrapping the requirement for an election often marred by fierce political battles.

Parliament is expected to pass the bill into law this year, giving the 489 trillion rupiah (\$34 billion) project the legal basis to proceed before the 2024 presidential election. While the move could help secure President Joko Widodo's legacy in the last year of his final term, it has also sparked environmental concern over deforestation.

Indonesia, which has contemplated the idea for decades, would be the third country in Southeast Asia to relocate their capital cities. Next-door neighbor Malaysia moved its administrative capital to Putrajaya in 2003 and Myanmar changed its capital to Naypyidaw in 2006.

Widodo, known as Jokowi, said the relocation will help spread economic activities outside of the most-populous island of Java and narrow its income gap with the rest of the country.

Java is home to almost 60 percent of Indonesia's population and contributes more than half to its gross domestic product. Kalimantan, the Indonesian part of Borneo, accounts for 5.8 percent of the population and makes up 8.2 percent of the economy.

He deems the move necessary as the current capital of 10 million people is suffering from a traffic gridlock, frequent flooding and its pollution is reaching unhealthy levels. Jakarta is also sinking fast, with two-fifths of the area falling below sea level and some parts are submerging at a rate of 20 centimeters a year.

Not everyone is convinced it was a good call.

Environmental groups have raised concern about the potential damage to Kalimantan's rainforests. Borneo, home to endangered species such as the orangutan, has lost 30 percent of its forests in a little over four decades, much of it to the paper and pulp industry and palm oil plantations.

Under the plan, state institution headquarters will be moved in stages in a process that may take two to four years, except for the central bank and the Financial Services Authority's main offices, which will stay in Jakarta as the financial and commercial hub. Just a fifth of the cost is intended to come from the state budget, with the rest coming from private funding. Agencies



# China to continue sharing development opportunities with world at 4th CIIE

By Du Yifei

**A**GAINST the backdrop of the raging COVID-19 pandemic and sluggish global economic recovery, China plans to hold the fourth China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai from Nov. 5 to 10 as scheduled, which manifests the country's sincere wish to share the opportunities in its market with the rest of the world and to boost global economic recovery.

As the first import-themed state-level expo in the world, the CIIE has promoted better connection between China and the wider world by serving as a major platform for international procurement, investment promotion, cultural exchange and open cooperation. It has become an international public good for the world to share.

The first CIIE attracted more than 400,000 buyers from home and abroad to Shanghai; the second CIIE witnessed the signing of tentative deals worth over \$70 billion; and last year, more than 3,800 enterprises from over 180 countries, regions, and international organizations attended the third CIIE, during which 411 new products, technologies, and services were exhibited.

With an exhibition area of over 360,000 square meters, the upcoming fourth CIIE is expected to attract more enterprises and more countries and regions than the last session did. Fortune Global 500 companies and leading enterprises in relevant sectors have actively signed up for the event, with more than 80 per-



A visitor tries a Formula One racing simulator at the Intelligent Industry and Information Technology exhibition area of the third China International Import Expo (CIIE) held in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 9, 2020. (Photo by Weng Qiyu/People's Daily Online)

cent of such companies that have participated in the previous expos deciding to continue to take part in this year's event.

The number of overseas small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) participating in the expo in groups is expected to rise by 30 percent this year. Relevant organizations in charge of the participation of enterprises from Japan, Denmark, Poland, New Zealand, among other countries, have expanded exhibition areas to bring more SMEs representing their characteristics and manufacturing strength to this year's CIIE.

A good number of new products, technologies, and services will make their global debut or be introduced into the Chinese market at the fourth CIIE.

According to Zhou Lingyan, an executive with the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), the main venue for the CIIE, global top five grain dealers will gather together for the first time at the Food and Agricultural Product exhibition area of the fourth CIIE; the world's 10 largest auto groups will exhibit their products at the Automobile exhibition area; more than 40 new products

will be launched at the Intelligent Industry and Information Technology exhibition area, among which nearly 10 will make their global debut; and the top 10 cosmetics brands in the world will gather for the first time at the Consumer Goods exhibition area, which is expected to bring together the world's top three fashion and high-end consumer goods companies for the first time.

Besides, the global top seven companies in the cardiovascular medical field and the fields of in vitro diagnostics, medical imaging, and life sciences, as well as the world's top three companies in the oral care market and four of the top five orthopedic companies in the world will showcase their products, technologies and services at the Medical Equipment and Healthcare Products exhibition area; and the Trade in Services exhibition zone will bring together leading companies in industries including consultation services, testing and certification, and global logistics, Zhou added.

Besides the six major exhibition areas, this year's CIIE will also set up 13 new special exhibition zones for industries including low-carbon energy and environmental protection technologies, integrated circuit, and digital industries.

To help global high-quality innovative micro and small enterprises (MSEs) better understand domestic demand of China, organizers of the expo will establish special innovation incubation zones in the Automobile, Intelligent Industry and Information Technology, and Medical Equipment and Healthcare Products exhibition areas of the fourth CIIE.

These special innovation incubation zones will receive nearly 100 exhibitors, which are expected to showcase products, technologies and services covering artificial intelligence (AI), health-related technologies, and autonomous driving.

Thematic forums and other activities will also be held in parallel with the expo, aiming to provide business incubators with platforms for sharing experience and promoting investment.

In addition, digital technologies will be widely applied in this year's CIIE. The expo will hold its first online country exhibition by employing 3D modeling, virtualization engine and other technologies. Through virtual pavilions, countries can showcase their development achievements, competitive industries, cultures, tourism characteristics as well as representative enterprises via pictures, videos, 3D models and other forms.

The online country exhibition is expected to bring brand new experience to viewers by enabling them to have a better understanding of various countries around the world without leaving their homes.

The CIIE, which has satisfied buyers and been eagerly anticipated by exhibitors, is attracting more enterprises with its expanding spillover effect.



## Digital economy generates robust energy

By Ping Lun

**L**ARGE batches of new stunning technologies and applications have been launched this year on a series of internet industry forums and conferences, from the China International Big Data Industry Expo 2021 to the Smart China Expo 2021 and from the ZGC Forum to the World Internet Conference.

For instance, robots are employed today for offering services, disinfection, and security; the Beidou Navigation Satellite System is widely applied; various forms of knowledge are being imparted to machines and human beings by knowledge computing platforms.

They mirror the robust development of China's digital economy, as well as the country's efforts to promote high-quality development and create a better life.

According to a 2021 report issued by the Chinese Academy of Cyberspace Studies, China's digital economy hit 39.2 trillion yuan (\$6.14 trillion) last year, up 9.7 percent yearly. The digital economy has become an important propeller for stable economic growth, the report said. As of the end of June this year, the numerical control rate of key processes in Chinese enterprises reached 53.7 percent, and the penetration rate of digital R&D and design tools came in at 73.7 percent. Besides, over half of the market demand for intelligent equipment has been satisfied, and new applications, including digital greenhouses, agricultural picking robots, remote working, smart logistics, and unmanned ports, are constantly emerging. The development of the internet has entered a new stage as the industry is



People attend the Smart China Expo 2021 at the Yuelai International Convention Center, southwest China's Chongqing municipality, Aug. 23, 2021. (Photo by Sun Kaifang/People's Daily Online)

seeping into every production sector.

Such progress is driven by the robust construction of information infrastructure and the continuous advancement made in innovation capability. So far, China has built the world's largest optic fiber network and mobile internet. 5G base stations are set up in all prefecture-level cities, urban areas in over 95 percent of the country's counties, as well as 35 percent of townships.

Communication is no longer a problem troubling the country's rural areas, as more than 99 percent of the country's administrative villages have been con-

nected to optic fiber networks and the 4G mobile internet. It has laid a solid foundation for China's high-quality economic development.

Substantial progress has been made in the development of basic and general technologies.

Besides, 5G, quantum computing, high-end chips, high-performance computers, network structure, basic operating system, satellite internet applications, industrial internet, smart manufacturing, and other sectors have all made significant breakthroughs. They are an essential force driving digital transformation.



People experience a virtual 5G bike at the China International Digital Economy Expo 2021 held in Shijiazhuang, north China's Hebei province, Sept. 7, 2021. (Photo by Wu Zhiwei/People's Daily Online)

The world today is fast-evolving, with many significant changes unseen in a century. The COVID-19 pandemic has produced a far-reaching impact, and the world economic recovery faces stern challenges. In the meantime, a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation is unfolding, driving the rapid development of digital technologies.

All countries take economic digitalization as a vital impetus when they pursue innovative development and have made far-sighted deployment in frontier technology development, data sharing, privacy protection, and talent cultivation.

The Outline of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035 requires China to create new strengths for the digital economy.

Taking full advantage of the massive data and rich application scenarios, local governments across the country have rolled out relevant implementation schemes and action plans to promote in-depth integration between digital technology and the real economy, assist the upgrading of traditional industries, and build new industries, businesses, and modes.

# China, Africa to build new prospects of cooperation

By Wan Yu, Jing Yue, Su Hang

**C**HINA and Africa enjoy a profound friendship and deep mutual trust. They are good friends, good partners and good brothers.

China has remained Africa's largest trading partner for 12 consecutive years. The bilateral trade between the two sides reached \$139.1 billion in the first seven months of this year, up 40.5 percent year on year and hitting a historical high.

China's industry-wide foreign direct investment in Africa reached \$2.07 billion during the January-July period, outperforming the pre-pandemic level in the same period two years ago.

Since the 2018 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Beijing Summit, China and Africa have jointly implemented a large batch of projects that benefitted both Chinese and Africans and offered strong support for the economic recovery of Africa. China-Africa cooperation stands as a model of South-South cooperation, and a fine example of international cooperation with Africa.

Currently, the FOCAC African Products Online Promotion Season is being held. The three-month event aims at building new platforms for China-Africa cross-border e-commerce, as



Photo shows the Hawassa Industrial Park in Ethiopia constructed by the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC). (Photo by the CCECC)

well as promoting China-Africa cooperation on digital economy and the diversification of trade forms. Thanks to the event, many high-quality African products, including oranges from South Africa, gems from Tanzania, and dried mangoes from Uganda, are being introduced online by livestreamers to Chinese consumers. China-Africa e-commerce cooperation is injecting impetus into Africa's economic recovery.

Months ago, dried chili peppers planted and processed by Rwanda's young entrepreneur Dieudonne Twahirwa entered the Chinese market after being

quarantined, becoming the first African dried chili peppers to be exported to China. Twahirwa is currently planning to introduce breeding machines, planters and dryers from China, so as to produce chili pepper products of higher quality and make a name for African chili peppers in China.

Wu Peng, Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted that it's a win-win cooperation to promote African commodities on Chinese e-commerce platforms, which demonstrates the spirit of mutual benefit of the China-Afri-

ca pragmatic cooperation. China and Africa enjoy a huge potential in upgrading their economic and trade cooperation, Wu added.

Martin Mpana, Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps and Cameroonian Ambassador to China noted that promoting China-Africa e-commerce cooperation is one of the effective approaches to the revitalization of African economy. He said Africa should make full use of the online promotion season to build the business capability of young Africans and African entrepreneurs.

Elmuthna Fahel with Sudanese newspaper Alintibaha, who's also an expert on international issues, said Africa and China are seeing an unprecedented growth in the demand for bilateral cooperation on economy and trade, which has enhanced the two sides' confidence in their cooperation.

The cooperation with China is indispensable for African countries including Sudan, he remarked, hoping that the cooperation between the two sides can go deeper in digital economy, marine economy and green economy.

Many African countries have received Chinese COVID-19 vaccines, including Lesotho, which obtained the doses donated by the Chinese government at the end of August



The first unit of the Kafue Gorge Lower Hydroelectric Project in Zambia constructed by the Power Construction Corporation of China is commissioned, June 30, 2021. (Photo by the Power Construction Corporation of China)

this year. So far, China has offered and is offering COVID-19 vaccines for over 40 African countries and the African Union Commission, and is continuing supporting Africa to build the latter's own capacity of vaccine production.

The construction of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention headquarters office donated by China has officially commenced, and a relevant pair assistance mechanism between China and Africa is in the making.

Upholding the vision of building a global community of health for all, China adopts an

open and cooperative attitude on the development, production and distribution of vaccines. It is actively promoting localized production of vaccines in countries that are well conditioned. On April 21 this year, an agreement signed by Chinese and Egyptian enterprises, allowing Egypt to manufacture COVID-19 vaccines locally.

Facing the challenges brought by COVID-19, many Chinese enterprises engaged in construction projects in Africa are still sticking to their work, bringing a light of hope to Africa's economic

recovery. In June, Guinea's first modern railway since the 1970s, the Dapilon-Santou railway invested by a Chinese enterprise, officially started operation. In the following month, the first batch of units of the Kafue Gorge Lower Hydroelectric Project in Zambia was commissioned. In August, a new terminal of Zambia's Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, which was built by a Chinese company, was put into use.

At present, there are still many Chinese engineering technicians working in Africa, and 1,100 cooperation projects under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) remain operational throughout the continent. They are a strong support for Africa's resumption of work and production. So far, 46 countries in Africa and the African Union Commission have inked agreements with China to jointly advance the construction of the BRI.

Adhering to the principle of common development and promoting the stable development of pragmatic cooperation, China and Africa are implementing cooperation projects with higher standards to benefit the people.



# SPORT



Singers of the Friends of Jesus group of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at Mbezi Luis in Dar es Salaam, enter the church yesterday for the launch of the group's three albums, titled 'It's Good', 'Joy', and 'Jesus' Name'. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

## State House netball team revels in 2021 SHIMIWI Games achievement

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

STATE House netball team's spokesman, Said Hassan, states his team's good displays in this year's Inter-Ministerial Sports Federation (SHIMIWI) Games taking place in Morogoro have been brought about by intensive training.

The netball squad has notched convincing victories over various opponents and made it to the last four that were set to take place Sunday.

This year SHIMIWI Games, which began on October 23, will come to an end today, with Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa closing the games. Agricom firm is the games' sponsor.

Hassan said the State House netball team's management was serious in squad registration, roping in best players from Filbert Bayi Schools that were participating in morning and evening fitness training before games.

State House ended as the netball showdown's Group A leader. Group A was made up of four teams namely Ministry of Minerals, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Court, and Regional Administrative Secretary-Morogoro.

In the matches, State House beat Ministry of Minerals 62-3, followed by industry 68-7 victory over Ministry of Industry and Trade.

State House netballers commanded 71-7 victory over Court and later on trounced

RAS-Morogoro 46-17.

Hassan congratulated RAS-Morogoro netballers for maintaining speed, seeking to keep State House netballers in check, ultimately slot in the 17 goals.

According to the leader, RAS-Morogoro was the only team in the 2021 SHIMIWI Games that notched over 10 goals against State House.

"Auditing side is an outfit we expect to confront in final, the team consists of competent netballers but the team should be ready for a tough match since 80 percent of my team forms national netball team, they have to work hard," he disclosed.

The official called for enough preparation as most of the participating squads complained about the presence of players that are not government employees in the tournament.

According to Said, it is all about seriousness on the court and adhering to the team's coach's instructions.

"Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology squad, for instance, staged no show in a fixture against our squad, the former was not ready to play against our squad in last eight stage due to unreasonable factors hence my team got 60-0 victory," he added.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Martin Shigela, insisted government officials should value the culture of training regularly because the region is blessed with friendly weather and sports pitches for exercises.

SHIMIWI's secretary-general, Moshi Makuka, criticized claims of favouritism to some teams, insisting the range of goals netted in some of the clashes shows there was poor preparation for a section of outfits.

## Jay-Z, Foo Fighters welcomed into Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

CLEVELAND

JAY-Z's added another title to a resume that includes rapper, songwriter, Grammy winner, billionaire business mogul, and global icon – Hall of Famer.

The self-proclaimed "greatest rapper alive" was inducted Saturday night as part of an eclectic 2021 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame class that included Foo Fighters, Carole King, Tina Turner, The Go-Gos and Todd Rundgren.

Once a drug dealer on the tough streets of Brooklyn, New York, Jay-Z rose through the rap world with hard, straight-forward songs that often portrayed the struggles of Black people in America.

His catalogue includes songs like "Hard Knock Life," "99 Problems" and "Empire State of Mind" as well as 14 No. 1 albums.

Following a video introduction that included President Barack Obama, LeBron James and David Letterman, Jay-Z was inducted by comedian Dave Chappelle, who praised him for being an inspiration.

"He rhymed a recipe for survival," Chappelle said. "He embodies what the potential of our lives can be and what success can be."

Paul McCartney welcomed Foo Fighters, who have carried the mantle as one of rock's top arena acts. Initially, the band was little more than a side project for front man Dave Grohl, who was previously inducted as Nirvana's drummer.

McCartney described the parallels between he and Grohl as both were part of massively popular bands who broke up.

"Do you think this guy is stalking me?" McCartney joked.

Foo Fighters and McCartney closed the show with the Beatles' "Get Back."

Rapper LL Cool J was enshrined for musical excellence along with keyboardist Billy Preston and guitarist Randy Rhoads.

Electronic pioneers Kraftwerk, singer-poet Gil Scott-Heron and Delta blues legend Charley Patton were inducted as early influencers and Sussex Records founder Clarence Avant received the Ahmet Ertegun Award.

## SPORTS

## BAL a promising opportunity for domestic basketball

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

THE local basketball scene must be abuzz with excitement at present following the tipping off of the premier Basketball African League (BAL) in Dar es Salaam last Friday.

Founded two years ago in 2019, the inaugural BAL season was initially expected to tip-off last year in March but as a result of the ravaging COVID-19 virus, the league was postponed to mid-May earlier this year with Rwanda as the hosts of the basketball spectacle.

At that extravaganza in Rwanda, the Egyptian sporting titans, Zamalek, spectacularly emerged as the first-ever BAL competition's champions after they had outperformed US Monastir in the tournament's grand finale.

Since journalists are reputed to have notoriously unreliable crystal balls, it would be safe to confidently state that no one knows which way the chips will fall in the ongoing BAL Championship in Dar es Salaam.

What remains irrefutable, though, is that the BAL tourney represents an amazingly juicy opportunity for domestic basketball stakeholders to promote the sport and also the local exponents of the sport.

It must be remembered that the BAL is the end product of a joint initiative between the NBA and FIBA Africa, the latter, of course, being the governing body for continental basketball.

Naturally then, it follows that Tanzanian basketball players who catch the eye with glittering displays at the unfolding BAL here in the city might very well find themselves in the shop window for a potential move to an NBA team or a destination elsewhere.

However, in addition to bolstering the



Dar es Salaam's junior basketball players feature in drills at Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

individual prospects of our local basketball gems, the BAL is also a promising opportunity to promote domestic basketball and highlight all the challenges that the sport faces.

Nevertheless, at the end of the day, what will count the most will be the hopefully riveting and edge-of-the-seat basketball action on show here in this bustling city.

So, let us just hope that there will be vintage displays of basketball wizardry by all contesting teams in this new championship, including by our very own Kurasini Heat.

Let us change gears now to home in on local netball, which recently was the beneficiary of distinctly encouraging news.

Indeed, according to the Tanzania National Netball Association (CHANETA), the senior women's national netball team, Taifa Queens, is expected to jockey for top honours at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

But, blissfully, the good news doesn't stop there. Moreover, the Taifa Queens are presently readying themselves for the Africa Netball Cup, which will unfold in Namibia from November 9 to the 16th.

These positive developments mark a notable departure from the deeply dissatisfying trend witnessed during recent years when the Taifa Queens found it a virtually insurmountable battle to compete on the international scene.

As ever, one hopes that the Taifa Queens will reign supreme over all other comers during their forthcoming international competitions and that they will impeccably put their best foot forward at these upcoming events. And we wish them the very best of good fortune.

## NBC Premier League clubs should hire defensive coaches

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

DOES any of Tanzania's football fanatics know a man named Anthony Barry? Has any local football lover heard of him?

He is an assistant to England's Chelsea Manager, Thomas Tuchel, Barry joined the club last year from Wigan Athletic.

Barry, aged 35, whose main role within Chelsea and even the Ireland national football team, which he also serves, is to strengthen the defensive line.

The retired midfielder, Barry, has become a key coach in the defense and it is not surprising that he is one of Tuchel's most dependable assistants at Chelsea.

Contrary to many coaches' lack of a culture of working with former teammates, the situation was different for Tuchel who immediately after joining Chelsea decided to stay with Barry on his technical bench and no doubt expressed satisfaction with the assistant's performance.

There is no doubt that Tuchel's decision to stay with Barry is having a positive impact on the team right now as he has made a significant contribution to making Chelsea an English Premier League squad with solid defense so far due to few numbers of goals conceded in the first 10 games played.

Chelsea has conceded three goals and all have not come from open play.

But Chelsea is by far not an outfit that has a professional who is focused on the task of weaving the defensive line but almost all the teams in Europe have had such a person who makes the job of either manager or head coach easier.

Even a few teams in Africa have had coaches of this type and that has greatly helped them perform well in the various competitions they participate in.

With Simba SC being relegated to the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup, perhaps now is the right time for the outfit and even other Tanzanian teams to hire a coach like Barry who has the responsibility to strengthen defensive ranks.

Why are commenting on Simba SC? Has this come about because the outfit has been knocked out carelessly?

It is so because the squad made the mistake of conceding goals that have been costing it every season, goals from high balls.

The second goal Simba SC conceded in 2021/22 CAF Champions League second preliminary round tie against Jwaneng Galaxy of Botswana in Dar es Salaam came from a long throw, which flew past Simba defender Paschal Wawa who, to the surprise of many, simply stood up and did not bother to save the ball as was the case with goalkeeper Aishi Manula and gave Jwaneng Galaxy a chance to score.



Dodoma Jiji FC midfielder, Salmin Haza (L), challenges Mbeya Kwanza FC forward Paul Peter as the clubs faced off in an NBC Premier League tie in Mbeya. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DODOMA JIJIFC

The third goal came from a long ball that came from the right side and passed Simba defenders and was met by a Jwaneng Galaxy attacker who connected with a header without even being disturbed by any defender of the Tanzanian representatives.

This type of goal was allowed by Simba during coach Patrick Aussems' tenure, the weakness was again seen when they were under coach Sven Vandebroek and soccer fanatics have witnessed it again under coach Didier Gomes who recently left the team.

So what should be done by Simba to prevent this from happening under interim head coach Thierry Hitimana?

While Aussems was coaching Simba, the proof of the existence of the problem is the CAF Champions League match against the Democratic Republic of Congo soccer club, AS Vita, which the former lost 5-0 away, and conceded three such goals.

If under Vandebroek football fanatics saw a similar goal scored by Prisons forward, Samson Mbangula, against Simba at the Nelson Mandela Stadium in Rukwa, when the former were beaten 1-0 by Prisons.

The midfielder, Boban Zirutusa of

Mtibuwa Sugar, denied Simba three points at Morogoro's Jamhuri Stadium in a 1-1 draw last season.

It seems to be a chronic problem that three different coaches have failed to solve at Simba and each season the problem has been depriving the side of victory in some games be it international or domestic competitions.

As teams with the highest status and investment of Simba SC caliber hire specialized coaches to handle the defense, despite the presence of top-level head coaches in their technical desks, why Simba and other Tanzanian teams are so confident that they fail to have such people in their teams?

If Simba SC and any other team in the country want to do well internationally and position themselves in the ranks of the biggest teams in Africa, they should not be afraid of spending their money to find an expert like Barry who will make them strong in their teams.

But if they continue to be frugal, then they should not rely on treating the chronic problem of failing to control the high balls, and, in the end, they will always be looking for traitors after being knocked out of major showpieces.



## Messi 'hurt' by Laporta's 'play for free' talk

BARCELONA

LIONEL Messi says it was inappropriate for Barcelona president Joan Laporta to say he could have played for free but has suggested he would have been willing to accept a bigger pay cut to stay at Camp Nou.

Messi, 34, accepted a salary reduction of 50% in the summer but Barca were still unable to register him with LaLiga due to their spending limit for the season being cut to €97 million, almost €300m less than last year.

Speaking in October after Messi had joined Paris Saint-Germain on a free transfer, Laporta said he'd hoped right up until the last moment the Argentina forward would offer to play for free.

"The truth is, as I explained when I left, I did everything possible to stay," Messi told SPORT in an interview published on Monday.

"Never at any moment did they ask me to play for free. They asked me to reduce my salary by 50% and I did it without any problem. We were willing to help the club more. My desire and that of my family was to stay in Barcelona.

"No one asked me to play for free, but at the same time the president's words were inappropriate. It hurt because I don't think there was any need to say that.

"It's like taking the ball from you and not accepting the responsibility or taking charge of things. That makes people think and generates doubts that I don't think I deserve."

A leak earlier this year revealed Messi's final contact with Barca was worth a potential €555m over four years, although he didn't earn that much in the end as it was dependent on bonuses. He also gave up part of his wage during the pandemic.

His gross annual salary, after

loyalty bonuses and signing-on fees, was around €70m.

Messi had always maintained a good relationship with Laporta since breaking into Barca's first team during his first spell as president, between 2003 and 2010. Laporta, in part, was re-elected in March because he boasted of being the candidate most likely to keep Messi, whose contract with Barca expired on June 30, 2020.

However, Messi says he has now not spoken with Laporta since leaving Barca in August. ESPN revealed at the time that the days leading up to Messi's departure had taken their toll on the duo's relationship.

Despite that, and his grievances with the previous president Josep Maria Bartomeu, Messi still loves the club and says it remains his plan to return to Barcelona in the future.

"I don't know if I will [go back] when my contract expires in Paris," he added. "But what is almost certain is that we're going to return to live in Barcelona and our life will be there.

"I have always said that I would love to help the club and be useful. I would love to be a sporting director at some point. I don't know if it will be in Barcelona or not. Or if it will be something else.

"If there's the chance, I would like to go back and contribute what I can because it's the club I love and I would love them to keep doing well, growing and being one of the best in the world."

Messi, who scored 672 goals in 778 games for Barca, both of which are club records, has not had a straightforward start to life in Paris. He's without a goal in five league games so far, although he has scored three times in three Champions League outings.

(Agencies)

## Ibra advises Mbappe: Hurt yourself, walk on fire

MILAN

ZLATAN Ibrahimovic has said Kylian Mbappe needs to improve his game and "taste blood and walk on fire" to become the best player in the world.

The Paris Saint-Germain striker has contributed six goals and eight assists in all competitions this season and scored the winning goal for France in the UEFA Nations League final.

The 22-year-old has also been nominated for the men's 2021 Ballon d'Or award, but Ibrahimovic said Mbappe needs to do more.

"I love Mbappe, but he isn't doing enough," Ibrahimovic told Telfoot. "He can become very strong if he hurts himself. He needs to taste blood and walk on fire.

"Surround yourself with people who tell you you're not good enough and you will become the best."

Earlier this month, Mbappe opened up about his desire to leave PSG in the summer while confirming having a dispute with club teammate Neymar saying he called him a "tramp."

Ibrahimovic also said he has played a part in helping PSG attract some of the world's best players after enjoying a successful spell at the club from 2012 to 2016.

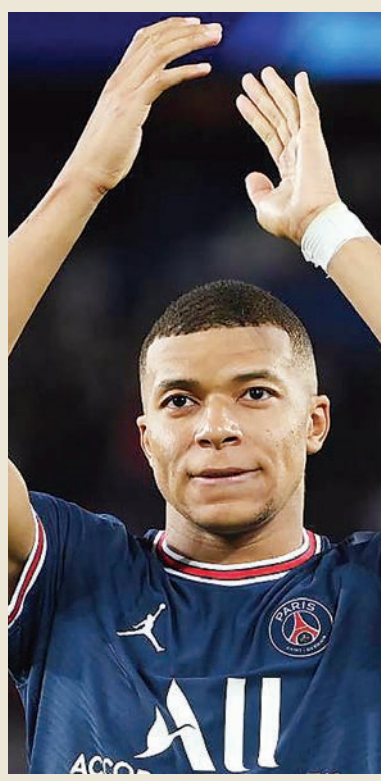
"When PSG were bought out, I was one of the first to be signed," he added. "And I'm very proud. Without me, PSG wouldn't have become what it is now.

"Some people think I came for the money, the city, the life. No -- I came, and everything changed."

The Sweden international added that he's looking forward to seeing Lionel Messi's progress at the club after he joined on a free transfer from Barcelona.

Messi has endured a tough start to life in France because of injury problems and limped off at half-time during PSG's comeback win against champions Lille on Friday.

"It's a good challenge for Messi," he added. "He will try something new after a long period at Barcelona, and he's going to a very ambitious club that wants to win and is rising."



(Agencies)

## Spurs sack manager Nuno after just four months in charge

LONDON

TOTTENHAM on Monday sacked manager Nuno Espirito Santo after just four months in charge following their fifth defeat in 10 Premier League games.

Spurs gave an insipid display in their 3-0 defeat at home by Manchester United on Saturday, with fans booing and chanting "You don't know what you're doing" at the former Wolverhampton Wanderers boss.

Spurs chairman Daniel Levy and managing director of football Fabio Paratici are understood to have met on Sunday to discuss the Portuguese manager's fate.

A statement from the club on Monday said Nuno and his coaching staff had been "relieved of their duties".

"I know how much Nuno and his coaching staff wanted to succeed and I regret that we have had to take this decision," Paratici said in the statement.

"Nuno is a true gentleman and will always be welcome here. We should like to thank him and his coaching staff and wish them well for the future."

Spurs said a further coaching update would follow in due course.

Former Chelsea and Inter Milan boss Antonio Conte, who worked with Paratici at Juventus, is the bookies' favourite to take over, with Sky in Italy reporting Conte is set to fly to London for talks.

- Not first choice -

Nuno, 47, was announced as the new manager of the north London club on June 30, replacing Jose Mourinho, who was sacked in April.

The ex-Valencia and Porto boss, who was not the first choice for Spurs, was appointed after ex-manager Mauricio Pochettino, Conte,



Nuno Espirito Santo

Paulo Fonseca and Gennaro Gattuso were all linked with the job.

Tottenham topped the Premier League table after three 1-0 wins at the start of the season, including a victory over defending champions Manchester City, but results rapidly deteriorated.

They have lost five of their past seven Premier League matches and are eighth in the table, 10 points behind leaders Chelsea.

Nuno lost seven of his 17 games in all competitions, with fans who craved attacking football increasingly frustrated by his conservative style.

Tottenham did not manage a single shot on target against United, with England captain Harry Kane

largely anonymous.

Kane, denied a move to Manchester City in the transfer window, has only managed one Premier League goal so far this campaign after winning his third Golden Boot last season.

Former Tottenham star Gary Lineker tweeted: "Nuno has been fired. @SpursOfficial are something of a shambles at present."

A statement from Tottenham Hotspur Supporters' Trust said the organisation took no pleasure in Nuno's departure.

"Nuno Espirito Santo conducted himself with integrity, good grace and civility throughout his short time at Spurs," it said. "And although clearly not the right fit for Tottenham, we wish him and his coaching staff... well for the future."

Nuno guided Wolves from the second-tier Championship to the Premier League in 2018 and secured consecutive seventh-place finishes in their first two seasons back in the top-flight before a 13th-place finish last term.

Spurs fans are desperate to challenge again for the Champions League places after missing out on European football's premier competition for two consecutive seasons.

They were regular top-four finishers under Pochettino, reaching the Champions League final in 2019, but have not won silverware of any description since 2008.

AFP

## Tite's Brazil snub will spur Vinicius Junior

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

LAST Friday, when Brazil called up their squad for this month's World Cup qualifiers, for the first time since the pandemic struck there were some journalists present. And an audible gasp went up in the hall when coach Tite completed reading out his list. There is no room in the 23-man squad for Vinicius Junior, who has made such an exciting start to the season with Real Madrid.

Tite is obviously, and quite correctly, enchanted with Raphinha of Leeds United, who made such a dramatic impact on the right wing in last month's FIFA dates. And on the left wing, where Vinicius operates most frequently, the coach made it clear that, for this call up at last, two players are in front of Vinicius in the queue. There is the more constructive option of Lucas Paqueta, to balance the side out with a winger one side and a more complete attacking midfielder the other. And there is also Antony of Ajax, who had a promising campaign in the Olympic games and also did well off the bench last month, making Tite curious to have another look.

And so Vinicius has been left out. But the strange thing here is that, for this call up, there are spaces available. With the Brazilian Championship moving into its closing stages, and an all-Brazilian final of the Copa Libertadores coming up at the end of the month, Tite has decided not to call up any domestically based players.

In truth, the need to take this decision may have come as something of a relief. There is always populist pressure to field more players who make their living in Brazil. In recent years, when Brazil have been seduced down this path it has often gone wrong, and without the introduction of Raphinha it may even have ended up in a humiliating defeat to Venezuela.

And so there are a few extra spaces available. One of them has been ceded by Flamengo attacking midfielder Everton Ribeiro, and has been used to recall an old Tite favourite, Philippe Coutinho of Barcelona.

This may have raised a few eyebrows in Madrid, where Rodrygo of



Vinicius Junior

Real could argue that his claims were stronger, especially after El Clasico. But Rodrygo, seen with such enthusiasm by the Brazil coaching staff in 2019, has since been out in the cold.

Vinicius, meanwhile, has been part of the group. But he has received very few opportunities.

He had a few minutes off the bench in a friendly against Peru two years ago, and then returned in June for World Cup qualifiers, the Copa

America and yet more World Cup qualifiers. But he has only started one game for his country, away to Chile in September, when he was replaced at the interval. His other six caps have all been gained as a substitute.

He has clearly yet to gain the confidence of the coach. It must have been very frustrating for him to sit on the bench for the last game, at home to Uruguay, when the team was playing well and had built a comfortable lead.

and Uruguay, with a slow pair of centre-backs, were forced to open up and chase the game. The game was made for his explosive speed on the counter-attack, but others got the nod.

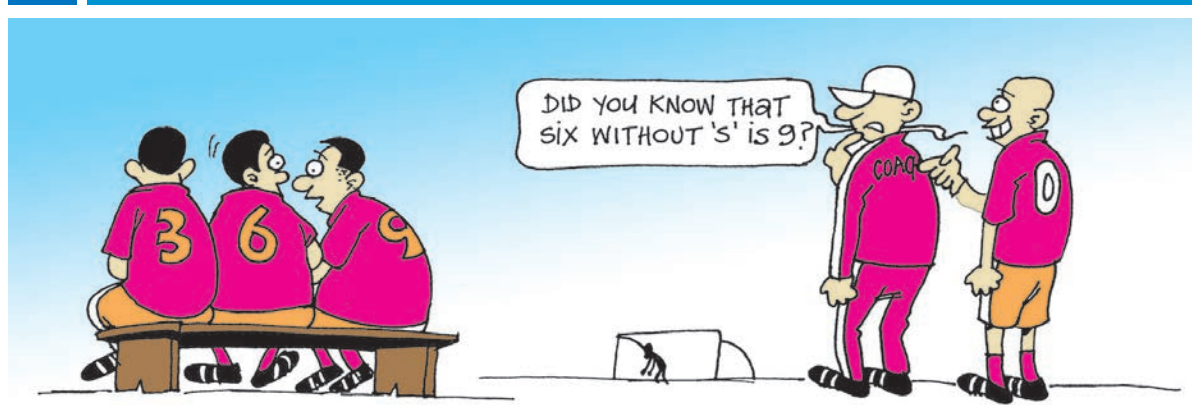
Back in Madrid, Vinicius has been arguing his case where it matters most – out on the pitch. A criticism of his game is that his finishing lacks accuracy. It is hardly a surprising complaint. It is hard to marry pace with precision, and Vinicius at full flight can find extra gears that carry him away from his marker. But he is clearly making progress, keeping his head still and picking his spot better. This is already by some distance the best goal-scoring season in his young career. And he responded to his international exclusion in the best way possible, by scoring both goals away to Elche at the weekend that took Real Madrid to the top of LaLiga.

It is hard to think of any other young Brazilian currently making the same impact on top level European club football. If Vinicius can maintain this form, it will make his absence from the national team look like a perverse injustice.

And he has another opportunity on Wednesday, when Real host Shakhtar Donetsk in a crunch Champions League game. For Tite the exclusion of Vinicius is a short term embarrassment, perfectly capable of becoming a long-term solution if the player can successfully be incorporated into the national team.

The short-term problem belongs to the Ukrainian defenders who will have to try and catch the wind on Wednesday night.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Spurs sack manager Nuno after just four months in charge**



Senior national cricket team's players pose for a photo in Dar es Salaam last week before jetting off to Rwanda to compete in the 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifiers, which begin today. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

## Simba SC followers should be patient with outfit, says coach

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

DESPITE having unsatisfactory results in its four fixtures in this season's NBC Premier League, Simba SC's interim head coach Thierry Hitimana has said his team will rejuvenate and restore happiness to its fans.

Simba SC last weekend settled for a 0-0 draw with spirited Coastal Union in the fixture, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Hitimana said his charges played well and created chances but they failed to use them and found themselves finishing 90 minutes without netting a goal.

He said that the shortcomings he has seen in his team are still being dealt with in practice and they believe the situation will come to an end soon.

"I know these results were not expected, even we the technical bench is not happy with it, we are still working on the shortcomings we saw and I believe we will get back on track," Hitimana revealed.

He said they were unlucky against Coastal Union as they got many chances to score but did not make the most of them.

"Bocco got a chance, Denis (Kibu) got more than two chances but I say that's how football is, some days you play well and you create chances but you're unlucky," he said.

The tactician was also backed by assistant coach, Selemani Matola, who said there are still many games in the league and they are preparing for the next game.

"This is football, the other day is going to be bad for you, if you look we didn't play well in the first half but in the second half we went back to our game and lost focus at the end," Matola stated.

Last weekend's results see Simba record eight points out of a possible 12 in the four games they have played so far and

The Msimbazi Street outfit is four points adrift of top-flight leaders and age-old rivals, Yanga.

## Poulsen calls Biashara United midfielder ahead of Taifa Stars' World Cup Qualifiers' fixtures

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA's senior national football squad 'Taifa Stars' head coach Kim Poulsen has included Biashara United's attacking midfielder, Ramadhan Chombo, in the 27-man national squad for African Qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup's Group J fixtures against DR Congo at home and Madagascar away.

Taifa Stars will set camp from November 4-10, whereby they will play DR Congo on November 11 at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam and will be away to Madagascar in Antananarivo November 14.

Chombo has been in an excellent level of form in recent days in NBC Premier League and 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup matches that his club has been participating in.

The senior midfielder, who has experience playing football for some of the country's biggest clubs, is expected to add fuel to Stars' attacking midfield.

Stars, leading Group J with seven points after taking part in four games, needs to win the remaining two games to secure a place in the knockout stage of the World Cup Qualifiers.

Coach Poulsen has praised Chombo as a creative player who is doing well at the late age of his career.

"I know Chombo from my last tenure here, during that time he was enjoying his football, but now in his 30's he wants to get the best out of his football and it is really good."

Poulsen has also praised his players as the highest-scoring team in Group J of the World Cup qualifiers.

"As part of our philosophy I am proud that we are the most scoring team in our group, football is a game of goals as you can see yesterday results (referring to Simba 0-0 draw with Coastal Union in NBC Premier League), I'm proud as part of our ideal style we get to manage to score goals."

"Sometimes it is also very important to score and defend, as we did last time versus Benin, we scored an early goal and defended through the match and that is a positive sign," the tactician revealed.

Stars welcome back fullback Shomari Kapombe, and center back Erasto Nyoni, who both missed the previous fixtures due to injuries, while midfielder Mzamiru Yassin joins the national squad



Biashara United's midfielder, Ramadhan Chombo.

camp after he served his one-match suspension after receiving two yellow cards.

Chombo has not been selected for the Stars squad since 2011/2012 with his inclusion this time around where coach Poulsen has selected three goalkeepers Aishi Manula (Simba), Metacha Mnata (Polisi Tanzania), and Ramadhani Kabwili (Yanga).

Defenders are Shomari Kapombe (Simba), Kibwana Shomari (Yanga), Israel Mwendu (Simba), Mohamed Hussein (Simba), Erasto Nyoni (Simba), Dickson Job (Yanga) Bakari Mwamnyeto (Yanga), Kennedy

Juma (Simba), Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Edward Manyama (Azam FC), and Nickson Kibabage (KMC FC).

Midfielders include Meshack Mwamita (Kagera Sugar), Novatus Dismas (Maccabi Tel Aviv, Israel), Ramadhan Chombo (Biashara United), Zawadi Mauya (Yanga), Feisal Salum (Yanga), John Bocco (Simba), Idd Selemani (Azam FC), and Abdul Suleiman (Coastal Union).

Strikers consist of Mbwana Samatta (Royal Antwerp, Belgium), Kibu Denis (Simba) Reliant Lusajo (Namungo FC), and Simon Msuva (Wydad Casablanca, Morocco).

## Senior national cricketers take on Mozambique in 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifiers

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's senior national cricketers are set to confront Mozambique in one of the 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Africa Qualifiers' opening ties in Kigali, Rwanda.

The continental showpiece brings together six nations seeking to make it to the ICC Men's T20 World Cup's global qualifiers.

Sixteen cricketers, under the tutelage of cricket legend, Steve Tikolo, traveled to Rwanda last weekend for the showdown.

They are Issa Kikasi, Riziki Kiseti, Athuman Kassim, Harsheed Chohan, Ally Mpeka, Nassib Kelvin, Ivan Ismail, and skipper Abhik Patwa. Salum Jumbe, Kassim Nassor, Sanjay Bom, Jatin Darji, Mohamed Omary, Arshaan Jasani, Jitin Singh, and Zamoyoni Ramadhan complete the list.

Before jetting off to Rwanda, the national cricketers had traveled to Mombasa to compete in this year's T20 Coast Tournament, following an invitation by hosts, Mombasa Sports Club.

The Tanzania cricketers convincingly won the showpiece, chalking wins in five fixtures against Coast Mombasa Select XI.

T20 Coast Tournament presented the national cricket squad's coach, Tikolo, a platform working on his charges' weaknesses.

As per the coach, the idea was to get the boys moulded into the competition mode before the actual tournament begins.

International Cricket Council (ICC) recently announced that Rwanda Cricket Association (RCA) will be hosting the Sub-regional and Regional finals for African region qualification pathway events towards the 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia.

The matches in the two sub-regional tournaments and the Africa regional finals will be played at Gahanga International Cricket Stadium and IPRC (Integrated Polytechnic Regional College) Kicukiro Ground in October/November 2021.

Rwanda hosted teams from Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Seychelles, Swaziland, and Uganda in Sub Regional Africa A Qualifier is scheduled to take place from October 14-23. Botswana, Cameroon, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania were thereafter scheduled to compete in Sub Regional Africa B Qualifiers from October 31 - November 08, 2021.

The top team from both groups will advance to Africa regional finals, where they will compete with Nigeria and Kenya for the lone qualification spot in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Qualifier in 2022.

The Regional Finals will take place from November 15 - 21, 2021. ICC Africa regional development manager, Patricia Kambarami, notified the host nation and the participating nations about the decision in a written email sent on July 7, 2021.

Nigeria and Kenya qualified for the 2019 global qualifiers along with Namibia from the 2019 edition of the Africa regional finals.

However, the 2021 edition will see only the winner of the regional final advance to the global qualifiers.

**EATV**  
**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**NIRVANA**

**TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 MPYA  
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)  
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi  
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 5SPORTS (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 KURASA  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)

**Nirvana** explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

**eastAfrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
**DAR ES SALAAM**

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



SORRY, COME LATER. WE ARE ON LUNCH BREAK