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National Pg 3 TCT launches partnership strategy



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Opinion Pg 9 Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



TBS hauls, bans substandard blue electrical conduit pipes

He urged all traders who intend to import goods to abide by requirements of Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC).

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE government has suspended the manufacturing and importation of electrical PVC conduit pipes until authorities verify the quality of the construction materials after an inspection conducted in Dar es Salaam showed the widespread availability of substandard pipes. Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam late last week on an exercise to remove substandard electrical conduit pipes from the market, a senior inspector with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Donald Manyama said the decision was reached after more than 2,000 substandard pipes were found in various stores in the central business district.

The suspension is likely to affect the construction industry, which uses both locally

manufactured and imported construction materials, with officials not being clear how long the verification exercise would take.

"We appeal to manufacturers and traders of the pipes to make sure that its quality is tested before entering the market, otherwise tough measures will be taken on the culprits," he warned.

TBS in collaboration with police officers confiscated the said pieces worth over 1.5m/- and would be destroyed.

Manyama said the removed pipes were tested at TBS laboratories before and found to have poor quality hence endangering houses of users.

Covers of the conduit pipes are weak and if installed in houses they will be defective and likely to cause fire from short circuit complications.

"Even if they are installed during construction

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A food vendor moves along in style with her daughter, kitchenware and other items, as captured at Buguruni in Dar es Salaam yesterday morning. She said she was on her way to "my usual duty station for my routine business for the day". Photo: Selemani Mpochi



Army chief dies muzzling regional attempted coup

ADDIS ABABA

CHIEF of staff of the Ethiopian army, Seare Mekonnen, has been shot dead in what authorities in the Horn of Africa country described as failed coup in one of its regional governments.

A spokesperson for Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said yesterday that Gen Seare was shot at his residence by his own bodyguard in the capital on Saturday evening along with Maj-Gen Gezai Abera. The bodyguard was arrested.

According to the PM's official statement, the generals died trying to prevent a coup attempt against the administration in the

country's northern Amhara region.

In Amhara itself, regional governor Ambachew Mekonnen was killed along with an adviser. Regional Attorney General Migbaru Kebede sustained heavy injuries and was undergoing medical treatment, the Prime Minister's office stated.

General Seare was coordinating a response to the attack in Amhara when he was killed, the Prime Minister's press secretary Billene Seyoum said.

The government said the situation was under control after arrests were made.

The prime minister went on TV to urge Ethiopians to unite in the face of "evil" forces set on dividing the country.

The government said it had reason to think the attack was linked to the assassination of the governor of Amhara a few hours earlier in the region's capital, Bahir Dar.

Ambachew was killed at a meeting in his office along with his senior adviser, Ezez Wasie, while the region's attorney general was wounded.

Lake Ayalew was immediately

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Global Fund approves 11.4trn/- for regional TB intervention

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE Global Fund has approved 11.4trn/- for tuberculosis interventions to be coordinated by the Arusha-based East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC).

ECSA-HC Director General Prof Yoswa Dambisa said here at the weekend that the funds will be used to set up tuberculosis diagnosis laboratories in 20 countries.

Global Fund's extended support valued at USD 5.8 billion is meant to strengthen the capacity of national TB reference laboratories (NTRLs) in the region, he said.

The support has been awarded to ECSA-HC to support 18 countries, with the funding agreement being signed during the just ended Best Practices Forum for medical experts.

Tanzania has acute shortage of staff in its



Tanzania has acute shortage of staff in its tuberculosis-related health service provision, as the medical sector is self-sufficient by around 48 percent

tuberculosis-related health service provision, as the medical sector is self-sufficient by around 48 percent.

The Chief Medical Officer in the Ministry of Health, Prof Mhamadi Kambi, made this observation during the ECSA-HC meeting, where he stated that shortage of medical staff is a cross-cutting problem affecting all African countries. Its negative effects can easily be reduced through digital networking, he told the conference participants.

"When fully informed, people in the rural areas can jointly tackle the majority of their health problems and we can educate them through the now active and popular social media outlets," he affirmed.

The Chief Medical Officer gave an example of Ituru Village in Mbeya Region where residents

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Tanapa paramilitary must engage, appeals Dr Kijazi

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) authorities have urged its paramilitary officers to use proactive engagement and hospitality in undertaking their duties, to enhance wildlife protection and boost tourism.

Commissioning ranks to conservators at the weekend, TANAPA Commissioner General Dr Allan Kijazi (pictured) directed officers and wardens to tune themselves to widening their role beyond protecting wildlife.

"Our uniforms go beyond policing the national parks. TANAPA officers are expected to place

engagement and hospitality above paramilitary trainings," he declared.

Well-behaved conservators stand a better chance of achieving good results not in protecting the wildlife but making positive contribution to the country's hospitality industry, he said.

Dr Kijazi was speaking at the Lake Manyara National Park adjacent grounds, during the occasion to award military insignia to 80 senior officers and 19 conservators, who had just completed their paramilitary training and ready to serve.

TANAPA oversees 21 national parks dotting the entire country's landscape. Tourism remains the

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TBS hauls, bans substandard blue electrical conduit pipes

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they are easy to bend due to poor quality and cause electrical faults in the house or building," he said.

The confiscated pipes seen to be substandard are blue and will be destroyed in due course, he elaborated.

He asked the public to continue using products which have the standard mark of quality.

Manyama asked large buyers to make sure that they see all certificates from manufacturers which show that their products have been certified, insisting that the government wants to see all new industries stick to quality.

He urged all traders who intend to import goods to abide by requirements of Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC).

PVoC helps exporters and importers make swift customs clearance with the appropriate Certificate of Conformity (CoC)

Inspection of the quality of goods outside Tanzania is done by international agencies spread all over the world, in which case traders need to contact them before seeking to import a product, he further cautioned.

The withdrawn pipes would have compromised the construction performance level for customers if they were left to be sold and used as traded, he said.

"We are determined to ensure that consumers at the end of the day get quality and standard goods for the value for their money," he stated.

TBS seizes substandard goods depending on the situation, where the importer and distributor are ordered to ship back the products to the place of origin or meet the destruction cost, and at times they are sent to court and ordered to pay fines, he explained.

"The Standards Act No. 2 of 2009 states clearly that TBS is mandated to promote standards, and in doing so it cannot compromise quality," he emphasized.

The act empowers TBS to suspend production or importation of any goods which do not conform to standards or weren't tested by the required procedures.

Jumanne Mwakitalima, a city trader, said more education was needed to enable traders identify substandard products.



National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (L, high table), who is on an official visit to Egypt, leads Members of Parliament on his delegation in talks with their Egyptian counterparts in Cairo yesterday. Photo: National Assembly

COSTECH youth business innovation Challenge set for launch next month

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) is set to launch phase two of business plan innovation challenge aimed at creating employment to the youth.

The challenge conducted under the Tanzania Digital Innovation Youth Empowerment Programme (TADIYE) will be announced on July 1 and will involve thousands of youth aged 15 to 35 years, a press statement issued yesterday says.

This follows successful implementation of phase one which was completed on Friday June 14, 2019 in which 150m/- was disbursed to 15 young entrepreneurs in the country to support their business and innovation ideas.

"The aim of the project is to create employment and giving youth opportunities to explore their entrepreneurial talents," the project reads in part.

Before submitting a business plan

the youth go through a training session through the Internet using TADIYE training manuals. Only those who complete five modules are allowed to submit their business plans, the press release said. Shortlisted candidates with the best business plans go through further training to enable them refine their plans before being given starting capital of up to 20m/-.

Since January 2019 about 70,000 youth throughout the country have accessed TADIYE training manuals through the Internet, the statement said.

The project that is funded by the Royal Danish Embassy in the country has set aside 300m/- to finance business ideas for youth in two phases with the first have ended.

In the project, 25 business plans were shortlisted and participants given further training to refine their plans. At the final presentation in June 14 2019 about 16 presentations were selected and given capital amounting to 20m/- each as initial capital.

CASABLANCA

BMCE Bank of Africa has announced a strategic partnership with CDC Group ("CDC"), the UK's development finance institution. CDC will acquire an equity stake of c. 5 per cent in the Bank through a primary capital injection of US\$ 200 million.

CDC's investment will help accelerate BMCE's expansion across Africa while also allowing the Bank to leverage CDC's wide in-country networks.

As one of the seven major pan-African groups, BMCE has established an outstanding track record in sub-Saharan Africa. Back in the late 1980s, BMCE successfully turned around the state-owned bank la Banque de Développement du Mali and, in 2003, it restructured La Congolaise de Banque, the first commercial bank in Congo Brazzaville. In 2008, the acquisition of Bank of Africa, a banking group present in 17 sub-Saharan African countries, and in which BMCE owns a controlling stake of 73%, has spurred international growth. Today, sub-Saharan Africa operations account for nearly half of BMCE's net earnings. By leveraging on its extensive footprint, the Bank

BMCE Bank of Africa, CDC Group seal strategic partnership, investing US\$ 200m for expansion

aims to create value for the continent by routing international investments from its hubs in Morocco, Europe and Asia, and by bringing innovative retail banking solutions to Africa.

CDC has over 70 years of experience investing in Africa and in Asia, with more than 700 businesses in its African portfolio. CDC is strongly committed to the continent and plans to invest up to US\$ 4.5 billion in Africa by 2022, across different sectors and through various investment solutions. CDC invests in financial institutions to advance financial inclusion and bring better access to affordable finance for individuals and SMEs, helping them to strengthen their communities.

This strategic partnership between BMCE and CDC represents one of the largest single investments by a British institution in the Moroccan financial sector and it is a testimony to their joint vision and commitment to strengthening Africa's economy and improving people's lives. The access

to affordable and innovative finance, financial education and business advice is essential to ensure economic development, especially for SMEs, which constitute the backbone of Africa's economy and are a key driver of economic growth. As these businesses grow, they create jobs and wealth in their communities.

The promotion of environmentally sustainable development is an important component of the partnership. BMCE and CDC recognize that sustainable development can serve as a driver to enhance economic growth in African economies and empower African societies. As part of their work in this area, BMCE and CDC seek to ensure environmental and social risks are taken into consideration at the transaction level and work with companies to help them incorporate sustainable practices in their business operations. The partnership between BMCE and CDC will help to further these endeavours throughout the

continent. "The ultimate goal of our agreement goes beyond the US\$ 200 million investment," said Othman Benjelloun, Chairman and CEO of BMCE Bank of Africa. "Rather, it is an alliance aimed at developing Morocco and Africa and ensuring that Africa's human capital achieves a sense of fulfilment".

"Investing in financial institutions is a powerful mechanism through which we can deliver impact at scale," said Nick O'Donohoe, CEO of CDC Group.

"The capital markets in countries such as Morocco are integrated across Africa and are critical to the success of more economically challenged environments in the region. We see these countries as regional hubs, strong platforms from which to provide affordable finance, goods and services to millions more people. Our support will allow the Bank to grow its offering, especially in the SME segment, deepen penetration of banking services and promote financial inclusion for all."



Public Service Social Security Fund acting director general Vupe Ligate (R) attends to a pensioner during the commemoration of Public Service Week in Dodoma at the weekend. The Week is an annual event meant to boost public awareness on public institutions as a way of making the institutions offer better services. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Global Fund approves 11.4trn/- for regional TB intervention

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have managed to eliminate cases of post natal and pre-natal deaths through joint efforts.

The theme for the 12th Best Practices Forum held in Arusha was 'Innovation and Accountability in Health: Towards Achieving Universal Health Coverage.'

The theme will be addressed by examining efforts to improve adolescent and young people's health, opportunities for achieving water and

sanitation health global target, equity and access to eye healthcare in the region.

Others aspects raised at the forum are innovative approaches towards achieving food safety and improving the quality of life, prioritizing substance use and mental health challenges in the ECSA Region, tackling emerging and re-emerging health threats, and a regional One Health approach to managing recurrent outbreaks.

The meetings brought together senior officials from ministries of Health, health research institutions and heads of health training institutions from member states, diverse collaborating partners and experts from the region and beyond.

ECSA-HC is an inter-governmental organization established to foster regional cooperation to address priority health problems.

Its activities seek to attain the highest

possible standards of health for the people of the region, with its member states including Lesotho, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Mauritius, eSwatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In pursuit of its mandate, ECSA-HC facilitates the convening of regional meetings like the Best Practices Forum (BPF) and the Directors' Joint Consultative Committee (DJCC) held in its Arusha head offices on an annual basis.

Tanapa paramilitary must engage, appeals Dr Kijazi

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bedrock activity for national parks, even though TANAPA is also bestowed with conserving wildlife and natural resources in the zones it administers.

"It is therefore important that we place service ahead of everything. The oaths taken today and corresponding ranks attest to this new form of responsibility," the director underlined.

He used the opportunity to remind the officers that the insignia ranking was not about going around brandishing weapons, but officers and conservators ought to maintain the usual humble 'ready to serve' approach. "The image of national parks is essentially all about enjoying nature peacefully as well as studying its flora and fauna," he pointed out.

As of now, TANAPA operates under the International Standards Organization (ISO) certification and

one of its game parks, Serengeti, has in the past few months been named the best safari destination on the continent.

Neema Mollel, a paramilitary graduand, said the new ranks will not only command better discipline among them but also give them a better sense of recognition and acceptance as a new level of public service.

For his part, the TANAPA head of the Security Department, John Nyahangwa said the training not only placed the conservator in better position of undertaking the tasks of protecting wildlife and natural resources but also reinforces discipline through official chains of command.

And while serious poaching incidences have largely been eliminated in the recent past on the basis of government affirmations, this does not mean TANAPA relents in expanding its paramilitary preparedness, he asserted.

Army chief dies muzzling regional attempted coup

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appointed as the region's acting governor.

The prime minister's office accused Amhara's regional security chief, Brig-Gen Asaminew Tsige, of plotting the coup attempt. It is unclear whether he had been arrested.

The US state department reacted to the development by warning its staff in Addis Ababa to stay inside.

Ethnic violence has hit Amhara and other parts of Ethiopia in recent years. Since his election last year, Abiy

has moved to end political repression by releasing political prisoners, removing bans on political parties and prosecuting officials accused of human rights abuses.

Africa's oldest independent country, Ethiopia is also the continent's second most populous (after Nigeria), with 102.5 million inhabitants from more than 80 different ethnic groups.

A transfer hub for long-haul air travel, it has one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, but a vast number of young Ethiopians are without work.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Paul Makonda (L) greets children with heart conditions at the city's Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

TCT launches partnership strategy to boost country's tourism industry growth

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Tourism Confederation of Tanzania (TCT) in collaboration with stakeholders has launched a partnership strategy to boost the country's tourism sector growth and improve the quality of services as part of efforts to market destination Tanzania.

This was revealed on over the weekend by TCT executive secretary, Richard Rugimbana when launching the partnership strategy at the TCT headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

The strategy is designed to uplift the tourism sector in Tanzania to make perform similarly with other countries around the globe. It will market the available tourism attractions to lure more foreign tourists.

"Tourists are coming in Tanzania because of the quality services that we offer, we have the best tourists' products such as Serengeti national park, Mt. Kilimanjaro and Ngorongoro crater", said Rugimbana insisting the improvement in services is due to trainings offered to stakeholders.

He commended the World Bank for supporting the government in improving the southern circuit tourism through the Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth Project (REGROW).

Through REGROW project, the southern circuit will be known worldwide as well as easy to reach because it involves improvement of infrastructures.

Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Hamis Kigwangalla added that the new strategy will strengthen partnership between private and public sector.

"We are working with tourism

stakeholders to identify the opportunities in the sector so that they are utilized", said Dr Kigwangalla adding the government is also working on the challenges stakeholders face to ensure smooth operations.

The Minister asserted that Tanzania targets to receive 500,000 tourists in the next season, calling for concerted efforts to attain the target. He said the government has invested in cruise ship tourism which is the fastest growing segment in the tourism sector so as to increase the number of visitors.

"We have so far received 11 cruise ships from different countries. Our target is to receive over 30 cruise ships per year", he noted.

"I would like to assure you that my ministry is vigilant of the positive initiatives like this. We are endowed with a number of tourists attractions hence the need to market them accordingly", he said.

He said the tourism sector accounts for 17 percent of the country's GDP which is equivalent to 25 percent of the total export earnings.

The enormous economic importance of tourism especially as an engine of employment is to date visibly valid as it supports an estimated number of 500,000 direct jobs, he said.

Currently the statistics shows that the number of tourists that toured in Tanzania in 2018 stood at 1.3 million and the Government is targeting to attract 2 million tourists by 2020.

"I would like to assure you that my ministry is vigilant of the positive initiatives like this. We are endowed with a number of tourists attractions hence the need to market them accordingly"

Govt puts in place initiatives to ensure pregnant mothers in Kagera region receive better services

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

THE government has put in place various initiatives to ensure pregnant women and infants in Kagera region receive better health services.

Kagera Regional Medical Officer Dr Marco Mbatha told this paper in an interview that the government is now addressing the shortage of workers by distributing them to places areas where they are not enough.

"The government has been helping us a lot, more medical workers have

been employed but also even Non-governmental organizations such as the Mkapa foundation has been very helpful," he said.

On the shortage of specialists, the RMO said most of the healthcare providers have been trained to conduct some specialized services hence cover the gap. The region faces a 60-percent shortage of health workers.

The nurse in charge for Bulembo village dispensary Theopista Makanya said shortage of workers is one of the major challenges affecting the health post saying this has forced health workers to work extra hours which is



risk. Tanzania's health sector, like most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa is facing a big shortage of Health workers at all levels, which indirect affect negatively the delivery of health care services to the Tanzanian people. Currently the health sector operates with less than half the required health workforce.

A critical shortage of medical officers, pharmacists, medical laboratory staff, midwives and nurses also continue to affect the health sector inducing multi-tasking.

The health sector is also, among

others, characterized by inadequate health workers training and education systems, inadequate conditions of service, poor health infrastructure and working environments, as well as low health service financing.

Tanzania has identified and embraced the principle of partnerships as one of the important strategies for establishing a strong and reliable health service delivery system. In this respect, strong partnerships have been established with key stakeholders in the health sector, including other government line ministries and department.

Data Analytics Training - SPSS - 2019

RM Consulting, a Technology Solutions Provider Company in Tanzania, in partnership with Predictive Analytical Resources Limited (PARL) from Kenya, A Premier Statistical Software and training consultancy company is offering a one week intensive training in Data Analytics Using SPSS suite of solutions that will be conducted in Dar es Salaam Tanzania.

With more than 20 years of highly successful Analytics training programmes, PARL & RM Consulting offers you a wide range of options for learning how to optimize your use of SPSS Software

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- Researchers/ Consultants & Data analysts

Course Outline
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- Introduction to SPSS: Data entry, data manipulation, Validation Indicator Generation, model development
- Statistical Inferences: Hypothesis testing
- Test statistics: parametric and non-parametric tests
- Correlation and regression: Simple and multiple linear regression, logistic, Poisson regression etc
- Forecasting and Trend Analysis

Training dates: 8th - 12th July 2019.
Payments: Due by 28th June 2019 | Cost: USD 500.00 PP | Venue: Protea Hotel Dar esSalaam, Tanzania


Participants expected to have own laptops. Training Software will be provided by trainers. For inquiries and registration please contact us via email at info@parl.co.ke / info@rmconsulting.co.tz or call **+254.20.3877262/+254.734.351000/+255.754.053921.**

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

Minister calls upon CSOs to grab loan opportunities from district councils

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

DEPUTY Minister in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled, Stella Ikupa has challenged civil society organizations to sensitize people with disabilities including the deaf-blind to grab loan opportunities at district councils.

According to the Deputy Minister, district councils set aside 2 per cent of their budgets each year for empowering the deaf-blind.

This followed a request by youth who are deaf blinded that the government should consider providing them with loans to establish small businesses.

Ikupa made the statement when speaking in Dodoma over the weekend during an event to launch the youth

empowerment project organized by a non-governmental organisation—Sense International Tanzania.

"Most of the disabled people in our country want the government to offer the funds as subsidy instead of loan. Under the plan, the government has so far disbursed 2bn/- while the total amount of funds set aside for the disabled in all the districts is 50bn/-", said Ikupa calling upon social welfare development officers to collaborate with non-governmental organizations in sensitizing the disabled to go for the loans.

Project officer for the youth empowerment project from Sense International Tanzania, Eline Nkya informed the Deputy Minister that the organization has set aside some 222,413,571/- for the project which targets youth who are deaf blinded.

She said the organization has

prepared a special video clip which will be used to teach youth how to write business proposals so as to qualify for the empowerment loans.

"Youth with deaf blindness have been left behind in many things due to their kind of disability. We want to teach them how they can engage in various economic activities", said Nkya adding that Sense International Tanzania has so far capacitated 36 deaf blinded youth.

She said the youth were also provided with business capital.

Nkya added that 17 of the youth have established various businesses in Ukerewe, Bukoba, Ruvuma, Moshi, Arusha, Dodoma and Iringa.

Chairman of the national association of parents with deaf blinded children, Jonathan Masambu called upon the government to invest more in assisting the disabled people.



Airtel Tanzania official Yasinta Ngororo (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend registering and re-verifying the Airtel SIM-card of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (C) under the biometric system used across Tanzania, as directed by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority. The deadline is December 31, 2019. Looking on is the mobile phone service provider's Events manager, Dangio Kaniki. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NBC comes up with programme for university students pursuing banking and finance courses

By Henry Mwangonde

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has launched a programme for university students pursuing banking and finance courses to give them knowledge on the job market.

The bank started by providing such training with the University of Dar es Salaam's Business School (UDBS) where more than 150 students attended over the weekend.

Speaking during the event, the Bank's Director of Treasury and Financial Markets Peter Nalitolera said the programme is part of giving back to the society and that it will extend to other higher learning institutions.

"We want to equip them with the information on what the job market

needs because they are expected to graduate, therefore we want them to know what employers requires of them," he said.

He added that there is a gap among graduates in the country because they fail to translate what they get in class and put in practice.

UDBS assistant lecture for finance Ndasile Namkunde said the country was gearing up for an industrial economy and that banks have a key role to play in ensuring that the target was reached.

According to him, banks offer loans to entrepreneurs and business people who establish small industries which later provide employment to the majority.

Tanzania's youth unemployment

rate remains a big challenge to growth of the country's economy. Among ways recommended to address it, include connecting them to the banking sector for them to access credit and engage in agricultural production.

The Situation is characterized by features like imbalance between supply and demand in the labour market and increasing of urban employment pressures with outflow of rural surplus labour to non-agricultural sectors.

Most youth have no skills employable. Skills requirement in the labour market not compatible with skills supply as a result, we have a mismatch of skills.

In Tanzania, the unemployment rate measures the number of people actively looking for a job as a percentage of the labour force.

Rombo Mkuu Rotary Club donates 20 tricycles for persons with disabilities

By Correspondent James Lanka, Rombo

THE Rotary Club of Rombo Mkuu in Kilimanjaro region has donated 20 tricycles to persons with disabilities to facilitate their movement from one place to another.

Speaking during the handover of the Tricycles at Huruma hospital, Rombo District Executive Director (DED) Magreth John commended the role played by the club to the people with different physical disabilities saying others should embrace the practice.

She appealed all who received the donation to form their group and go to her office to collect loans with no interest for small entrepreneurship to become self-reliant.

"My appeal to you all is to form official

groups so that you can access loans, my office is open and am ready to support you with all the needed requirement," she said.

For his part, the past president of the Rotary Club who is also the club's Secretary said the donation was made possible with support from the Rotary Club International.

Apart from the donation of the Tricycles, the club has also planted 1500 trees in the district, a move that aims at protecting and conserving environment.

The president of the Rotary Club Dr Joachim Swai said that the club

has constructed dining hall at Mamba primary school in Kirongo/Samanga ward worth 30 mil/-." "We have also constructed a modern kitchen at Wama primary school in the district worth more than 9 mil/-" he explained.

For their part, some of the beneficiaries who benefited from tricycles Paul Mang'angu and Stella Shayo thanked Rotary club for their support. "We cannot walk due to our physical disabilities, but now we can move from one place to another after receiving these tricycles, much thanks to the Rotary Club of Mkuu Rombo..." they said.

TIB Development Bank launches customer service charter

By Guardian Reporter

TIB Development Bank (TIB) has launched a customer service charter aiming at improving service delivery among its stakeholders, understanding their needs as well as building good customer relations.

Launching the charter at the Bank's Head Offices in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, the Bank's chairperson of the board of directors, Dr Maria Mashingo said the charter would give customers opportunity to understand the Bank and the extent of its services and receive feedback.

"The Bank has set itself to provide customers with a standard that will meet its customers' requirements and in case it fails to do so it will be ready to receive feedback from

stakeholders for the purpose of adjusting and improving its services," she said.

She added that the Bank was committed to make sure that the agreement was part of implementing the fifth phase government's objective of making sure that public institutions are doing better in serving its stakeholders.

"Until 30 March 2019 the bank had assets amounting to 614bn/- and we have planned to manage these assets to provide benefits to Tanzania putting into consideration laws, policies, regulations, instructions and procedures," she said.

She used this opportunity to also call on customers to support the bank in the implementation of the charter in question for the Bank to maintain its position as a role model in supporting and stimulate private sector investments.

On his part, the Bank's Managing Director, Charles Singili said TIB Development Bank is a key pillar in integrating Government and Private Sector.

"TIB Development Bank is different from other banks because it focuses on developing customer and Tanzanians in general. The Bank is also an important link between the government and the private sector, and thus contributes significantly to investment," said Singili.

He called on young people to find out institutions that can support them achieve their needs so that they can raise their income and the nation as a whole.

"TIB focuses on helping young people understand the principles of good governance, how they can produce a variety of products that can help them achieve their personal objectives and help the government achieve industrial economy," he explained.

Earlier, Joseph Kidaha, who is a client of the bank, said that the contract has a huge impact on the Bank's clients, adding that, if properly managed it will bring great benefits to its customers and Tanzanians in general.

"It is a good thing to see that good relations are developed between the bank and its customers, this will stimulate the interest of people to use services of the Bank and many of us will be able to meet our expectations," he said.

Kidaha urged stakeholders to go and borrow from the TIB Development bank and make timely repayment to make more Tanzanians continue to benefit from development bank loans.



TENDER INVITATION

Tanzania Portland Cement Public Limited Company (TPCPLC) invites tenders from eligible, reputable and competent tenderers for **Provision Plant Sweeping services**

TENDER INSTRUCTIONS AND CONDITIONS

1. Tender documents in English language shall be collected from Procurement Offices from 9AM to 4PM, between 26th June 2019 and 28th June 2019. Tender documents are issued free of charge.

Or Request tender through Saphiness.kikwasha@heidelbergcement.com. Telephone number 0785 670 641

2. TPCPLC is not responsible for any costs related to printing of the bids to be submitted by the tenderers.

3. Tenderers must submit well printed bids in a properly sealed envelope by hand and presented in ONE COPY addressed to:

**Head of Procurement Cluster III,
Tanzania Portland Cement Company Limited,
P.O. Box 1950,
Dar es Salaam.**

4. Deadline for tender submission shall be 5th July 2019 before 4PM. late bids shall not be accepted.

5. Tender envelopes must be clearly marked with the relevant tender.

6. Bids MUST be in Tanzania Shillings.

7. Bids should be valid for a period of 90 working days from the date of submission deadline.

8. TPCPLC is not bound to accept the lowest bid or any bid.

9. Sites visits are MANDATORY for all interested tenderers.

10. Documents to be submitted with tender documents include;

- Copies of Certificate of Incorporation/Registration/TIN/VRN and valid Business License.
- Copy of tax clearance certificate from Tanzania Revenue Authority
- Letters of recommendation from 3 current major clients.
- Certified bank statement for the month of April 2019 (1st to 31st May 2019)
- Only short listed Companies will be contacted

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Jipatie Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro kwa Bei Elekezi za Rejareja kama Ifuatavyo:-

- **Nusu Lita (500ml) – TSHS. 500/=**
- **Lita Moja na Nusu (1.5L) – TSHS. 1,000/=**
- **Bei Hizi Elekezi ni Kwa Nchi Nzima**
- **Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro ni Maji ya Kuaminika Kila Siku**

Inaleta hisia ya ndani unayoiujua mwenyewe

KILIMANJARO
DRINKING WATER



Maji ya kuaminika kila siku

Farmers, pastoralists in three districts to benefit from climate service project

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 40,000 farmers and pastoralists in the three districts of Kiteto, Kondo and Longido are expected to benefit from climate information services project, which is implemented by Farm Radio International (FRI).

The World Food Programme (WFP) funded project which kicked off in September last year, is executed through interactive radio to provide effective and valued gender equal and listener-responsive weather services via interactive radio, mobile services and listeners groups.

Apart from WFP, other partners in the project include Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA), Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Administration and Local Government and Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) partners, farming communities and pastoralists.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Thursday at the national stakeholders' meeting, deputy head of program at the WFP, Juvenal Kisanga said the second phase project is part of a bigger initiative of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) Adaption Programme, which is aimed at increasing resilience of people most vulnerable to the impacts of weather and climate-related hazards.

He said that the project prioritizes the climate sensitive sectors of disaster risk reduction, food security and health. "It focuses on the provision of high-quality and reliable climate services,

including downscaled, localized forecasts."

Kisanga described the project as key tool in scaling up weather and climate services in the three targeted districts, and "this phase of the project will build on achievements made over the past four years."

He said that the second phase project activities are also aligned with the current potential gaps in climate services.

"The idea is to ensure that climate services offered by TMA reach the end-users and radio is the powerful tool in ensuring that rural communities—farmers and livestock keepers get accurate, reliable and timely weather and climate related information and products. This will help the society to manage climate related hazards," he said.

He added: "To us, information is key in ensuring that farmers make sound decision in overcoming climate change related challenges in their localities."

In this phase, farmers and livestock keepers will be trained directly and through extension officers in their localities on how to get weather and climate information services offered by TMA.

"TMA also will be required to downscale the weather information, which is relevant to a small area, so that people get aware on what to do in that particular time. This will make those people to make sound decision on their farming activities."

On the people's response to the project, Kisanga said: "In the area of the project, the response has been good as people there people are aware of the impact of climate change. All the three districts are prone to drought. People in those areas are interested in the project because they are the victims of climate change."

He also said: "We need to find a way of scaling up these things because it has been successfully and it needs to into other districts, where the demand is high...60 districts with this challenge. This is a cost-effective ways of addressing climate change."

Kisanga described the project as key in complementing government's industrialization agenda, where agriculture and livestock sectors are important.

"All players need to work hard to ensure that farming and livestock sectors realize the desired dreams."

Rex Chapota, FRI regional program manager for east and southern Africa described RFI as the only international non-profit organization dedicated exclusively for using radio as a tool for rural development in Africa.

He said that the project is geared to build capacity to provide weather and climate services in two radio stations which reach small-scale farmers and pastoralists as well as providing effective and valued gender equal and listener-responsive weather services via interactive radio, mobile services and listeners groups

"We're also determined to strengthen the network of stakeholders to sustain and grow climate and weather services that respond to farmers' and pastoralists' needs," he said, adding:

"We're also prioritizing the climate sensitive sectors of disaster risk reduction, food security and health. It focuses on the provision of high-quality and reliable climate services, including downscaled, localized forecasts."



National Environment Management Council's East zone manager, Benjamin Mchwampaka (C), participates in environmental cleanliness at Mbezi Beach in Dar es Salaam at the weekend as part of the commemoration of Public Service Week. The event was organised by the council in collaboration with agencies including Nipe Fagio, Aspect, Green Waste Pro and HDIECA. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NEMC calls on Tanzanians to preserve beaches environment

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Nipe Fagio Civil Society, Aspect and Green Waste Pro have taken part in the cleanliness on the Andy beaches located in Mbezi B area as part of celebrating the Public Service Week, calling for the preservation of environment.

Speaking to journalists during the cleanliness of the beaches in question, the NEMC Acting Eastern Zone Manager, Engineer Benjamin Mchwampaka said it was important that people build up beach hygiene habit since most of beaches are public places.

"The Andy beaches have had a lot of dirt due to the lack of long-term hygiene; this cleanliness exercise is to encourage residents of these areas to be committed in making regular hygiene for the safety of the beach environment," said Eng. Mchwampaka.

He said in the sanitation exercise they discovered non-recycled plastic bottles which indicates that those who goes to the area for enjoyment are not conscious with the conservation of the environment.

"We have sorted the bottles in various categories to help us establish the type of waste especially colored bottles and establish the producers so we can liaise with them for recycling plans to arrest the situation," he said.

He pointed out that there are youths who are already employed themselves in the collection of bottles and return them to producers for recycling, adding that the plan so far involves water bottles and not coloured bottles, thus a similar plan is needed for coloured ones.

"To a large percentage plastic waste is a tragedy due to the fact that in the soil they don't decay easily and, in the sea, they destroy the ecosystem and lead to the extinction of marine creatures," he said.

Eng. Mchwampaka said the government has made great strides in protecting environment by prohibiting the use of plastic bags which was tarnishing the country's image in environment protection efforts.

The current slogan in protecting environment is; lets join hands in keeping our environment clean and safe, don't change packaging into carriages" he said adding that public education was underway in a bid to make people understand the difference between packages and carriages.

He added that already the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has asked producers and importers of the packaging to secure permits in a bid to get necessary instructions on the approved standards.

The Mbezi Beach B local government chairperson, Fatuma Ramadhan thanked the government and environmental stakeholders for the noble course as it has intensified the empowerment of the people in volunteering on social activities.

Th Social Development Officer from the Nipe Fagio organization, Abdalah Mikulu said the partnership between environmental stakeholders and the government will help to alleviate the problem of waste in the country and lead to a safe environment for the present and future generations.



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Closing Date

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CSOs express concern over amendment of laws on NGOs

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

CIVIL Society Organisations (CSOs) have expressed concerns over the government's plan to amend eight laws, describing the move as meant to hold back their operations in the country.

Executive director for the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) Anna Henga said that if passed, the amendments will change registration procedures and operations of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), companies and civil societies, among others.

The changes are contained in a bill of miscellaneous amendments No 3 of 2019 in which the government seeks

to draw a clear definition and meaning (and therefore operations) of a company on one side and an NGO and society on the other.

Addressing reporters here over the weekend Henga said that if the amendments are approved as proposed no single NGO in will be safe in the country.

She asked the government to give stakeholders between six and 36 months to prepare a better law.

Aidan Eyakuze, executive director of Twaweza, said although there are some positive aspects in the amendments, the implementation of the envisaged law should be something of great concern.

He said: "This is why we needed time before the amendments reached this stage. Some of the sections even go as far as restricting people's rights to freedom of expression."

He added: "Some of the sections may create problems even in government because within two months they will have de-registered some of the NGOs which are here to help the needy."

Godfrey Boniventura, HakiElimu head of programmes also expressed doubt why the amendments were being processed under certificate of urgency.

The planned changes have also drawn criticism from international or-

ganisation. The Amnesty International said the proposed amendments would restrict the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, including placing impermissible restrictions on CSOs and entrenching censorship. "The Tanzania government must allow for meaningful participation in law making processes by giving people adequate time to review, collate and present their views on a law that will impact their lives enormously," Amnesty International deputy regional director for East Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes, Sarah Jackson.

The amendments will affect the Companies Act, the Copyright and

Neighbouring Rights Act, the Films and Stage Plays Act, the NGOs Act, the Societies Act, the Statistics Act, the Tanzanian Shipping Agencies, Act and the Trustees' Incorporation Act.

While keeping the respective legislative pieces, the amendments - which were made public earlier this week - will widen the scope of the functions and duties of the Registrar of NGOs to include the ability to suspend operation of an NGO that will seem to operate contrary to the provisions of the Act.

"The Registrar of NGOs is also empowered to conduct evaluation of the activities carried out by an NGO. The additional of section 4A is intended to

give the Registrar investigative powers," reads part of the amendments as presented by the Attorney General, Prof Adelardus Kilangi.

Under the proposed amendments, every NGO will be required to make available to the public the prepared annual audited reports. "Amendment of section 31 requires the NGOs to have a duty to adhere to the principles of financial transparency and accountability," the statement reads.

The amendments also seek to formalize the informal video exhibiting centres and create a new revenue stream for the government, through the Tanzania Film Board (TFB).



JOB OPPORTUNITY WITH ICAP IN TANZANIA

ICAP at Columbia University is a Non-Governmental Organization affiliated with Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) registered in Tanzania as MSPH Tanzania LLC since February 2005 (SO No. 12987). ICAP currently operates in nine regions across Tanzania and employs over 230 full time staff to facilitate public health interventions in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children (MoHCDGEC) and the National AIDS Control Program (NACP).

Since October 2016, ICAP has been receiving PEPFAR funding from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for a 5-year project delivering HIV interventions as the community-implementing partner. Known in country as the FIKIA Project and currently in Year 3 of 5 for implementation, the project's goal is to accelerate, expand, and improve the quality of comprehensive community-based HIV prevention services to key and vulnerable populations (KVP). The program provides a wide set of community interventions to support PEPFAR 95-95-95 goals including targeted HIV testing, HIV self-testing (HIVST), same-day ART initiation, peer-based outreach and counseling, TB screening, delivery of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), DREAMS interventions, and linkage case management (LCM) for early retention in care. FIKIA implementation currently spans nine regions including Kagera, Kigoma, Mwanza, Geita, Simiyu, Mara, Pwani, Tanga, and Dar es Salaam, with ambitious annual program targets in the current year including delivering HIV testing to nearly one million people, diagnosing over 39,000 new cases of HIV, and reaching over 230,000 KVP with essential evidence-based HIV prevention interventions.

ICAP is now seeking to employ a highly competent and dynamic individual to fill the below position for the FIKIA project.

Position Title : Data Manager (1 vacancy)
Reports to : Senior Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor
Supervises : Entire Data unit
Job Location : Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Travel : Up to 40% in intervention regions

Position Summary:

The candidate will be responsible to design, develop and update databases and implement high-standard data management systems including data analysis; build staff capacity of ICAP and stakeholders at Central office, Regional offices and health facility levels including RHMTs and CHMTs.

Specific Responsibilities and Duties:

1. Lead in design, update and maintain central and regional databases.
2. Lead in aggregating databases.
3. Adapt and implement ICAP database in collaboration with regional data managers including:
 - a) Design and develop data models and database architecture;
 - b) Construct, install and test the database system;
 - c) Write manuals and explain database's function;
 - d) Consult with others to assess the database system performance and make modifications as required; and
 - e) Modify existing databases and find faults, as user needs change.
4. Coordinate and support development of other databases and build capacity of regional data managers, as needed.
5. Train and supervise M&E teams in new database systems to ensure timely data entry, cleaning on a routine basis, generation of data queries and routine progress reports.
6. Participate on timely reporting of quality national quarterly and OGAC semi-annual and annual reports on all supported program areas.
7. Develop and respond to queries related to data analysis.
8. Help to develop or refine M&E materials including patient tracking tools, medication tracking forms, program indicators and data management systems.
9. Coordinate and ensure use of tracking tools on monthly basis.
10. Provide technical assistance to ICAP Tanzania supported health care facilities including review of performance and quality of service delivery, assessment of M&E strategies, implementation and evaluation of patient tracking and data management systems.
11. Provide technical support in the process of data quality assurances (DQA, Data Audit) and data cleaning, ensuring that data generated is of high quality.
12. At central level, give technical support in the processes of data cleaning, data summarization analyses and submission on agreed timelines.
13. Support data transfers to donors and MOHSW-NACP.
14. Update ICAP Tanzania master slide sets and master narrative excel sheet.
15. In collaboration with the Regional Data Officers, train and supervise Facility Data Clerks to ensure timely data entry, cleaning on a routine basis, generation of data queries and routine progress reports.
16. Perform any other related duties as assigned by the Supervisor from time to time.
17. Oversee the rollout of ICAP technological initiatives in data capture and analysis supervise all the processes of linking with MOHSW -NACP to keep flow of data.

Minimum Experience, Skills, and Qualifications:

1. A degree in IT or Computer Science or Health Information Systems.
2. Strong capability in database development and management using MS Access, MySQL and statistical analysis programs packages e.g. stata, SPSS.
3. Familiarity with different programming languages e.g. Vb.net, HTML, CSS, OOP.
4. Familiarity with the health information systems.
5. At least 3 years' experience in working with donor funded organizations.
6. Capable of independently implementing the duties described above.
7. Good facilitation skills.
8. Committed and team player.
9. Fluent communication in both Kiswahili and English.

Application Instructions:

Qualified applicants should send their cover letter and CV by **8th July, 2019** via email to icap-jobs-tanzania@cumc.columbia.edu, mentioning in the subject line the Position Title. Only short listed applicants will be contacted. Please do NOT attach any certificates when submitting online. This advert is also found on Relief Web - <https://reliefweb.int/jobs> and ICAP website. ICAP is an equal opportunity employer; women are encouraged to apply.



Children from Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mara regions follow proceedings at a five-day education and sensitisation seminar on HIV and AIDS in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

South African pilots coming to Tanzania to inspire, transform skills among youth

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A South African teen pilot, Megan Werner and various co-pilots are today set to land in Tanzania as part of their Cape town -Cairo trip to inspire and transform youths to achieve impossible and succeed beyond expectations.

Publicist and Media Liaison Manager for the Cape to Cairo Challenge, Simon Banda told the Guardian over phone over the weekend that pilots and the team will arrive in Zanzibar on June 24 this year before travelling to Dar es Salaam on June 28, this year.

Banda said the excursion will chart course across Africa to visit towns and cities in Namibia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea to Egypt and a return trip that will include Uganda, Rwanda and Zambia.

He said "It is epic adventure, aviation challenge, youth inspiration, promoting and supporting innovation, as twenty South African teenagers embark on a Cape - Cairo and back excursion in a self-assembled Sling-4 aircraft that uses ordinary motor fuel built in three weeks."

The manager added that excursion will see different teams of the twenty teenagers pilot and charter a course across several African cities and towns spreading the key messages of an African narrative that started as a dream.

He said the teen pilot, author and motivational speaker Megan Werner, sparked by her passion to inspire, founded U Dream Global Foundation to uplift, empower, equip and transform the lives of thousands of youth throughout Africa and the world by dreaming and achieving the impossible as well as succeeding beyond expectations.

"The Challenge has enabled us to take a lot of teenagers from different backgrounds to teach and equip them with life skills that they can take with them into the future," says Megan.

"Throughout Africa, we are hoping to do similar impacting thousands of lives of the youth that are the future of the continent."

The prototype of the Sling 4 was chosen because it had already been flown twice around the world.

Furthermore, using specially modi-

fied, self-made drones, the Challenge will be documented on video as some of the teenagers fly alongside adult supervisors who will use a second Sling-4 aircraft for support to monitor proceedings.

Six teenage pilots will take turns to fly the self-assembled plane as the Challenge moves from country to country.

In her interview early this year with The Guardian in Dar es Salaam, her mother Belinda Werner said U-Dream Global's Cape to Cairo Programme was ambitious aviation outreach initiative that fosters visionary thinking, inspiring young people to pursue their dreams while promoting and supporting innovation, technology and entrepreneurship as necessary key drivers for Africa's development and transformation.

"We create safe real-world experiences, specifically designed to discover young people's strengths and accelerate their growth. Through effective training, we equip them with success tools and methods, forming a solid foundation which enables them to create a powerful future".

Stakeholders hail establishment of economic sector skill councils

By Guardian Reporter

STAKEHOLDERS from different sectors of economy showered their praise for establishment of Sector Skills Councils, saying the move meant a lot in strengthening public-private partnerships.

Speaking over the weekend, stakeholders said the councils were crucial in giving confidence and increase potential and contribution of the new generation of graduates in their areas of work.

The Principal of Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Prof Prekedis Ndomba said the establishment of the councils in question is the only opportunity through which DIT could benefit in terms of knowledge enrichment.

"The fifth phase government under the leadership of President John Magu-

fuli has shown the way by working hand in hand with private sector, this will pave a way in achieving industrial economy's objective by 2025," he said.

Sector Skills Councils have been established to mould college finalists into skillful competitors on the labour markets.

A local investor in the sector of alternative energy, Hilary Biduga said as an investor he needs competent staff members to achieve his targets, adding that such councils were crucial in making competent labor force available.

"I really think that the move to put up these councils has a good intention, through these councils' youths will be competent in the labor market," he said.

The councils would focus on six key areas of agriculture, tourism, industries, construction, energy and ICT.

The Executive Director of Tanzania

Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) Godfrey Simbeye said as the main coordinators of the councils in question will make sure that the target is achieved.

"These councils are crucial in helping youths realize their potentials and be able to embrace available opportunities and eventually be able to support the government's objective in building industrial economy," Simbeye said.

"The government's commitment to work in collaboration with private sector in solving various challenges is key in ensuring that business environment is improved," he said, noting that his institution would ensure the objectives of councils were accomplished.

Simbeye pointed out that more information will be unveiled on the importance of the councils and how TPSF has positioned itself in empowering youths who are graduating at various levels of education.

France nursery and primary school arms Tanzanian pupils with self-reliance skills

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE France nursery and primary school Arthur Rimbaud campus in Dar es Salaam is determined to prepare and equip children with self-reliance skills to enable them become good citizens and civilized.

The school is affiliated with the Agency for French Education Abroad (AEFE), the world's largest network of educational institutions.

Administrator and assistant to the head of the French school, Alexandra Beuthin said this over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during journalists' tour to the French nursery and primary school.

She said the school offers a comprehensive curriculum that prepares a child to become the best person for himself and for the nation. She added that the school receives

students from across the nation and they are equipped with both English and French communication skills

"Currently, 30 per cent of the students are Tanzanians, the other 30 per cent are from France and the remaining 40 per cent are from different countries", said Beuthin adding the school's curriculum is defined and approved by the France National Ministry of Education.

The school's secretary of the management board, Rajab Katunda said the school is eager to prepare children with proper skills and international exposure to enable them have access to multiple opportunities in the world. He said the France government and Tanzania are both taking care of the school, insisting parents are given chance to participate fully in various school operations and activities.

The nursery includes students from

three to five years old, while students from six to ten years are registered for primary school.

Katunda urged parents to make the right decision by selecting the schools for their children education taking into consideration the quality of education the school offers.

With 40 nationalities, the French school Arthur Rimbaud represents a uniquely multicultural environment for students willing to develop strong language skills in French and English.

The school life and ECAs coordinator, Bernadette Mande said that students are assisted to identify and develop their future career.

The school is also characterized by multiple facilities for playing including swimming pool, a multisport court and a fully equipped physical education room, a modern library, and a green courtyard.



Members of the team that scaled Mount Kilimanjaro recently pose for a photo session at the mountain's highest peak at the weekend. They were on the charity expedition under the Kilimanjaro Challenge, an annual climb of the world-acclaimed mountain jointly organised by the Tanzania Commission for AIDS and Geita Gold Mine chiefly to raise awareness on HIV & AIDS and provide support related initiatives. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Commission for AIDS (Tacaids) in collaboration with Geita Gold Mine (GGM) has succeeded in establishing four centres which provide Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) services for long-route truck drivers along some of the highways in Tanzania.

These centres have been launched through the Kilimanjaro Challenge which aims to raise awareness on the HIV & AIDS pandemic, provide financial support to HIV & AIDS initiatives and build national team spirit in this noble fight.

Speaking to journalists at the event of receiving more than 65 people who came down from Mount Kilimanjaro after a seven-day climb, Deputy Director of Tacaids, Jumanne Issango said the campaign also helped some groups of women living with HIV to receive entrepreneurial training as well

Tacaids, GGM establish community intervention programmes in selected mining sites in Tanzania

as porters who are paramount in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

In addition, he needed these facilities built through the Kilimanjaro Challenge campaign to be a Handeni-Tanga, Manyoni Singida, Geita - Geita and Dumila- Kilosa Morogoro where the construction is underway.

He said the centres would help to increase testing, access to the correct use of medication is crucial to achieving 90-90-90 goals by 2020.

"Approximately 1.4 million people in Tanzania are living with HIV and AIDS. Currently, 225 people are infected with HIV & AIDS per day. This pandemic is mostly affecting the youth of Tanzania and this disease orphans 1.3 million children. We need to change this.

Tanzania Commission for HIV & AIDS (TACAIDS) in corporation with Geita Gold Mine and different stakeholders through Kilimanjaro Challenge would like to provide support to HIV & AIDS initiatives in the country and raise funds to fight against this pandemic.

"We hope to build a national team spirit in the fight against this menace. We urge all the different stakeholders from local to international to come forward to participate and contribute to the Kilimanjaro Challenge fund so that we can meet our dream of having a zero free HIV & AIDS generation," he said.

The AngloGold Ashanti, GGML Vice President Sustainability, Simon Shayo said 65 heroes who had climbed Mt.

Kilimanjaro have descended in this year.

"The team of 31 Kili Challenge climbers led by Captain Moses Rusasa all reached the peak. In addition, 32 cyclists the team led by Captain Masolwa Bukelebe cycled through hills and valleys, while stretching out the exhausted leg muscles for 420kms. This year we had the first ever lady to cycle the whole stretch Erasmiah Massawe; with determination and clear purpose so as to raise funds to help eradicate HIV/AIDS in Tanzania.

"It is now 18 years since Kilimanjaro Challenge started with over 800 people from different parts of the world having participated. We have raised over 13bn/- whereby over 40 NGO's countrywide

have benefited. Institutions which had no funds to operate are able to make an impact to the communities with these funds from Kili Challenge; Children, who had lost their parents due to HIV & AIDS, are now finding care and love and can smile again.

"We would like to acknowledge some of our participating partners, including but not limited to, ACACIA, AKO, Mantrac, NSSF, PUMA, TOYOTA, Prime Fuels, Coastal Aviation, PwC, Capital Drilling, PPF, Serena Hotel, Geita Power Limited, SGS and other valued supporters. It is because of you that this noble fight against HIV/AIDS continues hence ensuring the success and continuity of this annual event," commented Shayo.

For her part, Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Anna Mghwira said: "The good example set by GGML in supporting the government's effort of the war against HIV is highly commendable. This shows how businesses are fast recognizing their role in taking part in ensuring that the welfare of the host communities and beyond are embedded and made part of the corporate entities' agenda to ensure business sustainability."

According to Kili Challenge Trust Manager Manace Ndoroma, "This year, the Trust has put aside 550m/- for competitive bidding whereby we urge NGOs and companies dealing with HIV/AIDS to write us concepts, share and get a chance to be funded by the Trust. We will also be making many changes to the Trust as we would like increase accountability to all our sponsors and give them the visibility they deserve for being part of this noble cause," he said.



Call for Proposals: Projects to evaluate programs designed to prevent violence against children in Tanzania & Uganda

The Evaluation Fund supports research that helps civil society organizations, researchers, and governments better understand whether programs and projects designed to prevent violence against children really work. Since 2011, The Evaluation Fund has supported high-quality evaluations of programs that are designed to prevent violence against children in low- and middle-income countries. This year, we are launching a Call for Proposals in collaboration with the Global & African Partnerships to End Violence Against Children to identify particularly promising programs and to evaluate their effectiveness.

Through this Call for Proposals, we will support research projects focusing on childhood violence prevention interventions, in line with the **INSPIRE Strategies**. Applicants are welcome to apply for a project focused on **evaluation research** (to understand what strategies work to prevent violence against children), or **implementation research** (to understand how and why those strategies work in real-world application).

The scope of this call is limited to interventions in Tanzania and Uganda, whose governments have made a public commitment to end all forms of violence against children as part of a framework to identify so-called **"Pathfinding Countries."** Selected projects should therefore align with the priorities identified in either the National Plan of Action-Violence Against Women and Children in Tanzania or the national plan to eradicate violence against children in Uganda.

The total funding available is **\$720,000 USD** for both **Tanzania and Uganda** (though this may not be equally split). Co-funding is encouraged, though not required. We have developed the following indicative funding framework:

- For a pilot/explanatory study: up to \$110,000 USD
- For an impact study: up to \$220,000 USD

This is a two-stage application process: Concept Note and Full Evaluation Proposal.

The Concept Note should include: **A background statement** addressing your organization, capacities and interest; a **challenge statement** addressing why and how evaluation research or implementation research would benefit your organisation; a **methods statement** explaining what methods you would like to propose and why; a **partnership statement** indicating which partners both local, national and international you are proposing; an **impact statement** explaining how you will ensure sustainability and align with national and regional priorities; a **budget statement** including estimated costs. **The deadline for the Concept Note submission is July 26, 2019.**

Whether an implementing organization or a research team, you are eligible to apply if:

- You form a research-**implementer team** to conduct this evaluation
- The program being evaluated focuses on the **prevention** of violence against children, rather than the response
- The program being evaluated is based in **Tanzania or Uganda**
- The primary researchers conducting the evaluation are based in **Tanzania or Uganda** (preferable); or the **Sub-Saharan region** more largely (considerable)

To learn more about the Call and to apply, please visit: www.theevaluationfund.org.



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Order on not, fielding more than five pros reinforces errors, not otherwise

SPORTS cabinet minister Dr Harrison Mwakymbe has lately issued a directive to premier league clubs not to field more than five professional players, that is, those hired from outside, in any particular match. What it means is that while clubs are allowed to recruit seven professional players from outside, they should not field all of them in any particular match but two must remain on the bench until perhaps one is benched for another pro to take his part. The reason is the need to ensure that there is sufficient playing time for local players, a keen policy parameter.

What this means is that policy makers are still preoccupied with the number of foreign players in the premier league, under the mistaken impression that is held fast by a whole swathe of sports administrators, that the fewer the foreign players, the better it is for local players and the national team. A number of experts have been cautioning against that attitude, and the principal aspect of what they say is that the presence of a large number of foreign players enhances the technical level of competition in the premier league. It improves the tackling, the passing, the finishing and other skills to counteract enhanced capacities of players in that regard, which means it's positive.

In that case it is evident that soccer federation officials and sports administrators as a whole are trying to believe a sweet narrative that the more local players get playing time at premier league clubs the more effective

they become. They wish to believe that this is the best setting to build a good national side, and will do everything they can to limit the recruitment of foreign players, while all this is a faulty narrative. It needs heightened competition to make a premier league player not just play at his best but also learn more things by being forced to tackle a better player.

There is an expression that says 'spare the rod, spoil the child,' that a child who doesn't worry about being punished will not exert himself as regards discipline, and consequently he is unlikely to grow up in a straight manner. Similarly when local premier league players are spared top level competition and only tackle those who have their same level of play, that sort of inbreeding compromises soccer development. It becomes easy for coaches to be satisfied with day to day performance because the competition is poor, exerting themselves on occasions, in big matches.

There is a rule about success in life, that in order to succeed one must try to mix with those who are already successful so as to learn their ways of doing things, not stay with under-achieving individuals and expect to do better. Looking across at our neighbours for instance in DR Congo, they have no limit of players who can be recruited from outside. Exposure leads to more local players finding their way abroad, while lack of exposure cramps skills, therefore having ample time to play but with the same competition doesn't enhance the quality of local soccer but the contrary.

Why Caster Semenya has herculean task to overturn lower testosterone level decision

ON 4th June 2019, the Swiss Federal Tribunal (SFT) temporarily suspended the application of the differences of sex development (DSD) Regulations passed by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) on Caster Semenya, women's 800m Olympic champion.

The regulations mandate female athletes with DSD and XY chromosomes wishing to compete in track events from 400m to 1,500m to lower their testosterone level to the normal female range from the male range.

Testosterone is a steroid hormone that stimulates development of male secondary sexual characteristics, produced mainly in the testes, but also in the ovaries and adrenal cortex.

Opponents of the regulations argue these athletes were born, bred and identify as women. It is thus inhumane to compel them to take hormones to lower their testosterone level. On the other hand, the IAAF maintains that the regulations are necessary to level the competition.

Athletics South Africa (ASA) and Semenya challenged the regulations as discriminatory at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The CAS upheld IAAF's arguments that the regulations were necessary, reasonable and proportionate to protect fair and meaningful competition.

Kenyan athletes affected by the regulations include Maximilla Imali (the national 100m and 400m record holder), Margaret Nyairera (Olympic 800m bronze medalist) and fast-rising 400m runner Evangeline Makana.

Since the SFT ruling only applies to Semenya, the Kenyan trio have to comply with the regulations to participate in an IAAF sanctioned event. Athletics Kenya (AK) remained neutral leaving the affected Kenyan athletes on their own, unlike Athletics South Africa (ASA), which has diligently defended its affected athletes.

One might ask why the SFT, a Swiss judicial body, is hearing a dispute between a South African association and citizen against an athletics

federation based in Monaco. IAAF has its own internal dispute resolution bodies and tribunals.

A disputant who's exhausted the IAAF's internal mechanisms but dissatisfied with the result can only appeal to the CAS, seated in Lausanne, Switzerland.

CAS adopted its procedural rules in accordance with the Swiss Private International Law Act, which provides the general framework for international arbitration in Switzerland.

ASA and Semenya must have challenged the ruling by CAS on the grounds that it violates the principle of international public policy against discrimination.

SFT will have to determine whether the regulations strike the right balance between an individual's personal dignity and the need to protect fair and meaningful competition. ASA and Semenya face a herculean task convincing the SFT to overturn the CAS verdict. STF has shown deference to CAS since its establishment in 1984 and overturned very few cases.

Mokgadi Caster Semenya born 7 January 1991 is a South African middle-distance runner and 2016 Olympic gold medalist. Semenya won gold in the women's 800 metres at the 2009 World Championships with a time of 1:55.45 and at the 2017 World Championships in her new personal best, 1:55.16. Semenya also won the silver medal at the 2011 World Championships in the 800 metres. She was the winner of the gold medal in the 800 metre events at the 2012 Summer Olympics and 2016 Summer Olympics.

Following her victory at the 2009 World Championships, it was announced that she had been subjected to sex testing. She was withdrawn from international competition until 6 July 2010 when the IAAF cleared her to return to competition.

Semenya was born in Ga-Masehlong, a village in South Africa near Polokwane (previously called Pietersburg), and grew up in the village of Fairlie, deep in South Africa's northern Limpopo province. She was born with XY chromosomes.

CRIME



By Special Correspondent

AS we all know, since recently electric power is being supplied in shifts. Although power interruption is costing probably billions to the country, I like the idea of shifts than random interruptions.

At least you get to know when the interruptions will take place. But the funny thing about the shifts is that we are not informed in advance about the time schedule for the power interruptions, so we had to find out on our own the exact times the will shifts start and end. Anyway, the point I want to make in this blog is not really about the interruption shifts but rather the fact that the power interruptions are bringing us back to the old days.

Although I shouldn't be saying this, there is something likeable about power interruptions in the evenings. And that is the fact that families and friends who live together get to gather around and chit-chat pre, during and post dinner because there is no TV to

Back to the old days

stare at.

The power interruptions help us get closer to each other as we get to talk more and longer hours with to each other. Of course, people chat with each other also while watching television, but the chit-chat in the absence of a TV is nothing like the one in its presence. We might chat about issues that we are watching on TV but not so much about our days, our emotions on that day, our families, our friends, our work and all the other personal stuff.

As much as technology is making our lives so much easier, I also believe that it is increasingly driving us apart. The irony with telecommunication technologies such as smart phones and the internet is that, on the outset, they are bringing the world much closer together. But at the same time, thanks to these technologies, we are increasingly losing the natural or the

human way of communication.

Have you ever noticed that nowadays, a group of youngsters who meet for lunch or coffee prefer to stay glued to their phones instead of talking to the person who is sitting next to them? What I find funny is that these youngsters are probably chatting with another person online while completely ignoring the person sitting next to them. This makes me wonder if there is something superior about virtual communication over "human" communication. Thanks to texting, apps such as WhatsApp and Facebook, people are becoming reluctant to call a person let alone going in person to visit him or her.

Take online shopping for instance. I heard that people feel lonely because, thanks to online shopping, they do not have to go out to the market to buy stuff and in the process get to interact with

different people. I have never thought about this aspect of online shopping before, but now that I think about it, it is actually true that it can drive to feelings of loneliness and even depression.

Although the absence of a secured power supply and functioning communication technologies can cost billions to the economy, on the bright side, their absence help us get back to the old days where people were much closer to each other and to the time where socialization had a human element in it. It will be stupid of me to suggest that the country should be out of power and have poor communication infrastructure, of course. What I am suggesting is rather for us to take active measures to shut our TVs, phones and laptops once in a while to spend quality time with our loved ones and interact with others, as in the old days.

Courts push back against the might of big tobacco

By Carmel Rickard

FOR some years I have been following the progress of tobacco control court challenges across Africa. Two things have struck me. First, each new law or regulation aimed at forcing smokers to understand the damage they are doing to their health is met by aggressive litigation from Big Tobacco. Second, the courts are becoming more confident in dismissing efforts to roll back these controls.

The latest example of both trends is on display via a unanimous decision by five judges of Uganda's Constitutional Court. British American Tobacco (BAT), described by the court as 'a renowned company dealing in tobacco products', operating in Uganda for more than 30 years and listed on the Uganda Securities Exchange, had brought a petition challenging the Tobacco Control Act that came into force in May 2016.

According to BAT's petition, at least 24 sections or sub-sections of the 2016 law are inconsistent with the Constitution. BAT's MD, Dadson Mwaura, argued that despite increasingly strict controls, many people continued to smoke. Against that reality, he warned that tougher laws could lead to unintended consequences, such as the risk of an untaxed and illegal trade in cigarettes.

Mwaura said there needed to be a 'fair balance' between promoting public health by curbing smoking and the 'legitimate constitutional and economic interests' of tobacco companies, dealing in a 'legal product', that contributed in many ways to the economy of Uganda.

He complained bitterly that increasing the warning coverage on packaging from 30 to 65% was unreasonably restricting on producers, with only a third of the pack left for trademarks even though, since it was engaged in a 'lawful trade', it was 'entitled' to enjoy its intellectual property rights.

Mwaura also complained about prohibitions on smoking in public places, including hotels, bars and restaurants, at work and on public transport. This 'blanket prohibition' was unreasonable and curtailed BAT's 'right' to practice a 'lawful trade'.

He was also concerned about provisions that made officials of a company 'personally liable' for certain offences committed under sections of the new law. In his view it would be unconstitutional to make him responsible (as an official of BAT) for criminal acts under the law. This amounted to 'disguised statutory disincentive' to anyone considering whether to serve on the board of tobacco companies or to accept

management positions. Government officials who replied to the lengthy petition said it should be dismissed for being 'frivolous and vexatious'.

The court's decision has been a long time coming: after its first hearing in May 2017, judgment was reserved and several members of the panel 'ceased to be Justices of this court' before judgment could be delivered. With a new group of judges empanelled, the petition was re-heard. In his decision, Justice Kenneth Kakuru, writing for a unanimous court, listed some 14 issues for determination.

He went into some detail in dealing with the first two issues and concluded that the limitations imposed on BAT were justifiable in a free and democratic society and were thus not unconstitutional. He added that if he had to resolve the remaining issues as set out for determination in the petition he would 'fall into a trap of having to repeat myself over and over'.

All the issues raised by BAT in the petition had been dealt with in a number of other countries including Uganda, the UK, the USA, Kenya, South Africa, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Peru. These and other cases were now 'collectively known as Tobacco Litigation Suits' with tobacco companies advancing arguments similar to those in this case. One report, admitted as part of this case, was called,

'How tobacco companies fight tobacco control', and the report was not challenged by BAT in any way. It lists a number of strategies used by tobacco companies including BAT, to influence policy and 'thwart effective legal and policy framework world-wide'.

Kakuru said he had carefully studied the BAT petition and the arguments of counsel, and found nothing in the petition that needed constitutional interpretation apart from the issues he had already dealt with. The other claims in the petition were 'diversionary' and did not require constitutional interpretation.

He said he had no doubt that the petition was 'part of a global strategy' by BAT and others involved in tobacco to 'undermine legislation' and expand their trade and increase their profits whatever the health costs might be to humanity. BAT admitted that even when used as instructed, their products caused serious health problems to users and others, and that the products they manufacture and sell 'cause death'.

All the limits imposed by the new law were justified in a free and democratic country, the judge said. 'I find no merit whatsoever in this petition, which appears clearly to have been misconceived or worse still, brought in bad faith' as part of Big Tobacco's global strategy to fight controls.

Expo to usher in new journey for China-Africa economic and trade cooperation

By Wang Ke

THE First China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo is slated to kick off on Jun. 27 in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan province.

The expo is an implementation of the eight major initiatives put forward at the 2018 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Beijing Summit.

With 14 events, 53 African countries and more than 10,000 guests, the expo is committed to injecting strong impetus into the development of China-Africa economic and trade cooperation in the new era by pooling more resources and mobilizing more driving forces.

Exhibitions featuring five major areas will be launched, in a bid to help China-Africa cooperation yield pragmatic achievements in various sectors including trade, agriculture, manufacturing, service industry, financial sector, and infrastructure.

Trade cooperation between China and Africa enjoys steady progress and sound momentum of development. Statistics indicated that China has been Africa's largest trading partner for ten consecutive years, with volume of bilateral trade reaching \$204.2 billion in 2018, up 20 percent year-on-year.

China and Africa have continuously improved bilateral trade structure.

Last year, China's export of mechanical and electrical products and high-tech products to Africa accounted for 56 percent of its total value of exports to Africa, while the country's imports from Africa realized a year-on-year growth of 32 percent.

Import of agricultural products rose by 22 percent from the previous year, representing a significant increase in non-resource imports from Africa.

Cooperation between China and Af-

rica in infrastructure has created many highlights. The Soubre hydroelectric power station, contracted by Sinohydro Bureau 5 Co., Ltd., is the largest of its kind in Cote d'Ivoire.

The first generator set of the hydroelectric power station has produced over 2 billion kWh of steady and clean energy since it was put into service in May 2018. The product has not only improved the proportion of hydropower in Cote d'Ivoire's electricity system, but also enabled the country to export electricity.

In recent years, Chinese enterprises have actively participated in Africa's infrastructure construction. With the implementation of a great number of major projects in such areas as rail transit, port, aviation, and electricity, these companies contributed significantly to boosting connectivity in Africa while bringing China's technologies, equipment, standards, and services to Africa.

Industrial investment between China and Africa has seen in-depth integration. By the end of 2018, more than 3,700 Chinese companies had set up branches in Africa, bringing over \$46 billion to the continent.

Cooperation zones have become important platforms for Chinese investment in Africa. They, while accelerating the formation of an industrial chain of the investment projects, have achieved industrial agglomeration effect.

The establishment of industries including manufacturing equipment, textile industry, and household appli-



Staff members of Chinese shoe manufacturer Huajian Group work on the production line in the Eastern Industrial Zone located in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia. (People's Daily)

ances has helped the local community boost industrialization, and build supporting facilities, and improved the capability to increase foreign exchange earnings through export.

China-Africa cooperation is in full swing in multiple new areas. Chinese financial institutions have established over 10 branches in Africa, where eight countries including South Africa have included Chinese currency renminbi in their foreign exchange reserves.

China has launched renminbi clearing services with Zambia

and concluded currency swap agreements with four African countries including Morocco. In addition, bilateral cooperation in such new forms of business as cross-border e-commerce enjoys rapid development.

Last November, many people from Burkina Faso came to learn engineering machinery and maintenance techniques in an industrial park of China's Zoomlion Heavy Industry Science & Technology Co. Ltd. in Changsha.

"We took them to visit our workshops to show them how to operate equipment and explain

all our key techniques to them," said Xiong Chuanyu, a staff member of Zoomlion Heavy Industry Science & Technology Co. Ltd., who had worked in Africa for nearly 10 years.

Island country Madagascar in east Africa has the largest planting area and highest output of hybrid rice in Africa. The average yield per unit area of hybrid rice there is more than twice that of local varieties.

The tremendous change owes greatly to the constant efforts of experts at Hunan Academy of Agricultural Sciences and an agriculture company in Hunan, which have popularized hybrid rice in Africa for years.

Thanks to Chinese hybrid rice, people of Madagascar have basically shaken off hunger, said a Malagasy official, expressing heartfelt praise for Chinese hybrid rice.

Chinese enterprises have made it possible for people in Kigali to watch television programs, said a citizen in Kigali, capital of Rwanda, adding that when they have a window into the world, they have the power to keep working hard for their dreams.

The project to bring TV programs to Kigali is undertaken by China's pay TV company StarTimes, which aims to enable people from over 10,000 villages

of 25 African countries to watch satellite TV programs.

Cameroon, whose hydropower resources rank third in Africa, has a hydropower utilization rate of less than 5 percent and electricity access rate of less than 30 percent due to various causes. Having sufficient electric energy has always been a dream of Cameroonians.

PowerChina Zhongnan Engineering Corporation Limited has planned to build four hydropower stations for Cameroon, with the total installed capacity approaching 2,000 MW. Upon completion, the project will effectively improve the situation in Cameroon and light up the life of more local people.

Africa has benefited from China's development, expressed Miriam Altman, Commissioner on the National Planning Commission in the Office of the South African Presidency, saying that Chinese investment has enhanced Africa's capacity for self-development, and helped Africa better integrate itself into global value chains.

At present, both China and Africa hope to intensify alignment of development strategies, tap deeper into bilateral cooperation, stimulate vitality of development, and cultivate new growth points.

People's Daily

How to make special economic zones special

By Lovemore Chikova

SPECIAL Economic Zones are an important part of the investment strategy being pursued by the New Dispensation through the Zimbabwe Investment Development Agency (ZIDA). The concept is not new to the country, with the Special Economic Zones Act having been passed in 2016.

But the bare fact is that for the last four years, special economic zones have been regularly talked about, but did not realise the touted potential, especially their impact on the economy.

With the coming in of ZIDA, the Special Economic Zones Act will be repealed, with the development concept now being incorporated into the One-Stop Investment Services Centre under the new investment agency.

The other Acts to be repealed by ZIDA are the Zimbabwe Investment Authority Act and the Joint Venture Act, the institutions set by these Acts will be incorporated into ZIDA.

According to Zhihua Zeng in an article titled: "Special Economic Zones: Lessons from the Global Experience", "the basic concept of special economic zones includes several specific characteristics: (a) it is a geographically delimited area, usually physically secured, (b) it has a single management or administration; (c) it offers benefits for investors physically within the zone; and (d) it has a separate customs area (duty-free benefits) and streamlined procedures."

The term special economic zones covers a number of areas including industrial parks, export processing zones, enterprise zones, science and technology parks and free trade zones.

The special economic zones are a modern concept of development, which many developing countries are going after as an instrument to promote industrialisation and attract new technologies.

In Zimbabwe, the establishment of special economic zones was expected to restore the economy's capacity to produce goods and services competitively, and to attract foreign direct investment that could change the economic outlook of the country.

The first attempt at establishing such trading zones in Zimbabwe was in the late 1990s, when the first export processing zone was launched in Beitbridge by the then Minister of Industry and Commerce Nathan Shamuyarira.

After the ground-breaking ceremony at the site of that export processing

zone, nothing tangible happened and the area remains designated, just in name.

Even after the Special Economic Zones Act was enacted in 2016, there has not been much movement in terms of implementing the concept on the ground, except the identification of certain areas for such trading zones.

What is clear from the previous scenarios is that attempts to embark on special economic zones have not yielded the positive results envisaged to contribute to economic revival.

But now, things are expected to change for the better.

The incorporation of the special economic zones into the one-stop investment centre under ZIDA is expected to quicken development in those designated areas, and attract more investors.

It is necessary that those spearheading ZIDA make a thorough assessment of what really went wrong with previous attempts to set up such special trading zones.

This time around, the special economic zones are part of the reform process being undertaken by President Mnangagwa under the New Dispensation.

The reforms being carried out are expected to bring a positive economic outlook in no time, and this will create an atmosphere conducive for the thriving of the special economic zones.

One of the reasons why the previous attempts at special economic zones did not bring the desired results had to do with the state of the economy that was characterised by uncertainty due to a number of factors like corruption.

But the anti-corruption crusade embarked upon by President Mnangagwa is bound to instil confidence in investors, who will be assured that they will not lose their cash to unscrupulous individuals.

Investors in special economic zones are interested in getting a worth from their investments, and the stabilisation of the economy is set to assure them of such a benefit.

The establishment of infrastructure in the areas designated for the special economic zones is also important, as it conforms with the expectations of international investors based on their experience elsewhere.

In many countries, especially in Asia where the industrial parks development model is popular, investors find factory shells already in place, all they



do is to bring in their machines, install them and start work.

A whole city, for example, can be declared a special economic zone, meaning that all products from that area are produced under a special dispensation.

For example, Shenzhen City in China's Guangdong Province is a special economic zone, and has since grown into a major technological hub for China because of the status it has gained.

It is expected that ZIDA should institute friendly policies that offer incentives to potential investors to attract them to the new economic zones, in addition to the ease of doing business expected to be instituted through the investment agency.

There is no doubt that ZIDA will require a strong information services targeted at marketing the country and the special economic zones to attract the attention of investors.

Investors do not flock to a destination if they are not aware of what is at stake. They need deliberate persuasion through appropriate information that makes them appreciate the benefits accruing in investing.

It is important that the Zimbabwe Investment Development Agency Bill spells out the expectations from the special economic zones. The Bill has been published for the first time and is expected to sail through Parliament soon, without major

amendments.

The Bill is clear that a special economic zone can only be registered if it will be beneficial to the country. Projects under the zones should be licensed on the basis of their orientation towards export or import substitution and how they will promote industrialisation of the domestic economy.

Skills transfer is also emphasised, as well as the creation of employment and development of human resources.

The special economic zones projects, according to the Bill, should be able to value add local raw materials, among many other considerations that are expected to uplift the economy.

It is clear that special economic zones are an important aspect of ZIDA, and are bound to drive the fight for economic reform and rejuvenation.

If implemented well and according to expected standards, special economic zones can result in the industrialisation and modernisation of the country.

It is imperative that ZIDA gets lessons from those who have successfully implemented such industrial parks, and these examples are abound in many countries in Asia and to some extent Latin America.

Examples driven from such countries clearly show that special economic zones are a viable model for modern economic de-

velopment, although they need astuteness from the implementers. Such zones can actually offer a quick fix to the problems of low growth, low level of investment and low level of technological know-how.

The country can also earn more foreign currency from such initiatives, while at the same time creating the much needed employment through the industrial parks. What also makes the special economic zones a viable model of economic development is that they are implemented on a win-win basis, with both sides -- the country and the investor -- set to benefit.

Meanwhile, Muckraker reports that "In this region in SADC, the RTG (sic) is the strongest currency in the region, and it makes our exports expensive. So, we have a too strong currency... We have no doubt that in the President, we have a man endowed with an inimitable pragmatism born out of the odds he endured before and after the liberation struggle, where at one stage, he faced the gallows only to be saved by a technicality of being under age."

Zimbabweans were once again flooded with good news this week. First, President Emmerson Mnangagwa announced that the country had the strongest currency in the region.

This news came just as we were in the middle of celebrat-

ing some more positive news released earlier by the Finance minister Mthuli Ncube; apparently, prices will start falling next month. Mark your calendars, stock up on more RTGS dollars, or, as our leader calls it "RTG" dollars. Finally, the economic stability we were promised a year ago is about to come upon us.

"The rand which many people cry for, is 14 rands to one US dollar. The Pula is also around nine or 10, I don't know what it is, the Kwacha is the same," the President told the nation in a radio interview. "In this region in SADC, the RTG (sic) is the strongest currency in the region, and it makes our exports expensive. So, we have a too strong currency..."

Of course, the man is correct that that the currency is overvalued -- "too strong" as he calls it. It is something many commentators missed. Clearly, Mnangagwa doesn't seem to know the difference between a strong and overvalued currency. But news that a currency, which has lost over half its value in four months, was ever strong, to start with, will surprise and baffle many economists.

It will even surprise Mthuli, who has once again been all over the globe seeking a bagful of US dollars -- or "real money" as ED calls it -- just so he can support that same "strong currency" he has at home.

But fear not. It seems Mthuli has a plan. He tells us that inflation, nearly 100% even by the government's massaged data, will start coming down in July. We remember how we were told that we would have cheap basics by April. Maybe, this time, Mthuli actually has a plan. It's just that he doesn't know what it is yet.

Dubious faith
Muckraker wishes to salute the hacks at Herald House, for their unshaken faith in our President.

We join the patriots in hailing the President's radio interview. The Sunday Mail wrote a gushing editorial headlined: We salute you Man of the People, in which our leader was praised for his clarity of thought on economics. Is it State media if it does not "hail" everything that comes out of government, or "castigate" anything that comes out of elsewhere? It cannot be.

Fund supporting wildlife wins Grand Prix at Cannes Festival

By Special Correspondent

THE Lion's Share Fund, a unique initiative which asks advertisers to contribute much-needed funds to support wildlife conservation and animal welfare across the globe, has won a Grand Prix at this year's Cannes Lions Festival of Creativity.

The Fund, first announced at last year's Cannes Festival, was recognised in the Sustainable Development Goals category for its use of creativity to help address one of the world's greatest environmental challenges.

Led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and a coalition of businesses including founder FINCH, founding partner Mars, Clemenger BBDO and Nielsen, the Fund asks advertisers to help raise much-needed funds for wildlife conservation and animal welfare by donating 0.5 per cent of their media spend every time an animal is featured in their advertisements.

FINCH founder Rob Galluzzo, who initiated the idea with film director Christopher Nelius, said: "The Lion's Share is a mechanism that leaves us with a simple choice: Are you a brand that wants to continue using animal talent to generate profit without contributing to their preservation? Or, do you want to be part of the solution? Because now that The Lion's Share exists, the world is about to ask."

Nick Garrett, CEO at Clemenger BBDO Australia, meanwhile noted: "We are so proud to be part of this. It means the world to us that our creative thinking is being used to have a real and meaningful impact."

The Lion's Share Fund returned to Cannes this year calling on individuals, creative teams and brands to pledge their support by dedicating their Cannes Lion

awards by using the hashtag #LionforLions. In the spirit of this campaign, the Fund also proudly dedicates its own Grand Prix award to the cause.

The past decade has seen one in four Cannes Lions Grand Prix winners feature animals in their advertising campaigns. Despite this, animals do not always receive the support that they deserve. In fact, it's the opposite - nine out of the top ten most popular animals used in ads are either endangered or are on the threatened list.

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner said: "The Lion's Share shows what a simple but innovative idea can accomplish. Through media and brands coming together, we have been able to raise not only financing for conservation and wildlife but also to engage new audiences on this issue. And we would be thrilled to have others join us."

Jane Wakely, Lead Chief Marketing Officer for Mars, chipped in: "The Lion's Share is an innovative and bold illustration of what is possible when we combine our creative and media muscle as an industry to help prevent the extinction of so many iconic species. For Mars, it's another step in living the commitments of our Sustainable in a Generation Plan."

"This is just the beginning - we urge other companies, brands, media and creative agencies to join us and help build this movement," she pleaded, adding: "Let's transform the way we support animals and their habitats today to make a lasting impact on biodiversity and animal conservation tomorrow."

The Lion's Share was established in June 2018 with Mars as a founding partner and partnerships with advertising network BBDO and leading measurement company Nielsen.

It is determined to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN's universal call to action to end poverty and protect the planet. Supporting animals and helping to conserve their habitats is key to achieving Goal 14 on Life Underwater and Goal 15 on Life on Land.

UNDP partners with people across societies globally to help build nations that can withstand crises and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in nearly 170 countries and territories, the agency offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

For its part, Mars is a family-owned business with more than a century of history making diverse products and offering services for people and the pets people love.

With more than \$35 billion in sales, the company is a global business that takes care of half of the world's pets through its nutrition, health and services businesses - thus taking action every day to help create a "world tomorrow in which the planet, its people and pets can thrive".

The Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity, formerly known as the International Advertising Festival, is a global event for those working in creative communications, advertising and related fields.

Considered the largest gathering of the advertising and creative communications industry, the five-day festival is held yearly in Cannes, France. Activities include multiple award ceremonies.

Each June, around 11,000 registered delegates from 90 countries visit the festival to celebrate the best of creativity in brand communication, discuss industry issues, and network with one another.



Civic United Front chairman Prof Ibrahim Lipumba addresses members of his party at a 'Rights and Happy' symposium in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

WMA verifies 158 weighing and measures scales in Tabora region

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

WEIGHTS and Measures Agency (WMA) has verified 158 scales that are used to measure different crops before the buying cotton season starts in Tabora region, according to the authority's official.

WMA regional manager, Mrisho Mandari announced when speaking during the weighing scales ongoing inspection in five districts of Igunga, Nzega, Uyui, Urambo and Kaliua. The inspection is carried out in the Agricultural and Marketing Cooperatives Societies (AMCOS) across the western Tanzania's region of Tabora.

During the ongoing inspection, according to the official, no scale

was found with measurement problems, the move that showed that players in the sectors are working in line with laws governing the sector.

Apart from the inspection, Mandari said WMA has been creating awareness campaign to farmers on their needs to double check the weighing machines before measuring their crops, noting that WMA certified weighing scales have been stamped with a special government sticker and special number codes.

He said that the move is part of the agency programme to ensure that farmers benefit from their rights to profits from their agricultural produce.

According to Mandari, the ongoing inspection is to ensure that

no one is being cheated between the buyer and the seller.

Every year, the agency conducts inspection exercise for scales that are used to measure cotton, sesame, coffee, tobacco and other crops.

"But this time around we've started with cotton, because the season is very close. Our aim is to ensure that farmers get what he/she deserves, so that when he/she brings in 100kgs of cotton should be the same quantity and not otherwise."

The official said that the law governing MWA operation is tough to the extent that if someone found guilty, the suspects will be required to pay a fine of between 300,000/- and 50m/- or serve two years in jail or both, in

accordance with section 340 of the Weights and Measures Act, 2002 which was revised in 2016.

WMA is an executive agency, responsible for fair trade transactions through certification of weights and measures. It is the sole agency in Tanzania for enforcing the Weights and Measures Act No.20 of 1982.

Since 1999 and in pursuance to the Executive Agencies Act Number 30 of 1997, the WMA replaced the former Directorate of Weights and Measures under the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

The move was part of the Civil Service Reform Programme (CSR) to increase efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery.



REQUEST FOR QUOTES RFQ 2019- 6/01

Closing Date: 8th July, 2019, 2pm (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

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 government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania is looking to purchase start up kits to support Caregivers for the USAID Kizazi Kipya project, a 5-year, USAID-funded award. Pact Tanzania now invites quotes from eligible, registered local companies to supply start up kits as follows:

Start up kits to be supplied.

Sugar cane juice extractor, Peanut Butter mashine, Chalk Maker, Paper bags making mashine, Candle maker, Bakery mashine, Modern beehives, Centrifuge honey extractors, Wax removing Equipments, Protective suits or safety gears, Beekeeping starter kit items, Incubator, Feed mill and mixer, Maize milling machine (with dual capacity for paddy processing too).

Interested, eligible vendors should email procurementTZ@pactwold.org to obtain full list of the items, quantity and specifications by 1st July 2019.

Other criteria:

- Quote, valid for at least 60 days
- Current and updated company profile must be submitted
- Current audited financial statement.
- Copies of registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, Tax clearance, VAT and TIN certificates must be submitted
- Evidence of similar assignments, with at least two references letters from the clients served must be submitted
- Delivery time must be specified.
- Payment terms must be specified.

Interested, eligible vendors should deliver quote enclosed in plain envelopes to:

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

All quotes must be in Tanzanian Shillings. The deadline is 2pm EAT 8th July 2019.

Note2:

1. Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
2. Selection criteria will be best value in relation to quality product offered and other criteria listed above.
3. Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
4. Pact may reject any or all responses received.
5. Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute award/contract commitment by Pact.
6. Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow solicitation instructions.
7. Pact may choose to award only part of the quantity in the solicitation, or issue multiple awards based on the solicitation activities.
8. Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
9. Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person, address and that bid was submitted for this solicitation.

215290801

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



PUBLIC NOTICE APPLICATION FOR LICENCES

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received licence applications from the following applicants:

NAME OF APPLICANT	SHAREHOLDER/ GUARANTOR NATIONALITY & PERCENTAGE	TYPE OF LICENCE	AREA OF OPERATION
TBC-2	United Republic of Tanzania, Treasury Register Office	Content Services (Television Broadcasting)	National

Pursuant to Section 8 of the 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 licence to the applicant to reach the Authority, within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the application.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
Mawasiliano Towers
20 Sam Nujoma Road
P.O. Box 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz

215291501

Rights are at the root of fighting climate change

By Robert Nasi

THE climate crisis is one of the greatest challenges of our time, leading a million youth around the globe to pour onto the streets, demanding political leaders wake up to this destruction of our planet. And it comes not a moment too soon.

Fortunately, we already have one very effective tool for climate-change action. I refer to rights: land-use and tenure rights for indigenous peoples, women, youth and local communities.

Evidence shows that when local communities have authority over their forests and land, and their rights legally recognized, deforestation rates are often reduced. Insecure tenure can be a recipe for deforestation and forest degradation.

Forests are the front line for fighting global warming. By absorbing carbon dioxide and trapping carbon, forests reduce the greenhouse gas emissions linked to climate change.

Consider Guatemala's 2.1-million-hectare Maya Biosphere Reserve, where almost a dozen community forests are managed locally, based on standards set in Forest Stewardship Council-certified land-use plans. Deforestation rates there have been close to zero over the past 14 years - a better rate than in the core zone of the reserve.

Or look at community forests in the Indian state of Meghalaya. Government there has demonstrated confidence in local management by handing over more than 90% of forests to local communities, plus offering incentives to over 60 village councils to revive and protect some 27,000 hectares of forests.

In Nepal, local forest user groups show how greater tenure security has enabled community-based institutions to improve forest management and build sustainable livelihoods.

More than 18,000 forest-user groups manage over one-third of Nepal's forest area. Forest cover has increased considerably and many user groups have licensed new kinds of forest-based enterprises generating jobs and incomes - something they could not do legally before devolution of forest rights, according to research by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).

Despite the multiple benefits, land-use rights and tenure security are not easily achieved. Indigenous peoples and local communities legally own only about 15% of forests worldwide. Yet, their traditional areas cover about 25% of the world's land surface, which overlap with some 40% of global land-based government-protected areas, including ecologically intact landscapes such as boreal and tropical primary forests, savannas and marshes. These landscapes are often rich in biodiversity.

Local communities and indigenous peoples fighting for their rights must often confront vested political interests and demands of the wealthy and powerful - cattle ranchers, mega-farmers, major logging firms and illegal loggers - which often work against local community control of lands and forests.

A cause for hope are discussions this weekend at the world's largest platform on sustainable land use, the Global Landscapes Forum, which is focusing its flagship summit on rights and their importance in landscape restoration and confronting climate change.

Local community representatives, indigenous peoples, scientists, policymakers, and activists for women's rights will converge in Bonn to try to change the narrative, to see local people as part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Recognizing and securing tenure first requires a strong, evidence-based understanding of the challenges facing indigenous peoples and local communities in order to design effective strategies to overcome these challenges.

The power of rights to help solve climate change has yet to be fully witnessed - but I look forward to seeing it soon.

Climate change - previously called Global Warming - is the name given for changes in the earth's weather patterns.

Climate change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. The climate system is comprised of five interacting parts, the

atmosphere (air), hydrosphere (water), cryosphere (ice and permafrost), biosphere (living things), and lithosphere (earth's crust and upper mantle). The climate system receives nearly all of its energy from the sun, with a relatively tiny amount from earth's interior. The climate system also gives off energy to outer space. The balance of incoming and outgoing energy, and the passage of the energy through the climate system, determines Earth's energy budget. When the incoming energy is greater than the outgoing energy, earth's energy budget is positive and the climate system is warming. If more energy goes out, the energy budget is negative and earth experiences cooling.

As this energy moves through Earth's climate system, it creates Earth's weather and long-term averages of weather are called "climate". Changes in the long term average are called "climate change". Such changes can be the result of "internal variability", when natural processes inherent to the various parts of the climate system alter Earth's energy budget. Examples include cyclical ocean patterns such as the well-known El Niño-Southern Oscillation and less familiar Pacific decadal oscillation and Atlantic multidecadal oscillation. Climate change can also result from "external forcing", when events outside of the climate system's five parts nonetheless produce changes within the system. Examples include changes in solar output and volcanism.

Human activities can also change earth's climate, and are presently driving climate change through global warming. There is no general agreement in scientific, media or policy documents as to the precise term to be used to refer to anthropogenic forced change; either "global warming" or "climate change" may be used. The first describes the average effect on a global scale, whilst the second describes how different geographical regions are affected differently.

The field of climatology incorporates many disparate fields of research. For ancient periods of climate change, researchers rely on evidence preserved in climate proxies, such as ice cores, ancient tree rings, geologic records of changes in sea level, and glacial geology. Physical evidence of current climate change covers many independent lines of evidence, a few of which are temperature records, the disappearance of ice, and extreme weather events.

The most general definition of climate change is a change in the statistical properties (principally its mean and spread)[4] of the climate system when considered over long periods of time, regardless of cause.[5] Accordingly, fluctuations over periods shorter than a few decades, such as El Niño, do not represent climate change.

The term "climate change" is often used to refer specifically to anthropogenic climate change (also known as global warming). Anthropogenic climate change is caused by human activity, as opposed to changes in climate that may have resulted as part of Earth's natural processes.[6] In this sense, especially in the context of environmental policy, the term climate change has become synonymous with anthropogenic global warming. Within scientific journals, global warming refers to surface temperature increases while climate change includes global warming and everything else that increases greenhouse gas levels affect.

A related term, "climatic change", was proposed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1966 to encompass all forms of climatic variability on time-scales longer than 10 years, but regardless of cause. During the 1970s, the term climate change replaced climatic change to focus on anthropogenic causes, as it became clear that human activities had a potential to drastically alter the climate.[2] Climate change was incorporated in the title of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Climate change is now used as both a technical description of the process, as well as a noun used to describe the problem.

Earth's energy budget and climate system

Earth's climate is largely determined by the planet's energy budget, i.e., the balance of incoming and outgoing radiation.

Prior to the 18th century, scientists



had not suspected that prehistoric climates were different from the modern period. By the late 18th century, geologists found evidence of a succession of geological ages with changes in climate. In the years since, a great deal of scientific progress has been made understanding the workings of the climate system.

Causes

On the broadest scale, the rate at which energy is received from the Sun and the rate at which it is lost to space determine the equilibrium temperature and climate of Earth. This energy is distributed around the globe by winds, ocean currents, and other mechanisms to affect the climates of different regions.

Factors that can shape climate are called climate forcings or "forcing mechanisms". These include processes such as variations in solar radiation, variations in the Earth's orbit, variations in the albedo or reflectivity of the continents, atmosphere, and oceans, mountain-building and continental drift and changes in greenhouse gas concentrations. There are a variety of climate change feedbacks that can either amplify or diminish the initial forcing. Some parts of the climate system, such as the oceans and ice caps, respond more slowly in reaction to climate forcings, while others respond more quickly. There are also key threshold factors which when exceeded can produce rapid change.

Forcing mechanisms can be either "internal" or "external". Internal forcing mechanisms are natural processes within the climate system itself (e.g., the thermohaline circulation). External forcing mechanisms can be either anthropogenic (e.g. increased emissions of greenhouse gases and dust) or natural (e.g. changes in solar output, the earth's orbit, volcano eruptions).

Whether the initial forcing mechanism is internal or external, the response of the climate system might be fast (e.g., a sudden cooling due to airborne volcanic ash reflecting sunlight), slow (e.g. thermal expansion of warming ocean water), or a combination (e.g., sudden loss of albedo in the Arctic Ocean as sea ice melts, followed by more gradual thermal expansion of the water). Therefore, the climate system can respond abruptly, but the full response to forcing mechanisms might not be fully developed for centuries or even longer.

Climate variability

Scientists generally define the five components of earth's climate system to include atmosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere (restricted to the surface soils, rocks, and sediments), and biosphere.[13] Natural changes in the climate system result in internal "climate variability". Examples include the type and distribution of species, and changes in ocean-

atmosphere circulations.

Ocean-atmosphere variability

The ocean and atmosphere can work together to spontaneously generate internal climate variability that can persist for years to decades at a time. Examples of this type of variability include the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, the Pacific decadal oscillation, and the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation. These variations can affect global average surface temperature by redistributing heat between the deep ocean and the atmosphere and/or by altering the cloud/water vapor/sea ice distribution which can affect the total energy budget of the earth.

The oceanic aspects of these circulations can generate variability on centennial timescales due to the ocean having hundreds of times more mass than in the atmosphere, and thus very high thermal inertia. For example, alterations to ocean processes such as thermohaline circulation play a key role in redistributing heat in the world's oceans. Due to the long timescales of this circulation, ocean temperature at depth is still adjusting to effects of the Little Ice Age[21] which occurred between the 1600 and 1800s.

Life

Life affects climate through its role in the carbon and water cycles and through such mechanisms as albedo, evapotranspiration, cloud formation, and weathering. Examples of how life may have affected past climate include:

- glaciation 2.3 billion years ago triggered by the evolution of oxygenic photosynthesis, which depleted the atmosphere of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide and introduced free oxygen.
- another glaciation 300 million years ago ushered in by long-term burial of decomposition-resistant detritus of vascular land-plants (creating a carbon sink and forming coal)
- termination of the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum 55 million years ago by flourishing marine phytoplankton
- reversal of global warming 49 million years ago by 800,000 years of arctic azolla blooms
- global cooling over the past 40 million years driven by the expansion of grass-grazer ecosystems

External forcing mechanisms Human influences

In the context of climate variation, anthropogenic factors are human activities which affect the climate. The scientific consensus on climate change is "that climate is changing and that these changes are in large part caused by human activities", and it "is largely irreversible".

... there is a strong, credible body of evidence, based on multiple lines of research, document-

ing that climate is changing and that these changes are in large part caused by human activities. While much remains to be learned, the core phenomenon, scientific questions, and hypotheses have been examined thoroughly and have stood firm in the face of serious scientific debate and careful evaluation of alternative explanations.

Of most concern in these anthropogenic factors is the increase in CO2 levels. This is due to emissions from fossil fuel combustion, followed by aerosols (particulate matter in the atmosphere), and the CO2 released by cement manufacture. Other factors, including land use, ozone depletion, animal husbandry (ruminant animals such as cattle produce methane, as do termites), and deforestation, are also of concern in the roles they play—both separately and in conjunction with other factors—in affecting climate, microclimate, and measures of climate variables.

Orbital variations

Slight variations in Earth's motion lead to changes in the seasonal distribution of sunlight reaching the Earth's surface and how it is distributed across the globe. There is very little change to the area-averaged annually averaged sunshine; but there can be strong changes in the geographical and seasonal distribution. The three types of kinematic change are variations in Earth's eccentricity, changes in the tilt angle of Earth's axis of rotation, and precession of Earth's axis. Combined together, these produce Milankovitch cycles which affect climate and are notable for their correlation to glacial and interglacial periods, their correlation with the advance and retreat of the Sahara, and for their appearance in the stratigraphic record.

The IPCC notes that Milankovitch cycles drove the ice age cycles. CO2 followed temperature change "with a lag of some hundreds of years", and that as a feedback amplified temperature change. The depths of the ocean have a lag time in changing temperature (thermal inertia on such scale). Upon seawater temperature change, the solubility of CO2 in the oceans changed, as well as other factors affecting air-sea CO2 exchange.

Solar output

Variations in solar activity during the last several centuries based on observations of sunspots and beryllium isotopes. The period of extraordinarily few sunspots in the late 17th century was the Maunder minimum.

The Sun is the predominant source of energy input to the Earth. Other sources include geothermal energy from the Earth's core, tidal energy from the Moon and heat from the decay of radioactive compounds. Both long- and short-term variations in solar in-

tensity are known to affect global climate.

Three to four billion years ago, the Sun emitted only 75cent as much power as it does today. If the atmospheric composition had been the same as today, liquid water should not have existed on Earth. However, there is evidence for the presence of water on the early Earth, in the Hadean and Archean eons, leading to what is known as the faint young Sun paradox. Hypothesized solutions to this paradox include a vastly different atmosphere, with much higher concentrations of greenhouse gases than currently exist. Over the following approximately 4 billion years, the energy output of the Sun increased and atmospheric composition changed. The Great Oxygenation Event—oxygenation of the atmosphere around 2.4 billion years ago—was the most notable alteration. Over the next five billion years from the present, the Sun's ultimate death as it becomes a red giant and then a white dwarf will have large effects on climate, with the red giant phase possibly ending any life on Earth that survives until that time.

Solar output varies on shorter time scales, including the 11-year solar cycle and longer-term modulations.[53] Solar intensity variations, possibly as a result of the Wolf, Spörer, and the Maunder Minima, are considered to have been influential in triggering the Little Ice Age. This event extended from 1550 to 1850 AD and was marked by relative cooling and greater glacier extent than the centuries before and afterward. Solar variation may also have affected some of the warming observed from 1900 to 1950. The cyclical nature of the Sun's energy output is not yet fully understood; it differs from the very slow change that is happening within the Sun as it ages and evolves.

Some studies point toward solar radiation increases from cyclical sunspot activity affecting global warming, and climate may be influenced by the sum of all effects (solar variation, anthropogenic radiative forcings, etc.).

A 2010 study suggests "that the effects of solar variability on temperature throughout the atmosphere may be contrary to current expectations".

In 2011, CERN announced the initial results from its CLOUD experiment in the Nature journal. The results indicate that ionisation from cosmic rays significantly enhances aerosol formation in the presence of sulfuric acid and water, but in the lower atmosphere where ammonia is also required, this is insufficient to account for aerosol formation and additional trace vapours must be involved. The next step is to find more about these trace vapours, including whether they are of natural or human origin.

Volcanism

CONCERN

Business leaders want FCC lower 3m/- service fees

By Francis Kojubi

BUSINESS leaders have requested Fair Competition Commission (FCC) to lower the 3m/- fee that it charges companies to undertake operations to search, seize and destroy counterfeit products in the market.

Speaking at an FCC consultative meeting as part of public service day commemoration held last Friday in Dar es Salaam, leaders from Tanzania Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture (TCCIA), Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) and Tanzania Businessmen Association (JTB) raised their concerns on the fee which they said is discouraging them.

According to the Merchandised Marks Act 1963 with its regulations, brand owners and manufacturers are required to pay FCC a lump sum of 3m/- in order to undertake inspection and raid alleged counterfeit shops and warehouses.

"We request FCC to reduce the 3m/- fee that they charge businesses to undertake raid and seize counterfeits so that we should encourage and protect new innovations that are coming up with big investments done by brands," said JTB's leader, Julius Marwa.

He said small and mid size businesses are finding it difficult to bear the cost although they are also victims of counterfeits which are rampant in the market. "We have plenty of counterfeited products which mimic brands names in the market," Marwa noted adding that the 3m/- is charged per region where FCC raids are done.

"You might find that a counterfeited product has been supplied across the country that has almost 30 regions and the brand owner is a small entrepreneur who can hardly secure 90m/- to pay FCC for a search, seizure and destruction of such counterfeits," he lamented.

CTI's Policy Specialist for Business En-



Businesspeople follow an FCC presentation in Dar es Salaam recently. File photo.

vironment, Anna Kimaro seconded Marwa's concerns saying FCC should review the fee to speed up crackdown against copycats but also encourage growth of new brands in the local market. "Protection of brands by new innovators is so crucial to realize rapid industrialization. In my opinion the fee should at least be reduced to a half or charge it according to the brand owner's business capital or turnover," Kimaro said.

"So far there are claims from our members including big businesses being charged even more than 3m/-

per region for inspection services," she noted warning that because of such fees many brand owners shy away from seeking FCC services.

Acting Head of Consumer Protection Department at FCC, Joshua Msoma said that the fee is charged as indicated by the law hence decision to reduce it needs amendment of the legislation.

"The Merchandised Marks Act 1963 has some loopholes not only on the fees but also on fines imposed on defaulters which are very low hence coun-

terfeiters easily pay. We are finalizing the draft for the amendments that favours fair competition in the market to boost growth and industrialization," said Msoma.

According to him, the Commission's draft on amendments of the existing Merchandised Act covers several areas including bureaucratic issues frustrating the business community. Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment will table the amendment.

PROPOSAL

M-Pesa, Airtel Money set for split in new Bill

NAIROBI

SAFARICOM, Airtel and Telkom Kenya will be required to split their telecommunications business from their mobile money transfer and lending units if a Bill set to be presented for debate in Parliament is passed into law.

The Kenya Information and Communications (Amendment) Bill 2019, which is sponsored by Gem MP Elisha Odhiambo, is seeking to compel mobile phone companies to form separate arms to manage any other business they engage in outside telecommunications services.

In a move that could complicate the business environment for the telcos, the Bill says

they will have to apply for licences "from the respective regulators of any industry or sector ventured into." They will also be required to "legally split or separate the telecommunications business from such other business.

Parliamentarians have in the past unsuccessfully pushed for Safaricom to split its telecommunications service business from its mobile money transfer platform, M-Pesa.

The mobile phone giant earlier this year unveiled yet another service for overnight lending, known as Fuliza, which moved in excess of Sh6 billion in the first few weeks of launch. Safaricom offers this service in addition to the 30-day lending service, M-Shwari.

Should MPs pass the Bill proposed by Mr

Odhiambo, Safaricom will have to keep separate financial statements for the mobile money transfer and lending units and any other businesses it ventures into besides facilitating phone calls, short message services and data.

Similarly, Telkom Kenya and Airtel, which are set to merge, will be required to hive off any other businesses they engage in outside the core telephony services. Companies with existing businesses will be given six months to comply if the Bill is passed into law and assented to by the President.

The Bill warns that anyone who flouts the proposed regulations and fails to obtain the relevant licences for their respective businesses will be liable to a fine "not exceeding

ten million shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both."

If passed as is, the Communications Commission of Kenya (CA) will be required to inform Parliament about the compliance levels by the telcos, first within six months after the Bill becomes law and once a year thereafter.

"The amendment will further aid in control of anti-competitive practices by the large industries in the sector," says the MP in the memorandum of objects and reasons for the Bill.

This clause appears targeted at Safaricom, which controls over 70 percent of the mobile phone services market largely on the strength of its money transfer and lending services.

Multiple attempts to declare Safaricom a dominant player have failed in the past.

Besides separating the revenue streams, telcos will also be required to compensate consumers for dropped calls at the rate of Sh10 for every call dropped for up to three dropped calls a day.

The telcos will, however, be exempted from compensating consumers where a call is interrupted by a third party. The Bill says this measure is meant to guarantee quality services "at just, reasonable and affordable rates for all consumers." Mr Odhiambo says the amendment is aimed at compelling telcos to invest in infrastructure that will guarantee quality of service to consumers.

PRODUCTIVITY

Africa's output grew 3.4% in 2018, Afreximbank's trade report shows

MOSCOW

Africa's output grew by 3.4 per cent between 2017 and 2018 despite a slowdown in global growth during that period, a new report by the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has shown.

The African Trade Report 2019: African Trade in a Digital World, launched in Moscow, Russia during the 26th Afreximbank Annual Meetings, indicates that Africa's total merchandise trade in 2018 had a value of over \$997.9 billion, noting that the continent remained one of the fastest growing regions in the world.

World Trade Organisation estimates show that the volume of global merchandise trade grew by 3 per cent in 2018, down from 4.6 per cent in 2017. According to The African Trade Report 2019, the findings highlight the resilience of Africa's economies to global volatility at a time of rising uncertainty, escalating trade wars and tariffs between the United States, and China and other countries.

The resilience reflects the diversification of Africa's trading partners in the context of South-South trade, growing fixed investment and public and private consumption, boosted by expanding urban populations and softening inflation.

These factors reduce Africa's exposure to the business cycles associated with individual countries and regions. The report noted that while the European Union remained Africa's main continental trading partner in 2018 - accounting for 29.8 per cent of total trade - African trade with the South grew significantly over the last decade to account for more than 35 per cent of the continent's total trade in 2018.

China and India further consolidated their positions as Africa's first and second single largest trading partners, accounting for over

21 per cent of total African trade in 2018. Intra-African trade also increased steadily in 2018, growing by 17 per cent to reach \$159 billion.

The report highlights that Africa has the potential to do more, noting that its contribution to global trade remains marginal at 2.6 per cent, up from 2.4 per cent in 2017, and that, while intra-African trade rose to 16 per cent in 2018 from 5 per cent in 1980, it remains low compared to intra-regional trade in Europe and Asia.

The report states that ongoing digitalisation is paving the way for a new African economy, with e-commerce platforms and internet penetration expediting transactions, reducing costs and leading to a new generation of transnational digital consumers.

The report urges African governments to further capitalise on the opportunities associated with digitalisation, by bolstering regulatory environments and supporting the development of digital ecosystems.

Digitalisation, the reports states, can unlock Africa's potential in driving economic development and the integration of African countries into the world economy. It can also reduce the region's dependency on raw commodities and natural resources by helping economies diversify into more value-added products that can enhance extra- and intra-African trade.

Prof. Benedict Oramah, President of Afreximbank, said: "It is vital that Africa grasps the economic growth opportunities flowing from the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, growing domestic demand and population and our ever-closer investment and trading links with emerging partners in the South."

"We must exert concerted action to ensure that we develop, industrialise and diversify our industries and support infrastructure to foster regional integration and participate fully in regional and global value chains."



The President of Afreximbank, Prof. Benedict Oramah (centre), and other officials at the launch of The African Trade Report 2019 in Moscow.

COMMITMENT

Group of 77 calls for mobilising action, support on climate change

By Jenifer Julius, Bonn

THE Group of 77 and China have reaffirmed their commitment to continue pursuing action that controls climate change.

Chair of the Group of 77 plus China, Ambassador Ammar Hijazi said here last week during the joint opening plenary session climate change conference that member countries are advancing the work program for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Ambassador Hijazi said under the

Convention, the group and China remain true to the purpose and principles, including equity and common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.

"Together, we achieved progress in a number of areas but do note that the outcomes, to some extent, have been uneven. We assure you that the State of Palestine's chairmanship of the G77 and China Group shall maintain and advance the collaboration and active engagement of the group aimed at the

success of our collective endeavors at this critical stage of the process," he stated.

He further pointed out that the group stresses that climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing the modern world and that its widespread, unprecedented impacts burden all countries, in particular developing countries amongst.

"The latest heat waves and severe temperature fluctuations, as well as droughts and floods that have hit many parts of the world during the past few weeks are only

a reminder that the devastating effects of climate change are real and sudden," the G77 and China Group Chair added.

The Group reiterates its calls for mobilizing further action and support on the issue of climate change adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage, in a manner that takes into account the specific needs and circumstances of developing countries, in particular those vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, Ambassador Hijazi stressed.

CONCERN

Credit card use very low in local market but improving

By Guardian Reporter

AS government continues to champion financial inclusion for all, use credit cards by consumers remains low although it has improved over the past five years, a senior Barclays Bank Tanzania official said in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

Head of Retail Banking, Oscar Mwamfwagasi said during the bank's announcement of the winner of its 'Live the card life, promotional campaign, a two-tier drive aimed at expanding banking services by letting consumers open bank accounts and by mobilizing existing customers to use credit cards.

"The use of credit cards is still very low not only in Tanzania but also in other African countries except South Africa," Mwamfwagasi said, adding that the aim of the promotion was both to increase the use of credit cards but also educate the public on the benefits of using them.

The lucky winner of the campaign, which was launched in April this year and ended in May, was Yusufu Mavura of Dar es Salaam. "What great news is this?" Mavura exclaimed shortly after getting a call from the bank which informed him of his success.

Extolling the benefits of credit card, Mwamfwagasi gave an example of the Barclays Credit card, describing it as safe, cheap with interest free credit which facilitates shopping online, at duty free shops, and in airlines.



Barclays Bank Tanzania's Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Aron Luhanga, presses a laptop button to get the winner of bank's 'Live the card life' campaign held in Dar es Salaam last week. Looking on from left are: Gaming Board of Tanzania Inspector, Abdallah Hemed and BBT's Head of Retail Banking, Oscar Mwamfwagasi. Photo: courtesy of BBT.

Barclays has 30 percent of volume of transactions done in the market using Visa and Master Card, he noted.

As to how Barclays is striving to hook more people seek its banking services, he said among other things,

BBT has invested in digital infrastructure, conducts sensitization campaigns, offer a wide range of electronic and mobile banking products which makes payments easy and affordable. "All these efforts we make are aimed at ensuring more people use formal banking services," said Mwamfwagasi.

Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations, Aron Luhanga said as part of his prize, Mavura will travel to Johannesburg in South Africa with his chosen partner, and get to experience a full VIP treatment which will include sleeping in luxurious hotel, driven in private limousine and get cash to shop at luxury malls.



Shameel Joosub, chief executive officer of Vodacom Group.

EXPANSION

Vodacom strikes vital deals as it repositions pan-Africa operations

JOHANNESBURG

VODACOM Group has announced a strategic repositioning of its Vodacom Business Africa operations that will result in three separate share purchase agreements involving its enterprise businesses in Nigeria, Zambia, Angola, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.

According to a statement issued by Vodacom, subject to various regulatory and statutory body approvals, the operator will enter into service provider agreements with Synergy Communications in Nigeria, Zambia and Cote d'Ivoire; Internet Technologies Angola (ITA) in Angola and Vodafone Ghana in Ghana.

"In each of the five Vodacom Business Africa markets, the respective partners will acquire all of the operations and assets held by Vodacom. The various entities are in the process of concluding the required agreements, the financial terms of which are confidential," reads an excerpt from the statement.

The transactions support Vodacom Group's enterprise strategy in Africa, which has been refocused to grow and strengthen its core business. It will no longer directly service global enterprise customers in these five markets but will instead continue to operate as a pan-African telecommunications network provider through local service provider agreements.

Shameel Joosub, chief executive officer of Vodacom Group, said: "Vodacom has a clear vision for

strengthening our position as a leading pan-African business and will work with local service providers to grow in these markets. Crucially, Vodacom is not exiting any of the territories related to this transaction and remains focused on continuing to deliver exceptional service to our global and multinational clients in these markets through long-term commercial agreements.

To support the sustainable growth of pan African digital economies and building connected societies, Vodacom will, via local service providers, continue to service clients in each market. We seek to leverage our collective strengths to meet the changing requirements of clients across each of these markets." Vodacom said it went through "a robust and lengthy process with numerous interested applicants" to find the right partners to reposition its business on the continent. Synergy Communications and ITA were selected as the successful bidders, amongst other reasons, for their wealth of pan-African experience.

"The new model is better suited to the digital economy. It will encourage greater local collaboration and position Vodacom as one of the leading drivers of economic growth on the continent. It will also provide pan-African customers with the opportunity to access specialist business divisions such as Vodacom's Internet of Things business as well as its subsidiary Mezzanine, a Mobile Business and Enterprise Solutions provider," the operator added. Thank you, your account has been created.

COMPETITIVENESS

Kenya leads East Africa with Sh120bn PE deals in two years

NAIROBI

KENYA attracted private equity (PE) investments of \$1.2 billion (Sh120 billion) in the two years ended December, taking the lion's share of capital committed to East Africa.

This marked a sharp increase from the Sh480 million the institutions invested in the country in the preceding period (2015 and 2016). A new report tracking PE investments

shows that Kenya accounted for 87 percent of the total \$1.4 billion (Sh140 billion) investments made in the region in 2017 and 2018.

"Highest deal values were recorded in Kenya at \$1.2 billion, in part due to the high number of deals as well as the size of businesses," reads the report by consultancy KPMG and the East Africa Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (EAVCA).

"Kenya remains the most popular invest-

ment destination in East Africa with agribusiness, financial services and fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) being the dominant sectors." Deal volumes in Kenya in the review period stood at 61, accounting for 73 percent of total transactions.

Uganda was second, followed by Ethiopia, according to the report. The top deals in Kenya over the past two years include Actis' \$300 million (Sh30bn) equity investment in

Kipeto Energy in which it took an 88 percent stake. Moringa Fund also made a \$100 million (Sh10 billion) equity investment in Asante Capital EPZ, a Kenyan company developing tree plantations and tropical crops (mainly ginger, moringa and eucalyptus).

Digital lender Branch International attracted a total investment of \$70 million (Sh7 billion) from a consortium of institutional investors, including Victoria Park Capital, IFC

Ventures and Andreessen Horowitz.

Abraaj Group, which is currently facing liquidation after defaulting on loans, spent \$171 million (Sh17 billion) to acquire Avenue Hospitals. AfricInvest made its initial Sh5.7 billion investment in insurance group Britam Holdings in which it has subsequently built up its stake to 17.5 percent after buying more shares on the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).



Ethiopian Airlines Group is voted 'Best Airline in Africa' for 3rd consecutive year at Skytrax 2019 World Airlines Awards.

EXCELLENCE

Qatar named best airline in the world, SAA takes home three wins at Skytrax Awards

PARIS

THE Oscars of the aviation world took place on Tuesday at the Paris Air Show, and crowned Qatar Airways as the ultimate winner, as voted by the passengers of the world.

The Best Airline in the World beat out last year's winner, Singapore Airlines, which was bumped to second place this year. As a consolation, the airline took home the prizes for Best Cabin Crew, best First Class and Best First Class Seat in the world, as well as Best Airline in Asia.

Qatar, on the other hand, also took home World's Best Business Class, the World's Best Business Class Seat and the Best Airline in the Middle East. Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, Akbar Al Baker says, "The Skytrax awards

are widely recognised as the most prestigious in the airline industry, so to have won so many prizes at the 2019 ceremony is a truly memorable experience for Qatar Airways.

"We are thrilled to be globally recognised by our customers by winning these four prestigious awards. Being the first airline to be named 'Airline of the Year' for the fifth time is a landmark achievement and, combined with three other major Skytrax awards, is testament to the tireless efforts of the entire Qatar Airways team. It is a proud moment for the airline as our constant innovation and service standards set the benchmark in our industry."

Other worldwide winners included Japan Airlines for Best Economy Class, Bangkok Airways for Best Regional Airline, EVA Air for Cleanest Aircraft

Cabins and Philippine Airlines for Most Improved. Virgin Atlantic was named the airline with the Best Premium Economy Class, Emirates won the Best Inflight Entertainment category and AirAsia was praised as the Best Low-Cost Airline.

Here are the top 10 airlines in the world: Qatar Airways, Singapore Airlines, ANA All Nippon Airways, Cathay Pacific Airways, Emirates, EVA Air, Hainan Airlines, Qantas Airways, Lufthansa, Thai Airways.

How did Africa do?

South African Airways came in 46th out of a 100 airlines, having fallen down one spot from last year. It took home three awards - Best Airline Staff, Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness and Best Cabin Crew - all for the Africa subcategory.

RESTORATION

Among world's worst polluters, Asean vows to tackle ocean waste

BANGKOK

WITH Southeast Asia awash in rubbish, from plastic-choked whales to trash-clogged canals, leaders are planning to push through a deal to fight maritime debris at a regional meeting this weekend.

Just five Asian countries - China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand - dump more than half of the eight million tonnes of plastic waste that end up in oceans every year, according to a 2017 Ocean Conservancy report.

The region has come under fire for not doing enough to tackle its mounting trash troubles, with single-use plastic and sub-par waste management adding to the problem. Leaders at a weekend meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are expected to sign a "Bangkok Declaration" on fighting maritime waste - a first of its kind - which promises to "prevent and significantly reduce marine debris", according to a draft seen by AFP.

But activists are worried the agreement doesn't go far enough. "If we are not reducing single-use plastic at the production process, this 'Bangkok Declaration'... will not succeed," said Tara Buakamsri of Greenpeace in Thailand.

The agreement also omits penalties for the worst offending companies or countries, and fails to specify measures to tackle the problem. Asean summit hosts Thailand billed the forum as environmentally friendly, handing out recycled pa-

per notebooks and tote bags and food containers made from reused plastic.

But venue meetings in giant air-conditioned hotels and rows of plastic water bottles next to signs promoting "green meetings" had some wondering how dedicated the hosts really were. In addition to spewing out billions of tonnes every year,

Southeast Asian nation are among the world's top importers of trash from more developed economies, like US and Canada.

Greenpeace has called on the countries to stop accepting rubbish, which can end up in landfills and waterways if not properly processed.

Buakamsri said the marine waste declaration should be broadened to include the thorny issue of banning plastic imports.

"We don't expect them to actually incorporate this issue into the summit because there is no political will," he told AFP on Saturday.

Alarming images of polluted canals



Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders meet in Bangkok last week.

in the Philippines, plastic-laden Vietnamese beaches, or whales, turtles and birds choking on plas-

tic debris have thrust Southeast Asia's plastic problem into global headlines.

Some private businesses in Thailand and Vietnam have started replacing plastic products like

bags and straws with recyclable materials, but government policies have yet to catch up.

CRISIS

Millions of pigs culled as swine fever spreads through Asia

HANOI

MILLIONS of pigs have been culled in China and Vietnam as a UN food agency urges Asian governments to make containing virulent African swine fever their top priority. With an announcement by the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) that infections have spread to Laos, some experts are saying it is the largest animal disease outbreak in history.

The FAO said in a report late on Thursday that more than 3.7 million pigs in the region had been culled since the outbreak began in China last August. Vietnam has been the hardest hit, culling at least 2.6 million pigs followed by China, which reported more than 1.1 million. All the figures were provided to the FAO by governments of countries affected by the epidemic.

Smaller outbreaks have been reported in Hong Kong, Taiwan, North Korea, Cambodia and Mongolia after cases were first reported in China's northeast in August. African swine fever is harmless to people but fatal and highly contagious for pigs, with no known cure.

African swine fever threatens French deli meats producers

French deli meats makers are being squeezed by a surge in pork prices linked to an African swine fever epidemic that has decimated the pig herd in China. With pork supplies dwindling as leading producer China and hard-hit Vietnam destroy huge numbers of hogs and tighten controls on shipments, prices have soared by up to 40% globally and caused shortages in other markets.

"This is the largest animal disease outbreak in history," said Dirk Pfeiffer, a veterinary epidemiologist at the City University of Hong Kong. "We've never had anything like it." In South Korea, where diets rely heavily on pork, there is concern an outbreak could hurt an in-

dustry with 6 300 farms raising more than 11 million pigs.

"Animal disease containment in its broadest sense should be prioritised within the highest levels of governments," the FAO said, warning: "Outbreak control strategies must be in place." China has reported 139 outbreaks in all but two of its 34 provinces.

The US Department of Agriculture forecasts its total hog herd will shrink by 18% this year to 350 million animals, the lowest since the 1980s. This year's Chinese pork output might fall by up to 35% according to Rabobank, a Dutch bank.

Vietnam reported in mid-May that 1.2 million pigs, or about 5% of its total of 30 million, had died or been destroyed. FAO said on Thursday that number had more than doubled to 2.6 million. Military and police were mobilised to help contain the outbreak, officials said.

Rabobank expects Vietnamese pork production to fall 10% this year from 2018. The mass culling in Vietnam could sink many farmers deeper into poverty, said Wantanee Kalpravidh, a regional coordinator of the FAO's Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases.

Last month, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc urged authorities to prevent the disease, found in 58 of 63 provinces, from escalating into an epidemic. In My Duc, a suburb of Hanoi, disinfecting lime powder has been scattered around empty pig farms and checkpoints were set up to control shipments.

"We have to prevent and fight this disease like fighting an enemy," Phuc told cabinet officials. Farmer Nguyen Van Hoa lamented that only three pigs had died from the fever but authorities culled 40 of his pigs.

They were among 14 000 hogs buried in My Duc district in the past month. About 2.4 million Vietnamese households engage in small-scale pig farming.



ISIDÍNGO MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM



SATURDAY 22 June	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	19:00 Jarida la wanawake	12:00 Al Jazeera	6:40 Kumekucha
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	8:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Isidingo	12:30 Ijue Sheria	7:00 Habari
6:00 HABARI	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	20:00 Habari	12:55 Habari za saa	8:00 Al Jazeera
6:40 Kumekucha	9:30 Isidingo	21:00 Tanzania yetu	13:00 Sanaa na wasanii	9:00 Watoto wetu
7:00 Habari	9:55 Habari za saa	21:30 Chetu ni chetu	13:30 Tanzania yetu	10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
8:00 Al Jazeera	10:00 Watoto wetu	22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)	13:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Igizo: Ahadi	23:00 Habari	14:00 Series rpt: Iris	11:30 Usafiri wako
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	23:30 The Base	14:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:00 Kimya Milele	00:30 CNN International	15:00 Meza Huru	12:30 Series rpt: Iris
11:30 Usafiri wako	11:55 Habari za saa		16:30 Watoto Wetu	14:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko
12:00 Mapishi	12:00 Al Jazeera	WEDNESDAY 26 June	17:00 The Base	15:15 Igizo rpt: Ahadi
12:30 Series rpt: Iris	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	18:00 Jiji Letu	15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
14:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko	12:55 Habari za saa	6:00 HABARI	18:15 Mapishi	16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele
15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	6:40 Kumekucha	18:30 Jagina	16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt
15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	13:55 Habari za saa	7:30 HABARI	19:00 Usafiri wako	17:00 Shamsham za Pwani
16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele	14:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	19:30 Isidingo	18:00 Jiji Letu
16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt	14:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	20:00 Habari	18:15 Mapishi
17:00 Shamsham za Pwani	15:00 Meza Huru	9:30 Isidingo	21:00 Malumbano ya hoja	18:30 Igizo: Ahadi
18:00 Jiji Letu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	9:55 Habari za saa	23:00 Habari	19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
18:15 Mapishi	17:00 The Base	10:00 Watoto wetu	23:30 The Base	19:30 Jungu Kuu
18:30 Igizo: Ahadi	18:00 Jiji Letu	10:30 Korean: The Great queen Seonduk	00:30 CNN International	20:00 Habari
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	10:55 Habari za saa		21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele
19:30 Jungu Kuu	18:15 Mapishi rpt	11:00 Korean: The Great queen-Seonduk	FRIDAY 28 June	21:30 Kesho Leo
20:00 Habari	18:30 Kesho Leo	11:15 Jagina	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	12:00 Al Jazeera	6:00 HABARI	22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo
21:30 Kesho Leo	19:30 Isidingo	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	6:40 Kumekucha	23:00 Isidingo rpt
22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	20:00 Habari	13:00 Dakika 45	7:30 HABARI	01:30 CNN International
22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo	21:05 Dakika 45	14:00 Series rpt	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	
23:00 Isidingo rpt	22:00 Insta Bet	15:00 Meza huru	8:55 Habari za saa	SUNDAY 30 June
01:30 CNN International	22:15 Series: Iris	16:30 Watoto Wetu	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
	23:00 Habari	17:00 The Base	9:30 Isidingo	6:00 HABARI
SUNDAY 23 June	23:30 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	9:55 Habari za saa	6:40 Kumekucha
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	00:30 Al Jazeera	18:15 Mizengwe rpt	10:00 Watoto wetu	7:00 Habari
6:00 HABARI	02:00 CNN International	19:00 Ijue Sheria	10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	8:00 Al Jazeera
6:40 Kumekucha		19:30 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA	10:55 Habari za saa	09:00 Watoto Wetu
7:00 Habari	TUESDAY 25 June	19:30 Isidingo	11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo	10:00 Isidingo
8:00 Al Jazeera	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	20:00 Habari	11:30 Usafiri wako	11:45 Aibu Yako
09:00 Watoto Wetu	6:00 Habari	21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe?	11:55 Habari za saa	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
10:00 Isidingo	6:40 Kumekucha	21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Mkwé
11:45 Aibu Yako	7:30 HABARI	21:40 Ripoti Maalum	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	22:15 Series: Iris	12:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Mwangaza
12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Mahabusu 2	8:55 Habari za saa	23:00 Habari	13:00 Jagina rpt	16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	18:30 Ijue Sheria	13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	16:45 Mjue zaidi
15:00 Mwangaza	9:30 Isidingo	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA	13:55 Habari za saa	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk	9:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Isidingo	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	18:00 Jiji Letu
16:45 Mjue zaidi	10:00 Watoto wetu	20:00 Habari	14:15 Series rpt: Iris	18:15 Mapishi
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	10:30 Shamsham za pwani	21:00 Habari	14:55 Habari za saa	18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:00 Jiji Letu	10:55 Habari za saa	21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	15:00 Meza huru	18:45 Matukio ya wiki
18:15 Mapishi	11:00 Shamsham za pwani	21:40 Ripoti Maalum	16:30 Watoto wetu	19:30 Igizo: Mtego
18:30 Mizengwe rpt	11:25 Igizo: Mtego	22:15 Series: Iris	17:00 The Base	20:00 Habari
18:45 Matukio ya wiki	11:55 Habari za saa	23:00 Habari	17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu	21:05 Mizengwe
19:30 Igizo: Mtego	12:00 Al Jazeera	23:30 The Base	18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:00 Bongo Movie: Mkwé 2
20:00 Habari	12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt	00:30 Al Jazeera	18:30 Shamba lulu	22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
21:05 Mizengwe	12:55 Habari za saa	2:00 CNN International	19:00 Uchumi na biashara	
21:00 Bongo Movie: Mkwé	13:00 Uchumi na biashara		19:30 Isidingo	
22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)	13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TFDA	THURSDAY 27 June	20:00 Habari	
	13:55 Habari za saa	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	21:05 Kipima joto	
	14:00 Series rpt: Iris	6:00 HABARI	23:00 Habari	
	14:55 Habari za saa	6:40 Kumekucha	23:30 The Base	
	15:00 Meza Huru	7:30 HABARI	00:30 CNN International	
	16:30 Watoto wetu	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo		
	17:00 The Base	8:55 Habari za saa	SATURDAY 29 June	
	18:00 Jiji Letu	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	
	18:15 The great queen Seonduk	9:30 Isidingo	6:00 HABARI	
		9:55 Habari za saa		
		10:00 Watoto wetu		
		10:30 Igizo: Kivuko		
		10:55 Habari za saa		
		11:00 Igizo: Kivuko		
		11:15 Ripoti Maalum rpt		
		18:00 Jiji Letu		
		18:15 The great queen Seonduk		



Health officials spraying disinfectant on dead pigs inside an isolated quarantined pit in Hanoi to stop the spread of African Swine Fever.

WORLD

Ethiopia says coup attempt thwarted, military chief killed

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S government foiled a coup attempt in a region north of the capital, Addis Ababa, and the country's military chief was shot dead, the prime minister said yesterday.

in the capital not long after the attack in Amhara, during which soldiers attacked a building in which a meeting of regional officials was taking place, Nigussu Tilahun, spokesman for the prime minister, told a news conference yesterday.



Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announces a failed coup as he addresses the public on television, yesterday. (AP)

Addis Ababa. A retired army general visiting the army chief at the time was also killed in the same attack, said the spokesman. "There is a link between the two attacks," Nigussu said. The attack in Bahir Dar was allegedly led by a renegade brigadier who had recently been pardoned by Ethiopia's prime minister after being jailed for some offenses.

Abiy has captured the imagination of many with his political and economic reforms, including the surprise acceptance of a peace agreement with bitter rival Eritrea, the opening of major state-owned sectors to private investment and the release of thousands of prisoners including opposition figures once sentenced to death.

Agencies

Putin says US' Huawei stance aims to contain China

MOSCOW

THE United States was seeking to contain China's development when it took action against Chinese telecom giant Huawei, and it is doing the same thing to Russia, according to Russian President Vladimir Putin who made the comment during his annual televised Q&A with the Russian people on Thursday.

The Russian president said the West has no interest in changing its attitude toward Russia, and therefore Moscow will not compromise on its fundamental national interests in the face of sanctions. "There is no talk about a truce," he said. "If we totally surrender and spit on our fundamental national interests, will there be any fundamental changes? Maybe, there will be some external signals. But nothing will change dramatically."



China lost about US\$50 billion since 2014, while the European Union lost US\$240 billion, the United States, US\$17 billion, and Japan US\$27 billion," Putin said. He said the losses were reflected in a reduction in the number of jobs in the countries that imposed sanctions as a result of losing the Russian market.

and individuals since Crimea was incorporated into Russia in 2014 following a referendum and due to Moscow's alleged interference in Ukraine. Moscow responded with counter-sanctions, which included impediments on the importation of some goods, including food, from Western countries. However, Putin said the sanctions had a positive effect because they forced Russia to "switch on its brains" and develop some sectors of its economy, including high technology.

The Q&A session was Putin's 17th. The first Direct Line with Vladimir Putin was held in late 2001. Since then, the event was held annually, except for 2004 and 2012, according to Russia's Tass News Agency. Putin addresses the nation during his annual question and answer session, during which he answers questions that come in by telephone, text, email, social media, or live via television studios.

Xinhua

Istanbul votes in mayoral re-run, in test for Turkish democracy

ISTANBUL

MILLIONS of Istanbul residents voted yesterday in a re-run of a mayoral election that has become a referendum on President Tayyip Erdogan's policies and a test of Turkey's ailing democracy. In the initial March 31 vote, the opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) candidate secured a narrow victory over Erdogan's AK Party (AKP) in Turkey's largest city, a rare electoral defeat for the president.

stakes for round two. "It is really ridiculous that the election is being re-run. It was an election won fair and square," said Asim Solak, 50, who said he was voting for the opposition candidate in the CHP stronghold of Tesvikye. "It is clear who canceled the election. We hope this election re-run will be a big lesson for them," he said. Polling stations across Istanbul opened at 8 am, with 10.56 million people registered to vote in a city which makes up nearly a fifth of Turkey's 82 million population. Voting ends at 5 pm. Results will be announced in the evening. Real estate agent Bayram, 60, said he voted for the AKP's candi-



date, former prime minister Binali Yildirim, as he believed foreign powers the United States, Europe and Israel supported the opposition. "All of these will want a piece from Istanbul and then there will be chaos. The enemy of my enemy is my friend. All these foreign powers don't like Erdogan, so he is

my friend," he said after voting in Kagithane district, an AKP stronghold. HIGH STAKES Erdogan has repeated his line that "whoever wins Istanbul wins Turkey." A second loss in the city, where in the 1990s he served as mayor, would be embarrassing for Erdogan and could weaken what until recently seemed to be his iron grip on power. Turkey's economy is in recession and the United States, its NATO ally, has threatened sanctions if Erdogan goes ahead with plans to install Russian missile defenses. A second AKP loss could also shed further light into what CHP

mayoral candidate Ekrem Imamoglu said was the misspending of billions of lira at the Istanbul municipality, which has a budget of around US\$4 billion. "If Imamoglu wins again, there's going to be a chain of serious changes in Turkish politics," journalist and writer Murat Yetkin said. "It will be interpreted as the beginning of a decline for AKP and for Erdogan as well," he said, noting that the president himself had called the local elections "a matter of survival". Another Imamoglu win could eventually trigger a national election earlier than 2023 as scheduled, a cabinet reshuffle, and even a potential adjustment in foreign policy, Yetkin added. Agencies

China, US have more in common than what divides them - Neil Bush

By Zhang Mengxu

SOME US politician is putting trade barriers on as a political weapon to bully countries into doing what he is demanding, said Neil Bush, son of former United States president George H.W. Bush. The US and China have so much in common than what divides the two countries, Bush, who is Founder and Chairman of George H.W. Bush Foundation for US-China relations, said in an interview with People's Daily.

There are issues that need to be addressed in the US-China relations including the problem of intellectual property. Bush said China is becoming more and more mature in all aspects, intellectual property protection is a high priority for the Chinese government and is moving forward very steadily, the problem will be solved over time, and it will not be solved by imposing tariffs.

China has risen to the second largest economy in the world. It's been a weird phenomenon in the US politics today that blasting China is a way to get political points, Bush noted.

It shows a flaw in the US democracy, where politicians dare not to do the right things, but just say whatever it takes to get people to support them and brainwash people into accepting the underlying thesis that China is a problem for the US, he added.

There is a wave of skepticism that is being infiltrated to the US population because of misinformation about China. In fact, those people are haunted by a supremacy mentality, blaming China for the domestic problems in the US, Bush pointed out.

There are people in political power who have an America supremacy type mentality that the US has to be the biggest and the best. They hold the wrong view that China's rise represented a threat to the US' economy and national security, he said.

There is no doubt that the forty years of bilateral ties have been hugely beneficial to both sides, said Bush. He further explained that the US' GDP has grown dramatically in the past forty years thanks to the globalization and the development of relationship with China. At the same time, China witnessed a fast growth in its economy.

"We are facing a very challenging time right now," said Bush. He said he will work as chairman of this organization to help Americans understand the truth about China and the benefits in mutually gain from our bilateral relationship. "The US-China relations is not a zero-sum game. Cooperation between the two countries is the only correct choice."

People's Daily

US launches cyber attacks against Iran, says report

WASHINGTON

THE United States carried out cyber attacks against Iranian missile control systems in retaliation after Iran shot down a U.S. surveillance drone, media have reported on Saturday.

Citing sources familiar with the matter, the Washington Post reported that the cyber attacks, which was approved by U.S. President Donald Trump, disabled Iranian computer systems used to control rocket and missile launches.

Coordinating with the U.S. Central Command, the U.S. Cyber Command launched the attack on Thursday night, according to the report.

The U.S. government on Saturday warned industry officials to be alert for cyber attacks originating from Iran. Trump on Friday confirmed that he called off the military strikes in retaliation against Iran 10 minutes before they were to be implemented, citing the potential casualties of the impending strikes, which might be 150 people and "not proportionate" to the loss of a U.S. unmanned aircraft.

However, he has not ruled out future military strikes against Iran. He told reporters on Saturday that military action "is always on the table until we get this solved."

Trump also stressed multiple times that Washington would not allow Tehran to be armed with a nuclear weapon. Iran's military warned the United States about taking military action against Iran, saying any attack would draw Tehran's "crushing response and cost the U.S. dearly," Tasnim News Agency reported on Saturday.

The U.S. military confirmed on Thursday that an RQ-4 Global Hawk Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) was shot down by an Iranian surface-to-air missile system at approximately 2335 GMT on Wednesday. Iran, however, claimed the drone downed in the southern part of the country had crossed Iranian borders.

The incident further inflamed the ongoing tensions between Washington and Tehran, which have been on the rise since the attack on two oil tankers last week in the Gulf of Oman.

Xinhua

China, DPRK to pass traditional friendship from generation to generation

By Mang Jiuchen

THE East Pyongyang No. 1 Middle School located in Tongdaewon-guyok of downtown Pyongyang is well-known throughout the DPRK. Inside the brand new teaching building, a billboard calling for students to always be ready for the country is hung in the corridor together with an honor roll. It's set to encourage and motivate students to study even harder, which is quite impressive. Established in 1985, the school ranks top nationwide in terms of education and management, said the vice princi-

pal Yun sung guk. Now there are about 1,000 students and over 110 faculty members at the school, said Yun. Mao Zedong Class, another name of Class 2 Grade II, is a special class consisting of 24 students at the School. It has been sixty years since the name Mao Zedong Class was coined in 1959, said Yun. In 1950, the Kim Il-sung Class was established at the Class I Grade 8 of Beijing No.5 High School. The vice principal recalled that the Mao Zedong Class was originally set up at the Sinri High School in Pyongyang, and then the honor went to the East

Pyongyang No.1 Middle School after the previous school was merged into the new one. For a long time, the East Pyongyang No. 1 Middle School and Beijing No. 5 High School have kept friendly exchanges, said Yun. A big photo hung in the first-floor showroom is eye-catching. It was taken in 2010 when some teachers and students of the school visited Beijing and met with their counterpart of the Kim Il-sung Class. The two schools celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Kim Il-sung Class together, Yun said,

pointing at the photo. The two schools will maintain the friendly exchanges and pass the DPRK-China friendship from generation to generation, he expressed. Hong seon hui is a teacher of the Mao Zedong Class. Before taking an interview with People's Daily, she was having a class. Her students were listening to her carefully and taking notes, with their textbooks and notebooks neatly put on the desks. The teacher told People's Daily that it's both an honor and responsibility to teach the Mao Zedong Class. "We'll try our best to educate students and help them become pillars of the na-

tion," Hong said. The Class carries the traditional friendship between people of China and the DPRK, Hong said. The teachers will hold various activities for the students to learn the importance and the latest progress of the friendship between the two countries. DPRK's top leader Kim Jong Un pays high attention to the friendly relations with China and actively promotes the further development of bilateral ties. The school will inform students of relevant information via newspapers. "I feel greatly honored to be part of the Mao Zedong Class," said a student

named Maeng wijin. "I'll study even harder in the future, and make contributions to my country and to the further development of friendship between the DPRK and China," he told People's Daily. "I'm excited and welcome President Xi Jinping's visit to the DPRK," said the teacher. She added that China is a friendly neighbor of the DPRK. It's believed that President Xi's visit will further advance the bilateral friendly relations and cement the traditional friendship forged by the older generation of leaders of both countries. People's Daily



Conservative party leadership candidate Boris Johnson talks during the first party hustings at the ICC in Birmingham, England, on Saturday. (AP)

2 finalists in UK leadership race make pitch to Tory members

LONDON

THE two finalists in the race to lead Britain's governing Conservative Party – and become the country's new prime minister – made their first formal pitches to party members on Saturday, both vowing to be the right man to deliver Brexit.

Ex-foreign secretary and former London mayor Boris Johnson, the runaway favorite of Tory lawmakers, faced off with Jeremy Hunt, the current foreign secretary, at a Conservative conference in central England's Birmingham.

Opening his address with a focus on delivering Britain's stalled exit from the European Union, Johnson told the audience "We need to get Brexit done" and be prepared to leave the EU without a withdrawal deal in place.

"I am here to tell you that in all confidence we can turn this thing around," he said. "I am utterly convinced that with the right energy and the right commitment, common sense will prevail. But just in case it does not, we must prepare to come out anyway."

Johnson has won backing from the Conservative Party's die-hard Brexiters by insisting the UK must leave the bloc on the rescheduled date of Oct 31, with or without a divorce agreement with the EU to smooth the way.

Both Johnson and Hunt said they would succeed in seeing Britain out of the EU, a challenge that defeated Prime Minister Theresa May. She quit as Conservative leader earlier this month after repeatedly failing to win Parliament's backing for her Brexit deal and will leave 10 Downing Street when her successor is selected.

Hunt pitched himself as the better negotiator, warning that "catastrophe

awaits," if the wrong leader is sent to Brussels for talks with EU leaders.

"If we send the wrong person, there's going to be no negotiation, no trust, no deal, and if Parliament stops that, maybe no Brexit," he said. "Send the right person, and there's a deal to be done."

For the party conference in Birmingham, both contenders were given time to make a short speech before answering questions from the host and audience members.

The Saturday "hustings" was the first of more than a dozen such party meetings set to take place across Britain in coming days.

Johnson refused to comment when asked about a police visit early Friday to the London home he shares with partner Carrie Symonds after a neighbor reported an altercation. The incident dominated news headlines in Britain on Saturday.

The Guardian newspaper said neighbors reported hearing screaming, shouting and banging inside the home. The responding officers found all the occupants "safe and well" and no legal offenses were committed, police said.

Johnson said the public could judge his character and ambition by his track record as London mayor and his plans for the country.

Johnson and Hunt are the final two from a field of 10 contenders that was winnowed down in a series of votes by party lawmakers. About 160,000 party members across Britain will decide who wins in a by-mail vote.

The winner of the runoff, due to be announced the week of July 22, will become the new Conservative leader and replace Theresa May as Britain's next prime minister. **Agencies**

Libyan state oil firm voices concern over calls to shut down production

TRIPOLI

LIBYA'S state-owned National Oil Corporation (NOC) on Saturday expressed concern over calls to shut down oil production in the country.

NOC "is concerned by recent calls for the shutdown of national oil production. This crucial source of income to the state, vital to all Libyans, must remain de-politicized and uninterrupted to ensure that basic fundamental services are financed and continue to be provided to citizens across the country," said a company statement.

"Any deliberate disruption of oil sector operations will severely impact national revenue streams, potentially render NOC in contravention of contractual obligations, and create further division in the country," the statement warned.

Agila Saleh, speaker of the east-based parliament, recently announced intention to suspend oil production, accusing the UN-backed government of using oil revenues to fund militias fighting against the army in the capital Tripoli.

The speaker revealed that the east-based government tried in vain to sell Libyan oil because of international opposition to the sale.

NOC is affiliated to the UN-backed Libyan government, which has been engaged in an armed conflict since early April against the east-based army over control of the capital Tripoli.

Libya has been suffering escalating violence and political instability ever since the fall of former leader Muammar Gaddafi's regime in 2011. **Xinhua**

Nigeria confirms 42 Boko Haram fighters killed in multilateral operation

ABUJA

NIGERIAN defense authorities on Saturday confirmed at least 42 Boko Haram fighters had been killed in a clearance operation against the terror group along the Lake Chad fringes.

The operation on Friday was carried out by the Multinational Joint Task Force in a combined land and sea offensives on the enclaves of Boko Haram, said Timothy Antigha, a Nigerian military spokesman who also doubles as a spokesperson for the multinational force.

The operation was conducted in Doron Naira, an island in Lake Chad, and Nigerian border areas including Cross Kauwa and Baga in Nigeria's northeastern state of Borno, Antigha said. The multinational force comprises troops from Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, Niger, and Benin.

One soldier was killed in the confrontation with the Boko Haram fighters, and 10 other soldiers were wounded, the military official said. Two gun trucks and three motorcycles were destroyed by the multinational troops, while two light machine guns and two AK-47 rifles were recovered from the

terrorists, according to Antigha.

The operation, he said, would be further intensified through raids, ambushes and fighting patrols to clear terrorists from their last stronghold in the Lake Chad Basin.

Last December, Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari and his colleagues of the Lake Chad Basin Commission renewed their commitment to ending the Boko Haram insurgency, declaring "a fight to finish." Boko Haram has been trying since 2009 to establish an Islamist state in northeastern Nigeria, extending its attacks to countries in the Lake Chad Basin. **Xinhua**



India rejects US report on attacks on minority Muslims

NEW DELHI

INDIA yesterday rejected a US State Department's annual report on religious freedom that raised questions about the government's inability to curb violent attacks on the country's minority Muslims.

Preparing for a visit by US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Tuesday, India's foreign ministry issued a stiff rejoinder to the US criticism.

"India is proud of its secular credentials, its status as the largest democracy and a pluralistic society with a long-standing commitment to tolerance and inclusion," Raveesh Kumar, the ministry's spokesman, said in a statement.

The State Department report, released on Friday, said some senior officials from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) last year had made "inflammatory speeches" against religious minorities.

Kumar (pictured) said India's constitution guarantees fundamental rights and religious freedom of all citizens, including its minority communities. Muslims make up 14 percent of India's 1.3 billion people.

"We see no locus standi for a foreign entity to pronounce on the state of our citizens' constitutionally protected rights," Kumar said.

The US State Department report examined attacks on minorities during 2018.

"Mob attacks by violent extremist Hindu groups against minority communities, especially Muslims, continued throughout the year amid rumors that victims had traded or killed cows for beef," the report said.

It also noted reports by non-governmental organizations that the government sometimes failed to act on mob attacks on religious minorities, marginalized communities, and critics of the government.

While in New Delhi, Pompeo is expected to hold talks aimed at laying the ground for a meeting between US President Donald Trump and Modi during a Group of 20 summit in Japan later next week. **Agencies**

Trump's Mideast peace economic plan faces Arab rejection

RIYADH/AMMAN/CAIRO

US President Donald Trump's economic vision as part of the wider plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was met with contempt, repudiation and exasperation in the Arab world, even as some in the Gulf called for it to be given a chance.

The US\$50 billion "peace to prosperity" plan, set to be presented by Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner at a conference in Bahrain next week, envisions a global investment fund to lift the Palestinian and neighboring Arab state economies.

But the lack of a political solution, which Washington has said would be unveiled later, prompted rejection not only from Palestinians but also in Arab countries that Israel would seek normal relations with.

From Sudan to Kuwait, prominent commentators and ordinary citizens denounced Kushner's proposals in strikingly similar terms: "colossal waste of time," "non-starter," "dead on arrival."

"Homelands cannot be sold, even for all the money in the world," Egyptian analyst Gamal Fahmy said. "This plan is the brainchild of real estate brokers, not politicians. Even Arab states that are described as moderate are not able to openly express support for it."

While the precise outline of the political plan has been shrouded with secrecy, officials briefed on it say Kushner has jettisoned the two-state solution – the long-standing worldwide formula that envisages an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

The PLO has dismissed Kushner's plans as "all abstract promises," insisting that only a political solution will solve the problem. It said they were an attempt to bribe the Palestinians into accepting Israeli occupation.

Jawad al-Anani, a former senior Jordanian politician, described widespread suspicion after Trump's decisions to move the US embassy to Jerusalem and recognize Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

"This is an unbalanced approach: it



White House adviser Jared Kushner

assumes the Palestinians are the more vulnerable side and they are the ones who can succumb to pressure more easily," he said. "This is a major setback for the whole region."

Azzam Huneidi, deputy head of Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood, the country's main opposition, said: "The economic plan is the sale of Palestine under the banner of prosperity in return for peace and with no land being returned ... and with the bulk of the funds shouldered by Gulf Arab states ... A deal with Arab money."

HISTORIC CRIME

Kushner's economic proposals will be discussed at a US-led gathering on June 25-26. The Palestinian Authority is boycotting and the White House did not invite the Israeli government.

US-allied Gulf Arab states, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, will take part along with officials from Egypt, Jordan and Morocco. Lebanon and Iraq will not attend.

Lebanon's Iranian-backed Shi'ite group Hezbollah, which wields significant influence over the government, has previously called the plan "an historic crime" that must be stopped.

Arab analysts believe the economic

plan is an attempt to buyoff opposition to Israel's occupation of Palestinian land with a multi-billion dollar bribe to pay off the neighboring hosts of millions of Palestinian refugees to integrate them.

After Israel's creation in 1948, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon absorbed the most Palestinian refugees, with some estimates that they now account for around five million.

Mohamad Hage Ali, a fellow at Beirut's Carnegie Middle East Center, said: "I see it failing miserably while benefiting US adversaries in the region," a reference to Iran.

'NO HARM IN LISTENING'

In recent years, Iran's bitter rivalry with a bloc led by Sunni Muslim Saudi Arabia has increasingly pushed the Arab-Israeli struggle into the background.

While Riyadh and its allies have welcomed Trump's harderline against Tehran, which has cast itself as the guardian of Palestinian rights, critics accuse Saudi Arabia, the custodian of Islam's holiest places, of abandoning the Palestinians.

Amid fears that it would push them to accept a US plan that favors Israel, Saudi Arabia has assured Arab allies it would not endorse anything that fails to meet key Palestinian demands.

Ali Shihabi, who heads the Arabia Foundation which supports Saudi policies, said the Palestinian Authority was wrong to reject the plan out of hand. "It should accept it and work on delivering the benefits to its people and then move forward aggressively with non-violent work ... to seek political rights," he tweeted.

Yet even in the Gulf, backing for Kushner's plan is limited.

Majed al-Ansari, a political sociology professor at Qatar University, called it laughable and unrealistic.

"The idea of moving from land-for-peace to money-for-peace, is insulting to the Palestinian cause," he said. "It is very clear that Kushner's idea is about paying for Palestinian approval of Israel taking over all their land and basically giving no concessions to the Palestinians."

Agencies

Georgian authorities shift responsibility for Tbilisi events on Russia - senator

MOSCOW

GEORGIA'S authorities have shifted the responsibility for the riots in the country on Russia, Chairman of the Russian Federation Council's (upper house) Foreign Affairs Committee, Senator Konstantin Kosachev said yesterday.

"Georgia's authorities, who are responsible for the situation in the country, have immediately shifted the blame on Russia, actually without any grounds and in an insulting way," Kosachev wrote on his Facebook page.

According to the senator, Russia was forced to take retaliatory meas-

ures. "By taking respective restrictive measures, the Russian president could not have acted in another way because the responsibility for what is happening, shifted by Tbilisi on Moscow, forcedly passed to him," he said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree on June 21, imposing a temporary ban on passenger flights with Georgia from July 8, the Kremlin press office reported.

Events in Tbilisi

On June 20, several thousand protesters gathered near the building of the national parliament in downtown Tbilisi, demanding the resignation of the interior minister and the parlia-

ment's speaker, and tried to storm it.

In response, police used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons to disperse the demonstrators. Some 305 demonstrators were detained, 240 people were injured, and 55 of them remain in hospitals.

The protests were sparked by an uproar over a Russian State Duma delegation's participation in the 26th session of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IAO). On June 20, IAO President Sergei Gavrilov opened the session in the Georgian parliament.

Opposition lawmakers were outraged by the fact that Gavrilov ad-

ressed the event's participants from the parliament speaker's seat. In protest, they did not allow the IAO session to continue. Media reports claimed that Gavrilov had allegedly participated in combat actions in Abkhazia and Transnistria, although he dismissed this as fake news.

The General Assembly was wrapped up on June 20 and later the Russian parliamentarians flew to Moscow. According to Gavrilov, after the session the delegation members were attacked when they were talking to journalists and threats were voiced against them.

Agencies

China stays open to international cooperation in space missions

By Yu Jianbin

CHINA Space Station is set to welcome on board nine international scientific projects from 17 countries covering a wide range of research areas, the China Manned Space Agency and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) announced recently.

The projects include space astronomy, space life sciences and biotechnology, space medicine, physics and applied new technologies. They will be carried out on

the space station which is expected to be put into use around 2022.

The selection of these projects and the preparation of future cooperation plans mark that the international cooperation of China Space Station has entered a new stage. They also echo with the proposal of strengthening outer space governance and cooperation in the international community's joint effort to build a shared future in space exploration put forward at the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the

Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held last year.

Building a space station is a difficult task that involves huge risks and requires enormous investment. After completed, the station will become a home for astronauts as well as a laboratory for scientific research.

The first-class space experiment platform will provide opportunities for scientists to achieve major breakthroughs. As China has announced, the independently built space station will provide a place

for scientists both from China and around the world to conduct scientific research.

The generosity has vividly demonstrated China's commitment to win-win cooperation with global partners, and fully reflected the country's adherence to openness and inclusiveness, and its determination to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of UNOOSA, said China's opening up of the space station to the world is a good example of its will to en-

hance international cooperation in space missions.

China always sticks to the principle of shared space exploration and takes concrete efforts to practice the concept. Indeed, space belongs to all mankind, and peaceful use of space is a principle that all countries should uphold. From the development and launch of rockets, spacecraft, space stations and the training of astronauts, the construction of space station reflects the comprehensive aerospace strength of a country, which

comes from decades of experience accumulation and investment.

By opening up its space station to the world, China will effectively promote international cooperation in manned space missions, and allow more countries to participate in manned space technology research and bridge the gap for countries that lack access to space exploration.

On the other hand, scientific experiments conducted by scientists from across the world on the Chinese space station will further

promote space exploration and international cooperation, and allow countries to better play their strengths so as to work together to deliver fruitful scientific results that benefit all mankind. Undoubtedly, this is the true meaning of sharing space. China's opening up of the space station to the world is a practice of the idea of building a human community with shared destiny, and echoes with the dream of human beings to explore the unknown and go to deep space.

People's Daily

SPORT



Emmanuel Okwi

Okwi exit a mistake Simba should not make

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

It has been strange two seasons at Simba Sports Club for Emmanuel Okwi. The fans were happy with the big money outlay and everyone loved him when he arrived for his third stint at the club that transformed him from a relatively unknown Ugandan teenager to a regional superstar.

He hit the ground running, scored goals and looked unstoppable in the 2017/18 season. In all competitions that season, Okwi netted 23 goals in 29 games, including three in five in the CAF Confederation Cup. This is what we were all expecting.

Then surprisingly, he was denied both the club's and the league's best player award at the end of a season in which his stats were superior to everyone. If he sensed betrayal and injustice he would not be accused of entitlement.

At the beginning of 2018/19 season, Simba strengthened their squad by bringing in Rwandan international, Meddie Kagere and Zambian attacking midfielder, Clatous Chama. The duo became instant hits with Msimbazi Street outfit fans, stealing Okwi's limelight.

Whilst his relationship with the fans has not fractured, Okwi no longer enjoys the number one spot he used to take for granted. The mini-god status at Msimbazi Street is gone. Kagere netted 34 goals and provided two assists in all competitions to emerge as the club top striker and a crowd favourite. As if that is not enough, Chama constant desire to entertain has made him another football cult icon at Msimbazi at the expense of Okwi.

It is true Okwi has not managed to hit the heights of the 2017-18 season, he has still shown he is a top striker.

He registered 18 goals and seven assists in all competitions. John Bocco had one more goal than Okwi largely thanks to the seven penalties he converted. Kagere also had four penalties to bolster his numbers while Okwi did not take a single penalty.

Despite this, he has been viewed as a failure

thus far. Perhaps it is a mixture of bad luck, circumstance and some decisions out of his hand.

Whilst some still appreciate his talents, others feel he has lost the qualities needed to push Simba to greater heights. Even when Simba's Board of Directors' chairman, Mohamed Dewji keeps insisting that no key player would be allowed to leave, the popular consensus is that Okwi's contract would not be renewed.

In what can be interpreted as Simba willing to let go of Okwi, the club has gone ahead to extend the contract of Kagere which had one more year to run as opposed to the former who has few days before he is declared a free agent.

Granted Okwi rarely exhibits his devastating pace he showed during his earlier years at Simba, he's the most skilled of all the strikers at the club. He can create his own chances out of nothing.

In fairness to him, he has shown strength of character to keep going during the difficult when his ability is being harshly judged.

Strangely, Okwi is still regarded as a key player for his national team. In the on-going AFCON tournament, an in-form Okwi will be key to Uganda's plans to unlock formidable defences.

He has already begun to silence his critics with a well-taken goal to his side a 41-year wait for an Africa Cup of Nations victory when they upset the Democratic Republic of Congo 2-0 in a Group A match in Cairo Saturday.

A free-kick was directed toward a crowd of players just inside the box and Okwi, facing away from the goal, flicked the ball into the corner of the net.

A good AFCON campaign would only serve to increase his value and make it more difficult to retain him in case the club realizes this talk of him being released is a big mistake.

Simba should have better ignored the social media noise and realise Okwi is one of rather few players they simply must try very hard to keep.



Director of Sports Development in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports Yusuf Singo (L) in a group picture with a section of winners of a promotion dubbed 'Soka la Afrika', organized by Tigo, in Dar es Salaam a few minutes before the latter had jetted off to Egypt to watch the Africa Cup of Nations. Looking on (R) is Tigo Chief Commercial Officer, Tarik Boudia. Singo handed the winners the national flag in the day. PHOTO: JOHN BADI

Minister Mwakyembe's crafty move varnishes Bongoland's art with gold

By Correspondent Joseph Muhozi

A POPULAR story is told of a man called Mundwi, who used to live in a village called Bumangi in Mara, next to Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere's Butiama. He was an excellent artist and sculptor who created a lot of works which he sold cheaply to villagers and gave away some free to relatives. On one auspicious day, something happened.

A story used to be told often in the village on how Mundwi's works, which portrayed African freedom fighters and Ujamaa, caught Mwalimu's eye one day leading to a surprise invitation to Butiama for an audience with the great statesman, who wanted to acknowledge the talents of the humble artist. But Mundwi's surprise and elation did not end there, for he later on got to fly alongside Mwalimu to Dar es Salaam, with all the VIP trappings associated with seating next to the Father of the Nation.

While in the city, the artist from Bumangi was connected with famous artists and learn to speak English, which facilitated a fruitful interaction with foreign customers years ahead.

After some years of fame in the city, he went back to the village with little money he made from his works. To him, flying with Mwalimu rendered his first flight experience with fondest memory which always brings a smile whenever he narrates it. "Mwalimu was my friend, he liked my works and connected me with prominent people, 'utaniambia nini?'" he often brags at drinking joints, throwing some English expressions to show he is at a different level from other revelers.

It is painful to reflect, however, that Mundwi, elderly and quite broke, has nothing to show that his works are still valued in the world and that this is hardly a different narrative from many related to the lives of many Tanzania's artists and sculptors. In another environment, given that artwork grows in value at rates faster than many other investments, generations of these artists would be swimming in cash- so to speak.

In example of fortunes embedded in artworks, the artwork attributed to an Italian Leonardo da Vinci who lived (1452-1519), which was auctioned and sold for \$453 million in 2017. In addition, a painting of Willem de Kooning, a Dutchman who died in 1997, was sold in 2015 for \$312 million. He could be any artist from Tanzania!

This means Mundwi could be a millionaire if our system was supportive and sustainable in identifying creators of similarly admired masterpieces.

But, how can we help the artisans if we cannot identify them? Fixing 'the system' should begin with an artist's identification along with formalizing the arts industry and providing capital to enhance quality and growth.

While it is heartening that some artists have now registered with the National Arts Council of Tanzania, commonly known as Basata, to strengthen the system, we would need an electronic database which enhances retrieval of their information anywhere anytime. Moreover, the system should enhance accessibility of the global market and capital facilitation.

Provisionally, the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports is utilizing available technological development to revamp the situation. In cooperation with a Dar es Salaam-based ICT company, DataVision International, it has officiated the registration and identification of artists, through a project known as Tanzania Arts and Crafts Identification Project (TACIP), which initially aims at saving Tanzania's artisans and craftsmen from a wide range of pressing issues that they have been facing for years.

The project is under the guardianship of former Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda, and through it, all artists who have fully registered with TACIP are eligible to receive a wide range of benefits in multiple areas from their daily activities to financial inclusion. Most importantly, the project creates the e-Commerce platform to enable artisans in the country to reach the potential clients all over the globe and access the huge global market electronically, namely online market.

One would hope this project, which has started with artisans and craftsmen, will finally cut across the arts industry and be recognized in legal frameworks, for every artist to adhere with registration and identification processes. Then, the arts industry will foster industrialization by providing more income to six million artists, according to data from Basata, hence creating more than six million taxpayers.

Such an initiative would have helped to avoid the controversy, which erupted in 2017, when three people claimed to be designers of the nation's court of arms, with the government conceding in Parliament that it had no means of resolving the controversy. Consequently,

there is no one to enjoy the accolade of having designed the historical 'Bibi na Bwana'.

The head of Tanzania Federation of Crafts and Arts (Tafca), Adrian Nyangamalle, told the press that with TACIP, Tanzania's arts industry would be recognized globally and that via the project all the artists' works would be provided with the bar code to be identified worldwide. In addition, with TACIP identity card, artists would have access to loans and training to help them make their products comply with international standards.

However, it is unbelievable that despite the efforts of everybody involved in the endeavour, some artists are still hesitating to grab the opportunity presented - almost as if to endorse Thomas Edison's famed observation, "opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."

According to the Minister for Finance and Planning, Philip Mpango, when outlining main areas of the fiscal budget for the next financial year and summary of economic performance over the past year in Parliament, the art and entertainment sector was the fastest in growth at 13.7 percent, above the construction sector (12.0 percent) and transport and logistics (11.8 percent). Imagine the outcome in a nation where there is an artist almost in every household, if all were to be identified and registered accordingly and were to enjoy the TACIP benefits!

No wonder even the Shadow Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Joseph Mbilinyi (Chadema), who is a prominent hip hop artiste popularly known as Sugu, commended Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakyembe's effort in curbing the longtime challenges in the arts sector.

Let us make the arts sector a catalyst for the middle-income economy by embracing TACIP as the means to do it. Technology has made the world a street with open supermarkets, registration and identification should be a legal requirement for the well being of the sector.

10 troubled, triumphant years for the Michael Jackson estate

LOS ANGELES

TEN years ago, entertainment lawyer John Branca and Michael Jackson renewed the partnership that had brought the wealth and status of both men to new heights. Eight days later, Jackson would be dead. Yet his role in Branca's life would only become larger.

Branca has represented his own pantheon of stars, but considered Jackson history's greatest entertainer, and had guided him through some of his biggest moments including the King of Pop's "Thriller" video, his "Bad" tour, and his acquisition of The Beatles' song catalog.

"Michael and I in the 80s were quite the team," Branca, now the co-executor of Jackson's estate, said in an interview with The Associated Press from his Los Angeles office, where he reflected on the chaotic aftermath of Jackson's death, the pile of debt that Jackson left, the deals that made his name skyrocket in value again, and challenges like the recent documentary "Leaving

Neverland" that threatened to sink his reputation again.

After seven years of little contact, Jackson rehired Branca on June 17, 2009, while the singer was rehearsing for his would-be "This Is It" comeback tour. Branca left on a vacation to Mexico, where on June 25 he would get a phone call telling him Jackson was dead at age 50. It was then, he said, that "all hell broke loose."

As he hurried back to the U.S., Branca had his staff comb the vaults and find a 2002 will he did with Jackson that named him co-executor along with music executive John McClain and left everything to the singer's mother, his children and charity. It would turn out to be the last will Jackson made, to Branca's surprise and to the chagrin of much of the Jackson family, who were cut out of both Jackson's money and control of his legacy.

"It was exhilarating and it was daunting," Branca said. "I did welcome it, it was kind of like reuniting in a sense. I knew I could



In this Tuesday, June 18, 2019 photo, Entertainment and corporate lawyer John Branca, the co-executor of Michael Jackson's estate, poses in his office next to an artwork presented to him from Sony Music commemorating the sale of 100 million copies of Michael Jackson's album "Thriller," at the law firm of Ziffren Brittenham LLP in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

help, and I knew John could help."

They did indeed, help Jackson left nearly \$500 million in debt and a tarnished image despite the singer's acquittal of child molestation charges in 2005. Through the end of 2016, the estate has grossed more than \$1.3 billion, according to the

most recent court filings available.

"The estate has been incredibly well run, the numbers speak for themselves," said Zack O'Malley Greenburg, a senior editor of media and entertainment at Forbes who has reported extensively on the estate. "He's out-earned pretty much

every living entertainer since his death."

The executors did it with moves that included selling Jackson's stake in The Beatles and other song catalogs at a massive profit, renegotiating a titanic record deal with Sony, putting out three posthumous albums and creating a pair of hit shows with Cirque du Soleil.

And while the task was not easy, Jackson left them a goldmine of music and dance to draw from.

"This is the most beloved pop star in history worldwide. As good as we might be as managers, we could not have done this for Tommy James and the Shondells," Branca said with a laugh.

Branca had the advantage of being able to build on work he did decades earlier for Jackson, such as The Beatles catalog and the Sony record deal.

"He's not coming in as a cleanup guy," said Kenneth Abdo, an attorney who has worked on major estates including Prince's and is not involved in Jackson estate. "He was an architect of those deals that would become the substance of his estate."

There were inevitable messes. In the wake of Jackson's death, a flood of legal claims came against his estate, some legitimate,

several ridiculous, but all required by law to be taken seriously.

"We had several paternity claims that Michael had fathered various children. There was one claim that this gentleman had written every song on the 'Thriller' and 'Bad' albums," Branca said.

As the executors negotiated that morass, they identified two goals: pay down Jackson's debt, and restore his identity as a musician. "We had to show the real Michael the real artist, and not the tabloid sensation," Branca said.

Looking at the video of rehearsals for Jackson's planned tour, the answer came quickly.

"You saw the real Michael, the great entertainer who is in control of his art, running the whole band, not just a guy who shows up."

The result was "This Is It," the movie drawn from the rehearsals that brought in \$261.2 million in worldwide box office, became the highest-grossing concert film and music documentary of all time, and proved that Jackson's value was once again sky-high.

Branca thought the moment might be their best shot at a major Jackson project.

AP

Obi Mikel: This might be my last AFCON

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt

NIGERIA captain John Obi Mikel has hinted that his sojourn with the Super Eagles might be coming to an end, saying the Total Africa Cup of Nations Egypt 2019 may be the last time he is seen at the biennial championship.

Interestingly, Mikel, formerly with Chelsea but now with Middlesbrough in the English second tier played his first ever Cup of Nations in Egypt, back in 2006.

Thirteen years later, the 32 year old says it will be a pleasant honour for him to make his final goodbyes in the same city his national team journey started from.

"It will not be a bad place for me to finish, yeah?" Mikel said at the team's pre-match press conference ahead of their opening game against Burundi in Alexandria on Friday afternoon.

"I remember in 2006, I was young and it was my first year in the national team. It was my first tournament and it was a great one as well because we finished third. This place (Egypt) has always been good to me," he added.

And now, if he will affirm the de-

cision to retire from the national team after this AFCON, Mikel wants to go out on a high and probably go on and lead the team to the title.

"I am not 100 per cent sure this is my last one, but maybe. I always give my best to the national team when I come here and now that we are back after two editions, I just want to come in and do my best and see whether we can go one better and win, better than my first time," Mikel said.

The midfielder has been out of the national team since their FIFA World Cup experience in Russia last year and only made the decision to return after being prevailed upon by head coach Gernot Rohr.

"My entire mind is here and anytime I accept to come to the national team, I know I am ready to give my all and I am in good shape. I don't want to come here and disrespect the country and the players. I am here to give my all," the midfielder said.

His aim now is to help the young side grow and play with confidence especially now that he is the defacto leader of the group.

(AGENCIES)

Gangly goal machine Veldwijk likely to lead South Africa attack

CAIRO

SOUTH Africa are likely to turn to gangly Dutch-born striker Lars Veldwijk as a surprise choice to lead their attack when they take on the Ivory Coast in their Africa Cup of Nations opener in Cairo on Monday.

The 27-year-old, who qualifies for South African citizenship because his father was born in the country, has only won two caps and was a surprise choice in Stuart Baxter's 23-man squad for the tournament.

But with a long history of poor finishing in the South African game, Veldwijk's tally of 24 goals this season for Sparta Rotterdam as they won promotion back to the Dutch top flight convinced Baxter to take a gamble on selecting him.

Impressive form in a fortnight of preparation before the tournament has enhanced the 1.96 metre-tall forward's chances of being the country's wild card in attack.

"We have had good preparations so far - in Johannesburg, Dubai and now here," Veldwijk said.

"We had a good practice match among ourselves on Wednesday and it was nice for me to score some goals

"For me it is only to prove to the coach that I am ready and hope-

fully I showed him enough."

Veldwijk has had a nomadic, journeyman career, including time with Nottingham Forest in England, spells in Belgium and Norway as well as at seven different Dutch clubs.

Last year, he was suspended by Groningen amid reports he had refused to come on as a substitute in a league match and has a reputation in the Netherlands as a footballing maverick.

With his only visits to South Africa having been after call-ups to the national team, Veldwijk admits to being out of his comfort zone even if he is warming to the environment.

"It is a different culture from Holland but I am really beginning to like it. It is getting better and better," he said.

"I first came in this set up two years ago and have been part of this family now and cannot keep saying I am still adjusting to African style. I however, feel I can still get better and the guys need to know me more," he added.

South Africa are playing in a major competition for the first time in four years, having failed to qualify for both the 2017 Cup of Nations finals in Gabon and the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

'Little Onion' makes breakthrough with Brazil

SAO PAULO

BEFORE the Copa America, few people outside Brazil would have heard of Gremio winger Everton but his stock is surely on the rise after a series of scintillating performances in a team that is beginning to look like the Brazil of old.

The 23-year-old won Man of the Match in the host nation's 5-0 win over Peru on Saturday and scored an excellent goal in what was his first full game for the national side.

His start on the left wing was expected after two substitute appearances and a goal in Brazil's first two Copa America games.

On both occasions the diminutive winger with the face tattoo and the military-style short back and sides haircut brought an excitement and a verve to the side and fans were demanding he play more than a substitute's role.

Known as Cebolinha, or Little Onion, because of his resemblance to a Brazilian cartoon character of the same name, Everton was electric, cutting in from his spot on the left flank and hitting the byline to provide cut backs and crosses.

His step overs and backheels

delighted the crowd, who were soon chanting his name.

Everton, however, was quick to praise the collective rather than accept the individual accolades.

"If there was a lack of confidence in the group before, then we played an excellent match and did it doing what we did in other games, creating chances," he told reporters. "And now the chances turned into goals."

Early goals settled the side, while there were superb midfield performances by Arthur and Philippe Coutinho, who looked a different player from the one who has struggled this season at Barcelona.

Together they produced some of Brazil's most self-assured and exciting football in ages, even if it was against a poor Peru side.

Coach Tite refused to single out Everton but the player can rest assured he will get another start in Thursday's quarter-final at his home club ground.

"I am particularly happy," he said. "Going back there with the national team, I know every square meter of that place. I hope to be happy with the national team too."

REUTERS

Odio Ighalo proves Afcon worth from bench for Super Eagles

By Colin Udoh, Special to ESPN

FIRST of all, that was an enthralling game of football.

Burundi may be ranked 89 places below Nigeria, but they looked anything but as they pushed the Super Eagles to the limit, and it took a moment of genius from Ola Aina, plus the assassin class finishing from Odion Ighalo, to put them away late in the second half.

The Swallows previously had given their more illustrious opponents plenty to chew on, when Cedric Amissa and then Gael Bigrimana not only forced saves from Daniel Akpeyi but also cracked the angle of the post.

They were warnings to the Super Eagles that needed to think again if they had harboured thoughts that their lesser opponents would be easy pickings, and think again coach Gernot Rohr did - throwing on two of his big guns to come in and settle the matter.

Here's what we unpacked from the Super Eagles' opening game of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations

Forced but bold selections from Rohr
Gernot Rohr is largely a creature of habit, at least as far as his team selection goes. The Nigeria coach only rarely makes wholesale chops to his starting team, especially not for the opening game of a tournament.

But there were more than a few gasps of surprise when Nigeria's line-up was released: Odion Ighalo, no Ahmed Musa, no Jamilu Collins, and no Henry Onyekuru; it was the selection equivalent of an earthquake.

It turns out the German was not kidding when he said at his pre-match conference that he had players who were still recovering from a cold

"We had a friendly against Zimbabwe under strong rain and so some of us caught cold - even me - so we had some sickness in the team," he had said reporters. "We have about four of five players who are not fit because of the cold.

In addition, Samuel Kalu was ruled out after collapsing from what was initially thought to be a heart attack but turned out to be dehydration instead.

And so Paul Onuachu started ahead of Ighalo, and Samuel Chukwueze came in ahead of Musa, Onyekuru and Moses Simon. Ola Aina started as Collins had picked up an injury on the eve of the game.

Rohr explained his choices

"Jamilu was injured yesterday so we could not start him. Musa was ill all of last week, and lost four to five kilos. Ighalo was short of match fitness; remember he had not played seven, eight matches before so we thought it is better to keep him as impact player."

Illness and injuries aside, considering both Musa and Ighalo were available to play and eventually did, means it was bold of Rohr to leave them out, especially in such a crucial game.

But when the selection laboured to break



Odion Ighalo celebrates with Ahmed Musa after scoring Nigeria's winning goal against Burundi in their opening Africa Cup of Nations match at Alexandria Stadium. (Agencies)

down Burundi, Rohr was quick to ring changes, hauling off John Obi Mikel for Musa and pulling Onuachu for Ighalo. This meant that Alex Iwobi shifted from wide forward to attacking midfield, and the complexion of the game changed - leading to the goal that turned out to be the winner.

Akpeyi does well but still does not convince Daniel Akpeyi has a trust issue. Nigerian football followers do not have enough trust in him as the first-choice Super Eagles goalkeeper; his fragile confidence does little to help.

Akpeyi made no less than four fine stops in the first half alone. Tough saves, no less. But he also allowed a backpass to slip under his foot, and he looked nervous whenever he had to deal with others.

He has only just won back the No. 1 shirt from Francis Uzoho, but while his early save from Amissa should have done his confidence a world of good, the missed backless restored the fragility.

Akpeyi will remain first choice, but his margin for error gets slimmer and slimmer with mistakes. He needs to pick himself up and develop a thick enough skin to do his job without letting nerves or critical comments get the better of him. Otherwise, he might be contemplating life on the bench sooner rather than later

Rohr has a Mikel decision to make

Captain John Obi Mikel has returned to the side after more than a year in self-imposed exile, and he looked decent in friendly games

against Zimbabwe and Senegal.

But in this high-tempo contest against Burundi, the game flew by him at a speed that seemed to catch him by surprise.

The former Chelsea star posted one of his more forgettable performances in a Super Eagles jersey, and he would have been as relieved as everyone else when Rohr offered him a mercy substitution.

As soon as the captain went off, the game changed.

Burundi, who had been pushing hard and making a contest of the game, were pinned back in their half for the rest of the game. The goal was inevitable, and Ighalo duly supplied it.

Now Rohr has a decision to make.

The Super Eagles looked way better and played quicker without their captain slowing them down. Does Rohr start Mikel deep alongside Wilfred Ndidi? That means sacrificing the hustle of Peter Etebo or the creative passing of Iwobi.

Or does he simply leave him on the bench and allow his team to fly? Whatever selection decision Rohr makes against Guinea might be a pointer to Mikel's continuing role in the team. Ighalo proves his class again

Few players in the current Super Eagles squad have taken as much flak as Odion Ighalo. If not for missing a goal at the World Cup, for which he even endured death threats, then for playing his club football in China.

There were some on social media who even

suggested the forward should not have been in Nigeria's Afcon squad despite his qualifying series-leading seven goals.

Ighalo has only ever answered one way - on the field - and he did so once again in Alexandria.

He replaced the largely ineffectual Onuachu, and showed his younger compatriot how to do the business.

His first touch was to pick up a pass in the box, which dribbled away from him. But his second was a pure striker's goal. The forward read an improvised backheel from Ola Aina, slipped in behind the defence, opened up his body and curled home from close range.

There are few better ways to answer critics. Goalscoring issues continue

Nigeria have now scored only two goals in their past four games, and, the attacking talent in the squad, Rohr must surely be concerned at how many blanks his forwards are firing.

He had Onuachu, Chukwueze and Iwobi up top to start against Burundi. At the end, he had Ighalo, Musa, Iwobi and Chukwueze on the pitch, yet the team still could score only one goal.

Whatever is holding them back, Rohr has to sort it out. He has a frontline that has goals in it, and he must find a way to unlock those goals.

Things are only going to get harder from here, and goals are going to be critical.

(AGENCIES)

Experience gives Guinea Bissau better shot at second round

CAIRO

GUINEA Bissau are hoping to go one better than their Africa Cup of Nations debut two years ago and have targeted a place in the second round now that they have more experience under their collective belt.

The small west African country, a former Portuguese colony best known as a transit hub for cocaine smugglers and for political instability, were shock qualifiers for the last edition in Gabon where they won a lot of admirers.

They have kicked on to qualify for a second successive tournament, finishing top of their qualifying group.

It means they can now set their sights higher. "Our first ambition at this moment is to get through the first phase and to try and reach the quarter-finals," said coach Baciro Cande.

"Our first Cup of Nations was great exposure. We got a chance to participate but we did not have the experience, but this second time we have more chance.

"We know in advance that Guinea Bissau is a small country and we do not have the strength that the other countries have like Cameroon and Ghana," he added, referring to two of their formidable Group F rivals.

Guinea Bissau begin their campaign tomorrow against Cameroon in Ismailia.

"We will look to our strengths in every game and I assure you that Guinea-Bissau will give a good account of themselves," Calde added.

At the last finals, Guinea Bissau certainly did not look overwhelmed.

They scored a dramatic stoppage time equaliser to draw with hosts Gabon in the tournament's opening game and led Cameroon for almost an hour before eventually losing 2-1. They finished bottom of their group with one point.

Guinea Bissau suddenly sprung from nowhere



REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Odio Ighalo proves Afcon worth
from bench for Super Eagles**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Director of Sports Development in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Yusuph Singo (2nd R), takes part in yoga exercises with Indians living in Tanzania, Charge d' Affaires at India's High Commission to Tanzania, Ramachandran Chandramouli (3rd R), and students from several schools across Dar es Salaam, at the Uhuru Stadium in the city last weekend. PHOTO: BEATRICE PHILEMON

DR Congo apologise for shock Cup of Nations defeat by Uganda

CAIRO

THE Democratic Republic of Congo's squad have apologised to their compatriots for unexpectedly losing their opening game of the Africa Cup of Nations to underrated Uganda on Saturday.

Both skipper Youssouf Mulumbu, who did not play in the 2-0 defeat, and Chancel Mbemba, who wore the captain's armband in the game, said sorry in a recorded message that was distributed on Twitter (@Leopard Leader Foot).

"We come to you, simply to apologise. It's true that it's difficult, but we have to," said Mulumbu, flanked by coach Florent Ibenge and with his team mate standing behind him.

"We need unity and it's true that today we let you down. I hope it's a good lesson for us. We still have two games to play, we need your support and we will correct the situation very quickly.

"Today, we made a big mistake, I know it's humiliating for the 90-million Congolese. That's why we come back to you with sincerity and with hand on heart to apologise."

Mbemba also expressed the same sentiments in his brief statement.

The Congolese conceded both goals at set pieces – first from a corner and then a free kick as Patrick Kaddu and Emmanuel Okwi scored in Uganda's first win at the finals for more than 40 years.

It has since emerged that the Congolese had to cancel their last training session on the eve of Saturday's match because squad members were forced to undertake medical checks at a Cairo hospital as the country's football federation had not supplied the required health certificates to tournament organisers.

They now face an uphill battle to advance past the first round. They will face hosts Egypt on Wednesday before taking on Zimbabwe next Sunday in their last Group A game.

REUTERS



Tanzania's women beach volleyball team's players, Hellen Richard (L) and Yasinta Remmy, in a group picture with their coach Alfred Selengia, prior to the start of the African Beach Games at Santa Maria Beach in Cape Verde last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF ALFRED SELENGIA

Dar beach volleyball team suffers early exit in Africa Beach Games

Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S women beach volleyball team has been ranked 14th in the women category of the Africa Beach Games which climaxed at Santa Maria Beach, Cape Verde yesterday.

The games, organized by Confederation of African Volleyball CAVB, brought together teams from across the continent and took place from June 19.

In the women category, Tanzania that was made up of Hellen Richard and Yasinta Remmy missed out on the quarterfinals, having registered one win and two defeats.

The squad, put in Pool A of the tournament alongside Gambia, South Sudan, Algeria and hosts Cape Verde, lost 2-0 to Gambia in the first game.

Gambia came out with 21-14 victory in the opening set and wrapped up their win in the remaining set, cruising to 21-19 win.

Tanzania regrouped to cruise to 2-1 win over South Sudan in the following match. In the all-East African affair, South Sudan posted 21-17 win, they could not match their opponents' prowess in the remainder of the encounter as the latter won 21-18 and 18-16.

In the third game, Tanzania conceded 2-0 to Algeria to effectively see their hopes for qualification for the knockout stage go up in smoke. Tanzania brought their spell in the round robin stage to an end on Saturday, conceding 2-0 loss to hosts.

The championships' women category had 17 teams which were put into four pools according to the regulations.

One of the pools was made up of five teams whereas the other three had four teams each owing to the latest CAVB ranking.

Hosts Cape Verde, Algeria, Gambia, South Sudan and Tanzania were in Pool A whereas Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Kenya and

Guinea Bissau made Pool B.

Pool C was made up of Mauritius, Niger, Angola and Guinea Conakry, Pool D brought together Democratic Republic of Congo, Morocco, Mozambique and Namibia.

Coach Alfred Selengia had led the women beach volleyball team. Selengia noted before the trip he was hopeful that the players will perform well at the event.

"We have been training well and I am sure the team will perform well, my players have told me that they are ready for the games as they want to make history by being in the group of athletes with medals at the inaugural African Beach Games and qualify for the world games," he said.

The continental tournament served as qualifiers for the world volleyball governing body (FIVB) Beach Games which will take place in the United States of America (USA) later this year.

Dar celebrates Yoga Day

By Beatrice Philemon

INDIA'S High Commission to Tanzania, in collaboration with Indians living in the country, have celebrated the International Day of Yoga to promote peace and harmony among people, as well as uniting people and helping them live healthier.

The event, which is celebrated on June 21 every year, was held at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Charge d' Affaires at India's High Commission to Tanzania, Ramachandran Chandramouli, who was one of the officials that graced the event, said yoga is an ancient physical, mental and spiritual practice that originated in India.

"The word 'yoga' derives from Sanskrit and means to join or to unite, symbolizing the union of body and consciousness. Currently Yoga continues to grow in popularity across the world," he disclosed.

"We and other people across the world are celebrating this event because we want all people to be healthy and practice yoga exercises, several diseases can be cured by the exercises."

He said yoga can be practiced either at home or anywhere, it is not only an exercise but also helps to strengthen muscles in the body.

"Today yoga is practiced in various forms around the world and continues to grow in popularity while in Tanzania we have celebrated this event with children from 17 primary and secondary schools including volunteers from different areas across the city," he said.

He said yoga strengthens parts of the body, a person does not need to spend money to practice it, yoga as well reduces blood pressure, stress and can deal with some diseases.

According to him, the Yoga Day celebration takes place in various countries around the world.

People from different countries across the world, including Tanzania, take part in the celebration of Yoga Day.

Yoga Day, he pointed out, is celebrated to make people understand that yoga can deal with all mental and physical diseases.

"The regular practice of yoga can make you physically, mentally and spiritually rich, so it's time for Tanzanians and other people to practice yoga," he insisted.

He expressed regards to all stakeholders, who made the event a success, including TMJ Hospital who brought an ambulance vehicle for first aid.

Bwawani Primary School, Kisutu Primary School, Zanaki Primary School, Tandika Primary School, Chang'ombe Primary School, Benjamin Mkapa Secondary School, Makumbusho Secondary School, Azania Secondary School, Kibasila Secondary School, Keko Secondary School, Kambangwa Secondary School, Tandika Secondary School, Buffalo Club and Indian Schools are the schools that celebrated the event.

Yusuph Singo, Director of Sport Development in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, expressed regards to India's High Commission to Tanzania for organizing the event and allowing more students in the country to practice yoga.

EATV **UJENZI** **TONIGHT @ 21:00**



MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 UTAKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 KURASA
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier.

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05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

Flexibles by David Chikoko

