



AU, Madagascar discuss Covid-19 herbal remedy

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN Union experts are locked in discussion with the Republic of Madagascar, through its embassy in Addis Ababa, with a view to obtaining technical data regarding the safety and efficiency of a herbal remedy recently announced by Madagascar, for prevention and treatment of COVID-19.

The AU Commissioner for Social Affairs Amira El Fadil convened a meeting with the Malagasy Chargé d'Affaires Eric Randrianantoandro on 30th April at which it was agreed that the member state would furnish the African Union with necessary details regarding the herbal remedy.

Once furnished with the details, the AU, through the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), will review the scientific data gathered so far on the safety and efficacy of the COVID-19 organics. This review will be based on global technical and ethical norms to garner the necessary scientific evidence

Major crops suffer price, trade volume decreases



By Felister Peter, Dodoma

WORLD market prices of some strategic crops such as cotton, cashewnuts and cocoa recorded a drastic drop between February and March due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Innocent Bashungwa, the minister for Industry and Trade told the National Assembly here yesterday that cotton prices dropped by 12 percent, cocoa by 22 percent and coffee (Arabica & Robusta) by 5 percent.

The minister attributed the drop in coffee exports to closure of businesses and import restrictions from major buyers in China, Europe and the United States owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, which as of yesterday it had affected 3.6 million globally, with the death toll surpassing 250,000 and more than 1.1 million patients having recovered.

Tabling the ministry's budget estimates for the 2020/2021 financial year, Bashungwa said that China-based US coffee giant Starbucks has closed 2,150 out of 4,300 shops.

Trade volumes for agricultural products have also declined, with cocoa exports dropping by 67.1 percent from 116,440 tonnes in February 2020 to 38,354 tonnes in March 2020.

"The various Covid-19 prevention measures imposed by different countries have largely affected the industrial sector due to import restrictions. Grounding of planes have

regarding the performance of the tonic. These developments follow the

> This review will be based on global technical and ethical norms to garner the necessary scientific evidence regarding the performance of the tonic

participation of Malagasy President Andry Rajoelina in a video meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly of AU Heads of State and Government with the Chairmen of AU Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on 29 April, in which he participated as Chairman of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and where he made a presentation to his peers regarding the herbal remedy.

The teleconference was convened by President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa and current chairman of the African Union (AU), and had the aim of apprising the chairmen of the RECs about actions and initiatives undertaken by the African Union in response to the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the continent.

The meeting also provided a platform for the chairmen of the RECs to brief the bureau about regional measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



This is makeshift Njoka Bridge. It is a strategic link between Kizuka village and a number of other parts of Songea District in Ruvuma Region. However, it has been in state so poor in recent months that few people dare cross it. They have no option but to explore alternative routes, hardly any friendly enough for comfort. Photo: Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya contributed to export drops for spices, minerals, tea, coffee and horticultural products," the

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'What ails an MP is for families to say'

By Guardian Reporter

ILLNESSES of MPs are a private matter unless the family decides to specify such illness, and thus the National Assembly will not reveal what ails any MP, the House secretariat has ruled.

Dr Tulia Ackson, the Deputy Speaker made the stand here late on Monday when winding up debate on estimates of the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children.

Rombo MP Joseph Selasini (Chadema) had demanded to be shown proof of any MP dying from Covid-19. On April 20 Dr Ackson informed the House that one MP (name withheld) was infected by the coronavirus and was receiving treatment.

"Honorable MPs all of us here are leaders and we all know that a person's illness is his own secret, and that of his doctor. We cannot reach a stage for people to be forced to divulge their illnesses or someone else to say someone has died of Covid-19," she said.

Dr Ackson elaborated that those who are infected with the coronavirus have announced so on their own volition and that there hasn't been any occasion

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11 killed, 2 hurt in highway accidents

By Guardian Reporters

ELEVEN people have died and two have been seriously injured in road accidents in Tanga and Coast regions.

The Tanga crash happened on Monday at around 4.00pm at Vigaeni area in Korogwe District. Five people died on the spot and two seriously injured following a head- on-collision.

Tanga Regional Police Commander Blasius Chatanda said the accident involved a lorry (Scania) with registration number T225 CRN that was carrying maize and a another lorry (Mitsubishi Fuso) with registration number T 689 BEK carrying cement and travelling to Tanga.

Drivers of both lorries-Yusuf Ali, the Fuso driver, and Athumani Mrisho the Scania driver died on the spot.

RPC Chatanda said the names of two people among the three injured could not be established while one of them was seriously injured and taken to Bombo Referral Hospital in Tanga. The other was taken to Muheza District Designated TURN TO PAGE 2 **SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19**

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.



FACT

2

Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Fear and anxiety about COVID-19 can cause people to avoid or reject others even though they are not at risk for spreading the virus.

For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low.

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19.

Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.



FACT There a do to he others t

There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

FACT You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- and symptoms:
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Seek medical advice if you
- Develop symptoms
- AND
- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

cdc.gov/COVID-19

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NATIONAL.NEWS



Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga addresses journalists in Dodoma yesterday on the de-registration of 3,348 cooperative societies and ghost societies. Photo:

Arusha African Court resolves to go online

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Arusha-based African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights is perfectly secluded has resolved to go virtual for pending sessions like all other international institutions.

Judges of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights have just met to discuss the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic on the work of the Arusha-based Court and measures put in place to ensure safety of staff and business continuity of the Court.

The meeting, which was attended by all eleven judges, began with the observance of a minute silence in honour of late Justice Augustino

Court, who passed away on 28 April Benin and Côte d'Ivoire of their Article 2020 in Dar es Salaam and Dr Augustine Mahiga, Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania, who died on 1 May 2020 in Dodoma.

The Court noted with appreciation that the President Justice Sylvain Ore was invited to and did represent the Court at the funeral of late Justice Ramadhani.

The meeting discussed a number of issues, including measures put in place with a view to ensuring that the Court continues to discharge its mandate while giving paramount consideration to the safety of judges, staff and other Court users, the organisation of the

34(6) declarations, which recognised the jurisdiction of the Court to receive cases directly from individuals and NGOs with observer status before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

On the working conditions of staff at the Registry, the Court commended the Registry COVID-19 Task Force led by the Registrar of the Court for the measures put in place to ensure staff safety and business continuity, and urged the Registrar to remain vigilant and not hesitate to take further measures as necessary.

On the organisation of its 57th Ordinary Session, the Court resolved to 57th Ordinary Session of the Court, and hold the session virtually from 1 to 26 Ramadhani, a former President of the the withdrawals by the Republics of June 2020, and instructed the Registrar

to take all necessary measures to ensure the smooth organization and conduct of the session. The Court considered the draft agenda of the session and decided to formally adopt it at the beginning of the session.

On the decision of both Benin and Côte d'Ivoire to withdraw their Article 34(6) Declarations, the Court expressed concern and deeply regretted the action of the two States. It reiterated its commitment to independence, objectivity and loyalty in the discharge of its mandate.

The Court expressed solidarity with the governments and peoples of Africa during this difficult moment and noted that even in the midst of a pandemic, justice and respect for human rights must never be compromised.

Major crops suffer price, trade volume decreases

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minister noted. He underlined that Tanzania has signed trade deals with a number of countries through various platforms such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), World Trade Organization (WTO), EAC Common Market, the European Union, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Asian countries through the Quota Free Duty Free (QFDF) market access for low income developing countries.

Minister Bashungwa said the country's horticultural sector has been seriously affected with sales dropping by 50 percent. The situation has been caused by a decline in demand for the goods abroad as well as a decrease in air travel, he explained.

"KLM has reduced its trips from seven to three per week. This has resulted in farmers incurring losses as the products are perishable and cannot be stored for long periods," he affirmed.

Commodity exports to countries offering special trade deals to Tanzania have continued to improve with more products sold in India, China, Turkey, Japan, European Union (EU) and the United States through AGOA.

The most exported commodities include coffee, cotton, tea, tobacco, textiles, handcrafts, animal skins, fish and horticultural products, he said.

Despite the increase in exports, the industrial sector's contribution to the economy recorded a slight increase to 8.5 percent in 2019 compared to 8.05

percent in 2018, he stated. The country's sales to India increased from \$ 20,547 million in 2015 to \$ 42,421million in 2018, he further noted. Trade volumes between Tanzania and the European Union or specifically Switzerland, Denmark, UK, Netherlands, Sweden and Germany maintained a stable trend, where Tanzania exported goods worth \$ 257,166 million to Switzerland in 2018 compared to \$153,933 million in 2015. Exported goods included flowers and handicraft decorations, coffee, tea. spices, animal oil, cotton, minerals and jewels.

Tanzania imported various goods markets," she told the House.

worth \$ 909.01 million in 2019, a decrease of 10 percent compared to commodities imported in 2018. The goods are marine vessels, oil and gas, medical equipment, paper boards, fittings, gas tubes, mineral/chemical fertilizers, data processing machines and laboratory investigation apparatus.

The government continued with sensitization on industrial construction whereby a total of 8,477 new industries were constructed from 2015 to 2019. Among them 201 are large industries, 460 middle sized and 4,410 small factories.

The ministry's priority for the 2020/2021 financial year includes promotion of industrial economy, revival of defunct factories, promoting investment and establishing new businesses as well as protection of local manufacturers, he stated.

"We will enhance quality control for imported goods and locally manufactured ones and put in place a coordinated market system for produced goods," he affirmed.

Suleiman Sadiq (Mvomero, CCM) the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Industry, Trade and Environment, urged the government to come up with plans for full participation of entrepreneurs in the National Entrepreneurship Development Fund (NEDF).

"Most entrepreneurs are not aware of the benefits of NEDF, so they need to be educated. The government should allocate more money to the fund so that it offers capital loans to small scale entrepreneurs," he said.

The committee emphasized on the need to revive privatized dead factories to create employment. It also suggested that the industries be operated on a joint venture basis.

Contributing, Ileje MP Janeth Mbene (CCM) urged the government to invest more in empowering small scale entrepreneurs as the sector contributes 35 percent to the national income.

"This is one of the crucial sub-sectors. It can help the country's efforts in poverty elimination since it comprises a large group of people. We only need to enhance control of their goods and ensure they have coordinated

medical association

FCS donates PPE to

By Guardian Reporter

THE Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) has donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Medical Association of Tanzania (MAT) to support healthcare workers as an emergency response to the unprecedented needs caused by Covid-19.

The donation of essential protective tools worth 11m/- was handed over yesterday to MAT president Dr Elisha Osati as part of 'FCS campaign launched on April 21, this year.

The campaign which was conducted from 21 April to 5 May 2020, invited stakeholders and the public to donate towards acquiring PPEs (masks, gloves, goggles, gowns, hand sanitizers, soaps and water, cleaning supplies) for healthcare workers who are at the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking during the event in Dar es Salaam yesterday Francis Kiwanga, FCS executive director said health attendants are working under hard and risky circumstances saving lives with passion, and professionalism as doctors, and even risking their lives in order to save and protect the lives of many Tanzanians

"I am pleased to say as a community

we have come together to show our support for healthcare workers who are at the frontline protecting the lives of many Tanzanians. Individuals, private and public have contributed. Collectively we have raised 11m/- which was used to procure the PPEs," he said. He said that as part of communities "we must join the fight against the coronavirus. We are also supporting the government strides in controlling the spread of the coronavirus."

FCS urges the society to continue giving back to the society and private initiatives for the public good, focusing on quality of life" especially in these difficult times. Giving can help make the situation better as well as contribute to solutions of the effects of the pandemic.

Nasim Losai, head of the business development and partnerships explained that 'Giving Tuesday' is a global campaign launched in 2012 by the UN and New York's 92 Street, with the aim to celebrate kindness and generosity of giving to the less fortunate.

He said FCS joined the movement because of its importance to community giving. During the campaign people in communities across the world come together to give back to society.



Foundation for Civil Society executive director Francis Kiwanga (2nd-R) presents to Medical Association of Tanzania president Dr Elisha Osati in Dar es Salaam yesterday various items worth 11m/- for use by health attendants engaged in the war on Covid-19. Photo: Co

11 killed, 2 hurt in highway accidents 'What ails an MP is for families to say'

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when the government has been required to say someone has died from what illness as individuals have their own illnesses that are a secret to them.

"If he decides to divulge his illness that is his own concern and if he dies then he passes away with his secret," she said.

"We shall reach nowhere if the House starts announcing to MPs someone has died from what illness that will never be possible," she declared.

Since the start of the current House session MPs

who have died include Newala Rural MP Rashid Akibar (CCM), Special Seats MP Dr Getrude Rwakatare (CCM). Those who died in the past three years include Korogwe Rural MP Stephen Ngonyani (CCM) and Special Seats MP Dr Elly Macha (Chadema).

Other more recent deaths include that of Dimani MP Hafidh Ally Tahir (CCM), Songea Urban MP Leonidas Gama (CCM), Sumve MP Richard Ngasa (CCM), Buyungu MP Kasuku Bilango (CCM) and then Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Dr Augustine Mahiga.

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Hospital.

However, the RPC said the cause of the accident was reckless driving by the Scania driver as he was trying to overtake a lorry laden with sisal in front of him and slammed into the incoming Fuso.

Chatanda appealed to all

regulations governing road traffic and obey road signs to avoid unnecessary deaths and save the families depending on them.

He said one of the trucks blocked the road and caused traffic congestion of vehicles in both directions of the major road.

Meanwhile, Coast Regional Police Commander Wankyo Nyigesa said that six people died drivers to abide by laws and on Monday night at Vigwaza area

in Chalinze District along the Morogoro Highway after a Toyota Prado with registration number T299 AGE rammed into a parked lorry.

He said a lorry with its trailer was parked on the road side for repairs.

RPC Nyigesa said that those who died include a 6-7 year-oldboy, but their names were yet to be established.

Reckless driving was likely to have brought about the accident, he said.

He said the bodies of the deceased have been preserved at Tumbi Referral Hospital and the injured person was receiving treatment at Mlandizi Health Centre

He also said they are holding the Scania driver for parking his truck without installing precautions.

NATIONAL.NEWS

'Midwives are the backbone of maternal health systems'

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has expressed its commitment to continue supporting midwives on the front lines of the Covid-19 response by providing supplies and personal protective equipment; building the capacity of health systems so as to ensure that delivery of routine services such as maternal and child health care are not impacted by the pandemic.

Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA executive director made the remarks on commemoration of the International Day of the Midwife which is held annually on May 5.

According to her, apart from fighting Covid-19, the organisation will ensure that pregnant and breastfeeding including those under women quarantine get the care they need when they need it.

In a statement, Dr Kanem noted that as the world battles COVID-19, women continue to get pregnant and babies

are still being born. Childbirth doesn't stop for pandemics, and neither do babies and much more. This crisis is midwives. They are working tirelessly on the front line in maternity wards, health centres and women's homes around the world, risking their own lives and wellbeing to save the lives of women and newborns. midwives speak up about preventable

She said that in many countries hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis, midwives maternal deaths and lack of access to are dying due to lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) and overall lack of support. Midwives in many health facilities are being redeployed to respond to the virus, and this leaves women without access to life-saving, time-critical services. Maternal and newborn health must be prioritized as part of the overall health sector response to the pandemic.

"UNFPA applauds the work of all midwives, and we pledge to stand by them, working with national governments to protect midwives from COVID-19," she said. Midwives are the backbone of

"Traditionally, midwives have played

maternal health systems - delivering

an opportunity for all of us to do more

to support midwives' efforts to uphold

the sexual and reproductive health and

In countries where these rights and

choices are questioned or under threat.

family planning. They sound the alarm

on gender-based violence and harmful

practices like female genital mutilation

and child marriage. They drive progress

by women when they are most

vulnerable. They fight daily to defend

a woman's human right to go through

pregnancy and childbirth safely,

even as they themselves often face

discrimination, sexual harassment

and unequal pay. These challenges are

now being exacerbated by the fear and

uncertainty over COVID-19.

She added that midwives stand

towards gender equality.

rights of all women, everywhere.



Health officers from Kishapu and Shinyanga districts attend training in Shinyanga municipality yesterday on how to attend to Covid-19 cases.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

INVASIVE weeds including trees in more than 100 hectares of Kitulo National Park have been removed to restore the Park's natural growth and protect water sources.

This was revealed yesterday by the park's conservation officer Susan Tesha when speaking to this paper on efforts by the Park's management to tackle the issue of invasive weeds in the Park.

She said before the Park was established in 2005 the area was being

Invasive trees removed from 100 ha of Kitulo National Park

another contributed in the destruction trees disappear. of the Park's natural environment.

Susan said Kitulo National Park has unique attraction in the country as it is has attractive flowers and numerous kinds of birds which migrate and return and excellent weather condition.

to improve the natural growth and

She said in these efforts they have been receiving financial assistance from various sources including the Wildlife Conservation Society that has made great contribution, adding that between 2007 and 2017 the She said there are sustainable plans organization was engaged in a special project to eradicate invasive weeds.

He said the 100 hectares whose

invasive weeds have been cut down

represents only 25 per cent of the

a vital role in responding to pandemics. With national health systems in many countries totally overwhelmed, midwives are demonstrating their courage and resilience by continuing to support childbearing women in the toughest of circumstances," She said.

He urged everyone on earth to play a role and take action to recognize

midwives as steadfast champions for the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls.

"We should celebrate the achievements of midwives and their contribution to improving sexual, reproductive, maternal and newborn health. Make them feel proud as frontline health workers responding to

COVID-19," Dr Kanem said.

She futher added; "We should also motivate policymakers to implement change by lobbying for midwives to be recognized as unique professionals and provided with adequate resources. Demand investments in midwifery and honour their contribution to maternal and newborn health."

Guardian

TRUST 5

PUBLIC NOTICE

Diamond Trust Bank Tanzania (DTB) informs the following revised business hours at branches with effect from 11th May 2020. We request all patrons visiting the branches to kindly wear face masks and observe the present social distancing norms.

DTB branches will be open for customer dealings as per details below:

| All DTB branches, except Masaki and Upanga | | | saki branches Salaam) |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Days | Business Hours | Days | Business Hours |
| Monday - Friday | 9:30 am - 3:00 pm | Monday - Friday | 9:30 am - 4:30 pr |
| aturday | 9:30 am - 1:00 pm | Saturday | 9:30 am - 4:30 pr |
| Closed on Sunday & Public Holidays | | Closed on Sunday | & Public Holidays |

The extended working hours and Sunday banking are temporarily withdrawn as a precautionary measure to counter the COVID 19 epidemic. We will intimate the resumption of these special extended working hours at the appropriate time as early as possible.

DTB encourages and invites customer patronage of the alternative banking channels including ATM, Cash deposit Machines, DTB Mobile banking $m(4_{7})$ (Touch 24/7), DTB Internet banking 14 and the more than 160 strong DTB Wakala network across the Country.

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Diamond Trust Bank (T) Limited



used by local residents who planted various trees including eucalyptus and pine for timber and firewood.

She said the area was also being used various activities which in one way or down invasive trees to ensure all such by involving various stakeholders.

increase tourist attractions to make it among the most attractive national parks in the country.

She said the Park's management whole area which has been invaded by by other government institutions for continues with its strategies of cutting the weeds and efforts are still ongoing

'3.6bn/- project for supply of electricity in Manyoni' By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is implementing a 3.6bn/- project for supply of electricity in Manyoni district, Singida region which upon completion will connect at least 16 villages.

This was said in the House vesterday in a written response by the Ministry of Energy to a question from Manyoni West MP, Yahaya Massare (CCM) who had wanted to know when all the villages in the district will be connected to electricity.

The ministry added that the government through Rural Energy Agency (REA) and Tanzania Electric Supply Company(TANESCO) continues to supply electricity in all areas countrywide, including Manyoni.

In main question, the Manyoni East Member of Parliament (MP) demanded to know when the 16 villages that were yet to be connected would get power as per the minister's promise.

"Energy minister conducted a working tour of Manyoni West constituency and promised that all the 16 villages would be connected before the end of December, 2019, but until now the villages are still in total blackout," he said.

However, in the response, the ministry stated that in the 3.6bn/- project, villages that were set to benefit were from Manyoni West Constituency and they include Aghondi, Mabondeni, Muhanga, Ipande, Damwelu, Ipalalvu, Mitundu, Kitaraka, Kazikazi. Others are Kihanju, Tambukareli, Kalangali, Tulieni, Mnazi Mmoja,

Mbugani, Idodyandole, Kintanula, Mwamagembe and Rungwa

"The project will equally involve installation of 33KV of electricity in about 237.8 kilometres, as well as another infrastructure of 0.4KV with about 32 kilometres and installation of 16 transformers that will have 50 and 100 Kilovolts respectively," said the ministry.

Accordingly, the ministry said that at the initial stage upon completion of the project in June next year, about 1,600 customers will be connected to electricity.

"Energy minister conducted a working tour of Manyoni West constituency and promised that all the 16 villages would be connected before the end of December, 2019, but until now the villages are still in total blackout"





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NATIONAL.NEWS

NEMC issues 30day ultimatum to gold processors to register online

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council yesterday gave 30 days to gold processors to register online with the council and get environment impact assessment (EIA) clearance or face legal action.

NEMC Director General Samuel Gwamaka told reporters in Dar es Salaam that miners could register directly with the council headquarters or with NEMC offices in Arusha, Dodoma, Kigoma, Mbeya, Mtwara and Mwanza Regions.

Dr Gwamaka said 30 days were ample time for miners to register conveniently. After that period, he warned, there would be a countrywide inspection and culprits would be punished based on the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2004. "The offenders will either

be fined or taken to court, for violating the law," he cautioned, adding that the council could also order operations of offenders closed.

Dr Gwamaka called upon processor to use consultants recognised by NEMC and appealed to consultants to charge friendly fees to facilitate the entire process.

He said the law demand all projects to have either EIA or environment inspection certificates, explaining that operating projects without either of the two certificates was unlawful.

Dr Gwamaka said gold processing that do not conform to the law had resulted in pollution of water sources, traces of adverse effects to people in areas where gold is unprofessionally processed, animal deaths, general environment pollution and soil erosion



Twaha Mbarouk (L), chairman of an environmental conservation NGO based in Muheza District, sensitises his colleagues yesterday on precautions against the spread of Covid-19 infections, Photo: Correspond

'Govt plans to build offices, residential houses for state attorneys countrywide'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has been called upon to build offices and residential houses for state attorneys throughout the country to save them from operating in rented offices.

The call was made by the Special Seats MP, Restituta Mbogo (CCM) in the National Assembly yesterday, saying the lawyers who represent interest of the state deserve official government

offices and residential houses. She argued that it is not in order that the country. lawyers rent offices in privately owned

houses and live in rented houses. "State attorneys in most regions in

the country have offices in private buildings and houses. What is the government doing to ensure they have offices in government owned buildings?" she asked.

when the government would build (AG) and national public prosecution

residential houses for them throughout

In a written response, the ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs said the government would build offices for state attorneys in all the regions in the country in phases depending on the availability of funds.

The ministry explained that the lawyers are in every region, operating The lawmaker also wanted to know under the office of the Attorney General

"The government is aware of the situation caused

mainly by budget deficit, especially to the offices they operate under forcing them to have offices in other public buildings or private ones," said the ministry.

The ministry further explained that it is the government's plan to improve working conditions for all public servants hence once funds are available it will build offices and residential houses for all the state attorneys in the country.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA

Expansion of Njombe Airport in the pipeline, legislators told

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PLANS are afoot for the expansion of Njombe Airport in order to allow smooth landing of major aircraft that have Bombardier Q400-like qualities, the government said yesterday here.

"The work will include expansion of a runway, an airport road and aircraft parking at tarmac level, construction of a new passengers building as well as fire brigade centre," said the ministry of Works, Transport and Communications in a written response to a question posed by Special Seats MP, Lucia Mlowe (Chadema).

In her question, the lawmaker said that Njombe Airport was constructed near residential areas, costing people huge penalties in an event they were found crossing over the airport.

"What are the government plans to relocate the airport so that this area can be used for other activities that are not

match required international standards therefore we do not intend to relocate it from where it is as we believe that after the expansion there will be no further problems to the area residents.

Njombe Airport like other many airports in the country was constructed in 1940 during the colonial era. It became operational in 1945, and as per the international aviation legislations it is strictly prohibited for any person, vehicles and animals, among others to enter into the area without prior permission.

According to the ministry, basing on the fact that area residents are still carrying out their activities including crossing the fence contrary to the law, various legal measures are being taken against them.



HALMASHAURI YA JIJI LA DODOMA





TANGAZO LA UUZAJI WA VIWANJA

Mkurugenzi wa Halmashauri ya Jiji la Dodoma anawatangazia Wananchi wote kuwa kutakuwa na zoezi uuzaji wa Viwanja kuanzia TAREHE 25/04/2020 katika eneo la wazi Manispaa ya zamani (karibu na Sabasaba) kuanzia saa 2:00 Asubuhi hadi saa 9:30 Alasiri.

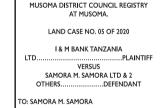
Viwanja vinavyouzwa ni katika maeneo ya:

| ENEO | MATUMIZI NA BEI TSHS |
|--|------------------------------|
| ENEO | KWA (SQM1) |
| Iyumbu New Town Centre, karibu na UDOM na mradi | Apartment 7,500/= |
| wa Watumishi Housing | • Biashara 10,000/= |
| Njedengwa Investment Centre, Karibu na Mradi wa | Apartment 13,070/= |
| Nyumba 300 wa Kisasa | • Biashara 18,876/= |
| Nala Industrial Area, Karibu na Kituo cha Malori | • Viwanda 5,000/= |
| Medeli Extension, Karibu na Jengo la Hazina na Benki | • Hotel 80,000/= |
| Кии | • Taasisi 40,000/= |
| Mtumba (Karibu na Mji wa Serikali na Ikulu) | ZONE II Makazi 6,000/= |
| | • Makazi na Biashara 7,500/= |
| Nala, Karibu na Chuo cha IFM | • Makazi 2,500/= |
| Mahomanyika, KM 2 kutoka unapojengwa Uwanja Mpya | • Makazi 5,000/= |
| wa Ndege | |
| Mapinduzi, Karibu na Kituo cha SGR | • Makazi 6,500/= |
| Kitelela, Karibu na Unapojengwa Uwanja wa Ndege | • Makazi 5,000 |
| Мруа | • Makazi na Biashara 6,000/= |
| Ihumwa, Karibu na Itakapojengwa Bandari Kavu | • Makazi 6,000/= |
| | • Makazi na Biashara 6,500/= |
| Chahwa, Karibu na Ikulu | • Makazi 3,000/= |

NB: Malipo yote yafanyike ndani ya Siku 90 baada ya kupata hati ya madai.

Kwa mawasiliano zaidi piga simu namba 0714 785513.

Tangazo hili limetolewa na: Mkurugenzi wa Jiji, DODOMA



NOTICE OF DATE OF HEARING

TAKE NOTICE that the above case has been fixed fo Hearing on 8th day of May, 2020 at 09:00 am before Hon E.S KISANYA, Judge. YOU ARE required to appear in this Court on the ixed date without fail Given under my Hand and the seal of the Court thi



IN THE HIGH COURTS OF TANZANIA

LTD.

OTHERS..

MUSOMA DISTRICT COUNCIL REGISTRY AT MUSOMA LAND CASE NO. 05 OF 2020 I & M BANK TANZANIA ...PLAINTIFF SAMORA M. SAMORA LTD & 2

O: SAMORA M. SAMORA LIMITED NOTICE OF DATE OF HEARING AKE NOTICE that the above case has been fixed fo learing on 8th day of May,2020 at 09:00 am befor Ion E.S KISANYA , Judge. YOU ARE required to appear in this Court on the xed date without fail Given under my Hand and the seal of the Court this 20th day of April 2020.



I & M BANK TANZANIA VERSUS SAMORA M. SAMORA LTD & 2 ...DEFENDANT OTHERS.. : MARIAM M. SAMORA NOTICE OF DATE OF HEARING TAKE NOTICE that the above case has been fixed for Hearing on 8th day of May, 2020 at 09:00 am befor Hon E.S KISANYA, Judge. YOU ARE required to appear in this Court on the ed date without fail.

iven under my Hand and the seal of the Court thi th day of April 2020

:1571600

affecting area residents?" she asked.

In the response, the ministry said during the activities to expand the Njombe Airport, the government would equally involve the construction of a road towards the facility and building the fence that will block people from entering the airport.

"The government is looking for possible funding for this airport to be expanded to

government plans to relocate the airport so that this area can be used for other activities that are not affecting area residents?

Open Fishermen's Account, ministry advises TPB Bank

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Livestock and Fisheries ministry has appealed to the Tanzania Postal Bank (TPB) to open 'Fishermen Account', specifically for loans and insurance services to fishermen in the country, the House heard vesterday.

The banking window, according to the government will empower small fishermen in the country access loans from financial institutions to enable them buy the needed fishing equipment.

The statement was made by the ministry in written response to a question Mpanda Rural MP, Moshi Kasoko bv (CCM) who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help fishermen in Lake Tanganyika who do not have modern fishing equipment.

He argued that fishermen in the lake find it difficult to operate in the deep lake due to lack of modern fishing gear, asking if the government was ready to help them by providing the needful tools.

"Lake Tanganyika is one of the deepest lakes in the country and entire continent and fishermen fail to effectively catch fish in the lake due to lack of proper tools. Does the government have plans to help them acquire the equipment?" he asked.

In response the ministry explained that the government was determined to improve fishing in the country since it is a source of income, nutrition and food for many people and also contribute greatly to

the national ccoffers.

The ministry explained that the government has enabled groups of fishermen access loans through the agriculture window at the TIB Bank.

Other efforts include support through the private sector desk at the ministry where they have been connected with various financial institutions in the country.

It is through this approach, that according to the government about 2.6bn/- was approved for loans to fishermen but only 323.8m/- was disbursed.

The ministry named other efforts as removal of value added tax (VAT) on fishing boat engines, fishing nets and other related equipment since 2014 in order to allow fishermen purchase them at affordable prices.

On the same note, the government appealed to fishermen to form cooperative societies as well as savings and cooperative societies (SACCOS) for easy access of financial assistance.

The government has appealed to private sector players to help establish industries that produce fishing equipment in order for local fishermen to get the tools easily.

"Lake Tanganyika is one of the deepest lakes in the country and entire continent and fishermen fail to effectively catch fish in the lake due to lack of proper tools. Does the government have plans to help them acquire the equipment?"



Over 500 startups compete in the Vodacom Digital Accelerator as Smart Lab and Vodacom Tanzania Plc select top 15 startups to enter the 2nd phase.

6th May 2020 - Dar es Salaam: Smart Lab and Vodacom Tanzania Plc have chosen its first batch of technology start-ups for its Vodacom Digital Accelerator program, with specializations ranging from fintech, health, e-commerce, media, education, agriculture, and telecom.

The selected companies will go through a three-month program that includes mentoring from experienced Vodacom staff, Smart Codes staff, and other professional mentors. Startups will also receive technology and creative support to launch and grow their startups from Smart Lab - which is a top tech and media company in Africa. After 3 months of building during the accelerator, startups will enter a validation phase for another 3 months where they will get marketing strategy and support, business connection, partnership, and funding.

Tanzania's largest telco launched the Vodacom Digital Accelerator last year in partnership with the top startup accelerator and innovation lab, Smart Lab with the mission to support local tech entrepreneurs and create more startup success stories from the Tanzania ecosystem.

Vodacom Tanzania Plc has invested \$150,000 to support startups in the Vodacom Digital Accelerator program in the first year of its operation.

Almost 500 startups from 18 regions in Tanzania applied for the Vodacom Digital Accelerator program which shows the appetite for corporate-startup partnerships of which Smart Lab has been an advocate and pioneer. Of these, the Education sector accounted for 16.3% of applications, E-commerce 15.4%, Agriculture 15.0%, Fintech 10.4%, Health 10.4%, Media 7.9%, Telecom 6.7%, and Others such as Transport, Energy, and Environment totaled 18.4%.

The selected startups:

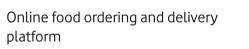


SmartClass (Education)

An online platform that matches very qualified and certified tutors/experts to learners in remote areas who want to learn basic skills.



Foodsasa (Education)





BongoVocha (E-commerce)

Coupon/discount platform for retailers and other businesses who want to attract customers through promotions and also get analytics/insights.

MyHi by Innovasie Ltd (Health)

Mobile app that enables seamless access to purchasing and accessing health insurance services for people with smart phones.

Mobile app for smart waste collection

that provides rewards-for-recycling to

low-income communities to capture

help and incentivize people in

value from their waste.



Study Buddy (Education)

Convenient e-learning resource platform for working professionals who are pursuing their professional qualifications despite their busy schedules.

Cargo Fleet by Amora (Transport & logistics)

App that connects truck & van owners to people who need their loads delivered.

(asome International (Education)

TakaCycle (Environment)

Ninsiima eDispensary (Health)

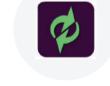


Online platform providing a comprehensive video library of tutorials covering the secondary school curriculum, using the best recognized teachers in Tanzania.



Hashtag Pools (E-commerce)

App that allows buyers of the same product or service to purchase in bulk so that they can all mutually enjoy maximum price discounts.



Ecoshilling by Hype (Environment)

Payment collection platform for waste management companies.

Belltro

CarGO

A mobile/web app and telegram bot for patients to book clinical officers for home visits.

Belltro (Data analytics)

Tech company creating data driven products and data strategies to help organizations get better insights of their businesses and provide better customer experience.

Kisomo by Smartcore (Education)



Online platform for creation and distribution of digital learning materials which cover the local curricula and reflect the actual local learning environment.

We wish them all the best as they enter into the 2nd round of selection.

The future is exciting

End

For more information about the Vodacom Digital Accelerator visit vodacomaccelerator.co.tz





Spot (E-commerce) Events discovery platform. \infty wakala

Wakala Search (Fintech)

An app that links mobile money users to reliable mobile money agents.

About Vodacom:

Vodacom Tanzania PLC is the leading mobile communication service provider with the fastest data network in the country. We provide communication services to over 14 million subscribers. Vodacom Tanzania and its subsidiary companies are part of the Vodacom Group registered in South Africa which is in turn owned by Vodacom Group Plc of the United Kingdom. It has been registered in the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) with registration number ISIN:TZ1886102715 Stock name: VODA.

For further information please visit our website: **www.vodacom.co.tz**



ADVERTISEMENT



REF: PPR/2020 - 05/1

PUBLIC NOTICE ON CAP PRICES FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, 6th MAY 2020

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) hereby publishes Cap Prices for petroleum products, applicable in Tanzania Mainland. These retail and wholesale prices are applicable effective *Wednesday, 6th May 2020.* Hereinafter, kindly take note of the following:

- (a) Retail and wholesale prices for Petrol, Diesel and Kerosene imported in the country through Dar es Salaam port have decreased compared to prices published on 1st April 2020. For the month of May 2020, retail prices of Petrol, Diesel and Kerosene decreased by TZS 219/litre (equivalent to 10.50%), TZS 143/litre (equivalent to 7.17%), and TZS 355/litre (equivalent to 18.47%), respectively. Similarly, compared to the publication of last month, wholesale prices of Petrol, Diesel and Kerosene decreased by TZS 218.59/litre (equivalent to 11.14%), TZS 142.25/litre (equivalent to 7.63%) and TZS 354.09/litre (equivalent to 19.69%), respectively.
- (b) Likewise, retail and wholesale prices for Petrol and Diesel imported in the country through Tanga port have decreased compared to prices published on 1st April 2020. For the month of May 2020, retail prices of Petrol and Diesel in the Northern regions (Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara) have decreased by TZS 463/litre (equivalent to 21.88%), and TZS 377/litre (equivalent to 18.21%), respectively. Similarly, compared to the publication of last month, wholesale prices of Petrol and Diesel have decreased by TZS 461.82/litre (equivalent to 23.19%), TZS and TZS 375.82/litre (equivalent to 19.33%), respectively. Kerosene prices in the Northern regions shall remain to be as published on 1st April 2020 because there was no new consignment of Kerosene received through Tanga port in the month of April 2020.
- (c) For the month of May 2020, retail and wholesale prices of Diesel product in the Southern regions (i.e Mtwara, Lindi and Ruvuma) shall continue to be the same as those that were published on 1st April 2020, because there was no new consignment of Diesel which was received through Mtwara port in the month of April 2020. However, retail and wholesale prices of Petrol for the month of May 2020 have decreased by TZS 129 (equivalent to 5.67%) and TZS 128.14 (equivalent to 5.99%) respectively, compared to the prices that were published on 1st April 2020. Furthermore, since there is no Kerosene at Mtwara storage terminals, Petrol Station Operators in Mtwara, Lindi and Ruvuma regions are advised to source the product from Dar es Salaam and therefore, the retail prices of Kerosene for those regions is based on the cost of the product received through Dar es Salaam port and bridging cost to the regions.
- (d) These changes in local prices are mainly attributed to changes in the world oil market prices and BPS premiums as shown in Table C and Table D.
- (e) EWURA would like to remind the public that these cap prices can be accessed through mobile phones by dialling *152*00# and then following the provided instructions. This service is free of charge and is available in all mobile phone service providers in the country.
- (f) In line with the prevailing sector legislation (Petroleum Act, 2015, section 166), prices of petroleum products are governed by rules of demand and supply. EWURA shall continue to encourage competition in the sector by making available petroleum products pricing information including cap prices. This information on prices is intended to enable stakeholders make informed decisions on petroleum prices at any particular time.
- (g) Oil Marketing Companies are free to sell their products at a price that gives them a competitive advantage provided that, such price does not exceed the price cap for the relevant product as it is computed using the approved formula, which was gazetted through the Government Notice No. 74 published on 7th February 2020.
- (h) All petrol stations are required to publish petroleum product prices on clearly visible boards. The price boards should clearly show prices charged, discounts offered as well as any trade incentives or promotions on offer. Consumers are encouraged to

SERVICE LEVY PAYABLE BY PETROL STATION OPERATORS

| Town | Petrol TZS/Litre | Diesel TZS/Litre | Kerosene TZS/Litre |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Dar es Salaam | 4.45 | 4.76 | 3.29 |
| Arusha Arumeru (Usa River) | 3.99 | 4.47 | 4.73 |
| Karatu | 4.04 | 4.47 | 4.73 |
| Longido | 4.04 | 4.51 | 4.76 |
| Monduli | 4.00 | 4.49 | 4.74 |
| Monduli-Makuyuni | 4.02 | 4.50 | 4.76 |
| Ngorongoro (Loliondo) | 4.24 | 4.73 | 4.98 |
| Coast (Kibaha) | 4.47 | 4.77 | 3.31 |
| Bagamoyo | 4.48 | 4.79 | 3.33 |
| Bagamoyo (Miono) | 4.58 | 4.88 | 3.42 |
| Chalinze Junction | 4.49 | 4.80 | 3.33 |
| Chalinze Township (Msata) | 4.51 | 4.81 | 3.35 |
| Kibiti | 4.51 | 4.82 | 3.35 |
| Kisarawe | 4.47 | 4.78 | 3.31 |
| Mkuranga | 4.48 | 4.79 | 3.32 |
| Rufiji | 4.53 | 4.84 | 3.37 |
| Dodoma | 4.63 | 4.93 | 3.47 |
| Bahi | 4.65 | 4.96 | 3.49 |
| Chamwino | 4.61 | 4.92 | 3.45 |
| Chemba Kondoa | 4.71 | 5.01 | 3.55 |
| | 4.73 | 4.92 | 3.57 |
| Kongwa | 4.62 | 4.92 | 3.46 |
| Mpwapwa Mtera (Makatopora) | 4.63 | 4.94 | 3.47 |
| Geita | 4.68 | 5.25 | 3.53 |
| Bukombe | 4.95 | 5.25 | 3.79 |
| Chato | 5.01 | 5.32 | 3.85 |
| Mbogwe | 5.06 | 5.37 | 3.90 |
| Nyang'hwale | 4.99 | 5.30 | 3.83 |
| Iringa | 4.64 | 4.95 | 3.48 |
| Ismani | 4.66 | 4.95 | 3.50 |
| Kilolo | 4.66 | 4.96 | 3.50 |
| Mufindi (Mafinga) | 4.67 | 4.98 | 3.51 |
| Kagera (Bukoba) | 5.10 | 5.40 | 3.94 |
| Biharamulo | 5.02 | 5.33 | 3.86 |
| Karagwe (Kayanga) | 5.15 | 5.45 | 3.99 |
| Kyerwa (Ruberwa) | 5.16 | 5.47 | 4.01 |
| Muleba | 5.10 | 5.40 | 3.94 |
| Ngara | 5.06 | 5.37 | 3.90 |
| Misenyi | 5.12 | 5.43 | 3.96 |
| Katavi (Mpanda) | 5.08 | 5.38 | 3.92 |
| Mlele (Inyonga) | 5.13 | 5.44 | 3.97 |
| Mpimbwe (Majimoto) | 5.05 | 5.36 | 3.90 |
| Tanganyika (Ikola) | 5.13 | 5.43 | 3.97 |
| Kigoma | 5.15 | 5.45 | 3.99 |
| Uvinza (Lugufu) | 5.18 | 5.49 | 4.02 |
| Buhigwe | 5.11 | 5.42 | 3.95 |
| Kakonko | 5.02 | 5.32 | 3.86 |
| Kasulu | 5.10 | 5.41 | 3.94 |
| Kibondo | 5.04 | 5.34 | 3.88 |
| Kilimanjaro (Moshi) | 3.95 | 4.44 | 4.70 |
| Hai (Bomang'ombe) | 3.96 | 4.45 | 4.71 |
| Mwanga | 3.93 | 4.42 | 4.68 |
| Rombo (Mkuu) | 4.00 | 4.49 | 4.75 |
| Same | 3.91 | 4.40 | 4.65 |
| Siha (Sanya Juu) | 3.97 | 4.46 | 4.72 |
| Lindi Lindi Mama | 5.30 | 5.81 | 3.47 |
| Lindi-Mtama | 5.32 | 5.82 | 3.52 |
| Kilwa Masoko | 5.37 | 5.88 | 3.39 |
| Liwale Nachingwea | 5.41 | 5.91 | 3.53 |
| Nachingwea Ruangwa | 5.38 | 5.87 | 3.56 |
| Ruangwa Manyara (Babati) | 4.09 | 4.58 | 4.83 |
| Hanang (Katesh) | 4.09 | 4.58 | 4.85 |
| Kiteto (Kibaya) | 4.12 | 4.61 | 4.88 |
| Mbulu | 4.13 | 4.62 | 4.80 |
| Simanjiro (Orkasumet) | 4.13 | 4.67 | 4.87 |
| Mara (Musoma) | 4.18 | 5.29 | 3.83 |
| Musoma Vijijini (Busekela) | 5.11 | 5.42 | 3.95 |
| Rorya (Ingirijuu) | 5.01 | 5.32 | 3.85 |
| Rorya (Shirati) | 5.12 | 5.42 | 3.96 |
| Bunda | 4.96 | 5.27 | 3.80 |
| Bunda (Kisorya) | 4.99 | 5.30 | 3.83 |
| Butiama | 4.98 | 5.28 | 3.82 |
| Serengeti (Mugumu) | 5.12 | 5.43 | 3.97 |
| Tarime | 5.02 | 5.33 | 3.86 |
| Tarime (Kewanja/Nyamongo) | 5.03 | 5.34 | 3.87 |
| Mbeya | 4.77 | 5.08 | 3.61 |
| Chunya | 4.80 | 5.11 | 3.64 |
| Chunya (Makongolosi) | 4.84 | 5.15 | 3.68 |
| Kyela | 4.82 | 5.13 | 3.66 |
| Mbarali (Rujewa) | 4.73 | 5.03 | 3.57 |
| Rungwe (Tukuyu) | 4.80 | 5.11 | 3.64 |
| Morogoro | 4.53 | 4.83 | 3.37 |
| Mikumi | 4.57 | 4.88 | 3.41 |
| Kilombero (Ifakara) | 4.64 | 4.95 | 3.48 |
| Kilombero (Mlimba) | 4.71 | 5.01 | 3.55 |
| | | 4.98 | 3.52 |

| Ulanga (Mahenge) | 4.67 | 4.98 | 3.51 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Malinyi | 4.70 | 5.01 | 3.54 |
| Kilosa | 4.58 | 4.89 | 3.42 |
| Gairo | 4.58 | 4.89 | 3.42 |
| Mvomero (Wami Sokoine) | 4.56 | 4.86 | 3.40 |
| Mvomero (Sanga Sanga) | 4.53 | 4.83 | 3.37 |
| Turian | 4.60 | 4.91 | 3.44 |
| Mtwara | 5.26 | 5.77 | 3.51 |
| Nanyumbu (Mangaka) | 5.37 | 5.87 | 3.66 |
| Masasi | 5.31 | 5.81 | 3.59 |
| Newala | 5.33 | 5.83 | 3.61 |
| Tandahimba | 5.30 | 5.81 | 3.58 |
| Nanyamba | 5.30 | 5.81 | 3.58 |
| Mwanza | 4.90 | 5.21 | 3.74 |
| Kwimba | 4.96 | 5.26 | 3.80 |
| Magu Migun guyi | 4.93 | 5.23 | 3.77 |
| Misungwi Sengerema | 5.00 | 5.19 | 3.73 |
| Ukerewe | 5.08 | 5.39 | 3.84 |
| Njombe | 4.73 | 5.03 | 3.57 |
| Njombe (Kidegembye) | 4.73 | 5.10 | 3.63 |
| Ludewa | 4.79 | 5.15 | 3.68 |
| Makambako | 4.71 | 5.01 | 3.55 |
| Makete | 4.82 | 5.13 | 3.66 |
| Wanging'ombe (Igwachanya) | 4.72 | 5.03 | 3.56 |
| Rukwa (Sumbawanga) | 4.97 | 5.28 | 3.81 |
| Sumbawanga Rural (Mtowisa) | 4.97 | 5.28 | 3.81 |
| Kalambo (Matai) | 4.99 | 5.30 | 3.83 |
| Nkasi (Namanyele) | 5.01 | 5.32 | 3.85 |
| Ruvuma (Songea) | 5.52 | 6.02 | 3.66 |
| Mbinga | 5.56 | 6.06 | 3.76 |
| Namtumbo | 5.49 | 5.99 | 3.75 |
| Nyasa (Mbamba Bay) | 5.63 | 6.14 | 3.79 |
| Tunduru | 5.41 | 5.92 | 3.84 |
| Shinyanga | 4.84 | 5.14 | 3.68 |
| Kahama | 4.88 | 5.18 | 3.72 |
| Kishapu | 4.92 | 5.23 | 3.76 |
| Ushetu (Nyamilangano) | 4.93 | 5.24 | 3.77 |
| Simiyu (Bariadi) | 4.96 | 5.27 | 3.80 |
| Busega (Nyashimo) | 4.94 | 5.25 | 3.78 |
| Itilima (Lagangabilili) Maswa | 4.97 | 5.28 | 3.81 |
| Maswa Meatu (Mwanhuzi) | 4.94 | 5.24 | 3.78 |
| Singida | 4.90 | 5.03 | 3.56 |
| Iramba | 4.72 | 5.07 | 3.60 |
| Manyoni | 4.78 | 4.98 | 3.52 |
| Ikungi | 4.00 | 5.02 | 3.52 |
| Mkalama (Nduguti) | 4.80 | 5.10 | 3.64 |
| Songwe (Vwawa) | 4.80 | 5.11 | 3.64 |
| Songwe (Mkwajuni) | 4.82 | 5.13 | 3.66 |
| Ileje | 4.81 | 5.12 | 3.65 |
| Momba (Chitete) | 4.83 | 5.13 | 3.67 |
| Tunduma | 4.81 | 5.12 | 3.65 |
| Tabora | 4.91 | 5.22 | 3.76 |
| Igunga | 4.78 | 5.08 | 3.62 |
| Kaliua | 4.97 | 5.28 | 3.81 |
| Ulyankulu | 4.95 | 5.26 | 3.79 |
| Nzega | 4.81 | 5.11 | 3.65 |
| Sikonge | 4.95 | 5.26 | 3.79 |
| Urambo | 4.95 | 5.26 | 3.79 |
| Uyui | 4.92 | 5.22 | 3.76 |
| Tanga | 3.82 | 4.30 | 4.56 |
| Handeni | 3.88 | 4.37 | 4.62 |
| Kilindi | 3.92 | 4.41 | 4.66 |
| Korogwe | 3.85 | 4.34 | 4.59 |
| Lushoto | 3.88 | 4.37 | 4.62 |
| Mkinga (Maramba) | 3.84 | 4.33 | 4.58 |
| Muheza | 3.83 | 4.32 | 4.57 |

purchase from stations that sell products at the most competitive prices and offer better services. It is an offence not to have prices published on boards located in clearly visible places in front of petrol stations. Failure to adhere to this directive will attract punitive measures from EWURA.

(i) Retailers must issue receipts printed from an Electronic Fiscal Pump Printer (EFPP) with respect to all sales that they make. In addition, consumers are required to demand and keep those receipts that clearly show the name of petrol station, date on which such purchase was made as well as, the type of petroleum product (fuel) and price per litre for every purchase they make. This can be used as an exhibit in case of a complaint lodged in the event that the selling price is above the cap price or in case the approved specifications and provide an assurance that appropriate government taxes on sales of petroleum products are fully accounted for recovery from the Retailers.

TABLE B: WHOLESALE PRICES

| | Petrol (TZS/Lt) | Diesel (TZS/Lt) | Kerosene (TZS/Lt) |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| DAR ES SALAAM | 1,743.36 | 1,721.06 | 1,444.08 |
| TANGA | 1,529.75 | 1,568.28 | 1,862.19 |
| MTWARA | 2,012.68 | 2,056.15 | - |

TABLE C: CAUSES FOR CHANGES IN LOCAL PRICES FOR PRODUCTS

| Port | Description | Petrol | Diesel | Kerosene |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| DAR ES SALAAM | World Oil Market Prices | Decrease by US\$/MT 132.479 | Decrease by US\$/MT 72.490 | Decrease by US\$/MT 193.563 |
| SALAAM | BPS premiums | Decrease by US\$/MT 4.418 | Decrease by US\$/MT 2.656 | Increase by US\$/MT 1.750 |
| TANGA | World Oil Market Prices | Decrease by US\$/MT 244.407 | Decrease by US\$/MT 189.768 | N/A |
| | BPS premiums | Decrease by US\$/MT 24.06 | Decrease by US\$/MT 6.060 | N/A |
| MTWARA | World Oil Market Prices | Decrease by US\$/MT 48.275 | N/A | N/A |
| | BPS premiums | Decrease by US\$/MT 14.770 | N/A | N/A |

TABLE D: PRODUCT WORLD OIL MARKET REFERENCE PRICES

| | Product | Product received in: | Current FOB price is for the month of: | Previous FOB price is for the month of: |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------|--|---|
| | Petrol | April 2020 | March 2020 | February 2020 |
| DAR ES SALAAM | Diesel | April 2020 | March 2020 | February 2020 |
| | Kerosene | April 2020 | March 2020 | February 2020 |
| | Petrol | March 2020 | February 2020 | November 2019 |
| TANGA | Diesel | March 2020 | February 2020 | November 2019 |
| | Kerosene | March 2020 | February 2020 | June 2019 |
| | Petrol | April 2020 | March 2020 | January 2020 |
| MTWARA | Diesel | February 2020 | January 2020 | November 2019 |
| | Kerosene | N/A | N/A | N/A |

SERVICE LEVIES PAYABLE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES

SERVICE LEVY PAYABLE BY OIL MARKETING COMPANIES

| Town | Petrol TZS/Litre | Diesel TZS/Litre | Kerosene TZS/Litre |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Dar es Salaam | 4.08 | 4.38 | 2.92 |
| Tanga | 3.44 | 3.93 | 4.18 |
| Mtwara | 4.89 | 5.39 | |

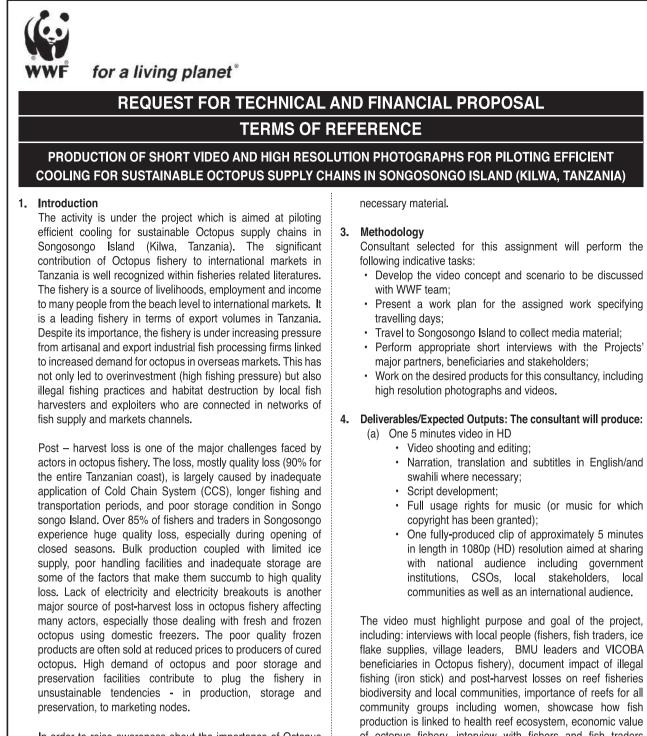
Eng. Godfrey E. Chibulunje

ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL

ADVERTISEMENTS

Güardian

7



In order to raise awareness about the importance of Octopus fishery to various audience, their key drivers of change, challenges and opportunities in production, storage, marketing and distribution of this important fishery, WWF Tanzania is seeking for a communication consultant to assist the project by developing media material. Specific communication deliverables are listed in the sections below.

2. Objective of the Consultancy

(d)

5. 7

7.

The overall objective of this consultancy is to produce media material including a short video and high resolution photographs showing the situation before and after the installation for the cooling plant that can be used in various communications and awareness platforms. This will involve travelling to Songosongo Island in Kilwa District, to collect the

- Consultant selected for this assignment will perform the
- · Develop the video concept and scenario to be discussed

- Narration, translation and subtitles in English/and
- · Full usage rights for music (or music for which
- in length in 1080p (HD) resolution aimed at sharing with national audience including government institutions, CSOs, local stakeholders, local communities as well as an international audience.

including: interviews with local people (fishers, fish traders, ice flake supplies, village leaders, BMU leaders and VICOBA beneficiaries in Octopus fishery), document impact of illegal fishing (iron stick) and post-harvest losses on reef fisheries biodiversity and local communities, importance of reefs for all community groups including women, showcase how fish production is linked to health reef ecosystem, economic value of octopus fishery, interview with fishers and fish traders working on Songosongo Island talking about how the project has benefited them including capacity building on value addition, Value Chain Analysis research for local and international market, as well as private sector activities in buying fish (Tanpesca), supplying tape water (TPDC and Songas) and electricity (TPDC) on the Island. The video must showcase success stories, lessons learnt and challenges before and after the installation of ice producing plant/machine in September 2020.

- (b) High resolution photographs (with at least forty-five (45) high resolution photographs) At least 45 high quality and high resolution, edited and
- captioned pictures delivered on CD and flash. Photographs should include:

• Aerial view of the Island with and without coastal development (including areas Seascape affected by erosion e.g. rocky small islands, and tourist hotel(s) such as Fanjove. Underwater photographs of coral reefs and fishes (if possible);

Q WWF for a living planet°

Filming of the Great Ruaha Catchment Conservation Successes and Lessons learnt

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

The strategic support from WWF Sweden and WWF Germany project, which started in 2017. The project aims at keeping Freshwater Programme continuing its linkage and liaison with various stakeholders, supporting coordination and cooperation with other projects, strengthening and keeping in touch with stakeholders at the ground like Water Users Associations (WUA) and other institutions specifically for the Great Ruaha Catchment areas, while continue fundraising.

Specific objectives of the project is not limited to improve understanding of water availability in the Great Ruaha River catchment, initial piloting of the citizen science i.e. WUAs and Gauge Readers in hydrological data collection (e.g. using the discharge app) and development of basin scorecard to understand the water quality for the wider sharing.

As part of understanding the water availability and continue fundraising the project aspires to document the success and lessons learnt of the previous WWF interventions and the general water related issues of the Great Ruaha Catchment in Iringa and Mbeya regions.

2. PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The main objective of the assignment is to document achievements, success stories and lessons learnt in the Ruaha Water Programme at Great Ruaha Catchment. The documentary (with longer and shorter documentaries plus explainer video) will showcase the successful interventions on the beneficiaries across the modules as told by the beneficiaries and the project staff in the Great Ruaha Catchment projects. The outputs from the case studies shall highlight the achievements registered by WWF during the last six years of operation. The outputs will be shared with various target groups that include stakeholders, current donors and potential donors to showcase the impact of the organization implementation and to mobilize more resources to fund its ever-growing challenges and threats under the Great Ruaha Catchment. The assignment is to demonstrate project success and impact through a five -minute video.

3. METHODOLOGY

The documentaries will be based on relevant information from the authorities, relevant stakeholders and communities at the ground.

The consultant(s) will be expected to travel to areas/districts of; Mbarali, Mafinga, Iringa rural and Urban where the programme is being implemented. Different stakeholders will be interviewed. These will include but not limited to community members, beneficiaries of the project, WWF staff, Rufiji Basin Water Board (RBWB) and other pertinent stakeholders.

4. OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

The consultant(s) selected to undertake this project will be expected to deliver the following;

- i. A 15-minute video documentary showing the success stories and failures on the WWF across the modules.
- ii. A 5-minute shorter version of the documentary
- iii. A 5-minute explainer video version illustrating the success and lessons
- iv. 4 * 1 minute teasers on pre identified modules
- v. 100 still pictures in soft copy
- vi. Infograph

5. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL AND FINANCIAL PROPOSAL Technical Proposal

Based upon the scope of the assignment, the Bidder is expected to submit along with the technical proposal, describing the type of promotional document (storyline) it would produce if awarded the contract. Bidders should demonstrate professional competency in their tender submissions. Bidders must be able to demonstrate their capability to produce work of the highest quality through the submission of at least three references from their present clients.

| Cutting and deforestation of natural forests | (both by human activity a | as with healthy and areas with destroyed natural forest and natural causes); construction materials for boats and ne), fuel wood and cooking fuel. | The Technical Proposal should clearly and specifically cover but not necessarily be limited to the following criterions and percentages marks in bracket. |
|---|--|---|--|
| Local communities | (fishing, collecting seafc for construction and;Maritime transportation transportation, other pro | cal communities showing how they use the ocean resource od, processing, preservation and harvesting dead corals (large and small boats used for fishing, seafood ducts transportation and passengers boats); | Interpretation of the Terms of Reference: Demonstrations of the understanding of the work to be done, a proposed work approach and methodology (15% marks) Creativity: A proposed design and production approach demonstrating innovation and ingenuity (30% Marks) Capacity: Copies of CVs for the key staff for the proposal should be attached to the application (15% Marks) |
| Wildlife | If possible, underwater ph • Wildlife around island eco | otos showing reef fisheries; system: birds, reptiles, fish, molluscs etc | A detailed work plan, which must include clear timetable/ schedule of the work activities that will be performed (20% Marks) Samples: quality of samples of past work (20% Marks) |
| during the trip to the Songosong should be linked to the script of the A detailed report on all photograph including names and contact deta that will appear on film. The repustatements by community membe in reports and fact sheets. 5. Timing and Location This consultancy will entail up travelling (at the beginning and to 7 days of editing and reporting, begwith WWF-Tanzania Country Offic be covered by WWF TCO. Timing: June – 30th Sept 202 installation of ice producing machi Location: The consultant will have 1 is being executed and WWF TCO will provide logistical su accommodation and introduction field staff and Kilwa and M and E such as arranging meetings with C and community members. Fligibility/Qualification of Consultant (s) should have: Exceptional photography skill Excellent photo and video edi Previous experience in documentaries; Experience working in remote region, experience working in remote region, experience working in Proven ability to travel immediate Swahili skills will be an advan | ay and filming locations (GPS points), ils of all individuals photographed or ort must include at least 5 powerful rs and other stakeholders to be used to 14 days of field work including wards the end of filming in Sept) and ginning upon the signature of contract te. All travel and accommodation will 20 (to cover before and after the ne) o travel to the Island, where the project ill facilitate travelling to field site. Upport including arranging flights, to the island stakeholders. WWF in will provide some local assistance Governmental representatives, CSOs Jitants 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 5; 7; 7; 7; 7; 7; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; 9; | produces while executing this contract. The consultant may not use, reproduce or disseminate such works without prior consent from the WWF-TCO. All materials collected will be property of WWF TCO and submitted in proper storage device. 3.0% after delivery of work plan, shooting schedule and scripts for the two periods (before and after the installation of ice producing machine). 2.5% after delivery of 20 high resolution photographs and 1 written story before the installation of ice producing machine; and 4.5% after delivery of 20 high resolution photographs and 1 short video/documentary and 1 written impact story (after installation of ice producing machine) and 1 short video/documentary and 1 written impact story (after installation of ice producing machine) and project report. 10. Applications All applicants must meet the minimum requirements described above. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Each application should include the following: Cover letter with the applicant's current contact information including how the candidate's previous experience matches the consultancy objectives as well as their interest for the position (no longer than two pages); Technical proposal on how they intend to carry out the assignment; Financial proposal on how they intend to carry out the assignment; Samples of recent similar assignments: online portfolios and links to video work/documentaries; 11. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS Interested Consultant/Bidder should submit his/her financial and technical proposal to the email address below; Te: Sceretary Procurement Committee World Wide Fund-Tanzania Country Office Off Mwai Kibaki Road, Kiko Street Mikocheni | Financial proposal The financial proposal to be presented in a separate envelope should provide a clear and detailed breakdown of all costs that would be associated with undertaking the entire project, together with the proposed payment schedule. The budget should be fixed price (incl. VAT), based on estimated time spent on the assignment, and given in Tanzania Shillings (TZS) or USD. Only bids that have attained a rating above 70% in the technical evaluation will proceed to the financial evaluation stage. 6. REQUIRED EXPERTISE AND QUALIFICATION Education Bachelor's Degree in communications, photography and any other related field Experience At least 5 years in providing writing/communication/graphic designing and preparation of video documentaries services of high standards and quality. Proven track records in designing, video and photographing to at least 3 international/National organization. Tangible reference and portfolio of previous similar assignment is a must. Knowledge, understanding and experience of working in Great Ruaha catchment. (an added advantage) 7. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT The assignment is expected to be carried out within 6 weeks effectively commencing from the date of signing of the contract. 8. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS Interested Consultant/Bidder should submit his/her proposal to the email address below; To: Secretary Procurement Committee World Wide Fund-Tanzania Country Office Off Mwai Klbaki Road, Kiko Street Mikocheni P.O.Box 63117 Dar Es salaam Tanzania Email: tz.procurement@wwf.panda.org All applications will be received not later than 17.00pm, Wednesday 6th May, 2020, East African Time. |

EDITORIALS.OPINION



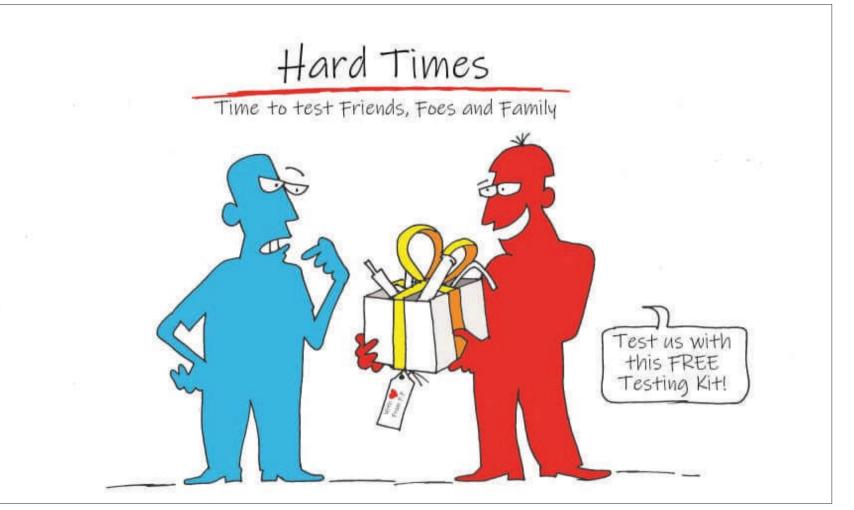
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Safe delivery still owes much to good maternal healthcare

"NTERNATIONAL Day of the and honour midwives came out of the Midwives was first celebrated May 5th 1991, and has since been observed in over 50 nations around the world and yesterday the world commemorated the International Day.

Midwifery is the health science and health profession that deals with pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period including care of the newborn, in addition to the sexual and reproductive health of women throughout their lives. In many countries, midwifery is a medical profession special for its independent and direct specialised education; should not be confused with the medical specialty, which depends on a previous general training . A professional in midwifery is known as a midwife.

A 2013 Cochrane review concluded that most women should be offered midwifery-led continuity models of care and women should be encouraged to ask for this option although caution should be exercised in applying this advice to women with substantial medical or obstetric complications.

Cochrane which is a British international charitable organisation formed to organise medical research findings to facilitate evidence-based choices about health interventions involving health professionals, patients and policy makers. It includes 53 review groups that are based at research institutions worldwide.

The review found that midwifery-led care was associated with a reduction in the use of epidurals, with fewer episiotomies or instrumental births, and a decreased risk of losing the baby before 24 weeks' gestation. However, midwifery-led care was also associated with a longer mean length of labour as measured in hours.

The idea of having a day to recognise services continue uninterrupted.

1987 International Confederation of Midwives conference in the Netherlands. In 2014 it was celebrated in Iran and New Zealand among other places.

As the world commemorated Midwives Day yesterday, the Tanzania Midwives Association (TAMA) called on the government to invest more in improving working environment and increase personal protective equipment (PPE) to health workers amidst coronavirus outbreak.

In a media tele-briefing held yesterday, Feddy Mwanga, TAMA President acknowledged that midwives are working in very challenging circumstances in the context of the pandemic that has not been covered in any midwifery curriculum.

International Day of the Midwife 2020 provides all mothers with the opportunity to celebrate and thank midwives in Tanzania, for the fantastic work they do and continue to do amid the COVID-19 outbreak to protect mothers and newborns and defend and uphold women and girls rights.

TAMA is supporting midwives by providing specific information about how to care for women during pregnancy, labour, delivery, and following birth, and newborn care in the context of COVID-19, as well as information on the support midwives and pregnant women need during this crisis. Communication materials are also being developed to respond to questions that are being asked by communities about COVID-19 and pregnancy, breastfeeding and newborn care.

Dr Wilfred Ochan, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Deputy Representative in Tanzania, UNFPA is also recruiting nurse-midwives and clinical officers to ensure that lifesaving sexual and reproductive health

By Li Changhai

S press officer of the Chinese Embassy, I noticed in the past month or so a new round of intensive misinformation about my home country, particularly on social media, which I feel that I have to clarify, in the interests of the peoples of both China and The Gambia. At this age of information boom, our cognitive maps are more or less shaped by contents online and the algorithm behind them. The pseudo-world one constructs in his mind based on such information, however, is often quite different from reality.

A notable example is the recent widespread stories of "African people being maltreated in China". Disturbing short videos of such kind shared on social media triggered much concern, yet were later debunked by international media with detailed analysis as fake. For

Why all this misinformation on China?

Then how come the "Guangzhou incidents"?

At the initial stage of Guangzhou's intensified COVID-19 containment campaign, some foreigners found it hard to adapt to those rather strict regulations requesting both Chinese and foreigners to equally abide by. Misunderstandings then occurred between some non-Chinese-speaking African expatriates and non-English/French-speaking Chinese. These communication failures were then translated into accusations of racism. It didn't take long before dubious information, such as the debunked videos mentioned earlier, to sneak in, deepening misunderstanding and intensifying outrage. It cannot be more obvious that, forces with political motives have never been absent from the whole thing since its very start. Realizing the miscommunication, Guangzhou authorities promptly improved their work. To avoid recurrent misunderstandings out of language barriers or cultural differences, they built effective communication mechanism with foreign consulates-general in the city, in addition to continuing providing health management services to all foreigners without differentiation, and offering financial support to those in need as humanitarian aid. Besides, working groups for each country were set up in a one-on-one manner, to account for foreigners of different nationalities. And information has been constantly updated to their respective diplomatic missions. Thanks to these coordination and cooperation efforts, me and my Gambian

MOFA colleagues could learn the latest would cause rounds and rounds of conditions of Gambian citizens in China each day, and be assured that they are safe and sound, with minimum risks of suffering from COVID-19. This, I'm quite

certain, doesn't happen everywhere. Contrary to some allegations that Africans were treated badly in China, I dare say they are much better protected and cared for than Africans (and foreigners in general) living in most other countries, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. A most simple proof is the much lower infection rate of Africans residing in China.

Unfortunately, while this is not the first time for a smear campaign to take place, it is unlikely to be the last. "Infodemic" of misinformation, as UN Secretary General pointed out, has joined COVID-19 as a and public health system improvement. common enemy we all face now. Apart from the above incident, incendiary claims, irresponsible comments, and viciously coined conspiracy theories are flooding our minds each day, causing even more confusions when the pandemic has already wreaked havoc on most people's lives. Voices of science, of rational reflection, and of truly visionary considerations for the common good, are somehow masked. Such situation seems so surreal, yet it is where we are today. We are all victims. And it is certainly not right. What is the way out? Solidarity! This is also a post from the twitter of WHO Director-General. While it sounds like a cliché, truths are sometimes this plain and simple. If we cannot defeat the pandemic worldwide together, lifting restrictions

infection tally resurgences and more deaths. If we cannot join hands to help the needy, humanitarian crises would sweep the world and bring about longterm afflictions to humanity. If we cannot escape the trap of naming and shaming, we would hate each other, despite such antagonism being whipped up by those who are happy to see us apart. And if we cannot uphold science and reason, we would take lies as truths, and step far away from the right track.

That is why China has all the time been calling for solidarity and jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind. Chinese government and civil groups keep offering medical supplies to assist Africa's pandemic containment China has donated to the WHO a sum of \$50,000,000 to support the global fight against COVID-19 and strengthen health systems of developing countries, including The Gambia. And China's technical support has been helping the world better deal with the virus. Globalization has linked us all together, and it is a trend irreversible. Only when we learn and truly know more of each other, could we have a more ideal world of unity and harmony. Some claim that COVID-19 has brought us to the end of the world as we know it. Well, I cannot predict the future, but I believe if we are united as one, people would suffer less from pandemics and "infodemics" in the post-coronavirus world, and live together with more mutual understanding and shared prosperity.

to value whatever support they get

Young entrepreneurs should learn

UNDING a start up business is one of the biggest decisions an entrepreneur has to make. In other words starting a business is a big step. It can be risky - but it can also be very rewarding. Entrepreneurs in Africa typically lack the vital resources they need to succeed; access to flexible patient capital, access to business skills and training, and linkages to the supply chains of larger organisations.

In many parts of Africa, SMEs account for over two thirds of GDP and are therefore critical to economic growth and poverty reduction. However many entrepreneurs struggle to access the finance and skills they need to grow their businesses successfully.

In 2016 Tanzanians were among 1000 young entrepreneurs selected to receive business startup grants of US\$5,000 to US\$10,000 (between 11m/- and 22m/-) after being successfully vetted by the Tony Elumelu Entrepreneurship Programme (TEEP).

According to the Tony Elumelu Foundation, the bulk of the 1,000 beneficiaries were from Nigeria, Africa's most populous country; which is closely followed by Uganda, Ghana, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and South Africa.

The successful applicants received training and mentorship to ready them for the tough world of business. This is the third time that the programme had selected seed capital recipients from around Africa.

Launched in 2015, TEEP is the largest African philanthropic initiative devoted to entrepreneurship and represents a 10-year, US\$100 million commitment, to identify and empower 10.000 African entrepreneurs, create a million jobs and add US\$10 billion in revenues to Africa's economy.

There were 93,000 applicants from 55 African countries for the third round of grants. This was more than double the number of applications received in 2016 and four times the number received in 2015.

Entrepreneurship comes with a host of challenges. Rewarding challenges, but harsh challenges nonetheless. Experienced entrepreneurs have to deal with this no matter how long they've been in business, trying to establish a brand, adjust to match or exceed the competition and keep your business profitable is a challenge no matter how many years you've been in business.

But for new and young entrepreneurs, there are some unique challenges that are especially difficult to overcome. If you're just getting into the game, or you're thinking about becoming an entrepreneur, be prepared for significant hurdles.

If you're going to dedicate yourself to starting and nurturing a business to success, it's going to be nearly impossible to simultaneously manage another career. You might be able to manage the infancy of your business on the side, during weeknights and weekends, but if you want a chance of growing significantly, invariably you'll have to quit your day job.

Walking away from a promising, steady long-term opportunity for something unpredictable is scary -especially if you've never run a business before. Unfortunately, there's no easy way to address this. Just think through your decision logically, and don't ignore vour instincts.

Experienced entrepreneurs don't have it easy when it comes to funding a new business, but they do have a few advantages over newcomers. They might have a pool of capital from a business they previously sold or a steady stream of revenue they can use to fund a new business's cash flow.

Launched in 2015, TEEP is the largest African philanthropic initiative devoted to entrepreneurship and represents a 10-year, US\$100 million commitment, to identify and empower 10,000 African entrepreneurs, create a million jobs and add US\$10 billion in revenues to Africa's economy.

example, a widely shared video showing several Asian-faced persons beating an African was in fact recorded in another country instead of China, and the Asians in the video were not Chinese at all; another one displaying a street brawl between a "Chinese" couple and an African couple was actually captured in North America and has nothing to do with China or Chinese either. Interestingly, some of those videos were recorded years ago and repeatedly went viral online, with different narratives each time, telling various fabricated stories of frightening conflicts.

The fact is that, the Chinese government has always been opposing any act of racism, and has always been adhering to treating all foreigners equally.

Covid-19: EU needs to change its approach to Africa

By Bram Dijkstra

S the effects of coronavirus hit the African continent, the pandemic must mean an overhaul in EU-Africa relations and, as Marta Martinelli (Head of EU External Policy Team) and Bram Dijkstra (senior advocacy specialist at the Open Society European Policy Institute) argue in their recent op-ed, Africa won't weather this crisis on its own. This week's global support package by the EU announced by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen provides welcome relief, but COVID-19 is a symptom of a much deeper crisis that makes it harder for economically and politically unstable countries in Africa to deal with the outbreak. The EU should seize this moment to shift its longer-term partnership with Africa accordingly.

The bloc's new leadership had already started to reflect on how it can forge new relations with Africa. Weeks before the pandemic hit Europe, Von der Leven visited Addis Ababa, seat of the African Union, accompanied by 22 European commissioners, and outlined a new EU-Africa strategy.Issued on 9 March, the strategy can shape relations between the two continents for years to come, but

the current offer falls short. While the only fourteen of Africa's 54 countries have pandemic should not dictate the new strategy, it reveals structural challenges the EU should address to make the partnership work. Four priority areas stand out.

Firstly, governance has been the Achilles heel in EU-Africa relations. Already the continent with the largest democratic deficit, many leaders in Africa will use the health crisis as an excuse to tighten their grip - through the postponement of elections, the stifling of civic space, or through unaccountable security responses. The EU has a strategic interest in strengthening democratic resilience in Africa, but in the proposed strategy its values agenda takes a backseat. The EU's reputation in Africa has suffered greatly from its transactional handling of the migration crisis that has been perceived as self-serving. It is not too late to reverse this trend, if it sets out a coherent approach to counter democratic backsliding, attacks on the rule of law, and closing civic space.

Secondly, faced with an unprecedented crisis, governments around the world are resorting to a range of tracking technologies to limit the spread of the virus. While the impact on civil liberties is likely to outlast the current crisis, currently

data protection and privacy laws, and only nine of these are well enforced. The EU has started to roll out a progressive model for the digital transformation at home. In the meantime, global digital competition is continuing apace, and big technology companies have long been pushing hard for African markets. To offer an attractive model to Africa, the EU will need to balance its commercial interests with the promotion of a digital agenda that respects

rights and puts humans first. Thirdly, the COVID-19 crisis could set back the fight against climate change, including by diverting money assigned to climate policy to address the pandemic. At the same time, it has demonstrated how quickly states can mobilize efforts in the face of an existential crisis. Whilst Africa's contributions to global warming are negligible, the impact is not. Neither the US nor China seem willing to lead a global push for managing climate action. The EU, by contrast, has put forward far-reaching, ambitious proposals to transition to a climate-neutral Europe by 2030. It now needs to use its trade, aid and investment policies to ensure that the burden of global adjustments is fairly distributed. Finally, a fair climate transition could

advance social and economic justice in ways that market economies have failed to deliver. The coronavirus crisis demonstrates that lack of access to public goods (health, sanitation and education, in particular) is not only an existential threat, but a shared global responsibility. The same institutions hollowed out by decades of structural adjustments and other austerity policies must now rapidly and sustainably be strengthened. This requires more than patchwork. The pandemic cannot be used to further a fundamentally unsustainable economic orthodoxy.

As a first step, the EU could use its clout in multilateral banks and institutions to pause private and public debt, for the almost 40 per cent of African countries in danger of slipping into a major debt crisis. In the longer term, future relations with Africa will need to include a sovereign debt workout mechanism to avoid a series of economic collapses, which in turn threaten the stability the EU has put such a premium on. The coronavirus outbreak has left the EU struggling to assert its leadership in Europe, let alone in the world. But it's in the EU's interest to think globally as well as locally. The current crisis does not suspend that reality; it raises the stakes.



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA WIZARA YA VIWANDA NA BIASHARA





Waziri wa Viwanda na Biashara Mhe. Innocent Bashungwa (Mb)









Katibu Mkuu Prof. Riziki Shemdoe Naibu Waziri Mhe. Mhandisi Stella Manyanya

> Naibu Katibu Mkuu Ludovick Nduhiye

HOTUBA YA WAZIRI WA VIWANDA NA BIASHARA MHE. INNOCENT L. BASHUNGWA (MB.), AKIWASILISHA BUNGENI MAKADIRIO YA MAPATO NA MATUMIZI YA FEDHA KWA MWAKA 2020/2021



Saruji inayotengenezwa na kiwanda cha Saruji cha Mbeya kilichopo Songwe.



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kiwanda cha Took Garments wakiendelea na shughuli ya uzalishaji nguo.



HOTUBA FUPI (TALKING NOTES) YA WAZIRI WA VIWANDA NA BIASHARA MHE. INNOCENT L. BASHUNGWA (MB.), AKIWASILISHA BUNGENI MAKADIRIO YA MAPATO NA MATUMIZI YA FEDHA KWA MWAKA 2020/2021

1. UTANGULIZI

Mheshimiwa Spika; kutokana na taarifa iliyowasilishwa leo hapa Bungeni na Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kudumu ya Bunge ya Viwanda, Biashara na Mazingira, ambayo ilichambua Bajeti ya Wizara ya Viwanda na Biashara Fungu 44 (Viwanda) na Fungu 60 (Biashara) tarehe 24 na 25 Machi, 2020 Jijini Dodoma, naomba kutoa hoja kwamba Bunge lako tukufu sasa likubali kupokea na kujadili taarifa ya utekelezaji wa Mipango na Bajeti kwa Mwaka 2019/2020. Aidha, naliomba Bunge lako tukufu likubali kupitisha Makadirio ya Mapato na Matumizi ya Fedha kwa Wizara ya Viwanda na Biashara kwa Mwaka 2020/2021.

Mheshimiwa Spika, naomba Hotuba yangu yote iliyowasilishwa kwa Waheshimiwa Wabunge iweze kuingia katika kumbukumbu za Bunge (Hansard) kama ilivyo.

Mheshimiwa Spika; awali ya yote naomba nianze kwa kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kwa kunijalia afya na baraka katika majukumu niliyokasimiwa. Kwa namna ya pekee namshukuru sana Mheshimiwa Dkt. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania kwa kuniteua kuwa Waziri na kunipa majukumu yanayobeba ajenda kuu ya Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano ya ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda. Nampongeza kwa kuchaguliwa kuwa Mwenyekiti wa Jumuiya ya SADC na namna anavyoshughulikia masuala ya biashara katika nchi za SADC na EAC ikiwa ni pamoja na kuomba kufutiwa madeni kwa nchi za Afrika katika kipindi hiki cha mlipuko wa ugonjwa wa COVID -19. Nampongeza pia kwa namna anavyotuongoza kwa ujasiri na misingi imara, yenye kusheheni uzalendo na mapenzi kwa nchi yetu. Napenda pia kumpongeza Mheshimiwa Samia Suluhu Hassan, Makamu wa Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania; Mheshimiwa Dkt. Ali Mohamed Shein, Rais wa Serikali ya Mapinduzi Zanzibar na Mwenyekiti wa Baraza la Mapinduzi; na Mheshimiwa Mheshimiwa Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa (Mb.), Waziri Mkuu wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania; kwa jinsi wanavyomsaidia Mhe. Rais kusimamia ipasavyo misingi ya utaifa wetu kupunguza pengo la walionacho na wasiokuwa nacho, kujenga Tanzania yenye kutoa fursa za uhakika za kujiletea maendeleo kwa mtu mmoja mmoja na Taifa kwa ujumla.

Mheshimiwa Spika; napenda kuchukua nafasi hii, kukupongeza wewe binafsi na Naibu Spika kwa umakini wenu katika kuliongoza na kulisimamia Bunge letu. Pia, naipongeza na kuishukuru Kamati ya Kudumu ya Bunge ya Viwanda, Biashara na Mazingira, chini ya Mwenyekiti wake Mheshimiwa Suleiman Ahmed Saddiq, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Mvomero, Makamu wake Mheshimiwa Kanali Mstaafu Ali Khamis Masoud, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Mfenesini na Waheshimiwa Wajumbe wote wa Kamati. Ushauri na maelekezo yao yamekuwa chachu muhimu sana, katika mageuzi ya kifikra na kiutendaji ya Wizara, na hivyo kuchochea kasi ya maendeleo ya viwanda na biashara nchini. Stella Manyanya, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Nyasa; Katibu Mkuu, Prof. Riziki Shemdoe; Naibu Katibu Mkuu, Ndugu Ludovick Nduhiye; Wakuu wa Idara, Vitengo, Taasisi na Watumishi wote wa Wizara na Taasisi. Napenda kuwashukuru na kuwapongeza kwa kujituma, na kuonesha daima utayari wa kuboresha mbinu na mikakati ya kisekta kwa vitendo.

Mheshimiwa Spika; nawapongeza na kuwashukuru wananchi wa Jimbo langu la Karagwe kwa kuendelea kunipa ushirikiano katika kutekeleza majukumu ya kitaifa na ya Jimbo. Nawapongeza kwa namna wanavyojibidiisha katika kujiletea maendeleo. Aidha, ninawaahidi kwamba nitaendelea kutetea maslahi yenu hapa Bungeni na hata nje ya Bunge ili kuhakikisha Karagwe inaendelea kushamiri na kuleta matokeo ya mtu mmoja mmoja, Wilaya, Mkoa na hatimaye kuongeza mchango wake kwa Taifa letu. Kipekee namshukuru sana mke wangu mpendwa Jennifer Bashungwa, watoto na familia yangu kwa upendo wao, uvumilivu na maombi yao wakati wote ninapotekeleza majukumu yangu ya kitaifa.

Mheshimiwa Spika; naomba niungane na Waheshimiwa Wabunge wenzangu kuomba ushiriki wa dhati wa kila Mtanzania katika kupambana na virusi vya KORONA ili kulinda nguvukazi ya Taifa. Nawaomba sana Watanzania wote kuwa kila mmoja, kila familia na jumuiya zote nchini, kutambua kuwa usalama wetu hutegemea jitihada ya kila mmoja kujilinda na kumlinda mwenzake.

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kukabiliana na janga la ugonjwa wa KORONA, Kampuni ya *Kilombero Sugar* ilichangia jumla ya lita 30,000 za *Ethanol* kwa ajili ya kutengeneza vitakasa mikono ambapo Wizara ya Afya ilipewa lita 20,000 na kiasi kilichobaki cha kita 10,000 zilipewa Taasisi za SIDO na TIRDO.

Mheshimiwa Spika; hadi sasa tayari Viwanda na Makampuni 65 yanazalisha vitakasa mikono vyenye ubora unaokubalika na TMDA. Kwa Wastani Viwanda hivyo vinatumia kiasi cha *Ethanol* kwa mwezi kisichopungua lita **2,548,951.** Umoja wa wenye Viwanda Vya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba (TMPA) kwa ujumla wao (viwanda vikubwa 4) vinazalisha vitakasa mikono kwa mwezi lita zipatazo **900,000** na viwanda vya kati na vidogo vipatavyo 61, vinazalisha lita zipatazo **2,745,000** za vitasa mikono kwa mwezi, na kufanya jumla ya uzalishaji vitakasa mikono kuwa lita **3,645,000** kila mwezi. Kati ya hizo TIRDO huzalisha lita **90,000** kwa mwezi na SIDO huzalisha lita **18,000**.

Mheshimiwa Spika: kwa sasa tuna viwanda viwili vya kutengeneza barakoa aina ya Surgical Masks ambavyo ni Pristine na Five Star. Viwanda hivyo vina uwezo uliosimikwa wa kutengeneza barakoa 150,000 kwa siku na uwezo wa uzalishaji kwa sasa ni barakoa 30,000 kwa kiwanda cha Pristine na barakoa 40,000 kwa kiwanda cha *Five Star* kwa siku. Aidha, barakoa za vitambaa (cloth masks) kwa ajili ya kujikinga, tayari jumla ya viwanda 123 vimeitikia wito wa kutengeneza barakoa hizo ambapo kati yao viwanda vikubwa ni 13 na vidogo 110. Wizara inaendelea kuhamasiha viwanda vya ndani vya nguo kutengeneza barakoa kwa wingi kuwasaidia watanzania na mapambano ya KORONA. Natoa wito kwa Wakuu wa Mikoa na Wilaya zetu kuhamasisha na mafundi vverehani kwenye kila kijiji kushona barakoa za nguo kuwasaidia wananchi vijijini. TMDA na TBS toeni mafunzo kupitia vyombo vya habari na wapeni ushirikiano Wakuu wa Mikoa na Wilaya katika majukumu haya.

Ndogo imetoa ajira kwa wingi kwa Watanzania ambapo kwa sasa inaajiri zaidi ya Watanzania 8,000,000. Ajira hizo zimewezesha wananchi kujiongezea vipato na kutatua changamoto zao za kijamii na kiuchumi. Hii imetokea kutokana na Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano kuweka mazingira wezeshi ikiwemo kupunguza mamlaka za udhibiti na kufanya watanzania wengi kujiajiri na kutekeleza azma ya ujenzi wa viwanda nchini ambapo takribani asilimia 99 ya viwanda vyote nchini vipo chini ya sekta hiyo.

2.3 Uzalishaji wa Dawa na Vifaa Tiba

Mheshimiwa Spika; Sekta ya Viwanda vya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba kwa sasa ina jumla ya viwanda 15 ambapo viwanda 12 vinatengeneza dawa za binadamu, viwanda 2 ni vya dawa za mifugo na kiwanda 1 kinatengeneza vifaa tiba. Kwa sasa viwanda vya dawa vinazalisha chini ya asilimia 12 ya uwezo wake uliosimikwa na Serikali imekuwa ikiwawekea wawekezaji mazingira wezeshi ili kufikia asilimia 60 ya uwezo uliosimikwa. Hatua zilizochukuliwa ni pamoja na kuweka vivutio vya uwekezaji kwa lengo la kuhamasisha wawekezaji wa ndani na Nje ya Nchi kwa kuondoa VAT kwa vifungashio vya dawa zinazozalishwa nje na ndani ya nchi; kushusha kodi ya mapato kutoka asilimia 30 hadi 20 kwa mwekezaji mpya ndani ya miaka mitatu ya mwanzo; na kuweka upendeleo maalum kwa ununuzi wa dawa zinazozalishwa na viwanda vya ndani kupitia MSD.

2.4 Uzalishaji wa Sukari

Mheshimiwa Spika; makadirio ya uzalishaji wa sukari kwa msimu wa mwaka 2019/2020 yalikuwa tani 345,296 kwa viwanda vya ndani sawa na asilimia 73.46 ya kiasi cha sukari inayokadiriwa kwa matumizi ya kawaida. Aidha, hadi kufikia mwezi Aprili, 2020 uzalishaji wa sukari nchini ulikuwa jumla ya tani 298,949, wakati mahitaji ya sukari kwa mwaka ni wastani wa tani 635,000. Kati ya mahitaji hayo, tani 470,000 ni kwa ajili ya matumizi ya kawaida na tani 165,000 kwa matumizi ya viwandani. Makadirio hayo yametokana na ukweli kwamba mahitaji ya sukari ya matumizi ya kawaida kwa mwezi ni wastani wa tani 38,000. Sababu zilipelekea kushuka kwa bei ni pamoja na mvua nyingi kipindi cha vuli na kupunguza kiwango cha sukari kwenye miwa na taratibu za usafirishaji ambazo zimesababishwa na ugonjwa wa KORONA ulioenea duniani.

Mheshimiwa Spika; kwa sasa Serikali imetoa tamko kuhusu uuzaji wa sukari. Matamko hayo ni pamoja na sukari iuzwe kwa kuzingatia bei elekezi na endapo wafanyabiashara hawatazingatia maelekezo hayo, hatua kali zitachukuliwa dhidi yao. Napenda kuwapongeza Wakuu wa Mikoa na Wilaya ambao tumeshuhudia jitihada zao katika kusimamia tamko la bei elekezi kwa lengo la kuwalinda walaji. Aiidha, niwaombe Wakuu wa Mikoa na Wilaya zote nchini kwa kutumia kamati za ulinzi na usalama kuendelea kusimamia bei za ukomo zilizotangazwa na Serikali ili wananchi waweze kupata bidhaa hii muhimu kwa bei nafuu.

Mheshimiwa Spika; kwa namna ya pekee, niwashukuru watangulizi wangu Mheshimiwa Charles John Mwijage, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Muleba Kaskazini na Mheshimiwa Joseph George Kakunda, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Sikonge, waliokuwa mawaziri wa Viwanda na Biashara. Nikiri kuwa misingi waliyoweka imeendelea kuwa chachu muhimu katika kuendeleza Sekta ya Viwanda na Biashara nchini. Aidha, nimshukuru Katibu Mkuu mstaafu Prof. Joseph Buchweshaija kwa ushirikiano alionipa kipindi nilichofanya naye kazi na nimkaribishe Prof. Riziki Shemdoe Katibu Mkuu wetu mpya. Nampongeza Prof. Shemdoe kwa nguvu na kasi aliyokuja nayo kwenye Wizara.

Mheshimiwa Spika; niwapongeze pia Mhe. Mussa Zungu, Mbunge wa Ilala, Mhe. Geogre Simbachawene, Mbunge wa Kibakwe na Mhe. Dkt. Mwigulu Nchemba, Mbunge wa Iramba Magharibi kwa kuaminiwa na Mhe. Rais na kuteuliwa kuwa Mawaziri. Naahidi kuendelea kuwapa ushirikiano wa kutosha katika kutimiza majukumu yao.

Mheshimiwa Spika; naungana pia na Waheshimiwa Wabunge kutoa pole kwa familia zilizoondokewa na Wabunge wenzetu ambao ni Mheshimiwa Rashid Akbar, aliyekuwa Mbunge wa Jimbo la Newala Vijijini; Mheshimiwa Dkt. Getrude Rwakatare aliyekuwa Mbunge wa Viti Maalum; Mheshimiwa Richard Mganga Ndassa aliyekuwa Mbunge wa Sumve; na Mheshimiwa Balozi Dkt. Augustino Mahiga aliyekuwa Mbunge wa Kuteuliwa na Waziri wa Katiba na Sheria.

Mheshimiwa Spika; naomba kutumia fursa hii pia kuwashukuru viongozi na watendaji wote wa sekta binafsi, kwa michango yao katika kuendeleza Sekta za Viwanda na Biashara. Nawashukuru TPSF, CTI, TCCIA, TNBC, CEO Roundtable, JWT na wengine wengi. Tunaendelea kuwategemea kama nguzo na mihimili ya kushirikiana katika kuendeleza viwanda na biashara na kuchochea uchumi wetu kwa ujumla.

Mheshimiwa Spika; hotuba hii ya Bajeti ninayoiwasilisha leo ni matokeo ya uratibu na ushirikiano mzuri wa viongozi wenzangu katika Wizara, akiwemo Naibu Waziri Mheshimiwa Mhandisi

2. MAFANIKIO YA SEKTA YA VIWANDA NA BIASHARA KATIKA AWAMU YA TANO

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kipindi cha kwanza cha utawala wa Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano, Serikali iliweka nguvu kubwa katika kufanikisha utekelezaji wa Ilani ya Uchaguzi ya Chama Cha Mapinduzi 2015 - 2020. Umakini wa utekelezaji Ilani ya CCM umehamasisha na kuchochea ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda ili kufikia malengo ya maendeleo yaliyoainishwa katika Dira ya Taifa 2025.

2.1 Kukidhi Mahitaji ya Ndani ya Bidhaa za Viwandani

Mheshimiwa Spika; Nchi yetu imejitosheleza katika baadhi ya bidhaa muhimu zinazozalishwa nchini. Saruji (uzalishaji halisi ni tani Milioni 7.4 na mahitaji halisi tani Milioni 4.8); marumaru (uzalishaji halisi ni mita za mraba Milioni 32.4 na mahitaji halisi ni wastani wa mita za mraba Milioni 30).

2.2 Ujenzi wa Viwanda Vipya

Mheshimiwa Spika; Serikali inaendelea kuhamasisha uendelezaji na ujenzi wa viwanda nchini. Kutokana na uhamasishaji huo, jumla ya viwanda vipya 8,477 vimeanzishwa kati ya mwaka 2015 hadi 2019. Viwanda hivyo vinajumuisha, viwanda 201 vikubwa, 460 vya kati, 3,406 vidogo; na 4,410 vidogo sana.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Sekta ya Viwanda Vidogo na Biashara

2.5 Uendelezaji Maeneo Maalum ya Uwekezaji na Mapato Kutokana na Uwekezaji Chini ya EPZA/SEZ

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kupitia EPZA, imefanya tafiti tatu kutathmini tija inayopatikana kutokana na kampuni zilizowekeza chini ya EPZA na tafiti hizo zimeonesha uwepo wa tija katika uwekezaji wa maeneo hayo. Hadi kufikia Desemba 2019, chini ya BWM-SEZ, mauzo ya Nje ya Nchi yameingizia nchi Tsh. Bilioni 293.56 (USD 127.64); matumizi mengine ya kuendeshea biashara yameingiza Tsh. Bilioni 146.58 (USD 63.73); kodi na tozo mbalimbali zilizolipwa kupitia TRA zimeingiza Tsh. Bilioni 17.24 (USD 7.50); na zimepatikana ajira za moja kwa moja viwandani zipatazo 3,000.

Kutokana na manufaa hayo, Wizara kupitia EPZA, imekuwa ikihamasisha ushiriki wa Serikali za Mikoa katika uendelezaji wa Maeneo ya SEZ ili kuiwezesha Mikoa husika kutumia Maeneo ya SEZ kama chanzo cha mapato na mbinu mojawapo ya kuchochea shughuli za kiuchumi katika mikoa husika. Hadi sasa, mikoa ya Arusha, Geita, Mwanza, Kigoma na Songwe imetenga maeneo yatakayoendelezwa kama Maeneo Maalum ya Kiuchumi. Kupitia uhamasishaji huo, katika kipindi cha mwaka 2019/2020 EPZA imesajili kampuni sita (06) na hivyo kufanya viwanda vilivyo chini ya EPZA kuongezeka kutoka viwanda 163 hadi viwanda 169 vikichangia ongezeko la mtaji unaokadiriwa kutoka Tsh. Tilioni 5.41 (USD Bilioni 2.35) hadi Tsh. Tilioni 5.47 (USD Bilioni 2.38). Mauzo ya nje yanakadiriwa kuongezeka kutoka Tsh. Trilioni 5.17 (USD Bilioni 2.25) hadi takriban Tsh. Trilioni 5.21 (USD Bilioni 2.27) na fursa za ajira za moja kwa moja kutoka 56,442 hadi 57,342.

Mheshimiwa Spika; utekelezaji wa mradi wa Kurasini ni kuliendeleza eneo hilo kama Kituo cha Biashara na Ugavi -"Trade and Logistic Centre". Serikali kupitia Mamlaka ya EPZ imedhamiria kuliendeleza eneo la kituo cha Biashara cha kurasini kama Soko la Mazao Mchanganyiko kwa kuanzia na zao la chai, kahawa na mazao ya bustani.



Umuhimu wa kutekeleza wazo la kujenga kituo cha Biashara na Ugavi -Kurasini kwa ajili ya mazao ya kilimo ni kuwezesha Sekta ya kilimo kuchangia vizuri zaidi katika pato la Taifa kwa kuwezesha uongezaji wa thamani ya mazao na biashara ya mauzo ya nje kufanyika. Baada ya kilimo shughuli zinazofuata ni uchakataji (viwanda) na hatimae mauzo (biashara).

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kupitia NDC imekamilisha upimaji wa eneo la TAMCO ambapo jumla ya ekari 201.63 zimetengwa kwa ajili ya ujenzi wa viwanda na miundombinu. Hadi sasa viwanda viwili (02) vinavyofanya kazi vimeajiri watumishi 200 na ujenzi wa viwanda vipya eneo la TAMCO kibaha vinakadiriwa vitaajiri watumishi 21,220 ajira za kudumu. Madhumuni ya Serikali ni kuwa na Industrial Park nyingi nchini ama kupitia EPZA ama NDC ama Halmashauri zetu ili wafanyabishara na wawekezaji wenye mtaji na business plan wakute tayari eneo lina maji, umeme na huduma nyingine muhimu.

2.6 Mikopo kwa Wajasiriamali

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kupitia SIDO imefanikiwa kuchochea uanzishwaji wa shughuli za kiuchumi kwa kutumia mikopo inayotolewa na Skimu ya Ukopeshaji kwa Wajasirimali (SME Credit Guarantee Scheme-CGS) na Mfuko wa Wafanyabiashara Wananchi (NEDF). Katika kipindi cha kuanzia mwaka 2015 hadi Machi 2020, mtaji wa Mfuko wa NEDF umeongezeka kutoka Shilingi Bilioni 6.429 Machi 2016 hadi Bilioni 8.65 Machi, 2020 ikiwa ni ongezeko la Shilingi Bilioni 2.22. Ongezeko hilo limetokana na riba inayopatikana kutokana na fedha inayojizungusha (Revolving Fund) kupitia mikopo hiyo. Aidha, jumla ya wajasiriamali 17,696 wakiwemo wanawake 8,933 na wanaume 8,721 walipatiwa mikopo iliyowezesha kupatikana jumla ya ajira 47,180. Kupitia mifuko hiyo, jumla ya viwanda vipya 437 vilianzishwa na kutoa ajira 1,481. Jitihada hizo ni kichocheo na chachu kubwa kwa huduma na taasisi za fedha ambazo nazo hutoa huduma ya mikopo.

Mheshimiwa Spika; mwezi Februari 2020, yalisainiwa makubaliano kati ya SIDO, VETA, AZANIA BANK, NSSF na Baraza la Uwezeshaji Wananchi Kiuchumi (NEEC) ya kuanzisha programu ya kutoa mikopo kwa wajasiriamali waliohudumiwa na SIDO na wahitimu wa VETA kupitia Benki ya AZANIA. Makubaliano hayo yalifanyika chini ya uratibu wa NEEC yanatoa nafasi kwa SIDO na VETA kuwapeleka wajasiriamali na wahitimu Benki ya AZANIA kuomba mikopo ya viwanda ya kuanzia Tshs milioni 8 hadi milioni 500. Fedha zitakazokopeshwa kiasi cha TSh. Bilioni tano (5) zimetolewa na NSSF kwa mkopeshaji ambaye ni Benki ya AZANIA.

Mwongozo wa utekelezaji wa programu unaandaliwa ndipo utekelezaji wa programu hiyo uanze. Wizara inakusudia kuweka msukumo mkubwa wa program hiyo ili iwafikie wajasiriamali wengi nchini na wapate kunufaika. Tunawashukuru NSSF na AZANIA Bank na natoa wito kwa mabenki yote nchini na mifuko ya jamii kuiga mfano huu ili kuinua wajasiriamali nchini. (GCLA), Utalii, Maji, Uvuvi na iliyokuwa Mamlaka ya Chakula na Dawa - TFDA. Aidha, tozo zilizopunguzwa ni za GCLA. Mpango huo umewezesha kuhamisha jukumu la usimamizi wa masuala ya chakula kutoka iliyokuwa TFDA kwenda TBS, ili kuondoa muingiliano wa majukumu. Maboresho hayo yamesaidia kuondoa urasimu na kupunguza gharama za kufanya biashara.

2.10 Utoaji Huduma za Kieletroniki kwa Wafanyabiashara na Wajasiriamali Nchini

Mheshimiwa Spika; kutokana na kufutwa kwa tozo hizo, usajili wa usalama mahali pa kazi (workplace) umeongezeka kutoka 16,457 mwaka 2019 ikilinganishwa na mahala pa kazi 11,963 mwaka 2018. Aidha, BLUEPRINT imeandaliwa Mpango Kazi (Blueprint Action Plan-BAP) ili kuongoza utekelezaji wake. Sambamba na hilo, Serikali inaendelea na maandalizi ya kutunga Sheria ya Uwezeshaji Biashara ya mwaka 2020 (Business Facilitation Act, 2020), ili kuipa nguvu ya kisheria misingi ya maboresho iliyobainishwa katika *Blueprint*. Rasimu ya Waraka wa Sheria hiyo imekwishawasilishwa kwenye ngazi za maamuzi Serikalini.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara inafanya kila linalowezekana kuboresha utendaji wa BRELA na mifumo yake ya Usajili wa Majina ya Biashara, Makampuni, Alama za Biashara na Huduma, Hataza, Leseni za Viwanda na Leseni za Biashara kwa njia ya Mtandao. Hadi kufikia Machi, 2020, Wakala imesajili Makampuni 7,549, Majina ya Biashara 12,627, Alama za Biashara na Huduma 1,970, Hataza 55, Leseni za Viwanda 200 na Leseni za Biashara 9,927.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kupitia BRELA imekusanya taarifa za bidhaa mbalimbali kutoka Taasisi za Serikali zaidi ya ishirini (20) za kutoka Tanzania Bara na Serikali ya Mapinduzi ya Zanzibar. Tayari taarifa za bidhaa zaidi ya 18 zinazosafirishwa nje ya nchi (Export) na zaidi ya bidhaa 8 zinazoingizwa nchini (Import) zimekwishakusanywa na kuingizwa kwenye Mfumo.

2.11 Kuwaunganisha Wazalishaji, Wasindikaji na Wafanyabiashara na Masoko ya Ndani na Nje ya Nchi

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kwa kushirikiana na Wizara ya Kilimo, Taasisi za Soko la Bidhaa Tanzania (TMX), Mamlaka ya Maendeleo ya Biashara (TanTrade) na AGRA inaandaa mkakati wa namna bora ya kufungamanisha Sekta za Kilimo na masoko kwa mazao ya kimkakati yatakayozalishwa nchini. Mkakati huo unalenga: Kuunganisha wazalishaji ikiwemo wakulima na wasindikaji wa ndani na nje ya nchi; Kujenga na kuhamasisha uelewa wa pamoja kuhusu dhana ya uwezeshaji badala ya kudhibiti biashara kwa Taasisi na Mamlaka za Serikali zinazohusika na utoaji wa vibali na leseni za biashara; na Kuweka vivutio kwa sekta binafsi kuwekeza katika uzalishaji wa mazao ya kilimo.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara kupitia TanTrade imeratibu tafiti za kutambua fursa za masoko ili kuongeza mauzo ya bidhaa za

kuhamasisha wananchi kufanya kazi kwa kujituma na hivyo kuakisi kauli yake ya "HAPA KAZI TU".

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara imefanikiwa kuhuisha soko la zao la Sekta ya Tumbaku baada ya Serikali kufikia muafaka na wanunuzi wakuu wa zao hilo kuhusiana na madai ya ukiukwaji wa taratibu za ushindani. Mahauri dhidi ya allince one, Alliance one international na ATTT yameshamalizika kwa suluhu na kufungwa ili wadau hao waendelee na shughuli zao katika kuendeleza sekta ya tumbaku. Aidha, mashuri yaliyokuwa yanaikabili TLTC, TTPL, ULT na ATTT nayo pia yamemalizwa kwa suluhu.

Hadi sasa mchakato wa kumaliza kwa suluhu mashauri yanayowakabili kampuni ya *JTI Leaf Services Limited* na JT International uko hatua za mwisho. Kutokana na mwenendo huu wa suluhu kampuni ya *JTI Leaf Services Limited* katika mpango wake wa ununuzi imethibitisha kununua tumbaku yenye thamani ya USD Milioni 12.6 kwa mwaka 2019/2020, USD Milioni 14.1 kwa mwaka 2020/2021, USD Milioni 15 kwa mwaka 2021/2022 na USD Milioni 15.5 kwa mwaka 2022/2023.

2.14 Miradi ya NDC

Mheshimiwa Spika; Serikali kupitia Shirika la Taifa la Maendeleo (NDC) inatekeleza miradi mikubwa mitatu ambayo ni; mradi wa kuunganisha na kuuza matrekta aina ya URSUS (Ubia wa NDC na kampuni ya URSUS ya Poland); mradi wa ujenzi na uendeshaji wa kiwanda cha viuadudu (Ubia wa NDC na kampuni ya LABIOFAM ya Cuba); na mradi wa makaa ya mawe (Ubia wa NDC na kampuni ya *Intra Energy Tanzania Ltd* na kuendesha kampuni ya *TANCOAL Energy Ltd*).

Mheshimiwa Spika; utekelezaji wa miradi hiyo umekabiliwa na changamoto mbalimbali kiasi cha kuathiri matokeo chanya yaliyotarajiwa na Serikali. Aidha, jitihada mbalimbali zimekuwa zikifanywa na Serikali ili kupata ufumbuzi wa changamoto hizo. Mwezi Machi,2019 Wizara kwa kushirikiana na Taasisi mbalimbali za Serikali tumeanza kufanya mapitio, tathmini na uchunguzi wa miradi hiyo, ikiwemo kuunda timu za Serikali zijadiliane na timu ya Serikali ya Poland kwa mradi wa matrekta ya URSUS; Serikali ya Cuba kwa mradi wa viuadudu uliopo Kibaha; na timu ya kampuni ya *Intraenergy Tanzania* kwa ajili ya mradi wa makaa ya mawe ya ngaka (TANCOAL).

Mheshimiwa Spika; timu hizo zimeshaundwa na zinatarajia kuanza vikao vyake hivi karibuni. Kutokana na changamoto za CORONA tunatarajia vikao hivyo vitafanyika kwa njia ya *Video Conference*. Wizara inaamini kuwa makubaliano katika majadilino hayo yataleta matokeo chanya katika utekelezaji wa miradi hiyo na inakuwa na manufaa zaidi kiuchumi na kijamii kwa Taifa, hususani katika ujenzi na uendelezaji wa sekta ya viwanda nchini.

2.15 Mikataba na Itifaki na Marekebisho ya Sheria

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara iliandaa na kuwasilisha Waraka wa Itifaki ya Marekebisho ya Mkataba wa *Marrakesh* ulionzisha

2.7 Majengo na Maeneo kwa Shughuli za Wajasiriamali

Mheshimiwa Spika; Serikali imefanikiwa kutenga maeneo maalum kwa ajili ya wajasiriamali kufanya shughuli mbalimbali za kiuchumi. Jitihada hizo zimewezesha ujenzi wa majengo viwanda (*Industrial Shades*) 12 katika mitaa ya viwanda ya SIDO iliyopo mikoa ya Dodoma (3), Manyara (3), Kagera (1), Mtwara (1) na Geita (4). Jumla ya viwanda 29 vimeweza kusimikwa katika majengo hayo na hivyo kuzalisha ajira 648. Kutokana na umuhimu huo, Wizara inaendelea na ujenzi wa majengo ya viwanda katika mikoa mingine kwa kuanzia mikoa ya Kigoma, Mtwara na Ruvuma ambapo SIDO imekamilisha upembuzi yakinifu wa majengo matatu pamoja na michoro ya usanifu (architectural drawings) katika mikoa ya Mtwara (2) na Kigoma (1) na ujenzi umeanza.

Mheshimiwa Spika; ukamilishaji wa majengo viwanda (*industrial sheds*) unategemewa kuwezesha uanzishwaji wa viwanda vipya saba vitakavyotengeneza ajira 76. Vilevile, Serikali imefanikisha kusogeza karibu huduma za kusaidia na kuhamasisha wananchi kushiriki katika ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda kwa kujenga ofisi nne (4) za SIDO katika mikoa mipya ya Simiyu, Katavi na Geita.

2.8 Fursa za Biashara na Masoko ya Kikanda

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kutumia fursa za masoko ya kikanda, Wizara imefanikisha kuongezeka kwa mauzo ya bidhaa na huduma kwenye masoko hayo yanayotoa fursa za upendeleo maalum (preferential market access). Tanzania imekuwa na urari chanya wa mauzo ya bidhaa kwenda kwenye masoko ya nchi za Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki (EAC) na Nchi za Jumuiya ya Maendeleo ya Kusini mwa Afrika (SADC). Mfano, kwa upande wa Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki kutoka mwaka 2015 hadi mwaka 2018 Tanzania imekuwa na urari chanya wa mauzo ya bidhaa kwa wastani wa USD Milioni 288.04.

2.9 Uboreshaji Mazingira ya Biashara Nchini

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kuboresha mazingira ya biashara nchini, Wizara imefanikiwa kuandaa na kutekeleza Mpango wa Kuboresha Mfumo wa Udhibiti wa Biashara Nchini - BLUEPRINT. Mpango huo umewezesha maboresho ya tozo 173 ambapo tozo 163 zimefutwa na tozo kero 10 zimepunguzwa kiwango. Kati ya tozo zilizofutwa, 114 ni za Sekta ya Kilimo na Mifugo, 5 za OSHA, 44 za TBS, Mamlaka za Mkemia Mkuu wa Serikali Tanzania katika masoko ya nje. Kipaumbele ni katika masoko ya: China (Madini, Vito, Nyama, Tumbaku, Korosho na Muhogo); India (Mikunde, Korosho, Ngozi na Nafaka); Ulaya (Matunda, Mbogamboga, Asali, Kahawa na Korosho); na Nchi za EAC (nafaka, bidhaa za ujenzi, bidhaa za ngozi, bidhaa za viwandani na vyakula vya mifugo); na Nchi za SADC (Madini, nafaka, bidhaa za viwandani, bidhaa za ujenzi). Aidha, mikutano na misafara ya kibiashara iliyoratibiwa ilizingatia na kutumia matokeo ya tafiti hizo na hivyo kufanikisha kutumia fursa hizo za biashara.

2.12 Kuimarika kwa Biashara za Mipakani

Mheshimiwa Spika; Serikali imewezesha kuanzishwa kwa Vituo kumi vya Mipakani. Aidha, kati ya hivyo Vituo sita vinafanya kazi kwa mujibu wa utaratibu wa OSBPs, Vituo viwili (Hororo/ Lungalunga; na Sirari/Isebania) ujenzi wake umeshakamilika vinasubiri kuzinduliwa rasmi. Vituo viwili vilivyobaki (Kasumulo/ Songwe; na Mugina/Manyovu) viko kwenye hatua za awali za ujenzi. Vilevile, Serikali inatambua umuhimu wa kuwa na masoko ya kimkakati kwa ajili ya kukuza biashara na mauzo nje ya nchi kwa maendeleo ya wananchi wake na Taifa kwa ujumla. Kutokana na umuhimu huo, Serikali imekuwa ikichukua hatua za kuanzisha, kuboresha na kuendeleza masoko ya kimkakati ya mipakani ya Nkwenda na Murongo (Kyerwa), Kabanga (Ngara), Kahama (Kahama), Remagwa (Tarime) na Bweranyange (Karagwe) ili kurasimisha ufanyaji biashara. Kwa sasa Wizara inaratibu Mradi wa Ujenzi na Uboreshaji wa Masoko ya Mipakani ili kuhakikisha wananchi waishio mipakani wananufaika ipasavyo. Jitihada hizo zimekwenda sambamba na mpango wa Wizara wa ujenzi wa masoko ya kimkakati mipakani.

2.13 Kuhuisha Soko la Biashara ya Zao la Tumbaku

Mheshimiwa Spika; kipekee naomba nimpongeze Mhe Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania na Serikali anayoingoza kwa namna alivyosimama imara na kuweka msimamo thabiti dhidi ya mifumo ya kumyonya mkulima katika mazao mbalimbali na hususan korosho, pamba, kahawa na mazao mengine. Wizara itahakikisha kupitia taasisi zake ikiwemo FCC inasimamia na maeneo mengine kuharibu mifumo ya aina hiyo iliyowekwa na wafanyabishara wasio waaminifu kwa lengo la kumnyonya mkulima. Mheshimiwa Rais ni mfano wa kuigwa katika utendaji wetu hasa katika kuhakikisha haki za wakulima na wananchi wanyonge zinalindwa. Na hii inadhihirisha utayari wake katika

Shirika la Biashara la Dunia ili kufanya Mkataba wa Uwezeshaji Biashara (Trade Facilitation Agreement) kuwa sehemu rasmi ya mikataba ya WTO. Tayari waraka huo umekwisharidhiwa na Bunge la Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania na Hati ya Kuridhia (Instrument of Ratification) ya Itifaki hiyo imekwishasainiwa na kuwasilishwa WTO. Vilevile, Itifaki ya *Marrakesh* inayolenga kuwezesha upatikanaji wa kazi zilizochapishwa kwa watu wasioona, wenye uoni hafifu, ulemavu unaofanya mtu kushindwa kusoma wa mwaka 2013 iliridhiwa na Bunge la Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania. Tayari, Hati ya Itifaki hiyo imesainiwa na kuwasilishwa WIPO. Tunashukuru Waheshimiwa Wabunge na Mheshimiwa Rais kwa kuridhia na kufanikisha Mikataba na Itifaki hizo.

3. MWELEKEO NA VIPAUMBELE VYA SEKTA YA VIWANDA NA BIASHARA

3.1 Mwelekeo wa Sekta ya Viwanda na Biashara

Mheshimiwa Spika; mtazamo na mwelekeo wa Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano inayoongozwa na Chama cha Mapinduzi kuhusu maendeleo ya viwanda na biashara nchini, unalenga kujenga uchumi wa viwanda utakaowawezesha Watanzania kufikia na kunufaika na uchumi wa kati ifikapo 2025. Hatua hiyo itawezesha Watanzania kutumia fursa za kiuchumi na kijamii katika mifumo iliyoboreshwa na inayozingatia haki na utawala bora. Ni dhamira ya nchi yetu kumfanya kila Mtanzania kuwa na maisha bora na kunufaika na rasilimali na fursa zilizopo na zinazojitokeza.

i. Kuhamasisha Uendelezaji na Matumizi ya Bidhaa za Ndani

Mheshimiwa Spika; kuthamini rasilimali na bidhaa za ndani ni ukombozi muhimu wa kiuchumi kwa Taifa lolote. Mifano hai ni nchi ya Japan na China ambazo wananchi wake wamejijengea utamaduni wa kuthamini bidhaa zinazozalishwa katika uchumi wao. Hivyo, Wizara itaendelea kuhamasisha uimarishaji wa ubora na matumizi ya bidhaa za ndani, nguvukazi na malighafi za ndani ili kuleta ufungamanisho wa sekta katika kujenga uchumi na kuleta maendeleo kwa wananchi wake. Aidha, Wizara kwa kushirikiana na TanTrade inaendelea kuhamasisha wananchi kutumia bidhaa zinazozalishwa na viwanda vya ndani kupitia kauli mbiu ya Nunua Bidhaa za Tanzania, Jenga Tanzania (Buy Tanzania, Build Tanzania). Mbinu hiyo ni muhimu sana katika



kipindi hiki cha ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda ili kuimarisha viwanda vya ndani na kutumia Kiswahili katika bidhaa.

ii. Kuimarisha SIDO

Mheshimiwa Spika; kwa kutambua umuhimu na mchango wa Sekta ya Viwanda Vidogo na Biashara Ndogo katika uchumi na hususan ujenzi wa viwanda, Serikali itachukua hatua za makusudi kuimarisha ujasiriamali nchini. Kipaumbele kitakuwa katika kuimarisha taasisi ya SIDO kwa kupitia upya muundo wake na kuijengea uwezo ili iweze kubeba ipasavyo dhamana ya uendelezaji wa viwanda vidogo na biashara ndogo inayowabeba Watanzania walio wengi. Jitihada hizo zitaenda sambamba na kuendelea ujenzi wa *shades* katika mikoa yote nchini ili manufaa yalioyoonekana ya ajira na uongezaji thamani wa mazao, na kuongeza ushindani katika soko yasambae nchi nzima.

Mweshimiwa Spika; Wizara pia itaweka mkazo na umuhimu katika upatikanaji wa teknolojia, kuongeza miundombinu ya uzalishaji (Industrial shades) ili kuwawezesha wajasiriamali kupata mahali pa kufanyia uzalishaji, na kuweza kuhudumiwa kirahisi na taasisi mbalimbali zikiwemo za udhibiti wa ubora wa bidhaa, taasisi za fedha na mafunzo muafaka. Juhudi za kuimarisha jasiriamali nchini zitaenda sambamba na kuimarisha SIDO ili imudu kutoa huduma bora na zenye kuleta tija katika uzalishaji wa bidhaa, huduma na ufanyaji biashara.

iii. Kuvilinda Viwanda na Biashara za Nchini

Mheshimiwa Spika; uchumi himilivu unaotabirika na shindani unatokana na jitihada za kuujenga, kuuendeleza na kuulinda. Kujilinda isitafsiriwe kuwa ndiyo kujitenga kiuchumi na nchi nyingine, na wala siyo dhambi, kwani hata nchi zilizoendelea kiuchumi duniani mbinu mbalimbali zinaendelea kutumika kwa njia tofauti. Hivyo, sera, sheria na mikakati ya kisekta itaendelea kuhakikisha kuwa kunakuwepo ushindani wa haki ili kulinda viwanda na biashara nchini. Aidha, tutaendelea kulinda haki za msingi za walaji kwa kuweka utaratibu wa kisheria utakaotaka wawekezaji, wenye viwanda na wafanyabiashara katika mazao, bidhaa na huduma kutotumia nguvu ya soko isivyotakiwa na kusababisha kuwakandamiza wanyonge.

Mheshimiwa Spika; ili kuongeza nguvu za utafutaji wa fursa za masoko ya nje, Wizara inafanya uchambuzi wa kina wa kuona umuhimu wa kuhuisha na kurejesha Waambata wa Biashara (Trade Attachee) katika ofisi za Balozi zetu zilizo nje ya nchi, ili kuweka mfumo wa kufanya tathmini na utafiti wa mahitaji ya soko la bidhaa zinazozalishwa nchini. Tathmini na tafiti hizo zitatoa picha ya mahitaji ya soko la nje na kuwezesha wazalishaji wa bidhaa za ndani kuzalisha kwa kuzingatia mahitaji ya soko la nje.

Mheshimiwa Spika; utoaji huduma bora kwa wananchi kwa kiwango kinachoridhisha ni lengo kuu la mabadiliko ya kiutendaji ambayo Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano inayapa kipaumbele. Hivyo, mwelekeo wetu ni kuhakikisha kuwa taasisi za kisekta zinajielekeza katika kutoa huduma kwa kiwango kinachokidhi matarajio ya wananchi. Wizara yangu na taasisi zake zitaongeza ubunifu katika utendaji kazi kwa tija na kutoa huduma kwa weledi ili kuchochea ufanisi katika Sekta ya Viwanda na Biashara na hatimaye kuongeza Pato la Taifa.

vi. Muunganisho wa Kiutendaji Kati ya Wizara na Mamlaka za Serikali za Mitaa

Mheshimiwa Spika, kwa kuzingatia umuhimu wa utendaji kazi wenye tija katika ngazi za Makatibu Tawala Mkoa (RAS) na Mamlaka za Serikali za Mitaa (LGAs), Kada za Maafisa Biashara zitapewa msukumo wa kipekee, ili kuhakikisha inahuishwa na kufanya kazi zake kitaaluma. Aidha, Wizara imeanza mazungumzo na Ofisi ya Rais TAMISEMI ili kuandaa Mkataba wa Makubaliano (Memorandum of Undestanding) wa kuweka mifumo na mazingira bora ya kufanya kazi pamoja na kwa kushirikiana.

vii. Utungaji wa Sheria ya Kujilinda Dhidi ya Athari za Biashara (Trade Remedies Act, 2020)

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara inaendelea na taratibu za kutunga Sheria ya Kujilinda Dhidi ya Athari za Kibiashara ya mwaka 2020 (Trade Remedies Act, 2020) ambayo inalenga kulinda biashara na viwanda vya ndani. Ulinzi huo unalenga kuzuia uingizwaji wa bidhaa kwa wingi (import surge); bidhaa kuuzwa kwa bei ya chini ikilinganishwa na bei ya bidhaa kama hizo kwenye nchi zinakotoka (dumping); na bidhaa nyingine kupewa ruzuku (subsidies) na nchi zao au taasisi nyingine na hivyo kuathiri bidhaa ambazo zinazalishwa ndani ya nchi bila kupata ruzuku. Mapendekezo ya kutunga Sheria hiyo yamekwishawasilishwa Serikalini kwa ajili ya maamuzi.

viii.

ix. Utekelezaji wa Mikakati Mbalimbali ya Uendelezaji Viwanda Nchini

Mheshimiwa Spika; Mkakati wa Kuendeleza Sekta ya Ngozi wa mwaka 2016-2020 umejikita katika kuendeleza mnyororo wa thamani wa Zao la Ngozi. Katika kutekeleza mkakati huo, Serikali imetoa msamaha wa ushuru wa forodha kwenye malighafi na vifaa vinavyotumika kutengenezea viatu na bidhaa za ngozi vinavyoingizwa kutoka nje ya nchi. Lengo likiwa ni kupunguza gharama za uzalishaji kwa viwanda vya ngozi na kuvutia uwekezaji. Fursa hiyo imetumiwa na Kiwanda cha *Karanga Leather Industries* ambacho hivi karibuni kimeingiza mashine na vifuasi (accessories). Vilevile, Kiwanda cha *ACE leather* Morogoro kimetumia fursa hiyo kuingiza mashine na vifuasi ili kusindika ngozi hadi hatua ya mwisho. Mkakati huo pia umehamasisha taasisi za umma na shule kununua bidhaa za ngozi hususan viatu kutoka viwanda vya ndani kulingana na upatikanaji. Kwa sasa maandalizi ya kuhuisha Mkakati huo yanaendelea.

x. Kuimarisha Sekta Binafsi

Mheshimiwa Spika; mtazamo wa Sera za Taifa zinatambua nafasi ya sekta binafsi kama injini ya maendeleo ya kiuchumi. Kujenga sekta binafsi hasa wajasiriamali wadogo kwa kuwawekea mazingira wezeshi na rafiki kupitia upatikanaji wa mitaji, teknolojia rahisi na rafiki, masoko ya uhakika na huduma muhimu zinazolenga kuongeza tija na ufanisi katika uzalishaji ni suala lisilohitaji mjadala. Hivyo, katika kuendeleza Sekta ya Viwanda na Biashara, mtazamo wa kisera utalenga kukuza na kutengeneza uwekezaji kuanzia ngazi ya ujasiriamali mdogo hadi kuwa matajiri wazalendo wa baadaye. Msukumo utawekwa katika kuweka sera zinazotabirika, kujenga mazingira yanayotabirika na kutoa fursa ya masoko.

Minerals and Geosciences Centre (AMGC) ilifanya uhakiki wa awali wa wingi na aina za madini yaliyopo kwenye miamba ya Liganga. Matokeo ya awali yalibainisha kuwa kuna tofauti ya wingi na aina za madini ikilinganishwa na ilivyobainishwa katika taarifa ya mwekezaji. Utafiti wa kina unaendelea kufanyika kwa nia ya kubainisha hali halisi ya rasilimali zilizopo. Aidha, NDC kwa kushirikisha na uongozi wa Wilaya ya Ludewa na Wizara ya Ardhi, Nyumba na Maendeleo ya Makazi imekamilisha kazi ya uthaminishaji mali ndani ya eneo la mradi ili kufidia wananchi watakaopisha Mradi unganishi wa Mchuchuma na Liganga.

Mheshimiwa Spika; TIRDO inaendelea kufanya "*Techno Economic Study*" katika Mradi wa Magadi Soda Engaruka. Lengo la utafiti huo ni kubainisha kiasi cha mahitaji ya magadi nchini, thamani ya uwekezaji utakaofanyika na faida za mradi huo kwa ujumla. Makadirio ya awali ya rasilimali magadi (brine) yameonesha uwepo wa kiasi cha mita za ujazo Bilioni 4.68. Aidha, ilibanika kuwa rasilimali hiyo inajiongeza kwa kiasi cha mita za ujazo wa Milioni 1.9 kwa mwaka. Uhakiki wa rasilimali hiyo unaendelea sambamba na ukamilishaji wa upembuzi yakinifu wa mradi na athari ya mradi katika mazingira na jamii. Utafiti huo unategemewa kukamilika mwisho mwa mwezi Aprili, 2020.

3.2 Vipaumbele kwa Bajeti ya Mwaka 2020/2021

Mheshimiwa Spika; vipaumbele vya bajeti na malengo ya sekta ya viwanda na biashara ya mwaka 2020/2021 vimeelezewa kwa kina ukurasa 138 hadi 181 ya hotuba ya bajeti.

4. MAKADIRIO YA MAKUSANYO NA MAOMBI YA FEDHA KWA MWAKA 2020/2021

4.1 Makusanyo ya Serikali

Mheshimiwa Spika; Katika mwaka 2020/2021, Wizara inatarajia kukusanya maduhuli ya jumla ya Shilingi 15,000,000 kutokana na uuzaji wa nyaraka za zabuni na makusanyo mengine. Kati ya fedha hizo, Shilingi 9,000,000 zitakusanywa katika Fungu 44 na Shilingi 6,000,000 zitakusanywa katika Fungu 60.

4.2 Maombi ya Fedha

Mheshimiwa Spika; Kwa mwaka 2020/2021, Wizara ya Viwanda na Biashara inaomba kutengewa jumla ya Shilingi 81,366,902,000. Kati ya fedha hizo, Shilingi 51,679,016,000 ni za Matumizi ya Kawaida na Shilingi 29,687,886,000 ni za Matumizi ya Maendeleo. Aidha, katika Bajeti hiyo, Shilingi 57,414,395,000 ni za Fungu 44 na Shilingi 23,952,507,000 ni za Fungu 60.

5. SHUKRANI

Mheshimiwa Spika; ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda ni shirikishi na jumuishi, hivyo huhitaji ushiriki wa wadau mbalimbali. Kwa kutambua umuhimu huo, napenda kutumia fursa hii kuwashukurukwa dhati washirika wetu wa maendeleo, zikiwemo nchi rafiki. Vilevile, nashukuru taasisi zote, sekta binafsi, taasisi zisizo za kiserikali (CBOs & FBOs) kwa kuwa sehemu muhimu ya ujenzi wa uchumi wetu. Kama nchi, tunaendelea kutegemea ushirikiano wenye tija katika kufikia malengo endelevu ya jamii nzima ya Watanzania.

iv. Uimarishaji wa Taasisi za Udhibiti na Maendeleo ya Teknolojia na Uwekezaji Nchini

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kuendeleza uchumi wa viwanda, Serikali inaimarisha taasisi zake ili ziweze kukidhi na kuhimili mahitaji ya maendeleo na ujenzi wa viwanda nchini. Wizara inajizatiti kuimarisha Taasisi za Utafiti na Maendeleo ya Teknolojia yaani TIRDO, TEMDO na CAMARTEC kwa kufanya tathmnini ya kitaalam, kupitia upya na kwa kina majukumu na miundo ya kisheria ya taasisi hizo. Lengo ni kuzifanyia maboresho mahsusi yatakayozingatia ushauri wa kitaalam na itakapoonekana inafaa, zitafanyiwa maamuzi ya kimuundo ikiwemo kuziunganisha ili ziweze kuwa na tija na ufanisi katika kuleta mwendelezo wa mafanikio ya taasisi hizo na pia kuongeza nguvu katika kuendeleza viwanda nchini.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Serikali pia kwa kuzingatia tathmini ya kitaalam, itajielekeza katika kuimarisha taasisi za uwekezaji nchini hususan EPZA na NDC ili ziwe mihimili na nguzo za uwekezaji katika viwanda ambavyo ni muhimu katika kujenga uchumi wa Taifa lakini wakati mwingine sekta binafsi haiko tayari kuwekeza. Msukumo ukiwa ni kuunda taasisi / mamlaka mpya itakayobeba jukumu la kujenga viwanda mama, viwanda vya kimkakati.

v. Kutunga Sheria (Business Facilitation Act) kutekeleza Mpango Kazi - BLUEPRINT

Mheshimiwa Spika; ujenzi wa mazingira bora na endelevu ya biashara ni kichocheo kikubwa na muhimu katika kuvutia uwekezaji wa ndani na nje. Hivyo, Serikali kupitia Wizara yangu imejipanga kuhakikisha kuwa inaendelea kuboresha mazingira ya biashara nchini. Maboresho hayo yatavutia wawekezaji wa ndani na nje katika viwanda na biashara na hivyo kuwezesha kutumia fursa mbalimbali za ndani na nje ya nchi kadri zinavyojitokeza. Misingi ya maboresho ya mazingira ya kibiashara yanategemewa kuwekewa nguvu ya kisheria na utaratibu wenye ushirikishaji mpana zaidi wa wadau.

xi. Nguvukazi Kukidhi Mahitaji ya Viwanda

Mheshimiwa Spika; suala la kuwa na rasilimali watu ya kutosha yenye sifa, uwezo na inayotumika vizuri ni muhimu katika kujenga uchumi endelevu wa viwanda. Wizara imejipanga kuendeleza kimkakati rasilimaliwatu iliyonayo kwa kuwa na mpango mpana wa kuwaendeleza na kuwajengea uwezo watumishi wa Wizara ili kuongeza ujuzi na weledi katika kutekeleza majukumu yao. Hii itawezesha kuboresha huduma zitolewazo na kukidhi matarajio ya wadau na umma wa ujumla. Tutajielekeza zaidi katika maeneo ya kuboresha huduma (service delivery) kwa njia mbalimbali, kuimarisha usimamizi na uratibu wa shughuli za kisekta (Regulatory role) na kuishirikisha sekta binafsi na wadau wengine kuchangia kikamilifu katika kukuza uchumi. Ili kuwa na rasilimaliwatu yenye afya, Wizara itahakikisha kuwa watumishi wanapata elimu ya afya na huduma za kinga dhidi ya magonjwa yanayoambukiza na yasiyoambukiza.

xii. Kuendeleza Maeneo Maalum ya Uwekezaji

Mheshimiwa Spika; kuwekeza katika ujenzi wa miundombinu ya msingi na wezeshi kwa ajili ya ujenzi wa viwanda na ufanyaji biashara ni suala la msingi. Uendelezaji wa miundombinu hiyo kwa kushirikiana na sekta binafsi utapewa msukumo zaidi ili kuleta tija na mvuto kwa wawekezaji wa ndani na nje ya nchi. Wizara itashirikiana na Balozi za Tanzania pamoja na Ofisi ya Waziri Mkuu-Uwekezaji kuja na mkakati wa kuvutia wawekezji kutumia sehemu ambazo zimefidiwa chini ya EPZA. Pia, imezindua miradi ya ujenzi wa miundombinu hiyo katika mikoa yote nchini ambapo kwa Mkoa wa Dodoma tumeanza na ujenzi wa Kongano la Viwanda Kizota (Kizota Industrial Cluster).

xiii. Uendelezaji wa Miradi ya Kimkakati na ya Kielelezo

Mheshimiwa Spika; katika kuendeleza Miradi ya Kimakati, Wizara, TIRDO, Wakala wa Jiolojia Tanzania (GST), na *African*

Mheshimiwa Spika; Naomba nihitimishe kwa kuwashukuru tena Watanzania kwa kuendelea kuunga mkono jitihada za Serikali katika ujenzi wa uchumi wa viwanda na hivyo kuwa kichocheo cha kukua kwa sekta nyingine za uchumi. Ni dhahiri kuwa Taifa kwa kipindi hiki kinahitaji kuendeleza ari hiyo katika kupambana na majanga mbalimbali ikiwemo ugonjwa wa mafua makali wa KORONA. Kwa pamoja tuungane kujikinga na kulindana ili Taifa libaki salama na likiwa na nguvukazi ya kutegemewa.

6. HITIMISHO

Mheshimiwa Spika; Wizara ninayoisimamia imeazimia kuendeleza maamuzi makini na yenye mashiko ya Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano ya kujenga uchumi wa viwanda wenye mafanikio ambayo yanajitafsiri katika ubora wa maisha ya kila mwananchi na Taifa kwa ujumla. Hivyo, Sera, Sheria na Mikakati iliyopo itaendelea kuboreshwa ili kuendeleza mafanikio yaliyopatikana na kuchochea mbinu za utekelezaji ili kufikiwa kwa malengo ya Serikali ya Awamu ya Tano inayoongozwa na Chama cha Mapinduzi. Ni dhahiri kuwa jitihada hizo pamoja na utekelezaji wa *Blueprint* utatutoa hapa tulipo na kutupaisha katika maendeleo na kufikia lengo la uchumi wa kati ifikapo 2025 kama ilivyoazimiwa na Dira ya Taifa ya 2025. Inawezekana, endapo kila mmoja wetu atachukua nafasi yake na kujituma ipasavyo.

7. MAOMBI RASMI YA FEDHA

Mheshimiwa Spika; Naomba Bunge lako Tukufu liidhinishe makadirio ya Wizara ya Viwanda na Biashara ya kukusanya mapato ya jumla ya Shilingi 15,000,000 na matumizi ya jumla ya Shilingi 81,366,902,000 kwa mwaka 2020/2021. 8. MWISHO

Mheshimiwa Spika; Hotuba hii pia inapatikana katika Tovuti ya Wizara yenye anuani ifuatayo: <u>www.mit.go.tz</u>.

Mheshimiwa Spika; Naomba kutoa hoja.

BUSINESS MB aribu

TECH SAVVY

NMB, Mastercard team up with EYWA to digitise commuters' fare payment

By Guardian Reporter

IN the first of its kind initiative to further spur cashless payment solutions in the market, NMB Bank Plc has teamed up with Mastercard and transportation solutions provider, EYWA to enable commuters pay their fares digitally.

Consisting of a mobile application and a transit card, the mass transportation solution will leverage cashless payments and digital technologies to efficiently transform how millions of commuters are moved daily within and across major cities in Tanzania.

As the banking partner in the consortium, NMB Bank will be enabling commercial transport operators join the formal economy using digital payment technology tools, said acting Managing Director, Ruth Zaipuna.

during the launch of the partnership that last year, the bank teamed up with Mastercard to offer another digital payment tool dubbed Mastercard QR to motorcycle taxi riders also known as 'boda-boda' to receive fares from customers directly through their NMB accounts.

"We are committed to growing Tanzania's transportation sector and working with partners such as EYWA and Mastercard to introduce a digital solution that will not only promote a cashless society but will also benefit commuters and passengers plus the economy in general," Zaipuna said.

"Formalization of these payments is a key component of NMB's drive to enhance financial inclusion among the commuters and the transport sector as a whole. With Mastercard QR, we are providing an efficient means for commuters Zaipuna said in Dar es Salaam to receive payments from all MNOs



NMB Bank Plc's acting managing director, Ruth Zaipuna

and commercial bank customers that are Mastercard QR enabled," she added. This service will be available at all bus stations na-

tionwide in Tanzania, starting with Dar es Salaam. Mastercard and EYWA plan to expand to other markets across East Africa, enabling more people to enjoy

smooth and seamless digital transit services in the coming months.

"We are committed to making decent mass-transit services accessible for all with a goal of moving millions of Africans daily and safely, at the cost they can afford.

As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, we are humbled to be able to launch a solution that will enable commuters in Tanzania transit while being able to stay safe by limiting human-to-human contact,' said EYWA's CEO, Toffene Kama.

Adam Jones, Mastercard's Area Business Head for East Africa, Adam Jones backed Zaipuna and Kama observations saying with more people travelling around urban areas for work or leisure, cities are looking to better address the demand across public transit networks.

"As such, we are proud to have partnered with EYWA and NMB Bank to launch Mastercard OR in the transport sector, an integral part of Tanzania's economy.

With thousands of people using public transport on a daily basis, our digital payment technology integrated into this solution will have a substantial and positive impact on driving inclusive growth, as well as building the digital economy," Jones noted.

To enjoy this service, all passengers need to do is get their free EYWA Transit Card from agents located at bus stops and top-up through any of their preferred platforms.

Commuters will receive information on the next arriving bus on their mobile phones. Smartphone users can also download the EYWA application for an even better user experience.

Azania Bank donates 100 bags of cement to Ilemela public schools

By Guardian Reporter

GENEROSITY

AZANIA Bank Limited handed over a donation to 100 cement bags to back construction of classrooms in Ilemela district of Mwanza region.

Speaking after receiving the consignment yesterday in Mwanza, an assistant to Ilemela lawmaker who is also Deputy Minister for Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Angelina Mabula, Kazungu Safari paid tribute to Azania

support saying the municipality is facing shortage of classrooms. "On behalf of the people of Ilemela and their MP, I would like to express our deep appreciation to Azania Bank for their endless support to our municipal. I recall Azania Bank just recently launched 'Jikwamue' loans which target business women, small scale entrepreneurs and people with disabilities, here in Ilemela," Safari said.

While calling on other cor-

management and staff for the porations to join ABL's good corporate citizenry, Safari said Ilemela's education system has many challenges apart from classrooms hence need concerted efforts by both the public and private sectors.

"Statistics show that there is shortage of almost 103 classrooms for the enrolled 8.668 students enrolled this year 2020 so far but currently only have 90 classrooms," he noted.

Speaking during the event on behalf of Ilemela MP, the MP's

Secretary (Katibu wa Mbunge) Mr. Kazungu Safari expressed his appreciation to this support and asked for other financial institutions to do the same as a part of their CSR.

In remarks after handing over the cement bags, Azania Bank's Mwaloni Branch Manager, Sasa Miligwa stated that the donation is part of the bank's corporate social responsibility contribution to the community.

"As a financial institution operating in this area, we felt that

ers.

gear for employees and custom-

have taken all measures to en-

sure that customers and staff

are safe by keeping distance

and also supplying sanitizers

and other preventive gear," he

added while observing that the

bank is also encouraging cli-

ents and the general public to

use digital transacting products

such as Azania Plus. Azania Plus

comprises of mobile banking,

mobile application, Internet

"Our branches countrywide

it is crucial to support such an

initiative so that we can give

back part of the profit we make

to the community. Latest finan-

cial statements indicate that

Azania Bank made a profit of

15bn/- in 2019 part of which is

what we are donating here,"

He said in addition, the Dar es

Salaam based Tier 1 lender has

also supported government's

apart from taking cautions and

investing in personal protective

measures

Miligwa said.

anti-coronavirus

banking, Azania Wakala, Visa Card services and ATM outlets. Cap:

Azania Bank Limited's Mwaloni Branch Manager, Sasa Miligwa (L) handing over part of the 100 cement bags to an assistant to Ilemela Constituency lawmaker who is also Deputy Minister for Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Angelina Mabula, Kazungu Safari during a brief ceremony held in Ilemela Municipality of Mwanza region yesterday. Photo cour-

INNOVATION

TTB to live-stream migration of wildebeest beginning this month

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

AS the coronavirus pandemic restricts tourists to witness the annual wildebeests migration which is due to take place at Serengeti National Park later this month, Tanzania Tourist Board will live-stream the event.

TTB Managing Director Devota Mdachi said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that they have come up with the innovative solution to allow fans of the annual migration

witness the event that will be aired tourists back to Serengeti National from this month. Mdachi said TTB in collaboration with the Serengeti Show Live team, will air the event using all

digital media outlets globally. "Our mission is to entertain and thrill all wildlife and safari fans during Covid-19 travel restrictions," she said.

Serengeti Show Live is a creation of wildlife guide, Carel Verhoef aimed at allowing tourists and local wildlife fans access to their favourite conservation places during Covid-19 lockdowns.

Park whilst conserving the habitat and biodiversity of the area. Tracking animals in their natural environments, he leads the videography team through game drives which take Africa to the world. "As we wait for a time when the

world will open up again for travel, we are putting in place recovery strategies to ensure destination Tanzania remains a preferred choice in the minds of prospective tourists," the TTB chief added.

Verhoef's program helps bring

TTB is also collaborating with Tanzania National Parks and Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority who also have partnered with the Serengeti Show Live team to bring the highly visual wildlife show to the world to entertain and educate the viewers.

Commenting on the program, Verhoef said the great migration of wildebeest and iconic African animals like lions and elephants are a draw card for tourists visiting Serengeti National Park at this point in time annually.

"We're concerned about the devastating impact the reduction of travel and tourism is having on the revenue generated for conservation agencies. This is also resulting in job losses and more broadly affecting the livelihoods of people working in and living around protected areas. It also impacts the operations in the wilderness areas," noted Verhoef.

Approximately 17.2 percent of the country's gross domestic product is generated by tourism with over one million foreign arrivals

AZANIA BANK LTD TD AZANIA BY AZANIA BANK LTD ZANIA BANK L AZANIA BANK LTD NK LTD AZANIA BANK L'

Azania Bank Limited's Mwaloni Branch Manager, Sasa Miligwa (L) present part of the 100 cement bags to an assistant to llemela Constituency lawmaker who is also Deputy Minister for Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Angelina Mabula, Kazungu Safari during a brief ceremony held in Ilemela Municipality of Mwanza region yesterday. Photo courtesy of Azania Bank.

African nations urged on free-trade deal to fight pandemic

ADDIS ABABA

CALL

THE delayed implementation of an African free-trade agreement is a missed opportunity as the pact offers "probably the best form of stimulus" for the continent to overcome the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, according to an enterprise that liaises between business and the African Union.

"We unfortunately don't have the ability to play with quantitative Ecobank Transnational, and Ichor easing and the exercise of printing money," Paulo Gomes, the vice

president of the AfroChampions Initiative, said in an interview. "Our stimulus is really to enhance trade among the countries and create the conditions to create jobs, develop small and medium enterprises and make sure that we create liquidity in the market."

Gomes, a former executive director of the World Bank, is one of 25 African business leaders, including Gervais Djondo, the co-founder of Coal chief executive officer Nonkululeko Nyembezi-Heita, who wrote

an open letter to the continent's political leaders. In it, they warn that the postponement of trade under the African Continental Free Area would be a mistake.

First trade under the agreement, which was due to take place on July 1, has been delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. While the agreement entered into force legally last year, protocols for trade in goods and services need to be agreed to make the July deadline.

Instead of a full-blown postponement, countries should work to fa-

cilitate the transport of medical and personal protective equipment as an immediate response to the virus, while concluding outstanding negotiations via virtual meetings, Gomes said

The health and economic consequences of the virus will result in sub-Saharan Africa's first recession in 25 years, according to World Bank estimates. African finance ministers have called for emergency economic stimulus of \$100 billion, including debt-service waivers to combat the effects of the pandemic.

TTB's managing director, Devota Mdachi speaks at a past event.

ALERT

14

WHO backs use of scientifically proven medicinal plants in COVID-19 treatment

By Guardian Reporter

MEDICINAL plants such as Artemisia annua which are being considered as possible treatments for COVID-19 are welcome provided that they get tested for efficacy and adverse side effects.

World Health Organization's Africa regional office in Congo Brazzaville said in a statement on Monday that Africans deserve to use medicines tested to the same standards as people in the rest of the world.

"Even if therapies are derived from traditional practice and

natural, establishing their efficacy and safety through rigorous clinical trials is critical," said the statement while stressing that WHO welcomes innovations around the world including repurposing drugs, traditional medicines and developing new therapies in the search for potential treatments for COVID-19. WHO recognizes that traditional, complementary and alternative medicine has many benefits and Africa has a long

history of traditional medicine and practitioners that play an important role in providing care noted. to populations, the statement



Dr Matshidiso Moeti , WHO's Regional Director for Africa.

ed that African governments The statement further notthrough their Ministers of

Health adopted a resolution urging member states to produce evidence on the safety, efficacy and quality of traditional medicine at the Fiftieth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa in 2000.

"Countries also agreed to undertake relevant research and require national medicines regulatory agencies to approve medicines in line with international standards, which include the product following a strict research protocol and undergoing tests and clinical trials," the statement added stressing that such studies

normally involve hundreds of people under the monitoring of the national regulatory authorities and may take quite a few months in an expedited process.

"WHO is working with research institutions to select traditional medicine products which can be investigated for clinical efficacy and safety for COVID-19 treatment," the release added noting that in addition, UN specialised body will continue to support countries as they explore the role of traditional health practitioners in prevention, control, and

early detection of the virus as well as case referral to health facilities.

WHO statement comes after Madagascar announced a possible CIVID-19 cure in a herbal tea made with Artemisia annua plant called Covid Organics.

The herbal tea has gained rapid popularity with several African leaders including President John Magufuli placing orders to treat Tanzanians as the world races against time to find a cure for the pandemic that has infected close to three million people and killed over 250,000 globally.

PLEA

Locked out of foreign aid, **Zimbabwe begs IMF and World Bank for assistance**

HARARE

ZIMBABWE, locked out of coronavirus-related aid programs because of debt arrears, has thrown itself at the mercy of organizations including the International Monetary Fund. It has received no response.

In an April 2 letter to the heads of the IMF, World Bank, African Development Bank, Paris Club and European Investment Bank, Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube sought debt relief and an arrears clearance program, according to a copy of the letter seen by Bloomberg. The government hasn't received any replies, said two people with knowledge of the matter, who asked not to be identified as the request hasn't been made public.

"The global Covid-19 pandemic is expected to have a devastating health. humanitarian and economic impact on Zimbabwe," Ncube said in the letter. "Domestic resources to allow the

authorities to mitigate the impact of funding gap will be \$1 billion this year. cess to external financing is severely constrained due to external debt ar-

rears." The outbreak and economic impact have hit Zimbabwe as it struggles to recover from the worst drought in 40 years, a cyclone and two decades of economic mismanagement that left the country short of fuel and wheat and with an annual inflation rate of 676%. Relations with multilateral organisations have been soured by Zimbabwe's inability to keep up with payments on \$8 billion of external debt. Zimbabwe, along with Sudan and Eritrea, is ineligible for recently announced aid from the IMF because of those arrears.

Economic outlook

Ncube said the economy is set to contract by between 15% and 20% over 2019 and 2020, and cited a World Bank assessment that the nation's

the pandemic are insufficient and ac- In the letter, Ncube said the government accepts "responsibility for the recent policy missteps" and laid out a series of measures the administration is prepared to take if the organisations agree to "high-level" talks.

Those include adopting a marketrelated exchange rate, ensuring that the central bank no longer lends money to the government, cracking down on corruption, aligning laws to a constitution that was adopted in 2013 but never fully implemented, and electoral reforms.

Ncube also offered to conclude an agreement by June that would lead to the compensation of white commercial farmers who were forced off their land in the past two decades in a violent and botched land-reform program, the decimated export earnings. In return, the government is seeking the rescheduling or cancellation of bilateral debt arrears, Ncube said,

adding that Zimbabwe proposes re-



Permanent secretary in Zimbabwe's Finance ministry, George Guvamatanga

vestment Bank.

"It is very unfair for Zimbabwe to be locked out of support to deal with a global humanitarian crisis, which it did not create," said George

Guvamatanga, the permanent secretary in Zimbabwe's finance ministry. "Especially considering that we were already on our own dealing with drought and cyclone induced crisis."

South Africa lockdown causes new vehicle sales to plummet by a whole 98.4 pct last month

JOHANNESBURG

NEW vehicle sales plummeted by a whopping 98.2% in April, during a nationwide lockdown to slow the spread of Covid-19.

According to statistics on new vehicle sales released by the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa, only 574 vehicles were sold. Of these, 105 vehicles were passenger cars and 318 were light commercial vehicles. Industry wide, the volume of sales is down 32.1% for the year to date.

By comparison, total sales in March was 33 545. Naamsa reported that new vehicle sales for March declined nearly 30%, year-on-year. The association attributed the decline to challenging economic conditions in SAA as well as developments related to Covid-19.

Naamsa's members include auto-manufacturers such as Toyota, Isuzu, Volkswagen, BMW, Ford, Nissan and Mercedes-Benz. "In this unprecedented time, the motor industry is experiencing unchartered conditions and grappling with the solutions to address it," said Lebogang Gaoaketse, head of marketing and communication at vehicle and asset financier WesBank.

The automotive industry contributes 6.9% to GDP - 4.4% of is this attributed to manufacturing and 2.5% is attributed to retail

The industry accounts for 30.1% of the country's manufacturing output and vehicle components are exported to 155 international markets, according to Naamsa. The manufacturing side of the industry employs more than 110 000 people and the sector as a whole supports 457 000 jobs, both directly and indirectly.

"The industry's significant 6.9% contribution to GDP means that many jobs are potentially impacted, across manufacturing and retail, as is foreign currency revenue from exports. "Mobility plays a vital role in providing the necessary stimulus to all sectors of the economy to literally get moving," Gaoaketse commented. "We should expect consumers to be slow in their return to the car market as they adapt to social distancing measures and remain cautious about their own budgets given the uncertainty.'

Treasury has projected that the economy could contract as much as 16.1% due to the impact of Covid-19. Job losses could be between three million and seven million, with the manufacturing industry among those which are worse affected, Fin24 previously reported.



scheduling the arrears over 15 years

with a five-year grace period. It also

wants a bridge loan to allow it to clear

arrears to the World Bank, African

Development Bank and European In-

Stanbic Bank Tanzania's Mbeya branch manager, Hemedi Sabuni (5th L) presents water storage tanks and sanitisers to Mbeya Municipal Council economist Saad Mtambule in Mbeya city yesterday being the bank's donation in support of the government's efforts in the war on Covid-19. Others in the photo are the bank's employees and municipal officials. Photo courtesy of Stanbic.

PROGRESS

Madagascar starts COVID-Organics clinical trials, factory to be built

ANTANANARIVO

MADAGASCAN president Andry Rajoelina has announced that clinical trials will start today (May 4) with COVID-Organics. A factory will also be built within a month to boost its production.

The president disclosed the developments during a national address on Sunday during which he extended the state of health emer-

gency in the southern African island nation by 15 days.

According to him, the trials were in partnership with foreign researchers. "A pharmaceutical factory will be set up within a month to increase the production capacity of Covid Organics. It will be administered in other forms such as injections," Rajoelina posted on Twitter.

The antiviral properties of Artemisia - the anti-malarial plant at the base of COVID-Organics and its role in building immune capacity have been proven, he added without giving details. "Thanks to this discovery, international researchers and doctors have proposed the construction of the largest cancer center in Africa in Madagascar," the president disclosed.

continues to sharply divide opinion among those that say it needs more attention and others who are dismissing as an unproven 'solution' to a malady the world is still grappling to get a grip on.

The profile of the drug has been boosted after about half dozen African leaders publicly endorsed it and requested for consignments.

The herbal tea / concoction The Malagasy government has so far been distributing it for free in the country and all shipped consignments are for free.

> Presidents of Tanzania, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Comoros, DR Congo, Senegal and the Republic of Congo have congratulated Madagascar for their bold step in combating the rampaging global virus.

BUSINESS NEWS

DECELERATION

Hong Kong's economy shrinks by 8.9% in first quarter due to coronavirus

HONG KONG

HONG KONG'S downturn is now the worst on record, extending the first recession witnessed in a decade as the coronavirus outbreak further hit an economy already weakened by political unrest

The city's economy contracted 8.9 per cent year on year in the first quarter, according to advance government data. The decline surpasses the previous record of -8.3 per cent in the third quarter of 1998 and a 7.8 per cent contraction in the first quarter of 2009, the two worst quarterly readings in data dating back to 1974, according to the Census and Statistics Department Hong Kong.

The latest decline also marks the third straight quarterly contraction for Hong Kong, the longest such stretch since the aftermath of the global financial crisis in 2009. Economists had forecast a drop in output of 6.5 per cent in the three months to March from the same period a year earlier.

Hong Kong's economy shrank 1.2 per cent last year, the first time that had happened since 2009. On Sunday, Financial Secretary Paul Chan pointed to the worst full-year performance on record, with a contraction of as much as 7 per cent. Mr Chan will speak to the media at 5pm local time on Monday about the gross domestic product data.

Even as the city prepares to ease some social distancing measures amid a steady improvement in the local outbreak situation, the hit to global commerce and the threat of renewed anti-government unrest means activity will probably remain depressed. Unemployment is increasing amid the devastation in tourism, retail, transport and other industries.

"Faced with a collapse in global demand, Hong Kong's small,

FRUSTRATION

Italian wedding dress designer burned entire collection in protesting against coronavirus ban

ROME

A wedding dress designer in Italy says he set his entire 2020-2021 collection on fire to protest the country's ban on wedding ceremonies during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I set my creations alight, the fruits of my talent and my artistry, to send a strong message," Pietro Demita, the owner of Diamond Couture in Lecce, Italy, told The Observer. "Because, even if I hadn't, the economic and political decisions imposed during the coronavirus crisis would have sent them up in smoke anyway.'

There don't appear to be the Italian government wants any photos of the burned

open economy is taking a severe hit," said Qian Wan, economist with Bloomberg Intelligence, in an April 28 note before of the results. "The trade- and service-oriented economy will suffer a major drag from the global downturn."

Mr Chan, the city's top economic policy official, had signalled that the reading for the first quarter this year could be even worse than past lows. The city's economy already contracted in the second half of last year amid street protests and a government crackdown.

The effects of the extended downturn can be especially seen across the city's struggling small and medium-sized businesses, which have borne the brunt of the impact from protests since last year and now the coronavirus.

"Hong Kong has been a risk-taking society relative to starting a business, but the situation going on the last year will create long memories in people's minds," said Todd Handcock, chairman of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. "It has been a very challenging year for SMEs in Hong



Kong. The unfortunate reality is some of these will not survive and others will struggle for a very long time."

Guardian

As of December, 340,000 SMEs accounted for more than 98 per cent of all business units and employed some 1.3 million people or about 45 per cent of the total excluding civil service, according to government data. Sentiment among small businesses is sitting near a record low while those reporting a need for credit have jumped to an almost four-year high of 8.8 per cent, March government data shows.

"If we all fold, the unemployment levels are going to skyrocket in this city," said Bella Dobie, co-founder and managing director of Hong Kong branding and marketing company Orijen. The company has six full-time employees including Ms Dobie and has been in business since 2000. "The economy of Hong Kong has been struggling since the start of the protests and Covid-19 is just a double whammy."

Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, Paul Chan.



| ITV P | GM SCHEDULE | 23:00 |
|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | 23:30 |
| | | 00:30 |
| SATUR | RDAY 02 May | 02:00 |
| 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi | |
| 6:00 | HABÁRI | TUESD |
| 6:40 | Kumekucha | 5:30 |
| 7:00 | Habari | 6:00 |
| 8:00 | Al Jazeera | 6:40 |
| 9:00 | Watoto wetu | 7:30 |
| 10:00 | Shika Bamba 5 | 8:00 |
| 10:30 | Mjue Zaidi rpt | 9:00 |
| 11:15 | The Base rpt | 9:30 |
| 11:45 | The Great Queen Seonduk | 10:00 |
| 12:30 | Chetu ni chetu rpt | 10:30 |
| 13:15 | Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost | 11:00 |
| 15:30 | Igizo rpt: Mapito | 12:00 |
| 16:00 | lgizo rpt: Mizengwe | 12:30 |
| 16:20 | Igizo: Mtego | 13:00 |
| 17:00 | Shamsham za Pwani | 13:30 |
| 18:00 | Jiji Letu | 13:55 |
| 18:15 | Mapishi | 14:00 |
| 18:30 | Igizo: Mapito | 14:55 |

| Habari The Base Al Jazeera DWTV | |
|--|--|
| DAY 05 May | |
| Uwanja wa Mazoezi | |
| Habari | |
| Kumekucha | |
| HABARI | |
| Kumekucha Michezo | |
| Kumekucha Kishindo | |
| Isidingo | |
| Watoto wetu | |
| Jungu Kuu rpt | |
| The Base rpt | |
| Al Jazeera | |
| Afya ya jamii rpt | |
| Kipindi maalum: KTMDA | |
| Shika Bamba rpt | |
| Habari za saa | |

| 3:55 | Habariz a saa |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo |
| 9:30 | Isidingo |
| 9:55 | Habari za saa |
| 0:00 | Watoto |
| 0:30 | Shamba lulu rpt |
| 0:55 | Habari za saa |
| 1:00 | The Base rpt |
| 1:55 | Habari za saa |
| 2:00 | Al jazeera |
| 2:30 | ljue Sheria |
| 2:55 | Habari za saa |
| 3:00 | Kipindi Maalum rpt: Utawala bora na |
| | utumishi |
| 3:30 | Tanzania yetu rpt |
| 3:55 | Habari za saa |
| 4:00 | Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost |
| 5:00 | Meza huru |
| 6:30 | Watoto Wetu |
| 7:00 | The Base |
| 8:00 | Jiji Letu |
| 8:15 | Mapishi |

| 22:15 22:45 01:30 | Kesho leo rpt Isidingo rpt DWTV |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| SUNDAY 10 May | |
| 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi |
| 6:00 | HABARI |
| 6:40 | Kumekucha |
| 7:00 | Habari |
| 8:00 | Al jazeera |
| 09:00 | Watoto Wetu |

Jiji Letu

18:15 Mapishi

10:00

11:40

12:00

14:00

15:00

16:00

16:45

17:30

18:00

| Owarija wa wazuczi |
|-------------------------|
| HABARI |
| Kumekucha |
| Habari |
| Al jazeera |
| Watoto Wetu |
| Isidingo |
| Igizo: Mizengwe rpt |
| Bongo Movie rpt: |
| Tamasha la Michezo |
| Mwangaza |
| The Great queen Seonduk |
| ITV Top 10 |
| Kipindi cha kikristo |
| liji Lotu |

09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan 16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:00 Eco@Africa rpt Meza huru 17:30 19:00 The Décor rpt 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 Series: Itohan 20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kipima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera Tues 05 May 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)

13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?)

dresses, but he also told his story to La Gazzetta Del Mezzogiorno, a local paper in Italy. Italy has been under lockdown for nearly two months to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The country was hit hard by the virus, and so far more than 211.000 people have tested positive for Covid-19, and 29,079 people have died.

Italy, which has had the longest coronavirus lockdown to our future and our dreams.



Italian Diamond Couture's owner, Pietro Demita

TRADE WAR

US warns of consequences if China abandons deal on trade

NEW YORK

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Monday he expects China to uphold a trade deal reached with Washington this year, and warned of "consequences" if the country did not.

The comments come amid a sharp drop in global trade caused by the coronavirus pandemic as well as a dispute between the two powers over fault for the spread of the virus, which first broke out in Wuhan, China.

The US and China in January signed an agreement to end a nearly two year-long trade war, that included a commitment by Beijing to buy an additional \$200 billion in American goods over the next two years. "I'm expecting them to meet their obligations," Mnuchin said on Fox Business Network.

"I have every reason to expect that they honor this agreement and if they don't, there would be very significant consequences in the relationship and in the global economy as to how people would do business with them.'

However, relations between Washington and Beijing have soured in recent weeks, with US President Donald Trump blaming China for the pandemic, and threatening tariffs.

slow further before ceremonies can be held again, CNN reported. Demita told La Gazzetta Del

in Europe, plans to reopen further in coming weeks and

months. Lockdown measures

were eased on Monday, and

Prime Minister Giuseppe Con-

te told Italians last week that

they could visit their families

and close friends, according

About 4 million people

were expected to return to

work on Monday, and public

transportation services were

restored around the coun-

try. Some also businesses

reopened and small funerals

were given the go-ahead to

carry on. Weddings and other

large gatherings, however, still

appear out of the question -

the virus reproduction rate to

to NPR.

19:00

19:30

20:00

Jungu Kuu

Habari

Shika Bambba

Art and lifestyle

Kesho leo rpt

Isidingo rpt

DWTV

HABARI

Habari

Kumekucha

Hawavumi lakini wamo

Uwanja wa Mazoezi

21:00 Mezzogiorno that many wed-21:30 ding-related businesses are at 22:15 risk of failing because of the 22:45 01:30 economic effect of the coronavirus and said he and others SUNDAY 03 May are asking for help. He said he 5:30 set fire to his dresses because 6:00 the government's economic 6:40 7:00 and political decisions "set fire

8:00 Al jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Tamasha la Michezo 14:00 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 The Great queen Seonduk 16:45 ITV Top 10 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Mizengwe 21:20 Mjue Zaidi 22:05 Bongo Movie: 23:35 ITV Top 10 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost MONDAY 04 May

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- Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 21:45 Kipindi Maalum: Utawala bora na utumishi
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Igizo: Mtego 19:30 20:00 Habari 21:05 Mizengwe 21:20 Mjue Zaidi 22:05 Bongo Movie: 23:35 ITV Top 10 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost CAPITAL Sat 02 May 08:00 CNN International 09:00 Drive It rpt Turning the Spotlight rpt 09:30 Culinary delight rpt 10:00 Innovation rpt 10:30 Out n'about rot 11:00 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt Usafiri wako rot 12:00 Eco@Africa rpt 12:30 13:00 Business edition rpt Korean Drama rpt: Kimchi Family 13:30 14:30 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 17.15 Tanzania Yetu rot Bundesliga kick off 17:45 18:15 Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe 19:30 The Decor Korean Drama: Kimchi Family 20:00 Out n' About 21:00 Movie: Night of terror 21:30 23:00 Series rpt: Itohan 01:00 Al Jazeera Sun 03 April 08:00 CNN International In good shape 09:00 Capchat rot 10:00 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt Korean Drama rpt: Kimchi Family 11:30 12:00 Jagina rpt Bundesligga Kick Off rpt 12:30 13:00 In good shape rpt 13:30 Series rpt: Itohan 15:15 Aibu yako 15:30 Drive it rpt Dakika 45 rot 16:00 16:45 Mizengwe rpt 17:00 The Decor rpt 17:30 Meza huru Turning the Spotlight rpt 19:00 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights Korean Drama: Kimchi Family 19:30 20.00 21:00 Shift 21:15 Capchat live Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) 22:15 Where is Elisa? 00:00 Al Jazeera Mon 04 April 06:00 Al iazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)

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17:30 Movie: Keeping mum

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WORLD

China to expand special fund for COVID-19 **cooperation - envoy**

BRUSSELS

CHINA will take further steps, including expanding the special fund for COVID-19 cooperation as necessarv and considering donating to the United Nations Global Humanitarian Response Plan, to strengthen global cooperation and defeat the pandemic at an early date, a Chinese envoy said at the Coronavirus Global Response pledging event on Monday.

On behalf of the Chinese government, Zhang Ming, head of the Chinese Mission to the EU, said China will take an active part in the COVID-19 ACT Accelerator programme launched by the World Health Organization (WHO) and other parties, and step up research cooperation with Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), GAVI (the Vaccine Alliance) and other international agencies in terms of pharmaceuticals, vaccine and testing, with a view to jointly building ironclad defense against the virus.

Despite the daunting task of outbreak response at home, China is doing its best to help those countries in need, said Zhang.

The Chinese government has set up a special fund for COVID-19 coopera- first country to have reported the out-

tion worth 2 billion yuan (US\$283 million), and has provided much-needed supplies to over 150 countries and international organizations.

Chinese local governments, charity organizations, NGOs and business communities have given aid overseas worth more than 2.5 billion yuan, he said.

According to Zhang, the Chinese government has invested over 1 billion vuan to scientific research on COV-ID-19, and Chinese research institutes and companies have invested even more.

China also supports other countries in getting commercial access to medical supplies in China. In the past two months, Chinese companies have supplied 24 billion face masks, 120 million protective suits, and 44,000 ventilators overseas.

Zhang noted that the WHO has played a central role in coordinating the global response to COVID-19, and China will always support the organization. China has donated US\$20 million to the WHO to support response to COVID-19 and recently announced another donation of US\$30 million.

The envoy said that China, as the



Zhang Ming, head of the Chinese Mission to the EU, attends the Coronavirus Global Response pledging event via videoconference in Brussels, on Monday. (XINHUA)

break to the international community and to have made major progress in prevention and control, is sharing experience and protocol guidance and diagnostics and treatment with the rest of the world without any reservation and has set up its online COVID-19 knowledge center that is open to all countries.

China has held over 120 video conferences with health experts from over 160 countries and international organizations, and has sent 19 medical teams to 17 countries, he said.

Zhang said developing countries should not become the weak link in the outbreak response. China has, in light of the evolving situation and the needs and requests of some countries, helped them shore up the public health system and strengthen their response capacity.

Going forward, China will suspend debt payment due by 77 developing countries from May 1 to the end of this year, to help them ease economic pressure.

China calls on the international community to jointly support developing countries, and stands ready to step up trilateral and multi-party cooperation in this regard, he added.

The Coronavirus Global Response pledging event, host-

ed by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, registered 7.4 billion euros (US\$8.07 billion) in pledges from donors worldwide, including a pledge of 1.4 billion euros by the EU's executive arm.

The pledging event was co-convened by the EU, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (also holding the G20 presidency), Norway, Spain, and the United Kingdom. Among the major countries, no representative from the US spoke at the event.

It is a response to the call from the WHO and a group of health actors for global collaboration for the accelerated development, production, and equitable global access to essential health technologies dealing with the new coronavirus.

Xinhua

Russia to keep some restrictive measures until COVID-19 vaccine is found - minister

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will partly maintain some of the restrictive measures taken to slow down the spread of the novel coronavirus until a vaccine for the new disease is found, Russian Health Minister Mikhail Murashko said in an interview with the Rossiya-24 TV channel.



"The restrictive measures must be lifted stage by stage as well, however, some of them will be maintained until medical prophylactic means are found," he said.

Murashko (pictured) stressed that there is a risk of a second wave of infection if there is no herd immunity to the virus.

In late December 2019, Chinese officials notified the World Health Organization (WHO) about the outbreak of a previously unknown pneumonia in the city of Wuhan, in central China. Since then, cases of the novel coronavirus named COVID-19 by the WHO - have been reported in every corner of the globe, including Russia.

According to the latest statistics, over 3,400,000 people have been infected worldwide and more than 240,000 deaths have been reported. **Agencies**

UK's COVID-19 toll rises above 32,000, highest in Europe

LONDON

BRITAIN has overtaken Italy to report the highest official death toll from coronavirus in Europe with more than 32,000 deaths, figures released yesterday showed.

Weekly figures from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) added more than 7,000 deaths in England and Wales, raising the total for the United Kingdom to 32,313.

The true figure for deaths from coronavirus may be even higher. The ONS said 33,593 more people had died than average up to April 24 in England and Wales, compared to 27,365 cases in which coronavirus was mentioned on the death certificates.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock on Monday said that another 288 COVID-19 patients have died in Britain, bringing the total coronavirus-related death toll in the country to 28,734.

The figures include deaths in all settings, including hospitals, care homes and the wider community.

Hancock said the number marked the smallest daily rise since the end of March, although the daily reported rise in deaths after a weekend tends to be lower than later in the week.

Britain will start testing its own COVID-19 tracing app on the Isle of Wight from Tuesday, hoping that the technology in combination with more testing and tracking will help limit transmission of the coronavirus.

World leaders pledge US\$8b to fight virus World leaders and organizations pledged US\$8 billion to research, manufacture and distribute a possible vaccine and treatments for COVID-19 on Monday, but the United States refused to contribute to the global effort.

Organisers included the European Union (EU) and non-

Chinese anti-epidemic experts fight COVID-19 head-on in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

CHINESE teams of medical experts have arrived in Djibouti and Cote d'Ivoire to help the countries fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The teams are organized by the National Health Commission and selected by health commissions of Sichuan Province and Tianjin Municipality, respectively.

The latest two teams came af-Burkina Faso earlier in April. China has also activated its medical teams stationed there to help fight COVID-19. There are nearly 1,000 Chinese medical personnel working in Africa long-term, according to China's National Health Commission. China has sent about 22,000 medical workers accumulatively to Africa during the past decades,

local patients in total, according to Chinese Ambassador to Togo Chao Weidong.

As COVID-19 cases continue to surge across the African continent, the Chinese anti-pandemic medical experts dispatched by the Chinese government have greatly helped Africa in confronting the pandemic.

The Chinese anti-pandemic ter two teams of Chinese medical medical expert team to Ethiopia, experts arrived in Ethiopia and which comprises 12 medical experts specializing in various public health sectors, arrived in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa on April 16 as part of China's continuing solidarity in assisting the East African country on the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

and benefited about 220,000,000 from the Africa Center for Disease against COVID-19 in China and to

period.

Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in their joint fight against COVID-19 over the past two weeks

Li Nian, a medical doctor specialized in preventive medicine from West China Sichuan University, who is also the head of medical administration at the university, is one of the 12 highly-trained medical experts with first-hand experience in the fight against COVID-19 at home since the virus spread in open attitude." part of China.

provide our supports and suggestions," Li told Xinhua on Saturday, as his team presently joined their Ethiopian counterparts in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in the East African country.

"The collaboration is excellent and fruitful," Li said, adding that "we highly respect expertise of experts from the Ethiopian government and the Africa CDC, and we have been impressed by their

The 12-member Chinese anti-

ers and experts from the Ministry of Health of Ethiopia, the Africa Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) Ethiopia Office to exchange experiences, academic opinions, comments and suggestions in detail," he added.

Li, along with the rest of the 12-member Chinese anti-pandemic experts' team, has been also providing onsite and telecommunication-based trainings including lectures and practical exercises. "We have also donated some personal protective equipment for several hospitals," Li said, as he emphasized the constructive joint efforts and collaboration with the Ethiopian experts as health as from the Africa CDC -- specialized healthcare agency of the 55-member pan African bloc African Union (AU). Xinhua

Labor Thulas Nxesi has announced

that employers must take measures

to protect the health and safety of

These measures include setting

up physical barriers at workplaces

to ensure social distancing, free

provision of appropriate personal

protective equipment, screening of

everyone in their workplaces.

They have emphasized the ongoing "excellent and fruitful" collaboration with their Ethiopian counterparts as well as experts

"We have visited the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), quarantine centers, isolation centers, Fangcang Hospital transformed by Millennium Hall, and COVID-19-designated hospitals; and we had detailed discussion with hospital administrators and frontline healthcare workers to share our experience for fighting

pandemic medical expert team includes medical experts specializing in various public health sectors including general surgery, epidemiology, respiratory, infectious diseases, critical care, clinical laboratory and integration of traditional Chinese and Western medicine.

"We had meetings with offic-

EU countries Britain, Norway and Saudi Arabia. Leaders from Japan, Canada, South Africa and dozens of other countries joined the virtual event. China was represented by its ambassador to the EU.

"In the space of just few hours we have collectively pledged 7.4 billion euros (US\$8.1 billion) for vaccine, diagnostics and treatment" against COVID-19, the head of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said after chairing the online event.

Donors included pop singer Madonna, who pledged 1 million euros, von der Leyen said.

EU diplomats said the United States, which has the world's most confirmed COVID-19 cases, was not taking part. A senior US administration official declined to say specifically why the United States was not participating.

Many leaders stressed that any vaccine must be available to everyone. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said the search for a vaccine was "the most urgent shared endeavour of our lifetime", calling for "an impregnable shield around all our people".

The Global Preparedness Monitoring Board, a UNbacked body focusing on health crises, estimates that of the US\$8 billion immediately needed, US\$3 billion will have to be spent to develop, manufacture and distribute a possible vaccine against COVID-19, the EU Commission said.

Agencies

South Africa reports surge of COVID-19 cases after ease of restrictions

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa reported on Sunday a sharp surge in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, two days after the easing of restrictions following a five-week lockdown.

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa stood at 6,783, an increase of 447 from Saturday, the country's health minister Zweli Mkhize said in a statement.

This was the highest surge in the 24-hour cycle since March 5, when the country recorded its first case. "Regrettably, we report a further eight COVID-19 related deaths: two from the Western Cape, four from the Eastern Cape and two from Gauteng," Mkhize said.

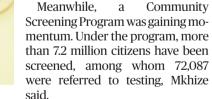
This brought the total deaths to 131, he said.

Western Cape remains the epicenter of the pandemic in the country with 3,044 cases, followed by



President Cyril Ramaphosa

Gauteng with 1,624 and KwaZulu-Natal with 1,076. As massive community testing continued, 245,747 tests have been conducted to date, of which 15,061 were done in the past 24 hours, according to Mkhize.



Also on Sunday, the government announced strict measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at workplaces amid the partial resumption of business.

Minister of of Employment and

workers for COVID-19 symptoms, and isolation and quarantine of workers with related symptoms.

Xinhua

Human rights come after saving lives in fierce pandemic

A SHANGHAI doctor assisting Wuhan to fight the COVID-19 epidemic cried his heart out after failing to rescue a severe patient who had a sudden cytokine storm when receiving intubation. The scene was filmed by one of the doctor's colleagues and soon went viral online, touching the hearts of all the Chinese.

Efforts must be made 100 percent to save lives even though there's only 1 percent of a chance. That is what the doctor above has practiced, and moral principle infused in the blood of the Chinese nation, as well as the priority of medical treatment in China.

Life is invaluable and saving the people comes before everything. However, some U.S. politicians just can't see this. Instead, they ignored it and stubbornly made provocations.

Lately, a joint letter framing up China was sent to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres by seven Republican senators, saying the country has committed the most severe crime on human rights in pandemic response. However, such practice only became a butt of a joke after being reported by global media. Just like former director John Ross of Economic and Business Policy for the Mayor of London said, China has defended "the key human right" in the lethal epidemic - helping people stay alive.

The right to life is the most fundamen tal human rights, which is confirmed and guaranteed by the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Bill of Human Rights. The sudden outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic is like a mirror that reflects the importance laid by countries on human right protection, as well as their capability to protect the people.

Those who hype the so-called human rights to make troubles for China are desecrating Chinese people's efforts to fight the pandemic. The Chinese government has always taken people's lives and health as its first priority, and is treating the patients and saving the peo-

ple at all cost. The country is going allout to save every COVID-19 patient, and has launched "blanket search" to ensure that no one is left behind. Besides, it also launched differentiated treatment plans and cares for individual patients in critical and severe conditions.

China's anti-pandemic efforts fully demonstrated the country's moral principle of placing people and lives in the first place, as well as the power of the Chinese ethic.

Besides, China also participated in global anti-pandemic cooperation with concrete actions and offered assistance as much as possible for countries and regions in need, making important contribution to the global cause of human right protection.

Eduardo Klinger, academician of the Dominican Republic Academy of Sciences noted that the Chinese government has adopted measures that are decisive and responsible for the people

around the world to curb the spread of the virus, and the theory of the so-called human right violation is total nonsense.

Those who hype the so-called human rights to make troubles for China are trying to cover their own incapability in pandemic response, as the socalled human rights are always a club they hold. Even at the critical moment when the COVID-19 is taking the lives of many, they are still rubbing salt into the wound.

China has informed the WHO, the U.S. and other relevant countries about the epidemic on a regular basis since Jan. 3, and the heads of the two countries' disease control centers exchanged information on the following day. However, it was half a month later that the chief of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported the situation to senior American officials, and the latter turned a deaf ear and wasted two months regarding epidemic response.

Why did that happen?

When millions of Chinese people were demonstrating their strength to the virus and quarantining themselves at home in a way to contribute to the world, some U.S. politicians just sat back and watch, badmouthing that China violated human rights.

When cases are surging drastically in the U.S. and leading to spiking deaths, U.S. politicians, health organs and budget department are making a mess asking for more anti-pandemic allocation. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared to suspend the tally of COVID-19 testing on March 3 for system upgrading, and the Food and Drug Administration stopped its approval for COVID-19 testing reagents, which allowed more than 90 such products to enter the market without any regulation. What the results would be? No wonder American media described the response of the U.S. government as

disastrous.

Those who hype the so-called human rights to make troubles for China are disturbing international cooperation. Touting itself as a guardian of global human rights, the U.S. has an ugly record of human right protection. It has long withdrawn from the UN Human Rights Council, but is arbitrarily interfering in the making of the organization's election rules, and pointing fingers at the organization's affairs and the human right conditions in other countries.

When the international society was facing severe challenges from the COV-ID-19 pandemic, White House decided to stop funding the WHO, and even threatened to withdraw from the UN health body. Is that some sort of human right protection? Besides, the U.S. sanction for Iran, Cuba and Venezuela seriously damaged these countries' efforts to fight the pandemic. Is the U.S. still calling itself the guardian of global human rights?

People's Daily





Virus tracing must be science-based

TRACING the origin of the novel coro- The scientific circles of all countries navirus is a serious scientific issue that should carry out professional verificaneeds to be studied by scientists and tion in a scientific spirit and using scimedical experts with science-based approaches.

of the novel coronavirus spread by me- jointly overcome the common enemy dia reports and on social media, World of human beings. Health Organization (WHO) spokesperson Fadela Chaib said on April 21 that all available evidence suggests that the new against human beings by an unknown coronavirus is not a virus manipulated virus. The virus knows no borders and or constructed in a lab or somewhere doesn't care about ethnicity. Like many else. She pledged that the WHO wel- other countries in the world, China is comes all countries to support efforts to also a victim of the pandemic. find the origin of the virus.

The solemn statement showed respect health crisis, the urgency and imporfor science and dispelled rumors, force- tance of building a community with a fully responding to the fallacies and shared future for mankind has become conspiracy theories circulating in the more prominent. international society. It also helps the international society to hold justice and building a community with a shared build consensus.

virus is essential for mankind to fight tries overcome the pandemic and safethe global war against the virus. Science- guard the common homeland of manrelated issues must be solved in science- kind. based approaches and professional questions need to be answered by professionals.

from 8 countries issued a joint state- breed mistrust, and eventually disrupt ment on The Lancet which said that the joint anti-virus efforts and disturb "Scientists from multiple countries have global solidarity and cooperation. published and analyzed genomes of the causative agent, severe acute respiratory matizing other countries under the syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2),1 excuse of the virus, and staging ugly and they overwhelmingly conclude that performances that disregard facts and this coronavirus originated in wildlife run afoul of science are in essence antias have so many other emerging patho- science and politicizing public health gens. This is further supported by a issues. These conducts must be resoletter from the presidents of the US Na- lutely resisted and corrected from the tional Academies of Science, Engineer- source. ing, and Medicine13 and by the scientific To defeat ignorance with science,

communities they represent."

entific methods, and trace the virus together to provide scientific support for In response to rumors about the origin pandemic prevention and control, and

> The COVID-19 pandemic is a "natural disaster" and a sudden attack launched

In coping with this global public

Only by adhering to the concept of future for mankind, and uniting and Finding the origin and source of the cooperating with each other, can coun-

The fallacies and conspiracy theories accompanying the spread of the pandemic are not only unhelpful for coun-As early as Feb. 19, 27 medical experts tries to fight the pandemic, but also

Spreading conspiracy theories, stig-

crush rumors with truth, resist preju-A research team stressed in an article dice with cooperation, and fight the

Over 127m children out of school in Africa due to COVID-19 - UN

NAIROBI

THE United Nations Children's Fund said Monday more than 127 million school children in eastern and southern Africa have remained at home due to the outbreak of COV-ID-19.

UNICEF said safe re-opening of schools remains key despite innovative approaches that have been taken for continued learning for more than 127 million pre-primary, primary and secondary school students who are supposed to return

to school this week. Mohamed M. Malick Fall, UNICEF regional director for eastern and southern Africa said governments, businesses and parents must come together to ensure inclusive, realistic and scalable ways that reach all children.

The UN agency also announced advanced support to this unprecedented education crisis, while advocating for the safe re-opening of schools that adhere to safety guidelines, noting that in most parts of the world, learning at home has been supported by online tools.

However, in eastern and southern Africa, it said internet penetration is constrained -- barely one in five (22 percent) of households have internet access, while 84 percent of the rural population where the bulk of the learners reside have no electricity. UNICEF said it has been working around the clock with partners to support continued learning through means such as radio, SMS and printed materials. "COVID-19 has triggered an education crisis that is unprecedented in scope, duration and impact,' said Fall. Xinhua

Kim Jong-un awarded Russia's Victory anniversary medal - embassy

PYONGYANG

Embassy said.

Pyongyang.

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jongun has been awarded Russia's 75th anniversary Victory medal for his major contribution in commemorating Soviet soldiers, who died in 1945 during Korea's liberation, the Russian Embassy in Pyongyang wrote on its Facebook page. "In accordance with the Russian

president's decree, Chairman of the

State Affairs Commission Kim Jongun was presented with the anniversary medal "75 years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945"

for his major personal contribution

to commemorating Soviet citizens

who perished and were buried in the Democratic People's Republic of Ko-

rea and for caring about preserving

burial sites and memorials of Soviet warriors in the DPRK," the Russian

Russian Ambassador Alexander

Matsegora handed over the medal to

the DPRK's Foreign Minister Ri Yongho at a ceremony on Tuesday at the

Mansudae Palace of Congress in

After the ceremony, the Russian

ambassador and the North Korean

Africa-China relations to remain solid in wake of COVID-19 - experts

LUSAKA

AFRICA-CHINA long-standing relations will remain intact because it was based on mutual respect and understanding in the wake of the COVID-19 despite many challenges arising from the pandemic, experts said.

Experts asserted that trade and other agreements between the two parts are bound to continue regardless of the challenges.

"There is nothing new. Pandemics or differences will come and go, but the Africa-China relations will remain, because they are built on sound principles and understanding," said Professor Owen Sichone, a Zambian social scientist.

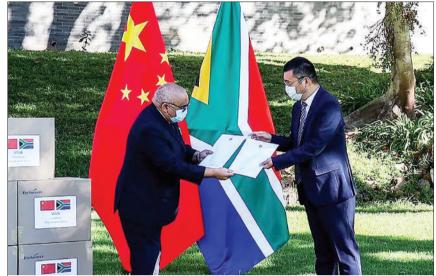
Sichone said that "diplomacy is a self-correcting mechanism and that is why countries invest in it and that Africa and China have done well in that regard."

"Trade between Africa and China will continue; so will the scientific and cultural exchanges between the two, because they are part of their relations," explained Sichone, who is also immediate past director at Copperbelt University Dag Hammarskjold Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies.

Sichone was also quick to call on the international community to ensure that they invest in strengthening public health systems and prioritize human health, adding that ways of preventing or lessening the impact of disease outbreaks particularly contagious ones are there in the public domain.

"There is no mystery here; it is just that someone was caught unaware," Sichone asserted.

Dawit Yirga, Director General of Asia and Oceania Affairs at the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has said that "the support mobilized by the Chinese



Albert Fritz (L), Western Cape Provincial Minister of Community Safety and Lin Jing Chinese Consul General in Cape Town exchange a donation list of medical supplies donated by China, in Cape Town, South Africa, April 28, 2020. (Xinhua)

ficult moment in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic," said Yirga.

"Solidarity is indeed the bedrock of this (Africa-China) partnership and when the corona pandemic outbreak happened in China, Africa stood firmly in solidarity with China," he added.

Yirga, expressing appreciation to the "leadership and commitment of the people and government of China in successfully containing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic," also stressed that "as COVID-19 spreads to across the globe, including in Africa, China is supporting the African continent."

Noting China's "commendable willingness" in sharing its successful experience by deploying medical teams in Ethiopian and other African countries, Yirga also expressed his confidence that the "Sino-Africa strategic partnership, which has passed the test of time, will once again prove its resilience."

"China bears in mind that at the dif-

Minister Wang Yi earlier.

"Covid-19 is a global threat, affecting each and every inhabitant of planet earth, with zero regard for ethnicity, social status, wealth or any other of the various strata which have been contrived, over centuries, to set us apart from each other.

Misguided assumptions with regard to the origin and the consequent attribution of blame take us nowhere, render a difficult situation even more challenging and impact negatively on relations between and amongst brotherly nations and peoples," said Sibusiso Moyo, Zimbabwe's Minister of Foreign

Tewolde Gebremariam, CEO of Ethiopian Airlines Group, also commended the solidarity demonstrated to Africa by the Chinese government as well as Chinese companies and civil societies in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is a very good example for all over

Affairs and International Trade.

foreign minister held a brief conversation, "during which they confirmed the commitment to continue active efforts to consistently implement the agreements reached by the leaders of the two countries in Vladivostok in April 2019, aimed at further developing and strengthening multifaceted Russian-Korean cooperation."

According to the Embassy, there are 11 mass graves and 345 individual graves in North Korea, where 1,375 Soviet troops are buried.

More than 4,700 Soviet soldiers died of wounds in the battles to liberate Korea in 1945.

One of key landmarks in Pyongyang is the Liberation Monument, which commemorates Soviet soldiers who died in the battles to liberate Korea from the Japanese occupation in 1945. Agencies



from natural evolutionary process, and with the COVID-19 pandemic. is not a laboratory construct.

this virus would have escaped or been ciety needs to firm up confidence, stay manufactured in a laboratory," said Bel- united and cooperate with each other, gium's spokesperson for COVID-19-relat- so as to win the war against the major ed issues and virologist Emmanuel An- infectious disease," said Chinese Presidre, adding that the genetic structure of dent Xi Jinping. this virus is natural.

published on journal Nature Medicine pandemic together to overcome hardthat the novel coronavirus originated ships is the correct attitude to cope

"When the pandemic is affecting "We have no argument to claim that global countries, the international so-

People's Daily

government and the private sector, including the Jack Ma Foundation, to assist the COVID-19 response efforts in Africa is very much appreciated."

"Africa and China are all weather friends and the Sino-Africa strategic partnership has shown vitality and strength in this time of unprecedented challenges," said Yirga.

"We are indeed very grateful to China for its support and solidarity at this dif-

ficult moment in its fight to contain the novel coronavirus outbreak, the AU and countries of Africa have rendered China support, and clearly opposed any attempt to politicize the epidemic and tagging the virus, which fully demonstrated the brotherly ties between China and Africa, who have shared weal and woe, and the high level of bilateral strategic cooperation," said Chinese State Councilor and Foreign

the world that feel panic and blame is not the answer.

The answer is organizations, countries, institutions, and governments bringing their resources together to team up to provide these kinds of medical supplies and medical equipment for the protection of the people. So, China's move is a very good example," said Gebremariam.

Xinhua

Italy starts slow return to normality, fears resurgence of virus

ROME

GRANDPARENTS hugged their grandchildren, toddlers rushed excitedly through parks and factories revived their longstalled production lines as Italy started the slow process of unwinding Europe's longest coronavirus lockdown.

Nearly two months after ordering Italians to stay home in an effort to slow one of the worst outbreaks of the new coronavirus in the world, the government on Monday cautiously eased a few restrictions, while keeping many others in place.

Despite more than 29,000 Ital-

outbreak emerged on Feb 21, some people have nonetheless complained that the rollback is too timid, while others worry that complacency will lead to a fresh wave of infections.

Many are simply overjoyed to get some of their old life back. "I woke up at 5.30 am I was so

excited," said Maria Antonietta Galluzzo, a grandmother taking her 3-year-old grandson for a walk in Rome's Villa Borghese park – the first time they had seen each other in eight weeks. The unkempt grass towered

above the boy's head and the air was full of the sound of lawn-

ians dying of COVID-19 since the mowers as park staff began to it is the thing I missed most. May 18, and schools, cinemas tive, Corriere della Sera daily restore some order to one of Italy's most elegant gardens. "He has grown by this much,"

she said, holding up three horizontal fingers to show the spurt. "It is wonderful."

Under the new rules, 4.5 million Italians can clock back in, construction work can resume and relatives can reunite. More importantly for some, cafes were allowed to reopen for takeaways, with customers sipping their coffees on the pavement.

"This is my first proper coffee for eight weeks," said Riccardo Monti, the CEO of an ecommerce company. "Perhaps The bar is the focal point of our social life so to see them closed was a trauma." While some old rituals returned, many curbs stayed in place to try to prevent a resurgence of COVID-19 in the country with the world's second highest death toll after the United States.

There were 195 new deaths on Monday, up from 174 the day before and twice as many as the daily tally on March 9, when Italv's lockdown began.

Friends are still barred from meeting up, the cause of much grumbling on social media, most shops must stay shut until

and theatres remain closed indefinitely.

Responsibility

Despite facing the worst recession since World War Two, the government has said it can only lift restrictions gradually. Well over a thousand new cases of the highly infectious coronavirus are still being reported daily.

In a reminder of the risks involved in easing the lockdown, 14 out of 60 people randomly stopped by police at they entered Naples by car from the north on Monday tested posireported. None of them had symptoms. "If we want to avoid painful backward steps now more than ever, we need cooperation, a sense of responsibility, respect for the rules by all," Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said in an interview with the same newspaper.

A continuous hum of cars buses and motorbikes pointed to an increase in early morning commuting, but traffic was noticeably lighter than before the virus struck and those out appeared to be following the guidelines on social distancing. Agencies

After the ceremony, the **Russian ambassador** and the North Korean foreign minister held a brief conversation, "during which they confirmed the commitment to continue active efforts to consistently implement the agreements reached by the leaders of the two

WHO spokesperson underlines importance to fight against 'infodemic'

AVAILABLE evidence indicates the novel coronavirus originated in animals and was not manipulated or produced in a laboratory, the World Health Organization (WHO) told a UN press conference held in Geneva, Switzerland on April 21, local time, in response to the false information circulating on the internet about the origin of COVID-19. The false information has recently sounded an alarm for the international society.

Both the WHO and global medical titans believe that the source of the virus is a matter of science which shall never be politicized. WHO spokesperson Fadela Chaib underlined at the conference that the WHO is combating two pandemics - one with the virus and one with information which is also called "infodemic." She called on the international society to stand against the "infodemic" and oppose the fallacies and conspiracy theories on the origin of the novel coronavirus.

Chaib (pictured) pointed out that the virus was not artificially made, which is a consensus reached by all sides, stressing

that the world's collective focus needs to be on facts, not fear. The WHO is now probing into the origin of the novel coronavirus with science-based approaches, and multiple teams, including the Chinese, have started relevant investigation.

It's not the first time for the WHO to call for science- and factsbased approaches to address the origin of the virus. Executive director of the WHO's health emergencies program Michael Ryan told People's Daily that the organization has a very clear stand on



the origin of the virus, and stigmatized languages shall be avoided, in response to the stigmatization of China by some politicians under the excuse of the virus.

The fallacy that the novel coronavirus was manmade was also disapproved by global medical experts. Olivier Schwartz, head of the virus and immunity department of France's Pasteur Institute, noted that the family tree of this virus indicates the virus is derived from viruses that circulate in nature, which has been verified by many laboratories

Russian epidemiologist and microbiologist Alexander Semenov revealed that it's totally possible for researchers to tell whether the virus was originated from nature or artificially made from genetic sequencing. The statement that the novel coronavirus was artificially inserted with gene segments goes against facts, said Semenov, adding that such practice was intended to disguise the incapability of certain countries' health systems.

Australian news website ScienceAlert reported that scientists have explained for many times why

the COVID-19 virus was not made in a lab. The emergence of a new coronavirus with pandemic potential is not a surprise, and scientists have been warning governments for years that a new disease was on the horizon, it said.

People have to be careful not to aid those people who irresponsibly use the global crisis for their own political point-scoring by giving any oxygen to rumors, said the news website, citing La Trobe University epidemiologist Hassan Vally.





This May 11, 2019 file photo shows former first lady Michelle Obama during "Becoming: An Intimate Conversation with Michelle Obama," in Atlanta. Netflix says a documentary portrait of Michelle Obama titled "Becoming" will premiere on its streaming service next week. It chronicles her 34-city book tour in 2018-2019 for her memoir "Becoming." (AP)

In 'Becoming,' a starring role for **Michelle Obama**

NEW YORK

IN the backstage hallways of Washington D.C.'s Capital One Arena, Michelle Obama walks armin-arm with her husband, Barack Obama. She has just finished the third stop on what would be a 34-

South Bronx," says the New York-bred filmmaker. Unlike the interview-heavy Hulu doc-series "Hillary" on Hillary Clinton, Hallgren's approach is mostly fly-on-the-wall, mixing glossy onstage footage of Obama's talks with the likes of Oprah Winfrey, Reese Witherspoon and Stephen Colbert

Azam FC 's attack under spotlight

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

AZAM FC head coach Aristica Cioaba has 10 forwards at his disposal, which caused the Dar es Salaam side to rub their hands at the beginning of their campaign this season.

As far as this season is concerned, it is fair to say Azam FC has not had a good campaign due to a blunt attack. With the current season nearly done, Azam FC's forward options are under the spotlight, with nearly all of them having delicate situations that the Romanian coach will have to think clearly in the coming transfer window.

The situations of Donald Ngoma, Shaban Chilunda, Iddy Selemani 'Nado' and Obrey Chirwa have provoked debate inside the club.

In addition, Richard Djodi and Nado despite having relatively good seasons has not addressed Azam FC's woes in front of goal, and then there is the injured headache of Mbaraka Yusuph. Serious injuries have cast doubts to those hopes that Yusuph who was signed in 2017 will replicate in Chamazi the form he had at Kagera Sugar.

The once highly rated striker has not featured at all in the 2019/20 campaign after falling injured while on loan at Namungo FC last season.

It won't be a surprise if he is either released or sent out on a loan yet again to make up ground for his lack of game time in the last nine months. Finally, there are Paul Peter and

Andrew Simchimba, two teenagers who have been loaned this season.

Peter, who burst into limelight when he scored on his Premier League debut in the 2017/18 campaign, was slowed down by a combination of injuries and indiscipline and has been loaned out to Prisons.

It has been long since when he hit the high heights in the Mapinduzi Cup prompting comparisons with former Azam FC striker, Kipre Tchetche.

It remains unclear if, or when, Peter will be able to get back to his best or turn out to be another false dawn like it was with Joseph Kimwaga who scored in his debut against Young Africans (Yanga) and quickly faded into oblivion.



Azam FC forward, Iddi Selemani (C), and fullback, Nicholas Wadada (L), keep Simba's forward, John Bocco, in check in this season's Vodacom Premier League match which took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO; CORESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Simchimba who was initially loaned Tanzania. out to Coastal Union has stepped up to the plate and has taken Peter's place in the line-up.

He has scored three goals since being returned to Azam FC fold in December

Right now, the 20-year-old does not have much importance in the squad but he is viewed as an important asset for the future.

Chilunda who was loaned out to has been given endless chances to show that he can fill the void that was left with John Bocco's departure in 2017, but he has not sufficiently proved his case.

There is no denying the talent of Chilunda, but it is time he puts behind whatever happened at Tenerife and

Midfielders Emmanuel Mvuyekure and Selemani Ndikumana have already been shown the exit door.

Mvuyekure has returned to KMC FC where he was signed by the club's then head coach Etienne Ndayiragije. Ngoma seems set to depart the Chamazi outfit at the end of the season as he is yet to get a new

contract. He was the club's top scorer last Spanish outfit Teneriffe for one season season but in this campaign he has been on the periphery with only two goals to his name so far.

> There are many who believe since he went under the knife in 2017 he has not been able to return to the form he displayed in his early Yanga days.

Chirwa continues to score, without discovers the form that made him one being the lethal goalscorer Azam FC can come in and instantly hit the of the most promising youngsters in needs to mount a serious title fight, ground running.

and the club need to find a way of easing some of the pressure on his back.

Djodi was signed for this purpose, but the Ivorian has not exactly lit the stage in his debut season in the Tanzanian topflight.

Idd Kipagwile and Joseph Mahundi are peripheral players but have further lost their status within the squad.

Both had been key players, acting as ideal substitutes to come on late in matches or to cover when rotations are made, but their status have decreased significantly in the last two seasons. They have scored three goals between them.

With Ngoma imminent exit and Chilunda inconsistency there is a concern about finding a striker who

Coronavirus returns long-banned drive-in movies to Iran

city book tour of such unprecedented scale that it almost resembled a Beyoncé concert tour.

Nadia Hallgren's camera is trailing them when Michelle Obama, perhaps looking for reassurance, asks the former president: "Does it seem like a show that you'd like to see?"

Hallgren's documentary, "Becoming," is more so than we've seen before - the Michelle Obama Show. It captures the former first lady, in settings both public and intimate, navigating her post-White House life, interacting with fans and generally fostering a spirit of positivity, self-belief and hope that few beside her husband are capable of inspiring.

"My life is starting to be mine again," she says in the film. "There's another chapter waiting for me out there."

"Becoming," which debuts Wednesday on Netflix, is an extension of her 2018 best-selling memoir of the same name and a kind of authorized filmic portrait of Obama. It's produced by Higher Ground Productions, the film company founded by the Obamas.

Before now, Higher Ground has backed wellreceived, socially-minded documentaries about American labor (the Oscar-winning "American Factory") and the disability rights movement (the acclaimed Sundance-winner "Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution"). It's been an auspicious, award-winning beginning for Higher Ground, the most ambitious post-White House dive into Hollywood of any former U.S. president. With "Becoming," one half of Higher Ground now steps in front of the camera, too.

The movie, itself, was a secret until last week when Netflix announced is upcoming premiere. Hallgren typically worked with small crews or just by herself. Much of "Becoming" takes place either in arenas crowded with cameras or in private settings - the back seat of an SUV, the childhood home of Obama – so few would have spotted her.

"I think if people saw me, it probably looked very unofficial," chuckles Hallgren.

Keeping "Becoming" clandestine still wasn't easy, though. "My closest friends had no idea what I was doing," Hallgren says. "People were always like, 'What are you up to?""

Hallgren is a veteran documentary cinematographer ("Trouble the Water," "Girl Rising," "Trapped") making her feature directorial debut. (She also worked on CNN Films' "We Will Rise: Michelle Obama's Mission to Educate Girls Around the World.") The job, Hallgren believes, she won from her body of work and, as first gleaned in a high-pressure meeting with Obama, their similarities. "She's from the South Side. I'm from the

with more personal scenes offstage. Obama reflects on her eight years in the White House and the often racist-tinged response they engendered. "You hope people were more ready for us than maybe they were," she says.

Obama doesn't analyze the 2016 election or the rise of Donald Trump except for one comment lamenting the turnout of African American voters. "That's my trauma," she says.

But the main trust of "Becoming" is not just Obama's story but what she inspires -- how one story begets others. Hallgren, drawing from the photography of Garry Winogrand, lingers on the faces in Obama's crowds, and in some cases takes a moment to follow their lives. "Becoming" may be part concert film but it's nearly as interested in the audience as it is in the showstopper on stage.

"Oftentimes when Mrs. Obama was on stage, I was not the main camera filming her," says Hallgren. "So I had the opportunity to walk around. There was such an incredible energy in those arenas. The excitement that people had felt special. I thought: I want to capture this."

The timing of "Becoming" is interesting not just because it captures a sense of community before people were forced into lockdown by the pandemic but because it comes in the middle of the presidential campaign. The Deadline review of the film isn't alone in maintaining: "If Michelle Obama wasn't so adamant that she isn't running for public office, the perfectly timed new Netflix documentary 'Becoming' would sure seem like a campaign launch."

Michelle Obama, however, has steadfastly maintained she's not a political figure and hasn't before officially endorsed a candidate. (Barack Obama recently endorsed his former vice president, Joe Biden.) But many have advocated for her to play a role in the 2020 election. The committee "Draft Michelle Obama" launched Monday, urging Biden choose her as his running mate.

Michelle Obama decline to be interviewed for this article but she released a statement when "Becoming" was announced.

"Even as we can no longer safely gather or feed off the energy of groups, even as many of us are living with grief, loneliness and fear, we need to stay open and able to put ourselves in other people's shoes. Empathy is our lifeline here. It's what will get us to the other side," said Obama. "Let's use it to redirect our attention toward what matters most, reconsider our priorities, and find ways to better remake the world in the image of our hopes."



Men wearing protective suits disinfect cars against coronavirus while people enter a new drive-in cinema for watching a movie on a car parking area of the Milad nunications tower, as regular theaters are closed due to the coronavirus outbreak, Friday, May 1, 2020. Iran is the region's epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic. (AP teleco Photo)

TEHRAN, Iran

THE new coronavirus pandemic has brought back something unseen in Iran since its 1979 Islamic Revolution: a drivein movie theater.

Once decried by revolutionaries for allowing too much privacy for unmarried young couples, a drive-in theater now operates from a parking lot right under Tehran's iconic Milad tower, showing a film in line with the views of hard-liners.

Workers spray disinfectants on cars that line up each night here after buying tickets online for what is called the "Cinema Machine" in Farsi. They tune into the film's audio via an FM station on

With stadiums shut and movie theaters closed, this parking-lot screening is the only film being shown in a communal setting amid the virus outbreak in Iran, one of the world's worst. Iran has reported more than 98,600 cases with over 6,200 deaths, though international and local experts acknowledge Iran's toll is likely far higher.

their car radios.

"It was very fascinating, this is the first time this is happening, at least for people my age," said Behrouz Pournezam, 36, who watched the film along with his wife. "We are here mostly for the excitement to be honest, the movie itself didn't matter that much. I didn't care what movie it is or by whom or which genre."

The film being shown, however, is

"Exodus," produced by a firm affiliated with Iran's hard-line Revolutionary Guard. The film by director Ebrahim Hatamikia focuses on cotton farmers whose fields die from salt water brought by local dams. The farmers, led by an actor who appears to be the Islamic Republic's answer to American cowboy stand-in Sam Elliott, drive their tractors to Tehran to protest the government.

There is precedent for this anger. Iran had built dams across the country since the revolution – especially under hard-line former President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad that environmentalists blame for damaging waterways and farmland. But this film instead involves "a peasant protest against the local authority that symbolically resembles President Hassan Rouhani's government," the state-owned Tehran Times said.

Rouhani, a relative moderate in Iran's Shiite theocracy, has increasingly faced hard-line criticism amid the collapse of his nuclear deal with world powers. Those allied with his administration have criticized the film.

Moviegoer Atefeh Soheili, however, was glad just to enjoy entertainment outside of her home.

"Now I'm sitting here with clean hands and if I want to eat something or relax I don't need to worry about distancing from other people," she said.

AP

SPORTS NEWS

English FA bracing for long spell without fans

LONDON

ENGLISH Football Association chairman Greg Clarke does not believe fans will be allowed into stadiums "any time soon" and has warned that the coronavirus crisis could cost the governing body £300 million (\$373 million).

Football across England has been indefinitely suspended, with the 2019/20 season in all leagues below the top four divisions already declared over.

However, there are growing fears that the 2020/21 campaign also faces huge disruption due to socialdistancing guidelines.

"With social distancing in place for some time to come we do face substantial changes to the whole football ecosystem," Clarke wrote in a letter to the FA Council.

"For example, it's hard to foresee crowds of fans, who are the lifeblood of the game, returning to matches any time soon."

The Premier League is still hoping to finish the season behind closed doors, with "Project Restart" aimed at minimising a predicted £1 billion loss if the campaign cannot be completed.

It is understood top-flight clubs were told on Friday that the remaining matches of the season must be played at neutral venues.

Further down the pyramid, where gate receipts make up a much higher percentage of clubs' income without lucrative TV deals, there are doubts over whether a new season can even start without fans being allowed to attend.

The FA has also been affected by the cancellation of at least four England fixtures and the suspension of the FA Cup.

Clarke said a "sensible" £75 million budget cut had been agreed.

"In a worst-case scenario, this would be necessary for the next four years to offset a £300 million deficit," he added.

"Clearly that will impact many of our plans as every area of the game will be touched and projects that we all value will be affected.'

Meanwhile, players should be allowed to refuse to take part if the Premier League resumes amid the coronavirus crisis, former Watford forward Marvin Sordell said on

Monday.

Premier League chiefs hope the season can be finished over the summer, but their 'Project Restart' has come in for criticism for potentially putting players at risk.

Although the Premier League is reportedly willing to pay for testing for players and staff if matches resume, that has not been enough ease the fears of some stars.

Sordell, who also featured for Burnley and Bolton before retiring last year, believes players should only return if they are comfortable with their personal situations while the virus is still a threat.

"Some people will be living on their own and they won't have any responsibilities in that sense, or those fears that they may pass the virus onto somebody else if they contracted it themselves," Sordell told Britain's Press Association.

"There will be other players who live with their parents, or they are their parents' only means of being able to get food.

"Their partners might be pregnant or they might have young kids, and some might have underlying health conditions. Some players themselves might have underlying health conditions.

"I think people's own situations need to be respected. If they want to play, and it's safe to do so, then allow them to play. If they don't want to play because they don't think it's safe to do so, I think that needs to be respected."

While Sordell is concerned players may be forced into returning to action, Norwich manager Daniel Farke has backed the Premier League to find a safe way of completing the season.

Farke, whose team are bottom of the table, told Sky Sports: "I totally trust the key people at the Premier League that have to make the decisions and not easy decisions because there are disadvantages for every scenario.

"For us we deserve the chance to work on our little miracle and stay in this league and my general attitude is that we should try everything we can to finish the season.

"But, if it is the situation that - by not finishing the season - we save one life then we should do that." AFP

Barcelona in crisis: VP on coronavirus, wage cuts, infighting, transfers

By Simon Kuper, ESPN.com writer

A PANDEMIC changes everything. FC Barcelona is now willing to attach a sponsor's name to the Camp Nou for the coming decades. Last month, Barca said that it aimed to sell the title rights to Europe's biggest stadium for next season, to raise money for the global fight against the coronavirus. But Jordi Cardoner i Casaus, the club's first vice president, told ESPN that Barca is open to a much longer naming arrangement with a sponsor.

"This is something you could add to this year's agreement: 25 years more," says Cardoner. "The first year for the coronavirus and the next 25 for commercial reasons, having the title rights to the Camp Nou. Why not?"

In a wide-ranging conversation, Cardoner provided a rare glimpse into a giant club's struggles during football's lockdown. He discussed issues including the players' pay cut -- smaller than many people realise -- this summer's transfer market, the date when football might resume, and the size of Barca's debt (about €460 million). The virus seems to have worsened the club's internal turmoil, with Lionel Messi speaking out against the board and six more directors resigning in April amid allegations that the club hired the I3 Ventures firm to campaign on social media against Barça's own players. (The club says I3 was just monitoring social media.)

Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu -- Cardoner's schoolmate from age 6 onward -- is under pressure, but the coronavirus now overshadows everything at the club. Speaking from home via Whatsapp, Cardoner has just recovered from the virus himself. It has killed over 10,000 people in the club's home region of Catalonia so far, according to data from funeral homes. Barca has called the pandemic the "biggest health, economic and social crisis in modern history," and declared its duty to help fight it.

Cardoner has been a Barca man since his grandfather, Nicolas Casaus (himself a first vice president of the club), enrolled him as a socio (member) straight after birth. Talking of the response to the coronavirus, Cardoner cites Barca's slogan, "Més que un club." ("More than a club.") No doubt he means it, too. Barca has donated masks and protective clothing to health services, while socios around Catalonia have been involved in running foodbanks. However, fighting the virus will also help Barça repair an image tattered by internal ructions as well as give it cover to rename the Camp Nou.

A slide in Barça's income

The virus has devastated the club's finances. In the 2017-18 season, Barca became the first club in any sport to hit \$1 billion in annual revenues. As late as this February, says Cardoner, "we were over budget, it was a very successful position, awaiting a beautiful end of the year." Then football closed down. "We reduced our incomes extremely far," he



Barca estimate their losses to be somewhere between 120 million and 140 million euros so far. (Agencies)

families."

Would the Spanish league be ready to restart in September?

"This is my point of view: this will be very difficult," he replies. One possible scenario is that after a period of closeddoor football, "La Liga can start with public not before February 2021." Once some spectators can be admitted, Barca's 85,000 season-ticket holders will "have higher rights than people coming from outside," he says.

Player swaps instead of transfer fees He predicts that with clubs now struggling for cash, swapping players without money changing hands will be common practice in this summer's transfer market. "This is the way things will happen for next season in European clubs," he says. He suggested that in some cases, three clubs might agree to a single interlinked deal, with one player going from Club A to Club B, another from Club B to Club C, and a third from Club C to Club A.

Debt of €460-470 million

Barca expect lower revenues next season, with fewer ticket sales and museum visitors. Cardoner says, "We are preparing the budget of next season and we will adapt our incomes to our spending."

He also says that the club's debt is about

about equal to revenues, at about €400 million.

"A lot of people are wondering if our club will suffer in order to reduce the excellence of our game. This is not true," he notes. The club's total profits of €190 million between 2011 and 2019 make this year's loss easier to bear, he argues. "Because our base economic situation is solid, this will not affect us the same way as probably other clubs.'

Possible delays to the Espai Barça

The club is busy scouring its budget for costs to cut, from scrapping the welcome pack for new socios to economising on the planned Espai Barça.

The "Barça Space" is meant to be a huge piazza featuring a renovated Camp Nou along with a new indoor arena, club offices, restaurants, and a modernised club megastore and museum. The club has called it "the best sporting complex in the world in the centre of a great city." The site's completion date was delayed last year from 2022 to 2024, but the projected budget of €630 million now looks a stretch.

Cardoner says Barça will prioritise renovating the stadium itself and may finish the other facilities later.

Ronaldo now returns to Turin after coronavirus lockdown

MILAN

JUVENTUS star Cristiano Ronaldo flew back to Italy on Monday after almost two months in coronavirus lockdown in his native Portugal.

Ronaldo and his family landed in Turin Airport just after 10.20pm local time, according to media reports in Italy.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner arrived by private jet from the Portuguese island of Madeira and will spend two weeks in quarantine.

The 35-year-old played Juventus's last Serie A game, a 2-0 win over Inter Milan behind closed doors at the Allianz Stadium on March 8, before the Italian football season was suspended amid the COVID-19 pandemic which has killed over 29,000 people in the country.

Ronaldo returned to Madeira after the Inter Milan match to be close to his mother Dolores who had suffered a stroke.

Juventus have recalled their 10 overseas players as Serie A clubs were given the green light to return to individual training on Monday.

The Italian interior ministry's goahead for players to return to club training facilities two weeks ahead of schedule has offered fans hope that the 2019-20 season might yet be salvaged. Juventus are leading Serie A, one point ahead of Lazio, as they target a ninth consecutive Scudetto.

The club has not yet given an official date for a return to training.

Juventus began carrying out tests on their players at the club's medical centre in Turin on Monday.

The first to arrive were Federico Bernardeschi, Juan Cuadrado, Carlo Pinsoglio, Leonardo Bonucci and Aaron Ramsey, all wearing face masks.

Juventus are also waiting the return to Turin of Dutch centre-back Matthijs de Ligt and midfielder Blaise Matuidi, who returned to France after recovering from the virus.

Gonzalo Higuain remains in Argentina where he returned to be with his sick mother.

AFP

No one can pay Pogba wages - Juve chief

TURIN, Italy

JUVENTUS director Fabio Paratici has said transfer target Paul Pogba will struggle to find a club willing to match his wages at Manchester United due to the financial impact caused by the coronavirus outbreak

The World Cup winner has been linked with a move away from Old Trafford, although sources told ESPN United were optimistic he will remain at the club beyond the next transfer window before the sport was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Pogba left United for Juve in 2012 before returning to Manchester in a then world-record £89.3 million and France cancelled. (Agencies)

transfer, and while the Bianconeri are keen to have him back, Paratici warned the impact of the coronavirus means few clubs will be able to sign a player on such a high salary.

"He [Pogba] is a great player but he will struggle to find someone who can pay his wages," Paratici told Sky Sport Italia.

Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane is also keen on signing Pogba, though sources have told ESPN the club's hierarchy would prefer to pursue other targets.

Several clubs have said their summer transfer plans will be affected by the impact the virus has had on the game, which has seen 2019-20 seasons in Belgium, Netherlands

admits.

Barca have lost about €50 million in ticket sales and its museum, €39 million in TV income, and between €20 million and €25 million in commercial income from its shops, football schools, "legends' activities" and so on. The total hit to revenues is already between €120 and €140 million, he says.

"This is for sure, what we know today. These millions will be in our losses at the end of the year." It's certain the club will make a loss this year, he adds. Spending will have to fall.

Pay cut for the players

Speaking days before the announcement that La Liga was hoping to restart in June, Cardoner is cautious about the chances of completing this season. "Every day we have new input. We want to be safe, to take care of our players and their health. This is priority number one, but also number two and three. We will not take risks. We want that if competition comes back it's in the highest-safety way. If not, we are not ready to continue. We are talking about people, their lives, their

Barca's players have agreed to a 72% pay

cut, following teleconferences between

Bartomeu and team captains Messi, Ser-

gio Busquets, Gerard Pique and Sergi Rob-

erto. Cardoner notes that the pay cut only

applies from the start of the lockdown

in March until the season's end, and so,

viewed over the whole year, players will

only be losing 8-11% of their salaries. Still,

this will be enough to allow all Barca's

roughly 500 non-playing employees to

After the deal was agreed, Messi took a

shot at club officials from his Instagram

account: "We want to clarify that our de-

sire has always been for a reduction to be

applied to our salaries because we under-

stand that this is an exceptional situation

and we are the first that have ALWAYS

helped the club with what they have asked

of us... it surprises us that from inside the

club there would be people that want to

put us under a magnifying glass or try to

pressure us into something that we were

Cardoner's response is diplomatic. "The

players have been very positive. They un-

derstood the situation from the beginning.

They are ready to make this effort because

they know that this situation is not a joke."

Football might not restart anytime soon

always clear we wanted to do."

keep their full pay.

€460-470 million. Clubs report their debts using different criteria, but UEFA's benchmarking report published in January named only two clubs (Manchester United and Spurs) with higher net debts. (For some reason, UEFA's list of Europe's 20 most indebted clubs does not include Barca.)

That said. Cardoner insists the club's debt is manageable. He notes that it amounts to only about half of annual revenues, whereas a decade ago debt was its rivals, into an unimaginable crisis.

Cardoner is one of the last senior directors to remain loyal to Bartomeu. Why did six directors resign last month, taking total resignations from the board to 11 under Bartomeu's reign? Cardoner replies: "This is part of human relationships. These colleagues did not agree with several things we decided. They took this decision. We accept it absolutely. Then we have to continue. This is not a dictatorship."

But this is a club plunged, like almost all

New German soccer virus cases highlight risks of resuming

BERLIN

NEW coronavirus infections among German soccer squads revealed on Monday highlighted the challenge for European leagues to restart during the pandemic.

The ongoing severity of the outbreak was not grasped by striker Salomon Kalou, who was suspended by Hertha Berlin for flouting social distancing measures by livestreaming himself fist-bumping teammates and bursting in on an apparent COVID-19 test - all while complaining about a pay cut.

The new infections hurt the Bundesliga's hopes of the resuming this month. Chancellor Angela Merkel and 16 state governors will determine on Wednesday if the risk of infections spreading at stadiums is too great - even without spectators.

Ten positive COVID-19 cases were reported from 1,724 tests conducted across the 36 clubs in Germany's top two divisions. Hertha's squad was given the allclear but the team said Kalou gave the "impression that individual players are not taking the coronavirus issue seriously, especially in the current discussion about a resumption of play."

Games are likely to be restricted to key personnel across Europe for many months, dealing a heavy financial blow to clubs and national associations.

The English Football Association, which owns Wembley Stadium and runs the national teams, is cutting its annual budget by 75 million pounds (\$93 million) as it tries to offset a potential deficit of 300 million pounds over the next four years.

"It's hard to foresee crowds of fans - who are the lifeblood of the game – returning to matches any time soon," FA chairman Greg Clarke said.

Like in Germany, soccer in England and Spain was suspended in March. Both the Premier League and La Liga are hoping to resume in June, although squads are still being kept away from clubs.

Widespread COVID-19 testing of Spanish league players will begin this week as they are expected to return



Salomon Kalou

to training fields for individual fitness sessions while respecting social distancing measures.

"The return of football is a sign that society is progressing towards the new normal," Spanish league president Javier Tebas said. "It will also bring back an element of life that people in Spain and around

by David Chikoko

the world know and love.

"People's health is paramount, so we have a comprehensive protocol to safeguard the health of everyone involved as we work to restart La Liga. Circumstances are unprecedented, but we hope to start playing again in June and finish our '19-'20 season this summer."

A month's training is anticipated before games can resume, although the timetable will depend on how governments unlock their lockdowns.

Spain, Italy and Britain have been the hardest hit by the pandemic in Europe with each country recording more than 25,000 known deaths.

The Premier League's plans to resume have been rocked by some relegation-threatened teams opposing plans for games at neutral stadiums to prevent fans gathering outside.

The early termination of the French season on government orders last week has already sparked recriminations.

Amiens is asking the league to review its decision to relegate the club from the top-flight, launching a petition on Monday to "demand justice for this far-reaching decision which goes against fairness in sport."





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McCullum suggests greater New Zealand involvement in BBL

SYDNEY

BRENDON McCullum has called for greater New Zealand involvement in the Big Bash League later this year if the availability of overseas players- and international cricket overall - remains restricted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

There are positive signs that the Australian season could take shape somewhat as scheduled - there even remains hope that the men's T20 World Cup could be played in October - with every effort being made to enable to the lucrative series against India to survive.

Cricket Australia has started conversations with the federal government about what protocols would need to be in place to allow international teams to visit later in the year.

While there remain plenty of hurdles to cross before full-fledged international sport can take place, there has already been progress in links between Australia and New Zealand resuming with the Warriors rugby team arriving in Tamworth, New South Wales at the weekend to prepare for the resumption of the NRL later this month and there are talks at the government level about a travel "bubble" between the two countries.

"A little bit of creative thinking. It may be just for one season but we have to prepare for the long-term if you are going to grow the game there may be some value."

However, if New Zealand's international players are not playing in December and January - they are due to have a visit by Pakistan - NZC would likely see it as a chance to have them available for the T20 Super Smash, which usually runs concurrently with the first part of the Big Bash from mid-December.

One of the contingency plans in place should next season be disrupted is the potential for Australia and New Zealand to play each other if movement between those two countries is more feasible than broader internation-



Fabien Mutombora

Ndanda FC seeks financial support

By Correspondent Adam Funge

MAINLAND Premier League side, Ndanda FC, has called on Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to financially back the squad and other clubs which are struggling financially, if the federation can do so.

A good number of soccer outfits in the country are presently finding it difficulty to stay afloat because of the suspension of sporting activities, put into effect by the government, in an effort to contain the coronavirus pandemic.

Ndanda FC disclosed the financial support will facilitate the squads' trips to various regions to feature in the remaining assignments after the league's restart.

The Mtwara-based squad's secretary general, Selemani Kachele, pointed out his club has requested TFF to consider backing the sides that lack sponsorship, given the teams are experiencing financial crisis due to the top flight break.

The official issued the statement

al travel.

There are two ODIs left to play from the curtailed series in March plus three T2OIs that were due to be hosted in New Zealand.

The Big Bash will mark its tenth anniversary in the 2020-21 season and, before the pandemic, had commissioned a review by David Barham, the television executive who was central to the BBL's rise while at Channel 10, into what could be done to revitalise the competition. The most intriguing suggestion out of the review was the prospect of four-innings T20 matches in an attempt to ensure contests are alive for longer.

AGENCIES

@ 7:00



14:30 Bongo Hits

5:00 Funguka

15:30 Nirvana (r

16:00 Skonga (r)

16:30 #HASHTAG

17:00 5SELEKT

17:55 Kurasa

18:00 eNewz

18:30 Music/Soap

19:00 EATV SAA

19:45 MJADALA

20:00 DADAZ (r) 21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1

Coverage of the days current events accompanied by Interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests

eastafrica

06:00 Supa Breakfast 10:00 MAMAMIA 12:00 Kipenga Xtra 13:00 Planet Bongo 16:00 EA Drive 20:00 Kipenga 21:00 The Cruise



Burundi goalkeeper close to Azam FC deal

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

BURUNDIAN goalkeeper, Fabien Mutombora, is said to be close to securing a move to Mainland Premier League club, Azam FC, according to media reports coming out of Uganda.

The 22-year-old who plays for Uganda Premier League club, Vipers SC, is regarded as the best goalkeeper in the Uganda Premier League.

According to multiple reports, Mutombora has now attracted interest from Azam FC and the latter are already understood to have held talks with him.

ously featured for Burundi giants Lydia Ludic Academic FC.

His current deal expires at the end of the 2019/20 season. Currently, Azam FC have

three goalkeepers, Razack Abalora, Mwadini Ally and Benedict Haule.

They have been faced with a conundrum in their goalkeeping department this campaign, while heavily relying on Abalora, they had to field third choice shot stopper Haule in some matches.

Abalora's contract is ending at the end of the current sea-Mutombora joined Vipers SC son and the club is reportedly of fullback Nicholas Wadada in domestic football seasons.

three seasons.

He can sign a pre contract with any team of his choice now if there are offers for his service. The 2013/14 Mainland Premier League champions want someone who can challenge the ageing Mwadini and the relatively unused Haule. More recently, Zambia's Power Dynamos goalkeeper Arthur Arakaza has also club.

If the deal goes through, Mutombora would become the

in August, 2018 and has previ- hesitant to extend his stay after 2018. Domestic and international football competitions around the world have been suspended because of the coronavirus pandemic.

> The Tanzanian Premier League is hoping to resume in June though concrete start dates have yet to be fixed.

That leaves the issue of expiring contracts, which are usually timed to finish at the end been linked with a move to the of a given season, as a potential headache.

However FIFA proposed that current contracts for players second player to join Azam FC and coaches should be extendfrom Vipers SC after the capture ed until the end of the delayed after the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) had recently disclosed the Mainland Premier League and the rest of the soccer tournaments will resume pending the government permission.

"The top flight's regulation clearly demands sides should foot their transportation costs, outfits which will not manage to meet transportation costs should be relegated," he disclosed.

"This, though, is an emergency. We can meet TFF and request them to support the squads in an effort to see to it they honour the rest of their games."

He disclosed his club mostly banks on the backing of the game's stakeholders, that include TFF.

Kachele added TFF obviously has limited budget but the latter should put its weight behind the clubs should it be able to do so.

"I won't lie we are financially stable. Although we have been able to deal with several challenges since the league's start we are not self sufficient,"

He disclosed the side has somehow catered for vital needs which are, among, players' salaries.

Kachele moreover expressed fear his club's players might not be fully fit because of the current break.

"We will not be at our best given players are training individually, I don't think they will be fully fit...we knew the league will resume but we are not sure of our players' fitness."

The side had, as of the competition's break, held the 16th spot in the league after registering 31 points in 29 assignments.



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Flexibles by David Chikoko

