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Tanzania, China agree to intensify bilateral relations

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and China have agreed to strengthen diplomatic relations which has lasted for more than 50 years for the interests of the people of the two countries.

China's ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, made the promise in Dar es Salaam yesterday when she met and held talks with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Liberata Mulamula (pictured).

The envoy highlighted the profound traditional friendship between China and Tanzania, and pledged to make relentless efforts to carry forward the friendship during her tenure.

"I believe that I am the bridge for promoting the relations between the two countries, we have been working together in various sectors including health, agriculture, trade and investment," she said.

The envoy said China has always viewed and developed China-Tanzania relations from a strategic and long term perspective.

For her part, Ambassador Mulamula said the two have discussed issues of interest to the two countries including how to further



Tanzania and China have been friends all time, a move that has made the two countries depend on each other during various times

cement the relations which have existed since 1964.

Mulamula said the relations between China and Tanzania have existed for a long time because the country does not wade into the internal affairs of another country.

"Tanzania and China have been friends all time, a move that has made the two countries depend on each other during various times," she said.

The deep and long-standing Tanzanian-Chinese relationship continues to be characterised by significant trade, diplomatic exchanges and Chinese assistance and investment in Tanzania.

Tanzania remains one of China's principal African trading partners and assistance recipients.

Tanzania and China have enjoyed a very special relationship that dates back from the days of the generation of leadership of the founding fathers of these nations, namely the late Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, Abeid Aman Karume and Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai and later Supreme Leader Deng Xioping.

Africa's glaciers melting, millions of poor face drought, floods, report says

By Special Correspondent

AFRICA'S rare glaciers risk disappearing in the next two decades owing to climate change, a new report warned yesterday.

This comes amid sweeping forecasts of pain for a continent with the least contribution to global warming but expected to suffer the condition's harshest consequences.

The report, the work of the World Meteorological Organisation and various other agencies, has been released ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP26.

The event is scheduled to be held in Glasgow, Scotland, from October 31 and to November 12, 2021 under the presidency of the UK.

The report stands as a grim reminder that Africa's 1.3 billion people remain "extremely vulnerable" as the continent warms more, and at a faster rate, than the global average.

Paradoxically, Africa's 54 countries are responsible for less than 4 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The report seizes on the shrinking glaciers of Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest), Mount Kenya and Uganda's Ruwenzori Mountains, all with tops that have traditionally been permanently snow-capped and glaciated, as symbols of the rapid and widespread changes to come.

"Their current retreat rates are higher than the global average. If this continues, it will lead to total deglaciation by the 2040s," it says.

WMO Secretary General Petteri Taalas said at Tuesday's launch of the report that massive displacement, hunger and an increase in climate shocks such as droughts and flooding are in the future, and yet the lack of climate

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Muslim faithful march along Dar es Salaam's Lumumba Street yesterday in celebrating Prophet Muhamad's birthday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Zanzibar President Alhaj Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi officiates at the start of Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebrations at Maisara Suleiman grounds in Zanzibar Urban District on Sunday night. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Premier Majaliwa calls for national unity and peace among Tanzanians

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on religious leaders to take a leading role in preaching national unity, peace, and co-existence among Tanzanians.

Majaliwa made the call yesterday when addressing Muslims at the event to celebrate Maulid which was held at the national level at Kaitaba stadium in Bukoba Municipality, Kagera Region.

Maulid is the birthday of the Islamic prophet Muhammad.

The Premier said the government is leading by example by taking developments to all Tanzanians despite their religious beliefs.

"The government will continue to advocate for peace and national unity, therefore it is the role of religious leaders to pray for the nation and the government in power," he said.

The PM appealed to Muslims in the country to follow the teachings of the prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

According to him, peace preaching should be everyone's role saying without peace the country cannot develop.

He added that Tanzania has been a leading example advocating for peace and coexistence in the region, saying this should be trickled down to generations.

Majaliwa said the government was aware of the role that religious leaders are playing for peace maintenance a move that had made other people from non-peaceful countries seek shelter.

He also called on religious leaders to educate

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'Diasporas have big role in national development'

By Guardian Reporter, Saint Petersburg

THE government has called on Tanzanians living abroad to grab existing investment opportunities at home to contribute to the country's development endeavours.

Minister for Health Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Dorothy Gwajima, made the call in St Petersburg on Monday where she met and held talks with Tanzanians studying at various colleges in Russia.

She said Tanzania has numerous

opportunities for investment in various sectors to help the community including health, minerals and tourism sectors that can contribute to the country's development.

She added that to live and study outside the country does not mean doors for

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Energy minister January Makamba (R) has a quick word in his Dar es Salaam office yesterday with Algeria's Ambassador to Tanzania, Ahmed Djellal. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

600 billion/- set aside for govt office buildings, Second Phase in Dodoma

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has allocated 6bn/- for construction of office buildings during the second phase in Dodoma.

Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Coordination, Parliament, Labour, Youth and People with Disabilities) Jenista Mhagama, made the remarks here yesterday at the launch of new buildings for the Prime Minister's Office second phase in Dodoma.

Mhagama said since the government announced moving to Dodoma in September 2016, up to June this year a total of 18,000 government workers have already moved to Dodoma and 655.9bn/- has been spent thereon.

"I would like to praise President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the intention to continue with the exercise of moving to Dodoma as well as for the strategic plans for the construction of government offices second phase," she said.

She said President Samia has

approved a total of 600.9bn/- to ensure the second phase for the construction of government buildings in Dodoma is completed and added that in FY 2021/22 a total of 300bn/- has been allocated towards the construction of government buildings, Mhagama added.

She said the structures will be multi-story, six storeys upwards not less.

She also called on all government ministries to quickly finalise the procedure of getting contractors as

directed by the PM, and all building contract agreements should abide by the money value.

She also used the occasion to mobilise Dodoma City residents to grab various opportunities during the construction of the government buildings second phase.

For his part, acting Tanzania ambassador to Russia Dr Sweetbert Mkama assured Dr Gwajima to work together with Tanzanians living and studying in Russia to access to opportunities available in their home country.

Africa's glaciers melting, and millions of poor face drought, floods - report

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data in parts of Africa "is having a major impact" on disaster warnings for millions of people.

Estimates of the economic effects of climate change vary across the African continent, but "in sub-Saharan Africa, climate change could further lower gross domestic product by up to 3 per cent by 2050," the African Union Commission's Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko with writes in the report, adding: "Not only are physical conditions getting worse, but also the number of people being affected is increasing."

By 2030, up to 118 million extremely poor people, or those

living on less than US\$1.90 a day, "will be exposed to drought, floods and extreme heat in Africa if adequate response measures are not put in place," Sacko notes.

Sacko, an Angolan national, is a leading agronomist elected as the AUC's Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture in January 2017.

Already, the UN has warned that the Indian Ocean island nation of Madagascar is one where "famine-like conditions have been driven by climate change". The world body further notes that parts of South Sudan are already seeing the worst flooding in almost 60 years.

'Diasporas have big role in national development'

FROM PAGE 1

investment are closed, but it is an opportunity to assist in transforming the community from lessons and experiences of other nations.

"I must be frank with you, home is home, you have some opportunities to assist your country, you can form a group and seek sponsors whilst you are here in Russia to help your fellow countrymen," she said.

She also explained that the government is behind Tanzanians in the diaspora as its intention is to put in place a friendly environment to ensure they have the opportunity in contributing to the national development in various economic and social sectors.

For his part, acting Tanzania ambassador to Russia Dr Sweetbert Mkama assured Dr Gwajima to work together with Tanzanians living and studying in Russia to access to opportunities available in their home country.

The director of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and Registrar

of NGOs Vickiness Mayao said it was possible for Tanzanians in the diaspora to mobilise themselves and establish NGOs at home, as procedures allow to establish international NGOs in the country and called upon them to grab the opportunities.

Speaking on behalf of Tanzanians living and studying in Russia, Lucas Muchunguzi thanked the government for the opportunity to study outside the country and pledged to use the education and experience to be gained to spur Tanzania's economic development.



...you can form a group and seek sponsors whilst you are here in Russia to help your fellow countrymen

France urges Tanzanians to begin using e-vehicles

By Felister Peter

FRANCE Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness, Franck Reister yesterday called on Tanzanians to start using e-vehicles as a solution to the challenge of decarbonising the environment.

The electric motor vehicles, powered by energy photovoltaic are much suitable for the tourism industry as they don't generate emissions as well as noise.

"The vehicles have been used in Tanzania for almost three years; they are good for the environment and animals. Once fully charged, the cars can go for over 100 kilometres," Reister said when addressing journalists on the new e-motion technology in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Reister added that the e-motion was created in 2019 with the aim of providing original and simple solution to the challenge of decarbonising transport in Tanzania and proposes to convert the diesel engine for safari vehicles into an electric motor.

The minister said France companies will share expertise with local companies in converting the diesel engine to electric motor including the Arusha Technology College which is currently working closely with France companies namely, Hanspaul Group, a manufacturer of safari cars, Gadgetronix, a builder of solar farms, Akuo, and Carwatt.

In Tanzania the project was initiated by the French safari company Mount Kilimanjaro Safari Club-MKSC which has been operating for twenty years in the northern circuit of the country in national parks.

The company launched its first two electric cars in 2018 taking advantage of used Toyota car recycling (deployed in Serengeti National Park and Mkomazi National Park, the Rhino Sanctuary) and since

then the company has 8 electric cars at three different locations and a garage located in Arusha.

Managing director of Mount Kilimanjaro Safari Club, George Ole Meing'arrai said the objective of the project was to give a second life to vehicles and to use recharging batteries (those which are no longer suitable for European cars) a second life, and to equip all safari vehicles allowing a silent movement, more respectful of the fauna in the parks, which is doubly respectful of the environment.

"The vehicles are suitable for the tourism because animals especially buffalo do not like noise, its batteries can also be charged solar powered gadget," he said with the technology Tanzania's tourist attractions will be considerably enhanced as it will be the first country in Africa to use electric cars on all of its safaris.

According to him, maintenance costs will be greatly reduced by converting vehicles to electric. The experience observed on retrofit safari vehicles in the private sector suggests savings of nearly \$ 5,000 per year per vehicle.

The project will be significant and could also be extended to other forms of mobility (buses, taxis, safari cars, private vehicles).

In 2030, nearly 1.4 million batteries will need to be recycled. Vehicle maintenance costs will be greatly reduced by converting vehicles to electric.



The vehicles have been used in Tanzania for almost three years; they are good for the environment and animals



French Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness minister Franck Reister disembarks from a car after launching an electric car at the French Embassy's premises in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemeni Mpochi

Premier Majaliwa calls for national unity and peace among Tanzanians

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their followers to prepare for participation in the population and housing census, which is expected to take place in August, next year.

"This exercise will enable the country to access the basic data used in formulating policies, planning and development programmes as well as monitoring its implementation."

The PM also called on the people to turn out in big numbers to go for the COVID-19 vaccination. "The issue of health is important and not a mockery.

For his part, Mufti of Tanzania and Chief Sheikh, Sheikh Abubakar Zubeir Bin Ally has encouraged

Tanzanians to continue respecting religious and government leaders as doing so will contribute to the country's development.

The Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) secretary-general Sheikh Nuhu Jabir Mruma has praised the government for supervising well the country's development projects.

On Monday evening, Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Mwinyi led Muslims in the isles who attended Maulid prayers to mark the birth of their Prophet Muhammad in an event held at Maisara grounds in Unguja.

The annual event, according to the Islamic calendar, has been customary and has been held at

the national level as per Zanzibar Muslims' age-long tradition.

Dr Mwinyi was joined by government and religious leaders including Zanzibar's First Lady Mariam Mwinyi and other women Muslim leaders.

Zanzibar deputy Kadhi Sheikh Othman Ngwali used the occasion to welcome all zanzibaris at maulid celebrations.

On the occasion, Muslims were reminded of the whole issue of peace, unity, and solidarity among them and called upon the Muslims to adhere to the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

In his Maulid sermon, Sheikh Mohammed Ali Mohammed from the Commission of Inheritance

stressed the importance of Muslims to help one another in order to receive Allah's blessings.

He also said it is the responsibility of Muslims to celebrate Maulid day by following the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Reading a short history about Maulid in Zanzibar, the advisor to Maulid's Preparatory Committee Sheikh Sherali Chapsi said Maulid celebrations began in Zanzibar in 1926 in collaboration with all Muslims living in Zanzibar.

He added that the Milade Nabii Association in Zanzibar was formed to unify Zanzibar Muslims and to organise Maulid celebrations and that this year it is its 96th year to organise the event.



An eye specialist attends to a patient at a free health camp organised by experts from Dar es Salaam's Heamedda Hospital and their colleagues from India's Apollo Hospitals as part of the commemoration of the Tanzanian hospital's 11th anniversary. This was in Dar es Salaam's Bunju B suburb yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

RC appeals for Covid pandemic awareness

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

IN efforts to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, Dodoma regional commissioner, Anthony Mtaka has called on health committees from all districts to have in place strategies to make sure all areas are reached to provide education on the importance of vaccination.

He also called on them to make sure the vaccination reaches people in all areas with large assemblies of people including churches, mosques, bus stations and other areas.

Addressing a meeting for the evaluation and implementation of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, Mtaka said his office has received a new consignment of 50,390 doses of the Sinopharm vaccine.

"These committees should go to all areas and educate people about this new vaccine after the former Johnson and Johnson vaccine was out of stock," he said.

For his part, the vaccination coordinator for Dodoma Region Francis Bujiku said Dodoma region had earlier received 50 doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine and on August 3, 2021 the vaccination campaign was launched up to October 5 when all the doses allocated for the region were out of stock.

"After that we requested for 6,515 more doses, 5,000 from Geita Region and 1,515 from Iringa Region and by October 13 a total of 52,599 people were vaccinated," he added.

He said since the start of the vaccination campaign in August, people have been educating the people about the importance of vaccination and 28 vaccination centres were added to reach 381, adding that by October 14 this year 52, 629 people were vaccinated, or 93 per cent of the 56,515 targeted.

Speaking on the new vaccines,

Bujiku said the government is to make the implementation of the vaccination a big success.

He said the 381 vaccination centres will continue to be used as well as handbag vaccination to reach all areas and the vaccine will be administered twice, the second one after 28 days.

In another development, RC Mtaka has called upon traders not to hike prices for building materials rampantly and urged them to abide by the government's indicative prices.

The RC made the remarks on Monday while addressing Dodoma traders on IMF 1.3trn/- soft loan extended to Tanzania that had been directed to various development projects in the country.

He said the funds have been distributed to various regions towards development projects in health, education, infrastructures and other and Dodoma Region received 17.97bn/-.

He added that the funds were a major opportunity as they are channeled to indigenous traders in the private sector as well as small business people, hence it is prohibited to rampantly hike prices for building materials.

"In case I find out you have hiked the prices, the government will go to other regions to procure the materials needed for the projects," he warned.

For his part, the Industry and Trade Minister, Prof Kitila Mkumbo said the IMF money is a huge opportunity for the economic sector especially for the indigenous business people and small traders.

"In case I find out you have hiked the prices, the government will go to other regions to procure the materials needed for the projects,"

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

Mbeya RC pledges to boost Malawi-Tanzania trade ties

MBEYA regional commissioner, Juma Homera has pledged to develop the diplomatic and trade ties between Tanzania and Malawi via Kasumulu border post to strengthen the environment of service delivery for traders and people in the border area.

Homera made the remarks here yesterday as he spoke to this paper on the achievements following the visit in Mbeya Region by the Malawian deputy minister for Works and Transport, Nancy Chaola last week.

He said the visit had brought hope for cementing trade ties between the two countries for the existing

opportunities, including trading in crops and other goods.

"You will recall we had a visit by Malawian delegation last week, we discussed various issues centred on trade relations via Kasumulu border post, and I call upon Mbeya residents to grab the existing opportunities," Homera said.

For her part, during the visit, Malawi's Deputy Works and Transport Nancy Chaola said they

would continue with efforts to improve road and rail infrastructure, including air services to improve the transportation of goods between the two countries.

She also expressed her pleasure with the resources wealth and good climate for cultivation of various crops and good infrastructure for the transport and that Malawi had mobilised itself to grab the existing opportunities.

During the visit, the Malawian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Gladys Munthali said they will work together with the Tanzania government to make sure traders from both sides conduct businesses in conducive environment.

She also said they will continue to mobilise farmers to grow quality crops to meet world market demand instead of merely complaining without taking any tangible steps.

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Bishop Dr Evance Lucas (C), chairman of the Dodoma regional reconciliation community, pictured in the national capital yesterday leading special prayers for peace. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has been called upon to build a research centre for the cashew nuts, sesame and groundnuts crops in Kongwa District, Dodoma Region.

The move aims to assist farmers in the area in regard to various challenges they face including the availability of modern quality seeds of crops.

Deputy Agriculture minister, Hussein Bashe made the remarks at a special meeting attended by cashew nuts stakeholders from Kongwa District.

He said the government will make sure it assists cashew nuts farmers to grow the crop in a modern way as well as finding markets for the

Govt directs TARI to establish cashew nut research centre in Kongwa district

processed crop.

"I am directing TARI to build a research centre for the cashew nuts, sesame and groundnuts crops in this area as well as a centre for cashew nuts processing," Bashe said.

He also called upon farmers of the crops to cultivate more than two crops in the cashew nuts fields in order to earn income all year round.

However, he said he had directed extension officers to establish a calendar in their offices in order for the farmers to know the months for planting, spraying, weeding and promised that the government will

look into a better way to provide them with subsidies.

For his part, the Speaker of the National Assembly who was the meeting's chairman, Job Ndugai said the crop is a saviour in the district and that what was now needed is a cashew nuts processing factory.

He said farmers must abide by modern farming practices that includes having a smartphone to have his problems resolved in time especially when cashew nuts trees get infected by plant diseases.

For his part, the commerce and marketing director of Bens Agrostar

Co Ltd, distributors of plants pesticides, Patrick Mwalunenge, said they have been providing quality pesticides whereby as for now they are set to install sprayers at the farms to fight the diseases.

He advised farmers to adopt a procedure to treat the diseases in time using pesticides they have as cashew nuts trees require better protection to produce quality crop.

Kongwa District Commissioner Remidius Mwema said they have mobilised to make cashew nuts become a strategic crop to assist farmers for their economic wellbeing.

Songea airport rehabilitation to open business opportunities, says RC Ibuge

By Guardian Reporter, Songea

RUVUMA Regional Commissioner Brig. General Wilbert Ibuge has said that the expansion and rehabilitation of Songea airport will not only boost air transport but also open business opportunities and stimulate economic growth in the area.

The RC made the remarks here on Monday shortly after visiting and inspecting the ongoing rehabilitation of the airport facility.

RC Ibuge expressed his satisfaction with the exercise calling on contractors and supervisors to ensure that the work is completed on time, saying the government's hope is that once the work is completed, the airport will increase the number of passengers to and from Songea, as some residents of the neighboring Njombe and Lindi regions have begun using the airport for various business trips.

The expansion and rehabilitation of the airport is implemented by the Chinese company-Chico and the Tanzania Roads Agency (Tanroads) in RUVUMA Region.

He said that since the expansion work started has facilitated increase of number of flights from two to three per week and thanking the government for allocating the funds that have enabled the expansion work to be done more efficiently.

"After the expansion, now flights are conducted Monday, Wednesday and Fridays through the Air Tanzania Corporation Limited

(ATCL).The airport is safe and Ruvuma residents and others in the neighboring regions are happy with these projects as they know that their businesses will improve," he said.

He commended the government for investing heavily in improving the country's infrastructures to boost the economy, appealing to Ruvuma residents and those from the neighboring region, to use the airport for normal and business travels.

The RC also said that the expansion of the airport will also attract more tourists in the region which is blessed with a number of tourist attractions.

Ibuge mentioned some of the attractions include the shores of Lake Nyasa, Livingstone Mountains, the Nyerere National Park, the Majimaji war heroes museum and the Liparamba Forest.

Tanroads manager in Ruvuma Region Razak Alanuswe said the airport said some of the areas which have been completed include the taking off and landing areas and putting lines.

According to Alinanuswe, the ongoing work include expansion of runway from the current 1600 metres to 1860 metres so as to enable it accommodate bigger planes.

The airport manager, Jordan Mchami said that due to the expansion and increased number of flights, the fare per passenger has decreased to 250,000/- from the previous 600,000/- thus attracting more people to use the airport.

Government praises organisation's support for persons with disability

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has applauded all stakeholders who support people with disabilities, saying they complement efforts to ensure all Tanzanians get equal treatment.

It specifically appreciated the Christian blind mission (CBM) International for supporting people with disabilities, especially the blind in the country, calling on other stakeholders to emulate it.

CBM, an international Christian development organisation, committed to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in the poorest communities of the world has been in the country for over 50 years working with both government and private health facilities.

Its areas of focus include health, education, livelihoods, community development and humanitarian action.

Speaking while officiating at the opening of CBM annual partners workshop here, acting director of persons with disabilities at the Prime Minister's Office, Jacob Mwinula said the government acknowledges the wavering support of CBM which empowers health facilities to improve services to the disabled.

The meeting brought together representatives from various institutions like Bugando, Kolandoto, Mvumi and KCMC hospitals as well as Zanzibar-based Mnazi Mmoja and other organisations like Ilegula, Inuka and Child Support.

He said the organisation has been working in close cooperation with the government to ensure those with disabilities get better services, adding that other stakeholders should borrow a leaf from it.

"CBM is one of the international organisations worth emulating and I urge other stakeholders to copy its model and philosophy" he said.

He added that serving people with special needs literally means serving people who without your support they could have not got the service.

Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children in Zanzibar, Dr Fatma Juma Omar on her part noted that optical health, disability and inclusive education that CBM work to improve are key issues affecting Tanzanian communities.

She said, "Very few stakeholders have interest in these areas but CBM has been working on for decades now, improve health of Tanzanians". She said the government

welcomes more of such organizations since the need for help is so huge that the government alone cannot manage.

Earlier, Director of Special Needs Education at the ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Dr Magrath Matonya noted that it is pleasing to see commitment by stakeholders to support those who do not see.

She acknowledged the government efforts to empower children with disabilities as envisioned in the five-year strategic plan for inclusive education prepared in collaboration with various stakeholders.

She also thanked CBM for the commitment to improve services to the disabled, calling working partners that get support from the international organization to work diligently to help serve poor Tanzanians who are in dire need for help.

"It is important cooperate as partners when it comes to dealing with children with disabilities and also enhance cooperation with the government too" she said.

CBM country director, Nesia Mahenge, in her opening remarks said the organization believes people with disabilities and their representative organizations are critical development partners.

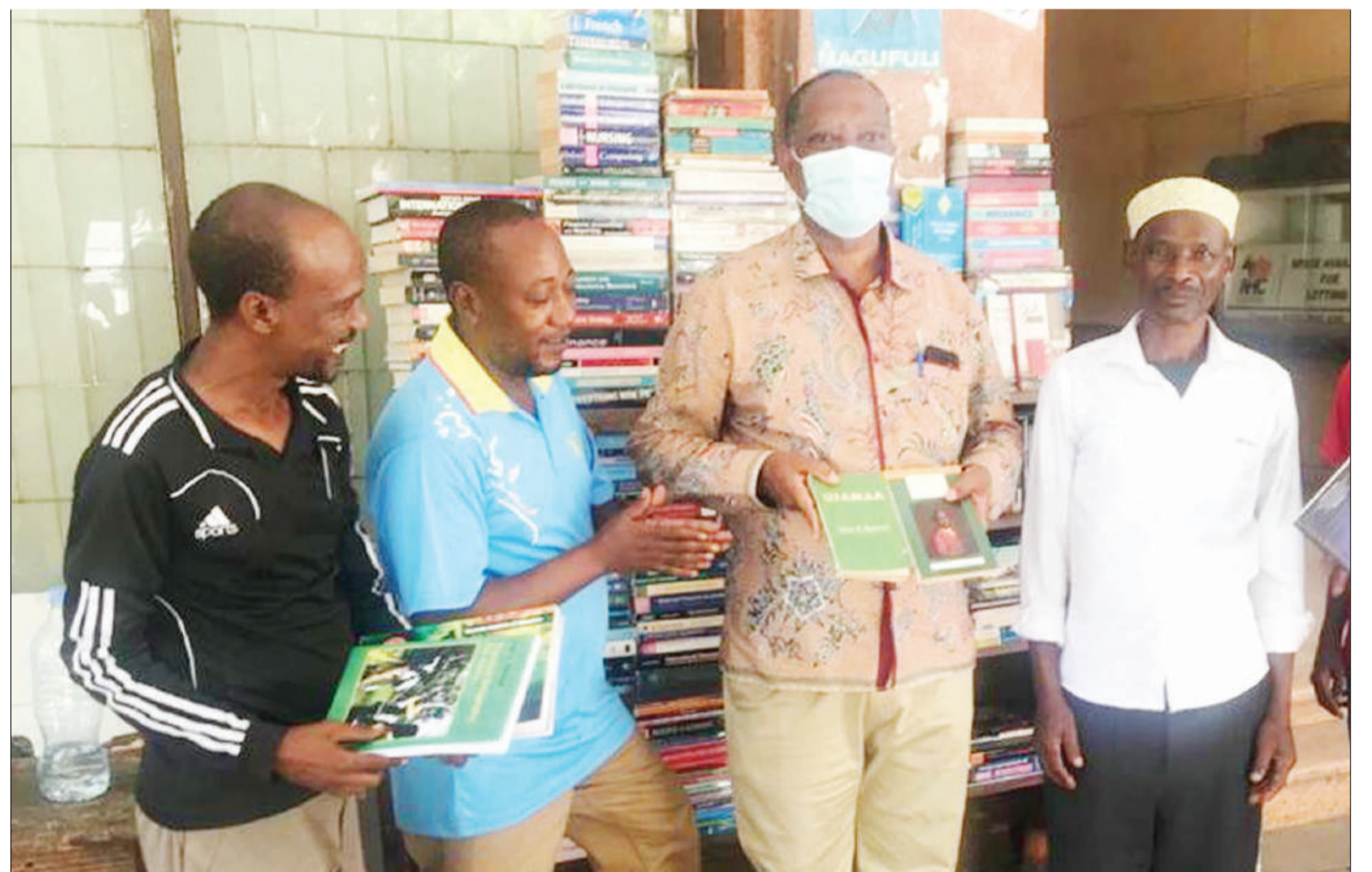
In that respect, it works in partnership with people with disabilities and their representative organisations to hold governments, decision makers and those in power to account; ensuring people with disabilities are central decision makers, directing their own lives.

She said aim is to ensure people with disabilities and their representative organisations are central in defining priorities and guiding CBM's advocacy and programming objectives.

"CBM recognizes that the best way to ensure that people with disabilities can fully access services such as healthcare, education, or livelihoods for the long-term is for governments to build inclusive structures and services," she noted.

According Mahenge, aim is to reduce the inequalities that lead to poverty and exclusion, local and national services need to be available, affordable, accessible, of quality, in line with international standards, and reflect the service users' priorities.

She said in addition, specialized services that meet specific needs of people with disabilities such as rehabilitation or assistive devices, may be needed to ensure full inclusion.



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (2nd-R) holds copies of books on socialism at a Sokoine Drive roadside bookstore in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) and the Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) and Afreximbank are set to launch the MANSa digital platform today in Kampala, Uganda.

Speaking at the press conference during his courtesy visit to PSFU, EABC executive director John Bosco Kalisa said: "EABC and PSFU have partnered to enhance the level of preparedness for business in Uganda in order to ably access and expand to the regional and continental markets as a recovery strategy to build the economy back better amid the COVID-19 pandemic."

Kalisa said capacity building and information sharing via the MANSa digital platform will enable companies and SMEs to easily access due diligence checks on their counterparts and trade confidently in the 1.2 billion continental markets. He stated that Uganda's export earnings from coffee boosted, supporting economic resilience.

He elaborated that access to new markets

EABC, Afreximbank and PSFU set to join forces, open African market

for Uganda's surplus production is vital for recovery and growth.

Acting Executive Director of PSFU Francis Kisirinya, said "Registering into the MANSa platform is free of charge, this reduces the cost of doing due diligence in Uganda currently estimated at UGX.5 million. He stated that the MANSa digital platform is set to build trust and cut the transaction costs of trading under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Kisirinya said PSFU in collaboration with EABC is committed to fast-track vaccination of 4.8 million people by December 2021, boost investments in health and trade buoyant sectors, elimination of NTBs and expansion to new markets as a recovery tactic.

Fahadi Sensuwa, Head of MANSa Digital Initiatives said the MANSa Platform

will attract more trade finance to Africa and support the transformation of SMEs growth into large enterprises.

He stated that the high cost of compliance and risk perception impacts access to finance for SMEs who form the backbone of our economies.

Kalisa said, applauded the EAC Heads of States for ratifying the AfCFTA and elaborated that EAC bloc will start trading once the 90% tariff offer threshold is attained. "It is time for businesses to drive the African Continental Free Trade Area," said Kalisa.

The MANSa digital platform provides a single primary source of Know-Your-Customer (KYC) data required to conduct customer diligence checks on counterparties in Africa with a special focus on African Corporates, SMEs and financial institutions."



Superintendent of Police Nestory John of Bugarama in Shinyanga Region pictured yesterday elaborating on how law-enforcement officers in the ward cooperate with various social groups in fighting gender-based violence, particularly against women and children. This is done under 'Kama' project, which is coordinated by Foundation for Human Health and Social Development and Rudi with funding from the Belgian government. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

DC cites better land use plans as key in easing deforestation

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

RUANGWA district commissioner Hassani Ngoma has cited better land-use plan as one of the solutions towards efforts to address deforestation in the country.

DC Ngoma said this here on Monday when wrapping up a workshop aimed at empowering Nachingwea, Ruangwa and Liwale districts' leaders and experts with skills on environmental conservation.

The three districts are in

the Forestry and Value Chains Development programme (FORVAC) which is geared towards increasing economic, social and environmental benefits from forests and woodlands whilst tackling deforestation.

DC Ngoma said in order for the forests to continue to exist, there is need for people to be organized, including a specific plan for better land use.

The DC said the existence of the programme would also help people to keep them in good and proper order, thus reducing the

problem of deforestation, which is compounded by human activities, such as agriculture, pastoralism and illegal harvesting of forest products.

He said that in order for humans and other creatures to survive, forests need to exist, as there are major benefits, including preventing erosion, and bringing rainfall, commending FORVAC for educating communities on the importance of conserving forests. He also described population increase as another factor that leads

to environmental degradation as there is an increasing demand of natural resources. "This has been contributing to the disappearance of natural forest resources in various parts of the country," he said.

FORVAC manager, Alex Njehani said the aim of the session was to create awareness among forest leaders and experts in three of the five districts they operate within Lindi Region.

In Tanzania, FORVAC operate in 12 districts of Lindi, Tanga, Ruvuma, Dodoma and Manyara regions.

RC pleads with NFRA to access more maize from Mbozi District

By Guardian Correspondent, Songwe

SONGWE Regional Commissioner Omary Mgumba has urged the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) to reduce the amount of maize (400 tonnes) earlier planned to be purchased in Vwawa town and instead purchase the consignment in Mbozi District where there are more stockpiles of the crop.

He made the call yesterday after his impromptu visit to the Isongole maize market that found stocks of maize that had no market.

He called on NFRA to increase the number of tonnes to be bought in the area so as to provide relief to the farmers who are stranded with their produce.

"This district was to sell only 800 tonnes of maize to the NFRA but the demand is much higher and a number of farmers still have tonnes of stranded maize stocks to sell, so we asked NFRA to reduce the amount of maize that had to be purchased in Vwawa and come to purchase them here instead," he said.

Mgumba added that the government is also looking for more alternatives to ensure that farmers get reliable market for their produce.

Mases Kayinga, one of the farmers at the area commended the government for coming up with the decision to purchase more maize from them saying that the move will provide relief to hundreds of farmers.

"I also have a lot of maize at home, I have brought just a little here as there is no market. We are appealing

to the government to open more doors and find us a reliable market," he added.

In this season, Songwe Region produced 1.4 million tonnes of food crops while its demand is only 3030,000 tonnes thus having surplus of more than one million tonnes.

However, Songwe regional commissioner is calling on traders in the country to go to the region to purchase surplus produce for sell in international market as the government has already opened borders.



This district was to sell only 800 tonnes of maize to the NFRA but the demand is much higher and a number of farmers still have tonnes of stranded maize stocks to sell, so we asked NFRA to reduce the amount of maize that had to be purchased in Vwawa and come to purchase them here instead

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



REPOA is an independent research institution, registered as a non-profit NGO under the laws of Tanzania. The institution was established in 1994 and primarily undertakes research and utilizes knowledge to facilitate socio-economic transformation for inclusive development. In addition to research, the organization undertakes capacity building of the intellectual resource (researchers and research users) and facilitates the utilization of research findings by promoting evidence-based dialogue and participating in policy reviews and development.

REPOA is seeking to recruit a suitable candidate to fill the position of Director of Finance and Administration (DFA). The job holder reports to the Executive Director and provides leadership and Management of the Finance, HR, ICT and Resource Centre. The position is responsible for ensuring sound financial practices and putting in place robust internal controls in all REPOA's projects and routine undertakings that involve financial transactions. The DFA will promote high standards of accountability and management of resources. The DFA will also ensure timely and accurate financial reporting and strong audit performance and Compliance and will oversee effective management of personnel and assets. The DFA will be recruited on a two-year contract renewable upon satisfactory performance.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

We would like to invite applications from suitable candidates for the position of Director of Finance and Administration (DFA).

Duties and responsibilities:

- Prepare and issue guidelines for development of annual plans and departmental budgets, including coordinating the merging of departmental budgets into an annual consolidated budget and presentation of proposed budget to the Board of Directors.
- Review various institutional systems and procedures relating to finance and administration to ensure compliance with Government requirements including taxes and levies, acceptable standards and best practices.
- Overseeing standard operating policies and developing systems and controls and ensuring that operating manuals are up to date.
- Monitor implementation of approved budgets to ensure activities carried out correlate with the budget and established internal controls.
- Ensure availability of relevant infrastructure to support implementation of activities.
- Coordinate preparation of periodic financial reports and presentation of the reports to the Board of Directors for approval, including coordinating external audit exercise.
- Manage expenditure and cash flows of the institution, including making decisions on the areas of investment.
- Maintaining a risk register and manage potential financial and ICT related risks and advise the management on available options and ways to mitigate them.
- Coordinate acquisition of library materials to ensure availability of up to date journals, books and other reference materials for the resource centre.

- Supervise HR issues to ensure smooth running of the institution, including assessment of capacity limitations, trainings, and other appropriate steps to improve staff performance.
- Supervise finance, HR and ICT personnel and managing their performance and development.
- Providing financial support and advice to the Executive Director and staff in various projects.
- Ensure overall responsibility of the finance staff and systems and instil culture of efficiency, integrity and transparency of the financial operations.
- Ensuring contractual compliance with financial regulations and requirements agreed between REPOA and donors.
- Overseeing management of contracts with suppliers.
- Secretary to the Audit and Risk committee of the Board of Directors.

Qualifications, Skills and Experience:

- Must be registered by NBAA as Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or equivalent qualification issued by recognized institution. In addition, must possess master's degree or business administration from a recognised higher learning institution.
- At least 8 years' experience in Finance and Administration as a senior or Principal Accountant, with high level of involvement in making strategic and operational decisions and managing personnel and administration portfolio.
- Previous experience of managing donor funds, operations of NGOs and multiple projects is an added advantage.
- Strong analytical skills, integrity, initiative and ability to manage multi-disciplinary teams.
- Excellent command of written and spoken English and Kiswahili.
- Proven record for use of accounting software. Knowledge of Pastel software will be added advantage.

If you are interested in this job opportunity, e-mail us your CV (max. 5 pages) and cover letter explaining your suitability for this role. Please, do not include your certificates. Write "DFA" in your e-mail subject line. The deadline is on Friday, 22nd Oct. 2021. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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Prospect Africa Limited
e-mail: recruitment@prospect-africa.net



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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

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PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

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

APPLICANT NAME	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS/NATIONALITY	SHARES %
Chalinze District Council	Community Content Radio Broadcasting	Chalinze District Council (Tanzanian)	100

Pursuant to section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communication Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of the licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments should be submitted to:

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Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P.O. Box 474
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List Tanesco on DSE, Zitto urges

By Guardian Reporter

ECONOMIC expert and ACT-Wazalendo party leader, Zitto Kabwe has suggested for the state owned power utility company to list at least 20 percent of its shares on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) market to make profits.

This follows a recent statement by TANESCO new Director General, Maharage Chande that the electric utility incurs a loss of a staggering 16bn/- per month due to inefficiency. The outspoken politician is of the view that listing TANESCO on the DSE will raise its capital, bolster transparency as DSE regulations require disclosure and furthermore improve governance and ultimately prevent financial irregularities.

"Listing TANESCO on the DSE will not only make the company a much more profitable entity but will also circumvent irregularities because the DSE has disclosure rules which means TANESCO will be required to be transparent and additionally, by going public it means many people will have equity ownership of the power utility and this will

ultimately improve governance of the electricity company," said Zitto.

He said TANESCO has come a long way, noting that according to TANESCO'S audit report for the year ended June 2020, the utility company made a profit of 45.2bn/- from a loss of 34.2bn/- that was incurred in 2019, "this is a huge step however, accumulated losses for the entity amounted to 2.1trn/-, which is quite steep, so something should be done to remedy this, for starters, the government could carry over the losses or increase its capital."

He further noted, "Since the government has only paid 47 percent of the 120 million authorized shares for TANESCO, it should then carry over all the losses and turn them into capital. By doing this, TANESCO will ultimately become one of the most profitable entities and even make more profit by going public."

Zitto said minister for Energy, January Makamba has a big job ahead because according to the 2020 audit report, ongoing projects are worth 12.1trn/-, 50 percent being the budget for Rufiji Dam, 4655MW and 4093km of Transmission.

Unity, peace stakeholders for reinvigorated pan-Africanism

By Guardian Reporter

PARTICIPANTS of an international peace conference have called for a reinvigorated Pan-Africanism that draws its strength from unity, peace, stability and finally economic integration.

In their final communique at the end of the one-day meeting organised by the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) and the Tanzania Peace Foundation (TPF) based in Dar es-Salaam, participants examined the Sahara issue in the light of the African Union's challenges and focused on the presence of a non-state entity among its sovereign and independent members, which many qualified as a "burdensome historical error", a "legal aberration" and a "political inconsistency".

Themed "The Imperative of Post-Covid Recovery: How Can the Resolution of the Sahara Issue Spur African Stability and Integration?" the event gathered more than 100 participants, among which 25 speakers including Members of Parliament, former ministers of foreign affairs and ambassadors, business leaders, experts and academics as well as civil society and think tank representatives - from Tanzania as well as the East-African Community and Southern African Development Community countries: the Comoros, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, and Uganda.

Following a brief historical and legal overview of the issue, which demonstrated, by way of history and international law, the sovereignty of Morocco over its Sahara, they cited the legacy of the Casablanca Charter and that of African forefathers, such as the eminent Julius Nyerere and Jomo Kenyatta, the participants insisted on the necessity to put a stop to all forms of separatism (political secessionism, religious extremism, identity disintegration) to achieve absolute pan-African priorities such as the implementation of the African Common Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the 2063 Agenda goals.

According to them there is no room for secessionism in African societies today.

The Tanzanian and sub-regional speakers also congratulated Morocco for its continental leadership and the major diplomatic triumph that it has achieved in the last 18 months, through the opening of 20 diplomatic representations by African brother countries in Laayoune and Dakhla, in the Sahara, expressing in its essence strong support and effective implementation of a pragmatic, realistic and compromise-based approach. They also commended Morocco's unwavering commitment to a dynamic of openness, progress, and modernity for the overall win-win development and South-South cooperation for the country, the region and Africa, illustrating

its strong belief in the continent's potential. Furthermore, the unilateral severance of diplomatic ties with Morocco by Algeria, in response to His Majesty King Mohammed VI's extended hand, was regretted and described as a major setback in the political process aiming at finding a just, sincere and credible solution based on dialogue and compromise.

After examining the particular context within which a separatist entity, with no attributes of a viable, sovereign and independent state, was admitted in the Organization of African Unity, in 1982 - at a time when the continent was in the grip of different ideological currents, that are obsolete today - the participants discussed the solutions available to the African Union to restore its neutrality and impartiality on the Sahara issue.

Among those solutions, the suspension of the "SADR" from the African Union was considered as a given, in light of the signature, in 16 July 2016, by 28 African countries of the Kigali motion, recognizing the extraordinary circumstances of the "SADR's" admission, demanding the reintegration of Morocco in its institutional family and correlating it to the suspension of what was described by some participants as a "phantom state".

Furthermore, the expulsion of the only non-state entity sitting among 54 sovereign and independent States, will, according to the debates, not only ensure the pan-African organization's premonition from separatism, but also enable the African Union's effective, credible and legitimate contribution to the United Nations Process, which recognizes the Moroccan Autonomy Plan, described by the participants as the "only viable solution to the dispute", as "serious and credible" for a "just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution", in accordance with the latest United Nations Security Council resolutions. Such solution requires strong political will from the parties, as well as from the international community; a political will clearly demonstrated by Morocco - in blatant contrast with Algeria's overt animosity and enmity towards the Kingdom.

As such, in light of the adoption, in July 2018, during the Nouakchott Summit of Decision 693 (XXXI) of the African Union Commission regarding the Western Sahara issue, the majority of participants called for the expulsion of the "SADR" from the African Union, in full convergence with this paramount decision, sanctifying the exclusivity of the United Nations Security Council Process and, thus, denoting the African Union's inability to favor a viable and lasting solution as long as it does not recover credibility and impartiality on the Sahara issue.



Outgoing Vodacom Tanzania managing director Hisham Hendi (R) has a word with the British High Commissioner to Tanzania, David Concar (C), at a reception the firm held in Dar es Salaam last week to bid him farewell. With them is Hendi's successor, Sitholizwe Mdlalose. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Study finds three major scientific developments with potential to impact a global response to TB

By Guardian Reporter

THE virtual 52nd Union World Conference on Lung Health (WCOLH) has kicked off by announcing three major scientific developments that will potentially impact the global response to tuberculosis (TB), the world's second biggest infectious disease killer behind COVID-19.

The four-day event which run from October 19 to 22, takes place against the backdrop of ongoing COVID-19 vaccine inequity, with the pandemic continuing to impact the delivery of TB services in many low- and middle-income countries.

Statistics show that COVID-19 and TB are the world's two leading infectious disease killers. The novel coronavirus pandemic has refocused attention on how infectious diseases transmit from person to person and has catalysed innovations in sampling and diagnostics. The disruption to TB services during the pandemic has only highlighted just how important it will be going forward that testing for and treating TB are made simpler

and easier to access.

In the opening press conference yesterday, researchers from the University of Cape Town in South Africa announced results from their study of TB positive people carried out in the specially constructed Respiratory Aerosol Sampling Chamber (RASC) which suggest that coughing, thought previously to be the main means of spreading TB, might not be the primary driver of TB transmission. Instead, tidal, or regular, breathing may be a far more significant contributor to the aerosolization of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacterial cause of TB.

"This study is an important step forward in our understanding of aerosol transmission of disease and its findings are as relevant for COVID-19 as they are for TB," said Guy Marks, President of The Union, convener of the World Conference. "It will hopefully generate more focus on the topic of airborne spread of respiratory diseases."

Lead author of the study, Ryan Dinkele of the University of Cape Town, said if tidal breathing is a

primary driver, or even as important as cough in TB transmission, then symptomatic screening for TB-transmitters may not be useful in slowing the spread of the disease.

"The current approach, which relies on the testing and treatment of passively identified individuals may not be a reliable response to preventing transmission, as it depends on people feeling sick enough to seek treatment," said Dinkele. "It may also shed light onto why constructing transmission chains is so challenging in high TB burden settings."

The development of a fast and accurate, non-sputum-based point-of-care triage test for tuberculosis (TB) would have a major impact on combating the TB burden worldwide. A new fingerstick blood test has been developed by Cepheid (Xpert-MTB-Host Response (HR)-Prototype).

Jayne Sutherland of the MRC Unit The Gambia at LSHTM, reported interim results of the Xpert-MTB-HR prototype trialled in a prospective, multi-site study across Gambia, Uganda, South Africa and Vietnam.

The device is the first to meet the WHO target product profile for a Triage test for TB regardless of HIV status or geographical location. It takes under 1 hour and uses fingerstick blood, rather than sputum, which reduces biohazard risk and increases likelihood of diagnosis in individuals who cannot readily produce sputum such as children and people living with HIV.

Caroline Williams, Clinical Lecturer in Infectious Diseases at the University of Leicester in the UK, reported on the use of masks to see if bacteria could be detected on the mask and therefore could potentially be used to detect infectiousness earlier than with sputum. Mask sampling could detect viable bacteria and those patients with higher levels on their mask correlated with increased infectiousness determined by new infections in their close contacts.

Union Ambassador, actor Claire Forlani said the coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the absence of interest and care from those communities most affected by the virus.



Litter produced by small traders lies strewn in a drainage trench at Mbezi Mwisho in Dar es Salaam's Ubungu municipality at the weekend, as pictured at the weekend after they had relocated - beating a month-end deadline. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Work hard to achieve your goals, Z'bar Lands minister tells students

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Lands and Human Settlements Development, Riziki Pembe, has called upon students who are expected to sit for their national examination to work hard in their studies to achieve their goals.

The minister made the call at Donge secondary school in North Unguja region when she addressed the students who are expected to sit

for their national examinations next month.

She said, the secret behind success in education was hard-working and not cheating as it is perceived by many. "Still there is time because what will make you succeed in your examination is the effort that you invest in your studies otherwise you risk various punishments should you be found cheating," she said.

He said the world currently needs

intellectuals in various fields hence the need for the students to work hard.

For his part, the school head teacher, Rajab Ali Salum hailed the minister for visiting the school adding that they will do all they can to ensure that most of the students perform well in their studies.

Speaking on behalf of fellow parents, students' association chairperson Pili Ameir Machano

called upon students to work hard when they start their examinations so that they bring pride to their school by performing well.

The parents mentioned some challenges affecting them as scarcity of water a move that makes students use part of the studying time to search for water which is bad especially this time when they are heading for final examinations.



A small trader pictured on Monday night dismantling the stall from which he has for long been conducting his business by the side of a Mbezi Mwisho section of Dares Salaam's Morogoro Road, ready for relocation by the end of this month – as ordered by government authorities in the region. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Africa calls for climate finance tracker after donors fall short

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN countries want a new system to track funding from wealthy nations that are failing to meet a \$100bn annual target to help the developing world tackle climate change, Africa's lead climate negotiator has said.

The demand highlights tensions ahead of the COP26 climate summit between the world's 20 largest economies, which are behind 80 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, and developing countries that are bearing the brunt of the effects of global warming.

"If we prove that someone is responsible for something, it is his responsibility to pay for that," said Tanguy Gahouma, chair of the African Group of Negotiators at COP26, the United Nations climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland, which starts on October 31.

In 2009, developed countries agreed to raise \$100bn per year by 2020 to help the developing world deal with the fallout from a warming planet.

The latest available estimates from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) show this funding hit \$79.6bn in 2019, just two percent more than in 2018.

The OECD data shows Asian countries on average received 43 percent of the climate finance in 2016-19, while Africa received 26 percent. Gahouma said a more detailed shared system was needed that would keep tabs on each country's contribution and where it went on the ground.

"They say they achieved maybe 70 percent of the target, but we cannot see that," Gahouma said on Tuesday.

"We need to have a clear road map on how they will put on the table the \$100bn per year, how we can track (it)," he said in an interview on Thursday. "We don't have time to lose and Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions of the world."

Temperatures in Africa are rising at a faster rate than the global average, according to the latest UN climate report. It forecasts further warming will lead to more extreme heatwaves, severe coastal flooding and intense rainfall on the continent.

Even as wealthy nations miss the \$100bn target, African countries plan to push for this funding to be scaled up more than tenfold by 2030.

"The \$100bn was a political commitment. It was not based on the real needs of developing countries to tackle climate change," Gahouma said.

World leaders and their representatives have just a few days at the summit in Glasgow to try to broker deals to cut emissions faster and finance measures to adapt to climate pressures.

African countries face an extra challenge at the talks because administrative hurdles to entering the UK and to travelling during the coronavirus pandemic mean smaller than usual delegations can attend, Gahouma said.

"Limited delegations, with a very huge amount of work and limited time. This will be very challenging," Gahouma said.

“The \$100bn was a political commitment. It was not based on the real needs of developing countries to tackle climate change”

Make hand-washing part of culture in war on water-borne diseases, Zanzibaris urged

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR residents have been asked to imbibe a habit of washing their hands to protect themselves from water-borne disease such as cholera, and typhoid.

Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZ) official, Said Mtawa made the call here during the climax of the Global Handwashing Day, themed: "Our Future is at Hand - Let's Move Forward Together." The event was

held at Mbuyutende Primary School in Matemwe area, North Unguja 'A' District.

He said a huge population of the public has no information on how diseases spread a move that makes them distribute the diseases among themselves. "For example people are now washing their hands to protect themselves from Covid-19 but not as their norm," he said.

He said washing hands with soap was the best way to control

the spread of waterborne diseases especially to children less than five years of birth.

Mtawa said a study by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund UNICEF in 2017 showed that there is a 70-percent shortage of infrastructure for hand-washing among households, 84 percent in schools and 47 percent in health facilities.

He said in order to intensify the war on covid-19, the organisation

handed over hand-washing instruments as part of the initiatives to control waterborne diseases from spreading.

Warda Makame of Mbuyutende primary school said earlier they had no information on the importance of washing their hands but after the training they are now prioritizing it.

She called upon parents and guardians to build a tendency of washing their hands regularly with an aim of making it a norm.

Authorities in Muleba District pledge to fight illegal fishing in Lake Victoria

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Kagera

AUTHORITIES in Muleba District, Kagera Region have vowed to fight illegal fishing in Lake Victoria and promote sustainable fishing for regional development and the country at large.

This follows a recent crackdown operation along coasts of Lake Victoria, which caught six suspects of illegal fishing at Mahiga beach, Iroba village in Bumbire Island.

Speaking when the suspects were brought at district's headquarters, Muleba District Commissioner, Toba Nguvula said illegal fishing will be

fought with all efforts to ensure that there is legal and sustainable fishing in the Lake.

He ordered the suspects to be taken to court immediately to face their charges.

The suspects were found with three boats, 15 pieces of illegal fishing driftnets, worth 2m/-.

The patrol team comprised of ward fisheries officers, village and ward executive officers, and district task force against illegal fishing.

"This is a non-stop operation till the illegal practices have stopped. We are very committed to this and nobody will be spared. We've informers everywhere, and they

informed us also thus lead to the arrest of these suspects," said Nguvula.

Nguvula warned that, if there are tycoons who sponsor the illegal fishing, that their days were numbered.

He also warned the task force not to engage in any way in the illegal business saying once found; stern measures will be taken against them.

Muleba district fisheries officer, Wilfred Tibendelana said illegal fishing has massively contributed to the depletion of fish stocks, and the government has been mounting regular operations in the Indian Ocean, lakes and rivers.



Construction of the Bus Rapid Transit infrastructure in progress along the Kurasini stretch of Dar es Salaam's Kilwa Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

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PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

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

APPLICANT NAME	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS/NATIONALITY	SHARES %
Ottimale Technologies	National Application Services	Wahid Abdallah (Tanzanian)	10
		Ally Abdallah (Tanzanian)	90

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

Comments should be submitted to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
 P.O.Box 474
 14414 DAR ES SALAAM
 Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
 Fax: +255 22 241 2009
 Email: dg@tcra.go.tz

Let us treat obesity now and avoid the consequences later

OVERWEIGHT and obesity are defined as abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that presents a risk to health. A body mass index over 25 is considered overweight, and over 30 is obese. Rates of overweight and obesity continue to grow in adults and children.

Obesity often results from taking in more calories than are burned by exercise and normal daily activities. The main symptom is excessive body fat, which increases the risk of serious health problems. The mainstay of treatment is lifestyle changes such as diet and exercise.

A new study conducted by the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) has shown that obesity cases are rising in Tanzania, increasing the risk of non-communicable diseases.

The study shows that if no action is taken this will impose heavy economic burden on individuals, families and the government.

The Economic and Social Research Foundation in their report following the research calls for urgent policy intervention by the government to arrest the trend it says has led to upsurge of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Apart from the ever rising death toll from the NCDs, individual patients incur medical and non-medical costs totalling 1,211.78 US dollars annually, on average, as well as indirect costs such as loss of income, according to the report.

The cost to the government of caring for NCD patients nearly doubled from 142.7 million dollars in 2015/16 to 280.6 million dollars in 2019/20. Obesity and NCDs are a global concern. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO),

39 percent of the global adult population or 1.9 billion people were overweight in 2016 while 13 percent (650 million people) were obese. Some 41 million children under five years were also diagnosed overweight or obese.

The research by the policy think tank found that five percent of Tanzania's adult population had excessive weight in 2008, but this rose to 8.4 percent in 2016, whereas deaths from NCDs accounted for a third of all deaths. Obesity was reported to be higher among females (12.7 per cent) than men (4.1 per cent) and it affects the age group 45-54 years most.

Lack of community awareness on NCDs and the government's concentration on curative care services rather than preventive measures is blamed for the continued growth of the diseases.

Obese people are in turn vulnerable to developing non-communicable ailments, such as cardiovascular complications, diabetes and various cancers.

The study found that middle-aged adults consumed high intake of sugary drinks, concluding that imposition of tax would help lower the intake, thereby reducing obesity prevalence by 6.6 per cent overall.

The researchers recommend consultation with SSB manufacturers, consumers and other stakeholders on the proposal to ensure inclusive implementation.

The report gives evidence that the fiscal policy intervention has proved effective in many countries, including South Africa, India, Brazil, Denmark, France, United Kingdom and Bulgaria. This is the first such study in Eastern Africa and second only to one carried out in South Africa on the continent.

We need African approach to solve the climate crisis

ENVIRONMENT means anything that surround us. It can be living (biotic) or non-living (abiotic) things. It includes physical, chemical and other natural forces. Living things live in their environment. They constantly interact with it and adapt themselves to conditions in their environment. In the environment there are different interactions between animals, plants, soil, water, and other living and non-living things.

Since everything is part of the environment of something else, the word environment is used to talk about many things. People in different fields of knowledge use the word environment differently.

In psychology and medicine, a person's environment is the people, physical things and places that the person lives with. The environment affects the growth and development of the person. It affects the person's behavior, body, mind and heart. In biology and ecology, the environment is all of the natural materials and living things, if those things are natural, it is a natural environment.

Environment includes the living and nonliving things that an organism interacts with, or has an effect on it. Living elements that an organism interacts with are known as biotic elements: animals, plants, etc., abiotic elements are non living things which include air, water, sunlight etc. Studying the environment means studying the relationships among these various things. An example of interactions between non-living and living things is plants getting their minerals from the soil and making food using sunlight. Some people call themselves environmentalists. They think we must protect the natural

environment, to keep it safe. Things in the natural environment that we value are called natural resources.

Ambassadors from Kenya, Ghana, Liberia and Tanzania recently discussed how to improve climate literacy among Africa's youth and announced the launch of a toolkit for the campaign.

The campaign aims to push for climate and environmental literacy becoming a compulsory subject from kindergarten through to university level across the continent.

Clara Makenya, the representative for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Tanzania, said the programme had five priorities, namely climatic mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, addressing waste and hazardous chemicals, resource efficiency and environmental governing. She said the UNEP had an education for sustainable consumption programme, which looked at teaching children, educators and policymakers about building a sustainable lifestyle.

The UNEP hopes to improve climate education by supporting policymakers with tools that enhance their understanding of the importance of education for sustainable consumption. The UN agency also aims to provide guidance on how to integrate environmental education into school curriculums and provide educators with the necessary tools and resources.

Derrick Mugisha, the regional director for Africa at environmental group Earthday.org, said climate and environmental literacy, combined with civic education, would create greener consumer markets and enable citizens to work with governments in a meaningful way to mitigate climate change.

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Stopping corruption as vital as jailing the corrupt

By Special Correspondent

IN the upper reaches of the private sector, the larger companies listed on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange, the annual report of the external auditors is considered very important and has to be included in the company's annual report so becoming a public document.

The auditors are not concerned with how money was earned or spent.

That is the job of the directors and the managers. But what they are very particular about is that the proper internationally accepted rules on a wide swathe of matters are followed.

The rules cover things like the valuation of assets, the internal procedures in receipting and purchasing, the security of IT systems, and the steps taken to ensure that thieves and embezzlers cannot drain the company dry.

Even if everyone is totally honest there are usually a pile of recommendations that need to be implemented, some minor and some major, as the accountancy rules considered best practice are turned into the detailed procedures at each company, right down to how a new pencil is bought.

In turn those rules are the result of

building on decades of experience.

Audits might have just started as checking to see whether proper accounts were kept but have developed into examining how systems have been constructed and how they work.

Ideally an accounting system should provide in real time clear information of just how a company is doing and, when it comes to fighting dishonesty, make it as near to impossible as is practical for a dishonest person to do any damage.

When it comes to spending money, or choosing a supplier or contractor, not only can the accounts, and so the independent auditor, discover who made the decision, and how they made it, but can also discover if the decision-making system itself was a good one and was followed.

For a wide swathe of the public sector the Auditor General performs the identical function, going through the accounts, checking not only how they have been kept but the very systems that back them up and checking that the rules and regulations have been followed.

There was a time when these audit reports were taken very seriously indeed, in some ways even more seriously than in the private sector since careers in the public sector often could be destroyed if the rules

were not followed.

In any case as the money and assets involved were the people's money and assets, rather than belonging to some private individuals, there was a general feeling that those entrusted with public money needed to be extra careful.

We then entered a period where these reports mattered less and less, and to a large extent were ignored or even left unread gathering dust. Part of this was the "who cares?" syndrome, part of it was the decline in the watchdog systems.

There was a time when Parliament's Public Accounts Committee would spend an entire Parliamentary year going through the Auditor General's report, hauling in the top civil servants and other public entity managers, demanding explanations and wanting to know, in some detail, what had been done to implement remedial action.

If very little had been done by the time the committee was sharpening its claws, there was another set of harsher questions over why. But things are now starting to return to the normal that should be expected.

The Public Accounts Committee is getting back into its stride, with even sub-committees dealing with various areas. Stopping corruption at source is in many ways even more important

than catching and jailing the corrupt.

Now the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission is becoming more active in the measures needed to prevent corruption, rather than just trying to nail those who are corrupt.

This makes sense. If corruption becomes very difficult, and actions that can be considered corrupt or an abuse of public office have to leave records, then it becomes much easier to prevent corruption and to catch those who fall into temptation.

ZACC reckons a good starting point is the report of the Auditor General into each entity, and these are ministries, local authorities and parastatals.

As with the private sector such reports, even for an entity where no wrong-doing is alleged, will contain a wealth of recommendations that will bring that entity into the upper levels of modern accountancy best practice.

For obvious reasons these recommendations need to be followed and implemented, and preferably implemented willingly and enthusiastically rather than grudgingly.

In general a public entity should be a shining light when it comes to compliance, rather than second-best or tenth best.

People with disabilities need access to technology

By Special Correspondent

TECHNOLOGY has done so much to allow people with disabilities to overcome any handicap that might arise from those disabilities and almost every year brings in more developments that make life ever easier.

But the problem for many, especially in a developing country like Zimbabwe, and especially for poorer families and many rural families, is accessing that technology.

The Forum for African Women Educationalists Zimbabwe Chapter were quite right this week when marking the International Day of the Girl Child to stress the needs of those who can be left behind. So much has been done, and is being done, to change cultural and society attitudes to girls, along with the necessary legal changes, that the stress now has to move to those who are not winning.

And, unfortunately, these include girls with disabilities and the educationalists were especially concerned about converting their real and legal rights to education into practical measures that worked.

One area was obviously e-learning. For those living with some disabilities this makes a great deal of sense.

The Ministry of Primary and

Secondary Education has been developing this area at some speed and there are many other groups around the world making sure that e-learning is possible for everyone.

However those relying on e-learning need the appliances and the data connections. These are easy if you have to learn at home in a major urban area and your parents are wealthy. It can be more difficult in a town like Chitungwiza, where the educationalists marked the day, but at least relatively inexpensive cable broadband and mains power is on tap.

As you move across Zimbabwe there must be families where it becomes practically impossible. Even if a donor gives the computer or laptop, and when you are learning at home something better than a phone is needed, there is still the high cost of the data connection using a wireless network and the problem of reliable electricity connections.

The educationalists were not just looking at girls with disabilities working from home. They wanted them to go to school.

Many disabilities, with modest technology, do not trap anyone at home. Wheelchairs, for example, make many mobile but again you need the chair, and one that remains light but which can be moved without falling to bits during heavy

use on some of the roads people still have to use.

Schools have been adapting buildings to allow pupils in wheelchairs to go to school. This includes ramps, at least one bathroom with doors wide enough to take a chair and the required extra bars and the like. In some cases in a multi-storey school, it might require annual moves of some teachers to a different classroom so that the classes with pupils in wheelchairs or other mobility disabilities are on the ground floor.

There are other modest technology fixes that will help many, from proper spectacles and decent hearing aids onwards. But even these need the children living with disabilities to have practical access.

And as you move up the scale of disabilities the technology, and the public access fixes required, grow. These days computers with the right add-ons and software and the more complex self-propelled wheelchairs can allow so many to overcome the disabilities they live with and function fully in society.

But again even those with this technology need town planners and architects to think very seriously about their needs so they can move around with all their equipment.

A billionaire's child with all the technology plus chauffeured car

and some sort of nurse aide can live an exceptionally full life since they have full access to what is needed to manage and minimise the effects of the disabilities that would otherwise condemn them to sitting in a room all day.

But that level of access to technology, and that level of access to all the things that make mobility possible, are needed for everyone. Are we, for example, insisting that the new Zupco buses we are buying can cope with even a person in a simple wheelchair, or someone who might have difficulty ascending those steep stairs that some bus designers insist on. These are small things for the physically fit, but can make a huge difference to those who need mobility devices.

The general cultural changes, that those living with a disability are those who need technology to live a full life rather than having to sit out their lives as "the disabled", are very positive. No one needs to be left behind. But some need appliances and gadgets to keep up with the rest of us.

A lot of the efforts now need to be, as the women educationalists noted this week, ensuring that those living with disabilities have practical access to the services and technologies that are already available and which are getting better and more wide-ranging every year.

Just how to turn carriers of water into managers...

BULAWAYO

EACH morning, Langelihle Tshuma checks her taps to confirm the water supply before preparing for the day ahead.

Despite living in the city, the married housewife and mother of four has become accustomed to what in most cities would be considered an essential service.

"We are used to it now," she said, referring to water cuts in Zimbabwe's second city of Bulawayo.

Water availability has become erratic in the city, with no clear schedule or fixed timetable to warn residents about when to expect dry faucets.

Tshuma joins scores of other residents to look for the nearest water point or the next house with a borehole in what is considered a middle-class suburb.

"It used to be kind of humiliating walking around the neighbourhood with buckets looking for water, but when you have young children, you learn humility to soldier on," Tshuma told IPS.

While her experience is commonplace in this city of about 2 million people according to some estimates, it is but a microcosm of a global trend where women's unpaid work includes fetching water, with women being left out in crucial decisions regarding water access, experts say.

There are concerns among researchers and experts that water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) issues have for years been regarded as a woman's domain in developing countries, but that has not been reflected in the management of water resources.



Erratic water supplies mean that women in urban Zimbabwean cities, like Bulawayo, need to fetch water from water points. Studies have shown that while water, sanitation and hygiene are a women's domain, they are not involved in water management.

A report launched last month by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) says women remain excluded from global water management despite women being primary water decision-makers at the household level.

According to the research findings in the report titled Advancing towards gender mainstreaming in

water resources management, "when women are involved in the management of water resources, their communities achieve much better outcomes, improved water systems and economic and environmental benefits." The research canvassed 23 countries.

The GWP notes that while women's role in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) was recognized three decades ago by the UN, there has been little progress as the sector remains male-dominated.

"Half of all countries reported limited or no achievement of gender objectives in their wa-

ter management policies and plans," said Darío Soto-Abril, Executive Secretary of Global Water Partnership (GWP).

"While some reasons for this low number might be a lack of robust data collection and monitoring tools, the number is still low enough for us to say: it's past time for things to change," Soto-Abril said.

As women such as Tshuma struggle to access and remain excluded from the decisions that bring water to their homes, experts note that gender mainstreaming is crucial to ensure commitment at the highest political levels for

policy commitments is backed up by action.

"If there is good news, it is that there's been a slight improvement compared to the baseline in 2017," said Joakim Harlin, UNEP's chief of Freshwater Ecosystems.

"The ability to integrate gender considerations in water policies is not related exclusively to levels of development - it's also a question of having the political will to change cultural norms," Harlin said.

Cultural norms have embedded the images of women and not men fetching water in urban municipalities of many developing countries.

"Women have been cast in roles as water carriers instead of water managers," the GWP research notes.

"In many developing countries, women are the de facto water decision-makers in households. Research suggests that when women are involved in the management of water resources, their communities achieve better economic and environmental benefits. As the world's population grows and climate change intensifies water scarcity, women are key to providing more sustainable access to this finite resource," the report adds.

However, more still needs to be done along with increasing women's participation in decision-making positions in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), says Liza Debevec, Senior Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist at the Global Water Partnership.

"It is not just about increasing women's representation in councils and committees or coming up with a new general legal framework on gender protection, however important those actions are," Debevec said.

"It is also about integrating gender issues in all policies in a cross-cutting manner, linking water to other relevant policy areas," she said.

However, political will is seen as central to ensuring women are involved in policy-making decisions regarding water resources in line with the Integrated Water Resources Management Support Programme under Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6), which seeks clean water for all.

"Political will is urgent. At the top political level, we need a strong commitment to gender mainstreaming, or we'll be swimming upstream," Soto-Abril told IPS.

"Political will makes the practical actions successful. Some countries need more data, so they need to do a gender analysis. Others need to financially support the implementation of gender-sensitive practices and introduce accountability mechanisms," she said.

China sees continuous growth in imports and exports during first three quarters of 2021

By Du Haitao

CHINA'S foreign trade in goods registered a total value of 28.33 trillion yuan (\$4.4 trillion) during the first three quarters of 2021, up 22.7 percent year on year and a 23.4-percent increase compared with that during the same period of 2019, according to statistics from the General Administration of Customs of China (GAC).

The country's goods exports and imports totaled 15.55 trillion yuan and 12.78 trillion yuan respectively in the first nine months of 2021, witnessing an increase of 24.5 percent and 22 percent respectively from the same period of 2019.

"China's imports and exports grew at a reasonably fast pace during the first three quarters of 2021, showing strong resilience and steady improvement in quality," said Li Kuiwen, GAC spokesperson and head of the Department of Statistics and Analysis of the GAC.

According to Li, The volume of China's exports and imports grew with each quarter this year, with the figure hitting 8.51 trillion yuan, 9.59 trillion yuan, and 10.23 trillion yuan in the first, second, and third quarter respectively.

The country experienced relatively fast growth in major economic indicators, including the value-added of industrial companies with annual revenue of more than 20 million yuan, the total retail sales of consumer goods, and fixed-asset investment, during the first eight months of this year.

As the global economy and trade bounce back, China's exports have benefited from the rising global market demand. The World Trade Organization (WTO) recently predicted that global merchandise trade volume would grow 10.8 percent in 2021.

From January to September, Chinese exports to the U.S., the European Union

(EU), and Africa all expanded more than 20 percent, while the exports from China to Latin America increased by more than 40 percent.

These figures have proven that China's policies on stabilizing foreign trade growth have continued to be beneficial. Since the beginning of this year, the country has introduced a series of policies and measures to maintain a steady foreign trade growth.

The country has bolstered enterprises' confidence in the Chinese market by speeding up the development of new forms and models of foreign trade, further deepening reform to facilitate cross-border trade, optimizing business environment at ports, and advancing reform and innovation in trade and investment facilitation in free trade zones (FTZs).

China has contributed to the increase in global aggregate demand with a robust domestic market. During the first nine months of the year, China's imports rose 22.6 percent year on year to hit a record high of 12.78 trillion yuan.

The total value of the country's imported consumer goods increased by 14.7 percent to 1.29 trillion yuan during the period, accounting for 10.1 percent of the total value of the country's imports.

The country imported 265.04 billion yuan worth of passenger vehicles during the first three quarters of this year, up 31.5 percent from a year earlier.

Quarterly growth in the country's imports and exports has slowed, with the growth rate of foreign trade in September being 3.5 percentage points lower than that in August.

China's economic fundamentals that will sustain long-term growth remain unchanged, according to Li, who believes that China can achieve relatively fast growth in its foreign trade this year despite the fact that it is still



Photo taken on August 26, 2021 shows employees of Neway CNC Equipment (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. based in the high-tech industrial development zone of Suzhou city, east China's Jiangsu province assembling numerical control machines in a workshop.

faced with many unstable and uncertain factors.

"Foreign trade companies have shown stronger vitality, and new progress has been made in the high-quality development of foreign trade," Li said.

A total of 526,700 companies in China imported or exported goods during the first three quarters of this year, 34,000 more than that in the same period of 2020, according to Li, who disclosed that imports and exports by private enterprises rose 28.5 percent year on year to 13.65 trillion yuan, accounting for 48.2 percent of the country's total value of foreign trade during the period.

China remained the world's largest trading nation in goods in the first half of the year. The global market shares of China's total foreign trade, exports as well as imports stood at 13.2 percent, 14.5 percent, and 12 percent during the first half

of the year, up 0.8 percentage points, 0.9 percentage points, and 0.8 percentage points, from the same period last year.

Platforms of high-standard opening-up in China have played an increasingly important role in driving foreign trade. In the first nine months of the year, the total imports and exports of comprehensive bonded areas across China grew by 26.3 percent to 4.08 trillion yuan, registering a growth rate 3.6 percentage points higher than the country's overall foreign trade growth rate.

Meanwhile, FTZs across the country witnessed 4.67 trillion yuan worth of imports and exports, up 27.6 percent year on year, while the total amount of money spent on goods in south China's Hainan province under the province's off-shore duty-free policy surged 120.8 percent to 35.54 billion yuan.

China saw booming devel-

opment in new business forms and models in the first three quarters of this year, with the imports and exports in cross-border e-commerce rising 20.1 percent and exports through market procurement trade, a trade facilitation scheme designed for small businesses, increasing by 37.7 percent year on year during the period.

The country's exports have enjoyed sufficient driving forces of growth. During the first three quarters of the year, intermediate goods exports increased by 29.2 percent, contributing 13.2 percentage points to the growth of China's exports and effectively underpinning the smooth functioning of global industrial and supply chains.

During the same period, China's exports of mechanical and electrical products grew by 23 percent year on year, with the proportion of

the category in the country's total exports rising 0.1 percentage points from the same period of the previous year. The exports of some labor-intensive products have maintained relatively fast growth momentum.

According to Li, China's trade with its major trading partners continued to grow in the first nine months of the year. The ASEAN remained its largest trading partner.

In the first three quarters of the year, China's foreign trade with the ASEAN expanded 21.1 percent year on year to 4.08 trillion yuan; the country's imports and exports with the EU, the U.S., Japan, and South Korea totaled 3.88 trillion yuan, 3.52 trillion yuan, 1.78 trillion yuan, and 1.7 trillion yuan respectively. The country's trade with countries along the routes of the Belt and Road and countries participating in the Regional Comprehensive

Economic Partnership (RCEP) grew by 23.4 percent and 19.3 percent respectively.

China's central and western regions have witnessed faster growth in foreign trade than the country's overall foreign trade performance since the beginning of the year.

Imports and exports of these regions reached 4.95 trillion yuan during the first nine months of 2021, logging an increase of 27.2 percent, 4.5 percentage points higher than the country's foreign trade growth rate during the period. Meanwhile, they accounted for 17.5 percent of the country's total foreign trade volume during the period, up 0.6 percentage points from a year earlier.

Provinces in central China, including Henan and Hubei, saw an increase of over 30 percent in foreign trade during the first three quarters of the year.

China-Europe freight trains have effectively helped regions in central and western China explore markets along the routes of the Belt and Road.

Data released by the China State Railway Group Co., Ltd. indicate that during the first nine months of 2021, China-Europe freight trains made 11,300 trips and transported about 1.09 million twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU) containers of goods, with the figures representing an increase of 29 percent and 37 percent respectively from the same period last year.

From January to September, foreign trade between central and western China and countries along the routes of the Belt and Road totaled 1.56 trillion yuan, accounting for 18.8 percent of the country's total imports and exports with such countries during the period.

In the meantime, imports and exports between China's central and western regions and countries along the routes of the Belt and Road transported via railways grew by 21.8 percent.

People's Daily

Who's behind paralysis on Covid-19 in UN committee on world food security?

ROME

COVID 19 has multiplied hunger and malnutrition challenges. We need transformative action! The first speaker at the UN Committee on World Food Security's (CFS) 49th Plenary Session, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, turned the spotlight on the disastrous impacts of the pandemic that have afflicted communities around the world for close to two years.

He was echoed by the presenter of the 2021 edition of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World for whom 'COVID is only the tip of the iceberg', while keynote speaker, Jeffrey Sachs, emphasized the multifaceted nature of the crisis, with chronic poverty and conflict at the center.

Delegation after delegation took the virtual floor to share their concerns: Kenya speaking for the Africa Group, Colombia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Norway, Morocco, Peru, Spain, Indonesia, Mexico, Malaysia, Mali, Cape Verde, South Africa, Uganda, Saint Lucia and more. The impacts of Covid 19 on food security and nutrition are heavy and lasting. The vulnerable are the most affected, within and between countries. Covid has deepened and exacerbated existing structural fragilities and injustices in our food systems. Its causes are multisectoral and cannot be treated in a siloed way.

'Multilateralism, solidarity and cooperation are key to the way forward', the President of ECOSOC

added, and 'the CFS is a unique multilateral forum because it brings all the actors together in the name of the right to food'. The text adopted at the end of Day 1 summarized all of these contributions, and deepened concern by drawing attention to the possibility of recurrent pandemics.

With this kind of an opening one could have expected a standing ovation when it was proposed, the following day, that the CFS put together a globally coordinated policy response to the impacts of COVID 19 on food security and nutrition and a proposed precautionary approach towards possible future shocks of this kind.

This proposal was a long time in the building. For a year and a half the CFS's Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSM) had been documenting the experience and proposals of its constituencies and communities and bringing this evidence from the ground into the global debate. Earlier this year an informal 'Group of Committed' governments and other CFS participants had come together to push for the CFS to take determined action. How could it fail to live up to its mandate in the face of the most serious threat to global food security the world has faced since the 2007-2008 food crisis?

Just a week before CFS49 the Group of Committed had held a seminar where evidence and proposals for global policy action were presented by national governments, regional and local authorities, small-scale food producers, the urban food



insecure, along with UN agencies, the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, and the CFS's own High-Level Panel of Experts.

The seminar demonstrated that action is being taken by different actors and authorities at local, national and regional levels, while UN agencies have developed and adopted relevant policy instruments and programmes in their respective sectors. What has been missing thus far is a way of putting the different perspectives and initiatives together into a multisectoral, multilaterally coordinated approach. Filling this gap was the proposal that was put on the table in CFS49.

'We need a globally coherent and coordinated response to support governments' efforts and the CFS is the appro-

priate place for this to happen,' the Ambassador of Mali had exhorted in his opening address.

So what about the standing ovation? The proposal was supported by countries from the Global South led by African countries, the most affected by injustice in access to vaccines, dependency on food imports, and indebtedness, but including also Mexico, Peru, Morocco, the CSM and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food. 'This is the place to deal with COVID!' he said. 'It is the priority food issue today. It wasn't addressed by the UN Food Systems Summit. The CFS has the mandate and the tools, and the other UN agencies are highly committed to cooperate.'

But, incredibly and unacceptably, the proposal did not

pass. It was blocked on specious, procedural grounds by a steamroller coalition of big commodity exporters who push back on any possible limitation that might be placed on global trade in the name of human rights, equity, environmental concerns: the US, Canada, Argentina, Brazil, Russia. The EU, shamefully, was silent.

The implications for inclusive multilateralism, democracy, the needed radical transformation of our food systems are severe. 'A key barrier to transformation is interference from corporations,' stated the delegate of Mexico. 'Governments need to assume their role as agents of change, regulators of food systems, and protectors of the planet, but we can't do it alone. Global attention is needed and the CFS is the right place for it.'

But 'The CFS is being held hostage. The arrogance with which a few are ignoring reality, evidence and urgency is leading to an unacceptable increase in the violation of the human rights of the many. Patience is wearing thin. 'If I'm in this room it's to honor the concerns of those most affected in my region,' a member of the Group of Committed asserted in the aftermath of the session.

And the people of her region, along with others from around the world, are raising their voices ever more loudly, as in the counter mobilization to transform corporate food systems organized last July in parallel to the Pre-Summit of the UNFSS [hyperlink]. Radical food system transformation is being built from the ground up and the CFS, however

School, cultural institution out to level playing field for women and girls in rural Uganda

TRONDHEIM

AS we honored women and girls last week, on the annual International Day of Rural Women on October 15, we want to highlight how a community is coming together to change the lives and livelihoods of rural women and girls in Uganda.

While the Tat Sat Community Academy Project (TaSCA) in Kasasa, Uganda, seeks to improve the livelihoods of all community members, there is a particular emphasis on uplifting women and girls. This is of greater importance now, with the COVID-19 pandemic having an outsized effect on women and girls across the world.

According to The World Economic Forum's 2021 Global Gender Gap Report, school closures globally saw 1.54 billion children staying home, including 743 million girls. This shift has created barriers for access to health services, nutrition, and economic opportunities.

TaSCA board member Namayega Agnes says that in her rural community of Kasasa, women and children have not been given an equal chance for financial progress, development and contribution to the wellbeing of the community.

She also says challenges are more severe for girls, who face constant pressure to drop out of school to marry or pursue other perceived

pathways to stability.

The TaSCA project, she believes, creates a gender balance - a shift in the current perceptions about the women and the girls in the community to be equally productive members of the community.

TaSCA is a community-led project being implemented by the TaSCA Kasasa Community Board (TKCB) in partnership with the Peace Africa Children's Ensemble, a local nonprofit chosen by the community to help develop the project.

The effort is being supported by The InteRoots Initiative, a nonprofit organization which we co-founded a few years ago after previously collaborating together. Through an innovative model we call roots-up philanthropy, InteRoots is working to support the community members of Kasasa who are building TaSCA, which will include a school, savings and credit co-op, and cultural institution.

We hope TaSCA will provide equity in education, access to financing and financial support networks, and preservation of cultural practices. Additionally, community members also receive support with access to microlending through the Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (SACCO), which will provide community financing, student/family financial support and economic education.

The community has said that it is



The construction of the Tat Sat Community Academy (TaSCA) in Kasasa, Uganda. While the project seeks to improve the livelihoods of all community members, there is a particular emphasis on uplifting women and girls. This is of greater importance now, with the COVID-19 pandemic having an outsized effect on women and girls across the world. File photo

imperative that along with access to microlending, students learn how to handle finances so that they can be equipped in the future for other op-

portunities. Of immediate interest to the community is using the SACCO to invest in a mill, which will be used by the

farmers in the community to produce locally instead of outsourcing at a high cost. The locally sourced food will also be available to the school's

students and staff members.

The Graduate Enterprise Fund, meanwhile, will allow students, upon graduation, to submit a plan for set-aside funds for purposes that will further goals. This may include continuing their education or starting a business.

The community board must approve the plan, and graduates will receive financial support for around one to two years, providing economic stability beyond graduation.

As stated above, now is the time for such initiatives. Because of the pandemic and its effects, it is estimated that an estimated 96 million people will be pushed into extreme poverty, of whom 47 million are women, according to UN Women.

We cannot stand idly by as we watch our fellow citizens of the world face such challenges and obstacles. We are excited by the potential TaSCA can have and are eagerly awaiting its opening in 2022.

Now more than ever, communities must come together to transform and uplift women and girls, especially in rural areas that may face greater barriers to access to health care, technology and education.

We hope Kasasa will be a model for others and we are heartened by the support the community has received so far. For updates on TaSCA and InteRoots' work, please visit InteRoots.org.

IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Africa's farmers click with digital tools to boost crops

By Special Correspondent

UNTIL a year ago, it would take Pamela Auma a whole month to prepare the land on her farm in western Kenya for planting ahead of the rainy season.

With hoe in hand, the mother-of-seven spent her days digging up the one-acre (0.4-hectare) plot - roughly the size of a football field - and praying she would finish in time to sow her maize and beans crops before the rains arrived.

These days, the same job takes her less than two hours, with the help of a tractor she hires through Hello Tractor, a Kenya-based smartphone app that connects small-scale farmers with nearby tractor owners.

"The tractor is much better than doing it by hand. It gives a quality job and works very fast," said Auma, 52, by phone from her farm near the city of Kisumu.

"Before it was hard to find a tractor to hire and it was very costly. Now, the booking agent can quickly find a tractor owner near me by using his phone."

Across Africa, a growing number of smallholder farmers are tapping into digital technologies to access information, services and products to improve efficiency, boost crop yields and increase incomes.

From Nigeria to Ghana to Kenya, a slew of innovations in agricultural technology - or agri-tech - have emerged over the last decade to serve small farmers, who have long been neglected yet are crucial to the continent's food security.

These range from SMS weather alerts and mobile apps offering credit, seeds and machinery to more advanced solutions such as precision farming, which uses satellite, drone imagery and soil sensors to provide real-time data on crop health.

Aloysius Uche Ordu, director of the Africa Growth Initiative at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think-tank, said this digitalization of farming has the potential to transform the sector.

"Africa is the world's breadbasket - or should be. It has vast ar-

able land, grows a wide variety of crops and has vast irrigation potential with seven major rivers," said Ordu.

"Yet, Africa imported \$43 billion worth of food items in 2019. Digital technologies ... are eliminating the traditional inefficiencies of smallholder food production and helping to close the yield gap."

More than 80% of the world's 600 million farming households are smallholders who own less than two hectares of land, says the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Taking up 12% of arable land globally, these small growers produce more than one-third of the world's food.

But smallholder farmers across the region face a plethora of challenges.

Farm work is labour intensive and time-consuming. Most farmers face limited market reach, have little information to improve their output, and cannot access credit or insurance to help them get hold of quality agricultural services and inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and machinery.

On top of that, increasingly erratic weather attributed to climate change is hitting crop yields and COVID-19 lockdowns have stifled their ability to access supplies and sell their produce.

But while many farmers struggle to grow enough to make a living, the world needs more food, fast.

The World Resources Institute predicts the global population will reach close to 10 billion by 2050, and to feed that number of people, food production will need to grow by nearly 60%.

Digital technologies are a key to making sure the world has enough to eat, say agri-tech innovators.

Taking advantage of Africa's fast-growing network of mobile phone users, there are now more than 400 digital agricultural solutions in use across sub-Saharan Africa, according to a 2020 report by global telecoms industry lobby GSMA.

Hello Tractor, the app Auma uses to help with her farm work operates in 13 countries including



An operator drives a tractor in a smallholder farm in this undated picture.

Nigeria, Kenya and Tanzania and is often described as an "Uber for tractors".

The app lets tractor owners rent their machines to smallholders in their area and allows farmers to pool together to rent a vehicle at affordable rates.

The tractors are fitted with GPS devices so owners can monitor their location and activity.

"Mechanization is so important to be a productive farmer. But, small farmers have labour and time constraints where they have a very short window to plant and if they don't plant on time, they lose yield," said Hello Tractor's CEO Jehiel Oliver.

"So this technology is a way to get this expensive equipment to farmers."

Since launching in 2014, the company has served about half a million farmers, said Oliver, adding that 55% of the app's customers were using a tractor for the first time.

There are also apps, like DigiFarm in Kenya, which act as one-stop shops that let farmers bypass

middlemen to access low-cost seed and fertilizers, loans and insurance providers, and bulk purchasers. In Ghana, Farmerline - a voice services and SMS platform - provides farming advice, weather forecasts, market prices and financial tips to about 1 million small growers.

Moses Dery Sekyere, 41, who grows beans, maize and millet on a 10-acre farm in southern Ghana's Ashanti region, said he subscribed to Farmerline in September.

"The information shared with me about harvesting techniques and post-harvest storage has been really beneficial to me this planting season," he said in emailed comments.

"Now I know how to better handle my produce after harvesting them." PlantVillage Nuru app can scan a diseased plant and give advice on how to treat it, while more hi-tech solutions like Nigerian start-up Zensus use sensors to analyze soil data such as temperature and nutrients so farmers know what fertilizer to apply and when to irrigate. Korie Betty

Maru, founder of Digital Farmers Kenya, a Facebook group with more than 436,000 members that shares advice and farming technologies, said small-scale farmers are eager to adopt technology and modern ways of farming.

"Be it finding new buyers for their produce, seeking advice from agronomists on fighting pests, or trying out more efficient products such as solar pumps for irrigation," she said.

Yet despite their abundance, many digital solutions struggle to scale and fail to improve the lives of farmers, researchers have found.

A study by Netherlands-based Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (CTA) shows more than 33 million smallholder farmers in Africa have registered for some form of digital service, but less than a third use them enough to feel the full benefits. Internet access is also still out of reach for most small growers in sub-Saharan Africa, where penetration rates are about 26%, says the GSMA.

And women farmers are being left out due to the digital divide - the GSMA reports women in sub-Saharan Africa are 13% less likely than men to own a mobile phone.

In a region where 40-50% of smallholder farmers are women, only quarters are registered users of digital services, according to the CTA. Researchers say major investments need to be made in building information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure and improving digital literacy in rural areas.

Elias Nure, who heads the digital climate-smart agriculture team at the charity Mercy Corps' AgriFin initiative, which provides specialized digital solutions to farmers, said one of the biggest challenges is adapting these tools.

"Some of these solutions are unbelievable, such as precision agriculture tools, remote sensing tools, blockchain tools and artificial intelligence," said Nure.

"But, a lot of them are not developed for African farmers and may not be 100% tailored for smallholders."

FZS a truly conservation partner in supporting Mwalimu Nyerere's wildlife protection ideas

By Guardian Correspondent in Mara

IF you have been to Seronera in Serengeti National Park you might have seen a beautiful picture of the first President of Tanzania, Father of the nation, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, flanked by the former director of Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), Prof Bernhard Grzimek.

With its headquarters in Germany, FZS is an international conservation organisation, having significant support to the greater Serengeti ecosystem and other wildlife conservation areas in Tanzania.

In essence, the friendship of the Mwalimu Nyerere and the former FZS director was closely linked to wildlife conservation great ideas, dating several decades ago.

As a result, FZS has been present in Tanzania for more than 50 years with a strong relationship with Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), a government body tasked to conserve and protect the country's national parks.

"Thank God FZS is still in Tanzania today. Its main objective is to help the government conserve the ecology of Serengeti for the present and future generations," Masegeri Rurai, the FZS project manager at Serengeti Ecosystem Management (SEMA) said recently.

"Mwalimu Nyerere and the former FZS director, Prof. Bernhard Grzimek were close friends. We are happy to be part of the conservation stakeholders in the Serengeti ecosystem," said Rurai.

Indeed Tanzanians have to remember that Mwalimu Nyerere was not only a politician but also an architect of wildlife conservation, as they mark the 22th death anni-

versary of the Father of the Nation (held recently on October 14).

"The survival of our wildlife is a matter of grave concern to all of us in Africa. These wild creatures, amid the wild places they inhabit, are not only important as a source of wonder and inspiration, but are an integral part of our natural resources and our future livelihood and well-being."

That was Mwalimu Nyerere's stand when underscoring the importance of protecting and conserving wild animals, in the Arusha Manifesto of 1961, when Tanzania was still a young independent nation.

Arguably, this inspiration helps explain why even after 22 years without Mwalimu, Tanzania's wildlife sector remains vibrant and the country is home to beautiful wild animals, including the wildebeest migration and the big five.

In Tanzania, FZS is referred as a truly conservation partner working hand in hand with the government to conserve and protect the Serengeti National Park.

One of the remarkable successful projects that FZS has implemented with the aim of protecting the Serengeti ecology against human activities is introduction of land use plan in 22 villages of Serengeti district in Mara region.

The establishment of land use plan has made it possible for rural villages to allocate plots for grazing, water sources, wildlife corridors, social services, residential areas, farming, forestry, as well as cemetery among others.

"We have erected beacons and signboards that show the use of every space and the people's response to this initiative is positive.



Father of the nation, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere with the former director of Frankfurt Zoological Society, Prof. Bernhard Grzimek. (File Photo)

There were many land disputes in the past, our village land use plan has mitigates these conflicts," said chairman of Bwitengi village government, Raphael Marere.

More importantly, the land use plan has helped to solve human/wildlife conflicts as well as foster local economy.

"It is true we have seen remarkable changes in our villages. FZS has helped us demarcate areas by installing beacons and signboards, we now have areas reserved for grazing and cemetery.

This is a new life in our village," said Daniel MwalimuNyamalonga, a villager at Bwitengi.

The project is jointly implemented by FZS, TANAPA and Serengeti District Council with financial support from the Government of Germany, through KfW Development Bank.

KfW Development Bank is also making significant support in conservation and community development projects that are jointly implemented by FZS and TANAPA.

Besides supporting wildlife conservation ac-

tivities directly, FZS is also empowering local communities living near the Serengeti ecosystem by supporting formation of Community Conservation Banks (COCOBA).

As a result, the villagers who in the past relied on poaching as their major source of income, are now busy implementing small economic generating activities that are environmental friendly, like beekeeping.

Today, the number COCOBA has grown to nearly 100 in Mara, Simiyu and Arusha regions, according to Rurai. While their shares approximately stand at 1.2 bn/- by last year.

Formation of COCOBA is also reportedly helping to cut the rate of poaching for bush meat, according to local leaders.

Madaraka Nyerere, the son of the Father of the Nation is happy with ongoing conservation efforts by FZS and the government of Tanzania through TANAPA, citing Serengeti as a vivid example that demonstrates that wildlife conservation ideas initiated by his father are still alive and well embraced by society.

"TANAPA and FZS are doing a great job for sustainable development of wildlife and tourism sectors. They deserve to be congratulated", said the son of Mwalimu Nyerere who is leading the Global Resources Alliance -Tanzania, an organization that prioritizes environmental conservation matters, including supporting massive tree planting in the Mara River Basin which forms integral part of the Serengeti ecosystem.

Madaraka has always been quoted as saying Tanzanians should continue embracing wildlife conservation ideas initiated by Mwalimu Nyerere.

Mwalimu would have been proud if he was alive today, to see continued support that Tanzania is getting from truly wildlife conservation partners like FZS and KfW Development.

"In accepting the trusteeship of our wildlife we solemnly declare that we will do everything in our power to make sure that our children's grand-children will be able to enjoy this rich and precious inheritance." Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere.

DA and ANC internal pre-election pressures could cost them dearly

By Stephen Grootes

THE process of defining identities can put pressure on divisions within, a reversal of what was thought to happen in the past, when elections appeared to unite parties.

It is possible that this process is now playing out within the DA after the Phoenix posters fiasco last week. Should it turn out that this mistake has cost the party votes and should it lose significant support in the local elections, the DA might go through further turmoil.

On Friday last week, the DA's KwaZulu-Natal chairperson, Dean Macpherson, apologised for the posters that had been erected in Phoenix and which were due to be put up in other parts of eThekweni.

The posters had read "The ANC calls you racist" and "The DA calls you heroes", in a reference to what happened during the violence in that area in July.

Macpherson himself had first defended the posters. He was followed by the DA's leader, John Steenhuisen, who conducted several interviews. He said that the DA was right to erect the posters because the ANC had treated people who defended themselves as racists, and had victimised them.

Just 20 hours later, the posters were removed.

It became clear during that time that the posters had not been authorised by the top leadership structures of the party. It also emerged that many members, some in the party's top positions, had opposed the posters when they first saw them.

The most public example of this

was the DA's mayoral candidate for Joburg, Dr Mpho Phalatshe, who said the posters were wrong the first time she saw them.

Then, on Monday, it was confirmed that the head of the DA's campaign in Gauteng East, the former MP Mike Waters, had resigned from that position. He remains a member of the party.

The language in his letter of resignation is scathing. He says that he is "shocked and horrified by the weakness displayed by my party" in the posters issue and that the party's "grovelling apology and decision to take down these posters is appalling". Waters goes on to say that he is "unable to continue to defend and promote a party that is capable of such spineless treachery" and that the furore over the posters is "manufactured hysteria".

In another telling phrase, Waters explains that he will remain a member of the DA because it's the only party whose values he supports, where "I and other muscular Liberals can raise our voices about the bleating of the sanctimonious wokerati undermining the direction of the party".

For some, just the claim that the reaction to the posters is "manufactured hysteria" and the reference to the "sanctimonious wokerati" may be seen as insults, or worse, as a deliberate refusal to understand what the posters mean to the overwhelming majority of the people who saw them.

They may see it as a complete rejection of what our politics should be, and what our society actually is. Some of those people may well be



ANC president Cyril Ramaphosa (L) DA leader John Steenhuisen.

members of the DA.

This is an indication of the party's problems.

As the country's most racially diverse party, the divisions in our society can be reflected within it. This may be happening now.

In many situations, these problems can be resolved with strong leadership. One of the biggest and most difficult tasks of a leader in a party is to bridge these divisions, to build and bolster the strong internal coalitions that it takes to build a political party.

But now Steenhuisen may find this more difficult because of his support for the posters in the first place. The fact that so many people in decision-making positions in the party were not aware that they were being erected may make this harder for him in the future.

Interwoven throughout this is the defining issue of our society – race and racialised inequality.

While the DA's divisions appear to be along the lines of race and inequality, the ANC's problems appear to be about factions and position.

Since 2019 the DA has lost its first black leader, Mmusi Maimane, its black mayor of Joburg in Herman Mashaba, and control of the City of Johannesburg itself. It has also

lost other black leaders in significant positions, such as Phumzile van Damme, while other former leading lights such as Lindiwe Mazibuko have been highly critical of the party. The reported resignation of Waters highlights the problem in another way.

If members of the party who are black are unhappy at the DA's push behind these posters, then there is at least one white member who is so angry at the decision to remove them that he has resigned from his position.

It is possible that he is not the only person in the party unhappy at their removal. Considering Steenhuisen's strong support for the message in the posters at first, he too, and those around him, may also be frustrated.

Steenhuisen's election as leader came after the election of Helen Zille as the chair of the DA's Federal Council. It was her election that led to Maimane's resignation, followed hours later by Mashaba's.

Such is the reality of South Africa that the election of Steenhuisen, as a white man, to the position of leader may also have symbolised this process to some voters, thus putting even more pressure on the party and on these dynamics.

It should be remembered that it is not only the DA that

is suffering from divisions that may be intensified in this election.

While the DA's divisions appear to be along the lines of race and inequality, the ANC's problems appear to be about factions and position.

On Monday, the party's deputy leader, Deputy President David Mabuza, met officials in Tshwane because the ANC region there has huge disputes over its candidate lists.

So bad are the divisions that the party's head of elections, Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula, even suggested that it would only be possible to deal with this problem after the election, through the process of holding by-elections.

To be clear: this is the head of elections of the ANC suggesting, before the local elections, that the disputes over ward candidate positions in the party are so intense they could be dealt with only through by-elections after the elections. Incredibly, he was saying this in public to voters before they cast their ballots.

It may be important to contrast the dynamics within the ANC and the DA now with what has happened in the past.

During a debate around whether the local elections should be merged with the provincial and national elections, then ANC secretary-general Gwede Mantashe once said he preferred to have elections every two to three years, because it helped to unite the ANC. The party would have someone to campaign against.

The same may have been true for the DA. The ANC as it was then, and particularly the spectre of Jacob Zuma as president, may well have been a unifying factor for the DA.

DM

What fate for three billion of humans who are born equals?

MADRID

WHILE more than a third of all purchased food is wasted in rich, mostly Western States, and a similar percentage is lost in poor countries due to the lack of appropriate harvesting, storage and transportation facilities, over three billion people – or some 40 percent of world population – cannot afford a healthy diet.

Add to these figures – which were released by UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on 16 October this year, marking the World Food Day – another dramatic fact.

According to the World Bank, between 88 and 115 million people are being pushed into poverty as a result of the COVID 19 crisis, with the majority of the new extreme poor being found in South Asian and Sub-Saharan countries where poverty rates are already high.

This number adds to the more than 850 million people sinking already into hunger and extreme poverty, following United Nations estimates.

One billion food produc-

ers; one billion poor and hungry

These figures all combined raise the number of hungry and poor and extremely poor people worldwide to over one billion, that's one in seven persons living on Planet Earth. That's the same number of people – 1 billion – that agri-food systems employ worldwide, more than any other economic sector.

Moreover, the way food is being produced, consumed and wasted exacts a heavy toll on our planet, putting unnecessary pressure on natural resources, the environment and climate, according to FAO.

"Food production too often degrades or destroys natural habitats and contributes to species extinction. Such inefficiency is costing us trillions of dollars, but, most importantly, today's agri-food systems are exposing profound inequalities and injustices in our global society. Three billion people cannot afford healthy diets, while overweight and obesity continue to increase worldwide," warns this world body.

They produce more, but eat less

Should all this not be enough,

another aspect of overwhelming inequalities dominating current time, please also know that rural women make up to 40 percent of all food producers, according to the UN.

Nevertheless, rural women eat less, prioritise available food to their families, let alone bearing with the heavy burden of carrying water, cooking, washing, cleaning, selling food in local markets and streets, among other daily tasks, all of this without having in most cases in poor countries the rights to land property, among others.

Just an example: there are many millions of women who produce between 60 and 80 per cent of food in developing countries but own only 2 per cent of land worldwide, says in this regards the UN Environment Programme.

Furthermore: the UN Women, which devotes its work to promoting gender equalities, estimates that in 2020, some 2.37 billion people did not have access to adequate food.

"This is an increase of almost 20 per cent in just one year, where those most affected were again rural women and girls."



Women produce between 60 and 80 per cent of food in developing countries but own only 2 per cent of land worldwide.

On this, the entity on 15 October this year, on the occasion of the International Day of Rural Women, reported that across the world, food systems depend on the daily work of rural women.

"They play a variety of es-

sential roles, from raising crops and processing their harvest, to preparing food and distributing their products, ensuring that both their families and communities are nourished."

"Yet paradoxically those same women often have less

access to food and a higher risk of hunger, malnutrition, under-nutrition and food insecurity than their male counterparts."

Eating last... and least

One of the causes is armed conflict. On this, Oxfam International reports that overall,

155 million people around the world are living in crisis levels of food insecurity or worse – that is 20 million more than last year. "Around two out of every three of these people are going hungry primarily because their country is in war and conflict."

Women and girls are disproportionately affected. They face extraordinary dangers to secure food, and yet, too often eating last and eating least. Conflict and displacement have also forced women to abandon their jobs or miss planting seasons, adds this coalition of independent Non-Governmental Organisations, devoted to fighting inequalities.

More climate crisis; less humanitarian aid

Last but not least, such harsh inequalities are growing rapidly due to fast developing climate emergency, the drastic cuts in rich countries humanitarian assistance, the predominance of industrial food systems, intensive cultivation and harvesting, etcetera.

What fate for all these billions of hungry and extremely poor people in a world that produces enough to feed all of them?

RADIO One RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPLI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 12:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 14:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 14:30 HRS DJ SHOW 15:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 15:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS DJ SHOW 17:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 17:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 18:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 19:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO 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CONCERN

Barrick chief warns of land speculators impacting on North Mara mine expansion

By Guardian Reporter

AN influx of land speculators who have invaded areas surrounding North Mara Gold Mine are threatening expansion plans being mullied by Barrick Gold Corporation through its local subsidiary, Twiga Minerals Corporation.

Presenting the third quarter results at Bulyanhulu Mine in Kahama district last week, Barrick Africa President and CEO, Mark Bristow said speculators are pushing out communities in order to profit from compensation which the company will pay as it plans to expand North Mara Gold Mine.

"We have already started doing valuation with Komarera village covering 652 acres of land of which 2,921 land parcels have successfully been valued," Bristow said in his presentation

at which Deputy Minerals Minister, Professor Shukrani Manyá attended.

He said so far, 5,406 affected people in Komarera village have been who constitute of both tenants and landowners with 240 acres of land being acquired in Kewanja village instead of 400 acres. "A valuation report has been submitted to authorities for review and disclosure process with full and final compensation expected in mid October 2021," he added.

Bristow who is also Board Chairman of Twiga Minerals further noted that some 448 graves at Matongo village have been identified for relocation of which 40 have already been shifted. "Payment for 23 affected people at Komarera has been completed but also for hospital and school relocation," he revealed while noting that after the 2019 deal with the govern-



Deputy minister for Minerals, Prof Shukrani Manyá (R), Barrick Africa president and CEO Mark Bristow (C) and Kahama district commissioner Festo Kiswaga unveil plaque to launch an assay laboratory for analysing gold, copper and silver from soil samples using X-rays technology at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine in Kahama District last week. Photo: John Badi

ment, Barrick will invest more because of the good investment environment.

Msalala lawmaker, Idd Juma pleaded with Bristow and Twiga's management to compensate some residents of his constituency who are had long standing disputes with the mining company over payment.

"I am just requesting you that please pay these people something small so that we can close the case completely because it has taken very long," Juma said while commending the company for concluding a deal with the state.

He said his constituency which hosts Bulynhulu mine

needs good neighbourliness with the mine by ensuring that Msalala residents benefit more from wealth of gold being mined in their neighbourhood.

In remarks at the event, Prof Manyá assured Barrick Gold that the government will ensure that its operations process well after concluding the 2019

agreement.

"My only advise is that you continue implementing what is contained in the agreement so that Tanzanians should get fair payment from the proceeds," he said while commending the miner for investing in an ultra-modern gold assay photon laboratory which will enhance transparency.

DECELERATION

Private sector credit growth in slow recovery due to Covid-19

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

PRIVATE sector credit growth maintained a slow recovery pace despite efforts by Bank of Tanzania to ease liquidity by implementing a relaxed monetary policy geared towards increasing money supply to boost growth.

The central bank said in its latest Monthly Economic Review for September that the slow recovery is a reflection of low demand for new loans following adverse effects of the coronavirus pandemic on some economic activities. "The annual growth of private sector credit was 3.2 percent in August 2021, down from 6.8 percent in August 2020," the report said.

The MER forecasted that demand for credit is expected to

recover owing to operationalization of policy measures rolled out by BoT in July which were geared towards reducing lending interest rates and promoting credit to the private sector.

"The recovery of the global economy and ongoing implementation of measures by the government to improve the business environment will add impetus to private sector growth momentum," the report stated.

According to the report, extension of credit to the private sector was more evident in personal loans and to small and medium enterprises including hotels and restaurants but also to trading. "A large share of credit extended to the private sector was held in personal activities, followed by trade, manufacturing and agriculture,"

the report added.

The MER further predicted that lending rates are expected to decrease following the ongoing implementation of accommodative monetary policy, coupled with other policy measures rolled out since July to promote credit to private sector and lower lending rates.

Meanwhile, the domestic money market sustained adequate supply of shilling liquidity also due to implementation of accommodative monetary policy by the BoT. "The adequate level of shilling liquidity, money market interest rates remained low and stable. Foreign exchange market remained active and liquid, with the value of the shilling remaining stable against major trading currencies," the report added.



Tanzania Private Sector Foundation's CEO, Francis Nanai.

RESISTANCE

MTN and Vodacom join Telkom in temporary spectrum lawsuit

PRETORIA

SOUTH Africa's two biggest mobile operators, MTN and Vodacom, have joined number three Telkom in a lawsuit to stop the regulator withdrawing temporary frequency spectrum assigned at the start of the Covid-19 outbreak.

The temporary spectrum allowed the operators to deliver faster connec-

tivity to customers to meet a surge in data demand as large numbers of people shifted last year to working and studying from home. MTN and Vodacom have also used the temporary frequencies to launch 5G networks.

But the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) said in August telecom operators must return their bandwidth by the end of November, as it could not allow

the temporary assignment to "assume a state of permanence," while a permanent process was underway.

That permanent process - of auctioning long-term spectrum - was delayed by legal wrangling, after Telkom and broadcaster eMedia Holdings argued the auction process was flawed and obtained a court order to suspend it. After that legal wrangling was resolved, ICASA restarted the auction process this

month.

Telkom then filed new papers this month asking the High Court to set aside ICASA's decision to withdraw temporary spectrum, saying the removal of that spectrum would have a "catastrophic" impact on its network performance and customers.

"Vodacom can confirm that it has joined the legal proceedings and that it will be supporting the relief sought by

Telkom," Vodacom said in a statement on Monday. MTN said it had filed papers in the Pretoria High Court on Friday opposing the decision by ICASA that requires the return of the temporary spectrum.

Since the start of the pandemic, the demand for data on MTN's network alone, has increased by 165%, MTN said. "The withdrawal of the temporary spectrum will also pose a significant risk to

lower income South Africans, students and learners who are benefiting from free access," established at the start of the pandemic, the operator said.

More than five million people get free access to more than 1,000 websites, thanks to the temporary spectrum, MTN said, adding that it remains open to settling out of court. Last week ICASA said it would challenge Telkom's lawsuit.



A Kenya Airways ground crew member checks-in passengers at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, on August

FORECAST

Air fares to increase over doubling of jet fuel prices

NAIROBI

AIR ticket and freight charges are set to increase after the doubling of jet fuel prices in what threatens to slow recovery from the coronavirus crisis in the aviation industry.

Jet fuel prices have doubled to \$750 (Sh83,100) per metric tonne in the past year, according to data from the International Air Transport Association and Platts. Airline operators in Kenya said they will seek to pass the extra cost to consumers to remain afloat, a move that looks set to further depress the number of passengers seeking to use air travel.

Mr Alex Avedi, the chief executive officer of Safarilink Airline, while bracing for low passenger numbers,

said they have no choice but to increase the charges. "We shall definitely increase the price of the ticket to match the rising cost of fuel," said Mr Avedi adding the airline may be forced to cut frequencies on some of its routes.

Most airlines gave up hedging future fuel demand due to the turmoil in the oil market last year, leaving them more exposed than usual to subsequent surges in oil prices. Mr Eutyhus Waitthaka, executive secretary of the Kenya Association of Air Operators, said they had already written to the Treasury seeking a waiver on taxes to shield them from the rising cost of fuel.

"We are badly hurt by the rising cost of fuel. It doesn't do any good

to an industry that is yet to recover from the effects of Covid-19. We are going to pass the extra cost to our consumers," said Mr Waitthaka. The lobby wants the government to abolish the five percent excise duty levied on jet fuel and aircraft spares parts.

Jet fuel prices have doubled to \$750 (Sh83,100) per metric tonne in the past year, according to data from the International Air Transport Association and Platts

REDUCTION

Kids accompanying parents to Dubai during Expo 2020 to pay 25 per cent adult fare

By Guardian Reporter

CHILDREN aged between 2-11 years who travel to Dubai with their parents during the Expo 2020 will only pay 25 per cent of adult fare aboard Emirates Airlines.

In a statement on Monday, Emirates said the promotion which ends on November 6 this year is in addition to a host of other added-value incentives to ensure a memorable experience for families travelling to Dubai.

"The special offer is applicable on all business and economy class tickets to Dubai, for travel dates up until 31 March 2022," the statement added while stating that Dubai being the host city of the largest world expo ever to be held, Emirates wants global citizens of all ages to experience the excitement of the largest-of-its-kind event in the region.

The Dubai based airline which is also the official carrier of Expo 2020, said passengers have an opportunity to board connecting flights to over 120 destinations from the United Arab Emirates

commercial capital.

The statement further stated that Emirates also revealed the top source markets for families with small children travelling to Dubai this winter, as the UK, France, Germany, Russia, Switzerland and Italy.

Emirates has also revealed that more than half of the visitors planning a vacation in the coming months have visited Dubai before and intend to stay more than one week to explore what the city has to offer, the statement noted.

"Special offers on children's flight tickets are not all that its customers can look forward to enjoying, with both big and small guaranteed a complimentary expo day pass for every Emirates ticket to Dubai during the event," the statement added.

Members of the airline's award-winning loyalty programme, Emirates Skywards, will earn Skywards Miles for flight tickets purchased. Emirates has also launched a special Expo offer where customers will earn 1 Skywards Mile for every 1 minute spent in Dubai until 31 March 2022, the statement noted.



An Emirates plane decorated with Dubai Expo 2020 logo.

Expo 2020 Dubai's programme is packed with experiences, exhibits and performances to appeal to the entire family, with a rich line-up of themed weeks, entertainment and edutainment, art, technology and dining options for all

palates.

Visitors can drop by the 192 national pavilions for a journey through cultures, or the various thematic and special pavilions to get a glimpse of the future and the innovations that are mak-

ing a difference in tomorrow's world. Tanzania Trade Development Authority is also taking part at Expo 2020 with more than 600 local exhibitors in attendance.



British Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Mozambique, Katherine Fletcher, at a market in Maputo last week.

OPTIMISM

UK boosts trade ties with Mozambique

MAPUTO

BRITISH Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Mozambique, Katherine Fletcher, visited Mozambique from 11 to 15 October and held a meeting with President of the Republic Filipe Nyusi in Maputo, O País reports.

According to a press release from the British High Commission in Maputo, during the meeting with President Nyusi, Fletcher welcomed the increase in trade between Mozambique and the United Kingdom and highlighted specific opportunities in the sectors of renewable energy and agriculture.

The British envoy also congratulated the Mozambican Government for sending a delegation, led by Prime Minister Carlos Agostinho do Rosário, to attend the United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP26) in Glasgow, between 31 October and 12 November of 2021.

Fletcher's visit had, additionally, the objectives of promoting long-term mutually beneficial partnerships that promote sustainable development for Mozambique and the United Kingdom, in the areas of agriculture, technology and railways and ports infrastructure; and emphasised the UK's commitment to working with Mozambique on women's economic empowerment.

"The UK believes in a mutually beneficial commercial and business partnership with Mozambique. It was nice to see that Gorongosa coffee can now be purchased in

the UK. British companies in the agro-industrial sector employ more than 400,000 Mozambicans across the country and are making an important contribution to this prosperous future. But we want more partnerships," said Fletcher.

Also in Mozambique, Fletcher held meetings with the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Max Tonela; of National Defense, Jaime Neto, of Agriculture and Rural Development, Celso Correia, with the President of the Tax Authority, Amélia Muendane, and other senior dignitaries of the Mozambican Government. Katherine Fletcher began her visit in Manica province, where she met British companies operating in the agricultural sector and Secretary of State Edson Macuácuca.

She also visited Gorongosa National Park (PNG) projects to explore opportunities to facilitate increased exports of coffee and honey to the UK; understand the park's agricultural activities and tap opportunities for collaboration in the sector, including promoting British expertise in agro-technology, women's economic empowerment programs and highlighting Gorongosa's contribution to building climate resilience, creating jobs in the green economy and carbon credit projects.

Finally, Katherine Fletcher visited the Port of Beira to reiterate and strengthen commercial ties between the UK and Mozambique and identify investment opportunities and bring in the knowledge needed to support port efficiency and sustainability.

FINANCING

Nigeria's Sendbox raises US\$1.8m for expanding market opportunity

LAGOS

NIGERIA-BASED e-commerce fulfilment platform Sendbox has announced the completion of a US\$1.8-million seed round from investors including 4DX Ventures, Enza Capital, FJLabs and Golden Palm Investments.

With participation from Flexport and YC Combinator as part of its 2021 winter cohort, Sendbox's total investment raised has now reached US\$2-million following a pre-seed round from Microtraction and 4DX Ventures in 2018.

Sendbox says the new funding will be used to expand the company's operations in other countries across West Africa, bolster the development of its product range, and hire new talent. Launched in 2018, the company provides access to local and international delivery options for small-scale merchants selling on e-commerce and social media platforms.

Accessible to iOS and Android users, via web application, on Whatsapp, Facebook, Instagram and other e-commerce platforms, and through developer APIs, Sendbox serves as a single location to manage both local deliveries and international shipments to the EU, UK, US and Canada.

A statement from the company reads: "To date, over 10,000 Nigerian SMEs have sent 200,000 products through Sendbox, saving on average 30-40% per item by eliminating the need to work with separate logistics providers.

Through its delivery management plat-



Emotu Balogun, CEO and Co-Founder of Sendbox.

form, which aggregates logistics providers and enables tracking, the company also offers a solution for merchants who lack the high volumes required to attract discounted delivery fees. The next stage of the company's growth will see a move towards financing & payments, followed by e-commerce & marketplace integrations across West Africa and then further afield."

Emotu Balogun, CEO and Co-Founder of Sendbox said, "No matter where in the world customers are, we want African SMEs to be able to reach them. Deliveries in Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt and Ibadan have made up a large proportion of business for our domestic merchants.

On top of that, affordable access to the UK, EU, US and Canada has created an opportunity to sell products to hundreds of millions of previously unreachable buyers. With

this fundraise our aim is to support more and more SMEs and help them grow both locally and internationally, scaling alongside them as we connect African merchants with a global community of consumers."

The company asserts that 'made in Africa' products are now in higher demand across local and international markets. "With 200 million Instagram users and 1 million Instagram businesses in Nigeria alone, Sendbox is well positioned to serve this growing market and multiply its merchant count over the coming months," it stated.

Walter Baddoo, Co-Founder and General Partner at 4DX Ventures, added: "African e-commerce is accelerating faster than anybody could have imagined a decade ago and it needs smart solutions to ensure that logistics and fulfilment capacity

INVESTIGATE

Transnet probes outbreaks of fire amid declaration of force majeure

DURBAN

TRANSNET, South Africa's state-owned ports and freight-rail company, is investigating the cause of two fires that impacted bulk shipments at port operations in Durban and Richards Bay, where it declared force majeure on Friday.

"The fires were contained and extinguished," Transnet said in an e-mailed statement. "Business continuity plans have been invoked and Transnet continues to work with all impacted stakeholders to minimize disruptions and ensure that repairs are concluded as quickly as possible."

The ports operator has made progress restoring operations at Richards Bay, with five of seven conveyor belts back in use and the rest of the work being handled manually.

The Richards Bay coal terminal, the largest on the continent, is essential to South Africa's coal industry supply-chain, having shipped 70.2 million tons of the fossil fuel in 2020. But constraints at the port and derailments on

the lines which Transnet operates hampered coal exports in the first half of this year, according to Exxaro Resources Ltd.

At least two conveyor belts were affected by the fires at Durban's grain export terminal at Maydon Wharf precinct. The ports operator met with the leadership of the agricultural industry to assure them that the terminal is working around the clock to get the belt restored and back in operation, Transnet said.

“The fires were contained and extinguished,” Transnet said in an e-mailed statement. “Business continuity plans have been invoked and Transnet continues to work with all impacted stakeholders to minimize disruptions

WORLD

UN: Africa's glaciers to melt, millions face drought and floods

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICA'S fabled eastern glaciers will vanish in two decades, 118 million poor people face imminent drought, floods or extreme heat, and climate change could also shave 3 percent off continental GDP by mid-century, the UN climate agency warned yesterday.

The latest report on the state of Africa's climate by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), partnered with African Union agencies, paints a dire picture of the continent's ability to adapt to increasingly frequent weather disasters.

According to one data set, 2020 was Africa's third warmest year on record,

0.86 C above the average temperature in the three decades leading to 2010. It has mostly warmed slower than high-latitude temperate zones, but the impact is still devastating.

"The rapid shrinking of the last remaining glaciers in eastern Africa, which are expected to melt entirely in the near future, signals the threat of ... irreversible change to the Earth system," WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas said in a foreword to the report.

It forecast that on current rates all three of Africa's tropical ice fields - Tanzania's Kilimanjaro, Kenya's Mount Kenya, and Uganda's Rwenzoris - would be gone by the 2040s.



In this file photo dated Oct 6, 2020, a local fisherman paddles past one of the submerged buildings of the Soi Lodge on the shores of Lake Baringo, where rising water levels caused by extreme rainfall linked to climate change have displaced entire villages and inundated farmlands as well as buildings and infrastructure, near Marigat, Baringo county on the Kenyan Rift Valley. AFP

"By 2030, it is estimated that up to 118 million extremely poor people (living on less than \$1.90 per day) will be exposed to drought, floods and extreme heat ... if adequate response measures are not put in place," the African Union's Agriculture Commissioner Josefa Sacko said.

Africa, which accounts for less than four percent of greenhouse gas emissions, has long been expected to be severely impacted by climate change. Its croplands are already drought-prone, many of its major cities hug the coast, and widespread poverty makes it harder for people to adapt.

Apart from worsening drought on a continent heavily reliant on agriculture,

there was extensive flooding recorded in East and West Africa in 2020, the report noted, while a locust infestation of historic proportions, which began a year earlier, continued to wreak havoc.

The report estimated that sub-Saharan Africa would need to spend up to \$50 billion, or 2-3 percent of GDP, each year on adaptation to avert even worse consequences.

An estimated 1.2 million people were displaced by storms and floods in 2020, nearly two and half times as many people as fled their homes because of conflict in the same year.

Agencies

China contributes a lot to world public health - WHO assistant director-general

GENEVA

CHINA has made great contributions to the world in the public health domain, Ren Minghui, assistant director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO), has said.

"Many of China's early experiences in public health, for example the barefoot doctors and primary healthcare policies and plans, have been recognized by the World Health Organization as well as the international community," said Ren, (pictured) the WHO's assistant director-general for universal health coverage and communicable and noncommunicable diseases, in a recent interview with Xinhua.

"China's contributions in traditional medicine have also been accepted by the WHO and many more countries, and have been incorporated into the WHO strategies, with more and more countries actively considering incorporating them into their formal health service systems," he said.

He added that China's work in prevention and control of infectious diseases



the WHO as mutually beneficial, he said: "On one hand, China is sharing experience, technology and funding in its cooperation with the WHO, which is conducive to China's improvement and adjustment of disease prevention and control strategies as well as the promotion of domestic public health; on the other hand, China's practice, experiences and technologies are also being recognized, learned, and promoted by the WHO and the international community."

On the future prospects of cooperation between China and the WHO, Ren believes that the areas of cooperation between the two sides are expanding.

"From the field of primary health care in the past, to the prevention and control of some major infectious diseases, China still has many technologies or programs that can provide lessons for other countries," he said.

"In particular, China has recently achieved the goal of eliminating malaria, which has been highly praised by the international community. In the area of noncommunicable diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension, and cancer control,

the two sides need to learn from each other," he said.

Noting that this year marks the restoration of China's lawful seat in the United Nations (UN), Ren said China has become a very important member in the UN and the international community as a whole.

"I have attended the UN General Assembly, the World Health Assembly and some other technical committees many times. China's active participation are seen more often, and there are increasing numbers of Chinese delegates," he added.

China, a firm believer in multilateralism and a strong supporter of the future development of the United Nations, "will certainly play a more active role in the future multilateral international organizations," Ren said.

Xinhua

India delays COVID-19 vaccine supplies to COVAX, sources say

NEW DELHI

INDIA has delayed committing supplies of vaccine to the COVAX global sharing platform, two sources told Reuters on Tuesday, a day after one of its key backers, the WHO, said the agency could not "cut corners" to approve a domestically developed vaccine.

The world's biggest vaccine maker resumed exports of COVID-19 doses this month for the first time since April. It has sent about 4 million to countries such as neighboring Bangladesh and Iran, but none to COVAX.

On Monday, in the run-up to an Oct 26 meeting on Covaxin, India's first domestically developed COVID-19 vaccine, the World Health Organization said it could not "cut cor-



A medical worker (right) inoculates a woman with a dose of the Covishield vaccine against the Covid-19 coronavirus at a hospital in Allahabad on Monday. AFP

ners" in the approval decision. One of the sources said it was "frustrating" that India had yet to confirm any supply to COVAX, despite a promise

last month by the health minister to meet the commitment to COVAX and others during the quarter to December.

The sources, who have been

briefed on the export talks, declined to be identified as they were not authorized to speak on the subject.

The Serum Institute of India, the world's biggest vaccine manufacturer, has contracts to supply hundreds of millions of doses of a licensed version of the AstraZeneca vaccine to COVAX and countries such as Bangladesh.

Its output of the vaccine has more than tripled since April, to reach 220 million doses a month now.

India's health ministry, SII and COVAX co-leads, the WHO and GAVI, did not respond to requests for comment.

Delayed supplies to COVAX could disrupt inoculation drives in many African nations that rely on it for vaccine supplies.

Indian government officials

have said they are confident the WHO will soon approve an emergency-use listing for Covaxin, which makes up 11 percent of the 990 million vaccine doses given in India, with the rest mostly from AstraZeneca.

A few weeks ago, Adar Poonawalla, the chief executive of SII, told the Telegraph newspaper that his company would recommence exports to COVAX in October.

"Initially these supplies will be small, but by January 2022, once we have satisfied domestic demands ... we will see large volumes go to COVAX," he added.

Before India halted overseas vaccine shipments in April so as to meet domestic demand, it donated or sold more than 66 million COVID-19 doses, including Covaxin. **Agencies**

Top US envoy to Afghanistan stepping down

WASHINGTON

TOP US envoy to Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad is stepping down, the State Department said on Monday, less than two months after the chaotic US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Taliban takeover of the country.

Khalilzad (pictured) will be replaced by his deputy, Tom West, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement, noting that West will work closely with the US embassy, which is now based in Doha, on US interests in Afghanistan.

A person familiar with the matter said on condition of anonymity that Khalilzad submitted his resignation on Friday.

His departure follows his exclusion from the Biden administration's first formal talks with the Taliban after the US pullout, held in Doha earlier in October.

Khalilzad did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Khalilzad, born in Afghanistan, held the post since 2018 and spearheaded the negotiations with the Taliban that led to the February 2020 agreement for the withdrawal of US forces this year.

He then pressed the hardline Islamist movement and the Western-backed government of former Afghan President Ashraf Ghani to negotiate a political settlement to decades of strife.

In mid-August, the government collapsed as the Taliban swept through the country and marched into the capital, Kabul, unopposed. Khalilzad was left seeking the militants' assistance in the US evacuation of US citizens and at-risk Afghans who worked for the US government.

Current and former US officials told Reuters earlier that in the three years Khalilzad had been in the role, he became the face of one of the largest US diplomatic failures in recent memory.

US officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the veteran American diplomat relinquished leverage to the militant group, continuously undermined the Afghan government, and had little interest in hearing different viewpoints within the US government. **Agencies**



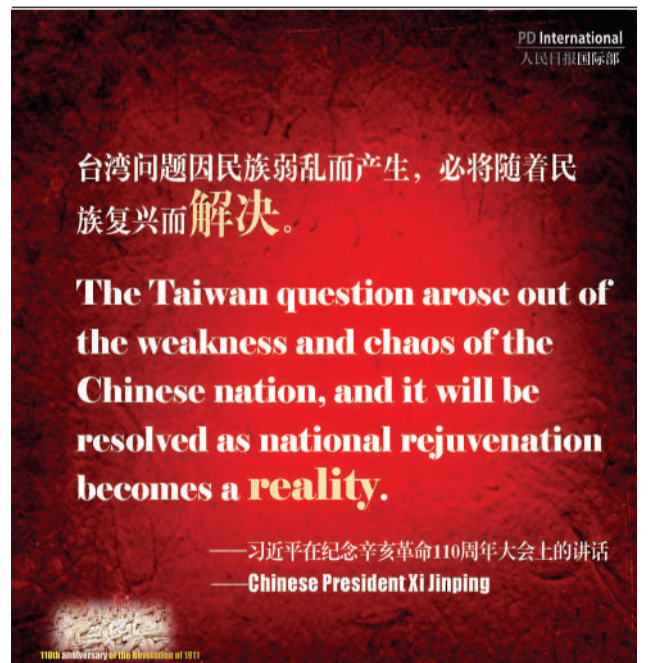
Nigeria woos World Bank to fund vaccine plant

ABUJA

igeria's Vice President Yemi Osinbajo on Monday said the government is wooing the World Bank to finance a vaccine plant.

Osinbajo said at an international conference in Abuja, organized by the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development, that the government was in talks with the World Bank's private lending arm and other lenders to raise about 30 million U.S. dollars to help finance a vaccine plant.

According to Osinbajo, the global trend in health had made it critical for Nigeria to establish its own vaccine production facilities. "I believe in the first quarter of next year, the plant, which is supposed to be located in Ota, Ogun State, will initially fill and finish," he said. "Full manufacturing, we are told, is expected to follow in the coming months or years. I am not quite sure when," he added.



UK falls behind Europe on virus as mutation draws focus

ROME / JUBA / ADDIS ABABA

SURGING COVID-19 cases in the UK have left the country behind the rest of Europe with former US Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb calling for urgent research into a mutation known as delta plus.

Britain, faster to reopen and relax restrictions than other European countries, reported the highest daily jump in new cases on Sunday since mid-July. Weekly deaths from the virus topped 800 for each of the past six weeks, higher than in other major western European nations, according

to Bloomberg's tracker.

The UK also has lagged in rolling out the vaccines to adolescents amid concerns that some side effects undermined the net benefit of the shots given children are less likely to become seriously ill. The delay meant most older children weren't offered a vaccine until the school year had started, and they're now seeing the highest levels of infection in the population.

Prevalence of COVID-19 is growing among those aged 17 and younger, the latest React-1 study led by Imperial College London found last week. The reproduction rate in that age group

was 1.18, meaning that on average every 10 young people infected are passing it on to about 12 others. The delta plus strain Gottlieb highlighted includes the K417N mutation, which has stoked concern because it's also harbored by the beta variant that's associated with an increased risk of reinfection.

"We need urgent research to figure out if this delta plus is more transmissible, has partial immune evasion," he said in a tweet. "There's no clear indication that it's considerably more transmissible, but we should work to more quickly characterize these and

other new variants."

UK researchers said in late June that there's no evidence yet to suggest the additional mutation is more worrisome. A German paper out earlier this month found while both delta and delta plus infect lung cells more efficiently than the original coronavirus strain, delta plus doesn't appear to be significantly more dangerous than delta.

Gottlieb, who serves on Pfizer's board of directors, led the FDA from 2017 to 2019. He has been promoting his new book, "Uncontrolled Spread: Why C-19 Crushed Us and How We

Can Defeat the Next Pandemic."

In England, the percentage of people testing positive continued to increase in the week ending Oct 9, with an estimated 890,000 people having COVID-19, or about 1 in 60, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Over one billion COVID-19 vaccines produced in the European Union have been exported to more than 150 countries since December 2020, the head of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen said on Monday.

"Very clearly, the European Union is the largest exporter of COVID-19

vaccines," von der Leyen said in a statement, noting the EU has exported as many vaccines as it has delivered to EU citizens.

The EU began exporting vaccines at the start of the global rollout in December 2020, whereas other major producers such as the United States did not, and restricted exports for months.

However, EU exports have been mainly directed to bigger economies, with Japan, Turkey and Britain among the main recipients, because they had supply contracts with vaccine makers which produced jobs in the EU.

Russia's IT infrastructure should be built on proven domestic solutions – authorities

KRASNAYA POLYANA

RUSSIA'S critical information infrastructure should be built on proven Russian-made technologies, Chief of the Presidential Directorate for the Development of Information and Communication Technology and Communication Infrastructure Tatyana Matveeva said yesterday, naming SIM cards with Russian encryption as one of the promising solutions.

"Without a doubt, critical information infrastructure should be designed and operated based on proven domestic solutions," she said.

Developing Russian cryptography and products based on it will strengthen the resiliency of the Russian telecommunications infrastructure, Matveeva noted. "Developments such as Russian SIM cards with encryption algorithms open up new opportunities for our people," she added.

According to Matveeva, creating efficient environment for developing Russian telecom operators and Internet companies is an important area of state regulation, as well as ensuring the safety of people in terms of protecting personal data, combating the spread of prohibited information, fraud, and cyberbullying.

Agencies

Macron 'to announce new nuclear reactors before Christmas'

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron wants to announce before Christmas the construction of six new nuclear European Pressurized Water Reactors in France, Le Figaro reported on Monday.



The impact of Europe's gas crisis on energy prices, and the knock-on effect on household spending power six months out from France's next presidential election, had accelerated the decision to commit to EPR technology, the newspaper added.

An Elysee spokesperson declined to comment. Early in his presidency, Macron pledged to reduce nuclear power's contribution to France's energy mix to 50 percent from 75 percent by 2035. But the energy crisis is changing the mood in Paris.

"The energy crisis shows we are right to choose nuclear for our green energy transition," Le Figaro quoted an un-named senior government official as saying.

Previously, the government had said it would not launch any new EPR reactor projects until EDF's EPR nuclear power plant in Flamanville, northwestern France, is completed.

However, on Oct 1, Industry Minister Agnes Pannier-Runacher said here France could decide to build six new reactors before Flamanville is fully operational. Flamanville has suffered a decade of delays and huge cost overruns, and ministers still decline to say when it will go online.

Former US president Trump sues US House committee probing Capitol riot

WASHINGTON

FORMER US president Donald Trump filed a lawsuit Monday against the National Archives and a House special committee investigating the Jan 6 Capitol riot in a bid to block Congress from obtaining certain documents related to the insurrection.



"The Committee's request amounts to nothing less than a vexatious, illegal fishing expedition openly endorsed by Biden and designed to unconstitutionally investigate President Trump and his administration," the lawsuit read. "Our laws do not permit such an impulsive, egregious action against a former President and his close advisors."

The committee requested in August that the National Archives, which is the custodian of the Trump White House's records, submit a long list of records from Trump's time in office and the aftermath of the Capitol riot.

The request is part of the panel's ongoing and intensifying investigation into how a mob of Trump's supporters breached the Capitol on Jan 6 trying to stop a Congressional joint session from certifying the 2020 presidential election result to Joe Biden.

Trump has said he would assert executive privilege to shield the documents requested by the committee, but Biden, who legal experts said has the ultimate say over whether the information sought by the panel is covered by the executive privilege, determined that Trump's effort to conceal the documents was neither in the best interest of the United States nor justified.

In an Oct 8 letter to Archivist of the United States David Ferriero, White House Counsel Dana Remus demanded that the archivist turn over a subset of the required documents that Trump identified as privileged to Congress. Remus added that those documents should be submitted 30 days after Ferriero notified the former president.

Trump, however, claimed in the lawsuit filed in the DC District Court that Biden has an interest in preserving his executive privilege, saying it amounted to "a political ploy to accommodate his partisan allies."

"As it relates to any materials being sought in situations like this, where fundamental privileges and constitutional issues are at stake and where a committee has declined to grant sufficient time to conduct a full review, there is a longstanding bipartisan tradition of protective assertions of executive privilege designed to ensure the ability to make a final assertion, if necessary, over some or all of the requested material," the lawsuit read.

ROK: DPRK fires short-range ballistic missile into eastern sea

SEOUL

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile into the eastern waters, the Republic of Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said yesterday.

The JCS said in a statement that the ROK's military detected one unidentified short-range ballistic missile, which the DPRK launched at about 10:17 am local time (0117 GMT) toward the East Sea from the eastern coast of Sinpo, South Hamgyong province in the eastern DPRK.

It noted that the missile was estimated to be a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), saying the intelligence authorities of the ROK and the United States were analyzing further details on the missile.

The JCS added that the ROK's military was closely monitoring the relevant situations and maintaining its readiness posture under close cooperation with the United States to prepare for possible further launches.

According to Yonhap News Agency, it was known that the missile flew eastward 430-450 km at an altitude of 60 km.

If confirmed it would mark the first SLBM test launch by the DPRK in about two years. In October 2019, the DPRK said it succeeded in test-firing a new type of SLBM, known as Pukguksong-3.

Under the UN Security Council resolution, Pyongyang is banned from testing any ballistic missile technology.

In response to the DPRK's missile launch, the ROK's presidential Blue House convened the National Security Council (NSC) emergency meeting.

The NSC expressed deep regret over the missile launch as it was conducted when the ROK's active consultations are underway with the United States, China, Japan, Russia and other major countries to advance the Korean Peninsula peace process.

The council urged the DPRK to rapidly come forward for dialogue, emphasizing that the peninsula's stable situation is currently more necessary than ever.

During his speech at the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly last month, the ROK's President Moon Jae-in proposed a political declaration to terminate the 1950-53 Korean War.

The two Koreas remain technically in a state of war as the fratricidal war ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

The DPRK staged several missile tests in September amid deadlocked denuclearization talks with the United States.

Top DPRK leader Kim Jong-un said last week that there has been "no behavioral ground" to believe the recent US signaling that Washington is not hostile to



TV showing a file image of North Korea's missile launch during a news programme at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Sept. 28, 2021. File photo

Pyongyang, slamming the ROK for its "double standards" to continue to boost military capabilities.

Kim, however, noted that the DPRK's enemy is a "war itself, not a certain country or forces like the ROK and the United States."

On Sept 15, the ROK said it successfully test-fired a homegrown SLBM which was launched underwater from

a domestically-developed 3,000-ton submarine.

Yesterday's missile launch marked the eighth saber-rattling by the DPRK this year.

The DPRK said it tested its newly-developed hypersonic missile Hwasong-8 on Sept 28, after launching two ballistic missiles into the East Sea on Sept 15. It also tested its newly-developed anti-air-

craft missile on Sept 30.

Pyongyang test-fired cruise missiles into the western waters on Jan 22 and March 21, before testing ballistic missiles into the eastern waters on March 25. It also test-launched long-range cruise missiles on Sept 11-12.

Agencies

China officially designates first group of national parks

CHINESE President Xi Jinping announced the official designation of the country's first group of national parks while addressing the leaders' summit of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) via video link on Tuesday.

The first group of national parks includes the Three-River-Source National Park, the Giant Panda National Park, the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park, the Hainan Tropical Rainforest National Park, and the Wuyishan National Park, according to Xi.

These national parks involve 10 provincial-level regions in the country, including Qinghai, Tibet, Sichuan, Shaanxi, Gansu, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Hainan, Fujian, and Jiangxi, according to the country's National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA).

They are all located in key areas of the country's ecological security landscape, with the protected land area reaching 230,000 square kilometers, said an official with the NFGA, adding that these parks cover nearly 30 percent of the key terrestrial wildlife species found in China.

Located in the hinterland of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and with a protected area of 190,700 square kilometers, the Three-River-Source National Park makes sure that the sources of the Yangtze River, Yellow River, and Lancang River are well protected.

Boasting rich ecosystems and complete ecological structure and functions, the national park, where glaciers, snow mountains, alpine wetlands, deserts, and alpine grasslands are widely distributed, is a good model of large-scale protection of alpine ecosystems of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, which has been called the Earth's "third pole" by scientists.

Spanning the three provinces of Sichuan, Shaanxi, and Gansu, the Giant Panda National Park, with a protected area of 22,000 square kilometers, has the greatest concentration of wild giant pandas and is the animal's main habitat. More than 70 percent of the wild giant pandas in China are protected by the national park.

With rich biodiversity and unique natural and cultural landscapes, the park serves as a demonstration area of biodiversity conservation, a pilot area for realizing the value of ecological products, and a world model of ecologi-

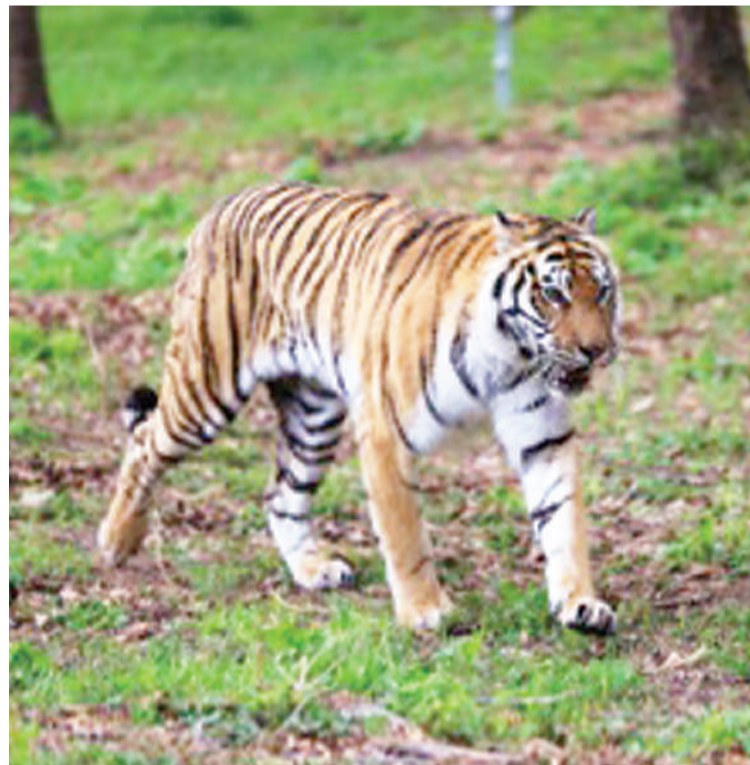


Photo shows a Siberian tiger ambling in a forest park in Harbin city, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang province. File photo

cal education.

The Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park straddles northeast China's Jilin and Heilongjiang provinces and has a protected area of 14,100 square kilometers. China's largest and only populations of wild Siberian tiger and Amur leopard with groups formed through reproduction are distributed in the park.

With various types of plants and relatively complete ecological structure, the national park is regarded as a typical representative of temperate forest ecosystems and has become a model of cross-border cooperation in ecological protection.

The Hainan Tropical Rainforest National Park, with a protected area of 4,269 square kilometers, has preserved the most complete and diverse island tropical rainforests in China.

The park is the only habitat of Hainan gibbon, the world's most endangered primate. It is considered a treasure house of tropical biodiversity and genetic resources, and has become a prime example of inheriting precious natural resources and protecting biodiversity for tropical rainforests on islands.

The Wuyishan National Park straddles southeast China's Fujian province and east China's Jiangxi province and has a protected area of 1,280 square kilometers. With the world's most complete and largest primary mid-subtropical evergreen broadleaved forest ecosystem among those at the same latitude, the national park is a treasure trove of flora and fauna in southeast China.

Boasting unparalleled ecological and cultural resources, Wuyishan (Mount Wuyi) is a world cultural and natural heritage site, and a model of inheriting and passing on cultural and natural heritage from generation to generation and harmonious coexistence between man and nature.

By building national parks, China intends to ensure good protection of areas with the most distinctive natural landscape, the best natural heritage and the richest biodiversity, so as to keep natural ecosystems intact, demonstrate their value for the world, importance to the state, and role in enhance national identity, and leave precious natural assets to future generations, according to the NFGA.

People's Daily

US Hollywood film-crew union, producer alliance reach deal to avert crippling strike

LOS ANGELES

A Hollywood trade union of film and television crews said it had reached a tentative agreement with a powerful alliance of producers and employers, averting a crippling strike.

The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) said Sunday that it had reached a tentative agreement for new film and TV contracts with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), which represents Hollywood film and television production companies.

This tentative agreement would avert a potential strike on Monday that could have crippled the U.S. entertainment industry just when it is struggling back from the disastrous effects of the pandemic.

"We went toe to toe with some of the richest and most powerful entertainment and tech companies in the world, and we have now reached an agreement with the AMPTP that meets our members' needs," said IATSE International President Matthew Loeb.

The IATSE is a labor union made up of 366 local unions. Founded in the United States in 1893, it represents over 150,000 off-camera/backstage technicians, make-up artists, and others in the United States and Canada.

The AMPTP is a powerful entertainment association that represents producers and major employers in television, film and online media, including such heavyweights as, Walt Disney Studios, Sony, Paramount Pictures, Warner Brothers, Netflix, Amazon, and Apple.

No film, no television show, no theater play or concert can be run without IATSE crewmembers who work behind-the-scenes to make it all possible. "IATSE members are truly the backbone of the entertainment industry," award-winning producer, Jeff Most, told Xinhua Monday.

"Like all film professionals around the world, they are some of the hardest working people in any business. They routinely face long hours, short weekends and grueling conditions and deserve to be treated with respect, dealt with fairly and have their voices heard," he added.

About 98 percent of the IATSE members had previously voted to launch a nationwide strike on Monday for the first time in its 128 year history. Hollywood's powerful guilds, the Screen Actors-AFTRA Guild and the Directors Guild of America, both said they would support any IATSE strike action.

IATSE leadership said it was incomprehensible that the AMPTP, an industry group that includes mega-corporations collectively worth trillions of dollars, claims it cannot provide behind-the-scenes crews with basic human necessities like adequate sleep, meal breaks, and living wages.

"We risked our health and safety all year, working through the Pandemic to ensure that our business (the entertainment industry) emerged intact. Now, we cannot and will not accept a deal that leaves us with an unsustainable outcome," warned Loeb.

Xinhua

SPORT



Azam FC head coach, George Lwandamina. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC.

Azam FC vows to improve striking force

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC is eager to find a solution to failure to fully exploit scoring opportunities in the squad's various fixtures.

The NBC Premier League club has yet to notch a victory in two top-flight games it has taken part in.

In the first fixture, the outfit recorded a 1-1 draw with Coastal Union in Tanga and the following tie ended with the club conceding a 2-1 loss to Polisi Tanzania in Moshi.

Azam FC assistant coach Vivier Bahati said they were determined to make sure they win in the Tuesday clash against Namungo FC in Dar es Salaam to make sure they get back to winning ways.

Bahati pointed out before the tie: "We have reviewed back as a technical bench and we have made sure that every player who is in front of opponents' goal converts chances into goals."

Azam FC assistant skipper, Bruce Kangwa, disclosed they were in high morale given they are not satisfied with the trend of results and they are ready to make sure they bring back happiness to their team's fans.

The fullback pointed out: "We are saddened by these results, we have sat

down as players looking back on the bad results we were getting and now we are ready to fight for the Azam FC logo."

Namungo FC was heading into the Tuesday fixture with better chances to clinch a win due to their opponents' poor start and absence of senior players, after the southern Killers

The Lindi-based club got off to a good start, trouncing Geita Gold FC 2-0 and later registering a 1-1 draw against Kagera Sugar.

Azam FC started with the draw, they have not won a single game this season.

They were to host Namungo FC which is still unbeaten, winning the opener and notching a draw in the second.

The tactician revealed: "We have started the league very slowly, but tomorrow (Tuesday) we will work hard to make sure we get the victory so that we can achieve our goals."

"Of course we didn't start the season well. We shared the points against Coast Union on a 1-1 draw and lost 2-1 to Polisi Tanzania but we will make sure we win and get our spirit back, something that our fans want us to do."

The assistant coach disclosed the club will miss the injured forward Prince Dube, but the rest of the players were fit for yesterday's clash.

Senior footballers, skipper Aggrey Morris, Salum Abubakar, and Mudathir Yahya, were the players that stood out to be out of the clash after facing suspension due to lack of discipline.

Coach Bahati pointed out the lack of goals in his club is not due to a lack of coaching tactics and technique but a lack of concentration for players when they are in front of opponents' goals and it is an aspect they have worked on in the training ground.

Prospect of no job, no visa for Australian Open tennis stars

By JOHN PYE

TENNIS players who have not received a COVID-19 vaccination are unlikely to get a visa to enter the country for the Australian Open in Melbourne in January, according to the political leader of the state, which hosts the season-opening major.

Victoria State Premier Daniel Andrews has already introduced a vaccine mandate for professional athletes competing in domestic sports leagues and people working in some industries including health. On Tuesday, he increased the pressure on tennis players traveling from abroad.

"I don't think any unvaccinated tennis player is going to get a visa to come into this country," Andrews said. "If they did get a visa, they'd probably have to quarantine for a couple of weeks when no other players will have to."

"Professional sport is part of that authorized worker list and they have to be double-dose vaccinated."

Australia is preparing to re-open its international borders for the first time in more than 18 months, but it will be a gradual, state-by-state process starting next month and will depend on vaccination rates across the country. Fully vaccinated people will have fewer restrictions in Australia than those who are not.

The vaccination debate has been ongoing in tennis since international competition started re-emerging following a global shutdown last year.

Some players, including men's No. 1 Novak Djokovic, have advocated that the decision to get the vaccine should be a personal choice. Others, including Andy Murray, have said it should be mandated for the good of the majority.

SPORTS

How far is Simba SC versus Jwaneng Galaxy tie reminiscent of Kaizer Chiefs?

By Correspondent John Kimbute

DETERMINING what happens next in competition football is either a game that often pays well for those addicted to betting and has some skills in the art, or a complicated psychological game of wait and sees for others, as skills aren't what determines the game but the mind, mental state of readiness.

This is visible within the space of one match or portions of it, and thus it also needs to be projected as to how that mental state unfolds in the course of an encounter. How it unfolds in the next tie is anyone's guess.

That situation is amply illustrated by the Simba SC versus Jwaneng Galaxy FC contention in the local champions' away tie in CAF Champions League second preliminary round, where an enigmatic situation arose of scoring two early goals before the game clocked ten minutes, indeed just over five minutes.

This appeared to be a trend, for those with a penchant for repetition, in which case the final score would be somewhere above five goals at least.

That wasn't to be the case, and at the final whistle, the score stood precisely where it was, at 2-0 for the visiting side.

It would be up to the pundits to say 'what happened,' but the issue is elsewhere, in setting out the dynamics of what happened.

It was hard to see who was going to do the right sort of analysis, and where indeed that would have to be located - whether it is what happened during the first five minutes or so and allowed the visiting side to score a couple of goals, or how they were completely checked later.

Within this setting of the problem an analyst would have to figure out how far either goal was a result of a 'game plan' or attacking techniques which yielded fruit, or merely the result of inattention on the part of the home side, which they quickly checked, but rather late.

The complicated part is whether this inattention was a lapse or it was structural.

To start with, nobody can 'structure' how to score a goal, as in that regard goals would be predictable, that one makes this or that kind of motion and it leads to a goal, and the 'receiving' team would



Tanzania's Simba SC players in group picture a few minutes before confronting Botswana champions, Jwaneng Galaxy, in 2021/22 CAF Champions League second preliminary round match in Botswana last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

be unaware of that kind of 'program.'

Therefore the sort of play moves that bring about a goal can be said to be structural as they relate to training and techniques of using a ball when in that position, but nothing can be readily predicted about the state of readiness of an opponent, how for instance a defender approaches a midfielder or forward with the ball. Are there defined moves or decided by circumstance?

Unpredictable reactions of that sort to a move, even in the early minutes of the game, can make a difference in the results of such moves, and it would thus follow that a couple of moves - similar or dissimilar in specific ways - were put up successfully, resulting in goals.

That too would have been a visible structural weakness that the coach would move to address, for instance buttressing the defense in comparison with midfield and attack, if he noticed that the visitors were overly numerous in the attack.

That isn't a formal explanation of the two quick goals but hitting them and not repeating invites that scenario.

If one settles for that scenario and then looks at the 85 minutes that came later, and indeed nearly a full 90 minutes including stoppage time, the structure of the match is altogether different.

The two sides were neatly balanced and none could fruitfully use a scoring opening, whatever frequency of that scenario has come up.

What this also suggests is that there was a manifest weakness that was curbed at the start and the visitors - for some reason or another - could not duplicate their earlier prowess, and as this latter scenario lasted for the rest of 90 minutes, it can be admitted as the principal rule of that encounter.

Concerning the opening question, it is evident that Simba's opening encounter with Galaxy can't be put to the same mapping scenario as the Kaizer Chiefs encounter in the first leg, as those goals were scored with 20 minutes of regularity.

It would however approximate one or two recent archrivals' clashes that have been settled with a single goal in early minutes, which couldn't be duplicated or leveled. It is such a scenario.

As the archrivals' matches have taken that pattern at least twice, there are chances that the next encounter between Simba SC and Galaxy brings up either the same format as in Gaborone or the 90 minutes minus the 'wild' or 'wasted' five minutes that will trouble the home side for years to come.

When they land in Dar es Salaam they will be in no mood to repeat those errors while Simba will be looking forward to playing doubles - unless of course, the 'learned coach' of the other side discovers how to play the same trick.

For instance, a towering fullback gallops unnoticed into the opponents' goal area, messing up the marking pattern, etc.

Bagamoyo International Arts and Culture Festival attracts 60 countries



Tanzania Film Board Executive Secretary, Kiagho Kilonzo, speaks at the board's recent meeting with the Masters of Ceremonies (MCs) Network, which took place in Dar es Salaam. He has been flanked by official from the board and MCs Network.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIXTY countries are expected to participate in the Bagamoyo International Arts and Culture Festival to be held from October 28 to 30 at the Bagamoyo Institute of Arts and Culture (TaSUBa) grounds, Bagamoyo District in the Coast Region.

The Chief Executive Officer of TaSUBa, Herbert Makoye, disclosed at a press conference about the festival.

Makoye said the festival, which is the 40th, is made up of participants from 60 countries that have confirmed their participation.

"We look forward to receiving visitors from 60 countries and preparations for the festival are well underway," he said.

Makoye mentioned that one of the

goals of the festival was to celebrate and preserve the culture.

Another benefit is the students studying at the college to demonstrate in practice what they have learned in class.

It is also a platform for artists to meet with local and foreign artists to share experiences and build communication and is greater than providing entertainment for Tanzanians and visitors.

Bagamoyo District Commissioner, Zainab Abdallah, said the district officials have decided to develop and support President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts to promote Tanzanian culture.

"As you can see, our President recently made a royal tour to promote our culture, arts, and attractions, so this festival seeks to continue to support her in that and put Bagamoyo on the map for the world to

know," she disclosed.

National Arts Council (BASATA) Executive Secretary, Matiko Mniko, said they will ensure all stakeholders participate in the festival.

They include artists, dancers, gospel musicians, and other members of the performing arts.

Tanzania Film Board Executive Secretary, Kiagho Kilonzo, said they will also use the festival to show films that are competing in this year's film awards, which are for the first time managed by the government.

Kiagho pointed out: "Throughout the three days of the festival we will have a tent capable of carrying more than 100 people to show various films, some of which are those competing for awards."

Sancho a victim of SolSKjaer's struggle to strike the right balance

LONDON

MANCHESTER United manager Ole Gunnar SolSKjaer was left with no excuses in his quest to end the club's four-year trophy drought when Cristiano Ronaldo headlined starry transfer window.

But the Norwegian has failed to match expectations and Saturday's 4-2 loss at Leicester left United five points adrift in the Premier League title race and already out of the League Cup.

The scrutiny on SolSKjaer is increasing ahead of Atalanta's visit to Old Trafford in the Champions League on Wednesday with progress to the last 16 of Europe's premier club competition far from certain.

Ronaldo's last-gasp strike to snatch a 2-1 win over Villarreal three weeks ago was badly needed after United lost their opening game in Group F to Swiss champions Young Boys.

SolSKjaer already has one early group stage exit on his CV. Last season the Red Devils blew a perfect start to be knocked out by Paris Saint-Germain and RB Leipzig.

Failure to reach the knockout stages again could be the final blow to SolSKjaer's credibility among a fanbase beginning to turn on the man who famously won them the Champions League with a stoppage time goal against Bayern Munich in 1999.

- No return on investment -

United spent £73 million to sign Jadon Sancho from Borussia Dortmund in July and followed that with the impressive capture of four-time Champions League winner Raphael Varane from Real Madrid.

But Ronaldo's return relegated Sancho's signing to the shadows. The five-time Ballon d'Or winner has scored five times in eight games since returning to the club where he first made his name. However, United have won only three of those eight games.

"The performances have been so shoddy all season in terms of team performances," said former Manchester United captain Gary Neville. "There's been some good results and the overall individual goals, but the some great performances and the unit in and out of possession have been shoddy."

Sancho has embodied those struggles more than most.

He was a prolific scorer and crea-



tor during four seasons in Germany, where he blossomed into one of Europe's most promising attacking talents, but United are yet to see any return on their investment with no goals or assists in his first 10 appearances for the club.

The 21-year-old has not been helped by persistent tinkering with his role.

Initially signed to fill United's need for a right winger, he has found himself more often playing from the left with Mason Greenwood forced onto the right by Ronaldo's presence through the middle.

Now Marcus Rashford and Edinson Cavani are coming back to fitness.

SolSKjaer has so far tried to accommodate as many of his arsenal of attacking players as possible with a front three backed up by Bruno Fernandes and Paul Pogba in midfield.

Pogba and Fernandes have already spoken out at the need for a clearer tactical plan. SolSKjaer hinted after Saturday's loss, he has tough choices to make.

"We need to look at the whole set-up and balance of the team and maybe something has to give. Lately, we have not been in great form, we've lost too many points and that is something we have to look at," said SolSKjaer. "We might have to change. Do we need more legs in there?"

Sancho may well be the fall guy, making way for an extra body in midfield, but that would again highlight the muddled thinking that has epitomised United's years of decline since Alex Ferguson's departure as manager in 2013.

After the club spent nearly two years pursuing his signature, it has taken barely two months for Sancho's role in the team to be questioned.

Iniesta: Barcelona can win Clasico, LaLiga

BARCELONA

FORMER Barcelona midfielder Andres Iniesta has told ESPN that his ex-side "have the team to win the Clasico and LaLiga" despite a troubled start to the season that has left them seventh in the league table and bottom of their Champions League group.

Barca beat Valencia 3-1 in LaLiga on Sunday to move two points behind rivals Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid and five points off leaders Real Sociedad, ahead of hosting Los Blancos in El Clasico at Camp Nou this weekend.

The team has been buoyed by the returns from injury of Ansu Fati - who scored and won a penalty against Valencia - and Sergio Agueiro, as well as the performances of youngsters such as Gavi.

"I think Barca fans are always optimistic, even more so for the Clasico," Iniesta told ESPN. "They will be looking forward to the game, their team playing well and winning."

"Barca have the team to win the Clasico and LaLiga. I hope they play well and get the three points."

Barca coach Ronald Koeman came under intense pressure after the team began their Champions League campaign with a 3-0 home drubbing to Bayern Munich that was followed by LaLiga draws with Granada and Cadiz.

An embarrassing 3-0 loss at Benfica put Koeman on the brink, before president Joan Laporta opted to back the manager after, according to ESPN sources, he failed to find a suitable alternative.

"As an ex-Barcelona player it is dif-

icult for me to analyse it, because on the outside you often hear things that aren't the reality," Iniesta told ESPN. "If I was on the inside, I could speak much more about it."

"From here, and looking at the last few years, it's not an easy situation. New players are coming in, young players, players from elsewhere, other players have left. It's never easy. We all have to have faith that they will end up following the right line."

Iniesta said Koeman has done "many things" well and that "he didn't arrive at an easy moment for him or the club."

The coach has put his faith in Barca's homegrown talent in recent weeks, with Fati, 18, and Gavi, 17, joined by 19-year-old Nico Gonzalez and 18-year-old Yusuf Demir in the team.

Iniesta, now 37 and playing for Japanese side Vissel Kobe, compared the situation to when he made his debut in 2003 - when Barca were in crisis on and off the pitch after four years without a trophy - and warned that too much pressure should not be put on this new generation.

"When I was promoted to the first team, it was tough," Iniesta said. "I tell the youngsters coming through to take advantage of the opportunity."

"We have to value the faith being shown in these young guys... The only thing we should not do is think that 17 or 18-year-olds can be the solution during these times."

"We cannot put the responsibility on them to carry the team. They have to accompany the team little by little, gaining prominence and becoming important."

ESPN

Arsenal midfield overrun by Vieira's Palace

LONDON

BEFITTING of Patrick Vieira's return to Arsenal, this really should have been settled in midfield.

Vieira was a colossus in the Gunners' engine room for nine years, and for long spells on Monday night, his Crystal Palace side were the better team in central areas of the pitch to an extent they deserved to leave Emirates Stadium with a win. Substitute Alexandre Lacazette's stoppage-time equaliser rescued a point for Arsenal in an entertaining 2-2 draw but the Frenchman's energetic cameo only partially masks the issues that came before.

Mikel Arteta has been keen to defer judgement on his management until his reshaped squad is fully available to him, but only Granit Xhaka is currently sidelined with a knee injury until the New Year. Arteta views Xhaka as a key component of his midfield, but there have been signs he wants to switch to a more dynamic 4-3-3 shape for some time, and that formation was used here for the first time since last month's 1-0 win at Burnley.

Thomas Partey's deployment as the sole pivot was in part based upon being able to drop into the back four more easily to deal with Palace's aerial threat. It also allowed Arteta to add another attack-minded player into an offensive lineup with Martin Odegaard and Emile Smith Rowe playing as No. 8s behind a front three of Nicolas Pepe, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Bukayo Saka.

With the ball, it looked vibrant early on, particularly as Arsenal raced into an eighth-minute lead. Pepe exchanged passes with Takehiro Tomiyasu and curled a left-foot shot at goal, which Palace goalkeeper Vicente Guaita did well to palm wide. But Aubameyang did even better to react quickly, turning the ball in with a smart finish from a tight angle.

However, Arsenal were curiously passive thereafter and without the ball, Partey was isolated. Palace's wide players - Conor Gallagher and Odsonne Edouard - drifted in off the flanks to outnumber Partey in midfield, occupying space behind Ode-



Patrick Vieira

gaard and Smith Rowe to turn and run at the Gunners' back four.

It was a problem Arteta inadvertently sought to rectify at half-time, replacing the injured Saka with Albert Sambi Lokonga and moving to something closer to the old 4-2-3-1, but the balance was still wrong and Palace capitalised.

First, Partey lost the ball cheaply 30 yards from goal under pressure from Jordan Ayew. Christian Benteke took full advantage, working the ball onto his right foot before firing low past Arsenal goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale. Lokonga then conceded possession to Gallagher and Palace broke with Edouard firing in off the crossbar with 17 minutes left.

Arsenal ended up with Smith Rowe and Lokonga anchoring a 4-2-4 system that enabled Lacazette to play up front and score the 200th goal of his professional career, turning the ball home from close range after Guaita saved Ben White's shot in a desperate finale. Palace had dropped too deep at that point, inviting pressure that eventually told, but it was the first time their shape had been wrong all evening.

Arteta won the Premier League's Manager of the Month award for September after steadying the ship

following a dismal start to the season, but this was a reminder of how fragile that recovery remains.

Partey is Arsenal's best midfielder but he will need time to adjust to operating as a lone defensive midfielder, as will Odegaard in a No. 8 position deeper than the No. 10 role he is used to. Odegaard was substituted for the final 23 minutes after an ineffective outing, but it was difficult to escape the conclusion he was asked to do more defensive work and affect the game from further out than he appears naturally suited to.

"We start to defend something after scoring the goal and that is what I don't really like," said Arteta. "We started to play not forward, kept the ball in the wrong areas and put ourselves in trouble. That's the period I didn't like. I thought we got better in the second half and the start was better but when we had some control, we just gave the goals away."

The bright spark was provided by Lacazette, who bookended a lively display by geeing up the crowd moments after coming on before giving them something to celebrate with what was virtually the last kick of the game.

Lacazette's motivation remains unclear. There is presently no contract offer on the table from Arsenal despite his existing agreement expiring at the end of the season. Fresh terms to stay in north London or the possibility of promoting his talents ahead of a January move could be behind his renewed vigour, but either way it could be a useful asset for Arteta in the weeks ahead.

The Spaniard had a case for shifting focus away from his side's teething problems by voicing his irritation at VAR.

Arteta claimed afterwards that Saka's half-time withdrawal was the result of the effects from a challenge by James McArthur on the stroke of half-time, which referee Mike Dean determined was only worth a yellow card. As McArthur wound up to volley a dropping ball on the edge of the box, Saka put his body in the way. McArthur continued unabated and instead put his foot through the back of Saka's calf.

"If we want to detect things that are really relevant in a game and can change a football match, then they have to be looked at," said Arteta. "That situation is not only affecting them but we have to take the player off because of the action so it is affecting it two different ways. It is not right. 'You [need to] make a straight decision, when it is so clear and so obvious straight away and they have to play with 10 men.'"

Similarly, Arsenal wanted a foul on Lokonga as Gallagher won the ball for Palace's second goal.

He had a clear case in both instances, even if Vieira diffused the row by invoking Arsene Wenger's classic defence that "I didn't see it" in relation to McArthur's challenge. But managers often talk about controlling the controllables, and Arteta's bigger problem is finding a better midfield balance.

Arteta was one of many players to sign for Arsenal and attempt to fill the void left by Vieira, but for Lacazette's late intervention, he would have been left in Vieira's shadow again.

ESPN

Pogba's, Fernandes' comments piling pressure on under-fire SolSKjaer

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

IT'S never a good sign for a manager when his most high-profile players begin to talk openly about a need for improvement, so for Ole Gunnar SolSKjaer at Manchester United, there can be no positive spin about Paul Pogba following Bruno Fernandes by publicly calling for things to change at Old Trafford.

Of course, SolSKjaer this week will likely trot out the usual damage-limitation tactic with comments about players showing how much they care when they vent their frustrations, but he will have been in enough dressing rooms during his playing career to read between the lines when it comes to players questioning tactics or mentality. Quite simply, players don't call for improvement when things are going well and they certainly don't do it when they play for a manager who is the dominant personality at their club.

Ask yourself when Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola or Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp last had to put up with senior players speaking of the need for "change" or telling the world that "we cannot do this anymore" after a negative result. Similarly, think back to when, if ever, Sir Alex Ferguson had to read or hear comments from his players along the lines of those issued by Pogba after Saturday's 4-2 defeat at Leicester City.

"We have been having these kind of games for a long time and haven't found the problem," Pogba said post-match at the King Power Stadium. "We have conceded easy and stupid goals."

"We know that the fans were going to push and put pressure on us and we need to be more mature, play with more experience and arrogance - in a good way - by taking the ball and playing our football."

"We need to find the key for this

change because we deserved to lose. I don't know if it is the mindset of the players. We need to change something. We need to find the mentality and tactics to win. We have to look at individuals and as a team to fix this."

There is quite a lot to unpack in Pogba's postmatch quotes. He talks of long-standing problems, a need for players to be more mature - he even questions the mindset of the squad. But by talking about finding the "mentality and tactics" to win, he dropped everything straight at the feet of SolSKjaer.

But it is not just Pogba. After the 1-1 draw at home to Everton earlier this month, Fernandes also delivered an exasperated assessment of United's progress, or lack thereof, this season.

"We have to learn and the time is now," Fernandes said. "We cannot do this anymore. We did it so many times, we cannot slow the game down when we're winning. We have to make it quicker, score once again, get one or two more goals and after that, maybe you can slow it down and make them run a bit more."

Neither Pogba nor Fernandes directed their comments at SolSKjaer. To have called out their manager

in such clear fashion would have been a challenge to his authority, but even by being nuanced, both players undermined SolSKjaer's position.

To many, it will be regarded as a bold move by Pogba to demand improvement considering that he has consistently failed to play to his potential since returning to United from Juventus in a world-record transfer in 2016. Pogba has had five years to help drag the team to the heights he, and others, expect of the club, but he is one of those who SolSKjaer could accuse of letting him down on more than one occasion.

Fernandes has been a more consistent performer since his arrival at Old Trafford from Sporting Lisbon in January 2020, but the Portugal midfielder has lost his spark this season and his own performances have been below the standard he has previously set.

But speak to people within the game - players, ex-players and coaches - and they will often speak of how players will always look for excuses elsewhere before pinning any element of blame on themselves. Managers have had to deal with this for years, and recent seasons are littered with examples of

some of the biggest names in management losing their jobs because world-class players have allowed their boss to shoulder the blame for poor results.

But even though sources at United have made it clear that SolSKjaer's position is not under threat and that the Norwegian knows he has the backing of the club's owners, the Glazer family, the comments of Pogba and Fernandes show that the sands are now beginning to shift under his feet.

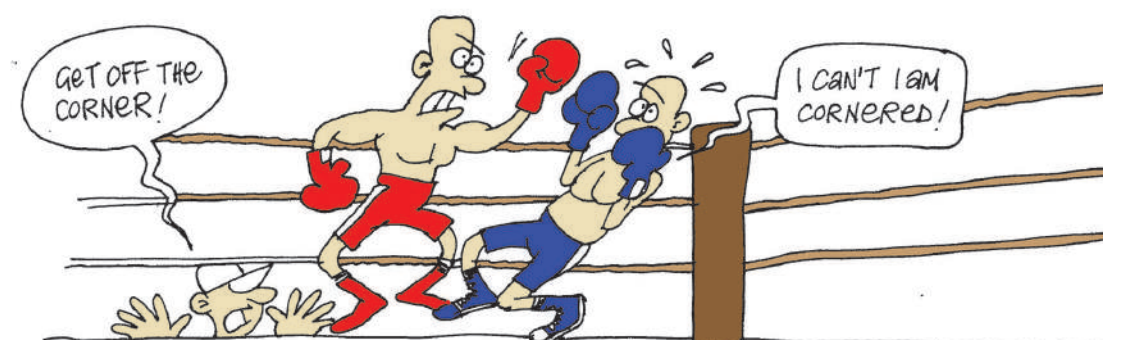
Regardless of who they blame for the problems that have seen United win just one of their last five games, exit the Carabao Cup at the first hurdle and drop to sixth in the Premier League table, Pogba and Fernandes have now admitted publicly that things aren't right at Old Trafford and that the players aren't happy.

If they were coded messages to SolSKjaer and his coaches to raise their game and make the team better, they must now be acted upon, because Pogba and Fernandes have exposed the cracks.

United face Atalanta and Liverpool in two crucial games at Old Trafford this week, and a defeat in either will leave them facing an uphill battle to succeed in the Champions League or Premier League.

SolSKjaer needs his players to do their talking on the pitch in both games, rather than speak out afterwards, but if the

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal midfield overrun

by Vieira's Palace



Liam Livingstone in doubt for T20 World Cup opener after injuring finger in warm-up match

LONDON

LIAM Livingstone is a minor doubt for England's opening fixture of the men's T20 World Cup against West Indies on Saturday after suffering a finger injury during their first warm-up match against India in Dubai.

Livingstone (pictured) was injured while dropping a catch at deep midwicket during England's seven-wicket defeat, when Ishan Kishan pulled Chris Jordan into the leg side.

Livingstone appeared to lose the ball in the lights - which were not as bright as in most internationals, with the game played at the ICC Academy Ground in Dubai - and immediately looked in pain, with swelling visible on the little finger of his left hand.

He left the field alongside England's physio, with Sam Billings coming on as a substitute fielder, and took no further part in the match. An England spokesperson said that the injury would be assessed 'in [the] next 24 hours' once the swelling had gone down.

In the short term, he appears unlikely to play a part in Wednesday's warm-up match against New Zealand in Abu Dhabi.

Moeen Ali, who lifted England to a competitive 188 for 5 thanks to an innings of 43 not out off 20 balls, played down the concern. "I think he's alright," he said. "I think it's just bruising on the back of the hand but I think he'll be fine."

"Obviously it was a bit of a scare at the time but he said it was fine, so hopefully he's all good. He's a brilliant player - he's been playing really well over the last couple of years. Hopefully he can carry that form into the World Cup and I feel like it's going to be a big stage for him."

Livingstone had earlier hit 30 off 20 balls including four fours and a straight six from No. 5, before taking 1 for 10 in his two overs including the wicket of Virat Kohli.

He is one of England's three spin options in their World Cup squad and again displayed his versatility with the ball, generally bowling legbreaks to India's right-handers and offbreaks to their left-handers.

His injury may mean England avoid having to make a difficult selection decision ahead of their opening fixture of the tournament.

They opted to rest Eoin Morgan on Monday, who will return to the side as captain, and with Jason Roy, Jos Buttler and Jonny Bairstow all certain to start, they would have to leave out one of Livingstone, Moeen or Dawid Malan, or change the balance of their side by dropping a seamer in order to accommodate him.

Livingstone has only played eight T20 internationals but it will be a significant blow to England if his injury proves to be serious. He was the standout short-form batter in the English summer, averaging 54.46 and striking at 167.41 in 20 innings across England's T20I series against Sri Lanka and Pakistan, the Hundred and the T20 Blast. Despite a lean run in the IPL for Rajasthan Royals, he offers a vital all-round option in the squad, not least with Ben Stokes and Sam Curran both missing the World Cup.

Moeen, meanwhile, continued from where he had left off in the IPL, having hit 37 not out off 20 balls in Chennai Super Kings' victory against Morgan's Kolkata Knight Riders in Friday's final, and said that he had been keen to keep his run of form going. "Eoin asked me

TONIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msozi Kitoani (r)
13:00 Wanzawake Live (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

if I was happy to play or if I wanted to play this game, considering we only just played the other day," he said.

"I feel like I'm playing well, so I wanted to keep playing. I think Eoin will come back in the next game."

Moeen was a key man for Chennai with the bat, averaging 25.50 and striking at 137.30 while generally batting at No. 3 or 4. He said that he had "loved" the responsibility he had been given with the bat, but conceded that with England's top-order strength, he might not have such a clearly defined role in the World Cup.



MS Dhoni

Twiga Stars out to defeat Namibia in AWCON Qualifiers



A section of footballers making Tanzania national women's football team take part training in Dar es Salaam early this week ahead of the squad's 2022 Africa Women Cup of Nations qualification match against Namibia, which will take place in the city today. PHOTO: TFF

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S national women's soccer team, Twiga Stars will today play its first match of the knockout stage of the first round in search of qualification for the Women's Africa Cup of Nations (AWCON) against Namibia at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium Dar es Salaam.

The 2022 AWCON will take place in Morocco between July 2-23 and will double up as the African qualifiers for the 2023 Women's World Cup which will take place in Australia and New Zealand.

The top four teams in the AWCON will qualify for the World Cup, and two more teams will advance to the inter-confederation playoffs.

Twiga Stars, coached by Bakari Shime alias 'The black wizard', had been taking part in practice every day after returning to the country this month from South Africa, where the squad battled it out in this year's COSAFA Women's Championship.

The team clinched the COSAFA Women's Championship top honour, edging Malawi women side 1-0 in the final. Shime revealed: "We kept on training because we knew our responsibilities. We have fix-

tures in the coming days including the AWCON Qualifiers which, if we qualify and turn up in the tournament next year, we will have an opportunity to represent the country in 2023 Women's World Cup."

Twiga Stars face Namibia women's squad, known as 'Brave Gladiators', who are coming into this game after crashing out of the group stage of the COSAFA Women's Championship with four points, notching a win in one game, one draw and one loss.

Towards today's game, coach Shime said: "We are at home, we will play as hosts, we will play strategically while reading our opponent, we will attack if necessary and defend if possible and also on force them to play our game and it will work, we believe we are at our very best we will get the best results."

Shime said that Twiga Stars have the advantage of getting to know their opponents after seeing them closely when they were at the COSAFA Women's Championship which ended recently although they did not get a chance to play each other, as the coach said that it will be one of the catalysts of this game to showcase the

surprise from both sides.

The tactician revealed: "They played only three group games and were eliminated from the tournament and we played until the final, their coach Woody Jacobs watched us closely and we have looked at their style of play and made sure we close them down whenever necessary on their plays and get a win."

The return legs of the first round AWCON Qualifiers will take place between October 23-26. The second round of qualifiers, meanwhile, are scheduled to take place between February 14-23 next year.

Twenty qualifiers will be played across the continent, some of which are the Sao Tome & Principe vs Togo, and Central African Republic vs Cameroon duels.

Other matches will see three-time defending champions, Nigeria, lock horns with Ghana. Egypt confront Tunisia, Equatorial Guinea playing DR Congo and Uganda facing Ethiopia among other fixtures.

A total of 12 teams would qualify to play in the final tournament, including the hosts which would qualify automatically.

Can Dhoni help Kohli clinch elusive global title in T20I captaincy swansong?

DUBAI

THE T20 World Cup will be Virat Kohli's last in the format as India captain, and also the farewell campaign for Ravi Shastri as the head coach.

The BCCI has already pencilled in Rahul Dravid as the next head coach, but before starting on the succession planning, there's a World Cup to be won.

The seriousness on that front can be seen in the appointment of MS Dhoni as the mentor of the team exclusively for the tournament.

In a briefing this week, Kohli welcomed Dhoni's presence, saying that it would not only boost the morale in dressing room but also have tangible benefits for players, since Dhoni can help with "intricate details of where the game is going" and that everyone can, as a result, 'improve by that 1 or 2%'. Dhoni will, therefore, be a part of the think tank, work on the tactics board with Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Shastri.

One clear advantage for India, though, is that all the players are accustomed to the conditions in the UAE - last year's IPL was played there in its entirety, while the second half of the 2021 edition was here there between September and October too.

Many of the members of the squad, like KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja and quite a few others have played key roles for their franchises in the UAE in this period, and there is a lot of class all around - the quick men are Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Mohammed Shami, and there is the quality of R Ashwin and the mystery of Varun Chakravarthy in the spin department.

Kohli would want to end his stint as T20I - even T20, for that matter - leader by winning a global tournament. He remains the team's best batter.

He has expressed his pride in creating a legacy that he feels will last long. Now to add some big-time success to that legacy.

Since losing the home series against Australia 2-0 before the 2019 ODI World Cup, India were unbeaten in eight series in a row, till the run came to an end in July when a second-string - and Covid-19-hit - India lost 2-1 in Sri Lanka.

But that series allowed India to test their bench strength, which has swelled since 2016, when the last T20 World Cup was played.

Since that World Cup, India have played 72 matches and won 45, for a win percentage of 66 - an indicator of their dominance.

Acceleration in the middle overs is something has been proven to be vital in T20 cricket.

Since 2019, England's run rate in the middle overs has been the best at 8.72 followed by New Zealand (8.62), South Africa (8.25) and Pakistan (8.12).

India, who are fifth on this list, have scored at 7.93 in this phase. On paper Suryakumar Yadav or Ishan Kishan, Rishabh Pant and Hardik Pandya, potentially the middle order that will line up, are high-impact batters, but they were far from fluent during the IPL.

But with Kohli deciding to bat at No. 3, India will likely have Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul at the top and will hope they provide robust beginnings.

These are their three best batters, so expect one of them to aim to play deep into the innings.

If they are able to set the pace, then the middle order gets going, followed by Ravindra Jadeja, who will combine with Pandya as the finisher, this is a line-up that can cause severe damage.

This batting line-up can also cover-up for any lack of depth, in case India decide to field three spinners.

By picking four frontline spinners alongside three fast men, India have made it clear that they feel the slower bowlers would make the difference. And it is a good mix too.

There is a wristspinner (Rahul Chahar), two experienced fingerspinners (Ashwin and Jadeja), and a mystery spinner (Chakravarthy).

Will India be bold enough to adopt a three-spinner strategy then? Unlikely, unless the conditions are like in Sharjah during the latest IPL.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

