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## PM: Government working on hiring 16,000 teachers

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government will soon employ 16,000 teachers for public primary and secondary schools to cover existing gaps, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) said the President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance) has already secured permission to employ the teachers.

During the weekly impromptu question-and-answer session, the premier said that the government has been intervening to improve the country's education sector, employing 6,000 teachers for public schools last year.

The country's education policy requires the government to ensure improved education services in both urban and rural areas by



**The shortage of teachers is associated with faster construction of schools at village, division and ward levels. We have also build auxiliary schools at some wards**

modernizing learning infrastructures and ensuring availability of essential equipment.

He urged Tanzanians to be patient as the government finalizes the process to employ teachers.

"The shortage of teachers is associated with faster construction of schools at village, division and ward levels. We have also build auxiliary schools at some wards," he said, noting that the decision to build schools at village and ward levels was meant to cut walking distances and get more pupils to enroll and finish schooling, especially girls.

He expressed the view that employing 16,000 teachers shall vastly reduce the shortage and improve the teaching environment. The government will also ensure availability of health experts in all public health facilities, the premier declared.

The government is also considering hiring more personnel in the health sector after many dispensaries and health centers were built across the country, he said.

The government also prioritizes improvement of the agriculture sector, he told MPs, emphasizing that health and

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# MPs approve UN global accord on EEZ control



Dr Inmi Patterson (L), Chargé d'Affaires at the US Embassy in Tanzania, shares a light moment with members of the academic staff at St. John's University in Dodoma when she visited the campus on Wednesday to share experiences on educational issues, including exchange programmes available in her country. Photo courtesy of US Embassy

## Minister presents new energy mix plans for AfDB financing

By Guardian Reporter

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango has presented four electrification-generation projects to the African Development Bank (AfDB) for financing as part of Tanzania's plan to generate 10,000 MW by 2025.

A Treasury statement released yesterday said the minister sought the financing of the projects in a meeting with Wale Shonibare, the AfDB Vice President for power, energy, climate and green growth on Wednesday after the conclusion of the second Africa Investment

By Henry Mwangonde

CHINA has maintained its status as the leading foreign investor in Tanzania for the second year in a row after surpassing the United Kingdom last year, Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) data indicates.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, TIC Executive Director Geoffrey Mwambe (pictured) said China has invested \$5.963 billion in Tanzania.

The UK came second with investments valued at \$5.54 billion while the US, Mauritius and India completed the top five list with investments worth \$4.7 billion, \$4.308 billion and \$2.2 billion, respectively.

Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa.

"Dr Mpango named the electricity generation projects as Ruhudji (MW 358), Rumakali (MW 222) Malagarasi River (MW 44.5) and Kakono (MW 87)," reads the statement.

In April, the government unveiled plans to expand current power generation capacity to 10,000 MW by 2025 through investment in energy mix namely hydro, thermal as well as solar.

Deputy Minister for Energy Subira Mgalu told the National Assembly in Dodoma that the move is part of the government's mission to act on investors' queries over lack of reliable power, which hurts investments and businesses.

"Speaking after the meeting Dr Mpango said that apart from power generation, he also presented other projects in sectors like infrastructure, water, education and value

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**We have invited them (AfDB) for further talks on how to implement energy mix projects in hydro, solar and wind as other Southern African countries are already doing**

## China leading investor after Britain, yet again



He explained the UK position to historical factors as Tanganyika was a trusteeship territory mandated to Britain for the United Nations from 1919 to 1961.

Mwambe who was highlighting foreign investment achievements in the four years of President John Magufuli's leadership said the centre registered 1,174 projects in the last four

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**"The Deep Sea Fishing Authority-DSFA Act 1998 - requires fishing vessels to process permits before and after fishing in the Tanzania EEZ"**

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government's war against illegal fishing got a new boost as the National Assembly passed the international Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) to protect marine resources in the Tanzanian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Indian Ocean.

The international agreement is crafted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. It approved by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in November 2009 in its Rome headquarters.

Livestock and Fisheries Minister Luhaga Mpina told the House that endorsement of the agreement will bolster deep sea fishing and the country's fishing sector which contributed 2.2 percent to national income in 2017. The sub-sector grew by 2.7 percent in that year, in tandem with overall population growth and showing scant investment.

Minister Mpina noted that since the agreement requires every country to designate and publicize the ports to which vessels may request entry, in Tanzania, shipping vessels will use four ports namely, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Mtwara and Zanzibar.

"The Deep Sea Fishing Authority-DSFA



**We should also invest more in patrol boats to protect the country's EEZ and enhance our presence in international markets**

Act 1998 - requires fishing vessels to process permits before and after fishing in the Tanzania EEZ," the minister stated.

Tanzania's EEZ over the deep sea covers 223,000 square kilometers while the country's coastal area from Tanga to Mtwara is 1,424 kilometers.

As part of efforts to improve the fishing sector, Tanzania and South Korea will next month sign an agreement for construction of an international fishing port, he said.

The feasibility study is complete and the government will soon decide on where to construct the port, while proposed areas are Lindi, Kilwa Masoko and Bagamoyo.

Presenting views of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Water, Vice Chairperson Dr Christine Ishengoma (Special Seats, CCM) said it is high time Tanzania signed the agreement due to its importance as well as meeting the ratification deadline.

The committee suggested that livestock and fisheries ministries of both parts of the Union allocate adequate budget funds and human resources for the fight against illegal fishing in

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Dr Emmanuel Maganga (L) of Dar es Salaam's Regency Medical Centre conducts a diabetes test on a resident of the city at a free health camp the facility held in the city, attracting more than 500 people. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## China leading investor after Britain, yet again

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years worth \$15,756 billion from which 159,833 jobs were expected.

The industrial sector was leading in receiving foreign investments by 53 percent followed by commercial buildings, transportation and tourism which had 10-percent, 9 percent and 8 percent of investment flows respectively.

He named some of the big projects that have been registered during the

period as KEDA (Twyford) Tanzania Ceramic Company Limited, a floor tiles manufacturing industry located at Mpingo village, Chalinze in the Coast region which has an investment of \$56 million.

Others are Sayona Fruit located at Mboga village also in Coast region, and is worth about \$55 million while another is Keeds (T) Co. Ltd worth about \$130 million, located at Bagamoyo in the same region.

In recent years the government has

undertaken various reforms aimed enhancing ease of doing business.

Among the reforms include the merger of roles of the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and the then Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) whose food regulation role was transferred to TBS as the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA).

The government has also introduced a blueprint to ensure a conducive business environment by carrying out

holistic regulatory reforms.

The blueprint seeks to put in place a framework for addressing regulatory hurdles and create a smart, functional and fair business regulatory regime.

A statement released by World Bank headquarters in Washington last week said economies in Sub-Saharan Africa continued to improve their business climates, with the region's largest economy, Nigeria, earning a place among the year's top global improvers, alongside Togo.

## MPs approve UN global accord on EEZ control

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the country's EEZ.

Dr Ishengoma urged the government to further develop the Tanzania Fisheries Corporation (TAFICO) and the Zanzibar Fishing Corporation (ZAFICO) and establish fish processing factories along the coastal line.

"The government should purchase fishing vessels to enable commercial

fishing in our waters," she emphasized.

Opposition views presented by Dr Semesi Sware (Chadema), urged the government to fast-track plans for an international fishing port to control illegal fishing activities along the coastal area.

"We should also invest more in patrol boats to protect the country's EEZ and enhance our presence in international markets," she specified.

## Minister presents new energy mix plans for AfDB financing

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addition to agricultural produce," the Treasury said.

The minister similarly asserted that the projects presented for financing are strategic for the country and if implemented, would put Tanzania in a better position as it seeks to become a middle income economy by 2025.

Reliable energy is particularly critical because if the goal is achieved, investments are likely to pour in, create jobs and generate revenue for the government.

"We have invited them (AfDB) for further talks on how to implement energy mix projects in hydro, solar and wind as other Southern African countries are already doing."

Mgalu said in April that Tanzania will export surplus electricity to energy-

deficit neighbours once it has boosted its generation capacity.

She named some of the projects to increase power production as the expansion of the Kinyerezi I natural gas power plant from 150 MW to 335 MW whose implementation was slated for August, this year.

Other projects include the Kinyerezi II 240 MW completed in April last year, Mtwara MW 300 power project, Kishapu 150 MW, Singida 100 MW windmill and a coal power project of 600 MW.

The government awarded a tender last year to a joint venture of Egyptian companies, El Sewedy Electric Co and Arab Contractors, to build a USD3 billion hydroelectric plant at Stiegler's Gorge that will produce 2,100 MW upon completion in three years time.

## PM: Govt working on hiring 16,000 teachers

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education sectors require adequate human resources to properly function.

The premier's explanation followed a question by Malo MP Rashid Abdallah Shangazi (CCM).

He was concerned that education

and health sectors face a number of challenges including shortage of teachers and health workers. He

wanted to know when the government will employ enough teachers and health personnel to cover existing gaps for improved services.

## Illegal immigration perits: IOM, Tanzania strike deal on training to curb menace

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) has signed a two-year agreement with the Tanzania government for the provision of training to immigration officers so that they become knowledgeable on how to control illegal immigrants.

Speaking during the signing ceremony in Dodoma early this week, IOM Resident Director Dr Qasim Sufi said IOM has decided to sign the agreement after good results were realized through similar agreement signed five years ago that ended this year.

He said the training is given at the country's Zonal Immigration College at Moshi in Kilimanjaro Region.

Dr Sufi said Tanzania fruitfully implemented the earlier agreement in conducting various training to immigration officers in the fight against illegal immigrants. He said the issue of illegal immigrants does not concern one country but every African country whose aim is to jointly fight the menace.

Minister for Home Affairs, Kangi

Lugola said IOM, from time to time, will bring in training officers from various countries including the organization itself for better ways in fighting illegal immigrants, adding that this is part of government's policy for the security of the country. He said: "This agreement aims to help us in acquiring better equipment, technology and training, even though appropriate authorities have made tremendous efforts in fighting the challenge."

Lugola also called on Tanzanians who assist illegal immigrants by providing them with safe havens and transport to stop doing that as the government, from IOM assisted training, will apprehend them and face legal action.

Commissioner of Immigration Department, Maurice Kitinusa who is the Principal of the College said the agreement is important in fighting the illegal immigrants menace.

He said in addition, IOM has enabled the country produce professionals in the security organs with ability to present evidence in courts of law against fake documents.



The French Ambassador to Tanzania, Frédéric Clavier (C), briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the National Ecological Organic Agriculture Conference set to be held in Dodoma on November 26 and 27. He is flanked by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation Representative in Tanzania, Fred Kafeero (L), and French Embassy counsellor Cécile Frobert. See story on Page 7. Photo: John Badi

## Bunge panel satisfied with Longido solar power project

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ENERGY and Minerals Parliamentary Committee has been satisfied with a project implemented by PowerCorner Engie firm that produces sustainable solar energy for more than 70 households in Ketumbeine Ward in Longido district.

Speaking on behalf of the Committee, the Committee's vice chairperson Mariam Ditopile Mzuzuri said the work being done by the company supports government efforts to ensure all villages get power for domestic use and productive activities. She said: "I know the company is a business enterprise, but it is owned by an indigenous Tanzanian and it is important for him

to see how to bring down power costs and we shall advise the government to waive some of unnecessary taxes."

The director of PowerCorner Engie Eng Ngwisa Mpenbe said the plant started operations in 2016 and serves 76 households in the village and has a capacity to serve up to 300 households.

He said the price is determined by the cost of investment and operations as well the market that depends on small power producers whenever they receive government subsidy.

He said the company lauds the cooperation it receives from the district government, and it also offers such services in other regions in the country, and added it has about 2,430 customers countrywide.

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

UGANDA Airlines has made its maiden landing at Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) with its midday water salute marking the unveiling of its new route in the Northern Tanzanian circuit.

With a fleet of 13 aircrafts, KIA will be the Uganda Airlines' second Tanzanian destination after Dar-es-salaam with the third route set to be soon unveiled in Zanzibar the state owned company lists 25 other projected routes around the globe.

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications, Atashasta Nditije, said now that the state carrier, Air Tanzania was planning direct trips to China, Ugandans that are planning to travel to the Far East can make use any of the three Tanzanian terminals as connection hub to Guangzhou.

## Uganda Airlines introduces flights to KIA

The Ugandan Minister for Works and Transport, Bagaire Aggrey Henry who accompanied the Uganda Airlines Bombardier CR 900 aircraft maiden landing at Kilimanjaro, said the company was intending to make good use of the tourism potential in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions.

The Acting Executive Officer for Uganda Airlines Paul Turacey Isenga explained that the company will make three trips per week; Sunday, Monday and Fridays, but should the situation call for it, the landings at KIA are subject to increase per demand.

Currently handling 15 international scheduled airlines with a number of other ad-hoc private and commercial chartered planes, Kilimanjaro

International Airport lists 1.2 million passengers per year, with over 45 percent of travellers being international passengers, 38 percent domestic and 17 percent transit.

Five years ago, the airport handled 802,731 passengers, which means there have been an increase of 600,000 travellers using KIA between 2014 and 2018. Previously the airport handled 665,147 passengers in 2012, which was a 3.7 percent increase from the less than 500,000 recorded in 2011 when the airport celebrated its 40th birthday.

Figures from the KIA Aircraft Martial, office indicate that there are 39 landings and 39 take-offs at Kilimanjaro Airport on daily basis, totalling to 78 flights per

day on average though the number may rise or drop according to seasons.

With around 25 percent increase of passengers per year, there are plans to make KIA more than just a landing and take-off terminal; a new master plan indicates future high class properties in form of Four to Five stars' hotels to be established around the terminal.

"Of late Kilimanjaro Airport, has been receiving VIP travellers, including celebrities, kings and presidents, that have been insisting on exclusivity and privacy and due to that we intend to construct a special lounge with proper amenities to handle celebrities that come to visit Tanzania but preferring privacy and anonymity," added Engineer Mukoma.





Legal and Human Rights Centre executive director Anna Henga (2nd-L) cuts ribbon to inaugurate a Human Rights and Business report in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are LHRC board chairman Prof Geoffrey Mmari (R), Felista Mauya (L) also from LHRC, and Swedish Embassy deputy programme officer Anders Winberg.

Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Industry sector has seen rise in employment, says Bashungwa

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

TRADE and Industry minister Innocent Bashungwa has told the National Assembly that employments in the industry sector have increased to 306,180 last year compared to 254,786 in 2015.

The minister noted that the data are according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Economic Report for the year 2018. He said the data shows an additional 51,395 jobs, equivalent to 20.17 percent.

Bashungwa was responding to a question by Special Seats legislator, Rukia Kassim Ahmed (CUF). The MP had wanted to know what the government was doing to ensure that 40 percent of the population is employed in the industry sector by

2020 as it was promised by President John Magufuli.

Bashungwa explained that the jobs include direct and indirect employment generated through value chain such as services providers and transporters.

He said to create more jobs through the private sector, the ministry has invested much on reviving dead industries as well as development of small and medium scale industries along the value chain.

Minister Bashungwa informed the parliament that the government will continue creating conducive business environment to enable small, medium and large scale entrepreneurs to establish industries.

He said that in 2018, manufacturing of products grew by 8.3 percent

compared to 8.2 in the previous year. He linked the increase with introduction of new factories producing food and beverages, cement, wheat flour, steel and paints.

"We have also sensitized people to love and buy locally manufactured goods," he noted.

He said the contribution of industrial manufacturing activities to the national economy increased to 8.1 percent in 2018 compared to 7.7 percent in 2018.

The minister further noted that efforts by the government to attract more local and foreign investors will also increase the number of jobs for Tanzania youth. He said the government is also encouraging the private sector to establish industries that uses locally manufactured raw

materials.

He said the government is also improving the special economic zones and export processing zones (SEZ, EPZ). "Right now the government is implementing tractor assembly project at TAMCO Industrial Estate, Kibaha District Coast Region which is expected to generate jobs to many Tanzanians."

"We are also developing the southern highland economic zone covering Ruvuma, Tanga, Kigoma and Manyoni as well as the Bagamoyo SEZ & BMSEZ, Kurasini Logistic Centre and Kigamboni Industrial Park," he availed.

He told the National Assembly that the ministry is working to enhance performance of the private sector to boost its contribution to the country's economy.

## Majaliwa directs regional leaders to submit food shortage reports

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has admitted that some parts of the country face food shortage directing district and regional commissioners to submit food requirement reports for the government to rescue vulnerable populations.

"Members of Parliament have been regularly raising concerns about food shortage in their areas. There is food shortage in some parts of the country largely contributed by weather challenges whereas in some districts people experienced poor harvests due to below-average rains in the past farming season," said the premier during the impromptu Bunge question-and-answer session for the prime minister.

The Prime Minister asserted that whenever there is food shortage in the country, leaders at specific areas are required to coordinate all the activities and submit reports to the government through the ministry of Agriculture.

He noted that the government through Tanzania's National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) purchase and reserve food, mainly maize, which is later on distributed to vulnerable populations across the country.

The relief food, he said, is sold at cheap prices to enable NFRA to raise funds to continue purchasing food in the coming harvest seasons.

NFRA is mandated to guarantee national food security through procuring, reserving and distributing grain stocks in a cost effective manner.

PM Majaliwa insisted that the government is only waiting for official reports from district and regional commissioners that clearly state the

current food shortage and the exact amount required.

He told the House that once the reports are submitted, the ministry of Agriculture will dispatch officers in the specific areas to assess the situation on ground before processing release of relief food from NFRA. "We want the reports submitted to the ministry of Agriculture for the government to plan accordingly," he noted.

He however urged regional commissioners to meet with business community to encourage them to use the opportunity by importing food from regions considered to be the biggest food producers. He said traders are likely to benefit with the opportunity and ensured reliable market by selling food to affected areas.

Majaliwa noted that fears by some district and local leaders to report food shortage in their areas shouldn't be entertained especially during this period where everyone is aware that some parts of the country received below-average rains which resulted into poor harvests. The Premier made the explanations in response to a question by Juma Nkama, a Member of Parliament for Chemba Constituency who asked the government to form a special committee to conduct nationwide survey on food situation.

According to Nkama there are some regions within the country that faces food shortage including all the districts in the country's capital-Dodoma, Manyara and Singida.

The MP claimed that some leaders and chairmen of district and regional safety and security committees do not provide proper information on the real situation of food availability in their specific regions.

## Simbachawene acts tough on scrap metal traders

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) George Simbachawene has directed all those who were found to have exported scrap metal that are parts of water and sewerage infrastructure to be investigated to establish where they obtained them so that legal steps are taken against them.

The minister also warned that it is a criminal offence for whoever will be found carrying, storing, selling or exporting scrap metal without permit and legal steps will be taken against them. The minister gave the warning yesterday in his office in Dodoma where he also directed the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) to take legal steps against Press Freight Tanzania Ltd for transporting scrap metal containers belonging to Eco Steel without permit but did so after the banning order he had issued and stressed legal steps to be taken against the transporting company.

He said when 147 containers belonging to eight companies were inspected in Dar es Salaam, four had misdeclared the cargo in them and found to contain prohibited goods according to export laws.

He added: "In regards to EcoSteel Limited and Mahavir Impex Tanzania Limited, I direct the institutions that gave them permits - the Office of the Vice President (Environment) - to withdraw the permits because they have contravened environmental laws that ban the collection and exporting of hazardous waste out of the country, and that from powers conferred on me I will not issue permits to the

said companies to engage in such business even if it is in respect of permissible goods."

However he directed the four companies that also cheated but had lesser mis-declaration deficiencies to approach NEMC for the procedure in paying fines and to start afresh their quest for permits from the minister to export hazardous waste in accordance to the NEMC

2004 Act. Simbachawene also directed four companies found to have committed various offences to pay 460,000/- fine for each container that was examined.

He also directed that the collection of scrap metal by individuals in lower level will be supervised by local governments and said this directive should start immediately.

It will be recalled that a

total of 142 containers owned by various companies were examined and on October 16 reports thereon were submitted by a national team of examiners which showed there was contravention of laws and regulations that govern and control hazardous waste as well as against Basel Convention that regulates control and export of such waste among world countries.



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Baseline Survey – Niambie 2 Project

#### BBC Media Action

BBC Media Action is the international development charity of the BBC. Established in 1999, the organisation seeks to reduce poverty and provide information to people around the world, through media programmes and campaigns that inspire and inform. Since its foundation, BBC Media Action has worked in developing and transitional countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe on projects that deal with issues of health, resilience, governance, education, environment, livelihoods and emergency response.

#### The Programme

BBC Media Action has been implementing a project called 'Niambie' in Tanzania since 2013 which aims at providing a platform that connects young people across Tanzania to support them to understand, discuss and influence decisions about issues affecting the quality of their lives. The project combines social media with a weekly radio magazine programme broadcast by BBC Media Action's partner, Clouds Media Group targeting young people aged 15 to 35 years old.

BBC Media Action has started work on phase two of the Niambie project, which focuses on supporting women and girls throughout Tanzania to access information and make decisions relating to their social and economic rights. The new phase will launch in 2020 and will include innovative approaches to tackling issues affecting young people, aged 15-35, with an emphasis on young women and girls.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities for the programme, BBC Media Action would like to conduct a baseline survey across Tanzania in January 2019 to assess young people's knowledge, attitudes and practices with respect to major lifestyle, values, gender dynamics, diversity and gender indicators, as well as media consumption trends.

The full proposal, including both technical and financial components, should be no more than 20 pages. The proposal should be written in a font size of not smaller than 11. Annexes may be included with the proposal and will not count against the 20 pages maximum limit. Proposals submitted in response to this should address the research objectives set out in this brief and should be written in English. Please submit your proposal in PDF format and put "[Agency Name] proposal to BBC Media Action" as the title of the email.

The proposal should be sealed and submitted in hand at the BBC Media Action office. For any queries and full request for proposals please email to: [Anar.Manji@tz.bbcmediaaction.org](mailto:Anar.Manji@tz.bbcmediaaction.org)

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: 1st of December 2019, 04:00 PM



### ADVERTISEMENT

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Interested eligible not for profit organizations/consortium MUST submit their bids via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). Each email with attachments must be 5 MBs or less.

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



## PM launches NCDs prevention, control programme in Dodoma

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government yesterday launched the National Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Prevention and Control Programme with a call for people to regularly participate in physical exercise as well as refrain from activities that lead to the diseases.

Speaking while officiating at the launch of the programme, Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa issued eight directives that he said would help control new cases as well as contain the problem among those already affected.

He called on Tanzanians to change their behaviors towards intake of alcoholic drinks as well as smoking cigarette. The PM also said that people should form the habit of doing physical exercises at least 30 minutes in a day, three times a week.

Majaliwa also noted that there is need to have jogging clubs or groups, calling on ward and village leaders to coordinate this. On the other hand, he called on all district councils in the country to improve public open spaces for exercise and games.

Given the nature of the disease, he said people should routinely go for medical checkups and where one is found safe, he or she should strive not to get the diseases and when tested positive, one should see how to live with the diseases.

According to the PM, there is also need for public education and awareness of the problem as well as call for road users, especially motorists to be carefully allow those jogging on the roads to do so without any hindrances.

Majaliwa also directed schools in the country to have jogging sessions every morning to allow students gain physical fitness as well as avoid the diseases. "The cost of dealing with non-communicable diseases is so high that many people cannot afford, thus the best we can do is to change lifestyle as well as doing exercise regularly" he noted. He explained that for instance, those who attend kidney clinics due to complications caused by such diseases spend at least 43m/- per year, an amount that any ordinary citizen cannot afford.

The premier also said diabetes alone will cost the country billions of money in the near future, stressing the need take precautions taken by the public.

He also hinted on the universal health coverage, saying the plan is to start at the end of this month. "Very soon we will adopt the system where all people in the country will have health insurance" he said.

Earlier, the Director Curative Services, Grace Magembe said the launch of the programme is aim to see how to control communicable diseases that has become another serious cause of deaths in the country.

She said the event is part of the week-long free testing for the diseases and public education currently taking place at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

"The aim is to help create awareness of such diseases and end new infections," she said, adding that the diseases are caused mainly by lifestyle.

On the five year digital health strategy, she said it will help the country accelerate its progress and leadership in digital health, ensuring that the country continues to digitalize health care and improve health outcome.

"The strategy establishes the government of Tanzania as a global leader in digital health and paving way for better patient outcomes," said the director.

One of the critical components of the strategy is the governance, which adds teeth and rigor to the government's new digital health strategy.

Two governing bodies that will be primarily responsible for implementing the strategies are the National Digital Health Steering Committees (NDHSC) and the National Digital Health Secretariat (NDHS).

In order to ensure effective implementation of the strategy, she said the government will also launch the Technical working group, online platform that will digitalize all workings of health sector technical working groups. To avoid duplication of efforts, the government will also launch the digital health initiative and digital library to ensure there is transparency and stakeholders have access to information on existing health initiatives and all documents.

The new strategic plan aligns with the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, the Health Sector Strategic Plan (2015-2020) and other key policies advancing the country's efforts to build an end-to-end, interoperable digital health system.



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority technicians repair a pipe at Jangwani in the city, giving residents of parts of Ilala municipality hope of the resumption of normal supply of the precious liquid soon. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Value urban planning guidelines, NEMC tells prospective investors

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has called on local authorities and prospective investors in all categories of industries to value urban planning guidelines for the good of the nation and avoid establishing industrial plants in residential areas.

Speaking to journalists here on his tour of Mwanza Region to acquaint himself with production and marketing of carrier bags in the Lake Zone, the NEMC Director General, Dr Samuel Gwamaka, said Tanzanian laws relating to urban development were quite detailed and explicit.

The problem, was non-adherence to those laws and regulations, he said, adding that laws were meant to protect the people and environment.

"Our tour and experience show that in many cases local authorities, investors and entrepreneurs take things for granted; they do not observe laws and regulations governing urban development. As a result all types of industries are established in residential areas. We cannot allow this because laws and regulations are quite detailed and explicit," Dr Gwamaka warned.

He appealed to local authorities, prospective investors and business people to establish industrial plants and allied business in areas set aside for the purpose, not otherwise. "Industrial plants established in residential areas against the law, disturb innocent residents in different ways; they create noise, foul or disgusting smell and pollute environment."

The DG said having industrial plants in designated places has several advantages including accessibility, environment protection monitoring, and census of industries countrywide, further explaining that urban centres will grow in good fashion by respecting all laws. He called for strong cooperation between public and private sectors in planning urban development.

Dr Gwamaka visited Chilya's Tubing, one of the plants producing carrier bags. The company owner, Spenas Masatu, welcomed the visit of NEMC delegation. "They are giving us very useful guidelines and education.

I am planning to relocate our industrial plant to the area set aside for industries," Masatu promised.



Tanzania Distilleries Limited plant manager Aranyaeli Ayo (L) presents to Pendamoyo Secondary School headmistress Margareth Noel a printer donated by the company to the school. The event was held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Consumption of milk in Tanzania falls short of global requirements

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

IT has been stated that milk consumption per-capita among Tanzanians, is less than 50 litres per year, falling short of the International Food Organization's mean annual requirement of 200 litres, raising health concerns for local residents.

That was revealed by the Acting National Milk Board Registrar, Dr Sophia Mlote during the occasion of launching the first Automatic Fresh Milk Vending Machine which has been installed in Arusha, indicating a new era of Fresh Dairy Consumption on the

go.

It will now be the third Milk ATM in the country, though all the three dispensers are located in the Northern Zone, the first two being installed in Moshi Municipality, Kilimanjaro Region and the third is the newly fixed machine at the TFA shopping mall area, opposite the Kilometer Market in Arusha City.

According to Dr Mlote, Tanzania has 32 million cattle, but among those 1.3 million are dairy breeds producing 2.7 trillion litres of milk per year, but milk consumption among country residents still leaves a lot to be desired.

The Automatic Milk Dispensing machines are installed under the project known as DAIRYPROFIT which is funded by the European Union (EU) in association with Technical Center for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (ACP-EU) CTA.

The project is being executed in Kenya, Ethiopia and Tanzania and here the scheme is implemented through Match Maker Associates. Mkani Waziri is the Consultant and Country Project Manager for MMA who revealed that so far they are covering the two regions of Arusha and Kilimanjaro.

The Milk Dispensers are capable

of storing 300 litres keeping the lot fresh for four days operating like the automated teller machines of commercial banks. Buyers only need to slot in money onto the machine to get the milk. "The new technology will, obviously, increase consumption of milk in the country because people will be able to buy the right amount of milk as per one's pocket affordability," pointed out Waziri.

Hundreds of Arusha residents scrambled to get a taste of milk being dispensed from the automatic machine, indicating the promising future for the new technology.

## Editors attend training on court decisions on media related cases

By Guardian Reporter

EDITORS, media managers and senior journalists from media outlets across the country are attending a specialized training on decisions on media related case organized by the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT).

Speaking during the start of the training on Wednesday in Morogoro, the Executive Secretary of MCT, Kajubi Mukajanga, said it is important for editors to be aware of the decisions on media related cases reached by the courts.

He said some editors are either not informed of such decisions or are simply afraid to acknowledge them.

According to Mukajanga it has taken media stakeholders a long time to start seeking legal interpretation in courts of law which are not friendly to the media.

It is only in last two years that media stakeholders began to take steps to seek legal interpretations, Mukajanga said, pointing out however that some media outlets shun publishing court decisions on the successes of stakeholders who dared to challenge obstructive laws.

He said he had once asked an editor of one mainstream newspaper why they did not publish the decision by East African Court of Justice (EACJ) which ordered the Tanzanian government to amend the Media Services Act of 2016 so that it reflects the positive spirit of the agreement of the East African Cooperation.

The editor, Mukajanga said, could not give clear cut answer.

Mukajanga went on to say that the courts are privileged and no one would be taken to task for reporting court decisions.

He explained that the stakeholder's objective in filing cases to challenge the anti media laws is not only to win but to raise important and substantive issues in the public interests.

He also spoke of the independent media council that the government intends to set up under MSA 2016, pointing out that initially there was jittery but as MCT- the self regulatory body set by media practitioners was established by law, there was no need for worrying.

The duties of the new council do not overlap with those of MCT but where necessary, we may seek explanation, he added.

On editors' guild, Mukajanga said it was MCT which mooted the idea of having editors' forum and succeeded in setting it up and the Council's intention was to ensure that the editors have a strong body.

He reminded the participants of the training that it was MCT which also started the Union of Tanzania Press Clubs (UTPC).

He said some of the regional clubs were branches of the Association of Journalists and Media Workers (AJM) which he was the founding chairperson while other regional press clubs were established under a project coordinated by the Council.

In the first session of the training the participants were enlightened on strategic litigation as Advocacy tool; Getting the message out.

Senior Programmes Officer of MCT, Humphrey Mtuy elucidated on why litigation was commendable and who can be involved and if there is a chance for more stakeholders to join.

Advocates Mpale Mpoki and Jebra Kabole led group discussions on identifying the strength and weakness of laws and identifying issues in cases.

The two advocates will also speak on decisions reached by regional and national courts which will include the decision on MSA 2016 by EACJ and High Court in Mwanza, and decisions on HaliHalisi, Mawia and Tanzania Daima and the Electronic and Postal Communication Act (EPOCA) and criminal cases.





CRDB Bank Plc officials including director Boma Raballa and Lake zone manager Lusing Sitta pictured in Mwanza city yesterday welcoming Mwanza regional commissioner John Mongella (L) to open a workshop organised by the bank to empower contractors based in the zone. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Extend essential services to rural girls, stakeholders told

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

PARLIAMENTARY Standing Committee for Social Welfare and Community Development has called for stakeholders engaging on empowerment of girls to expand their services to remote areas where many children face challenges.

The lawmakers suggested that since most of the children especially girls residing in rural areas face various challenges including access to secondary school education and lack of education on reproductive health and HIV/Aids.

Speaking in Dodoma on Wednesday during an introductory meeting between committee members and Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED) on Learners Guide Program which is implemented by the organization, Vice Chairman of the committee, Juma Nkama said girls in rural areas face many challenges compared to their counterparts in urban places. "You must expand your services to reach girls in Tanzania's rural villages, they are much in need of your services", he said.

Ludewa Member of Parliament, Deo Ngalawa commended efforts by CAMFED in empowering young girls especially providing them with life skills.

He suggested for the organization to establish its own modal school where a good number of school completers can be accommodated. He said establishment of the school will enable girl-pupils from across the country to acquire the life skills for their future development.

Special Seats MP, Amina Makilagi added that it was crucial to reach girls across the country. She urged the organization to also include HIV/Aids education in their programs since youth are among the most affected group.

Makilagi said national data indicates that 40 percent of HIV/Aids new infections are in youth, of the number, 80 percent are girls.

CAMFED Director, Lydia Wilbard said the organization provides educational

support to girls coming from poor families whereas it provides them with school uniforms, books, pens, boarding fees and disability aids.

The support is provided to pupils who have completed primary education and wishes to continue with secondary education.

She said they work to unlock new resources for girls' education, unleash new potential through young women's leadership as well as igniting new action to accelerate change.

According to Wilbard CAMFED operates in 32 urban and rural districts in Iringa, Morogoro, Tanga, Mwanza, Tabora, Shinyanga, Singida, Dar es Salaam and Coast region.

"We have introduced the 'young women's alumni network-CAMA' which had 22,115 members by 2018", she asserted.

She said the organization wishes to expand its services to all the district countrywide but it has limited resources. She said the demand is also high in urban areas where some of the girls do not have shelter. She said currently, the organization is funded by United Kingdom's-Department for International Development (DFID).

Former Learner Guide beneficiary, Stumai Kaguna said: "My secondary school education was fully sponsored by CAMFED. I also benefited with trainings on life skills and I am now passing the knowledge to my fellows in Morogoro region.

Kaguna called upon the government to support efforts by CAMFED so as to reach many girls.

In her presentation, Kaguna said the organization has trained 1,875 girls, among them, 1,345 are active. She said the total number of secondary schools reached is 403 and 44,200 children within school environment.

The Learner Guides work in partnership with schools, communities and district governments in creating a diverse network with the shared goal of keeping vulnerable children in school.

Started in Zimbabwe with 32 girls in 1993, In Tanzania the organization started operations in 2005 and was officially registered in 2006.

## Berlin wall: Tanzania applauds Germany for maintaining peace

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA has applauded the government of German for maintaining peace, three decades after the fall of Berlin wall that had divided the country into two parts.

Speaking at the event to mark the 30th anniversary since the fall of the wall in November 1991, the deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Damas Ndumbaro said the fall of the Berlin wall has witnessed the divided German rising gain with its citizen regaining freedom and unity.

"Tanzania has a lot to learn from German like the rise of democracy and

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

In the past they used to be enemies, but now Safari Hunting Companies and Rural communities had realised that they face common and bigger threats than their minor squabbles and joined hands to address them.

Representatives from rural communities in the sub-Saharan region have thus met onto a common platform with owners and directors of Safari Hunting firms at the ongoing African Wildlife Consultative Forum (AWCF) taking place in Zimbabwe.

Dr Maurus Msuha the director of wildlife in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism is leading the Tanzanian delegation to the AWCF taking place at Victoria Falls.

Also in the entourage is the deputy commissioner for tourism and business services, for the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), Imani Nkuwi who contacted 'The Guardian' on Wednesday said that African rural communities and safari hunting companies are meeting in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe for the first time.

"They are exploring how to co-exist harmoniously as well as cultivating and ensuring win-win business partnerships," he said, adding that both parties; hunting companies and African rural communities, have realised the importance of unity for mutually

maintaining peace among citizens," he said

Germans and Tanzanians gathered here on Wednesday evening to mark the fall of the iron curtain that had created division between the East and West Germany, and thus unearthing a new era in the European country and across the world.

He said German had been supporting the country's defence, natural resource, renewable energy, health, water among others. "Recently the German government through KfW provided financial support totalling 1277 million Euros to support water sector in Tanzania," he noted, adding

that in Military cooperation, the country supported the construction of Monduli military hospital, he said, vowing that "no walls whether visible or invisible will divide us."

The deputy minister emphasized that unity can make a nation stronger. He repatriated the country's commitment to work closely and strengthen bilateral relations with the Germans.

German's Deputy Ambassador in Tanzania Joerg Herrera announced that embassy office the country has officially opened a liaison office in Dodoma to facilitate cooperation and communication with ministries, the government institution as well as the

parliament. He explained that the historic event that saw the Berlin wall come down remains a symbol of joy to many Germans. "It is an emotional date to me, the wall changed my personality," he said.

German International Cooperation (GIZ) Country Director for Tanzania and East African Community, Dr Mike Falke, who shared his first-hand experience as a former soldier of the East German Army or German Democratic Republic (GDR).

He said being raised in GDR and too familiar with socialist systems, the fall of the wall he was subject into a new country.

## Hunting firms, communities join forces to tackle threats against wildlife hunting

beneficial business partnership as well as future survival.

It was pointed out at the AWCF meeting that hunting companies and African rural communities depending on Safari tracking face a collective threat from the western governments' ongoing threats to shut down hunting activities.

As it happens, Queen Elizabeth II recently hinted that the UK was contemplating to impose a ban onto trophy-hunting imports from Africa while elsewhere, precisely in the US State of California, African hunting trophies were almost outlawed.

Delegates attending the meeting also had a bone to pick with animal rights groups and other green activists that were again described to be threats against the continent's Safari hunting industry.

"In order to deal with the said threats we need to start addressing issues related to maintaining good hunting standards and showing how hunting promotes conservation of not only wildlife but biodiversity," said Esther Netshivhongweni, sustainable tourism advisor for Makuya Traditional Council of Limpopo Province South Africa.

Maurus Msuha the director of wildlife in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, said no outside forces had the right to dictate what is wrong or right in making use of Africa's resources.

"Countries in the SADC region have all fought and earned their freedom from colonial rules; the next challenge for us is to fight for the right to use our resources for the development of our own people. This needs political pressure from our governments to state clearly that we no longer want to be bullied and denied our sovereign rights to trade in our own wildlife products," said Dr Msuha.

For his part, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) representative, Julian Blanc proposed that it was high time to empower local communities so that they can organize themselves into regional hunting entities.

The director of Africa wildlife services of South Africa, Louis Ebersohn said that they intend to conduct research, working with universities and use the information to show the benefits of hunting to both wildlife and biodiversity conservation.



Handeni district commissioner Godwin Gondwe (2nd-R) presents a customary land ownership document to Msomela resident Josephine Ng'anga at a ceremony held at the village on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli



### Invitation for Tender (IFT)

1. Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a registered Non-Governmental Organization providing Integrated Reproductive and HIV health services country wide. Established in 1989 under Marie Stopes International, MST operates 11 health facilities and 59 outreach teams.

2. MST under projects fund invite sealed tenders from eligible bidders to provide the below mentioned tender. MST is encouraging all interested bidders to participate.

Tender No	Tender Description
MST/33/2019	Transportation of Medicine and Medical Supplies to MST's Centers and Outreach sites.

4. Interested and eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including respective e-mail address to [tenders@mst.or.tz](mailto:tenders@mst.or.tz) Attn: Procurement Lead. Bidders will be responsible for following up to ensure that MST has received the notification.

5. Within 48 hours of receiving the bidder's confirmation of receipt of IFT and intention to bid, bid documents in English language will be sent to interested bidders by e-mail. Interested bidders will be responsible for confirming receipt of bid documents within 24 hours after receipt of bid document(s). MST will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, preparation or submission of the bid documents.

6. Bidders must submit bid in a sealed envelope by hand, post or email by 3rd December 2019; Time 1600 HRS to: The Country Director, Marie Stopes Tanzania, Plot no. 421/422 Mwenge, Kijitonyama Area, P. O. Box 7072, Dar es Salaam, marked "Tender number MST/33/2019 Transportation of Medicine and Medical Supplies to MST's Centers and Outreach sites." **Email submission should be two hours before deadline.** Late submission of the bid will not be considered during evaluation.

Country Director  
Marie Stopes Tanzania  
P.O. Box 7072  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 2774991-4  
Fax: +255 22 2774990  
E-mail: [tenders@mst.or.tz](mailto:tenders@mst.or.tz)

**NOTE: MST takes any unethical action very serious, therefore; any form of fraud and/ or corruption is not tolerated in MST. If any of our staff ask for kickback and/ or commission, Please report the incident to the Country Director, Phone No. +255 757 170 042**

**For any enquires relating to this tender document please contact Procurement &Logistics Lead. Phone No. +255743495035**



## Change eating habits, do regular exercises to control blood sugar, medics tell Tanzanians

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MEDICAL doctors in the country have warned that there would be a huge increase in diabetic cases, if people will not change eating habit and do regular exercises.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a one-day free diabetic camp organised by Regency Medical Centre (RMC), doctors cited excessive smoking of cigarette, alcohol abuse as among factors contributing to the increase of diabetic cases in the country.

The camp was part of this year's World Diabetes Day commemorations, themed: "the family and diabetes" and has been deliberately chosen because managing diabetes impacts not only the patient, but also those closest to them.

Dr Emmanuel Maganga of RMC said there are many factors that can lead someone to be diabetic some of them being bad eating habit and lack of body exercises.

He said eating of fat food, alcohol, cigarette smoking contribute a lot in someone to be diabetic.

"You may find that someone stay in office the whole day and he use a car most of his time this is not a good trend you must at least walk 30-minute a day," he said.

Dr Maganga said late eating also is one factor that can contribute to the increase of diabetic cases because after dinner people must relax at least for two hours before going to sleep.

"Don't eat and sleep at the same time, you must spend at least two hours before going to bed to allow digestion system to take place, food must be digested first before you sleep," he said.

More than 500 people enjoyed free diabetic check up during the camp.

According to hospital administrator, Ashul Kanabar, RMC is next week expected to conduct another camp at the Dar es Salaam's Lohana Mahajan Community Hall.

Kanabar said: "We're doing free diabetic camp every year to commemorate World Diabetic Day held on every 14th of November."

He said they brought a team of doctors to the camp from the hospital who interacted with people and answer questions.

He said the doctors also advice people who live with diabetes on how they can maintain their status and live longer.

According to specialists, diabetes is a disease that occurs when blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high than insulin, a hormone made by the pancreas, helps glucose from food get into blood cells to be used for energy.



**Don't eat and sleep at the same time, you must spend at least two hours before going to bed to allow digestion system to take place, food must be digested first before you sleep**



Serengeti Breweries Ltd corporate relations director John Wanyancha (L) has a word with riders of the motorcycle taxis (bodaboda) in Moshi municipality yesterday. It was at the launch of a 'Don't Drink and Drive' campaign. Others include Kilimanjaro regional traffic police officer Zauda Mohamed (C) and regional traffic training officer Hamadi Hoza (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

RESIDENTS in Pemba District and its environs came out in big numbers for the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) campaign dubbed: 'Auction for Auction' aimed at enhancing public knowledge and awareness on the ongoing biometric registration.

TCRA is working closely with mobile network providers, Police Force's Online Crime Division, National Identification Authority (NIDA) and the Immigration Department for biometric SIM cards registration using NIDA

## Pemba residents out in big numbers for NIDA, SIM cards registration campaign

identification cards.

Since its inception the campaign has covered 17 regions including Zanzibar aiming is to cover the whole country.

Zanzibar's TCRA official Eshaphat Masinga said it is an opportunity for Pemba residents to visit Gombani grounds for registration of their SIM cards as well as for NIDA identification cards due to the presence of

communication stakeholders in one place.

He said the 'MNADA KWA MNADA TCRA' campaign aims to enforce security and safe use of telecommunication in the country.

He said for those who still do not have NIDA ID cards they should ensure they acquire them during the ongoing campaign.

For his part, TCRA's Senior Communication Officer, Mabel Masasi said they have received a huge response from the wananchi who need NIDA Id cards for biometric SIM card registration.

He said the wananchi should use the 'MNADA KWA MNADA TCRA' campaign as it also educates them on the better and safe use of mobile phones.



Total Tanzania Ltd CEO Jean Francois Schoepp has a quick worth with a Bajaj driver during the inauguration of Customers Service Week in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

## Zanzibar to establish own construction company

THE Zanzibar government plans to establish a construction company that will incorporate all its defense units in order to minimize construction costs of public buildings.

The government says the normal

practice of using foreign companies in construction of government buildings has to be avoided as it imposes huge construction costs.

Speaking after the end of his inspection visit of development

projects in Zanzibar North Region, Zanzibar's Second Vice president Amb Seif Idi said there is evidence on how SMZ units are well accountable whenever they are given construction tenders.

Amb Idi said engineers of the SMZ units need to be congratulated for their patriotism that made them trusted when given government tenders.

He said the government decided to

construct permanent houses instead of giving money to wananchi as compensation that would have ended for other uses.

The Head of construction project for the people in Dundua in Zanzibar

North Region Hawa Natepe said the project involves 31 houses supervised by Zanzibar Oil Regulatory Authority (ZURA).

The projects inspected by the Amb includes the construction of Oil and Gas Jetty at Dundua and reservoir for clean water at Kitope Village.

## TARI comes up with technology for better production of crops

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Uyole centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) in Mbeya Region has introduced Technology 55 approach to farmers in the region saying it is environmental friendly and capable of increasing income, employment growth and food security.

This was revealed on Wednesday this week by the director of Uyole TARI centre Dr Tulole Bucheyeki as he was explaining to journalists strategies on the improvement of farming through the new technology.

Dr Bucheyeki said the aim of the new technology is to help farmers abandon habitual farming that employs traditional seeds, poor farming equipment and non-use of agricultural experts.

He said the technology will be employed in strategic crops including maize, beans, potatoes, pyrethrum, wheat, sunflower, avocado, finger millet and soya.

He said: "We were deeply involved in various researches on crops and we succeeded to have seeds which on trial basis study farm produced better results and now we have come up with a new strategy for farmers."

He added that in the efforts to introduce the new technology in the farming sector Uyole TARI centre set aside 1b/- in the financial year 2019/2020 for the purpose.

Assistant Coordinator of National Maize Research Leonard Sabula said

70 percent of farmers in the country are engaged in maize farming and 46 percent of the country's land is cultivated with the crop, hence the new technology which will entail the use of modern seeds, use of experts and better farming equipment will help pushing up production.

Sabula said this year they are establishing 159 study farms for maize alone for farmers to learn there from.

A researcher on potatoes and yams Dr Dorah Mende said in her department they are inventing ten better seeds for potatoes and until now they have four types which are tengeru, meru, ahsante and shehereka.



**We were deeply involved in various researches on crops and we succeeded to have seeds which on trial basis study farm produced better results and now we have come up with a new strategy for farmers**



## TMDA impounds fake drugs worth over 12m/-

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

THE Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) has impounded some counterfeit essential drugs worth more than 12m/-. The seized drugs include Sulphadoxine Pyrimethamine-SP used in the treatment of Malaria.

Acting TMDA director-general Akida Khea said the authority conducted special inspection last month after it received information of availability of substandard and counterfeit medicines in the East African Community member states.

The seizure of the fake drugs was made possible after a thorough inspection by TMDA in partnership with the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) and Pharmacy Council of Tanzania between October 8-18 aimed at assessing the quality and authenticity of drugs and medical supplies at the market place across the country.

He said: "Other fake drugs include Sonadem Cream 10gm, Gentrison Cream 10gm, ALPRIM, Homidium Chloride, Cold Cap and TEMEVAC NDV strain 1 and 2."

During the inspection TMDA also seized a bunch of drugs and medical supplies worth over 700, 000/- which were sold at private pharmacies while their labels indicated that they were properties of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

"The culprits use the genuine names of medicines in forged labels to fake medicine with the purpose of making people believing that the medicines are certified for the human use," said Khea.

Alekunda Urjo from police headquarters-investigation department also said that all the suspects whose pharmacies were found with counterfeit medicines, substandard medical devices and unregistered medicines were arrested and will soon be taken to court.

TMDA conducted the inspection in collaboration with President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) in 33 districts in 20 regions.

About 209 pharmacies, 263 Accredited Drug Dispensing Outlet (ADDO), 27 health centres, 21 medical devices shops and 38 herbal and alternative medicines were inspected during the impromptu operations.



Singida regional commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi (L) and Manyoni District Council internal auditor Aderaide Rweikiza pictured at Masigati yesterday using a paper bag to keep cashewnuts taken from a demonstration farm in the village. Photo: Correspondent Dotto Mwaibale

## Minister Hasunga to officiate national ecological organic agriculture forum

By Aisia Rweyemamu

AGRICULTURE minister Japhet Hasunga is next week expected to officiate the National Ecological Organic Agriculture Conference (NEOA) that seek to link initiatives that support agro-ecosystems in the country for increased productivity, in quantity and quality.

Organised by Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in collaboration with French Embassy in Tanzania and the Ministry of Agriculture, the conference is geared towards engaging key players to exhibit and exchange best practices of ecological organic agriculture – which is at the core of sustainable development through its multi-dimensional impact.

The conference scheduled to take place in Dodoma from November 26th -27th bringing together about 200 participants from Tanzania and beyond.

FAO Representative to Tanzania Fred Kafeero said the conference aims to engage policymakers and stakeholders, from the government at central and local levels, parliament, development partners, civil society, private sector, academia, and media, to exhibit and exchange best cases on how ecological organic agriculture is at the core of sustainable development through its multi-dimensional impact.

Kafeero explained that the conference will discuss three thematic areas—food security and safety based on achieving resilient and sustainable production of safe food throughout the seasons through ecological organic agriculture practices and technologies.

Other area is resilience to climate change and environmental conservation by making grassroots communities more resilient to climate change and extreme weather patterns, including prolonged drought periods and heavy rainfall, rising sea levels and cyclones.

"There has been a growing interest in agro ecology in recent years as an innovative and sustainable response to the challenges facing our food and agriculture system," Kafeero explained.

He added that there is a need to bring agro ecology to scale and transform food and agricultural system to achieve zero hunger and multiple other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The conference aims to create a greater awareness of agro ecology and its advantages among key government policymakers, private sector and academia, he said.

Speaking at the event, the Ambassador of France to Tanzania, Frédéric Clavier, said: "We provide support to agro ecology in France, Europe and Tanzania because for France agro ecology is a key part of the global response to climate instability."

"Agro ecology offers a unique approach to meeting significant increases in our food needs of the future while ensuring no one is left behind," the Ambassador explained. Clavier explained that the agricultural practice make it possible to reduce the negative impacts of production on the environment, reduction of green house gases, limitation of pesticides and to preserve natural resources.

He further said: "The farmer must use what nature offers him to optimize his crops, while optimizing resources."

## TASAF beneficiaries plead for more appropriate entrepreneurship skills

By Getrude Mbogo, Arumeru

BENEFICIARIES of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in Arumeru district council, Arusha region have appealed for the government to furnish them with more prerequisite entrepreneurship skills that would enable them improve their small-scale income generating projects.

They made the request yesterday here when journalists visited

beneficiaries in various villages in the district to witness their challenges and progress.

A beneficiary at Sakila village in Kakiti ward, Sabina Nassari (55) recommended that besides encouraging beneficiaries to engage in income generating activities, the fund should also invest much of its efforts in furnishing the beneficiaries with entrepreneurship skills.

She also observed that before

enrolling to the programme most of the villagers were living a very vulnerable life but through TASAF projects their lives have improved.

Another beneficiary, Lightness Joshua urged the government to deploy more extension officers to penetrate to the rural areas to visit and educate TASAF beneficiaries on better agricultural practices, poultry and livestock keeping.

"What we mostly need from the government is to get more up-to-date training on business skills as well as capital and markets. We really commend TASAF for improving our lives, through various projects," she said.

Sophia Sarakikya, also one of the beneficiaries said: "I have children to take care off at home, but without TASAF i couldn't have managed to feed them and provide all the basic needs...These funds have helped me to construct a house, pay school fees to my children and buy balanced diet for my family."

For her part, chairman of Sakila TASAF Women Group Aris Nanyaro hinted that among major challenges the group was facing is lack of connection to financial institutions for them to acquire loans and capital.

"We have our small saving group here, but because we are pioneered to move out of poverty, we need more capital to improve our small businesses...our soap making project is also going well," she added.

Nanyaro also commended TASAF saying that the funds they receive help a lot in providing basic income security, guaranteeing healthcare and education to children.

TASAF coordinator in Arumeru District Council Boniface Mwilenga pointed out that the programme does not only provide funds to the beneficiaries but also train them on better use of the grants including establishing community savings and investments groups.

According to him, despite dishing out direct grants, TASAF has been investing in providing entrepreneurship and financial training for the beneficiaries to embark on small-scale income generating activities.

He said that through the programme poor families have received support which has transformed their lives.



Tanzania Coffee Research Institute managing director Deuseddit Kilambo inspects a coffee nursery at a farm at the Arusha-based institute, as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Mary Moshia



### MKOMBOZI COMMERCIAL BANK PLC TENDER NOTICE

#### CALL FOR PROPOSAL FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF VENDORS FOR YEAR 2020

- Mkombozi Commercial Bank has set funds for procurement of various goods, works and services during financial year 2020. It is intended that the funds will be used to cover eligible payments under various contracts.
- Mkombozi Commercial Bank now invites sealed bids from eligible service providers to apply for services below:

S/N	REFERENCE NUMBER	TYPE OF SERVICE
1	MKCB/RFP/001/2020	Office Equipment (note counting machines, safe and sorter)
2	MKCB/RFP/002/2020	Cleaning Services
3	MKCB/RFP/003/2020	Maintenance of office building
4	MKCB/RFP/004/2020	Fire extinguishers
5	MKCB/RFP/005/2020	Security equipment ( CCTV, Access control, Intruder, fire alarm services)
6	MKCB/RFP/006/2020	Debt collectors
7	MKCB/RFP/007/2020	Supply of ICT equipment
8	MKCB/RFP/008/2020	Maintenance and service of generator
9	MKCB/RFP/009/2020	Maintenance and service of Air conditioners and electrical installation
10	MKCB/RFP/010/2020	Supply of general stationery
11	MKCB/RFP/011/2020	Designing and Printing of branded stationery and promotional materials.
12	MKCB/RFP/012/2020	Consultancy services for branch fit out projects
13	MKCB/RFP/013/2020	Provision of property valuation services
14	MKCB/RFP/014/2020	Provision of fumigation and pest control services
15	MKCB/RFP/015/2020	Provision of courier services
16	MKCB/RFP/016/2020	Travel agency
17	MKCB/RFP/017/2020	Provision of CIT services
18	MKCB/RFP/018/2020	Maintenance of LAN and WAN
19	MKCB/RFP/019/2020	Construction of the building
20	MKCB/RFP/020/2020	Provision of Legal services

- Tender documents can be collected from Mkombozi Commercial Bank Business Services department located at the head office, Plot No. 40, Mansfield Street (Behind St. Joseph's Cathedral).
- Tender documents shall be issued to bidders upon presentation of proof of payment of a non-refundable fee of TZS 100,000/= being tender documents purchase fees. Payment shall be made through the bank account maintained at any Mkombozi Commercial Bank Branch; Account name: **OTHER INCOME TENDER FEES**, Account number: **30104080**
- All interested eligible bidders **may** obtain further information from Secretary, Tender Committee, Mkombozi Bank, email: aneth.usiri@mkombobizbank.co.tz copying info@mkombobizbank.co.tz
- Bids envelopes shall be clearly marked "RFP Pre-qualifications for vendors for year 2020" and delivered to the Secretary, Tender Committee, Mkombozi Commercial Bank, Plot No.40 Mansfield Street, P.O. Box 38448, Dar es Salaam.
- All bids must be submitted not later than **Wednesday 27th November, 2019** at 1400hrs. Bids must be hand delivered and dropped at tender box located at the main reception of Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc (instructions of the whereabouts of the tender box shall be made available to every person who will be assigned to deliver bids from relevant bidders).



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## We can turn vast population from a liability into an asset

THROUGHOUT history, communities and nations have grappled with challenges relating to what to do with the needs and interests of the population.

It is an especially relevant question today, considering how the spread of education and information is pressuring the state to respond to the voices of the citizenry.

The pervasive opinion is that belief in government remains solid, that the government is seriously addressing issues of relevance to the people but amid doubts regarding the level of the performance of some of its institutions in delivering on promises, expectations and projections.

This becomes all the more pertinent if the government is called upon to stare in the face the challenges population growth poses - which means that it has to cope with more and more people with respect to the provision of basic needs and essential services, including employment.

Problems with leadership, and not always population growth, commonly constitute a major reason for disorientation when it comes to economic policy formulation and implementation.

Some analysts argue that the population growth in Tanzania is too rapid relative to economic growth rate, and they believe this impedes efforts to ensure that children access better education and participate more meaningfully in development activities.

In other words, they would be much happier were the government to prevent population growth from outpacing or outstripping economic growth.

This is the view of those who see a big population as a liability, and not an asset, for the country. It is that having a small population is necessarily better as it would mean that every citizen would

end up with a big chunk of the national cake - if that cake were to be shared equitably among the population.

But that view could as well be skewed in that it could also mean that, thanks to through bad economic policies, the country would fail to use its vast population and the vast natural resources it is blessed with in propelling or boosting economic growth.

China has a whole quarter of the world's population. But not only is it relatively self-sufficient in food but it is slowly but surely beating most Western countries especially Europe, where birth control has been in use for decades.

Haphazard birth control has resulted in some countries having to depend on imported workforces, in turn creating needless friction in the society.

But come to think of it, Tanzania's population is as huge as generally argued - that is, relative to the country's surface area. Considering its abundance of arable land, several freshwater lakes and a rich number of other natural resources, particularly minerals, Tanzania can present itself as poor only in the minds of intractable pessimists.

It is estimated that nearly 70 per cent of the country's population is made up of people aged between 18 and 35 years - quite a potentially formidable workforce.

Yet, we all know the extent to which these young men and women contribute to seriously meaningful nation-building and why that extent leaves much to be desired!

Turning things around will be hugely costly, but it is a duty we need to fulfil through strategies we must devise as judiciously and implement as devotedly as the situation demands.

IT CAN BE DONE...but only we seriously ask ourselves - as a nation - why things are not moving to satisfaction, and decide to make things work.

## Relenting on SIM-cards switch-off will have come as a relief to many

HOME Affairs minister Kangi Lugola has informed the National Assembly that no SIM-cards will be switched off on account of not holding a national identification card, as relentlessly reiterated on mobile phones.

This change of gear comes as a huge relief and an easing of expectations on the part of millions of people in need of their mobile phones for all sorts of communications, and this was put under real peril.

People will obviously continue working to obtain their national identification numbers, and eventually cards, and continue registering their mobile phones in a more relaxed manner.

Still, there are plenty of internal rectifications that the National Identification Authority (NIDA) ought to do. Such changes are a must if the registrations are to proceed smoothly and rapidly without undue bother on SIM-card holders.

However, as it appears that most people have already obtained their identification numbers save for two or three million, it has on the whole succeeded.

It is hard to say why the NIDA-implemented registration differs so much from that of 2015 by the National Electoral Commission. One would enter the registration office, sit for photographs (and in the NIDA case provide some additional documents some of which are more or less unnecessary), put a thumb on some space, obtain the card - and that would be it!

NIDA may have reason to add some documents, but they scarcely have reasons to make people visit five, six or

seven different areas to obtain cards, and then wait six months for the cards.

But, as they say, all is well that ends well. So, for those who have received their national identification cards, the trouble was worth the effort as they can now sit back assured that they can open any doors they need to with those all-important cards.

Those who haven't obtained the cards may still have to go through the process as it stands, but hopefully other registration organisations like those handling passports or voting will not put the people in such trouble.

Incidentally, the key element there is the NIDA card or number, and after this has been provided, presumably most other requirements will be easy.

Yet, there is an unstated reason for these difficulties, that much as the government is doing much to fight corruption, plenty of such tendencies lie just beneath the carpet.

Corrupt practices usually do not depend on the broader ethos of an organisation but on its locality and whether a particular supervisor will be bothered by customer or client protests.

When it is certain that the respective officer will take it lightly, then it is evident that officials will go the whole hog, as clients will simply have to be reminded of the process to follow.

It will not be surprising if we start hearing that minister Lugola has earned a bad press with dishonest officials in NIDA and other public agencies.

These may have planned to prey on panic towards the end of the year and fleece people of tidy amounts of cash ready for the festivals. Any such deal has evaporated, hopefully. It is that simple.



## Concern for migrants at Europe's African land borders

By Alasdair Lane

IT'S hard to imagine the terror of this boy clinging desperately to the truck's undercarriage.

What horrors drove him to the Spanish border, we'll never know.

The 13-year-old dropped under the lorry's wheel, and his tiny body was crushed. Another life lost in Europe's unremitting migrant crisis; but not, like most, amid the misery of a Mediterranean crossing.

The child died attempting entry at one of Europe's two land borders with North Africa - frightening frontiers where experts warn that human rights are in free fall.

Enveloped by miles of multi-layer security fencing, the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla aren't easy to infiltrate - but still the migrants come. Nestled on the Moroccan coast, the cities offer what nowhere else can: the prospect of entering European Union member states without the madness of a maritime passage.

The border bristles with surveillance equipment and, on the Moroccan side, barbed wire. But so strong is the pull of a brighter future that 7,000 people risked crossing unofficially last year. While sea-borne migration has fallen markedly this year, the number of those running the gauntlet on land has tailed off only marginally.

The Spanish government hopes to address this imbalance with money. Over 30 million Euros worth of equipment - drones, scanners, radar technology - has been pledged to Morocco's border force, part of a larger 140-million-Euro fund committed by the EU last year.

The surge in Europe's material support correlates closely with a decline in migrant welfare, says Diego Fernández-Maldonado, a Melilla-based human rights lawyer.

Most of the migrants have journeyed north from sub-Saharan Africa, eventually reaching Nador - Morocco's nearest settlement to the Spanish enclave.

It was here that the 13-year-old boy died on October 26 this year. He likely came from one of the town's many makeshift forest camps, where migrants bide their time before attempting to cross.

Fernández-Maldonado says the dwellings are primitive and dangerous, especially for the children - of whom there are many.

It's a problem years in the making. In 2015, Amnesty International called on Spain to halt its cooperation with Morocco's authorities, having found evidence of alleged human rights abuses at the frontier.

Interviews with migrants revealed frequent raids on encampments by Moroccan security forces, with



stories of wrecked tents and burnt belongings. The group said that there were also accounts of individuals being summarily returned to Morocco before due asylum process had been completed.

Regrettably, the situation seems only to have worsened. "In Morocco, we don't believe there is a human rights consciousness when dealing with migrants and asylum seekers," says Fernández-Maldonado.

His organisation, the Jesuit Migrant Service (SJM), reported a scarcity of food and water in the forest camps - with scant supplies often under police guard.

From client testimony, Fernández-Maldonado also believes violence at the hands of Moroccan authorities to be prevalent - a point corroborated by the Moroccan Association for Human Rights (AMDH). Just last week, the group shared chilling images of a ruined camp, reporting that an injured man had been hospitalised amid mass arrests.

Among those detained were children, said AMDH, highlighting an issue of particular concern: the well-being of migrant minors. Spain is in the throes of an unaccompanied child crisis. Since 2017, the number of parentless youngsters on Spanish streets has more than doubled, now topping 13,000. A full two-thirds of these originate from Morocco.

In Melilla, the SJM's welcome centre

houses some 200 sub-Saharan women, many of whom have infants. In time, the group hopes that these families will be granted Spanish residency permits - but not all migrants make it this far.

A deal brokered between Spain and Morocco in 1992 allows for express deportations to an individual's point of entry. It's an opaque agreement, critics say, and one that has been invoked more in the last fifteen months than ever before.

The Spanish interior ministry disputes any allegations of wrongdoing, maintaining that their border policy is "in accordance with both domestic and international laws".

But Fernández-Maldonado is skeptical. He believes that international law's "non-refoulement principle" should be invoked.

Non-refoulement is a fundamental principle of international law that forbids a country receiving asylum seekers from returning them to a country in which they would be in likely danger of persecution based on "race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion".

Unlike political asylum, which applies to those who can prove a well-grounded fear of persecution based on certain category of persons, non-refoulement refers to the generic repatriation of refugees and other people into war zones and other disaster locations.

Non-refoulement is a principle of customary international law, as it applies even to states that are not parties to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol.

He notes that there are troubling stories of Moroccan police officers packing returnees onto buses destined for the country's arid south, adding: "They just leave them there with nothing, with only the clothes they have on."

Such accounts undoubtedly resonate in Spain, a nation known to welcome refugees. But there are signs that sentiment could be shifting.

Last week's General Election saw a surge in the far-right vote, with the populist Vox party doubling its seat share. Renowned for his fiery anti-immigrant rhetoric, Santiago Abascal - the group's leader, has called for walls to be erected around Ceuta and Melilla.

It's hard to say whether this would deter those seeking entry at Europe's land borders. A fortified frontier is frightening, but so too is a perilous maritime passage.

For those defending refugee rights in the Spanish enclaves, this is the real tragedy. Their cities offer hope of having asylum applications heard without risking undue danger. But too often at Spain's backdoor, desperate people are dying in search of a better life.

• Agencies



# TGNP spreads wings to empower Morogoro women economically

By Daniel Semberya

Tanzania is among the states that have ratified various International and Regional Instruments that aim at advancing the agenda for gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE).

The government's initiative to promote GEWE from household to sector and national levels is remarkable.

The government also has established various initiatives to empower women and other groups economically, such as women development fund (WDF) which entails allocation of four per cent of the local government authorities (LGAs) own source revenue to women development interventions and four per cent to youth development interventions and two per cent for people with disabilities.

Both policy and strategy initiatives have been focused to ensure that gender was mainstreamed into country policies, programmes and strategies.

As one of its initiatives to supplement the remarkable efforts to ensuring women are economically empowered, TGNP Mtandao have selected the Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneur Cooperative (SUGECO) to be a strategic partner for Women Economic Empowerment Projects (WEE) project.

Speaking to this paper in Morogoro over the weekend, Programme Officer, Mobilization and Outreach at TGNP Mtandao Deogratius



**Programme officer for mobilization and outreach at TGNP Mtandao Deogratius Temba speaks to women in Morogoro over the weekend about the coming capacity building training on business mindset and agribusiness knowledge empowerment workshop.**

Temba said that it was keen to ensure that the international and national commitments on GEWE were translated into actions.

"TGNP is aware that without women inclusivity on economic activities nothing sustainable in terms of achieving GEWE will be realised."

He said that TGNP was seeking to integrate WEE framework in knowledge centres (KCs).

This strategy come as an intervention to address the challenges of those KCs for failing to advance themselves and/or overcome community specific problems without attaining more toward economic independence.

Temba said that TGNP, having recognised that weakness, in collaboration with donors were introducing a new project that was meant to empower women in their established knowledge centres to enable them as a group become self-sustainable and each individual member in these centres also become economically empowered.

He further said "Economic em-

powerment is crucial for keeping KCs strong, sustainable and able to deliver quality movement building service at grassroots level."

Temba further noted that among other things the integration will focus on building capacity of KCs leaders and active members toward designing and establishing profitable economic activities as a new line of KCs service beyond movement building services.

Currently TGNP is implementing several strategies, approaches and activities to insure GEWE is being translated into actions at grassroots levels.

Among many initiatives is the implementation of Women Economic Empowerment Projects (WEE) focused on facilitating grassroots community to establish and operationalization effective and efficient Knowledge centres that support members to start and operate income generating activities in rural communities.

Temba mentioned the goal of the WEE project as to strength capacity of KCs for achieving eco-

economic sustainability and be able to provide economic empowerment services to its members by participatory way by facilitating the design, establishment and profitable operations of economic projects of the center and its members.

For her part, District Executive Council of the Morogoro District Council Rehema Bwasi welcomed that project in her district, saying it will economically empower women and impart them with entrepreneur knowledge to enable them become economically independent and stable.

She commended TGNP Mtandao for being in the fore front to ensure women particularly living in villages know their rights and are liberated from poverty.

Bwasi further noted that the empowering of those women with entrepreneur knowledge and skills would enlighten them and hence know how to address the challenges faced in their day to day economic activities.

According to Bwasi, women who will be empowered with entrepreneur skills by TGNP are from three wards namely: Bwakila Chini, Mngazi and Kisasi, which have knowledge centres in the district.

For his part, SUDECO's Operation Manager Joseph Masimba said that specifically, the WEE-Project intended to among many objectives: to build capacity of 25 KCs to design, establishment and operations profitably economic projects for the centers to achieve financial sustainability.

To transform more than 4000 women's and 1000 men's lives at grassroots level through economic empowerment activities, thus strengthen their ability to analyze, organize, engage, communicate and challenge dominant structures, ideologies and practices.

To establish Revolving fund to support KCs economic activities by providing revolving fund where necessary and proved needful.

According to Masimba, the WEE-Project scope was to facilitate 25KCs to achieve KCs sustainability agenda and individual KCs member economic empowerment.

Masimba who is also a Consult with TGNP, noted that the WEE-Project will be implemented in Morogoro, Shinyanga, Mbeya and Dar-es-Salaam.

The project implementation will start with pilot phase with three knowledge centres (KCs) and 40 KCs members. Phase one, eight KCs and 160 members, phase two, eight KCs and 160 members, phase-three, six KCs and 160 members.

Upon the established selection procedure and criteria within WEE-Project, 13 - 20 members shall be selected to attend capacity building training on business mindset and agribusiness knowledge empowerment workshop.

During training each KCs members shall work on early stages of resource mapping and idealisation for proposed KCs economic empowerment projects.

SUGECO and TGNP shall

work closely with KCs- WEE committee to develop project business plans (BP) for each KCs after a completion critical resource mapping. Such BP shall be linked to revolving fund service to access the missing resource.

Such linkage will follow revolving fund established policy. Then execution and operation of economic activities by KCs will start and RF recovery management will be executed also.

Then KCs start generating incomes by several economic activities and service provision. Implementation of this mode of operand will start with three KCs upon successful implementation scaling up to remaining 22 KCs will be done.

The TGNP women economic empowerment project expects to be implemented to at least 25 KCs. Toward implementation TGNP is proposing a pilot phase that will evolve selected three KCs only.

During the pilot phase TGNP and its partner will have an opportunity for monitoring, learning and Evaluation and make improvements before scaling up the project.

Furthermore, during the pilot phase all the stages of the project will be implemented under several design and arrangements in every stages as per stage needs and requirement.

Before the pilot project started, TGNP and SUGECO will organise and conduct a seven-day workshop on business mindset and

agribusiness knowledge empowerment workshop. Whereby selected KCs members shall attend the workshop.

The workshops will expose KCs members to mindsets and entrepreneurial skills for economic empowerment, Agribusiness, gender issues in agriculture value chains, nutritional sensitive agriculture for community agriculture technologies.

In 2010, TGNP launched TGNP's models of strengthening movement building at grassroots levels using Knowledge centers as a grassroots institution to recruit members, organise and undertake gender empowerment movement in respective locality and communities.

The success of knowledge centers has played a major role in propagating a transformative feminism agenda from the grassroots.

To date, KCs still present a strong opportunity for communities to rally around the education and promotion of gender and human rights, as well as issues unique to each community.

Moreover, TGNP's leadership over KCs enables the connections and insights to help TGNP become one of the foremost, evidence-based research centers on gender issues in the country. Currently there are over 25 Knowledge Centers in four regions which each has more than 200 members, where all operating at different levels and outputs.

# Central America a fertile ground for human trafficking

SAN SALVADOR

Central America is an impoverished region rife with gang violence and human trafficking - the third largest crime industry in the world - as a major source of migrants heading towards the United States.

Human trafficking has had deep roots in Central America, especially in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, for decades, and increasingly requires a concerted law enforcement effort by the region's governments to dismantle trafficking networks, and to offer support programmes for the victims.

The phenomenon "has become more visible in recent years, but not much progress has been made in the area of more direct attention to victims," Carmela Jibaja, a Catholic nun with the Ramá Network against Trafficking in Persons, told IPS.

"We know that El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala are countries with a heavy flow of undocumented migrants, which puts them at risk of becoming victims of trafficking," -- Carlos Morán

The objective is to strengthen capacities and good practices in the investigation of trafficking, especially when the crime is transnational in nature.

Morán and other participants in the meeting declined to talk about figures on the extent of trafficking in the region, due to the lack of reliable data.

## Civil society supports victims

In the countries of the Northern Triangle there are government efforts to develop victim care programmes, but they are insufficient and civil society organisations have had to take up the challenge.

Mirna Argueta, executive director of the Association for the Self-Determination of Salvadoran Women (AS Mujeres), told IPS that "the

Carlos Morán, Interpol security officer and a member of the Honduran police Cybercrime Unit, concurs.

"We know that El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala are countries with a heavy flow of undocumented migrants, which puts them at risk of becoming victims of trafficking," Morán told IPS while participating in a regional forum on the issue, hosted Nov. 4-8 by San Salvador.

The "Regional Seminar on Investigation Techniques and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons" brought together officials from the office of the public prosecutor, police officers, legal experts and other key actors and experts from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, the countries that make up the so-called Northern Central American Triangle.

The objective is to strengthen capacities and good practices in the investigation of trafficking, especially when the crime is transnational in nature.

Morán and other participants in the meeting declined to talk about figures on the extent of trafficking in the region, due to the lack of reliable data.



**Prosecutors, police officers, government officials, experts and representatives of social organisations from Central America are participating in a special seminar on human trafficking Nov. 4-8 to identify and coordinate joint efforts.** File photo

problem is serious, because we are facing networks with great economic and political influence, and victims are not being protected," and there are very few programmes to help with their reinsertion in society.

Her organisation has been working since 1996 with victims of trafficking, offering psychological and medical support, and is also an important ally of the Attorney-General's Office in victim protection work.

AS Mujeres collaborates with the police and prosecutors when victims have to be moved from one place to another, in the most secretive way possible, especially when judicial cases against organised crime networks are underway.

In the past it has also offered shelter to women victims of trafficking, but now the prosecutor's office does, said Argueta, who is also coordinator in El Salvador of the Latin American Observatory on Trafficking in Persons, which brings together 15 countries.

AS Mujeres' victim care programme includes, in addition to psychological

support, medical assistance which incorporates non-traditional techniques such as biomagnetism, performed by a physician specialising in this area, as well as massage and aromatherapy.

"Experience has shown us that with the combination of these three techniques, recovery is more effective, and care is more integral," said Argueta.

She added that since the programme's inception in 1996, it has served some 600 trafficking victims.

They currently offer support to five women, who IPS could not speak to because they are under legal protection, and providing their names or a telephone number for them has criminal consequences.

For the same reason, the public prosecutor's office also vetoed conducting interviews with victims under its protection.

AS Mujeres also promotes a self-care network.

"When the victim has gone through different stages, we integrate her with other women and they can share their experiences, making it less painful, and helping them with their reinsertion in

society," Argueta added.

She said many victims feel they are "damaged," or worthless, and they turn to prostitution.

Victims can spend anywhere from six months to two and a half years in the programme, depending on the complexity of each case. For example, there are women with acute problems of depression, suicidal thoughts and persecutory delusions.

According to figures from the United Nations office in Honduras, released in July, 80 percent of the victims of human trafficking in Central America are women and girls.

In El Salvador, 90 percent of cases involve sexual exploitation, according to official figures provided by the public prosecutor's office during the regional forum in San Salvador.

However, other types of trafficking have been detected, such as labour exploitation, forced panhandling and others.

So far this year, the prosecution has reported 800 victims, cases that are still open.

In Guatemala, in 2018, the Public Prosecutor's Office detected 478 possible victims of

human trafficking, four percent more than the previous year. There were 276 reported cases, also an increase of four percent.

Children and adolescents continue to be vulnerable to trafficking, as 132 children and adolescents were detected as possible victims of human trafficking, 28 percent of the total, 111 of whom were rescued.

They were victims of illegal adoptions, labour exploitation, forced marriage, forced panhandling, sexual exploitation and forced labour or services. But the most invisible form of trafficking, according to the prosecutor's office, is the recruitment of minors into organised crime.

## Gangs involved in people trafficking

Experts consulted by IPS point out that many trafficking cases are the product of a relatively new phenomenon: involvement in trafficking by the gangs that are responsible for the crime wave in the three Northern Triangle countries.

The gangs have mutated into bona fide organised crime groups, with tentacles in the illicit drug trade, extortion rackets, "sicariato" or murder for hire and now human trafficking, among other criminal activities.

In El Salvador, it is common to hear stories in neighborhoods and towns controlled by gangs about young girls who gang leaders "ask for," to be used as sex toys by the leaders and other members of the gang, and the families hand them over because they know that they could be killed if they don't.

But the gangs go farther than that, forcing their victims to provide sexual services for profit, another

aspect of trafficking.

Official figures from the National Council against Trafficking in Persons, which brings together government agencies to combat the phenomenon, indicate that in 2018 there were 46 confirmed victims, 43 police investigations and 38 judicial proceedings.

The trials led to four convictions and two acquittals. The rest are still winding their way through court, according to the Council's Work Report 2018.

The document also reported that the attention to victims included programmes to help them launch small enterprises, as well as measures of integral reparations for families of children and adolescents in the shelters.

Emergency response teams were also coordinated to provide assistance to victims, whether the women are foreigners or nationals.

El Salvador is part of the Regional Coalition against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, along with Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

Honduras has also provided support for economic reinsertion, offering seed capital to set up small jewelry businesses, among others, said Interpol's Morán.

At least 337 people from Honduras have been rescued since 2018, including 13 in Belize and Guatemala, according to a report by the Inter-Institutional Commission Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons in Honduras.



## JOHANNESBURG

This is a special year for all rights-based health advocates, as we celebrate 25 years of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

At the ICPD in Cairo in 1994, for the first time world leaders from 179 member states committed to the principles that underpin today's Sustainable Development Goals: non-discrimination and universality; the centrality of health, including sexual and reproductive health and rights; education; women's empowerment and gender equality; and the collective need to ensure environmental sustainability.

In the past 25 years, noteworthy progress has been made towards the realization of universal sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in most parts of the world, including in East and Southern Africa.

The East and Southern Africa region is home to more than 600 million people, with a third of its population between 10 to 24 years of age.

In the East and Southern Africa region:

Today, one in three women are using a modern family planning method, compared to less than one in ten in 1994. Higher use of modern family planning methods has enabled women to exercise their right to determine the timing and number of their children;

A woman's chance of dying due to pregnancy or childbirth has declined from a 1-in-20 risk during her lifetime to a 1-in-55 risk;

Many countries have criminalized gender-based violence (GBV), and have outlawed child marriage and female genital mutilation;

New HIV infections have declined by 20 per cent, while AIDS-related deaths have decreased by 44 per cent since 2010.

Considering the current

## When is universal health coverage good for attaining universal sexual and reproductive health and rights?



UNFPA-supported midwives ensured that this young woman gave birth safely in Bor Hospital, South Sudan. Photo: UNFPA South Sudan.

pace of progress, it could be concluded that the East and Southern Africa region is unlikely to achieve universal access to SRHR and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030.

Despite good progress, the promise of the ICPD remains to be fulfilled for millions of people in the East and Southern Africa region. One in five women do not have their family planning needs met.

Lack of contraceptive choices is producing sub-optimal health and fertility benefits. Although care during pregnancy, delivery and post-delivery has improved, the quality and cost of these services remain a challenge.

More women appear to be dying due to poor quality care than lack of access to care. One in three girls are being married by age 18, and almost one in six young women aged 20 to 24 years continues to experience gender-based violence.

Legal systems still have difficulty convicting perpetrators of gender-based violence. Ninety-eight per

cent of all new HIV infections are now occurring in just 15 countries, the majority of them in East and Southern Africa. These challenges are exacerbated in conflict, humanitarian and emergency settings.

Considering the current pace of progress, it could be concluded that the East and Southern Africa region is unlikely to achieve universal access to SRHR and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030.

In this context, the ICPD25 Nairobi Summit provides a great opportunity to recommit ourselves to redoubling our efforts to accelerate progress towards universal SRHR, and women's empowerment and gender equality - the unfinished agendas of the ICPD.

The good news is that, along with the steady but noteworthy progress towards SRHR for all, leaving no one behind, the momentum around Universal Health Coverage is also growing in the East and Southern Africa region.

The Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on UHC by Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments will further strengthen this momentum.

Through the high-level declaration, world leaders have committed to progressively achieve Universal Health Coverage, achieve universal access to SRHR, and stop the rise and reverse the trend of catastrophic out-of-pocket health expenditure by providing measures to ensure financial risk protection and eliminate impoverishment due to health-related expenses, by 2030.

Comprehensive SRHR services include: Modern contraception, Pregnancy, delivery and post-delivery care including fistula, HIV/STI/RTI, Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), Safe abortion and post-abortion care, Reproductive cancers, Sub-fertility and infertility treatment, Gender-based violence (GBV) and other harmful practices such

as female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, Sexual health and well-being, including menstrual health management (MHM)

Under the unifying framework of UHC, countries are prioritizing the provision of a set of essential health services aligned to country needs (i.e. a minimum essential UHC Benefit Package) and developing roadmaps to progressively expand the number of services included under a minimum essential UHC Benefit Package, as the economy and/or financing for health increases.

To generate resources for Universal Health Coverage, many countries are initiating innovative financing arrangements (e.g. pool health financing and pre-payment mechanisms), and to ensure that the cost of using health services does not put people at risk of financial harm, many countries are strengthening their financial protection mechanisms.

However, the current and, for many, proposed

minimum essential UHC benefit packages, financing and financial protection mechanisms do not include six out of the nine recommended essential SRH bundles of services (see Box 2, 4-9). In many countries, even if the remaining three essential SRHR bundles of services are part of UHC benefit packages, they are not fully covered under UHC financing and financial protection mechanisms.

The current momentum around UHC in the region should become a powerful framework for accelerating progress towards universal SRHR.

When comprehensive SRHR services are progressively integrated into the UHC benefit packages, and financing and financial protection arrangements ensure that the use of SRHR services does not expose the user to financial hardship;

When UHC policies and programmes prioritize integrated, people-centered delivery of primary promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health care, including SRHR, by following a life-course approach;

When UHC policies and programmes ensure that 'no one is left behind', with an endeavour to get essential health and SRHR services to those left furthest behind first, founded on the dignity of the human person and reflecting the principles of equality and non-discrimination;

When the opportunities and risks associated with existing/proposed UHC financing, delivery and financial protection arrangements are better understood and evidence-based measures implemented to minimize

undesirable outcomes, including development of evidence-driven country-specific policies on the role of the private sector in attaining universal SRHR and UHC;

When UHC policies and programmes strengthen the capacity of national governments to exercise strategic leadership and coordination, focusing on intra as well as inter-sectoral coordination and integrated, people-centered delivery; as well as strengthen the capacity of local authorities, and encourage them to effectively engage with their respective communities and stakeholders to accelerate progress towards universal SRHR and UHC.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) means that all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship

In the lead up to the Nairobi Summit ICPD25, everyday people have joined advocates and activists to passionately express what they march for under the hashtag campaign #IMarchFor.

What will you march for? I march for the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action - an agenda still to be fully realized - an agenda that includes at its core universal SRHR.

Achieving this target would require us to take advantage of the momentum of Universal Health Coverage. SRHR and UHC will need to become more entwined. Simply put - there can be no UHC without universal SRHR and vice versa. Together, let's march for the universal goal of UHC and SRHR for all, with no exceptions!

IPS

## By Leila Dougan

When you get to Mount Vema there's nothing much to see. From the deck of the Greenpeace ship the Arctic Sunrise, it's all seabirds, waves and the odd whale blowing in the distance. But below the surface, life abounds.

Daily Maverick joined the Greenpeace team for a week at sea, visiting Mount Vema, an underwater seamount, in November 2019. Mount Vema's highest peak reaches 7m below the surface and is a biodiversity hot spot, brimming with tropical fish, kelp and crustaceans. Their presence is a positive sign of recovery after the area was declared a marine protected area in 2007, following brutal over-fishing in previous decades.

Climate and Energy campaigner for Greenpeace Africa, Bukelwa Nzimande, says protecting the oceans against industrial fishing, oil drilling and deep-sea mining is an essential part of the fight against the climate crisis and Mount Vema is a prime example of an area that has been able to recover from detrimental human activity through legislation.

"We often speak about forests as the lungs of the planet, but we often forget that oceans also produce oxygen, trap carbon dioxide, and excess heat. The ocean is so important to our survival and it's shocking but only 1% of our high seas are

## Greenpeace in far-flung voyage to conserve hidden life



Pascal Van Erp dives at one of Mount Vema's summits and swims past one of its many kelp forests. Divers found rich marine life at Mount Vema, an underwater seamount 1,000km off the coast of Cape Town. Greenpeace is currently conducting a year long North to South Pole voyage, conducting research on the high seas and calling for 30% of it's protection by 2030. Mount Vema is one of their stops, a seamount believed to have been over-fished until 2006, when it was declared a marine protected area. Scientists have concluded that the area is recovering well thanks to the ban on fishing. Photo courtesy: Greenpeace

protected," says Nzimande.

Greenpeace launched a global campaign called Protect the Oceans, to run from 2019 to 2020, to secure a Global Ocean Treaty at the United Nations, which would protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030, preserving vulnerable marine life and encouraging sustainable fishing practices.

As part of the campaign, Greenpeace launched a Pole to Pole voyage from the Arctic to the Antarctic to undertake research and investigations. Their stops have included the Arctic, the Lost City in the mid-Atlantic, the Amazon Reef, which stretches from Brazil to French Guiana, and Mount Vema, 1,000km off the coast of South Africa.

According to Greenpeace, a Global Ocean Treaty could help protect vulnerable marine life

and provide a legal framework for the protection of international waters, creating marine sites free from human activity beyond national waters. More than 40% of the planet is high seas, areas beyond national jurisdiction, and Nzimande says they're fighting for the United Nations Global Ocean Treaty to be "a standard legally binding document that all nations will be called to account for".

"Us protecting and pushing for the protection of the high seas is ultimately protecting our oceans and also human health. Human life is also maintained because the high seas assist in replenishing fish stocks along the coast. So it's really pushing for a connected network that will ensure that the high seas and our coastal areas are healthy," says Nzimande.

In a report compiled by ma-

rine biologists and academics at the University of York, University of Oxford and Greenpeace titled 30x30: A Blueprint for Ocean Protection, researchers broke down the global oceans to show what a global network of ocean sanctuaries may look like. Marine biologist and on-board campaigner Thilo Maack was one of the scientists who helped draw up the blueprint and says that our survival depends on the health of the oceans.

But even if the tide turns and sites are legally protected, implementation on the high seas is a tough ask. Even in an already protected area like Mount Vema, it's clear that fishing vessels continue to lay down traps on the

abundance of the gourmet delicacy, Tristan rock lobster, otherwise known as crayfish.

"On our way here we saw [on the satellite tracks] two long-liners over Mount Vema for 24 hours. We passed by one of these vessels and asked, what did you do there? They said they were moving provisions from one ship to the other, but a different explanation could be that they were fishing here for 24 hours. No one is really controlling this ban on bottom fishing and that's what we are calling for," says Maack.

Mount Vema was discovered in the 1960s and has been protected by the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fisheries Resources in the south-east Atlantic Ocean since 2007, but Greenpeace divers found abandoned fishing gear, including fishing nets and crayfish traps, which they refer to as "ghost gear". Some of the nets were no more than a year old and continue to trap marine life long after the crew have departed.

There are an estimated 640,000 tonnes of ghost gear that enters the water every year which makes up 10% of plastic waste in the ocean, according to a report released by Greenpeace. Ghost gear comes from legal fishing but also illegal and unregulated fishing and includes nets, traps and lines

found in the deep ocean as well as on seamounts, including Mount Vema.

Bottom feeders like the Tristan rock lobster caught in these traps and not removed from the ocean die and become bait for more lobster, "so this trap keeps on fishing, that's why we call it ghost gear," says Maack. Almost 70% of ocean areas are under severe pressure from climate change, with ecosystems and biodiversity showing rapid decline due to human impacts, according to the report Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, released by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Sea surface temperature changes, ocean acidification and ultraviolet radiation are just some of the shifts that have altered the ocean.

"Everything is getting worse. The sea level is going to be higher than we thought, the temperature is higher than we thought, ocean acidification is taking its toll," says Maack.

"The concept and the policy on the high seas is that everything is allowed, unless in certain circumstances it is forbidden, and from our perspective it should be the opposite, everything should be forbidden and should only be allowed if a company can prove that for instance exploring gas or oil is not doing any harm to the

environment," he says.

In a report released this year, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services stated that nature is declining globally at rates "unprecedented in human history" and the rate of species extinction is "accelerating, with devastating impacts on people across the globe and the push for sustainable fishing is becoming urgent".

Moreover, according to the 2018 Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture report, there will be nine billion people to feed by the middle of the 21st century, with fish being an important component of diets globally. The report notes that there was a total of 170 million tonnes in fish production in 2016, with most of it being used for direct human consumption. The persistence of over-fished stock is of particular concern, with an estimated 43% of tuna being fished at "biologically unsustainable levels in 2015". The report highlights 2020 as the target to end illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

But Mount Vema and seamounts spread around the high seas represent hope for the big blue, and humankind. Maack says that seamounts create sanctuaries for marine species, their safe distance from the coast allowing them to replenish undisturbed.

DM



# Dar firms launch one-month campaign against diabetes



A healthcare provider (2nd-R) attends to a person with diabetes at the launch of a one-month campaign against the non-communicable disease organised by Abel & Fernandes Communications and AAR Healthcare Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM-based healthcare firms—AAR Health care center, Abel & Fernandes Communications and other stakeholders yesterday launched a one-month campaign against diabetes by creating awareness on this non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

The 'Diabetes Tanzania campaign' is meant to improve the health and quality of life of people with diabetes.

Speaking soon after launching the campaign, Dr Akil Msei from AAR Healthcare Centre said yesterday in Dar es Salaam: "Diabetes is a chronic disease and is affecting many

people. There are two types of Diabetes; Type 1 and Type 2. Type 2 is preventable and this is what we are trying to address so that we can prevent the increase of such cases."

He said the campaign was formed with an interest to improve the lives of people with diabetes will be starting a month's campaign to engage people in diabetes advocacy and provide educational resources.

"We'll have road campaigns, and we're planning to visit different areas of Dar es Salaam including Tegeta and Kariakoo with several stakeholders providing mobile clinics," he said.

"The campaign is a tentative

welcome for World Diabetes Day which is on 14th of November 2019 whereby we will have mobile clinics as well as a breakfast event whose menu will be considerate of what an individual who has diabetes should eat with all the relevant stakeholders," he said.


For his part, Executive director of Abel & Fernandes Communications, Fatma Fernandes said the burden of diabetes in Tanzania is growing, with over 4.2 million known cases of people now living with diabetes in the region.

"Abel & Fernandes has understood the problem, and has resorted to make plans to educate people about the disease so that they can get

proper treatment and care. To be able to achieve its objective of awareness, Abel & Fernandes aims to work with doctors and experts to ensure that proper care is given to the affected in all the hospitals in the country.

"Action starts now", the first step for the government to advance diabetes care is to increase their efforts to establish national strategies for diabetes, with full implementation and regular monitoring.

"This would also allow for better use of resources, which is essential if the region is to build a successful response to the diabetes epidemic in Tanzania," she said.



**WAJIBU – INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**

**DATE: 15TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

**RE – ADVERTISED - Tender No. 2019/03**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Terms of Reference for the Supply and Installation of the Management Information System (package) for management of Project and Finance of WAJIBU

Title of the Assignment:	Supply and Installation of the Management Information System (package) for management of Project and Finance of WAJIBU
Application Deadline:	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2019
Languages Required:	English
Duty Station:	Dar es Salaam
Duration of the Assignment:	Two months including review of the WAJIBU's internal processes, customization of the proposed MIS, supply and installation, training to users of the MIS and initial standby support to the MIS pack.
Warrant:	Supplier should provide a two years warranty
Client:	WAJIBU Institute of Public Accountability
Starting Date:	13 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 (or as will be agreed between WAJIBU and the Supplier)

**I. Introduction:** WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability is a think tank organization that promotes financial accountability and transparency in the area of public financial management which has been registered under the NGOs Act 2002 with registration No. 00NGO/R2/00056 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

WAJIBU's purpose is to foster an environment that promotes transparency, accountability, transparency and good governance in the country. From its establishment, WAJIBU has implemented various activities aiming at information generation, information dissemination, training, consultancies and government engagements to advocate for improvement in the public financial management based on analysis that WAJIBU is doing on the country's oversight institutional reports.

Although WAJIBU has various guiding documents, policies and regulations to manage its activities, the organization still has gaps in its systems. The existing key organization documents include: Strategic Plan 2017-2021, Financial Policies and Procedural manual, Human Resource Manual and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework. Despite the existence of these guiding governance documents, WAJIBU lacks an MIS tool which can enable it to systematically plan activities, execute, report and monitor results for reporting purposes (quarterly, by-annual and annual).

To implement its strategic plan efficiently and effectively, WAJIBU needs to have strong and well-connected management information system to support the program processes and management of its activities. The management information system should be able to provide an interface through which various departments such as Programme department, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning department, finance and administration department will be able to interact and give access to the Executive Director to manage the institutional processes.

WAJIBU has in place financial management software package but it is not linked with program management nor does it interface with WAJIBU's monitoring and evaluation framework. This challenge has resulted in having unrealistic annual operational plans hence leading into poor documentation and results reporting.

The requirements for the system, includes modules on program management (planning, execution, reporting including monitoring and evaluation tools). Also modules on human resources management, procurement and financial reporting. This integrated system is required by WAJIBU and should be accessible via internet connection with strong security features.

**2. Objectives of the Assignment:** The main objective of the procurement is to Supply and Installation of the management information system (package) for management of Project and Finance of WAJIBU.

**3. Scope of Work:** The scope of work includes;

- Review of WAJIBU's internal program documents and processes, financial management and MEL tools,
- Based on the review, supply and install customized MIS package for program, finance and MEL management and reporting, and
- Train WAJIBU's staff on how to use the MIS software package and advise on the future maintenance procedure.

**4. Methodology**  
The methodology for the procurement includes but is not limited to;

- Work closely with WAJIBU's staff,
- Review WAJIBU key documents (Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021, MEL framework and tools, Communication strategy and Financial Manual etc.),
- Desk review of secondary data related to WAJIBU's program, finance and MEL processes

**5. Timeframe and deliverables**  
Timeframe: Three months including standby services

Deliverables	Participants	Deadlines
i. Start-up meeting (WAJIBU's Office)	1. WAJIBU 2. Selected Supplier	10th January 2020
ii. Report of the review of WAJIBU's internal processes and the proposed Management Information System.	3. Selected Supplier	15th January 2020
iii. Supply and install the proposed Management Information System.	4. Selected Supplier	30th January 2019
iv. Training to WAJIBU's staff on how to effectively use the Management Information System	5. Selected Supplier 6. WAJIBU	5th February 2020

**1. Cost of the procurement:** This will be negotiated with supplier after submission of their tender bid document (interpretation of Terms of Reference) technical and financial and selection of the qualified supplier to carry out the assignment. All costs must be in Tanzanian Shillings (TZS).

**2. Payment:** The procurement fee will be paid in three installments as follows:

- 1st Installment – 30% of the procurement fee after submission of the report of the review of WAJIBU's internal processes and the proposed Management Information System.
- 2nd Installment – 40% of the procurement fee is payable after the consultant has supplied and installed the Management Information System.
- 3rd Installment – 30% of the consultancy fee is payable after the consultant has satisfactorily conducted training to WAJIBU's staff on how to use the installed Management Information System.

**3. Bidding Procedure:** Bidders are required to submit the tender bidding documents (interpretation of Terms of Reference) to WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability on or before 29th November, 2019. A firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection as per the marks (weight) provided here under.

**a. The minimum Technical Score:** The firm shall be required to score 70% points for it to pass.

- Firm's general experience, reputation and experience in previous similar assignments (30%)
- Understanding of the terms of reference, methodology and the overall quality of the proposal (30%)
- Qualification of key personnel (40%)

**b. Generally, the overall assessment will be based on:**

- Technical Proposal – 70%
- Financial Proposal (Cost) – 30%

The tender bidding documents should include but not limited to:

**Part A: Technical:**

- Firm's general experience, reputation and experience in previous similar assignments: The firm shall have experience of five years and provide evidence of conducting similar assignment for the last three preceding years in the NGO Sector.
- Understanding of the terms of reference, methodology and the overall quality of the proposal: The firm shall be able to interpret the terms of reference, propose Methodology (including the proposed system name) and develop the work plan.
- Qualification of key personnel: The firm shall be able to formulate a team of at least three experts in the following composition:
  - Lead Consultant with experience of more than five years in system development and programming, who has supervised performance of the similar assignment for the preceding three years. The lead consultant must possess at least Master Degree in relevant field.
  - Two experts with experience of more than five years each in system development and programming, who have performed the similar assignment for the preceding two years. The two experts must possess at least first Degree in relevant field.

Copy of CVs Must be attached to the technical proposal.

**Part B: Financial and Administrative Aspects:**

- Budget,
- Scanned copy of bidders' TIN number or other relevant registration certificates,
- Scanned copy of bidders' Business Registration and license, and
- Scanned copy of bidders' Tax Clearance certificate for any of the past two years.


**4. Address:** The tender bidding documents should be submitted in two copies hard and soft to the following address:

Address: Executive Director  
WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability  
P.O. Box 13486,  
Dar-es-Salaam – Tanzania.  
Ruhinde Road, Kumbukumbu Street, House No. 20,  
Block 41 Kinondoni

Location: Wajibu.institute@gmail.com

Email: Wajibu.institute@gmail.com

Tel: +255 22 266 6916



**WAJIBU – INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**

**DATE: 15TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

**RE – ADVERTISED - Tender No. 2019/04**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Ruhinde Road, Kumbukumbu Street, House No. 20, Block 41 Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam.  
P.O. Box 13486, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania | Tel: +255 22 266 6916  
Email: wajibu.institute@gmail.com | Website: www.wajibu.or.tz

**Assignment Title:** Mid – Term Review of the Implementation of WAJIBU's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021

**Contract Duration:** 30 working days

**Location:** Dar es Salaam

**Delivery/Product:** Mid – Term Review Report of the Implementation of WAJIBU's Strategic Plan 2017/2021

**1. About WAJIBU:** WAJIBU is a recently established institution founded with the purpose of fostering an environment that supports and promotes public accountability and good governance in Tanzania. In particular, the Institute's founders believe that mobilizing public engagement with duty bearers on issues of public accountability and good governance is key to ensuring that the accountability level achieved so far in the country is enhanced for future economic growth of the country.

WAJIBU was co-founded by the retired Controller and Auditor General (CAG) of Tanzania, Mr. Ludwick Ujoh and the Inland Revenue Authority of Tanzania (IRAT) Director of Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) Mr. Yona Kiligaga.

**2. WAJIBU's Vision:**  
"Public resources effectively managed to benefit all citizens"

**3. WAJIBU's Mission:**  
"To develop into a think tank that provides value added services in fostering accountability and good governance in the country"

**4. Strategic Plan 2017 - 2021:** WAJIBU developed its first strategic plan which covers five years from 2017 – 2021. The strategic plan has put forward five strategic objectives which provide direction of WAJIBU's interventions. The strategic objectives are:

- To increase accessibility of accountability information by generating and disseminating tailored information to suit stakeholders needs and capacity.
- To strengthen capacity of citizen and their representatives to use information to demand for proper use of public resources and to respond to findings and recommendations reported by the country's oversight organs.
- To engage strategic government actors to influence policy change and implementation.
- Enhancing collaboration between state and non-state actors in the fight against corruption to improve accountability in the country, and
- WAJIBU will establish as a professional and respected think-tank on the country's accountability and good governance agenda.

**5. Strategic Outcomes:** In the period of the first five years, through the implementation of its strategic objectives, WAJIBU expects to achieve five strategic outcomes as listed below:

- Duty bearers are using oversight recommendations to improve their policies and practice of public financial accountability.
- Citizens through CSOs are actively championing and demanding for accountable collection and use of public resources.
- Strategic stakeholders are actively engaged through platforms that enable consistent follow up and dialogue on issues of public accountability.
- State and non-state actors are actively engaged in the war against corruption to improve accountability in the country, and
- WAJIBU to develop itself into a well professional and respected think-tank on the country's accountability and good governance agenda.

**6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning:** WAJIBU conducts monitoring in its interventions to primarily enhance the understanding of what works in which situations and improving program design and implementation. WAJIBU has a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Results' framework for systematic monitoring of Program assumptions and risks, in particular, to understand contextual changes and how they imply to program plans and activities.

**Monitoring takes place at the following levels:**

- Output level – what the Institute has delivered: At this level, WAJIBU monitors and reports on outputs produced directly by itself and its partners, and
- Process level – what has this activity achieved? In particular, WAJIBU monitors and reports on what works and doesn't, and how delivery of these outputs contributed towards the achievement of the objectives.

**7. About the Assignment:** The current WAJIBU's strategic plan covers the period of five years from 2017-2021 and the year 2019 is the third year of implementation. The current year (2019) therefore, put WAJIBU mid-way in the implementation of its SP and hence the need to conduct an external mid-term review for the purpose of re-directing and/or improving the programs' design in terms of its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency impact and sustainability. The review will also look at the institutional capacity to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

**8. Purpose of the Review:** The review should provide useful information, analysis and recommendations on programs' implementation as well as internal systems and procedures to re-direct and/or improve interventions. Specifically, the review should be able to:

- Inform Management decisions on strategic positioning for the remaining part of the Strategic Plan implementation,
- Serve as an input to WAJIBU's learning and future reflections on the full implementation of the strategic plan 2017 – 2021.
- Look at the progress towards achieving WAJIBU's strategic outcomes as listed in section 5.
- Inform our funding partners: the results which may be used to evaluate programs and funding partnerships,
- Act as a springboard for the preparation of the next SP for 2022 to 2026, and
- Draw lessons learnt from the implementation of the strategic plan to date.

**9. Users of the Results:** WAJIBU envisages the results to be used by relevant state and non-state actors. The following are the possible primary and secondary users of the results:

- WAJIBU as the organization is the primary user of the evaluation report,
- Donors who are funding WAJIBU in basket funding and project funding, (DFID – ACT2 programme, American Donor, GIZ – GFG Project, Taweza, The Foundation for Civil Society and Royal Embassy of Canada).
- The government agencies and officials especially oversight institutions e.g. NGO Registrar, National Council of NGOs (NACONGO) etc. and local government including, and
- Higher learning Institutions and Media.

**10. Scope and Criteria for Review:** The review will cover all five strategic objectives. The consultant will collect information as a sample basis to be selected from a group of all the boundary partners who includes Oversight Institutions, Local Government Authorities, and CSOs working at national and local level, Higher Learning Institutions, Media Practitioners, Ministries and Public Authorities.

The focus will be on the Relevance, Efficiency, Effectiveness, Impact, Gender and Sustainability of WAJIBU's interventions as the review criteria. Each criterion, will be assessed using the pre-determined questions listed below, which are to be worked out further by the consultant, as part of the inception report. The questions should include and not limited to:

- Relevance:
  - To which extent has WAJIBU's publications and programmes conformed to the needs and priorities of the users, beneficiaries and donor policies?
  - Are the interventions in line with development policy and administration systems of the government of Tanzania?
  - Are there potential risks with WAJIBU's future operations?
  - With the current political context, how do government, donors and WAJIBU's strategic partners view WAJIBU's role?
- Efficiency:
  - What is the general impression on value for money in relation to results achieved so far?
  - How flexible were the programmes in adapting to changing needs?
  - How did programmes coordinate with similar interventions within and outside WAJIBU to encourage synergy and avoid overlap?
  - What was WAJIBU's operational effectiveness in achieving the results?
  - What is the added value of WAJIBU's interventions relative to other CSOs on the accountability agenda?
- Effectiveness:
  - To which extent have each programme contributed to intended outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?
  - Is there a suitable M&E framework to monitor and support the implementation of the targeted results?
  - Are the strategies and tools used in programmes implementation effective?
  - To what extent have lessons learned from what works well and less been used to improve and adjust programme implementation?
  - What are major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives?
  - How has the learning component of WAJIBU impacted on its theory of change?
- Impact:
  - What is the overall impact of the each programme in terms of direct or indirect, negative and positive results?
  - Did programmes take timely measures to mitigate unplanned negative impacts? What was the result?
- Gender:
  - How is the strategic plan implementation mainstreaming gender in its interventions?
- Sustainability:
  - Is it likely that the benefits (outcomes) of WAJIBU's programmes are sustainable?
  - How far was the program in conformity with local and institutional structures?
  - Have the WAJIBU's programmes leveraged knowledge and interventions to ensure sustainable impact?
- Coordination: The overall coordination of the process will rest within WAJIBU through the established review taskforce. The taskforce will address all logistical arrangements from the development of terms of reference through to having a final review document. The draft terms of reference will be shared with all funding partners for input.

**12. Proposed Methodology:** The main part of review work will be based on qualitative and quantitative engagements – interviews and focus group discussion with boundary partners at both local and national level / state and non-state actors. The review will also schedule meetings with staff members, Management and the Board. Other sources of information should include desk review as the consultant will also review existing documents such Annual Reports 2017, 2018 and Mid-Year Report of 2019. The Parliament's Hansard will be among the documents to be reviewed. The Consultant will develop data collection tools addressing the entire context and discuss with the review taskforce. Media assessment such as analysis of newspapers, Radio and TV programs and spots shall be conducted to obtain vital results. A feedback workshop will be organized where the evaluator will provide feedback to WAJIBU and selected stakeholders before the final report is produced.

**13. Time schedule and Key deliverables:** It is expected that the timeframe and work plan will be presented in the tender document and further detailed in the inception report. The review and other related assignments shall be carried out from 1st to 30th October 2019. The timing of any field visits, surveys and interviews need to be settled by the evaluator in dialogue with the main stakeholders during the inception phase.

The table below lists key deliverables for the review process. Deadlines for Draft review report and final report must be kept in the Inception Report, but alternative deadlines for other deliverables may be suggested by the consultant and negotiated during the inception phase.

Deliverables	Participants	Deadlines
1. Start-up meeting (WAJIBU's Office)	• WAJIBU • Reviewer • Interested Funder	2 <sup>nd</sup> January, 2019
2. Review of methodology/ tools	• WAJIBU • Reviewer • Interested Funder	4 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
3. Literature review	• Reviewer	4 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
4. Draft Inception report	• Reviewer	7 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
5. Comment on the draft inception report	• Reviewer • Interested Funder	9 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
6. Final Inception Report	• Reviewer	11 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
7. Field Data collection	• Reviewer	12 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019
8. Draft evaluation report	• Reviewer	21 <sup>st</sup> January, 2019
9. Comments from intended users to evaluators	• WAJIBU • Interested Funder	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
10. Final evaluation report	• Reviewer • WAJIBU	29 <sup>th</sup> January, 2019

**14. Content of the Final Report:** The reviewer shall submit 2 copies of the review report in both hard copy and electronically (soft copy). The review report should clearly present the findings, lessons learned and recommendations. The report structure shall be as follows:

- The Executive Summary,
- Definition of terms,
- Introduction,
- Situational Analysis,
- Methodology,
- Findings and Cases,
- Lessons learned,
- Recommendations/proposed areas of amendments with time bound i.e. ones which could be implemented before 2021 and the ones for next strategic plan/long-term, and
- Annexes.

**15. Cost of the consultancy:** This will be negotiated with consultants after submission of their tender bid document (interpretation of Terms of Reference) technical and financial and selection of the qualified consultant to carry out the assignment. All costs must be in Tanzanian Shillings (TZS).

**16. Payment:** The consultancy fee will be paid in three installments as follows:

- 1st Installment – 40% of the consultancy fee after submission of the final inception report.
- 2nd Installment – 30% of the consultancy fee is payable after the consultant has submitted the draft review report.
- 3rd Installment – 30% of the consultancy fee is payable after the consultant has submitted the final review report.

**17. Bidding Procedure:** You are required to submit the tender bidding documents (interpretation of Terms of Reference) to WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability on or before 29th November, 2019. A firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection as per the marks (weight) provided here under:

**a. The minimum Technical Score:** The firm shall be required to score 70% points for it to pass.

- Firm's general experience, reputation and experience in previous similar assignments (30%)
- Understanding of the terms of reference, methodology and the overall quality of the proposal (30%)
- Qualification of key personnel (40%)

**b. Generally, the overall assessment will be based on:**

- Technical Proposal – 70%
- Financial Proposal (Cost) – 30%

The tender bidding documents should include but not limited to:

**Part A: Technical:**

- Firm's general experience, reputation and experience in previous similar assignments: The firm shall have experience of ten years and provide evidence of conducting similar assignment for the last five preceding years in the NGO Sector.
- Understanding of the terms of reference, methodology and the overall quality of the proposal: The firm shall be able to interpret the terms of reference, propose Methodology and develop the work plan.
- Qualification of key personnel: The firm shall be able to formulate a team of at least four experts in the following composition:
  - Lead Consultant with experience of more than ten years in conducting similar or other related assignments, who has supervised performance of the similar assignment for the preceding three years. The lead consultant must possess at least Master Degree in relevant field.
  - Three experts with experience of more than five years each in similar or related assignments, who have performed the similar assignment for the preceding three years in the NGO Sector. The two experts must possess at least first Degree in relevant field.

Copy of CVs Must be attached to the technical proposal.

**Part B: Financial and Administrative Aspects:**

- Budget,
- Scanned copy of bidders' TIN number or other relevant registration certificates,
- Scanned copy of bidders' Business Registration and license, and
- Scanned copy of bidders' Tax Clearance certificate for any of the past two years.

**18. Address:** The tender bidding documents should be submitted in two copies hard and soft in the following address:

Address: Executive Director  
WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability  
P.O. Box 13486,  
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## JOHANNESBURG

Africa, where close to half of its 1.2 billion people have access to electricity, is set to become a world leader in renewable energy. As global business and development leaders met in Johannesburg, South Africa, to attend the Africa Investment Forum (AIF), held Nov. 11 to 13, one of the key focuses of the deals being discussed was around sustainable, renewable energy.

Organised by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and its various partners, the forum is expected to see \$67 billion in deals closed over the next few days.

Leaders are doing all they can to encourage investment

In attendance were heads of state from South Africa, Ghana, Rwanda and Mozambique. At an invitation-only discussion among the leaders, Rwanda's President Paul Kagame said there was a lot of progress in Africa as a whole.

"I have always thought it was Africa's time. We African's have let ourselves down, we are now realising it has always been our time. And we are now seize every opportunity and be where we should be by now," Kagame said.

Kagame was the driver of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) during his time as chair of the African Union in 2018. The agreement had not been in existence during the first AIF last year.

Established in March 2019, the AfCFTA has now been signed by 54 of the 55 African member states.

Alain Ebobisse, CEO of Africa 50, the Pan-African infrastructure investment platform capitalised by the AfDB, said that there was a consensus from African leaders that they needed to

do whatever they could to attract more private investment. He said that the AIF attendance showed that there was a changing narrative for investment on the continent.

Earlier figures had been revealed by the South African premier of Gauteng Province, David Makhura, that over 2,000 delegates were in attendance from 109 countries. Of this, only 40 percent were from Africa with the majority of investors attending from Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Gauteng is South Africa's wealthiest province and includes the financial centres of Johannesburg and Sandton, as well as the seat of government in Pretoria.

Renewable energy on a positive trajectory

Ebobisse said that a lot was already happening on the continent and while the media focused on the challenges there were huge success stories too – like the 1.5 GW Benban Solar Park in Egypt, which is the world's largest solar photovoltaic plant.

"I'm sure that people are not talking enough about this major achievement which is the Benban Solar Programme, 1.5 GW of solar that was invested mostly by the private sector in a record time," he said.

Africa 50 invested in 400 MW in that project and completed it from design to commercial operations in two and a half years.

Ebobisse went on to highlight Kenya's opening this July of the Lake Turkana Wind Power project, which at a generation capacity of 300 MW makes it the largest wind power project on the continent.

"It was funded by the private sector," Ebobisse told the media. He also looked towards Senegal which was implementing many independent power producers or IPPs in the solar sector.

## Investment to make Africa world leader in renewables



African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina said today the bank had doubled its investment in climate finance from \$12 billion to \$25 billion by 2020. File photo

"So there is a lot that is happening. We need to also widely understand the challenges and understand what is happening on the ground. And people are actually making good money in this investment. And there is nothing wrong about that. Let's celebrate those successes," he said.

Making Africa a world leader in renewables

A few weeks ago, the Governors of the AfDB met in Cote d'Ivoire's capital Abidjan, approving a historic \$115 billion increase to the bank's authorised capital base to \$208 billion. "This is the highest capital increase in the history of the bank since its establishment in 1964," AfDB president Akinwumi Adesina said today.

During the October announcement Adesina had said that a significant portion of funding would be invested in climate change.

Today, in response to a question from IPS, Adesina further explained that the bank had doubled its investment in climate finance from \$12 billion to \$25 billion by 2020.

"Almost 50 percent of our finance will be going to climate adaptation as opposed to climate mitigation. So we are the first multilateral development bank to actually reach that balance in terms of adaptation and mitigation," he said.

Climate mitigation is the actions taken to reduce or curb greenhouse gases, thereby addressing the causes of climate change to prevent future warming. However, climate adaptation addresses how to live with the impacts of climate change.

"I believe that coal is the past. I believe that renewable energy is the future and we as a bank are investing in not in the past, but in the future in making sure that we are investing in solar energy, in hydro energy, in wind,

all types of renewable energy that Africa needs," Adesina said.

"We want Africa to lead in renewable energy."

He said one of the projects was the AfDB's Green Baseload Facility, which according to the bank, aims "to accelerate the transition towards more sustainable baseload power generation options and prevent countries from locking themselves into environmentally damaging and potentially economically costly technologies".

"It's a \$500-million facility that we have set up to support countries that want to shift out of fuel-based energy into renewable energy and providing access to finance at a cheaper rate to be able to make that transition," Adesina said.

The bank's biggest investment is the Desert to Power project, which was announced in December at the United Nations' Climate Conference in Katowice, Poland.

The initiative plans to supply 10 GW of solar energy by 2025 to 250 million people across 11 Sahelian countries.

"That would make it the largest solar zone in the world," Adesina stated. The bank will work in partnership with various investors to also establish plants on the continent that will manufacture the solar panels for the project.

The AfDB has always stated "a lack of energy remains a significant impediment to Africa's economic and social development".

According to AfDB, energy poverty in Africa is estimated to cost the continent 2 to 4 percent GDP annually.

Africa's climate crisis

The continent is facing climate change impact with rising temperatures and reduced rainfall. The Sahel, which lies between The Sahara and the Sudanian Savanna, offers a blaze of sunlight with little rain as it is the region where temperatures are rising faster than anywhere else on Earth, according to the Great Green Wall initiative, a project that aims to reverse desertification and land degradation in the area.

Last month, IPS reported that as The Sahara desert continues to expand, it tears apart families, forces migration from rural areas to cities and has contributed to conflict for precious resources of water, land and food.

In July, IPS reported that the parts of Kenya had already warmed to above 1.5°C – a figure deemed acceptable by global leaders during the 2015 Paris Agreement. But at such high temperatures a study found that over the last four decades livestock some Kenyan counties had decline by almost a quarter because of the temperature increase over time.

During the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris in 2015, all

countries committed under the Paris Agreement to "holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C".

But last year the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a special report warning that the world would face the risk of extreme heat, drought, floods and poverty at a temperature rise of 1.5°C.

However, the forum showed that there remain a number of investors looking to provide funding for renewables and other development project on the continent.

Siby Diabira, regional head for Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean for PROPARCO, a subsidiary of Agence Française de Développement (AFD) focused on private sector development, told IPS that last year the group did \$1.76 billion in investment deals, half of which was in Africa. The AIF was still in its early stages to make a pronouncement on the success of the deals, Diabira said, but "so far so good".

Diabira said the French development agencies aimed to be 100 percent compliant with the Paris Agreement and hence were investing heavily in renewable energy.

She explained that PROPARCO was involved in "all types of renewable energy from hydro to solar to wind", adding that there was a need for a mix of both traditional and renewable energy generation.

"I have been attending some of the boardroom [discussions]. It is a quite interesting gathering to have for the second year and to have so many different types of investors and projects that are raising funds for these types of events," she said.

IPS

## UN peacekeeping should not violate principles of sovereignty of member states

## UNITED NATIONS

Given the political, economic and social exigencies of contemporary peacekeeping, it is important that the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) remains engaged in the process.

To achieve durable peace, there must be cooperation and coordination between the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, its peacekeeping operations and the respective member states.

As peacekeepers are being deployed in increasingly dangerous environments, the UN faces multi-dimensional challenges in a constantly changing landscape. In order to address these new challenges, the management methods of peace operations within the UN must strive to be fair and equitable, and field operations must adapt and acquire specialized capabilities.

It is fundamental to the values of this august body, that the Secretariat adheres to accepted procedures, in order for the work of the United Nations not serve misplaced political interests of a few. This could affect the proper deployment of capable and qualified peacekeepers, thus jeopardizing the respective operations.

In this regard, Sri Lanka is compelled to refer to a matter of questionable procedure, having experienced unjust treatment at the hand of the Secretariat, in terms of the Department of Peace



Sri Lankan Peacekeeping troops. File photo

Operations (DPO).

This situation arose when an unilateral decision was made and conveyed by the DPO, on the adjustment of Sri Lanka's contribution to a peacekeeping operation. This violated the provision of the related MoU, thereby bringing into question the adopted procedure, which has been flawed from the very beginning.

The DPO sought to link its decision of not replacing a contingent of peacekeepers on rotation to an internal appointment made by Sri Lanka as a sovereign right, thereby challenging the Head of State of a member country. Further the nominations of the replacing peacekeeping contingent had been made well before that of the high appointment in

question to the DPO.

Hence the linking of the appointment of the commander of the Army to that of the peacekeepers is an anomalous situation. The UN which prides itself on humanitarian work in this instance chose to practice its tenets in the breach, by overlooking the denial of the identified peacekeepers added aspirations once nominated for the respective operation.

The flawed procedure began with the decision to adjust a Sri Lankan peacekeeping contingent and the reasons for such punitive action, being originally communicated verbally. A request was made by Sri Lanka for all these details to be informed formally in writing.

Surprisingly only the troop details were thus communicated, and the DPO chose instead to formally make a statement to the media regarding the reason; while to date Sri Lanka is yet to receive the requested information in writing.

Furthermore, though USG Lacroix even yesterday assured that every single area of Peacekeeping is rule-based, it is disconcerting that DPO chose to violate Article 15 of the related MOU, by not consulting with Sri Lanka prior to the decision being taken thus presenting a fait accompli to the UN member state. Such action has unfortunately and plausibly culminated in the creation of a trust deficit concerning DPO.

Furthermore, this manner

of treatment could lead to precedent setting which member states must seek to arrest, lest the practice becomes systemized only to entrench politicization within the UN system.

It also opens the window for the pernicious violation of the principles of the UN Charter on non-interference and sovereignty of States which must be adhered to not only in relation to Peacekeeping mandates, but also in troop deployment.

It is imperative for the Secretariat, to hold sacrosanct the fact that the UN system is member state led, and discharge of its responsibilities in that context, while upholding equal treatment. This will also avoid the Secretariat contributing to the possible erosion of multilateralism.

Furthermore, while appreciating the Secretary General's assurance to meet obligations to Member States providing troops and equipment as promptly as possible based on the availability of funds, Sri Lanka also urges the Secretariat to fulfill its financial obligations vis-a-vis peacekeepers when identified to be replaced, at the point of their repatriation.

Additionally, it is important to ensure a predictive system of payment on all dues concerning peacekeeping operations.

With the paucity of funding, peacekeeping mandates should take into account the complexities of their current operations and be clear and operable. The UN should consult TPCCs and recipi-

ent states in developing and renewing the mandate, as without those inputs, the operations may not reflect real needs.

It is also important to address the causes of instability and conflict, and peace operations must seek to build local information networks, in order to protect civilians and non-combatants. Additionally, peacekeepers should be deployed in support of robust diplomatic efforts.

At the very heart of these mandates, must be the protection of children and the most vulnerable among the community. The images of the suffering of children in conflict especially as recently seen, are particularly unacceptable.

The UN apparatus must seek coherence among its agencies in order to address this issue. As we mark 20 years of UN Security Council Resolution 1325(2000), it is important to make every effort at national, regional and global levels to include women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

In order to address the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women, gender perspectives must be incorporated in all UN peace and security efforts. Women are received differently by the local population and are often successful in building relationships within those communities.

In this regard it is worthy to note that Sri Lanka is currently in the process of developing by October 2020 an Action Plan on Women Peace and Security for the

implementation of Resolution 1325 with the support of the Government of Japan.

Sri Lanka has demonstrated its wholehearted commitment to the elimination of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and its zero-tolerance policy by signing the Secretary General's related Voluntary Compact, joining his Circle of Leadership and making contributions to the Trust Fund to help such victims.

The country has also adopted several best practices including a stringent vetting procedure for selecting peacekeeping troops with the involvement of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Independent National Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's involvement with UN peacekeeping has covered six decades. The country commenced contributing to UN Peacekeeping Operations in 1956 initially with Military Observers. Since then a total of 22,587 peacekeepers have rotated within the Missions. Today, contributions by Sri Lanka to UN Peacekeeping stand at 657 personnel and in field support with equipment and a hospital.

Currently Sri Lanka maintains a Level II Hospital and a fleet of Combat Support Helicopters in South Sudan (UNMISS), a fleet of Helicopters in Central Africa (MINUSCA), an Infantry Company each in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and Mali (MINUSMA) and Military Observers and Staff Officers in most Missions.

IPS



# MWANZA RC COMMENDS BANK FOR GIVING CONTRACTORS, SUPPLIERS INTEREST-FREE FINANCING

By Property Watch Reporter, Mwanza

**T**HE decision by CRDB Bank Plc's management to give contractors and suppliers of major government infrastructure projects financing at almost zero interest rates will help speed up completion of such projects.

Mwanza Regional Commissioner, John Mongella said this week when opening a forum for construction industry stakeholders organised by the bank that trade financing, bond guarantees and other forms of financing being offered by CRDB strongly back government's development efforts.

Mongella also commended the bank's management for convening the meeting which drew over 350 representatives of private

companies, regulators and professionals from the Lake Zone to discuss sensitive topics facing the industry which has been given priority by President John Magufuli's administration.

"I urge contractors and suppliers of major development projects from our Lake Zone to seize this opportunity being provided by CRDB so that together we can reach our development goals of improving the infrastructure but also grow our economy," Mongella said.

He added, "Let's continue working together as a team and exploit the available resources including the bank's financing in ensuring that major infrastructure projects in the Lake Zone and elsewhere in the country are completed timely," he added.

Briefing the Mwanza RC earlier, CRDB's Retail Banking Director, Boma Raballa said apart from providing cheap trade and projects

guarantee funding, the bank is committed to work closely with the government in implementation of major infrastructure projects.

Echoing the bank's slogan of, 'Ulipo Tupo' which casually translates to 'We are available at any corner of the country' Raballa pointed out that CRDB has already started financing the projects through various products targeting contractors and suppliers.

"Contractors or suppliers who are looking for bid guarantees, performance guarantees and advance payment guarantees can come and see us to get financing," the CRDB Retail Business Director added while stressing that contractors and suppliers can also protect their projects and people through insurance cover also provided by CRDB Insurance Brokers Limited, a subsidiary of CRDB Group.



CRDB's Director of Retail Business Banking, Boma Raballa addressing construction industry stakeholders from the Lake Zone during a meeting organised by the bank in Mwanza earlier this week.

## Minister Kairuki commends 'new Airtel' for deploying 4G-LTE network

By Property Watch Reporter, Dodoma

THE deploying of 4G LTE network for by Airtel Tanzania Limited will significantly contribute towards government's efforts in making available high speed broadband connectivity as the country moves to digital economy.

Minister of State in PMO responsible for Investment, Angella Kairuki said in Dodoma this week that deployment of 4G LTE network technology will provide ultra-fast digital services for voice and data to customers hence contributing to growth.

Kairuki said the launch of the fourth generation network proves that the 'new Airtel' is committed to fulfil a number of conditions as per agreement reached by the telco and the state earlier this year. "I'm very delighted to see the 'new Airtel' develop in terms of network and infrastructure because I as Minister responsible for Investment learns a lot when I see this kind of investment," Kairuki noted.

She said the government of President John Magufuli wants good pace for investors to continue doing their business comfortably across the country hence has put in place a conducive environment to facilitate such progress.

"We are all aware that Airtel Tanzania and the government made a new agreement earlier this year whereby government owns 49 percent of shares of the company while Bhart Airtel owns the major



Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office responsible for Investment, Angella Kairuki (R) launching Airtel 4G LTE network in Dodoma earlier this week. Left is Airtel Tanzania's Managing Director, George Mathen and other company, ministry officials. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

ity stake," the Minister added while stressing that in line with the deal, Airtel has already paid 8bn/- to Treasury. She said the network modernization and expansion are also part of the agreement.

"I am informed that we are officially unveiling Airtel 4G network here in Dodoma today and within a short time the 4G network will be rolled up in another 25 region across the country," Kairuki noted.

Briefing Minister Kairuki during the launch, Airtel Tanzania Managing Director, George Mathen said the launch of 4G LTE is in line with the company's transformative journey and objective of offering customers the best digital

connections. "In addition, this is one of the commitments made with the government on investing to expand our communication infrastructure for the benefit of both sides. Our promise to the government is that we will continue to invest in various areas as the government has shown a lot of trust to private investors like us," Mathen said.

He said Airtel customers can now have access to the best and most reliable digital experience and ultra-fast downloads at normal internet bundle rates. "All that is required is a 4G enabled smartphone and 4G SIM card for existing customers," he added.

The Airtel Managing Director fur-

ther added that the 4G technology launch will offer an opportunity to advance digital adoption in the country from the scaling-up of faster digital services and the provision of access to high-speed Internet, voice and services that directly resonate with the changing lifestyles.

"We are proud that with the launch of 4G network, our company has again put Tanzania on a global telecommunications map," Mathen said.

The 4G network further proves Airtel as the mobile operator that innovates with customers in mind and provides better and more efficient services.

## Liquid Telecom confirms land-based fibre link for East and West Africa

CAPE TOWN

Liquid Telecom has launched what it claims to be the fastest direct land-based fibre link connecting East to West Africa.

This is a coast-to-coast digital corridor follows the completion of Liquid Telecom's new high-capacity fibre link running 2,600 km across the DRC. Speaking at AfricaCom 2019 in Cape Town, the company's chief executive officer Nic Rudnick said until recently, no direct, land-based fibre network existed between East and West Africa.

As an example, the company said that network traffic between Kinshasa in the DRC and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, for example, was routed via London. Rudnick said DRC is a priority market. "We see significant numbers of unconnected people... we're building fibre through cities where satellite remains the only way to get connectivity. By linking the DRC to Liquid Telecom's rapidly expanding pan-African fibre network and the rest of the world, this transformative infrastructure is creating a foundation for digital growth. Fast, reliable broadband connectivity will advance society, fuel innovation and help champion pan-Africa trade."

The new extension connects the DRC to neighbouring Tanzania and Zambia with onward connectivity to Liquid Telecom's 'One Africa' broadband network fast approaching 70,000km across 13 African countries. It is central to the company's vision to create a single fibre

network spanning the entire African continent - North to South and East to West.

Dobek Pater, Director at Africa Analysis, said, "This is a significant milestone in continued expansion of modern telecommunications infrastructure across the African continent, supporting governments' policies aimed at closing the digital divide within their countries and ultimately ensuring ubiquitous connectivity."

Rudnick also said Liquid Telecom has laid fibre in South Sudan's capital Juba, the first time the connectivity infrastructure is available in the country. The first phase of the project (due for completion end 2019) includes a 200km fibre backbone, connecting the border of Uganda through Nimule to Juba. The company underlined its ongoing partnership with Microsoft to launch new enterprise cloud services. "We are a launch partner in Africa for the new Azure Peering Service. We have expanded collaboration with Microsoft ... we have a strong relationship as a tier one and two cloud service provider for Microsoft and the launch partner in Africa for new azure pairing service. This will allow Azure services to be available for enterprises to peer to get the lowest latencies," added Rudnick.

He said countries along Liquid's fibre route can peer on Azure and achieve low latency access to cloud services. "It is now available and can be paid for at lower costs ... it represents a change in the digital ecosystem equivalent to arrival of the mobile phone in Africa," said Rudnick.

## Slow road construction to Lamu likely to delay port usage

NAIROBI

The delay in the construction of high-way infrastructure to feed and evacuate cargo from the new Lamu Port, which is far from ready, might delay the commissioning of the second Kenyan port.

The progress of the construction of the 135-kilometre Lamu-Garsen road, which was awarded to H-Young Contractors in 2016, has been slow with President Uhuru Kenyatta recently

making an abrupt visit and insisting on the completion of the road before the launch of the port.

During the awarding of the Sh10.4 billion tender, the contractor requested for security prompting the government to deploy Kenya Defense Forces and a special police unit to provide a safe environment for the workers.

The delay of the road - with Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) completing a Sh48 billion dockside project at the port

of Lamu in Kililini - has exposed a mismatch of project planning and implementation. The KPA intends to use the first berth for transshipment until 2022 when rail and road infrastructure is set to be fully completed to haul cargo to neighbouring countries.

KPA head of container operations Edward Opiyo in an earlier statement said they intend to use Lamu Port for transshipment due to lack of laid-down infrastructure. "We expect to officially launch

the first Lamu Port berth this year but it will for transshipment and we expect to add the number of the transshipment cargo and ultimate profits of KPA," said Mr Opiyo.

He added, "KPA shall increase its profit if transshipment increases since we earn double fees per cargo unlike transit." Lamu Port, which is under the ambitious Sh2.5 trillion Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (Lapsset) corridor project once it starts its op-

erations, will host first mother ship with close to 10,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

The Lapsset corridor project was intended to link Lamu Port to South Sudan via a Lamu-Garissa-Isiolo-Lokichar-Juba highway and to southern parts of Ethiopia via the Isiolo-Moyale road which is already in place. For sustainable business at the new Lamu port the westward-bound highway need to be constructed to make Lamu port more

viable. The constructions of bollard mounting (a vital component in a berth for anchoring ships) has been completed for the first berth as two other berths are set to be completed early next year. In KPA's 2018-2047 Master Plan, the authority targets to trade more with Dar Salaam Port and Djibouti Port by investing more in Lamu Port which can host a super post-Panamax vessel due to its wide berths.



# CHATO DC, DED SALUTE BANK FOR 30M/- WORTH OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

By Property Watch Reporter

**C**ONSTRUCTION work of a 3,000 spectators Chato Football Stadium in Geita region has received a boost following a donation of construction materials worth 30m/- by NMB Bank Plc.

Speaking after receiving part of the construction materials consignment earlier this week, Chato District Commissioner, Charles Kabeho and District Executive Director, Eliud Mwaiteleke paid tribute to NMB's management saying the support will speed up completion of the project.

"We are excited and grateful that partners like NMB have come forward to support sports development in our district," said Kabeho who promised to continue working closely with the country's largest commercial bank by branch network and profit.

He said construction of the stadium is part of initiatives targeting to boost sports development among youths who can end up employing themselves as football players and athletes of other disciplines.

Seconding his boss' observation, Chato's DED said the 3,000 capacity stadium will attract big sporting activities while luring the private sector to invest in much bigger stadia in the future while cherishing the possibility of staging big clubs such as Azam, Simba and Yanga.

"We are looking forward to hosting football giants like Simba and Young Africans who might decide to camp and train here as they travel for Premier League games in the Lake Zone," said Mwaiteleke. He pleaded with other private sponsors to emu-



NMB's Lake Zone manager Abraham Augustino and Chato District Commissioner Charles Kabeho shake hands earlier this week in support of construction of the district's football stadium. Others in the photo are Chato district and NMB officials. Photo courtesy of NMB.

late NMB's generosity by contribution in cash or kind to help speedy completion of construction work of the stadium.

Speaking after handing over the

materials, NMB's Lake Zone Manager, Abraham Augustino said the 30m/- consignment included 500 bags of cement and 13,335 concrete bricks but promised to look into the

possibility donating more materials in support for the project in future.

"This contribution is in line with the bank's annual commitment to invest in community projects as part of

our corporate and social investment program which, in this year alone has so far reached over 900m/- in donation of different projects countrywide," said Augustino.

## Kigali: We'll go ahead and repossess all strategically placed land unexploited

KIGALI

The City of Kigali has insisted that it will go ahead with a controversial plan to confiscate plots of land in the Central Business District and along strategic corridors it says have been lying idle for more than three years despite several warnings to the owners.

The decision, first announced Monday by the City vice Mayor for Urbanisation and Infrastructure, Ernest Nsabimana, has been reiterated by other City Hall officials who spoke to The New Times on Wednesday.

According to the Director of Kigali Construction and Urban Planning One Stop Centre, Fred Mugisha, the planned repossession will - for now - affect some 60 landowners who have repeatedly ignored formal notices to the effect that failure to develop the land property in question could lead to confiscation.

Twenty of these, he said, had hitherto been served with final formal notices and were thus in the red zone. Most of the plots of land had been earmarked for apartments, office space complexes, hotels, and general commercial purposes.

"Those to be affected by the decision know themselves," he said Wednesday. "They have all received five or more notices since 2015," he said, adding that those who will lose their property will receive no compensation.

Mugisha pointed out that most of the properties in question are located in CBD, especially in the Lower Kiyovu neighbourhood from where hundreds of households were expropriated over a decade ago to make way for planned developments in line with the City Master Plan.

"Some of the CBD buildings that have come up in recent years were constructed after the owners received notices and acted accordingly, but others have remained adamant," he noted. The other properties in question, he said, lie along the Kigali International Airport Road (Airport-CBD), and Gishushu-Nyarutarama - roads which Mugisha described as "major corridors of the city."

The owners of the properties in question are individuals who have expressed little, if any, interest in developing the property in question, he said.

Land speculation "It's not a question of funds because some of them have since acquired more plots of land in the same prime areas, and have all been lying unutilised for well over three years, which is against the law," he said, adding that some owners had received more than five formal notices.

He suggested that some of the landowners were probably engaged in speculation, which explains why they have accumulated unexploited properties. "We have many investors who are looking for land to invest and cannot easily get it anywhere near because some people have been buying plot after plot of land in prime zones, without developing them," he added.

Asked whether such repossessions might not be illegal and therefore likely to be successfully challenged in courts of law, Mugisha rejected this suggestion, insisting that articles 58, 59 and 60 of the 2013 land law gives local government authorities powers to ask the Minister in charge of land matters to sanction confiscation.

## Dangote announces \$2bn phosphate investment in Togo

LOME

Nigerian industrial conglomerate Dangote Industries is to collaborate with the government of Togo on phosphate fertiliser projects worth \$2bn, and will also build a \$60m cement plant in Lomé, the capital of the country.

A joint statement by Dangote and the Togolese presidency said Togo would make its phosphate resources available and the Dangote Group would provide access to ammonia and to the Nigerian market. Ammonia is an ingredient in the production of phosphate fertiliser and Nigeria has about half of west Africa's agricultural land.

Togo has more than 60 million tonnes of phosphate under the ground, but needs help to extract it. From a high point of 2.7 million tonnes in 1997, production dropped to 1.1 million tonnes in 2002 as a result of the depletion of easily accessible deposits and a lack of funds for new mines.

Dangote is planning to extract about 1 million tonnes a year, which it will process at a new complex in Lagos, Nigeria, making it a leading fertiliser producer in the region. The cement plant, which will use clinker from Togo and Nigeria, will produce about 1.5 million tonnes a year. Work on it is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2020 and it will be commissioned before the end of the year.

Togo is among the world's top five producers of phosphate, but the 10th poorest country in the world. Its GDP is less than \$5bn and it has a rural poverty rate of over 80%. Dangote Industries' investment represents a massive influx of capital into the country.



Ramada Resort Dar es Salaam executive chef Christos Mousouroulis (C) leads the hotel's guests at Christmas cake mixing event held at the hotel on Wednesday. Looking on (from L) are sales and marketing director, Bharath Swarup, general manager Pieter Prachner and executive sous chef Adhum Adel. Photo: John Badi.

## Hotel ushers in end of year festive season with cake mixing ceremony

By Property Watch Reporter

RAMADA Resort by Wyndham Dar es Salaam kick-started this year's end of year festive season by treated guests at the hotel to an annual ritual cake mixing tradition.

"We hope that in a month from today, you will come back and have a taste of the cake which will by then be matured and ready for consumption," said Ramada Resort Dar es Salaam's Director of Sales and Marketing, Bharath Swarup said the annual event has been taking place since 2016 when the hotel commenced operations.

Mousouroulis who captained the exercise in Dar es Salaam mid this week said the tradition cake is served to mark the beginning of Christmas and New Year's celebrations and that the cake is served to all guests as a

desert.

"It's a very delicious cake when it finally matures so I urge all of you to be available next month (December)," he added attracting applause from his largely foreign guests who attended the event which was by invitation to all hotel guests.

Explaining about the concept of the cake mixing ceremony, Ramada Resort Dar es Salaam's Director of Sales and Marketing, Bharath Swarup said the annual event has been taking place since 2016 when the hotel commenced operations.

"Basically it's like a get together party of staff at the hotel and guests who we only meet officially while going on with their duties," Swarup

said noting that it's a tradition that dates back from Europe during the World War II.

He pointed out that while the tradition aligns with Christmas and New Year festivities, it also serves the hotel staff to socialise with guests and interact informally like one family in a complete departure from routine official relations.

"Christmas is no fun without the traditional Christmas cake. And making it is no quick and easy task - preparations begin months in advance for that. To mark the birth of Jesus Christ, swanky hotels here organize cake-mixing ceremonies to spread the warmth of the festive season," he added

He explained that people from different walks of life come together for such ceremonies at Ramada Resort Dar es Salaam every year and get engaged in making the cake through mixing process, formally called the cake-mixing ceremony.

"It is a ritual religiously followed the world over, and is said to be a harbinger of good tidings and happiness," he added.

The stirring ceremony is part of an age-old Christmas tradition of cake mixing and one making wishes for the New Year. The ingredients of the festive fruit cake are mixed with wine and liquor in advance so that the ingredients can develop aroma and taste.



## CONSTRUCTION

# IS INDIA'S REAL ESTATE FUND ENOUGH TO REVIVE STALLED SECTOR?

NEW DELHI

Jaspreet Kaur, a marketing professional in New Delhi, should have been able to move into her new home a couple of years ago.

But work on the three-bedroom apartment bought by her husband in 2013, being built in Noida, a satellite city of India's capital, suddenly stopped before it was completed. "It's a matter of great worry for us because we've paid more than 75 per cent of the money to the builders and there's no certainty on the date of us getting to see the property completed and handed over to us," she says.

But India's Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday gave some hope for the country's ailing real estate sector and affected homebuyers such as Ms Kaur, with the government's approval of a \$1.4 billion (Dh5.14bn) fund to help revive stalled housing projects by providing last-mile financing.

"We're hoping the project restarts as many middle-class people like us have put all they had into those properties," says Ms Kaur. Projects across India, Asia's third-largest economy, have stalled for various reasons, but the liquidity crunch in the non-banking financial sector in the country this year has exacerbated the problem, pushing a number of companies out of business in the sector that depend heavily on loans from these institutions to fund construction.

Developers are hopeful that the government's move will bring some much-needed relief to the industry. "The vexed problem of delayed and stalled real estate projects

appears to have found a solution," says Niranjan Hiranandani, the managing director of developer Hiranandani Group in Mumbai and the president of the developers' trade body, the National Real Estate Development Council.

"This will be a win-win for homebuyers and real estate developers, as it will help alleviate financial stress faced by homebuyers who have invested their hard-earned money, while also releasing funds stuck in stalled projects."

There are a total of 576,000 budget segment homes - launched in 2013 or before - that are stuck in various stages of non-completion in seven of India's major cities alone, with the majority of these located in Mumbai and Delhi. These projects are valued at 4.6 trillion rupees (Dh236.6bn), according to a research report by property consultancy Anarock.

Ramesh Nair, the chief executive and country head at real estate services company JLL India describes the fund as "a game changer." "It has come at an opportune moment when the residential market is tackling the headwinds from the trickle down impact of a series of [real estate sector] reforms and an economic slowdown," he says. "While it will boost consumer sentiment and enhance confidence, it will act as a strong catalyst in pushing the sales velocity."

The announcement is the latest in a series of measures that have been introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government in an effort to revive India's flagging economy. India's gross domestic product growth slowed to a more than six-



Noida, a satellite city of New Delhi.

year low of 5 per cent in the April to June quarter, triggering widespread concerns on the near future of the country's economy. Economists say the country's GDP needs to grow at least at 8 per cent or above annually to support and create enough jobs for its population of more than 1.3 billion.

However, there is little hope on the horizon for economic improvement, and Moody's Investors Service on Thursday downgraded its outlook on the Indian government's ratings to negative from stable, citing "the risks that economic growth will remain materially lower than in the past."

The real estate industry is an important part of India's economy, accounting

for up to 6 per cent of its GDP and it is the second-largest employer in India after agriculture, according to official figures. Developers agree the latest move by the government sends a positive signal.

"The growth of this sector heavily relies on conducive government policies," says Sanjay Dutt, the managing director and chief executive of Tata Realty and Infrastructure, a unit of the Indian conglomerate Tata Sons. "This is a much-required boost to bring the real estate sector back on its feet."

Plans for such a fund were first unveiled in September. But the version that has finally been approved is far-reaching than the original proposal. India's largest

lender State Bank of India and Life Corporation of India, a state-run insurance company, have committed an additional 150 billion rupees to the real estate fund, which is also open to contributions from other sovereign and pension funds.

The fund will be used to help stalled housing projects in the affordable and mid-market segments of the real estate sector. The finance ministry said more than 1,600 projects could benefit from the scheme. It also cover projects that are considered non-performing assets, along with ones in bankruptcy court. Reviving these projects in turn could help lenders and the non-banking financial companies that have a

massive exposure to the property market.

Developers do, however, recognise that more needs to be done to aid the full recovery of the real estate sector. Mr Dutt at Tata Realty describes the initiative as "a brilliant start", adding that it "will help set precedents of government initiatives to support the real estate sector." "The deployment time of this initiative holds the key to its success," he notes.

The property sector faced challenges even before the non-banking financial sector liquidity crisis came to the fore. Over the past few years, India's real estate sector has taken a hit in the wake of demonetisation, when the government banned the two highest-

value banknotes in a bid to clamp down on illegal money flows.

The high property prices and interest rates also kept buyers away from the market. Reforms such as a new real estate regulation and development act have also shaken up the industry. Deo Tripathi, the managing director and chief executive of Aadhar Housing Finance, an Indian housing loan finance company, says there will be ripple effects of the move, beyond the property sector.

"This announcement ... will give a big boost to the Indian economy," he says. "It will create a multiplier effect in job creation and boost the other segments like cement, steel and lot of many industries, which are linked with real estate." But not everyone is as upbeat about the initiative.

Koshy Varghese, the managing director of Value Designbuild, a developer, in Bangalore says the fact the government is "trying to reach out to the ailing realty sector is heartening", however the amount the government has approved "is minuscule" when compared with the value of loans and bad debts.

"Taking into account that 90 per cent of the total debt is currently owed by only 10 per cent of the developers - mainly the larger ones - the question remains as to how the government will ensure that the intended financial boost trickles down to the smaller developers?"

Mr Varghese also raises concerns about when the government will actually be able to activate the fund, and says the industry would benefit more from immediate measures, such as government providing incentives for people to buy homes.

Many developers say

they now want to see other measures to help the property industry, including easing the burden of the goods and services tax and getting faster clearances for projects. Mohit Agrawal, an analyst at IIFL Institutional Equities, says it is "a well-intended first step to resolve the crisis in the real estate sector, [but] we also see significant challenges in its implementation, considering the complexity of the challenge."

Some market observers are not convinced that revival of so many projects will actually help the real estate sector, which has struggled with oversupply in recent years. "With stalled projects coming on stream, the demand-supply imbalance is likely to worsen, and if overall housing demand does not witness a recovery, pricing pressure in the sector is likely to be exacerbated," according to India Ratings and Research, which is part of Fitch Group.

The real estate fund is the latest steps taken by New Delhi to support the economy, including a reduction in corporate taxes to 22 per cent from 30 per cent. But all these efforts may not be enough to kick start growth.

"While government measures to support the economy should help reduce the depth and duration of India's growth slowdown, prolonged financial stress among rural households, weak job creation, and, more recently, a credit crunch among non-bank financial institutions, have increased the probability of a more entrenched slowdown," according to Moody's. The real estate fund for stalled projects may be a building block to help the sector's woes, but there is some way to go before the country emerges from its economic woes.

## Adnoc signs LNG agreements with oil majors BP and Total

ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company signed agreements with BP and Total to book the majority of its liquefied natural gas production up to the first quarter of 2022.

"With these new supply agreements, Adnoc LNG has shown that it can react quickly and decisively to changing market conditions while ensuring the security and quality of delivery," said Fatema Al Nuaimi, Adnoc LNG chief executive.

"With the support of our shareholders, we have maximised access to new markets with strong LNG growth potential," she added. Adnoc LNG is a joint venture between the Abu Dhabi state oil company, which holds the majority 70 per cent share, Japan's Mitsui with a 15 per cent stake, BP has 10 per cent and France's Total with 5 per cent.

Adnoc LNG produces 6 million tonnes annually of the super-chilled fuel from its facilities on Das Island, which has been operational since 1977. Until April, Adnoc supplied 90 per cent of its LNG to Japan's Jera, its single biggest offtaker. However, the Abu Dhabi company has since diversified its customer base, supplying 90 per cent of its LNG volumes to clients in more than eight countries in



Adnoc LNG, based offshore on Das Island, has been operational since 1977.

South and South-East Asia, including India, China, South Korea, and Taiwan.

"The two-year LNG supply agreement contributes to the growth and flexibility of Total's LNG portfolio and strengthens our longstanding relationship with Adnoc LNG," said Laurent Chevalier, vice president Middle East, gas, renewables and power at Total.

Last week, Adnoc announced additional hydrocarbon reserves of 7 billion "stock tank" barrels of oil and 58 trillion cubic feet of conventional gas and 160tcf of unconventional gas, taking the UAE to the sixth position from seventh globally in terms of hydrocarbon

reserves, according to data listed by the US Energy Information Administration.

The UAE is reliant on imports to meet its gas needs and growing demand for cleaner fuel to generate electricity and power industry. Unlocking its gas caps, much of which is sour - having high sulphur content - as well as utilising its new discoveries for additional LNG production is part of Adnoc's strategy to maximise value from the fuel.

Abu Dhabi can expect to develop significant LNG export capacity by 2024, consultancy Wood Mackenzie said last year. On Tuesday Adnoc also signed an agreement with Rongsheng Petrochemical of China

to explore domestic and international opportunities as it seeks to sell more products to customers in East Asia. The deal covers the sale of refined products from Adnoc to Rongsheng and the supply of liquefied natural gas to the Chinese company.

"The agreement covers domestic and international growth opportunities across a range of sectors, which have the potential to open new markets for our growing portfolio of products and attract investment to support our downstream and gas expansion plans," said Dr Sultan Al Jaber, Adnoc Group chief executive and UAE Minister of State.

Adnoc expects to invest about

\$45 billion (Dh165.3bn) in the downstream sector with partners over the next five years in Ruwais, with its domestic refining and chemicals capacities set to double and treble, respectively. The Abu Dhabi company plans to build the world's largest integrated refinery by 2025. Rongsheng, which also has interests in chemicals and textiles, is an investor in high-value oil and gas projects.

"The strategic cooperation with Adnoc will ensure that our ZPC project, which will have a refining capacity of up to 1 million barrels per day of crude, has adequate supplies of feedstock," Li Shuirong, chairman of Rongsheng Group said in a statement.

## Russian, Chinese groups all out to form global metro builder joint venture

MOSCOW

Russian multidisciplinary consultant Moshinzproekt is planning to set up a joint venture with China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC) to build metro systems around the world.

The announcement was made by Marat Khusnullin, Moscow's deputy mayor for construction and urban planning. He said the joint venture could begin offering its services after 2022, when Moshinzproekt would have completed its work on the "Big Ring" expansion of Moscow's metro.

Khusnullin said several agreements had already been sealed with Chinese partners, including a joint project on transfer hubs and the exchange of IT systems. He added: "The experience and competencies accumulated by Moscow and Chinese metro builders allow us to be competitive in this market."

Moshinzproekt, which began life in 1958 as a design institute specialising in transport infrastructure, was responsible for building 79 stations on Moscow's celebrated metro. In August 2017, CRCC began work on a 4.6km of track and three stations on the Big Ring. In February Moshinzproekt appointed CRCC to carry out tunnelling work on a double-track tunnel on the project.

Russia Today reports that the CRCC may also invest around \$1bn in the construction of the first stage of a project to build a business district at the Kommunarka Shooting Ground in southwest Moscow - which acquired its name after being used as a mass execution site by the NKVD.

CRCC, presently ranked third in the Engineering News-Record's global contractor league table, has built much of the transportation infrastructure in China including high-speed rail, subways, and expressways. It has built metro and light-rail systems in Honduras, Belize, Laos, Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh.



## WORLD

## US diplomat says Giuliani waged campaign of 'lies' against envoy to Ukraine

WASHINGTON

A top U.S. diplomat told congressional investigators that President Donald Trump's personal attorney Rudy Giuliani conducted a "campaign full of lies" against the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine before she was recalled from her post, according to a transcript of his testimony released on Thursday.

George Kent, a deputy assistant secretary of state, told the Trump impeachment inquiry that he was also subject to attacks by Giuliani but was told to "keep my head down" by a senior State Department official.

The Democratic-led inquiry in the House of Representatives is focused on a July 25 phone call in which Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate Joe Biden, a former vice president and now a leading Democratic rival in the November 2020 presidential election.

Giuliani is central to the inquiry and has been mentioned frequently in testimony by State Department diplomats who have painted a picture of the former New York City mayor running a shadow U.S. policy toward Ukraine to pressure it to carry out a corruption investigation into Biden and his son, who worked for a Ukrainian gas company.

Kent mentioned Giuliani 73 times in his testimony to lawmakers delivered

behind closed doors on Oct. 15 but only released on Thursday.

Marie Yovanovitch, the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, was abruptly pulled from her post in May. Kent said Giuliani conducted a smear campaign against the envoy.

"His assertions and allegations against former Ambassador Yovanovitch were without basis, untrue, period," Kent testified.

"Mr. Giuliani, at that point, had been carrying on a campaign for several months full of lies and incorrect information about Ambassador Yovanovitch, so this was a continuation of his campaign of lies," Kent said.

Neither Giuliani nor a lawyer for him responded immediately to requests for comment on Kent's testimony.

Kent said Ukrainian officials understood when they met Giuliani that he was not a regular private citizen and understood he represented Trump.

"Giuliani was not consulting with the State Department about what he was doing in the first half of 2019. And to the best of my knowledge, he's never suggested that he was promoting U.S. policy," Kent said.

For nearly a year, Giuliani has pursued unsubstantiated allegations that Biden pushed to fire a Ukrainian prosecutor to stop him from investigating Burisma, the Ukrainian energy company on the board of which Biden's son, Hunter,



Rudy Giuliani

served. Giuliani also told Reuters he played a role in the effort to remove Yovanovitch.

## STAR WITNESSES

Democrats have been releasing transcripts of the closed-door interviews as they prepare for public hearings in Congress next week. Kent is among the three U.S. diplomats who will serve as star witnesses.

Lawmakers are trying to determine whether Trump froze \$391 million in U.S. security assistance for Ukraine to put pressure on Zelenskyy to conduct the investigation, thus misusing U.S. foreign policy for his personal gain.

Trump's defenders say there is no evidence of him and the Ukrainian president engaging in a "quid pro quo" - exchanging a favor for a favor - because the aid to Ukraine was released and Zelenskyy never explicitly promised anything.

A quid pro quo is not necessary to prove high crimes or misdemeanors, which is the standard the U.S. Constitution requires for the impeachment of a president.

Kent and William Taylor, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, will testify on Nov. 13. Yovanovitch will testify on Nov. 15.

Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney was subpoenaed by the House Intelligence

Committee Thursday night to appear on Friday, an official working on the inquiry said. This week, the White House rebuffed a committee request for Mulvaney to appear.

Mulvaney caused a stir with a statement at an Oct. 17 news conference that the White House had withheld security assistance for Ukraine. "There is going to be political influence in foreign policy," he said. If the Democratic-controlled House votes to impeach Trump, the Republican-controlled Senate would then hold a trial on whether to remove him from office.

Senate Republicans have so far shown little appetite for ousting the president.

The impeachment inquiry met on Thursday for the first time with an adviser to Vice President Mike Pence, but former national security adviser John Bolton failed to heed a request to appear.

Lawmakers are also seeking to find out how much Pence knew about efforts by Trump and those around him to pressure Ukraine to investigate Biden and his son.

Jennifer Williams, a career foreign service officer and special adviser to Pence for Europe and Russia, was testifying to members of the House Foreign Affairs, Intelligence and Oversight committees after receiving a subpoena to compel her testimony.

Agencies

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## S. Sudan president, opposition leader agree to postpone formation of unity govt

KAMPALA

SOUTH Sudan President Salva Kiir and the country's main opposition leader Riek Machar on Thursday agreed to postpone the formation of a transitional government of national unity by 100 days.

A communique issued here after a meeting held at State House, Entebbe, 40 km south of the capital Kampala, noted that the incomplete critical tasks related to the security arrangements and governance, including the formation of a revitalized transitional government of national unity ne-

cessitated the extension.

"The meeting agreed to extend the pre-transitional period for 100 days effective from Nov. 12 and to review progress after 50 days from that date and a report to be submitted to heads of state and parties," said the communique.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and chairman of Sudan's Sovereign Council, Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan, convened the meeting as guarantors to Agreement on Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

The meeting was also attended by Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, special envoy of Kenya to South



Sudan.

The parties agreed to establish a mechanism from Guarantors and the parties to supervise the implementation of the critical tasks.

"During this period, the four IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) countries represented in the meeting agreed to request IGAD to address the status of Machar," said the communique.

The leaders urged the international community to continue supporting the implementation of revitalized agreement on resolution of the conflict in South Sudan.

The warring parties failed to form the transitional unity government in May and both agreed to a six-month extension before the formation of the much-awaited transitional unity government

on Nov. 12.

South Sudan has been suffering from a civil war since December 2013, following a conflict between Kiir and his former vice president Machar, which has left tens of thousands of South Sudanese dead and around 4 million others displaced.

A peace deal signed in 2015 collapsed after the outbreak of renewed violence in July 2016, forcing Machar to flee the capital.

Under the 2018 peace deal, Machar will take up one of the four vice presidency positions in the transitional government.

Xinhua

## China, Namibia to enhance cooperation using FOCAC, BRI platforms

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA and China agree to boost cooperation through the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to promote the development of their comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership, visiting Chinese Vice Premier Sun Chunlan said here on Thursday.

Sun (pictured) made the remark when meeting with Namibian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Sun said that the traditional friendship between China and Namibia was rooted in the struggle for national liberation against colonialism. The two countries enjoy a solid political and public foundation and have carried out fruitful cooperation.

In recent years, thanks to the promotion of the two heads of state, the bilateral relationship has been upgraded from the all-weather friendship to a comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership, Sun said.

The next year marks the 30th an-



new development

Sun said.

China is willing to continue

strengthening the foundation of mutual

political trust based on mutual

respect, mutual benefit, equality,

and win-win, and implementing the important consensus reached by the two presidents during their two meetings last year, Sun said.

Sun also briefed her host Chinese President Xi Jinping's important speech at the second China International Import Expo in Shanghai, saying that China is committed to jointly building a world economy that features openness for cooperation, innovation, and sharing with other countries. China is accelerating the formation of a new pattern of comprehensive opening up, which will bring more opportunities

to markets, investment, and growth,

Sun said, welcoming Namibian enterprises to actively participate in

import fairs and export more high-quality products to China.

Nandi-Ndaitwah said that Namibia and China enjoy a traditional

friendship, similar historical experiences and face common development

tasks. In recent years, the breadth and depth of cooperation

between the two countries are expanding, which has injected strong

momentum into the promotion of the "Harambee Prosperity Plan."

Xinhua

## China to bring new growth opportunities for global economy

THE proposals put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping to advance economic globalization and expand opening-up have demonstrated China's determination to bring new growth opportunities to the global economy.

The Chinese civilization has always valued peace under heaven and harmony among nations, Xi said in a keynote speech delivered at the opening ceremony of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) on November 5 in Shanghai.

Underscoring that economic globalization is an irreversible trend of history, Xi proposed three initiatives to encourage countries from around the world to give more impetus to economic globalization and remove impediments, and announced five measures to bring

about opening-up at an even higher level.

With visionary initiatives full of Chinese wisdom and pragmatic measures, China has made clear to the world that the country is committed to deepening opening-up, confident about bringing new growth opportunities for the global economy, and shoulders its responsibility to contribute to an open global economy and a community with a shared future for mankind.

The CIIE is the world's first import expo held at the national level. It is a proactive policy of China to pursue a new round of high-level opening-up, advance Belt and Road international cooperation and build an open world economy with the rest of the world.

The second CIIE is larger in scale

compared with the first one held last November. A total of 155 countries and regions as well as 26 international organizations have participated in the event.

The exhibition area covers around 360,000 square meters. Sixty-four countries have hosted country exhibitions and 3,893 companies present at the business exhibitions.

In a short time, the CIIE started from scratch and quickly attracted wide participation of countries and enterprises from all over the world, said Xi when he hosted a banquet on November 4 evening in Shanghai to welcome distinguished guests from around the world, who are here to attend the second CIIE.

He noted that the expo has become a major initiative in the history of global

trade and an important platform for international cooperation in the new era.

In his keynote speech at this year's expo, Xi reviewed the initiatives of further opening-up China has taken since the first CIIE, demonstrating that China is a country that keeps its promises.

The country has resolutely supported trade liberalization and economic globalization and will open its door only wider to the world.

Economic globalization, as an irreversible trend of history, has greatly boosted global growth. While protectionism and unilateralism are surging and economic globalization has encountered headwinds, Xi stressed that economic globalization is like the world's great rivers and nothing can stop their mighty movement.

Xi noted that of the problems confronting the world economy, none can be resolved by a single country alone, suggesting that countries put the common good of humanity first rather than place one's own interest above the common interest of all.

The Chinese President called on countries to work together to build an open world economy through cooperation, with innovation and for mutual benefits. He expressed hope that all countries could have a more open mindset and take more open steps, and work together to make the pie of the global market even bigger. Meanwhile, he suggested that countries should strengthen the mechanisms for sharing benefits globally, and explore new ways of international cooperation.

The goal is to give more impetus to economic globalization and remove impediments as much as possible and make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced, and beneficial to all, as he pointed out.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. For the past 70 years, the Communist Party of China (CPC) has led the people to create a miracle of rapid economic development and a miracle of long-term stability. The Chinese nation has achieved a tremendous transformation—it has stood up, grown rich, and become strong.

China's development, viewed through the lens of history, is an integral part of the lofty cause of human progress.

People's Daily

## Dozens feared missing day after deadly ambush in Burkina Faso

OUAGADOUGOU

DOZENS of people were feared still missing on Thursday after an ambush on workers near a Canadian-owned mine in Burkina Faso killed at least 37, the worst such attack for years in a country plagued by jihadist violence.

Quebec-based gold miner Semafo said five of its buses with a military escort came under fire on the road leading to its Boungou mine in the eastern region of Est, about 40 kilometres from Boungou, on Wednesday.

Sixty other people were wounded, authorities said. The assailants' identity was unclear, but Burkina Faso is struggling to combat surging Islamist violence in remote eastern and northern scrubland areas of the West African state.

"Once more our people are in mourning because of terrorist groups that are multiplying, murderous actions against our civilians and our defence and security forces," President Roch Marc Kaboré said in a televised address.

Semafo said the Boungou mine site remained secured, although it has suspended operations following the attack.

It was unclear exactly how many people were in the convoy, what their nationalities fell on top of him, shielding him from the hail of bullets, his brother Benjamin Compaore said.

"There were more and more shots and then because the others were on top and he was underneath, God protected him," he said, speaking outside the Ouagadougou hospital where the wounded were being treated and distraught family members gathered.

Some questioned why the authorities had not yet provided a full casualty list. Theodore Silga said his younger brother Gilbert, 26, had been on one of the ambushed buses. "The people working with my brother said they have not heard from him."

Semafo has said that under new safety guidelines, Burkina employees travel to and from the mine with a military escort by road while international staff are flown by helicopter.

Two separate sources, who have worked at the mine, said the convoy left weekly carrying about 250 staff, usually in five buses of 50-60 people each.

The company tightened security last year following attacks that killed three workers and five security officials.

Canada's foreign ministry said there were no reports so far of any of its nationals being victims of the attack, the worst in Burkina Faso since groups with links to Islamic State and al Qaeda began targeting it in January 2016. Then, al Qaeda militants killed 32 people in a raid on a popular cafe and hotel in Ouagadougou.

## Russian President's special envoy highlights five export development scenarios in 2020s

ST. PETERSBURG

SPECIAL envoy of the Russian President for digital and technology development Dmitry Peskov named five key scenarios of increasing the export share, which can be applied at the governmental level during the next decade.

"We have five basic scenarios in terms of exports. The first one is the offensive, market-based and champion's one. This is a hypothesis that we need technology champions with high capitalization and networks worldwide in order to compete on the global market in 2020s.

We will stimulate turbid growth of companies, their IPOs, set the goal, for example, of having ten unicorn companies in key areas of the technology development by 2025 and achieve this by any means," Peskov (pictured) said.

A "defensive" scenario could be the second one, with the stake on development of the infrastructure and support of the domestic technological sovereignty, the envoy said. "We will either broaden powers of our monopolies to the side of digitalization and technologies or will foster new technology monopolies," he said.

Supporting growth of thousands of Russian startups with the help of export instruments of development institutions is the third, the "romantic" way of building up exports, Peskov said.

The fourth one combines the first three scenarios - investments into the infrastructure and emerging quasi-monopolies, "provided that they foster ecosystems within and target global markets," he said.

The fifth scenario can be that the responsibility "for all these pieces" will be diluted in collective decision-making authorities, the official added.





# China's opening-up measures lift global economy

CHINESE President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Nov. 5, charting the course for the country to continue to push forward opening-up at a higher level.

"Like the world's great rivers, the Yangtze, the Nile, the Amazon and the Danube – they all surge forward in relentless flow, and nothing can stop their mighty movement." "China will continue to encourage bold trials and experiments in pilot free trade zones."

Xi's remarks were lauded by government officials, experts and scholars, and industry insiders, who told People's Daily that China's resolve to expand opening-up has created unprecedented opportunities for global economic development.

"President Xi's keynote speech reflects a deep understanding of the Chinese path and the global pattern, as well as the confidence in China's development," said Yuan De, executive deputy director of the Center for China and Globalizing Asia Studies with Mahidol University in Thailand.

Openness and cooperation set direction for global economic development.

By holding the CIIE for the second year in a row, China has built a platform where domestic and foreign enterprises can carry out mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation, Yuan said, adding that China's opening-up measures are a rare highlight for global economy, at a time when trade protectionism is on the rise.

To expand opening-up is not just a verbal promise of China; to that end, the country has taken concrete actions, said Park Seung Chan, director of the China Business Research Insti-

tute in South Korea.

President Xi stressed that China will bring about opening-up at an even higher level, which means that the country will open more channels to strengthen economic and trade exchanges with other countries. The move bears great significance against the backdrop of a sluggish global economy, Park said.

"China has provided more opportunities of development for all participating countries of the CIIE, as well as more room for countries to conduct win-win cooperation," said Park, adding that the CIIE is a concrete practice of expanding opening-up.

As the world has seen, China's business environment keeps improving. In March, the country adopted the Foreign Investment Law. In June, the country rolled out new negative lists for foreign investment market access and a revised catalogue of industries that encourages foreign investment. In October, the State Council released a regulation to optimize business environment.

The country endeavors to build a market-oriented and international business environment based on the rule of law, and its market is releasing constant energy.

China has honored its commitments in building an enabling business environment, said Tang Zhimin, director of China ASEAN studies at Thailand's Panyapiwat Institute of Management.

"At the first CIIE, the country pledged to stimulate import potential, continue to widen market access, and foster a world-class business environment. One year on, these initiatives and steps have been by and large put in place," Tang said.

In October, the World Bank released



Foreign reporters work at the media center of the second CIIE. (People's Daily)

its Doing Business Report 2020, which ranks China 31st among 190 economies, up by 15 places from last year's ranking.

Striving to realize high-quality development, China has expanded inputs in scientific and technological research and development and upgraded industrial structure, said Claudio Puty, a member of Brazil's Chamber of Deputies, pointing out that the constantly improving business environment is attracting more foreign investors, especially those in the high-tech sector, to enter the Chinese market.

"We need to 'join hands' with each other instead of 'letting go' of each other's hands. We need to 'tear down walls', not to 'erect walls'." The words

by President Xi vividly stated China's firm support of an open global economy. President Xi once again told the world that China supports and safeguards the multilateral trading system, and elaborated on the importance of an open global economy and free trade, said Pascal Smet, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region.

The European Union (EU) is the largest trade partner of China and China is Belgium's second largest non-EU trade partner. Such fruitful economic and trade cooperation outcomes are yielded in an open Chinese market, he said.

The CIIE serves as a platform for opening-up and cooperation that is able to eliminate suspicion, and it promotes mutual understanding, mutual

learning and common development among countries, he pointed out.

China holds international events almost on a daily basis, said Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation.

This reflects that the country is actively taking part in global affairs, and manifests the endeavors it has taken to deepen multilateral cooperation and advance globalization, he said.

As the country pursues a higher level of opening-up to deliver more opportunities for countries to have access to the Chinese market, expand investment and boost growth, it is bound to propel the building of a more open world economy.

People's Daily

## Kissinger thinks that US-Russian relations need to be improved – Russian ambassador

NEW YORK

FORMER US Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger expressed hope that US-Russian relations will improve in a conversation with Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov on Thursday.



"Kissinger is confident that time will come when it will become very clear that it is necessary to improve relations," Antonov told reporters after the meeting.

"We discussed many issues on the bilateral agenda, as well as matters of strategic stability. Mr. Kissinger spoke in support of strengthening strategic stability between the Russian Federation and the United States," he added.

"The meeting with Dr. Kissinger was very successful, and it was very comprehensive, as usual," the ambassador noted.

"He is the man who has a lot of experience in developing Soviet-US relations, the man who contributed so much to preventing a war between our two countries.

Of course, he provided his assessment of the current situation, and the main thing is that the current situation, current relations are not in the interests of the US or Russian people," Antonov stressed.

"Our relations should not remain in this unsatisfactory condition, and they will not stay like this for long," he concluded. Agencies

## Bloomberg considers entering 2020 Democratic presidential race

WASHINGTON

FORMER New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is strongly considering entering the race for the 2020 US Democratic presidential nomination, a move that could greatly disrupt the field just three months before the first nominating contests.

Bloomberg (pictured), the billionaire media mogul and philanthropist who served three terms as mayor of America's largest city, is skeptical that any of the current crop of Democratic candidates can defeat Republican President Donald Trump in next year's general election, a spokesman said.

"Mike is increasingly concerned that the current field of candidates is not well positioned to beat Trump, Bloomberg spokesman Howard Wolfson said in a statement.

Bloomberg, 77, is expected to file paperwork this week to run in the Democratic presidential primary in Alabama, which has an early deadline for qualifying for the ballot. That would keep his options open for a possible White House bid, a source familiar with his thinking told Reuters.

The Democratic field, now numbering 17 candidates, has coalesced into four top contenders according to recent polls: US Senators Elizabeth Warren and

Bernie Sanders, who represent the party's progressive wing, and former Vice President Joe Biden and Mayor Pete Buttigieg, of South Bend, Indiana, representing the more moderate wing.

Bloomberg, the chief executive officer and founder of Bloomberg L.P., served as New York's mayor from 2002 to 2013 and has been a leading advocate and philanthropist on the issues of climate change and gun violence.

"If Mike runs, he would offer a new choice to Democrats built on a unique record running America's biggest city, building a business from scratch and taking on some of America's toughest challenges as a high-impact philanthropist," Wolfson said.

"Mike would be able to take the fight to Trump and win," Wolfson said.

Asked about Bloomberg in a Fox News Channel interview, White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said Trump "has got the results to show that he's doing great things for the American people, so it doesn't matter who ends up running against him - the president will win."

Moderate alternative Bloomberg has been critical of Warren and her plan to institute a tax on the super-rich if she is elected president to fund programs ranging from universal healthcare



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to free college tuition. If Bloomberg were to enter the race, he would likely compete with candidates such as Biden and Buttigieg as a moderate alternative to Warren's populist progressivism.

But he would likely face a difficult road with the liberal wing of the party concerned about corporate money in politics and income inequality in America.

Tom Steyer, a billionaire candidate from California who has made climate change a centerpiece of his campaign, has spent millions only to see his bid languish amid criticism from his rivals for trying to buy his way into the election.

"More billionaires seeking more political power surely isn't the change America needs," said Sanders' campaign manager, Faiz Shakir.

Warren responded to the news of Bloomberg's preparations by tweeting at him with a link that showed how much he would pay under her wealth tax.

Bloomberg, whom Forbes ranks as the eighth richest American with an estimated worth of US\$53.4 billion, would be able to largely fund his campaign himself, perhaps allowing him to ramp up his candidacy quickly. Still, he would have to build a multistate organization on the fly.

At age 77 he would be the second oldest candidate among the Democratic contenders, behind Sanders, who is 78. Biden is 76 and Warren is 70. On the Republican side, Trump is 73.

The Iowa caucuses, the first nominating contest on the Democratic primary calendar, will be held on Feb. 3. Agencies

## All Essex lorry victims confirmed to be Vietnamese nationals

HANOI/LONDON

All 39 people found dead in the Essex lorry incident were confirmed to be Vietnamese nationals, Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security announced on Thursday evening.

The 39 victims were from six Vietnamese localities of Hai Phong, Hai Duong, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, and Thua Thien Hue, the ministry said on its website.

Sending his condolences to the victims' families, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc called on Vietnamese authorities and people nationwide to support them to overcome the great loss.

The prime minister has directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Security, and other authorities to work closely with the British side to urgently handle relevant issues, including identifying information and names of the victims and taking necessary protective measures so as to soon repatriate their bodies back home, said the statement published on the government's portal on Thursday evening.

According to a statement

from Essex police, they have been working with Vietnamese police officers to verify the identities of the 39 people discovered at Grays in Essex on Oct 23.

"A series of files have been brought before an Identification Commission, and HM Senior Coroner Mrs Caroline Beasley-Murray has now formally identified all of the victims, and the families of those victims have been notified," said the statement.

The senior officer in charge of the enquiry, Assistant Chief Constable Tim Smith, said: "This is an important step in the investigation and enables us to work with our Vietnamese Police colleagues to support the families of those victims."

"It is only right that we provide an opportunity for family members to take in the news confirming the death of their loved ones before releasing any further information. Our thoughts remain with the families and friends of those whose tragic journey ended on our shores."

The Vietnamese government strongly condemns acts of trafficking and calls on

countries in the region and the world to step up cooperation, and resolutely prevent and combat this particularly dangerous crime so as not to repeat the same tragedies, and complete investigations soon and bring the criminals to justice.

The Vietnamese government highly appreciates the cooperation of British authorities regarding the case, Phuc said, expressing sincere thanks to the British people, overseas Vietnamese in Britain and other countries for caring, sharing, and showing their sympathy for the victims in this incident. Xinhua



A series of files have been brought before an Identification Commission, and HM Senior Coroner Mrs Caroline Beasley-Murray has now formally identified all of the

## Economic globalisation 'surges forward in relentless flow'

WIN-WIN cooperation has always been the theme of global development and economic globalization always remains an irresistible trend.

This can be well explained by the importance attached by US enterprises to the Chinese market.

Last year, over 100 US enterprises attended the China International Import Expo (CIIE), and their total exhibition area stood at 36,000 square meters, ranking among the top three in all participating countries. This year, the number of US exhibitors increased to over 190, and their total exhibition area has hit 47,500 square meters, the highest in all participating countries.

"Economic globalization represents the trend of history.

Like the world's great rivers, the Yangtze, the Nile, the Amazon and the Danube – they all surge forward in relentless flow, and nothing can stop their mighty movement, not the current of undertows or hidden shoals or rocks beneath the water," Chinese President Xi Jinping said in his keynote speech delivered at the opening ceremony of the second CIIE.

Comparing economic globalization to mighty rivers, Xi profoundly revealed the irreversibility of economic globalization. Against the background of rising trade protectionism and anti-globalization, this far-sighted judgment is even more insightful and significant, indicating China's sense of responsibility.

Economic globalization is an

inevitable result of the advancement of science and technology and the development of productivity in human society. The first Industrial Revolution led to the international division of labor, which enabled British cotton mills to process cotton from all over the world, and made cotton the earliest globalized commodity.

Since the 1970s, the information revolution has swept the world. The digital economy represented by the Internet has enabled people to live in a "global village" where everyone is closely connected like neighbors.

At present, a new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation featuring artificial intelligence, big data, quantum

communication and block chain is gathering strength. Being open and sharing, these technologies will further promote the in-depth development of economic globalization, which is in line with the laws of history, represents the trend of times, and won't be changed at the will of anyone.

In a global market with free flow of production factors, different countries should give full play to their respective advantages, engage in healthy competition, and make wealth and improve people's livelihood through trade activities. The CIIE is exactly a platform to achieve that.

Thanks to the first CIIE, jute handicrafts made in poverty-stricken areas of Bangladesh have entered the high-end

department stores in Shanghai, and fresh fruits from Hawaii have been introduced to the bubble tea shops across China. Besides, Italian manufacturers of internet-famous household appliances are now joining Chinese e-commerce enterprises for larger market.

Free trade has created a truly win-win situation, and the process of economic globalization has greatly promoted the growth of wealth and social development. As an old Chinese saying goes, the wise build bridges while the fool build walls. If a country pursues isolation, resorts to the beggar-thy-neighbor practice, or even puts its private interests above the interests of all humanity, it will only end up harming the others without benefiting itself.

Economic globalization is unstoppable, and so is the aspiration of all countries for peace and development. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China 70 years ago, especially over the past 40 years of reform and opening up, China has actively integrated into the global market and participated in the international division of labor, and gradually developed into the world's second largest economy.

Nowadays, more developing countries hope to learn from China's successful experience, expand opening-up in a fair and orderly international environment, and be fully involved in the process of economic globalization so as to create more wealth in international trade and secure a better future.

No one can stop the people around the world from moving towards a better life, and no one can stifle their desire for peace, development and progress.

China is building three bridges: one to the world, one to prosperity and one to the future, said Christine Lagarde, former managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the first CIIE.

China is a staunch vindicator of economic globalization, a firm defender of free trade and a faithful constructor of a better future for mankind. While opening its door wider to the world, the country will take more concrete actions and measures to advance economic globalization.

People's Daily





Upanga Darts Club (UDC) players pictured after the presentation ceremony of this year's Dar es Salaam regional darts club championship, held in the city recently. UDC emerged as the tournament's champions. PHOTO: COURTESY OF UDC

## UDC wins Dar darts club championship

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

DAR ES SALAAM'S Upanga Darts Club (UDC) has lifted this year's regional darts club championship top honour in an event, which took place in the city recently.

The two-day event, which took place at KT Chinese Club in Temeke, saw 10 clubs compete for supremacy in the age old indoor sport.

The participating clubs were put into two groups. Group A was made up of Bhoiraj Strikers, Police Barracks Club, Lugalo, UDC and hosts, KT Chinese Club.

Magereza, Rana Darts Club, Friends Darts Club, Ibukoni and Upanga Hill Club made Group B.

The clubs took part in singles, doubles and team events, with winners getting cash prize and trophies.

The UDC, made up of experienced players in Mehboob Khakoo, Alikhan Wallani, Sameer Rashid, Azim HajiMohamed, Nanji Bhudia and skipper, Ravi Joshi, held sway in team and doubles events.

The side, which regularly battles it out in almost all club competitions held in the country, notched convincing wins in matches and went all the way to lift the top honour in both events.

The team event, which was played in league format, had each of the participating teams fielding four players.

The teams locked horns in 16 matches, with the first side to win nine matches emerging as the winner.

In the first round of the event, UDC won all of their matches to impressively make it to the last four.

They opened their campaign with 9-7 win over Police Barracks and then went on to command 14-2 rout of Bhoiraj Strikers.

Hosts KT Chinese Club was UDC's next victim, losing 9-7 to the latter. UDC later on deployed all skills at their disposal to record 9-7 victory over Lugalo and progress to the semi-finals.

Magereza were UDC's semi-final opponents, there was however little the former could do to frustrate the latter's pursuit of a place in the final, given UDC cruised to 9-1 victory.

The hugely motivated UDC players showcased their virtuosity in the final, which saw them confront Friends Darts Club, winning 9-5.

In the team event, UDC skipper Joshi won two matches and lost as many, veteran HajiMohamed won three and lost one.

Wallani posted victory in two matches and lost one, as it was the case for Rashid.

In the singles' event, Adelaide Chikomba of Police Barracks emerged as champion, beating teammate, Julius Mhulu, in the final.

The evergreen Bhudia teamed up with Rashid to clinch the doubles event's title for UDC, beating Friends Darts Club's Julius and Marvin in the final.

Ravi noted: "I thank God we have emerged as winners. We played as a team all the way... our club's players gave their all in the games. We are happy for the success."

"We will keep on training intensively

with a view to excelling in the national club championship."

HajiMohamed, who is also the Dar es Salaam Darts (DADA) chairman, disclosed: "The regional darts club championship is currently played once a year, depending on availability of funds which will foot organization costs."

"Although the competition had a few outfits taking part in it, it was quite competitive."

He pointed out most of the players opted out of competing in all events because of financial constraints and that had a bearing in cash prize that was to be presented to the winners.

With the regional darts governing body depending on tournament's entrance fee to get cash prize for winners, HajiMohamed disclosed, few number of participants in the events forced the body to hand over little cash to the winners.

"I call on well-wishers to support DADA in an effort to see to it the association successfully holds tournaments, sports lovers that are willing to back the association should contact secretary general, Kamdasi Kibago."

He, moreover, disclosed UDC players are now eager to give their all and get good results in the national darts club championship.

Paramjeet Singh, UDC's vice-chairman, and Wallani, also disclosed the success turns out to be the most significant achievement the outfit has posted in the sport.

Wallani said: "We have worked hard for many years, winning the tournament, therefore, is a worthy achievement for us."

He disclosed darts is slowly winning recognition at the domestic level, adding a good number of youths are currently taking part in the sport because of the game's coverage in social media.

"Winning the regional darts club championship is the biggest achievement for us, we have ultimately clinched the trophy after nine years of competing in several tournaments," Singh disclosed.

"Our club's players had trained well for the competition and went on to beat the rest of the participating teams, hard work has indeed paid off."

HOUSTON

JAMES Harden was pestered and harassed on defense by Patrick Beverley for most of Houston's game against the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday night.

Despite all of Beverley's antics Harden still scored 47 points and the Rockets outlasted the Clippers 102-93 in a wild game that saw Los Angeles coach Doc Rivers ejected in the fourth quarter.

Afterward, Russell Westbrook was asked about Beverley's defensive effort against Harden.

"Pat Bev trick y'all like he play defense," Westbrook said. "He don't guard nobody, man. It's just running around doing nothing. As

you seen what happened - 47. All that commotion to get 47."

Houston was up two with about two minutes left when Beverley, a former Rocket, fouled out. Harden made both free throws before grabbing a rebound on the other end and hitting a 3 to make it 95-88.

Beverley was given a technical foul during a timeout after the play and Harden hit the two free throws.

Rivers was then given two technical fouls and ejected to the delight of son Austin Rivers, the Houston guard who laughed and signaled for the officials to T-up his father. Doc Rivers spent several more seconds screaming at the referees before slowly walking across the court and to the locker

room. Doc Rivers said after the game that he was upset with the officials because of a mix up with the number of timeouts. He said that he tried to challenge a play but that it was past the 30 seconds allotted after a play in which to make a challenge. So they told him he didn't burn a timeout on the challenge and he had two remaining. His ejection came after they said he was out of timeouts when he called the timeout where Beverley received his technical.

"We didn't deserve to win with the way we were playing right now offensively or defensively but mistakes like that cannot happen on this level," Doc Rivers said. "That

## Jamal Malinzi, FIFA and US intervention on Sepp Blatter

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

WORLD soccer body FIFA has slapped a ten year ban on former Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president Jamal Malinzi and directed that he pays around one billion shillings in fine for misconduct while in office.

At the local level this verdict on the basis of own investigations and assessment of what was being in relation to the former TFF president notably prejudices his case in court, and potentially opens a problem of having two verdicts in one case - one by a FIFA court and another by state courts in the country. The FIFA verdict may have an appeal channel but it is hard to see how it could help out.

The verdict on Malinzi by FIFA is part of a sea change in the way in which the global organization runs its affairs, and it did not arise from its own internal deliberations but outside intervention. The FIFA culture was similar to the culture in project and NGO aid for many years, that it reflected shared goals and converging sentiments about the world, and recognized sovereignty as basic rule of operation.

In that context FIFA would expect that a portion of the funds would indeed be put to good purpose, but avoid fussy and intrusive auditing, precisely the sort of action by the United States that changed FIFA culture.

It is a bit difficult to explain origins of the hefty intrusion into FIFA affairs that was launched by the United States law enforcing arm, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) into former FIFA president Dr Joseph Sepp Blatter.

At one point, back in 2015 when the US investigation was shaking up FIFA top down, Russia's president Vladimir Putin publicly said he saw the corruption investigations, an attempt by the U.S. to oust Sepp Blatter from his post as punishment for continuing to support Russia as host for the 2018 World Cup. Thus cor-



Jamal Malinzi

ruption was ignored and politics put at centre.

Both aspects of the issue were realized as the Russian president had suggested, that the FIFA president lost his position as well as a series of other close lieutenants, but he managed to steer FIFA secretary general Dr Giovanni Infantino, a fellow Swiss national who hails 20 kilometers or so from Sepp Blatter's home place into that position.

That was at best a pyrrhic victory as the new FIFA leader saw the shift in how to run FIFA affairs as something that has to be taken in all seriousness and the culture in FIFA change in total. Some leaders in developing countries were taking time to learn that things had changed, aware that FIFA respected sovereignty uppermost.

They were not entirely wrong in their calculation but the effects of the US campaign and wider politics of global transparency, and impact of widespread allegations of corruption during the fourth

phase presidency were taking their toll. The Jamal presidency in TFF was orchestrated like club leaderships where various accountability issues were raised, this time but by FBI pushing but by an external force similar to the FBI in the case of investigations into dealings in FIFA headquarters in 2015. It was a changed political atmosphere in the country, unexpectedly.

There was nothing to suggest that this kind of shift was likely, as the ruling party had swept the polls and it was expected to take the 'business as usual' attitude. Promises to fight corruption were supposed to be campaign talk so as to get the votes, and heavyweights smiled. Wrongly!

So Malinzi found himself in a changed national situation the way Papa Blatter was astonished to see US

investigators knocking at the FIFA door in 2015, with guesswork at to the reason for going after Blatter being spotted in how the 2018 World Cup finals were decided, and then the 2022 finals.

It is in this regard that most accusations of palm greasing and heavy pay offs were made, while President Putin's charges that the key reason was having awarded the 2018 finals to Russia instead of the US looked spurious.

Decisions on where to play the finals are made years or nearly a decade earlier, for instance by the time of investigations the Qatar decision had been made already, despite that there were seven years down the road before the finals are staged.

Still there is an issue as to whether the former TFF leader can use the clemency provisions which apparently his former colleague Michael Wambura was putting into motion but little was heard with regard to Malinzi.

The point however is that FIFA culture was neo-patrimonial, where the father of an estate decides how its earnings are spent, until something clicked in the United States as to the Qatar decisions. Perhaps the pay outs were astonishing for too many people.



LA Clippers' Patrick Beverley, left, drives toward the basket as Houston Rockets' James Harden defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2019, in Houston. (AP Photo)

## Harden scores 47 points, Rockets beat Clippers 102-93

was awful and the response was to throw me out? I didn't swear. I just said: 'This is nuts.'

Crew chief Tony Brothers said the Clippers were incorrectly told that they would keep their timeout after it was determined they couldn't challenge a play.

"He was given an opportunity to try to get his composure, but it didn't happen," Brothers said. "He came out onto the floor when we wanted to start resuming play. He was given a technical foul. The first one he says: 'I don't care,' and he continued to stay on the floor so he was given a second technical and ejected."

Austin Rivers will still laughing about the situation after the game

and tweeted: "Welp... thanksgiving is going to be weird," before talking to reporters.

"He actually is sensitive with stuff like that so we'll see what happens," Austin Rivers said. "I love him, but it was a really good moment that I enjoyed a lot ... I really enjoyed that. It was fun."

Harden made both free throws before JaMychal Green made a 3 for Los Angeles. But Harden stole the ball from Kawhi Leonard, and Tyson Chandler made a reverse dunk with 37 seconds left to make it 100-91.

Leonard led the Clippers with 26 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists and Lou Williams added 20 points off the bench. AP



## FIFA hires Arsene Wenger for global soccer development role

GENEVA

FIFA has hired Arsene Wenger in a full-time role leading its global work developing soccer.

The former Arsenal manager accepted FIFA's offer Wednesday more than two months after it was first reported, and one week after talks with Bayern Munich about the German champion's vacant head coach job.

FIFA said Wenger's title will be chief of global football development. He will oversee the rules-making panel known as IFAB, coaching programs and technical analysis of games at FIFA tournaments.

Wenger will also help FIFA create an executive program "tailored to encourage former professional players to enter management," soccer's world body said in a statement.

"I know I can contribute to this objective," Wenger said, citing FIFA's aim to develop the game globally, "and will put all my energy into this."

The 70-year-old Frenchman effectively replaces Marco van Basten who was FIFA technical director until October 2018.

Wenger has worked as an analyst for broadcasters including Qatar-based beIN Sports since leaving Arsenal last year after 22 seasons.

He led Arsenal to three Premier League titles, seven F.A. Cup trophies, and was beaten finalist in the 2006 Champions League and

2000 UEFA Cup.

Wenger also coached Monaco to league and cup titles in France, and was a European pioneer in Japanese soccer when he coached Nagoya Grampus Eight before joining Arsenal.

"Arsene Wenger's profound knowledge and passion for the different aspects of our game sets him apart as one of the most respected personalities in football," FIFA President Gianni Infantino said.

While mulling FIFA's offer, Wenger was linked with club jobs and told beIN he was attracted by the idea of coaching a national team at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

His move to Zurich adds credibility to FIFA's claims to be changing the culture of international soccer after a slew of corruption cases prosecuted in the United States, and ongoing investigations in France and Switzerland of World Cup bidding contests.

"I believe that the new FIFA we have seen emerging in recent years has the sport itself at the very heart of its objectives," Wenger said in a FIFA statement.

The hiring won praise from England star and BBC presenter Gary Lineker, who told his 7.4 million Twitter followers it was an "excellent appointment. Football courses through his veins."

AP

## Senegal, Nigeria win in African Cup qualifying

JOHANNESBURG

SENEGAL and Nigeria started with wins on the first day of the final stage of qualifying for the 2021 African Cup of Nations on Wednesday.

Senegal was comfortable in a 2-0 victory over Republic of Congo, and Nigeria less so when it came from behind to edge Benin 2-1.

Senegal opened its qualifying campaign less than four months after losing to Algeria in the final of this year's African Cup in Egypt. Sidy Sarr and Habibou Diallo sealed the win over Congo in Group I with first-half goals. Sadio Mane also played.

Semifinalists at this year's African Cup, the Nigerians made a fumbling start to the decisive group stage when they went behind in the third minute at home in Uyo to Stephane Sessegnon's goal following a defensive error. Victor Osimhen converted a penalty on the brink of halftime and Samuel Kalu scored the winner in the second half to put three-time African champions Nigeria top of Group L.

The result provided some relief for Nigeria head coach Gernot Rohr, whose relationship with the Nigeria Football Federation has become uneasy since failing to make the African Cup final in Egypt.

Cameroon, the 2021 host, was held 0-0 at home by Cape Verde to draw another blank under new coach Toni Conceicao, the second goalless



Victor Osimhen

draw in two games under Conceicao. Cameroon has already qualified as host but is playing in qualifying for match practice. The Cameroonians couldn't find the target again in their Group F opener after a 0-0 draw against Tunisia in the Portuguese coach's first game in charge a month ago. Conceicao replaced former Netherlands international Clarence Seedorf, who was fired after Cameroon's title defense at this year's African Cup in Egypt ended with a round of 16 defeat by Nigeria.

The top two in each group will qualify for the 24-team finals except in Cameroon's group, where just one other team will make it through. The qualifiers run until November next year.

African champion Algeria starts its campaign on Thursday against Zambia. Egypt plays Kenya the same day and the Pharaohs will be without Mohamed Salah for that game and Monday's meeting with Comoros, the Egyptian Football Association said, because of an ankle injury. Salah has

been wearing a protective boot on his left foot while sitting out training with Egypt.

New coach Hossam el-Badry, a former Egypt player, will take charge of his country in a competitive game for the first time against Kenya as the team moves on from the bitter disappointment of not even making the quarterfinals at their home tournament this year. That failure led to the departure of coach Javier Aguirre and the resignation of the entire EFA board.

There were also wins in Wednesday's qualifiers for Namibia, Malawi, Sudan, Gambia, Central African Republic and Guinea-Bissau. Sudan provided the most resounding result with a 4-0 rout of 10-man Sao Tome and Principe.

Sierra Leone and Lesotho drew 1-1 in an eventful game in an empty stadium in Freetown. Sierra Leone was ordered by FIFA to play the game behind closed doors as punishment for fans misbehaving in a game against Liberia in September, when they threw objects and invaded the field.

Kwame Quee gave Sierra Leone the lead with 20 minutes to go. Thabantso Jane equalized in injury time and after both teams had a man sent off. Lesotho captain Marepe Basia was given a second yellow for his foul on George Davies in the final 10 minutes. Davies was sent off for retaliating. AP

## LA Galaxy, Zlatan Ibrahimovi mutually part ways after 2 years

CARSON, CALIF.

YOU'RE welcome and goodbye, Los Angeles.

Zlatan Ibrahimovi and the LA Galaxy are officially parting ways after two eventful seasons, the 38-year-old Swedish superstar and the club announced Wednesday.

"I came, I saw, I conquered," Ibrahimovi wrote on Twitter. "Thank you (at)LAGalaxy for making me feel alive again. To the Galaxy fans - you wanted Zlatan, I gave you Zlatan. You are welcome. The story continues...Now go back to watch baseball."

The Swedish superstar scored 56 goals in 52 MLS games after joining the Galaxy in March 2018, injecting his inimitable blend of talent and swagger into a stagnating club. This season, he scored a franchise-record 30 goals - more than the rest of the Galaxy roster combined (28).

A week before Zlatan debuted with a dramatic two-goal performance as a substitute in a win over crosstown rival Los Angeles FC, he announced his arrival in Hollywood by taking out a full-page ad in the Los Angeles Times reading simply: "Dear Los Angeles, You're welcome."

"Since his arrival in 2018, Zlatan has positively influenced the sport of soccer in Los Angeles," Galaxy President Chris Klein said in a state-

ment announcing the departure. "We are grateful for his work ethic and passion. We thank Zlatan for his professionalism and immeasurable impact on the Los Angeles community and the soccer community in North America as a whole."

Ibrahimovi's MLS jaunt was a mixed success, at least by his lofty standards. He was an elite, steady scorer for the five-time league champions and was likely the league's top box-office draw on the road, and he kept the market in thrall with his bold pronouncements and rivalries with opponents and clubs, particularly LAFC in the Galaxy's El Trafico rivalry series.

But the Galaxy won just one playoff game in Zlatan's tenure, and they finished eighth in the overall league table this season after missing the playoffs in his debut campaign. He lost the MLS MVP award this year to LAFC's Carlos Vela, who scored a league-record 34 goals.

Although Ibrahimovi was their most important player for the past two seasons, the Galaxy didn't expect Ibrahimovi to end his career with them, and he does not appear to be close to retirement. Rumors of his departure have been heard for months, and Ibrahimovi has never stayed at any club for more than four seasons in his peripatetic career.

AP

## Alvaro Morata: Chelsea teammates drove me 'crazy'

MADRID

ATLETICO Madrid striker Alvaro Morata has said his time at Chelsea was driving him "crazy", with his own teammates doubting his ability.

The Spain international, whose 18-month loan move to Atletico becomes permanent next summer, is enjoying a rich vein of form having scored in six consecutive games.

"I'm happier now," Morata said on COPE radio on Tuesday night. "It wasn't a good time in my football life, I'd stopped enjoying it. At times I didn't believe in myself."

The 27-year-old spent 18 months in the Premier League, in which he struggled for form and fitness, before joining Atletico in January this year.

"I was playing some games in England and I had the feeling that when I got into space, my teammates looked at me and I knew

they thought I wouldn't do anything good with the ball," he added.

"It was driving me crazy. I had a bad time."

There have been persistent questions throughout Morata's career about his ability to deal with the pressure of top-level football, even among those close to him.

"I've smashed my phone after games. I've got home and thrown it against a wall."

"I had a back injury. I went to Germany for treatment... Two days later I played, my back hurt again, I had a terrible game. I had all these messages on my phone saying 'don't worry, good times are coming' and I threw it against the wall."

Morata is set to play for Spain in their Euro 2020 qualifier against Malta on Friday and Romania on Monday, having scored three goals in the national team's last three games. (Agencies)

BY RYAN BAILEY, YAHOO SPORTS

LIVERPOOL has won three major European trophies during the Premier League era, but a domestic title has thus far eluded them. They came within touching distance of winning the league last season, in 2014 under Brendan Rodgers, and in 2009 when Fernando Torres was in his prime, but it has been 30 years since a title-celebrating bus parade was required on Merseyside.

But in 2019-20, the Premier League appears to be Liverpool's to lose.

With 12 matches played, Jurgen Klopp's side are undefeated and eight points clear atop the table. Manchester City, who took the title race to the final day last season, are nine points behind in the rear view mirror.

Not only do Liverpool boast arguably the best attacking trident in Europe, but they have fixed the main problem that has been keeping them from glory: the defense. They undoubtedly have the league's best fullbacks (who are also two of the league's best playmakers) and they have the best center back in the world.

Last weekend, Liverpool beat the incumbent champions 3-1 at the Anfield fortress where they are unbeaten in 44 home league games. And it is not the only advantage Jurgen Klopp's Reds have over Pep Guardiola's men; Liverpool have already faced all their "Big Six" rivals, plus second-place interloper Leicester. By comparison, City have only met Liverpool and an out-of-sorts Tottenham side thus far.

Frankly, if Liverpool do not win the Premier League this season, it seems that they never will.

But despite their enviable position, it would be naive to suggest the title race is over, especially after Liverpool failed to hold a similar advantage last term. If there is one team in the world who can close a nine-point gap with 26 games remaining, it is Pep's Manchester City.

So if Liverpool's lead were to be eroded this season, where would the slips most likely happen?

The obvious answer is during the hectic holiday schedule, where the Premier League annually crams fixtures around Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Unlike their competitors, Liverpool are obliged to compete in an extra competition next month: the Club World Cup, which will take place 13 hours, 4,400 miles and three time zones away in Qatar.

Not only have the Reds had to rearrange an away trip to West Ham, but they are scheduled to play in the League Cup against Aston Villa the day before their first Club World Cup



Jurgen Klopp, Virgil van Dijk and Liverpool have a healthy advantage atop the Premier League right now, but where might they slip up? (Agencies)

match. (None of the traveling players will be involved in the League Cup match, but this fixture will add to the fatigue of a squad that arguably lacks depth.)

Between November 23 and the weekend of January 5, Liverpool will play 13 games in 40 days across five competitions. That averages out to a game every three days. Over a period of nearly a month and a half.

On Boxing Day, Liverpool face a tricky trip to Leicester - who have no European competitions to worry about, and who were unfortunate to leave Anfield without any points in October. That will come just days after the Club World Cup final, and there will be only two days of rest

before Wolves come to Anfield. Three days later, the Reds host a resilient Sheffield United, who almost plundered a point at Bramall Lane in September.

These are exactly the kind of taxing games where Liverpool could drop points. Remember: It is exactly within this period of time that a seemingly unbeatable Manchester City suffered three of their four league defeats last season.

If the Reds escape the festive season with their lead intact, there are still plenty of hazards that lay ahead. In the two weeks that follow, they must travel away to Tottenham and then host a Manchester United side who figured out how to shut

down their marauding fullbacks in the previous meeting.

Two Merseyside derbies also lay ahead against Everton, while the end-of-season run-in looks particularly treacherous. Liverpool must visit Man City at the start of April, knowing that they have lost their last two league trips to the Etihad (including a 5-0 rollicking in 2017).

If that match doesn't provide a points swing in City's favor, then Liverpool's final three matches of the season may do so. The Reds conclude by visiting Arsenal, hosting Frank Lampard's Chelsea and visiting a Newcastle side who may need points to avoid relegation.

At some point in this run-in, Liverpool will also have to squeeze in the rearranged trip to West Ham, where they only managed a draw last season. Couple that with another potentially deep Champions League run, and Liverpool will have their work cut out for them when the finish line approaches.

Of course, Klopp's Reds are brilliant, and they may surprise us all with an "Invincibles" undefeated season. But all signs suggest they will not maintain their furious pace from now until May. Not only do they have excessive fixtures to worry about, but also the looming danger of injury to a squad with limited depth.

Could Liverpool keep going if Virgil van Dijk was out of action for a sustained period? (City have already shown this season how damaging it is to be without your first-choice center back.) Are the deputies for Trent Alexander-Arnold and Andrew Robertson good enough? Can the entire first-choice XI stay fit for a season that may feature over 60 games? Title rivals Man City are living in a world of injury woes right now; Liverpool's may still lay ahead.

League dominance may seem straightforward to the Reds right now, but history tells us there is every reason to believe this title race will go right down to the wire.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

## Senegal, Nigeria win in African Cup qualifying

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

# Taifa Stars face Equatorial Guinea test in AFCON qualifiers



Haji Manara (L), a member of a committee for drumming support for senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars, speaks to reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the committee's appeal to soccer fans to attend the squad's 2021 Africa Cup of Nations' qualifiers' match against Equatorial Guinea, which will take place in the city today. Looking on (R) is Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) secretary general, Wilfred Kidao, and Taifa Stars supporters group's chairman, Karigo Godson. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

edition in Egypt.

It has been a while since there has been so much enthusiasm surrounding Tanzania.

Ndayiragije's appointment after Nigerian tactician Emmanuel Amunike's AFCON nightmare raised some eyebrows, but despite winning just one of the seven games he has been in charge of, he has managed to give identity to the team.

The results might not be in Ndayiragije's favour yet, but the truth is that the Africa Nations Championship (CHAN) and the World Cup qualifier and the one friendly that Tanzania has played were always going to be a transition period.

Plenty of players and tactics were tested during that stretch, and while Taifa Stars are far from a finished article.

They seem to be much closer to

utilizing the abundance of talent they possess, thanks to the open-minded and brave guidance of their coach.

However, the start of the 2021 AFCON qualification campaign means the time for experiments is over, as now results matter, so Tanzania cannot afford to underestimate any opponent, including Equatorial Guinea who are the lowest ranked team in the group that has highly rated Tunisia and Libya.

Equatorial Guinea are placed 135th on the FIFA ranking, a mere two places behind Tanzania, so underestimating them will be a bad move for Taifa Stars, with both sides searching for their first win in the campaign.

In Equatorial Guinea, Taifa Stars face a tricky opponent that is a mystery to fans, the press and even the technical bench.

Even Taifa Stars captain, Mbwana Samatta, said he is in the dark over the Central Africa nation, and does not know any of their players.

When asked how much he knew about their next opponents, Samatta said: "I am in good shape, let us wait for Friday. I know nothing about Equatorial Guinea. I don't know any of their player."

It is true, Equatorial Guinea are not one of the strong teams in the group and very little is known about them but we can't go there and undermine them. They have enough quality to give us a violent surprise.

The Nzalang Nacional results confirm that, as Sebastian Migne's men have only lost two of their last 10 games. A hard fought loss to Saudi Arabia and a narrow 1-0 defeat to Congo are

further proof Equatorial Guinea cannot be underestimated.

Equatorial Guinea also have dangerous weapon upfront, as Apollon Limassol's Emilio Nsue Lopez, the 30-year-old has 11 strikes in 21 appearances for his country so far.

The areas that Nsue usually targets are the channels between the central defender and the right wing, so Taifa Stars' Hassan Kessy and Gadiel Michael, who are expected to start as wide defenders, should be concerned about affording space to the veteran.

The truth is that Equatorial Guinea should not be able to spend too much time in Tanzania's half, as we all expect the Taifa Stars to dominate the game from the beginning.

Jonas Mkude and Hassan Dilunga possess enough skill and mobility to move the ball quickly enough and prevent Equatorial Guinea from enjoying enough possession.

However, despite the individual quality that Tanzania possess, Ndayiragije's men cannot afford to underestimate the opposition, as Equatorial Guinea have the weapons to hurt Taifa Stars and we all know how our clubs and national teams struggle against central and Western African sides.

More importantly, Tanzania has to avoid last campaign's nervous start. In the 2019 qualifiers, Tanzania's qualifying campaign did not get off to a good start, drawing their opening games with Lesotho and Uganda.

**TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**FRIDAY**

10:55 Jikoni Na Jami  
11:00 DADAZI Live!  
13:30 Kati za Wanao  
14:00 Radio Piana/Bongo Live  
15:00 PINDORIA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:55 KUSIKA  
18:00 #WISIQ  
18:30 #WISIQ  
19:00 #WISIQ  
19:30 #WISIQ  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL)** is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The brave girls louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV.

**eastafrika RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipanga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipanga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Kilimanjaro Marathon registration going fast

By Guardian Reporter

ENTRIES into next year's 18th Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, TIGO Half Marathon and the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run are up by 30% more compared to this time last year.

A statement issued by the race's organizers yesterday revealed that the trend is encouraging and have urged participants to take advantage of the early discounting period. This is an increase of 10% within the past week.

Participants can register through [www.kilimanjaramarathon.com](http://www.kilimanjaramarathon.com) or through TigoPesa by dialing \*149\*20#.

In the statement, the local Race Director, John Bayo, advised that numbers will be limited again across all 3 races (Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km, Tigo 21 Km Half Marathon and Grand Malt 5km Fun Run) to ensure the event sticks within the Official IAAF regulations of a safe carrying capacity.

This, according to Bayo, will ensure runners enjoy their time out on route without being overcrowded and so that the organizers can ensure they get all logistics in terms of the hydration and medical support needed on route and at the finish in line with the numbers expected.

On early discounting, the organizers said for those who register from October 1, 2019 to January 14, 2020. For Tanzanians and East African citizens, they will pay 15,000/- for 42 km and 21 km and 5000/- between those dates and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay 20,000/- for 42km and 21 km and 5000/- for 5km.

For Tanzanian residents/permit holders and SADC members they will pay USD 35 for 42 km and 21km and 5 USD from October 1 2019 to January 14, 2020 but as from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay to USD 45 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km.

International runners, as noted by organizers, will pay USD 70 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km from October 1 2019 to January 14, 2020 and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay USD 85 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km.

According to the organizers, entries will close at midnight on February 16, 2020 or earlier, if capacity is reached.

They also reminded runners to ensure they fetch their race numbers in advance of the event, at one of the collection points that will again be hosted at Mlimani City in Dar es Salaam from February 22-23 next year, Kibo Palace in Arusha from February 25-26, 2020, and at Keys Hotel in Moshi, Kilimanjaro from February 27-28, 2020.

"Proof of identity and confirmation of paid entries need to be brought to these points when collecting your race numbers," read the statement in part.

Official sponsors for next year's event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, TIGO, Grand Malt, Kilimanjaro Water, TPC Limited, Simba Cement, Barclays Bank while the official suppliers are Kibo Palace Hotel, Keys Hotel, GardaWorld Security, Precision Air, and CMC Automobiles.

Next year's race will be on Sunday March 1, 2020 at the Moshi Cooperatives University and will play host to a IAAF route measured 42km Marathon, a 21km Half Marathon and a 5km Fun run.

The event is organized by Wild Frontiers and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions limited.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SENIOR national soccer team "Taifa Stars" will be hoping to start their 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers' campaign with a win against Equatorial Guinea today.

Taifa Stars host Equatorial Guinea in the AFCON qualifiers' Group J match at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Under the stewardship of Etienne Ndayiragije, Taifa Stars are seeking to return to the AFCON finals for their third appearance and back to back qualification after managing to end the 39 years' absence by qualifying in the previous

## TCA election candidate targets improvement in cricket administration

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM's cricket stakeholder, Premji Pindoria, has promised to oversee massive improvement in cricket administration at the domestic level, should he be elected into chairman's post at Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA).

The national cricket governing body is set to hold election at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday to bring in a leadership, which will be in power for three years.

Pindoria disclosed he will see to it domestic cricket clubs have the right to elect officials into the TCA, as opposed to the procedure used by the association's outgoing leadership, in which Ordinary Members that total 40 were the only group which had, among others, power to cast vote in elections.

The candidate, who is also an official at Dar es Salaam-based cricket club, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel SC, said his leadership will categorize cricket clubs into two.

He disclosed the first will constitute clubs, which do not have cricket facilities, adding the outfits will each send two representatives to the TCA general meeting and election. The clubs currently total 13.

He pointed out the Tanzania Cricket Players Association has also been included in the category.



Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Club's official, Premji Pindoria (L), hands over man of the match award to Ismaili Community team's player, Jitender Gariya, after the completion of this season's GP Gymkhana Shield competition's game pitting Ismaili Community against Sandy Super Strikers, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. Pindoria is contesting for chairman's post at Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) election slated for Sunday in the city. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA

"The second category is made up of premier clubs which have cricket facilities. They are Tanga's Anadil Burhani Sports Club, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) and Annadil Burhani Sports Club which is also in the city," he noted. "The mentioned outfits will each send three representatives to the TCA general meeting and election."

Pindoria disclosed his leadership will construct a modern cricket stadium, noting Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakymbembe, has allocated a plot for the project.

"Currently TCA does not have a venue, the association hosts matches on grounds owned by clubs, the cricket stadium will host domestic tournaments and international matches," he noted.

"We will also see to it all

cricket venues are properly renovated, the DGC oval is currently the only ground which meets standards. The presence of good facilities will help players improve performance."

He further disclosed his leadership will see to it that night cricket is played on regular basis.

He pointed out TCA will put floodlights at Dar es Salaam's Leaders Club venue and several others, which will be hosting night competitions.

He moreover disclosed his leadership will employ a coach on permanent basis. The gaffer will be tasked with coaching the national team, as well as organizing coaching seminars for senior domestic players.

Pindoria had, as well, headed an interim committee, which was formed by Mwakymbembe in July, to

oversee amendment of the TCA constitution.

The committee, consisting of seven people, was asked to collect views from all cricket stakeholders at the domestic level and put the views in the draft constitution. It was also asked to coordinate the amendment process and the sport's stakeholders' meeting which will approve the draft constitution.

The body, which was given two months to supervise the process, was as well asked to present the draft constitution to the Registrar for Sports Associations and Clubs for registration. Pindoria moreover disclosed he and several other cricket stakeholders had, for almost two years, been fighting for the amendment of the association's constitution, as according to them, had prevented the sport's stakeholders from effectively contributing to the sport's development.

The TCA election candidates, who are also in Pindoria's team, include Shaheed Dhanani, who is vying for the association's vice-chairman position, and John Zablou that is contesting for the treasurer's position.

The list also has Adil Kasam and Ashish Nagewadia, who are vying for the TCA Board Members' posts, and Jessica Emily that is contesting for the Women Representative's post. Jessica and Shaheed were, as well, the interim committee members.

## Taqball launched in Dar

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Olympic Committee (TOC) yesterday launched a sport, known as Taqball, and promised to take the sport to all parts of the country.

Speaking at the launch of the new sport in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TOC vice-president, Henry Tandau, said the committee will make sure that the sports is played in all parts of the country and he also promised that the country will be the first African nation to host an African Championship for the sport.

Taqball is a combination of table tennis and football, it is played in singles and doubles formats on curved tables using size 5 balls for seniors while juniors use size 4 balls.

He said the sport is very good as it attracts a lot of youth and its rules and regulations are not complicated.

"We promise to help in the formation of the national association for this sport, register it with the government and take the sport to all parts of the country, it is also our wish to see to it that Tanzania becomes the first African country to host African Championship for the sport," he said.

The sport, which is recognized by Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), started in 2014 and its international body, FITEQ, was formed in 2017. Tanzania yesterday became the 14th African state to launch it.

Marius Vizer JR, who is the Head of International Relations for FITEQ, said they are happy that TOC has accepted the sport and promised to continue working with the country to develop it.

He described the sport as one of the fast growing sports, which is loved by people of all works of life.

"We will support Tanzania so that this sport grows and reach all parts of the country, soon we will soon organize coaching and refereeing courses, our aim is to see that many people are playing the game" he said.

Vizer mentioned main rules of the sport as best of three sets, in which a player that will score 20 points first in a set will be the winner, there is change service after every four points.

A point is replayed in case of edge ball, player (single) or the team (doubles) has a maximum of three touches, minimum one pass/team in doubles before the return, touching the ball twice consecutively with the same body part is forbidden and the last rule is that returning the ball twice consecutively with the same body part is forbidden.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

