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TTB elated by Chinese tourists' maiden visit

By Guardian Reporter, Serengeti

Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) director general Devotha Mdachi (pictured) and board chairman Judge (rt) Thomas Mihayo have affirmed here that the inaugural specially organized visit by tourists from China was a great success. They made the comments at the peak of Far East visitors' sightseeing.

The over 340 Chinese tourists who jetted into the country last Sunday have completed a three-day itinerary in the country, visiting Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara and Serengeti National Park, in addition to meeting various individuals and potential partners along the way.

"It was a great step by Tanzania to attract the big number of visitors from places that were

“It was a successful introduction of Tanzanian attractions to the people of China and the Far East. They came, saw and concluded that this is one destination which was yet to be discovered by Chinese people

previously not thought of," said Judge Mihayo. The tourists were amazed by the surprise 'bush lunch,' organized by the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority through Serena Hotels catering, where the guests were treated with a sumptuous buffet in the wilderness of the crater, near Engoitokitok Hippo Lake.

"It was a successful introduction of Tanzanian attractions to the people of China and the Far East. They came, saw and concluded that this is one destination which was yet to be discovered by Chinese people," the director general enthused.

Aggressive marketing by TTB helped bring the more than 300 tourists from the Far East, with 10,000 more expected to jet in during the coming months.

"We still have a lot to do in terms of marketing because as it seems, people elsewhere

Economy healthy even as over 10,000 businesses close down



An excavator deployed by China Railway Seventh Group at work at the starting point of the construction of Dar es Salaam's 6.23-km Selander Bridge, which is expected to run from near Aga Khan Hospital - over Indian Ocean waters - right to Coco Beach. Implementation of the 556.1bn/- project is lined up to take 36 months, with the Tanzanian government contributing 49.457bn/- Photo: Selemani Mpochi.

That is the reality. If things were that bad, how could the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) continue collecting taxes? If things were that bad our economy would have been rated as dormant," Dr Kijaji noted

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

MORE than 10,000 businesses have been closed in the past 10 months of the current 2018/19 financial year, the National Assembly was told yesterday.

Responding to questions in debate on estimates of the Ministry of Industry and Trade for the next financial year, the deputy minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Ashatu Kijaji said a total of 16,252 were closed between July 2018 and April 2019.

However, the deputy minister who sought to clarify concerns raised by parliamentarians that the economy was nose-diving, said the situation was not that bad because a total of 147,818 business units were opened in the same period.

"That is the reality. If things were that bad, how could the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) continue collecting taxes? If things were that bad our economy would have been rated as dormant," Dr Kijaji noted.

She asserted that suggestions that the econ-

Dutch poultry giants to engineer market shifts

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

SEVEN poultry farming companies from The Netherlands are set to provide training for Tanzanian farmers on modern methods of producing high-grade chickens and eggs.

At the signing of a memorandum of understanding here yesterday it was revealed that the project will target small-scale poultry farmers to enable them shift from subsistence to commercial production.

The training sessions will cover profitability for broilers and layers, where support will come in the form of equipment, training on building modern chicken cages, making feeds, appropriate slaughtering and marketing of chicken and eggs.

“The agreement we signed today is meant to transform poultry farming in the country with improved productivity, income and nutrition. I urge all small-scale farmers to grab this opportunity and change their lives for the better

The signing took place at

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the Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Institute, where Kilimanjaro regional commissioner Dr Anna Mghwira said the first phase is set to cover the northern regions, with provision of equipment and training by the Dutch firms.

The poultry giants from the European Union member state are renowned for advancements in livestock keeping technology. Those that inked the agreement are Aeres, Kondijs, Impex, I Grow Chicken, Hendrix Genetics, Vencomatic Group, and Gd Co.

"The agreement we signed today is meant to transform poultry farming in the country with improved productivity, income and nutrition. I urge all small-scale farmers to

Research fails MNH quest as a centre of excellence

By Henry Mwangonde

EFFORTS by the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) to be a centre of excellence in healthcare provision in the country and beyond have not materialized owing to insufficient research and documentation of cases for reference, it has been revealed.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the MNH's first research dissemination symposium for 2019, MNH executive director Prof Lawrence Museru (pictured) said most



outstanding clinical works undertaken by healthcare

providers at MNH are not recorded owing to low research output.

"Research output at MNH, although it has been increasing for the past four years, is still low compared to the number of healthcare providers," he stated.

"For example, for the year 2016/17, there were 13 publications in peer review journals. In 2017/18, there were 37 publications featuring MNH staff. This number is low if you compare, for example to the number of medical specialists,"

he further noted.

Prof Museru specified that in recent years there has been a paradigm shift from experience-based to evidence-based practice in medicine.

Evidence suggests that patients who receive care in research active hospitals have better health outcomes, the director stated, elaborating that research-active hospitals tend to be advanced in learning, and

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“The TRA's approach of closing businesses exacerbates the burden of non-performing loans in commercial banks, leading to higher interest rates by financial institutions,

omy was performing poorly were at variance with reality, given the fact that since President John Magufuli came to office, monthly revenue collections by TRA have never gone below one trillion/-.

The MPs' concerns cited unfriendly government policies towards businesses especially in tax collection, which is said to scare away investors on the one hand and closure of already operating businesses.

Last month, the executive director of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) Geoffrey Mwanje criticised TRA for discouraging investments in the country through harsh tax collection methods.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam, Mwanje who is also a member of the TRA board of directors said officials from the central government revenue collection agency have in recent years been closing businesses failing to pay taxes and fines on time "instead of engaging them to know the challenges they face."

The 'money or padlock' approach, Mwanje said, was discouraging local and

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Economy healthy even as over 10,000 businesses close down

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foreign investors and scaring away potential ones intending to set up businesses.

"The TRA's approach of closing businesses exacerbates the burden of non-performing loans in commercial banks, leading to higher interest rates by financial institutions," he similarly noted.

In March, the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) carried out raids on currency trading shops in Dar es Salaam to conduct an impromptu audit of their activities following a similar exercise in Arusha at last year's end. BoT said the exercise would continue in other parts of the country.

The central bank highlighted that on February 27, 2019, the Bank of Tanzania conducted "normal inspection of bureaux de change in Dar es Salaam and established that many of the shops operated without following the law and regulations governing their businesses."

Following inspections unearthing irregularities, "deregistering all culprit shops was underway and the exercise will continue for the foreseeable future." During its December 2018 inspection exercise countrywide, it was established that many bureaux de change were operating clandestinely, the statement intoned.



Bishop Glenn Sydnays (in specs) of the Anglican Church in Australia cuts a ribbon to inaugurate Bunda Girls Secondary School in Mara Region yesterday. Flanking him are Archbishop George Okoth (L) of the Diocese of Mara and retired Mara Diocese archbishop Eliikia Omino Dea. Photo: Correspondent George Marato

Research fails MNH quest to become centre of excellence

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more likely to have wider treatment options and hence benefit patients.

He, however, pointed out some strategies put in place by the national hospital to address the challenge, including having a research policy that recognizes research efforts by allocating time for clinical research as well as establishing seed funding for research capacity building.

The hospital is also collaborating with internal and external research institutions, and at the same time conducting training on research methodology and related topics in order to increase research skills, the don affirmed.

Since 2015, the hospital has been allocating seed funding for capacity building in research but utilization of the funds has been low. In the year 2017/18, a total of 57m/- was awarded, just 57.7percent of the budgeted amount. This was the case despite the criteria for award set at absolute minimum, which the director said was obtaining ethical clearance from MNH.

Prof Charles Majinge, the chairman of the MNH board of directors, said in his remarks that research is part and parcel of medical care provision. There is no way solutions to address challenges facing the sector can be addressed without research, he added.

EAC roots for more conducive regional investment climate

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) has reaffirmed its commitment in advocating for a better and conducive climate investment in the region.

Deputy Secretary General in charge of productive and social sectors, Christophe Bazivamo expressed the regional commitment when speaking at the EAC-German Business and Investment Expert Dialogue co-organised by the East African Business Council (EABC) and the German-African Business Association was held in Arusha on Tuesday.

He said the draft EAC investment policy which is currently under consideration by the Council of Ministers, envisages a transformed upper middle-income EAC that is a competitive common investment area with

a more liberal, predictable and transparent investment environment.

Bazivamo told the participants that the investment policy lays ground for Partner States to cooperate in investment promotion, facilitation, liberalization and protection of cross border investment.

"Partner states are to streamline and simplify administrative procedures related to investments, promote and maintain dialogue with the private sector and exchange business information," he added.

He disclosed that at the regional level, through the Consultative Dialogue Framework, EAC has developed an open channel where the private sector, civil society and other interest groups interface with the Secretary General.

"I take this opportunity to

thank our partners Afrika Verein and EABC for continued good working relationship and request for further collaboration in supporting the private sector to achieve the business goals and promote the region as an ideal place to invest and do business," said Bazivamo.

For his part, the Executive Director of the East African Business Council, Peter Mathuki said it is with no doubt that if all Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) hindering trade within the EAC Common Market are removed, the domestic demand and market of over 150 million people from the six EAC partner states will attract investments from Germany and all over the world as it will be more economically viable for all investors to invest in the EAC.

In his remarks read by EABC manager policy and standards, Lamech Wesonga, Mathuki said

EABC will continue to ensure that the agenda of the Private Sector is well articulated and received by the policymakers in order to promote a business environment conducive to business formation, growth, expansion.

The Chief Executive Officer of the German-African Business Association, Christoph Kanngiesser, said the dialogue provides an opportunity for networking and supports information exchange as well as better mutual understanding.

He urged the EAC to prioritize collaborative approaches that will see supply chains strengthened across borders and Governments laying the groundwork for the ease of movement of goods and people in the region.

The one-day dialogue brought together policy-makers, experts, private sector representatives from East Africa and Germany.

TTB elated by Chinese tourists' maiden visit

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believe Africa is a very remote area where acceptable provision of human needs is poor and comforts are rare," said Catherine Mbena from the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).

The TANAPA public relations officer said most people overseas know that Tanzania is endowed with breath-taking sites, abundant wildlife, exotic mountains, craters and game reserves, but it is also important to remind the world that, the country also has high class and luxurious lodges, hotels and campsites.

"We must also aggressively market our hospitality facilities and services so that visitors should feel comfortable when coming here, knowing that they will be well accommodated and take care of properly," she added.

Dutch poultry giants to engineer market shifts

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grab this opportunity and change their lives for the better," the RC said.

Dr Mghwira affirmed that if implemented and received by Tanzanians as envisaged, the project is likely to bring to an end perennial shortage of chicken that compels Tanzania to import poultry products from abroad.

Speaking at the event, Tanzanian Ambassador to the Netherlands Irene Kasyanju said the project whose implementation starts soon is set to bring a positive impact in the livestock sub-sector.

Mackenzie Masaki, head of agribusiness at the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC), said the project is an all-round capacity building for farmers, not only to produce high quality products but how to process, market and sell.



Media Council of Tanzania executive secretary Kajubi Mukajanga makes remarks at a one-day strategic meeting in Tanga municipality yesterday with media trainers from colleges and universities in the country. It was called to help participants share experience and knowledge on common ethical transgressions committed by the media. It emerged from the deliberations that many journalism students are inadequately exposed to the practical realities relating to the need to observe and defend professional ethics. The meeting was held in Tanga. Photo courtesy of MCT

Kenya beefs up security during Ramadhan amid terror threats

NAIROBI

KENYAN police yesterday urged citizens to be extra vigilant during the month of Ramadhan.

Police spokesman Charles Owino said security will be beefed up to secure mosques for Muslims to conduct their prayers peacefully and to avert possible al-Shabab attacks on churches.

"For a peaceful Ramadhan and the subsequent Eid festivities, security agencies have deployed officers around areas of interest within our cities and areas near the Kenya-Somalia border," Owino said in a statement issued in Nairobi.

The statement came as the Muslim community in Kenya observe the holy month of Ramadhan.

More police officers have been deployed for enhanced patrols, Owino said, urging Kenyans to exercise a high degree of vigilance and to re-



For a peaceful Ramadhan and the subsequent Eid festivities ...

port any suspicious persons or activities to authorities.

Terror attacks have previously been witnessed in the country during Ramadan, he said.

During Ramadan in June 2014, 150 people were killed when al-Shabab militants infiltrated Kenya and attacked coastal villages in Lamu and Tana River counties.

Al-Qaida-allied al-Shabab has vowed to attack Kenya after the east African nation made a cross-border incursion into Somalia in 2011 to flush out insurgents it blamed for kidnappings of tourists.

AGENCIES

PM to unveil new investment opportunities at CRDB Bank

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is expected to grace the forthcoming annual general meeting for the CRDB Bank as well as the related workshop for the financial institution's shareholders, to be held in Arusha next weekend.

"During the meeting and related workshop, CRDB Bank members will get the opportunity to learn about new investment opportunities as researched and

documented by experts from our financial institution," stated the Bank's executive director, Abdulmajid Nsekela during the occasion to announce the event here.

According to the executive director of CRDB Bank, the financial institution has over 30,000 shareholders across the country and counting. As it was mentioned, all these stakeholders are ripe to become new investors to help roll the nation's

economic wheel forward; therefore the bank will unveil these new portals during the members' seminar next Saturday.

In another development, the CRDB bank's venture beyond Tanzanian borders is reportedly also proving to be successful; the Bank's operations in Burundi have just recently ranked third in terms of Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE), as the bank boasts four branches in the neighbouring coun-

try.

The bank usually holds its annual general meetings around this time of the year at the Arusha International Conference Center (AICC) where the institution's annual performances get tabled before stakeholders.

The CRDB Bank is a leading financial services provider in Tanzania running operations and various branches in Tanzania and Burundi, intending to spread even further within

the East African bloc. The Bank was established in 1996 and was later on listed at The Dar Es Salaam Stock exchange (DSE) in June 2009.

Over the years, CRDB Bank has grown to become the most innovative and preferred financial services partner in the region. Supported by

a robust portfolio and uniquely tailored products, CRDB Bank remains the most responsive bank in the region.



A resident of Lindi Street in Ilala municipality, Dar es Salaam, demands money from a commuter bus conductor yesterday as contribution to self-help efforts to repair a road damaged by rain. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

Under The Same Sun donates laptops to 21 students with albinism

By Correspondent James Kandoya

Under The Same Sun (UTSS) through Vivian Grace Ash Project yesterday donated laptops to 21 students living with albinism to enable to perform better in their higher studies.

UTSS is a Christian charitable organization that promotes the well being of persons with albinism via education and advocacy

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at the handing over ceremony, the UTSS Executive Director Berthasia Ladislaus said the donation was the third phase.

She said in the third phase, a total of fifty three people with albinism studying in different universities are beneficiaries of the laptops and training all worth 71m/-

Ladislaus said that the donation it further aimed at enabling them to get opportunities through science and technology which is now developing at high speed.

She said mentioned the beneficiaries as six from master level, eleven from degree and four diplomas.

"UTSS supports people with albinism to get education so that they can participate in the community to bolster nation development," she said.

She added that there were about 417 PwA in the country have benefitted from the UTSS support calling the community to volunteer supporting them.

The executive director said all benefitted are graduates where one in PhD, nine in master degrees, thirty three in bachelor degrees, sixty three in diplomas, sixty one certificates and sixty three completed vocation training centre.

She however said PwA were facing a number of challenges including stigma and lack of employment.

For her part, the Project Coordinator, Grace Wabanthu said the beneficiaries will also undergo training on laptops procedures.

The Information Communication Technology Manager at UTSS Louis Kametta said the training aimed to give them the knowledge about cyber crime securities.

In a similar sentiment, a first student at Morogoro Muslim University Noor Kigeze thanked the UTSS and said promised to utilize to use the opportunities to bring changes.

He said the laptops will help them to enlarge the font saying that most of them are facing poor light vision.

"I call on other people to join hand efforts made by UTSS to support people with albinism," he said.


Seconding the argument Ally Amiri, pursuing a degree Education in Adult and Community Education at the University of Dar es salaam thanked the UTSS and called others to donate for PwA.

He said UTSS was doing a commendable because after training them it looked for jobs for those completed their course.

For her part, Irene George, a first year student in Cooperative and Community Development at Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU), in Kilimanjaro region expressed appre-

ciation on the donation.

He said it was a golden opportunity for them since they many while the resources donated are still scarce.



ANNOUNCEMENT

VIETTEL TANZANIA PLC "HALOTEL" would like to announce the appointment of the new Managing Director Mr. Nguyen Anh Son effectively from May 2019.


Mr. Son has more than 15 years' experience in Viettel Group, He has held different Managerial positions in Vietnam as well in overseas companies such as Mozambique and Burundi where he successfully worked as Managing Director.

Mr. Nguyen Anh Son is replacing Mr. Nguyen Van Son who has served as the Managing Director of VIETTEL TANZANIA PLC "HALOTEL".

Thus, in regards to that change for any official issue or matter involving Viettel Tanzania PLC should be directed to the new Managing Director Mr. Nguyen Anh Son.

It is our hope, that the above shall be positively considered.

Thank you
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF VIETTEL TANZANIA PLC



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CRDB Bank Plc managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (c) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the bank's 24th shareholders general meeting to be held in Arusha this coming Saturday, preceded by a stakeholders seminar. With him are CRDB deputy MD Joseph Witts (R) and Finance director Frederick Nshekanabo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Isles' economy is growing with impressive revenue collections'

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein said yesterday that the country's economy is growing with impressive revenue collections and expenditure.

He made the statement during his meeting with top officials from Finance and Planning Ministry. The officials presented to the President the ministry's performance report from July 2018 to March 2019.

He commended the ministry for good supervision of the economy as well as expenditures. He urged ministry officials to work closely with workers to ensure more de-

velopment successes.

Dr Shein directed the officials to inform Isles residents on the various development projects currently implemented by the government including the Zanzibar Urban Services Project (ZUSP) which gears to eliminate different challenges facing urban residents.

He added that officials from Indonesian government will be in Zanzibar from May 16th to 20th whereas among other issues they will discuss on how to implement the oil and gas project at Magapwani area.

Finance and Planning Minister, Ambassador Mohamed Ramia Ab-

diwawa said that economic indicators show that Isles' economy is stable.

He said the national gross income grew to 2874bn/- in 2018 compared to 2684bn/- in 2017, an increase of 7.1 percent. He attributed the growth to various factors including the number of tourists which increased by 20 percent to 520,809 from 433,474 tourists in 2017. He mentioned the other factors that contributed to economic growth as increased export of seaweed, bumper harvests of food crops and improvement of the transportation sub-sector.

Zanzibar Chief Secretary, Dr Ab-

dulhamid Yahya Mzee applauded the ministry for successfully implementation of ZUSP projects whereas some of the projects in both Pemba and Unguja Islands will be completed in a short period.

Director General of Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA), Salum Nasor presented a report on the various ongoing investment projects while the Director of Peoples Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) Juma Ameir informed the President on plans to construct the bank headquarter at Malindi town in Zanzibar.

Dr Shein also met and held talks with the Minister of Information,

Tourism and Heritage, Mahmoud Thabit Kombo. The minister presented the ministry's performance report for a period of July 2018 and March 2019.

According to Kombo the ministry has been able to organize the Urithi festival in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

He said the ministry also received digital equipment worth 89,204,100/- for record keeping from the government of Oman. He said during the period, the ministry organized the Zanzibar tourism festival which was officiated by Dr Shein in November 17, 2018.

TCRA launches biometric Sim card registration in the southern highlands

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in collaboration with telecommunication operators has launched the biometric registration of telephone lines (Sim card) in southern highlands zone.

This is to implement the national exercise which commenced on May 1, this year requiring all simcards holders to re-register by using National Identification Card (ID).

Speaking during the launch, TCRA manager for southern highlands zone Asajile John said the exercise among others, is aimed to curb criminal activities in the country.

According to him, the new system will also reduce the unknown mobile phone users, thus curtail the rise of terrorism and cybercrime.

"TCRA will continue educating the public on the importance of this exercise, this system has a number of benefits but it seems that the public is yet aware of the importance of the exercise," he said.

For his part, Mbeya District Commissioner William Ntinika urged the general public to make well use of the given timeframe and make sure that they register by using fingerprint.

Lavia Maikontalima, a NIDA registration officer for Mbeya region said that the authority was all ready to facilitate biometric registration of mobile telephone numbers assuring the public that the exercise will be completed on time.

Late last month, President John Magufuli directed that people without national identification cards should not be denied mobile phone services for not registering their simcards using the document when the set deadline elapses in September.

The head of state questioned the exercise's practicability since many Tanzanians do not have the IDs. He wanted the authorities to rethink on the decision.

Addressing a public rally in Mbeya city, Magufuli said that "In a normal logic, this exercise is impossible; announcing that on May 1, every simcard holder is required to go through biometric registration using national ID card is quite impracticable."

Instead, he wanted the exercise to firstly consider those with the national IDs and not to force those who are yet to get the IDs. "The exercise's deadline should at least be extended by December this year," he added.

TCRA has set September 30, 2019, the deadline for registering simcards with biometric technology.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE KEPHIS INTEGRATED EXPORT AND IMPORT CERTIFICATION SYSTEM (IEICS)

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180911

The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) in partnership with TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is seeking to Design and Develop an Integrated Management Information System (MIS) for automation of the KEPHIS's export and inspection business processes.

Terms of reference for this assignment and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submissions is 7 June 2019.

Applications are open only to firms/consortiums. Interested firms/consortium MUST submit their proposals via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarka.com.

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



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) CHALLENGES IN UGANDA

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180921

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) in collaboration with key Ministries, Departments and Agencies in Uganda is seeking consultancy services of a consultant to inform the design, development, coordination and implementation of a project that will address Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) challenges related to Plant Health and Food Safety in Uganda.

Terms of reference for this assignment and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submissions is 7 June 2019

Interested bidders MUST submit their bids via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarka.com quoting the tender title and number.

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

2122901

US embassy launches programme to equip pupils with English skills

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

US embassy in Tanzania has launched a programme to encourage primary school pupils in Mbeya region to learn and speak English for better educational prospects.

The programme to be implemented jointly with a community radio—Highlands FM will cover various English medium primary schools including Azimio, Sisimba and St Marys.

Speaking during the launch, Regional English Language Officer, George Chinnery said the aim is to encourage Tanzanian pupils to learn and speak English.

Chinnery added that the program dubbed 'Lets Speak' will in future enable pupils to be competitive in the labour market as the world changes with technology.

"We should prepare our children from childhood for them to be competitive in

the labour market. We are equipping them with English skills that can lead to better jobs and educational prospects", said Chinnery.

Director, Highlands FM radio, Jacqueline Mwakyambiki said the program will be sustainable. She noted that they requested for assistance from the Embassy after realizing that pupils were facing challenges in learning and speaking English.

The problem is big in public schools, she said.

Representing the Regional Education Officer, Christina Mwakyusa said: "Most of the pupils in our region cannot write and speak English properly".

Mid April this year the U.S. Embassy inaugurated a two years program dubbed 'Access' at Sangu secondary school in Mbeya whereby 12 male and 13 female students will benefit with bi-weekly after-school English classes to be conducted by Tanzania English Language Teachers' Association (TEL-

TA) in Mbeya. The U.S. Embassy supports five additional Access classes throughout Tanzania - in Mwanza, Tanga, Lindi, Pemba and Unguja.

The Access Program provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors

through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants the English skills that can lead to better jobs and educational prospects.



Alloys Machage (4th-L), Accessbank's Tabora branch manager, presents school stationery, sanitary pads and school uniforms to parents community leader Masene Wambura (3rd-R), teachers and students of Skanda Secondary School in Tabora at the weekend in a drive meant to boost education in Tabora Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Over 400,000 Roman Church members set to benefit from insurance education training

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 400,000 Roman Catholic Church members in Dar es Salaam region are set to benefit from special insurance education training to enable them save for their families' health, life and education.

In a new project dubbed Local 'Small Christian Communities Insurance' (SCCs) implemented by Acclavia Insurance Brokers, low income households will have chance to save as little as from 18,000/- per year and gain more benefits for their development.

Speaking during a three-day insurance training, project coordinator from Acclavia Rosemary Kiambo said

that the overall objective of the project is to enhance the value of Small Christian Communities (SCCs) through insurance.

"This project provides medical and life insurance service for SCCs families. It a tool that serves to enabling members of the SCCs to attend needs adequately, especially medical bills and burial ceremonies that always bind them together," she said.

According to her, as per the project, a household can pay as small amount from 30,000/- to 230,000/- per year for medical insurance product.

"With the medical product, Acclavia will cover medical bills of

600,000/- for a delivering mother, and if any member of the family is admitted in hospital, we will pay 3,000,000/- to cover the medical bills. 450,000/- will be provided to outpatient members," she explained.

She also said that under Life Insurance product, a household can pay as small amount from 18,000/- to 40,800/- per year and benefit 500,000/- to 4m/- if a family member dies.

She said the SCCs project was underwritten by Sanlam Life Insurance Tanzania and Strategis Insurance Tanzania and its benefits and services were designed by Acclavia Insurance Brokers.

CEO Roundtable of Tanzania underlines importance of need for leaders to attain advanced knowledge in entrepreneurship

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE CEO Roundtable of Tanzania has emphasised the need for leaders to attain the apprenticeship skills to be able to develop new ways of tackling business challenges and navigate through complex environment.

Chairman of the CEO roundtable, Sanyaj Rughani made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam, saying the CEO apprenticeship programme is important for leaders as it enables to identify talented Tanzanians and through mentorship and coaching session, prepare them to become Tanzania's future leaders. Tanzania is one of the fastest growing economies in the world; this strong growth momentum is projected to continue in the long-term and is driven by exciting investment opportunities within key economies sectors including oil and gas, agriculture, and manufacturing.

He said that upon completion of the 12-month programme, the initiative would have enabled the leadership with capability including enhanced self-awareness, effective decision-making skills and developing new ways of approaching leadership challenges to become future CEOs.

"However, Tanzania's rapid growth combined with inadequate investment in human capital has created a shortage of executive talent, which could curtail the country from achieving its full potential," the chairman said.

An initiative driven by the CEO round-table of Tanzania in partnership with Strathmore Business born out of the recognition that Tanzania needs to urgently address the existing leadership gap in the country.

In Africa and other emerging markets, research shows that there is an inherent shortage of local human talent with the right blend of skills, technical ability, inspiration, intellectual capability, critical perspectives and leadership acumen to assume the critical role of a CEO.

For his part, the founding member of the CEO round-table Ali Mafuruki said CAP aims to identify CEOs in waiting and through capacity building and knowledge and expertise, I believe CEOs can make a significant impact towards developing the next generation of Tanzanian leaders.



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IMMMA Advocates is one of the active law firms in the United Republic of Tanzania, with a multi-disciplinary team of lawyers working on various areas of practice. IMMMA Advocates is also a member of DLA Piper Africa, a Swiss Verein whose members are comprised of independent law firms in Africa working with DLA Piper. IMMMA is committed to attracting, developing and retaining the best people across our practice and business services groups. Our continued success relies on our ability to provide a supportive, inclusive and motivating environment where everyone has a role to play in supporting the delivery of outstanding services to our clients.

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Successful candidates will be offered a position of associate trainee for a maximum period of two years subject to annual professional performance evaluation that may entitle a successful associate trainee to qualify as full associate. As associate trainee, a qualified candidate shall be responsible for undertaking of legal assignments that may include but not limited to;

1. drafting and issuing legal memorandum and opinion;
2. reviewing of various legal briefs as requested and instructed by clients;
3. drafting of pleadings and any other court documents;
4. assisting and advising clients on companies' incorporation, filing of annual returns and tax returns;
5. making follow ups at various registries;
6. preparing and disseminating various reports to clients on monthly or quarterly as/when they may be required by clients;
7. preparing presentations on legal topics affecting clients

due to changes in laws or practical development in the law in the country;

8. preparing legal alerts to clients on matters that you have participated or conversant with;
9. assisting partners and senior associates on matters that are ongoing in courts and or tribunals, both local and international; and
10. Attend to other duties as shall be assigned by the supervising partners from time to time.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

1. A University degree in laws (LL. B) from a recognized university with a minimum pass of upper second class. Postgraduate qualifications in Law (LLM) or in other fields will be added qualifications.
2. Holder of Postgraduate Diploma from Law school of Tanzania or other recognized qualifications by the Council for Legal Education that entitle the holder to practice before the High Court of Tanzania and Other Courts Subordinate Thereto (but not Primary Courts).
3. Good command of both spoken and written English language.
4. Ready to learn and work together as a team player to attract clients and high value work in the country, Africa and globally.

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If you meet these qualifications and ready to take the challenges of this highly demanding profession, please submit your application together with copies of your certified certificates, your curriculum vitae and names of two professional referees to the addressee below: -

The Managing Partner,
IMMMA House,
Plot No. 357, United Nations Road – Upanga,
P.O. Box 72484,
DAR ES SALAAM

Or Via Email:
Email: magai@imma.co.tz

Application deadline is 31st May 2019.
Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.



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Check on petrol pumps before refuelling, WMA tells motorists

By Guardian Reporter

THE Weights and Measures Agency (WMA) yesterday urged motorists to ensure that there are special stickers on fuel pumps when refuelling their vessels so as to get the required quantity of fuel.

"It is important for motorists to check on petrol pumps before refuelling. A fuel pump must have a special sticker which has been approved by WMA. These

stickers help customers to know that the petrol station has been verified by the agency and the measurements are correct," said Charles Mavunde, WMA acting manager in Kinondoni Region.

He made the call when inspecting fuel pumps at Total University Service Station located at Mlimani City area in Dar es Salaam.

The inspection is part of the agency to commemorate the World Metrology Day—an annual event during which more than

80 countries celebrate the impact of measurement on people's daily lives.

According to Mavunde, WMA carries inspections on different measurement units on annual basis and "this is one of the 85 stations in Kinondoni Region which are doing well and meeting customers' expectations."

"Every pump here has been verified and WMA sticker is placed on each pump, showing the month and year of the date

the pump was verified together with agent's stamp. These stickers do not give room for owners to adulterate them and if happens the law takes its course," Mavunde said, adding:

"The law is very clear on playing down with WMA stickers. The defaulter is risk to pay a fine of between 300,000/- and 50m/- or a seven-year sentence."

For his part, manager of Total University Service Station, Ally Mohamed said: "Our aim is to en-

sure that a customer gets the best service and we're banking on using proper measurement units to protect the consumer."

"Every three months, WMA officials inspect our pumps. We do this to protect our clients and their properties," Mohamed said.

WMA public relations manager, Irene John advised people to report to the agency when they discover that what they have been cheated by the measurement units when buying goods.

She said that the inspection is in line with World Metrology Day, which is marked on May 20, every year. This year's World Metrology Day is "The International System of Units - Fundamentally better."

"Before the climax on Monday, we're conducting inspection in various businesses across the country as well as educating the public on Weights and Measures Agency and its responsibilities.

This date was chosen in recog-

niton of the signing of the Metre Convention on 20 May 1875, the beginning of formal international collaboration in metrology. Each year World Metrology Day is organized and celebrated jointly by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) and the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) with the participation of the national organizations responsible for metrology.

UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE ACCESS FUND



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) FOR Supply of Desktop Computers

Tender No. IE/037/2018-19/HQ/G/01/Lot 1

Date: 16th May 2019

- This Invitation for Bids follows a General Procurement Notice that appeared in the Daily and Mwananchi Newspapers of 11th June 2018.
- The Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) during the Financial Year 2018/2019, has set aside funds for procurement of ICT items. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the funds will be used to cover eligible payments under the contract for the Supply of 1325 Desktop Computers for School Connectivity Project.
- UCSAF now invites sealed bids from eligible Suppliers for Supply of 1325 Desktop Computers for School Connectivity Project.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures stipulated in the Public Procurement Act, 2011 as amended in 2016 and the Public Procurement Regulations, 2016, G.N. 333 and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Regulations.
- Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the **Secretary of the Tender Board, Universal Communications Service Access Fund, The University of Dodoma (UDOM), Old Computer Lab building, 2nd Floor in Dodoma, Tanzania between 09:00 am and 04:00 pm excluding weekends and public holidays at the same address or through a telephone contact +255-26-2965771 or e-mail address: ceo@ucsaf.go.tz. for a non-refundable fee of TZS 200,000/=.**
- Payment should either be by Cash, Banker's Draft, or Banker's Cheque, payable to Chief Executive Officer, Universal Communications Service Access Fund. Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Document between 09:00 am and 04:00 pm excluding weekends and public holidays or through a telephone contact +255-26-2965771.
- A complete set of Bidding Document in English will be obtained upon submission of a written application to the address given above in Paragraph 5.
- Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration in the acceptable form as provided in the Bidding document.
- Bids in ONE original plus TWO copies properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be addressed and delivered to the address provided in paragraph 5 above at or before 02:00 PM local hours on **Thursday, 30th May 2019**. The outer cover shall be clearly marked **"TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF 1325 DESKTOP COMPUTERS TO THE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE ACCESS FUND."** Bids will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the UCSAF Conference Room, 2nd Floor, UDOM, Old Computer Lab building, 2nd Floor in Dodoma, Tanzania.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids, and bids not received, bids not opened at the bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Chief Executive Officer
Universal Communications Service Access Fund,
P.O. Box 1957,
Dodoma,
Tanzania.

212320601

Hai DC donates vehicle to CCM

By Correspondent James Lanka, Hai

HAI District Commissioner Lengai Ole Sabaya yesterday donated a vehicle bought in collaboration with development stakeholders in the area to CCM to enable the ruling party to follow up implementation of its manifesto.

Speaking during hand over ceremony to the Kilimanjaro CCM regional chairman Patrick Boisafi, the DC said the vehicle will facilitate the party officials' movements to various parts of the district.

Boisafi was accompanied to the event by other party leaders in the district, including regional secretary Jonathan Mabiha.

"We have decided to provide this vehicle to CCM office in Hai district to be used to enable officials easily move around and meet the people especially in remote areas," Ole Sabaya (pictured) said.

He advised CCM members to abide



with ethics in their daily activities for the sustainable development of the country.

"My appeal to all our members is to abide with ethics in your daily socio-economic activities for the sustain-

able development of the our nation. Also, make sure that you inform your fellows on the ongoing implementation of the CCM manifestos..." the DC insisted.

For his part, the CCM Regional Chairperson, Patrick Boisafi told the gathering that included several government officials, and other high rank officials from the ruling party in Hai district and Kilimanjaro region that, the vehicle will be used to solve the wananchi problems as a apart of CCM manifestos.

"I recommend the role played by DC Lengai Ole Sabaya in collaboration with some development stakeholders including our supports for what they did for the wananchi of Hai district; my appeal to other stakeholders is to imitate them..." Boisafi said.

He added that, by increasing another vehicle in the district, the ruling party will be able to reach many people in the district, and they are sure that they are going to win the upcoming



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY WITH ICAP IN TANZANIA

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

Since October 2016, ICAP has been receiving PEPFAR funding from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for a 5-years' project delivering HIV interventions as the community implementing partner. Known in country as the FIKIA Project and currently in Year 3 of implementation, the project provides community-based HIV prevention interventions including HIV testing to key and vulnerable populations (KVP). The goal of FIKIA is to accelerate, expand, and improve the quality of comprehensive community-based HIV prevention services to KVP in order to achieve epidemic control.

ICAP is now seeking for a competent and dynamic individual to fill the position described below:

Position Title : Data Management Fellow
Direct Supervisor : Program Specialist
Technical Supervisor : Senior M & E Advisor
Location : Dar es Salaam
Duration : June to September, 2019

Overall Job Function

To analyze and interpret programmatic data and use information obtained to timely identify strategies that are working/not working well. S/he will gather information from various sources and interpret patterns and trends analytically and support the use of data for decision-making. S/he will develop and share analytical reports with program team to support in refocusing activities for program improvement and to achieve the targeted results.

Specific Roles and Responsibilities

- Collecting and interpreting data on weekly basis for results based outcomes.
- Develop data analysis presentations and progress tracking at regional and district level.
- Analyze results of the submitted data on monthly basis to inform long term actions.
- Reporting the results back to the relevant individuals to implement the identified gaps in timely manner.
- Visualize the data in a manner that it easily relays the information to the field teams
- Identifying patterns and trends in data sets for all indicators ICAP is currently reporting.
- Working alongside teams within the management team to establish specific key focuses on program improvements or new strategies of improving programmatic performance.
- Define new data collection and analysis processes if necessary for the quick improvement of the program performances.
- Make necessary recommendations about the methods and ways in which data should be analyzed to improve quality and the efficiency of data systems.
- Attend data quarterly data analysis meeting with regional teams.
- Perform any other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Desired qualifications and requirements:

- Master Degree in Epidemiology or Biostatistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Statistics, or related field.
- Experience with funded projects/HIV programs/NGOs will be an added advantage.
- Experience in data models and reporting packages.
- Ability to analyze large datasets with various analytical software.
- Ability to write comprehensive reports.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- An analytical mind and inclination for problem-solving.
- Attention to detail.

Application Instructions:

Qualified applicants should send their cover letter and CV by **27th May, 2019** via email to icap-jobs-tanzania@columbia.edu, mentioning in the subject line the Position Title. Only short listed applicants will be contacted. Please do NOT attach any certificates when submitting online. ICAP is an equal opportunity employer; women are encouraged to apply.

212320601



NIC Bank Tanzania managing director Margaret Karume (R) shares a light moment with guests at iftar the bank hosted for its customers in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday evening. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Serengeti-Mara project to spur wildlife protection, better people's livelihoods

By Guardian Reporter

THE European Union (EU) funded project is expected, upon completion in 2020, to improve wildlife protection alongside better livelihoods of the communities in the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem. This was revealed during a two day regional wildlife conference has been held in Arusha, bringing together 70 local communities, government representatives, NGOs and other stakeholders from Kenya and Tanzania. The conference was aimed at promoting best practices and share experiences among wildlife project implementers from Kenya and Tanzania, as well as fostering regional dialogue and cooperation regarding laws and policies gov-

erning wildlife conservation across the region. It was organized by the NGO Vi-Agroforestry in the framework of a project called "Initiative for Conservation of Serengeti-Mara Transboundary Ecosystem (SEMA)" funded by the European Union for an amount of 856,000 Euros (2.193bn/-). The project is part of a larger EU funded programme worth 30 million Euros (76.868bn/-) that supports Trans-frontier Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa countries. A total of 11 grants have been provided to non-state actors to implement the activities in close collaboration with local communities, with three projects targeting the cross-border areas of Kenya and

Tanzania. In his remarks Monduli District Commissioner, Idd Kimanta described the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem as an important conservation area which has international status, and Kenya and Tanzania are proud of this ecosystem. He, however said that despite its ecological and economic significance, the ecosystem faces a number of conservation and policy challenges that need to be addressed. "The participation of all stakeholders here today from both countries is important to ensure effective conservation and livelihood improvements that in turn will allow us to achieve sustainable management of the ecosystem," DC Kimanta said.

SEMA project contributes to conservation of Mara-Serengeti transboundary ecosystems through empowering local communities to adopt sustainable livelihoods and it aims at enhancing regional cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders in Kenya and Tanzania. The project will advocate for the political commitment among key decision makers and institutions towards joint actions that will improve the ecosystems and livelihoods among the local communities. It is expected to contribute towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 15 to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and many of its associated targets. The project is specifically

contributing to target 15.5, to take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species. One of the objectives is to improve regional trans-boundary cooperation between Kenya and Tanzania through a coordinated approach in the enforcement of anti-poaching laws involving the communities, expansion of capabilities to enforce laws on wildlife conservation, conflict mitigation, dialogue and joint platforms for harmonizing policies and deployment of resources. Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish NGO that has been operating in East Africa since 1983.

US high school student raises \$1,500 for children in Tanzania

PUTNEY, U.S.

IVA Armour-Jones expected that the trip she took to Tanzania with Gogi Abroad last summer would change her life, but she didn't realise it would change the lives of six Tanzanian children. But that's exactly what happened. After 10 days living in a homestay in the village of Longido, Tanzania, working in the local school and eating meals with the community, the 15-year-old says she fell in love with the people. "People there do everything with their hearts," Armour-Jones explains. "I think you can see that from the tiny five year olds running around to the people who, if they had a piece of bread, would give you more than half of it." Then one night while watching football with her family in Putney, Vermont, she saw a commercial about providing clean water in Tanzania and she knew she had to do something to give back. "I think for me, as someone who loves school so much and has always cared so much about my education and has always been so serious, it was going to be something to do with education," the Brattleboro Union High School student says. "It feeds so many other things: keeping kids out of marriages, getting them food and water." The MELOC Academy provides children with an education, bathrooms,

clean water, and two meals a day, but at \$300 per student for the school year, the tuition is out of reach for many families. That's when she came up with the idea of starting a GoFundMe page to raise enough money to send six children to school. Liz Jackson, founder of Gogi Abroad, describes the fundraiser as remarkable. "What Iva did was turn her re-entry challenge into something of empowerment and giving back so it helped her, I think, process the feelings that she had for the longing of being with the Maasai and that community," Jackson says. The two week trip brings 10 high school and gap year students to Tanzania every summer to learn from local people while giving back to the community. This means that along with a day-long hike and a weekend safari, the students spend their time playing with kids in Longido or helping at a beading cooperative at a tribal village in the Ngorongoro Crater. Armour-Jones says she learned far more from the people she met than she was able to offer them while she was there. "We're there to learn from them and help, but we actually gain more than they do," Jackson agrees. But Armour-Jones was able to use her energy to make a difference after the trip finished, Jackson says. "It's a really great example for future students."

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The Guardian

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THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Rewarding commemoration of Families Day a basic necessity

THE International Day of Families is observed on the 15th of May every year. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 and reflects the importance the international community attaches to families. The International Day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

During the 1980's, the United Nations began focusing attention on the issues related to the family. In 1983, based on the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development in its resolution on the Role of the family in the development process requested the Secretary-General to enhance awareness among decision makers and the public of the problems and needs of the family, as well as of effective ways of meeting those needs.

In its resolution of 29 May 1985 the Council invited the General Assembly to consider the possibility of including in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session an item entitled "Families in the development process", with a view to consider a request to the Secretary-General to initiate a process of development of global awareness of the issues involved, directed towards governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and public opinion.

Later, based on the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development formulated in its 30th round of sessions, The Assembly invited all states to make their views known concerning the possible proclamation of an international year of the family and to offer their comments and proposals.

The Council also requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session

a comprehensive report, based on the comments and proposals of member states on the possible proclamation of such a year and other ways and means to improve the position and well-being of the family and intensify international co-operation as part of global efforts to advance social progress and development.

In its resolution of 9 December 1989, The General Assembly proclaimed the International Year of the Family.

In 1993, the General Assembly decided in a resolution that 15 May of every year should be observed as The International Day of Families. This day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

On 25 September 2015, the 193 member states of the United Nations unanimously adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, a set of 17 goals aiming to eliminate poverty, discrimination, abuse and preventable deaths, address environmental destruction, and usher in an era of development for all people, everywhere. Families and family-oriented policies and programmes are vital for the achievement of many of these goals.

In Tanzania, the government has induced family members and community in general to be more responsible of children care and upbringing. This objective can be reached by increasing speed in productive works and income revenues so that parents will be able to serve their family effectively.

Children from poor families have limited chances to access education causing obstacles on children development.

We say there is no need children dropping out from schools, while the government is now providing free education at primary level to support poor families. Various steps are being undertaken by the government in fighting against poverty and prepare better environment.

Surely, our sector should contribute more to our national development

WHILE challenges remain in Tanzania's energy sector, we are confident that the sector is poised for growth, if invested in.

The country needs both the finance, technology and skills to increase the electricity generation capacity.

Our country's investments in the sector should ensure job creation. In addition, the investments should ensure industrialisation and development of energy equipment manufacturing.

Tanzania's economy has been growing, adding that the energy sector is the engine to economic growth and needs investments.

This as the country is facing inequality, youth unemployment and a very low economic growth rate. On energy constraints the government is aware that the energy sector is constrained while energy needs are on the rise.

If the economy has to grow, our generation capacity has to increase now. In addition, our electricity infrastructure is in need of more investments.

The energy sector in the country, like the global energy sector, is going through a transition where we have to ensure that as we increase generation of clean, accessible, affordable, secure and sustainable energy for all. This is a best prospect industry sector for this country.

The continued development of Tanzania's energy sector is critical to the country's ability to grow economically, attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and expand its commercial ties regionally and globally.

Tanzania has an installed generation capacity of 1,513 MW, or 0.033 kW per capita. Electricity demand in the country is increasing rapidly mainly due to foreign investments and an increasing population. The 2016 Energy Access Situation Survey collected information on connectivity of electric-

ity to the main dwelling of the household. The results show that, overall, 32.8 per cent of the households in the Tanzania Mainland were connected to electricity by 2016. Currently, power demand growth is between 10-15 per cent per year.

The government is committed to reform the public utility's (TANESCO's) operations, and meet new demand through low-cost solutions, such as developing new gas resources and mini and off-grid renewable opportunities. Recent gas discoveries have quadrupled Tanzania's known resources.

A new gas pipeline, necessary for new gas generation from southern Tanzania to Dar es Salaam was completed in late 2015.

Previously, the country relied on hydropower, expensive thermal and emergency generation sources that utilize diesel, heavy fuel oil or jet fuel. Today however, natural gas comprises approximately 58 per cent of Tanzania's electricity generation mix.

Tanzania has made progress by entering agreements with independent power producers, who bring know-how and technology, and establishing feed-in tariffs for projects that provide many of the commercial terms that would otherwise delay negotiations on power purchase agreements (PPAs).

Additionally, the government is also encouraging investments to increase available generation, further expand electricity access, reform the distribution system, and develop new indigenous sources of energy.

The government's long term vision aims at increasing connectivity from 30 per cent to 50 per cent by 2025; increasing power generation capacity to at least 5,000 MW by 2020; diversify energy sources for power generation; reduce system losses; and promote regional grid interconnectivity.

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Nelson Mandela party's last easy win in South Africa

THE elections in South Africa haven't produced a landslide result. Turnout was low - young people, in particular, are shunning the ballot box. The dominant ANC is living on borrowed time, says Claus Stäcker.

Some 25 years after the end of apartheid in South Africa it seems as if nothing has changed. While the African National Congress (ANC) governs, the opposition grumbles.

Despite impassioned campaign efforts from the liberal Democratic Alliance (DA) and the left-wing populist Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), there have certainly been no seismic shifts.

The election result was as predicted: the ANC lost votes, but not as dramatically as could have been expected. But at the same time, neither the DA nor the EFF gained much from the ruling party's losses, which one may have reasonably expected.

The EFF did not manage to hit a nerve as a protest party -- and the DA even lost votes.

In Parliament, things remain unchanged. The EFF's armchair revolutionaries in their clownish but propagandistically effective red overalls put the left under pressure while also not shying away from racist anti-white attitudes against the minority population.

The 'economic freedom' that they tout in their party name is limited to redistribution and the restriction of entrepreneurial freedoms. In other words, it is socialism Venezuela-style, driven by emotions and devoid of economic expertise.

The ANC -- socialist and lib-

eral at once

The DA's smooth economic liberals, on the other hand, will continue to claim to be the only party with the necessary financial know-how.

They will avoid alienating entrepreneurs and white voters and thus continue to diminish the deep-seated social problems that stem from 400 years of white supremacy and arrogance.

But it is precisely these issues that are still crucial to the majority of the population today. And, years after the plight of Nelson Mandela, South Africa still has not found the answers to solve these issues.

Amongst all of this, a damaged and corrupt ANC, which with its concept of patriotism seeks to be both socialist and economically liberal. An ANC looking to unite irreconcilable factions within the party. It is striving to be Washington and Beijing in one, black and white at the same time, both Ramaphosa and Zuma, honest and corrupt, radical and liberal -- a collective movement that is almost for impossible for voters to gauge.

It is also still cashing in on its past. The ANC has until now positioned itself -- with the moral high-ground displayed by many former liberation movements -- as being deserving of permanently staying in government.

The ANC takes for granted that voters will time and again watch the party's attempts at making internal reforms. The ANC peddles Mandela's legacy, using it to win election after election and buying time -- only to squander it again.

But it won't last much longer. A change in sentiment is most



President Cyril Ramaphosa and his ANC party win reelection in South Africa's 2019 elections

evident in the number of non-voters. With just over 60 % voter turnout was the lowest of all six free elections since 1994, when the rule of the white minority ended.

Young people are so disillusioned they did not even bother to go to the ballot box. Fewer than every fifth young voter exercised his or her right to vote. The apathy speaks volumes.

The final, easy win No party, neither the ANC nor the strongest opposition force, the DA, nor the radical EFF with their populist appeal to voters, were able to inspire a majority of young people.

South Africa still lacks a dynamic, modern opposition party with the ability to reach consensus and mobilize the country's young people with both passion and pragmatism.

The opposition has once again been given five years to sharpen its profile. The time for navel-gazing is over. This was the final easy win for the ANC.

Party leader and President

Cyril Ramaphosa scraped by with a slap on the wrist and with his anti-corruption agenda, he has again bought his party some time. But his term will be a probationary period, one granted on borrowed trust.

It is a loan that must be repaid within five years. But it all could quickly come undone if he fails to credibly clean up the ANC and the state which have practically been one in the last 25 years.

Ramaphosa will have to employ drastic measures to atone for the criminal legacies of his predecessor Jacob Zuma -- even to the point of excluding him from the party.

Ramaphosa must win over banks, stock exchanges and investors while stepping up efforts to bridge social divisions.

If he prevails, he could go down in history as the president that won the hearts of the people. If not, he will just become known for business as usual since the ANC has long been perceived as a party of the older generation.

The time has come for real alternatives, that, this time around, nine million voters did not see materialize. However, it is they who hold the future in their hands.

Weah must be impartial in dealing with corruption

By Hannah N. Geterminah

ANDERSON Miamen, Executive Director of the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), has called on President George Weah to be practical and impartial in dealing with corruption if the government must succeed in cleaning corruption as he promised during his state of the nation address.

Miamen said CENTAL's attention has been drawn to numerous developments in the country, which have the propensity to undermine the integrity and accountability credentials of the government. He added, "We are deeply concerned about the authentication of communication circulating on social media, published in local dailies, as well as the statement from development partners and public integrity institutions pointing to deception, alleged corruption and abuse of public trust and

resources by government officials."

These, according to Mr. Miamen, include, but not limited to communications from key embassies and missions cautioning government against misused donors' funds, and recent statement from the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) highlighting discrepancies in assets, incomes, and liabilities declared by some public officials in compliance with the national code of conduct for public officials," Mr. Miamen said. He recalled the missing LS16 billion saga; the National Housing Authority (NHA) corruption scandal, and other occurrences of the past; these recent developments place further dent on the country's image, and the government's fight against corruption, which have been underwhelming since President Weah took office in 2018.

According to Miamen, CENTAL believes that not much has happened to decisively deal with corruption, in-

cluding a comprehensive audit of the past administration, and prosecution of those who abused public assets and resources, including officials that presided over bankruptcy of the National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL).

He said also, delay in completing an investigation into grave matters, such as the US\$25 million so-called mop-up exercise when substantial work had already been carried out by the Presidential Investigation Team, "do not speak to the practicality and robustness in dealing with corruption."

CENTAL, meanwhile strongly encourages President Weah to be practical and impartial in dealing with corruption, making good on earlier promise made to clean his government of corruption.

As parts of the cleaning up exercises, CENTAL recommended, "timely and impartial implementation of outcomes of ongoing investigation into the US\$25 million mop-up exercise, expected to be

completed within two weeks.

CENTAL also recommended that President Weah and the CDC-led Government timely act on grave concerns being raised by donors/development partners, as not doing so may limit their confidence in the government, and have serious implications for future funding and support to Liberia.

The local transparency watchdog organization also suggests that the legislature be more proactive in playing its roles, extremely important to enhancing governance process, and addressing the current harsh economic realities; that the LACC, General Auditing Commission, Public Procurement Concession Commission, and other public integrity institutions be given the necessary resources and space to operate in keeping with their mandates to remain constructively engaged with the government in demanding accountability and quality service delivery.

Spring in the Horn: Mass protest and transitions in Sudan and Ethiopia

By Rashid Abdi

TWO mass protest movements have, in quick succession, forced regime changes in Sudan and Ethiopia, two of the Horn of Africa's quintessential "hard" states. A deep-seated disillusion with the security and developmental states drives the new "revolutionary" mood. What is less clear is where all the ferment and the popular demand for a new dispensation will lead.

In Sudan, the ouster of Al-Bashir has been followed by a partial retreat of the security state. In Ethiopia, the election of a reformist PM and a year of sweeping reforms, have extensively eroded the power of the security Deep State.

Yet, neither PM Abiy's extensive cull nor Sudanese military council's modest targeted purge constitute a fundamental dismantling of the structures of the security state. More important, the transitions under way in the two countries, were, in the initial phases, at least, top-down attempts by the security state to engineer a soft landing with minimal disruptions.

PM Abiy's singular act of genius lay in the way he deftly subverted that strategy of piecemeal reform assigned to him by the ruling party and began almost single-handedly to unravel old Ethiopia at break-neck speed.

The retreat of the authoritarian order in both cases opens huge possibilities: a generational opportunity for meaningful and positive change but also great risks.

In Ethiopia, a year of "deep" reforms under the reformist Premier Abiy Ahmed has put the transition on a rocky but relatively steady positive trajectory. Overall prospects for good governance, civil liberties and human rights continue to improve.

In Sudan, the situation is less hopeful and remains, so far, uncertain. The hopes and expectations raised by the resignation of Omar al-Bashir after



Ethiopia allows tax free imports of agricultural mechanization, irrigation and animal feed technologies

30 years in power, now grates against the reality of a potentially messy and protracted transition following a controversial intervention by the army. The Transition Military Council (TMC), made up of Bashir's allies, is struggling against mounting popular discontent to manage an interregnum.

The Horn is at strategic crossroads. There is immense hope but also great fear. How Ethiopia and Sudan manage their fraught transitions and the prospects for success and reversal remain unknown. What is not in doubt is that a botched transition in both nations will crush the dream of millions and their quest for liberty and better quality of life; embolden autocratic regimes and vindicate their ideology of stability.

The unprecedented upheaval and ferment in the two Horn states provide an extraordinary window into the complex, diverse, and obscure changes and currents shaking up society and traditional politics. These contextual dynamics must not be overlooked in the analyses of Ethiopia and Sudan.

Sudan's Turbulent Interregnum Sudan and Ethiopia offer two fraught transition "models"; atypical, unstable and potentially reversible. While dissimilar in some key aspects, both are attempts at a top-down fix, reliant on continued goodwill and support of the military/security services and dominant parties. More important, the two transitions are not outcomes of a political and constitutional settlements and likely to remain contested and unsettled for some time.

Sudan's transition is in its infancy and dogged by a host of challenges. Of the two, it is the one with the greatest potential for short-term crisis, but, if successful, one that opens enormous possibilities for improved governance and stability.

Formal, direct talks between Sudan's protest movement and the military began on 27 April but quickly hit a snag, barely two

days later. The key sticking points: the length of the transition (military wants 2 years; the protest movement favours 4 years - arguing more time was needed to undo the damage of 30 years of misrule); composition of the proposed Sovereign Transition Council (STC) and who should lead it.

On 30 April, the TMC issued a series of controversial and unilateral decisions that escalated the stalemate into a crisis. The council said the STC would be headed by the military; 7 out of 10 posts allocated to the military (contrary to SPA's demand for a 15-member council the bulk of whose members are civilian). It further called on the SPA to dismantle barricades at the Army Command in Khartoum and get protesters off the streets.

The generals have been angling for a longer pre-transition period from the start. This was largely based on the assumption they

stood to gain more from the tactical point of view; the SPA had more to lose. But there are other pressing calculations. First, more time allows the TMC to sort out internal divisions. Second, it gives them the leg room to craft and fine-tune its negotiation strategy. Third, it provides the TMC with the opportunity to drag out the process, wear down the pro-democracy movement - the so-called "attrition option" that has served the military well in the past.

The decision by the AU to extend the TMC's life by three months, is, therefore, a major victory for the military. It now has up to the end of July 2019 to set up an authority to oversee the transition, agree a roadmap with the opposition.

A viable transition roadmap in Sudan depends on consensus between the five distinct actors/constituencies: the street; the leadership of the protest movement; traditional parties; the TMC and support from regional actors. This will not be easy. It is almost certain divergent aims, interests and calculations could prove a major impediment.

Military Council: A Reluctant Reformer

At the heart of Sudan's chaotic and bitter transition contest; indeed, the crisis of legitimacy/credibility, is the self-appointed TMC. It is made up of senior generals; all beneficiaries of the army purges in the last one decade by Bashir that elevated loyalists to key posts. They eased Bashir out, made a number of significant concessions, but, controversially, stone-walled when it came to the speedy transfer of power to a civilian administration. Sig-

nificantly, it has so far resisted popular calls for the dismantling of the so-called Deep State (Dawlah-al-Amiqah) - widely perceived as a covert power centre, whose members included senior generals, securocrats and politicians, and which exercised extra-constitutional influence on the state.

What the TMC's true aims are; its interests and links with the deep state and foreign powers, are all a matter for debate and conjecture. Far less speculative and hazardous, perhaps, is what it isn't.

The council is essentially a product of a deep crisis within the state - a hastily created crisis-response tool to reassert military influence and manage a fluid political situation. It pulled back from imposing state of emergency; allowed protests to continue; quickly shed unpopular senior ex-regime figures (such as intelligence chief Salah Gosh); released some, not all, political prisoners and reached out to protest leaders - all positive and encouraging steps that demonstrate it has significant agency, is pragmatic and amenable to a political settlement.

Yet, the clumsy nature of the coup, the confusion in the first 48 hours, as well as incoherent pronouncements and policy flip flops since then, point to deep internal frictions. Tactically, this could be an advantage for the coalition leading the protests, potentially giving them greater room to nudge the TMC towards reform and influence the agenda. It could also pose serious challenges in the coming weeks and months, especially if, as some fear, the council becomes opportunistic and capricious and its cohesions becomes more frayed.



Extension of Time for Sourcing of Property Valuers, Collateral Managers and Quantity Surveyors Services for NMB Bank Plc. Across the Country

Invitation to Tenders

NMB Bank Plc. is the largest bank in Tanzania, both when ranked by customer base and branch network. With more than 200 branches and more than 700 ATMs, NMB Bank is located in more than 95% of Tanzania's districts. This broad branch network distinguishes NMB from other financial institutions in Tanzania. NMB is committed to sustaining and enhancing the branch network in order to provide access to financial services to citizens in all areas of Tanzania, with special focus on rural areas;

NMB Bank Plc. intends to engage eligible, qualified and authorized firms who will provide **Property Valuation Services, Collateral Management and Quantity Surveyor Services** for the Bank across the country in the zone wise divided in eight (8) zones as detailed in the tender document.

Interested applicants may download the tender document through NMB Website at this link <https://nmbbank.co.tz/tenders>.

The Selection of eligible and qualified vendors will be conducted through the Open Tendering Procedures as specified in the NMB Bank Plc. Procurement Policy and Procedures;

A complete set of the tender document shall be purchased by interested Applicants at a **non-refundable fee of TSHS 50,000.00** and payment should be done through any **NMB Branch to NMB Account No. 302040002 Account Name - Tender Fees** (Deposit Slip SHALL be attached when submitting your tender document). Any further clarifications required should be addressed to Secretary NMB Management Tender Committee through this email procurement@nmbtz.com

All applicants must include one original plus one copy of the tender. The document must be properly filled and enclosed in plain envelopes hand delivered to NMB Zonal Offices through addresses provided in the tender document not later than **Friday 24th May 2019 at 15.00HRS (Not the earlier communicated date of 17th May 2019)**. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of applicants' representatives who will choose to attend the opening at the respective NMB zonal offices as provided in the tender document.

Late tenders, a portion of tenders, electronic tenders, and tenders not received and tenders not opened and not read out loud in public at the bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation.

The Secretary, Management Tender Committee
P.O. Box 9213, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.
NMB Bank Plc. Head Office Ohio/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Street

*Terms & conditions apply

www.nmbbank.co.tz

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TENDER NO. PA/138/2019/HQ/N/22 FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INVITATION FOR TENDER

Date: 16th May 2019

- The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has set aside funds for the operation of the TIB Corporate Bank Limited during the financial year 2019. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for the Supply and Installation of Human Resources Management System.
- TIB Corporate Bank Limited now invites sealed Tenders from eligible National contractors registered or capable of being registered for carrying out the Supply and Installation of Human Resources Management System.
- Tendering will be conducted through the National Competitive Tendering (NCT) specified in the Procurement Regulations, 2013 – Government Notice No.446 and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Regulations unless otherwise stated in the Tender Data Sheet.
- Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the Tendering Documents at the office of the Secretary of the Tender Board TIB Corporate Bank Limited, Samora/Bridge Street Samora Tower, 7th Floor, P.O. Box 9102 Dar es Salaam, e-mail: cbiprocurment@tib.co.tz from 0800Hours to 1700Hours EAT on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on weekends and public holidays.
- A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested Tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 4 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee TZS 200,000 (Tanzania Shillings Two Hundred Thousand Only) Payments should be made at TIB Corporate Bank Limited, Samora Branch, Samora Tower, Ground Floor A/C No. 0043 000 004 999 01 SWIFT code TAINZTZT.
- All Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender security in an acceptable form in the amount of TZS 3,000,000.00
- All Tenders in one original plus Two (2) copies properly filled in "Tender No. PA/138/2019/HQ/N/22 for Supply and Installation of Human Resources Management System", and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address "The Secretary of Tender Board, TIB Corporate Bank Limited, Samora/Bridge Street Samora Tower, 7th Floor, P.O. Box 9102, Dar es Salaam at or before Monday, 10th June, 2019 at 1400 Hours EAT". Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the TIB Board room located at Samora/Bridge Street Samora Tower, 7th Floor.
- Late Tenders, portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, and Tenders not received, Tenders not opened at the Tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

MANAGING DIRECTOR,
TIB CORPORATE BANK LIMITED.

215231801

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EXIM BANK (TANZANIA) AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant of regulations 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) Regulations, 2014

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018 (AMOUNTS IN MILLION TANZANIAN SHILLINGS)

	GROUP CURRENT YEAR 31-DEC-18	GROUP PREVIOUS YEAR 31-DEC-17	COMPANY CURRENT YEAR 31-DEC-18	COMPANY PREVIOUS YEAR 31-DEC-17
A. ASSETS				
1. Cash	35,526	25,292	21,561	18,633
2. Balances with Central Banks	143,709	150,997	79,596	78,096
3. Investment in Government Securities	234,779	275,563	220,110	266,147
4. Balances with Other Banks and Financial Institutions	31,913	88,336	47,277	59,743
5. Cheques and Items for Clearing	7,365	4,371	1,586	504
6. Interbranch float items	-	-	-	-
7. Bills Negotiated	-	-	-	-
8. Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-	-	-
9. Interbank Loan Receivables	121,496	24,164	45,575	2,241
10. Investments in Other securities	978	1,632	7,648	8,104
11. Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of allowances for Probable losses)	877,073	911,742	659,870	692,676
12. Other Assets	45,323	49,470	41,074	42,504
13. Equity Investments	1,722	1,365	33,154	38,855
14. Underwriting accounts	-	-	-	-
15. Intangibles, Property, Plant and Equipment	47,682	52,431	36,696	41,483
16. Non-current assets held-for-sale	16,797	18,281	15,728	16,194
17. TOTAL ASSETS	1,564,364	1,603,645	1,209,875	1,265,180
B. LIABILITIES				
18. Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	77,296	39,013	255,814	204,472
19. Customer Deposits	1,175,831	1,394,573	670,049	721,086
20. Cash letters of credit	5,032	4,977	3,774	4,740
21. Special Deposits	-	-	-	-
22. Payments orders / transfers payable	230	275	230	275
23. Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	2,836	2,076	1,541	1,465
24. Accrued taxes and expenses payable	5,271	3,154	4,930	2,844
25. Acceptances outstanding	-	-	-	-
26. Interbranch float items	-	-	-	-
27. Unearned income and other deferred charges	1,307	1,707	1,307	1,707
28. Other Liabilities	29,206	27,626	12,604	16,189
29. Borrowings	100,397	98,790	100,397	98,790
30. TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,397,406	1,372,191	1,050,646	1,051,568
31. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)(16 MINUS 29)	166,958	231,454	159,229	213,612
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS				
32. Paid up Share Capital	12,900	12,900	12,900	12,900
33. Capital Reserves	13,903	52,905	10,877	41,903
34. Retained Earnings	144,967	149,319	149,447	150,310
35. Profit (Loss) Account	(15,779)	3,365	(13,995)	8,499
36. Other Capital Accounts/Capital Advance	-	-	-	-
37. Minority Interest	10,967	12,965	-	-
38. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	166,958	231,454	159,229	213,612
39. Contingent Liabilities	179,954	154,030	121,314	130,731
40. Non-Performing Loans and Advances	110,007	119,264	91,341	105,729
41. Allowances for Probable Losses	83,537	35,172	71,095	31,170
42. Other Non-Performing assets	8,235	6,990	8,235	6,990
D. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Shareholders Funds to Total Assets	10.67%	14.43%	13.16%	16.88%
(ii) Non Performing Loans to Total Gross Loans	12.52%	12.36%	12.49%	14.24%
(iii) Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits	75.56%	76.76%	78.18%	78.21%
(iv) Loans and Advances to Total Assets	56.07%	56.85%	54.54%	54.75%
(v) Earning Assets to Total Assets	81.05%	81.24%	83.78%	84.40%
(vi) Deposits Growth	1.58%	3.99%	0.03%	2.26%
(vii) Assets Growth	-2.45%	5.12%	-4.37%	4.04%

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018 (AMOUNTS IN MILLION TANZANIAN SHILLINGS)

	GROUP CURRENT YEAR 31 ST DECEMBER 2018	GROUP PREVIOUS YEAR 31 ST DECEMBER 2017	COMPANY CURRENT YEAR 31 ST DECEMBER 2018	COMPANY PREVIOUS YEAR 31 ST DECEMBER 2017
1. Interest Income	132,770	141,327	108,595	110,671
2. Interest Expense	(31,255)	(44,273)	(29,735)	(36,315)
3. Net Interest Income (1 Minus 2)	101,515	97,054	78,860	74,356
4. Bad debts written off	-	-	-	-
5. Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	(21,050)	(28,814)	(16,443)	(26,136)
6. Non-interest Income	50,626	51,054	37,250	46,786
6.1 Foreign exchange profit/(loss)	12,257	11,799	6,572	6,449
6.2 Fees and Commissions	34,977	37,106	23,849	26,604
6.3 Dividend Income	21	16	21	9,510
6.4 Other Operating Income	3,371	2,133	6,808	4,223
7. Non-interest Expenses	(126,370)	(109,657)	(94,630)	(82,186)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(51,997)	(48,690)	(35,339)	(35,506)
7.2 Fees and Commission	(133)	(47)	(85)	(24)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(74,240)	(60,920)	(59,207)	(46,656)
8. Operating Income/(Loss) before tax	4,721	9,637	5,036	12,820
9. Income Tax Provision	(20,500)	(6,272)	(19,031)	(4,321)
10. Net income (loss) after income tax	(15,779)	3,365	(13,996)	8,499
11. Number of Employees	972	972	682	682
12. Basic Earning Per Share	(1,223)	261	(1,085)	659
13. Diluted Earning Per Share	(1,223)	261	(1,085)	659
14. Number of Branches	46	46	33	33
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on average total assets	-1%	0%	-1%	1%
(ii) Return on Average shareholders' funds	-6%	1%	-6%	4%
(iii) Non interest expense to gross income	83%	74%	82%	68%
(iv) Net Interest margin to average earning assets	8%	8%	7%	7%

CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018 (AMOUNTS IN MILLION TANZANIAN SHILLINGS)

	GROUP CURRENT YEAR 31-DEC-18	GROUP PREVIOUS YEAR 31-DEC-17	COMPANY CURRENT YEAR 31-DEC-18	COMPANY PREVIOUS YEAR 31-DEC-17
I. Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net income/(Loss)	4,721	9,637	5,036	12,820
Adjustment for:				
-Impairment/Amortization	35,800	37,751	34,004	32,829
-Net change in loans and advances	(46,216)	(100,976)	(37,250)	(72,190)
-Gain/Loss on sale of assets	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Deposits	19,541	47,388	305	20,492
-Net change in Short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Other Liabilities	(2,402)	8,488	(5,002)	1,293
-Net change in Other Assets	17,803	33,380	14,366	24,739
-Net increase in non-current assets held-for-sale	1,484	1,513	466	2,247
-Tax paid	(9,628)	(8,245)	(7,189)	(7,617)
-Others (Investment Security -ITM)	16,353	19,620	47,601	19,215
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	57,456	48,556	48,137	33,828
II. Cash flow from investing activities:				
Dividend received	21	16	21	9,510
Purchase of fixed assets	(9,441)	(14,355)	(4,476)	(10,029)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Others - (Equity Investment)	(765)	(3,299)	(765)	(3,299)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(10,185)	(17,638)	(5,220)	(3,818)
III. Cash flow from financing activities:				
Repayment of long-term debt	(10,848)	(26,976)	(10,848)	(26,105)
Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	23,000	35,572	23,000	35,572
Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	-	-
Payment of cash dividends	-	-	-	-
Net change in other borrowings	-	-	-	-
Others - Long term financing	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	(7,848)	8,596	(7,848)	9,467
IV. Cash and Cash Equivalents:				
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	39,423	39,514	35,069	39,477
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	257,029	217,515	163,635	124,159
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	296,452	257,029	198,704	163,636

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018 (AMOUNTS IN TANZANIAN MILLION SHILLINGS)

	Share Capital	Share premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others reserves	Total
COMPANY							
Current Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	12,900	-	158,809	35,486	6,363	54	213,612
Impact of initial application of IFRS 9	-	-	(40,321)	-	-	(119)	(40,440)
Transfer to Regulatory reserve on initial application of IFRS 9	-	-	23,705	(7,370)	-	-	16,335
Restated balance at 1 January 2018	12,900	-	142,193	11,781	6,363	(65)	173,172
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-	-	(13,995)	-	-	-	(13,995)
Other Comprehensive Income:	-	-	-	-	-	52	52
Transactions with owners:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	7,293	(7,293)	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	(39)	-	39	-	-
Other reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the period	12,900	-	135,452	4,488	6,402	(13)	159,229
Previous Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	12,900	-	156,949	29,284	5,926	58	205,117
Profit for the year	-	-	8,499	-	-	-	8,499
Other Comprehensive Income:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	(6,202)	6,202	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	(437)	-	437	-	-
Other reserves	-	-	-	-	-	(4)	(4)
Balance as at the end of the previous period	12,900	-	158,809	35,486	6,363	54	213,612
GROUP							
Current Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	12,900	-	152,685	46,457	6,447	12,965	231,454
Impact of initial application of IFRS 9	-	-	(47,660)	(119)	-	(828)	(48,607)
Transfer to Regulatory reserve on initial application of IFRS 9	-	-	23,394	(23,437)	(197)	-	(140)
At 1 January 2018 - Restated	12,900	-	128,611	22,901	6,290	12,137	182,839
Profit for the year	-	-	(13,380)	-	-	(3,399)	(16,779)
Other Comprehensive Income:	-	-	-	-	-	(562)	(562)
Transactions with owners:	-	-	-	-	-	(48)	(48)
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	12,348	(14,036)	-	1,888	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	848	-	-	(948)	-
Others - Translation reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the current period	12,900	-	129,227	8,865	6,290	9,167	166,411
Previous Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	12,900	-	155,357	41,108	6,675	11,317	227,357
Profit for the year	-	-	4,940	-	-	(1,579)	3,361
Other Comprehensive Income:	-	-	-	-	(1,540)	-	(1,540)
Transactions with owners:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	(7,685)	6,889	-	951	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	(77)	-	(228)	-	(305)
Other reserves	-	-	-	-	-	2,272	2,272
Balance as at the end of the previous period	12,900	-	152,685	46,457	6,447	12,965	231,455

The above extracts are from the Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended December 31, 2018 which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The financial statements were audited by Ernst & Young Certified Public Accountants and received a clean audit report. The financial statements were approved by the board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

NAME AND TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
SAID MWEMA CHAIRMAN		10 TH MAY 2019

Shareholder's
funds

@ 167
Billion

Total Assets

@
TZS 1.56
Trillion

Huawei out to sponsor ten Tanzanian students for training in ICT in China

By Guardian Reporter

A GLOBAL Information and communications Technology company, Huawei Technologies is set to sponsor 10 Tanzanian youths on first class technical training on ICT skills in China.

These 10 students were selected from six key universities by Huawei and Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar through the "Seeds for the Future 2019" Huawei's global flagship CSR program.

This is the fifth Seeds for the Future in Tanzania, since the first one held in 2015 with the goal of sensitizing Tanzanian youths to importance of ICT and encouraging them to join the future-oriented sector talents.

Over the years, Huawei Tanzania has sponsored 40 students to China for exposure to the most cutting-edge information and communication technologies.

Zhou Xu, CEO of Huawei Tanzania said: "The hands-on

trainings and practice will provide opportunities for these students to exchange ideas with youths from other parts of the world and bridge the gap between theoretical study and skills that required in the real job market. By doing this, Huawei is committed to building a strong ICT talent pool to support the country's development."

"Seeds for the Future" is part of Huawei's efforts in promoting digital transformation and bridging the digital divide in Tanzania. Since entering the market in 2007, Huawei has been building ICT infrastructure, providing end-to-end communications solutions, and maintaining secure and stable networks in Tanzania. Huawei also proactively fulfills its corporate social responsibility using its core technologies and capabilities by providing talent training programs, research funds, disaster relief, support for vulnerable groups, and sponsorships for cultural and sports initiatives.



Picture of Tanzanian students participated in "Seeds for the Future" 2018.

African swine fever keeps spreading in Asia, threatening food security

By Dennis Normile, Shanghai

THE spread of African swine fever (ASF) in Asia is taking a worrisome turn.

First reported in north-eastern China in August 2018, the highly contagious, often fatal pig dis-

ease quickly swept through the country, causing the death or culling of more than 1 million pigs.

In recent weeks, it has jumped borders to Vietnam, Cambodia, Mongolia, Hong Kong, and possibly North Korea. Animal health

experts agree that the disease will inevitably spread farther. And many of the newly hit countries are even less prepared to deal with ASF than China, they say, which has so far failed to end its outbreaks.

Vietnam and Cambodia

"probably do not have the technical abilities to be able to control ASF," says François Roger, an animal epidemiologist at the French Agricultural Research Center for International Development in Montpellier.

He believes the virus will soon surface in Myanmar and Laos, which have "weak veterinary infrastructures and surveillance systems," and it may become endemic in Southeast Asia. If so, it would pose a continuing threat of reintroduction into China, even if that country succeeds in controlling its own outbreaks.

A reservoir of endemic disease

could also pose a wider threat: ASF-contaminated pork products have already been confiscated from air travelers in South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Australia.

The crisis is not only causing economic hardship, but also threatens food security in the region. In Vietnam, where pork accounts for three-quarters of the meat consumption,

more than 1.2 million pigs across the country—4% of the national herd—have now died or been killed, the Vietnamese government announced on 13 May. "This is probably the most serious animal health disease [the world has] had for a long time, if not ever," says Dirk Pfeiffer, a veterinary epidemiologist at City University of Hong Kong.



A man transports piglets in Thanh Hoa province in Vietnam, a country heavily affected by African swine fever where pork accounts for three-quarters of the national meat consumption.

Blood culture test market size to hit US\$ 6.7 billion by 2026

LOS ANGELES

THE global Blood Culture Test Market is estimated to grow at CAGR above 8.5 per cent over the forecast time frame 2019-2026 and reach the market value around USD 6.7 billion by 2026.

The most important factor that is expected to boost growth is an increasing prevalence of bloodstream infections and infectious disease. Increasing demand is projected to drive growth for advanced diagnostic techniques of infectious disease diagnosis such as sepsis.

Many manufacturers have therefore begun to focus on developing advanced diagnostic tools and consumer goods. For example, Cepheid offers the Xpert MRSA / SA test to help detect SA and MRSA accurately in positive blood culture in approximately 1 hour.

The launch of various government initiatives on infection prevention and control is likely to boost the demand for blood cultivation testing.

The Central Lines of Blood Stream Infections in the USA have fallen by 46 per cent from the 2008-2013 period, as a result of the efforts of the US administration in preventing Hospital-

acquired Infections (HAIs).

The bacterial infection that spreads to the blood in various diseases such as, osteomyelitis, meningitis, pneumonia, renal infection and sepsis, has been detected through blood culture trials. Fungal and mycobacterial diseases can also be detected.

As the most common cause of BSI and other infections is bacterial infections, the bacterial infection segment was leading the sales market in 2018. During the forecast period the segment will also record the highest CAGR.

It is anticipated, in developing countries such as South Africa, Tanzania, China, India and Argentina, that increased awareness of healthcare and health care infrastructures will foster growth for this sector.

These countries' governments are striving to deliver better quality healthcare facilities and diagnostic products that further support adoption. Due to BSI prevalence and an increasing number of cases of septicemia worldwide, the fungal infections segment is projected to show profitable growth over a study period.

For example, Candida species are the domi-

nant fungal sepsis agents, representing approximately 10 to 15% of infections in health care.

In 2018, the largest market share of revenue was in hospital laboratories. This is because hospital acquired infections (HAIs) are increasingly present.

According to the WHO, the rate in developed countries is about two to three times greater than in developed countries of ICU infections acquired, such as Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs) and surgical site wound infections. In Canada, approximately 8,000 patients die from hospital infections each year.

Moreover, over the forecast period, the hospital laboratories segment will expand at the fastest CAGR.

The main cause of growth is increased health awareness along with government and non-governmental initiatives for the prevention and control of infectious diseases. For instance, CDC collaborated on developing national HIV clinical and research guidelines, supporting HIV and tuberculosis programs and conducting epidemiology training with the Government of South Africa.

World Vision

World Vision is a Christian Development, Relief and Advocacy Non-Government Organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision is committed to the protection of children and does not employ people whose background is not suitable for working with children. All employment is conditioned upon successful completion of all applicable background checks, including criminal record.

"Our vision for every child, Life in all its fullness; Our prayer for every Heart, the will to make it so".

World Vision Tanzania (WVT) is seeking to recruit suitably qualified candidates to fill the following vacant positions:

1. Water Engineer-Head Office (1 Post)

To learn more about the job, minimum requirements, application deadline and how to apply kindly visit our Career Page: <http://careers.wvi.org/job-opportunities-in-tanzania>

World Vision Tanzania candidates for employment should be ready to read, understand, sign and adhere to the World Vision Tanzania Child protection policy which helps safeguard children from any forms of exploitation, sexual and physical abuse. The discovery of any previous child abuse offenses (before or after an offer of employment) will disqualify a candidate. However, World Vision Tanzania does not discriminate against any prohibited criteria in its employment.

Qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

215220907

By Onyedika Agbedo

PRESIDENT Muhammadu Buhari's meeting with the Service Chiefs last Thursday after which he ordered them to ensure that Nigerians go to bed with their eyes closed was timely and instructive. That was the second meeting he had with them within 48 hours and the reason was obvious. The spate of insecurity in the country has reached a sickening level and no part of the country appears safe to live now. Even places that were hitherto regarded as safe haven in the country have slumped to all kinds of violent crimes. Day after day, reports of kidnapping, armed robbery, banditry, herders-farmers clashes and cult wars dominate the media space and Nigerians have more or less become sheep without a shepherd.

But the man at the helm of affairs in the country is a retired military general who had fought many battles and triumphed in all. As a young military officer, he emerged from the Nigerian civil war as one of the heroes. As head of state, he quelled the Maitatsine crisis that threatened the peace in parts of the present day North East region. In 2015, he came to office promising to crush Boko Haram terrorists in the North East and secure the region. And true to his pledge, the sect has been seriously degraded that they now resort to attacking soft targets and military bases occasionally. But no part of the Nigerian territory is under their control now.

Nevertheless, the spate of insecurity in the country now appears worse than the peak days of Boko Haram insurgency some years back. Then, only the North East was regarded as a death zone in the country. But the story has changed. Fear, anxiety and tension have taken over everywhere and Nigerians appear helpless.

Recently, the Emir of Katsina, Abdulmumini Usman, cried out that Nigerian now live like animals. The Emir, who spoke when the Minister for Agriculture, Audu Ogbe, and the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Godwin Emefiele, visited his palace ahead of the national launch of the distribution of cotton seeds/inputs to farmers for the 2019 planting season in Katsina State, said that in



From left: Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal Sadique Abubakar; Chief of Naval Staff; Vice Marshal Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas; Chief of Army Staff; Lt. General Tukur Yusufu ...

Nigeria on the brink over rising insecurity

as much as the president's initiatives were good, they could not be successful without security.

His words: "Every day I receive reports of kidnapping and killings from the district and village heads. Tell the President that we have to take care of our people, security first. All these programmes, as good as they are, cannot be successful without security. Security is first and fundamental."

"What are you to gain by killing, kidnapping people? It's very unfortunate. I have not seen this kind of country; how do we live like animals? Three days ago, Magaji Gari (of Daura

emirate council) was abducted. Nobody is safe now, whether in your house or on the road, wherever you are.

"What we want you to do for us is to stop the fight. Many people have deserted, abandoned their farms in fear of kidnapping and killings and other atrocities. It's very unfortunate."

Emir Usman's lamentations aptly capture the mood of Nigerians in the face of unbridled insecurity in the land. It has been tales of woe from across the country and all eyes are on the president to reinvent his military acumen and pull Nigeria out from the

pool of insecurity. As Nigerians wait to see whether the President's order would bear the desired result, they tell their sordid stories in this report:

We Have Become Helpless, Kaduna Residents Cry Out

From Saxone Akhaine and Abdulganiyu Alabi, Kaduna

Kaduna State has of recent been on the limelight for no other reason than the increased activities of kidnapers and armed bandits. Thousands of people have been displaced from their homes as a result of the violence and massacre inflicted on people.

They are now taking refuge in several parts of Kaduna, including Sabon Tashan, Television, Rigasa, Rigachikun Tudun Wada, Ungwar Rimi and other parts of the metropolis as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Recently, Adara indigenes protested to the state government over the ceaseless confrontation between armed Fulani herdsmen and the native inhabitants in Kajuru local government area and the inability of government to bring the culprits to book.

According to the aggrieved people of Adara, about 12,480 indigenes have been displaced from their ancestral homes and now live in IDP camps with the attendant hazards, pointing out that no fewer than 200 of them had been killed.

"These attacks have so far claimed the lives of almost 200 Adara natives, slaughtered in the most cruel and dehumanising manner. And over 500 houses were destroyed by invading armed herdsmen," a statement signed by the children of the nine Adara leaders who are currently in prison custody, Bege Bawa Magaji, Mercy Dio Maisamari and Godiya Sani Magaji said.

Aside from the massacre in Kajuru council of the state, there are two major dangerous roads in the state -- Kaduna-Abuja and Kaduna-Birnin Gwari roads. Despite efforts by the Federal Government and the Kaduna State government to checkmate the activities of bandits on the roads, the criminals still bypass security operatives to perpetrate their crimes. The unfortunate situation on the Birnin-Gwari highway has rendered motorists helpless.

Along the Kaduna -Abuja highway, commuters had recently heaved a sigh of relief following the launch of Operation Puff Addar (OPA) by the Nigeria Police to flush out bandits from their hideouts. But sadly enough, commuters enjoyed safety only for a moment as kidnapers soon returned to the highway.

The kidnapers upon their return abducted the state chairman of the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), Dr. Mohammad Abubakar, and his daughter, Yasmin, while their driver was shot dead. On that same afternoon, they also blocked the expressway, forcing several motorists to abandon their vehicles and head for nearby bushes to avoid being abducted. The development left many motorists and passengers unaccounted for, just as the kidnapers stole their belongings.

Thus motorists, especially commercial drivers plying Kaduna-Birnin Gwari axis still go through 'hell'. And many of them who spoke with The Guardian claimed that security agencies and criminals operate as if they run shifts on the road.

At the Lawn Car park, findings showed that though there were more than 20 security checkpoints on Birnin-Gwari road manned by men of the Police Force and local vigilante groups, the checkpoints are only operational for few hours daily.

A commercial motorist, Aliyu Isa, who plies Kontagora in Niger State to Kaduna through Birnin Gwari said: "The only time we enjoy this road is in the afternoon like this. If you follow the road in the morning before 10.00am, it is almost certain that you will be attacked. I ply this road everyday like other drivers around, but we are safe because we know when to move and when not to. Like now, there is nothing you can give me that will make me go back to Kontagora today except I get passengers to take back before 3.00pm. Anything after 3.00pm, I will just sleep in Kaduna."

"Experience has shown us that security resume at their checkpoints around 10.00am and close around 4.00pm. And once the security agents leave the road, the criminals take over. It is as if they run shift with the police. So, anyone who passes Birnin Gwari road before 10.00am and after 4.00pm is doing so at his own risk."

Another commercial motorist, who simply identified himself as Shehu, corroborated Isa's claims, saying: "The armed robbers have suffered these days in the hands of the security agents. So, I will say we have enjoyed the roads to a large extent, but that is not to say that the criminals have disappeared."

"What the armed robbers do is, they climb trees and rocks to watch security operatives' movements. Once they see the police leaving the road in the evening, they take over the road. So for us, we already know their system; we only work within the hours police are on the road."

"We appreciate the presence of the security personnel and even vigilante on the roads. But if they can stay there throughout the day, it will permanently keep the criminals away. Again the government too should repair the Birnin Gwari road; it is long over due. If the road is smooth, it will become very difficult for armed robbers and kidnapers to operate."

Meanwhile, the spate of insecurity on the highways has compelled many people to limit traveling in and out the state in order to avoid falling into hands of the criminals.

A resident, Mallam Idris Ilyasu, said he plies the Kaduna-Abuja highway often to go for medical check up in Abuja, but has been forced to limit his movement with the rise in criminal activities on the road.

Residents within Kaduna metropolis and its environs also said they now live in fear as kidnapers visit people's homes unannounced.

"Ever since they came and abducted a nursing mother in my area, my family and I are pretentiously living as poor people. Who knows whether people are being kidnapped once they are sighted living in healthy condition," a resident who doesn't want her name in print said.

Meanwhile, the President of Arewa Youth for Progress and Development (AYPD), Comrade Danjuma Sarki blamed the government for failing to provide the minimum level of security for the citizens.

According to him, "from what we are seeing today under the present government, there is serious conspiracy and connivance of the security agencies in the whole kidnapping and armed banditry saga."

"I have interacted with a good number of the affected people both in Birnin Gwari and Kajuru. Their cases are that of hopelessness. They have lost confidence in the government and in the system because for some years now, government has refused to attend to the security challenges."

Sarki urged President Muhammadu Buhari to "relieve all the security chiefs of their positions in order to pave way for more energetic men that would bring the security challenges to an end."



LOGISTICS COORDINATOR

Mwiba Holdings Limited is registered Tanzanian Company under Companies Ordinance (Cap. 212) and a leading Hospitality company with its Operations in Arusha, Meatu-Simiyu and Mara Regions. We are currently looking for Logistics Coordinator to be part of our Team providing support to our tourist facilities and enhance our Photographic Safari Experience.

Position Profile

- Diploma or bachelor's degree in Business Administration/ Tourism from a recognized University
- Proven proficiency in computerized applications to Microsoft Office Software (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)
- At least 5 (five) years of logistics coordination.
- Excellent English and communication skills.
- Effective Time Management and Attention to detail.
- In-depth knowledge of the tourism industry is a necessity.
- Work effectively in a team, flexible and eager to grow.

Function and Responsibilities:

- Communicate with other departments as needed to create comprehensive schedules for business processes such as sales bookings appointments, and accounting tasks.
- Arrange deliveries whenever possible related to Safari planning and client requirements.
- Manage activities throughout the orders fulfillment to make sure established deadline are met.
- Work to improve the logistics process by negotiating with suppliers and customers, increasing efficiency, reducing unnecessary steps, and creating innovative solutions for safari coordination.
- Coordinate Tour Guide's safari movements and allocate vehicles accordingly
- Update all the safari transfers in transport/Lodge/Camps and office safari chart.
- Administer Guide's safari imprest by requesting it from accounts department.
- Administer and coordinate Medivac safari packages for company's guest.
- Follow up on ROLS and upload into the system.
- Preparation of NCAA park fee, TANAPA park and camping fee for all Safaris and Staff.
- Preparation of Maswa and Mwiba Permit and landing permit

A market related salary will be rewarded for this challenging but rewarding position. If qualified please send your CV to recruitment@tgts.com before 29/05/2019.



Investment Manager

A leading hospitality company, Ker & Downey Safaris (Tanzania) Ltd, who is part of the Friedkin Tanzanian Companies (FTC) and based in Arusha, are looking for Investment Manager to be part of company team who will assist to provides investment information and financial advice; works with corporate and individual clients; and maintains knowledge of a wide range of investment and financial products, including trusts, stocks, bonds, and shares to all group companies.

The position is to be part of our diverse and changing organisation.

Position Profile

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance or Master's Degree in Business Administration
- Basic Knowledge on Statistics, Economics, Mathematics, Accounting will be preferable
- Commercial experience within a large complex organisation
- Bright, ambitious and tenacity to help a business move to the next level.
- Position demands energy, enthusiasm, and the willingness to go the extra mile.
- Good interpersonal and leadership skills.

Function and Responsibilities:

- Manage business investment analysis function and be part of the overall management function of the companies.
- Ensure accuracy of operational data and maintain data accuracy and integrity to support analytical function.
- Review financial data to present to shareholders and external investors.
- Review budgets and forecast to aids business planning.
- Provide insights into business performance and work on investment improvement policies.
- Comment on timelines and accuracy of the management reports, and assist the evaluation and analysis by departmental heads. Includes making sure spending/expenditure is in line with the company approved investment budget.
- Creating business strategies to generate shareholders value andmMeets with an investment team, including analysts and other managers, to stay up-to-date about market situations and company decisions that may impact one another

A market related salary will be reward for this challenging but rewarding position. Send your CV to Recruitment@tgts.com before 30 May 2019.



Thursday 16 May 2019

'Islamic banks in the GCC will remain resilient despite challenges in 2019-2020'

DUBAI

Shariah-compliant lenders in the Arabian Gulf are likely to remain resilient this year and next despite difficult operating conditions and may see mid-single digit growth in asset bases over the next one to two years, S&P Global Ratings said.

The growth forecast for Islamic banks for 2019-2020 is the same as what the rating agency is estimating for conventional lenders in the region. Like their peers, Islamic lenders in the GCC, home to about one-third of the world's proven oil reserves, have seen some headwinds and slowdown in growth in recent years, according to a new report released on Monday.

Some of the Sharia-compliant banks with exposure to Turkey fared worse than others, however, despite this and challenges at home, several GCC Islamic banks maintained sound asset-quality and profitability indicators. In addition, their funding profiles remain healthy, dominated by core customer deposits, and capitalisation is still a major positive rating factor, the rating agency said.

The mid-single-digit growth for both types of banks predicted by S&P is based on several factors, including "our forecast of muted GCC economic growth over this period, despite some benefit from government spending and strategic initiatives such as national transformation plans ... and Dubai Expo 2020", Mohammed Damak, senior director and global head of Islamic finance at S&P wrote in the report.

"We also assume that oil prices will average \$60 per barrel in 2019 and 2020, pushing governments and the private sector to adopt a more careful approach to spending."

The ratings firm anticipates overall "little profit growth" this year and next for Islamic banks in the region. It also expects financing growth to remain limited, with banks prioritising quality over quantity and avoiding lucrative but higher risk exposures.

"While we expect the amount of problematic assets to remain somewhat stable, we think that cost of risk will increase slightly because of higher provisioning requirements under IFRS9 [new accounting requirements]," Mr Damak wrote.

The operating costs of the banks, however, will stabilise in 2019-20 and they will increase their focus on efficiency gains due to lower growth opportunities. Banks should benefit from "a bounty of free deposits", especially with the pause in international and local interest rate rises. The stabilisation of oil prices at the \$60 range and muted loan growth mean that Islamic and conventional banks will continue to accumulate deposits over the next few years.

"This should also lead to an increase in liquid assets held by banks, which stood at 21.4 per cent of total assets at end-2018, in particular sukuk," S&P said.

Vodacom says data, M-Pesa leading growth drivers

By The Banker Reporter

DATA and M Pesa transactions accounted for almost 50 percent of Vodacom Tanzania Plc's income last year thanks to an over 170bn/- investment to expand and modernise network.

Vodacom's Finance Director, Jacques Marais said in Dar es Salaam this week during briefing to investors and the media of the company's annual results for the year ending March 2019.

Marais said M Pesa remained a leading revenue growth with an increase of 14.5 percent during the period with seven million customers using the service regularly transacting a record 49.3trn/- per month.

"During the year, we added 620,000 new M Pesa customers, a growth of 9.7 percent M Pesa transaction volumes increased 16.4 percent and M Pesa values transacted grew 16 percent," he said while noting that 'Lipa kwa M Pesa platform had 11,000 merchants who processed 1.1trn/- or an increase of 180 percent during the period.

On data performance, Marais said revenue growth increased by 17.9 percent with robust demand registering an increase of 34.2 percent thanks to 100 percent growth in fourth generation (4G) volumes.

"Our social media partnerships and smartphone campaigns supported by the continued invest-

ment in our network infrastructure have managed to deliver 7.4 percent growth in data customers to 7.9 million of which 3.5 million are using smartphones, an increase of 12.6 percent," he added.

In its annual results, the only Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange listed mobile phone services company, said net profit declined by 47 percent compared to last year when over 170bn/- was realised against this year 90.2bn/-.

"The reason for the reduction of net profit is because last year we sold shares we owned in Helios Towers, a one of income outside our core business which was not there this year," the Finance Director explained while stressing that net profit this year represents growth of 33.8 percent.

Profits were also impacted by the 5.3bn/- penalty imposed on the company after being found guilty of violating regulations in disclosure of international traffic volumes. The company which said its accounting was also impacted by a change in accounting mechanism from IAS 18 and IAS 36 to IFRS 9 and IFRS 15, has been on a sound growth path.

Going forward, Marais said the company will continue its digital journey by leveraging data analytics and segmentation saying with the acquisition of 700 MHz spectrum from Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority during the year, it will increase its 4G coverage.



Vodacom Tanzania Plc's Finance Director, Jacques Marais.



KCB Group chief executive officer Joshua Oigara.

Bonus pay lifts KCB boss earnings to KSh273 million

NAIROBI

KCB Group chief executive officer Joshua Oigara earned Sh273 million in salary, bonus and allowances in 2018, a year when Kenya's biggest bank by assets announced a record net profit.

Mr Oigara's 6.6 percent (Sh17 million) pay increase mainly came in the form of a higher bonus of Sh180 million that went up from Sh147 million in 2017, and which more than compensated for a Sh20 million drop in allowances to Sh10 million.

His higher bonus (and total pay package) was in tandem with KCB's 21.8 percent growth in profit last year to Sh24 billion, the highest-ever earnings reported by a Kenyan bank. KCB ties bonus payments to achievement of multiple metrics, including the profitability of the group.

The bank's employees are paid a bonus if they achieve 95 per cent or more on a scorecard of the set targets.

Bonus policy

The bank Tuesday said the main driver for the increase in the executive directors' pay was bonus payment, which is performance-based, and an enhancement in the bank's bonus policy for employees.

KCB, in its 2018 annual report, had said that "executive directors are entitled to a performance based bonus pay... (while) allowances paid include a house allowance, a car allowance, a telephone allowance and allowances related to loan benefit adjustment."

The bank's executive directors are Mr Oigara and group chief financial officer Lawrence Kimathi. Mr Oigara's basic salary rose by Sh3 million to Sh68 million while gratuity increased by Sh1 million to Sh14 million. His non-cash benefits that include medical insurance cover, club membership and professional indemnity cover remained flat at Sh1 million.

"The remuneration of executive

directors is per the negotiated employment contracts and is the sum total of many factors, starting from the market average obtained through a regional survey of executive compensation all the way to bonuses that are linked to a range of metrics such as return on equity," the bank said Tuesday.

Drive productivity

The performance-based pay structure adopted by the lender reflects a trend among companies that incentivise their executives based on the company's performance to drive productivity. Mr Kimathi's pay rose by 39 percent from Sh59 million to Sh82 million last year.

Like Mr Oigara's, it was boosted mainly by an increase in bonus from Sh23 million to Sh43 million. His basic pay also went up by Sh3 million to Sh32 million.

"Bonus and salary adjustments for

staff are tied to achievement of multiple metrics, including profitability of the group and at all times reflect the bank's performance in a year. In the year under review, KCB Group PLC full year net profit rose 22 per cent to a record Sh24.0 billion from Sh19.7 billion reported in 2017," the group said.

In the same year, the lender also paid its non-executive directors more. Across the group, non-executive directors were paid a total of Sh427 million compared with Sh400 million in 2017, a 6.8 percent increase.

Non-executive directors include those sitting on the boards of subsidiaries across the region. The payout also includes allowances for those serving in Kenyan units such as KCB Capital Limited, KCB Insurance Agency Limited and the KCB Foundation.

The higher perks for Mr Oigara and Mr Kimathi are also a reward for overseeing higher returns for

shareholders of the bank, who enjoyed a 16.7 percent increase in dividend earnings last year.

Dividend per share

The lender paid its owners Sh3.50 in total dividend per share last year, up from Sh3 for the year ending December 2017. Cumulatively, the shareholders earned Sh10.7 billion in 2018, representing a Sh1.5 billion year-on-year increase.

The bank is trading at about Sh40.50 a share, putting the dividend yield at current price at 8.6 per cent. This is less than a percentage point lower than the 9.3 percent offered on the government's risk-free one-year Treasury bill.

In 2017, the highest paid bank executive was Cooperative Bank's Gideon Muriuki, who took home Sh370 million comprising of Sh99.8 million in salary and allowances and a Sh270.7 million bonus. The lender is yet to

disclose Mr Muriuki's pay package for last year.

Equity Bank disclosed last month that chief executive James Mwangi's salary in 2018 remained unchanged at Sh60.4 million even as the lender's net profit rose by five percent to Sh19.8 billion. The bank said he was not paid a bonus during the year.

He is however set to earn Sh416 million in dividends from the 208 million shares he controls in the lender. Safaricom, Kenya's most profitable firm and the largest listed company at the NSE by market capitalisation, paid its chief executive, Bob Collymore, Sh196 million for the year ended March 2017. The firm is expected to reveal his 2018 salary later this year.

Listed companies have since July 2017 been required to disclose directors pay in their annual reports, after the government moved to enforce the measure to deepen transparency and strengthen corporate governance.

Dr Kalemani backs Total's oil exploration progress as energy company turns 50

By The Banker Reporter

THE government has backed Total Tanzania Limited as a competent oil and gas exploration company that must engage in oil searching as the French conglomerate marks 50 years of operations in the country.

Minister of Energy, Dr Medard Kalemani said in Dar es Salaam last weekend during a ceremony to award and recognised some outstanding employees of the company which turns 50 years this year, that oil discovery will speed up the pace of economic growth and development.

"I congratulate Total Tanzania and the entire workforce as you clock 50 years and would like to assure you that the government will give full support to your business activities including oil exploration which is important for the country," Dr Kalemani said.

He said preliminary research has shown that there are signs that the country may have crude oil reserves hence prospects that Total and other exploration companies will find crude are real. "Scientific research has shown that wherever there is abundant natural gas, underneath must be crude oil," he noted saying Total's exploration work is an important milestone.



Some of Total Tanzania employees and invited guests attending the staff recognition ceremony last weekend in Dar es Salaam. Photo: courtesy of Total.

Dr Kalemani commended Total's massive investment in downstream petroleum operations as well as

blending of lubricants which have not only created jobs but also contributed significantly to boosting government

revenue. "Your pump stations are among the best outlets for quality and

environmentally friendly fuel used by local motorists," he added while stressing that in addition to the investment in East Africa Crude Petroleum Project (EACPP) is another testimony that Total is a true partner of the government's industrialization agenda.

In his speech, President of Total Africa Marketing and Services Stanislas Mittelman said as part of Total's growth, expansion and commitment, the company is fulfilling its promise to participate and contribute to industrialization in Tanzania.

"In response to President Magufuli's call to investors to focus on industrialization in Tanzania, Total is the leading partner in the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project. Total has also invested over US\$ 200 million in the last three years, in particular through its recent acquisition of GAPCO Tanzania Limited," said Mittelman.

The acquisition led to a triple in the size of its oil marketing and service network reaching 100 petro-stations, the launch of a multi-million dollar blending plant, the introduction of Total innovations and high-tech knowhow to Tanzania lubricants industry which will serve the country and East African region at large, he noted.

"Total is committed to Tanzania and continues to share its global innovations with the local community and this is testified through our fuel storage terminal upgrade to the highest standards of the industry worldwide and the introduction of Total Excellium high-tech premium fuel distributed in the Tanzanian market," he added.

Total Tanzania Chairman and Managing Director, Tarik Mufaddal said the company is committed in staying in the country hence the continued investment in various areas including Gapco acquisition.

Mufaddal also mentioned the lubricants blending plant opened at Changombe which employs 80 people and will produce multipurpose greases and coolants all of which are used by motor vehicles, heavy duty earth moving machinery, mining equipment, steel and textile making machinery.

"This factory puts Total Tanzania as the only multinational company in the country with lubricant blending plant that will see more than 15,000 metric tons of lubricants, greases and coolants blended local use but also for exporting to neighbouring," Mufaddal added. Total has been operating in the country since 1969.



Ferdinand Moolman, CEO of MTN Nigeria.

MTN Nigeria gets go-ahead to list

LAGOS

MTN Nigeria has received approval to list on the Premium Board of The Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE). According to a statement released by the company the listing is set to proceed on 16 May 2019 and will be done by way of an introductory listing.

This means that the shares of existing MTN Nigeria shareholders will be listed without an additional public sale of shares. From this point, all MTN Nigeria shareholders will be free to trade their shares on the NSE, according to the company.

Ferdinand Moolman, chief executive officer of MTN Nigeria said "It gives me great pleasure to confirm that the official listing via introduction of MTN's shares on the NSE will take place on Thursday May 16."

"We appreciate the continued support afforded us by the government, regulators and people of this great nation. In particular, I would like to thank the staff and management of MTN Nigeria who worked tirelessly to make this day possible. This is just the beginning, we still intend to pursue a future Public Offer giving more Nigerians greater access to the MTN opportunity."

MTN Group chief financial officer CFO, Ralph Mupita said "As MTN Group we are very pleased that we are taking this first and important step towards increasing the local ownership of the company, and building the equity capital markets in Nigeria"

MTN Nigeria recently announced its earnings for the first quarter ended

March 31, 2019 recording 13.4% growth in service revenue. This was driven by a 12.7% and 32.4% rise in voice and data revenue respectively and the addition of 2.1 million active mobile subscribers to the network.

The company announced Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA) of N150.4-billion and expanded EBITDA margins to 53.3% (44.2%, on an IAS 17 basis) "due to growth in revenue and effective cost management." At the same time MTN Nigeria remains embroiled in an ongoing tax battle with the country's attorney general of the federation (AGF).

In December 2018, MTN agreed to make an almost \$53 million payment to resolve the dispute. At the time, it said MTN Nigeria and the CBN had agreed it would pay a notional reversal amount of \$52.6 million, without admission of liability. This was for a 2008 private placement remittance worth around \$1 billion that the CBN found was based on certificates that did not have final approval.

However, this did not settle the tax issue with the Nigerian attorney general, who is demanding \$2 billion (R29 billion) in taxes relating to the importation of foreign equipment and payments to foreign suppliers since 2008.

MTN went to court seeking to block the attorney general from taking further action regarding the order for back taxes. The matter is scheduled to be heard on 26 June after the Federal High Court ruled to dismiss the application by the AGF in response to the lawsuit.

Goldman Sachs to sell fixed income products in SA, as it seeks licence

JOHANNESBURG

Goldman Sachs is seeking a South African banking licence as part of plans to offer fixed income products in the country, sources and the Wall Street investment bank said, beefing up its African operations as global rivals scale back.

The bank, which is in the midst of a sweeping overhaul and drive to win more clients to counter falling revenue, said on Wednesday the expansion would see it offer products including foreign exchange and government bonds.

"The long-term economic potential of South Africa is unquestionable," Colin Coleman, Goldman CEO of sub-Saharan Africa, said in a statement. Other investment banks, including Credit Suisse and Barclays, have slimmed down or exited their African operations altogether.

Credit Suisse closed its South African business last year during the country's first recession since 2009. Years of alleged corruption and mismanagement have knocked confidence in the continent's most industrialised economy, which is still struggling for growth.

Sources familiar with the matter told Reuters Goldman was seeking a South African banking licence as part of the move. The bank said its plans were still subject to certain regulatory approvals.

While some international investment banks have shrunk their presence in Africa, local South African lenders are ramping up their corporate and investment banking offerings elsewhere on the continent.

So has France's Societe Generale. Richard Gnodde, CEO of the bank's international operations, said Africa was a substantial and growing part of its business, where it saw "tremendous opportunity" to better serve clients. Goldman is grappling with a slump in revenue and has been trying to expand its client base by selling more of its core banking products.

It said its expansion plans include an equity trading cooperation agreement with Investec, which would see both banks extend their equity trading capabilities in South Africa and deepen links with African and international institutional clients looking to invest in the region.

The agreement would be launched in the coming weeks and will look to expand into additional African markets, it said. Goldman also reportedly recently applied for a banking licence in Japan to offer corporate cash management services.

It has also moved into consumer banking, opening an online-only retail bank called Marcus, and invested in financial technology firms such as UK-based online wealth manager Nutmeg and South Africa's Jumo, which helps individuals and small businesses access credit and savings products via mobile devices.



Colin Coleman, Goldman CEO of sub-Saharan Africa.

Deutsche Bank money-laundering inquiry spurs wave of raids

FRANKFURT

A German money-laundering probe looking at Deutsche Bank brought a wave of raids by Frankfurt prosecutors targeting eight wealthy individuals who may have hidden money in offshore companies.

The suspects' homes were raided Wednesday as well as offices of 11 banks, four tax advisers and six asset-management companies in an investigation into tax evasion, Frankfurt prosecutors said. It didn't identify the banks, people or companies concerned. Once the raids are completed, prosecutors said, more information will be disclosed. The case is related to searches

of Deutsche Bank made in November. That money-laundering probe stems from the 2016 disclosures known as the Panama Papers and focuses on a former unit in the British Virgin Islands that processed €311 million in 2016 alone. Deutsche Bank is one of the companies that were subject to searches, according to a source.

Deutsche Bank spokesman Christian Streckert didn't immediately reply to a Bloomberg email seeking comment. The latest twist in the Deutsche Bank inquiry comes as bank executives are likely to face angry shareholders at an annual general meeting on May 23 when their names could be added to

a growing list of top managers denied investor backing, according to media reports and insiders.

Around 5,000 of the financial firm's owners are expected at the Frankfurt gathering, which regularly sees small shareholders call bosses to account. Deutsche Bank's executive team, led by Christian Sewing since last April, and the supervisory board, under Paul Achleitner, have both faced sharp criticism ahead of the AGM.

Major investor advisory firms Glass Lewis and ISS have urged shareholders not to endorse either board's performance in 2018, daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)

reported last week.

"Since the bank hasn't demonstrated that it's able to earn enough to cover its costs of capital in recent years, I'd tend to advise against" voting in favour, Markus Kienle, a Frankfurt-based lawyer who represents small stock owners, told AFP.

In a letter sent to clients, ISS says the bank has suffered self-inflicted wounds to its reputation, especially with failings in sniffing out money laundering, as well as booking weak financial performance.

Deutsche responded that the report "does not reflect the current situation of our bank and its control environment" regarding risks.

UBA backs Magufuli's vision on industrial economy with cheap power supply

By The Banker Reporter

For many years most African countries including Tanzania have been moving at a snail pace in achieving adequate electricity power supply which is a very critical requirement in the implementation of development projects.

For instance, Nigeria is the largest economy in Africa; in 2013 its population was in excess of 170 million, with GDP of over US\$500 billion (according to World Bank 2014). However, in the last 58 years, Nigeria's electricity sector has performed below expectation as evident by more than 80 million Nigerians that did not have any form of electricity in their homes.

Nigeria's first public electricity utility company, the Nigerian Electricity Supply Company (NESCO), was established in 1929, some 30 years after electricity generation had started in the country back in 1896.

After years of operation, NESCO reportedly had to handover the management of the country's public electricity utility to the Electric Corporation of Nigeria (ECN), a successor that was established in 1951 to take over its assets and operations.

Following the conclusion of the 2013 reforms in the sector, upgrading the capacity of Nigeria's electricity market to guarantee stability for the country has faced various challenges.

Reports from various agencies associated with the power sector in Nigeria indicate that up to 60 per cent of the country's citizens are yet to be connected to the national grid, while the low percentage on the grid manages an average 3500MW generated and transmitted daily to the grid that is barely sufficient for their energy consumption requirements.

Due to importance of having reliable electricity as a pre-requisite for industrialization, towards the end of June 2017, President John Magufuli ordered commencement construction



Energy Ministry Permanent Secretary Hamisi Hassan Mwinyimvua (2nd-L) and TANESCO Managing Director Dr Tito Mwinuka display contracts of bank guarantee after the signing ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on April 1 this year. United Bank for Africa (Tanzania) Limited and CRDB Bank Plc partnered to offer the \$737.5m bank guarantees to the JV of Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric of Egypt for the construction of Rufiji Hydroelectric Power Project (RHPP). Right UBA Tanzania Managing Director and CEO Usman Isiaka. File photo.

work of Rufiji Hydroelectric Power Project (RHPP) which has a generation capacity of over 2,000 megawatts.

History was made when President Magufuli led Tanzanians recently to witness the signing of the \$2.95 billion (about 6.6trn/-) contract between state power utility, TANESCO and the joint venture of Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric of Egypt for the construction of the 2,100MW RHPP which has been in the pipeline for close to 40 years now.

The RHPP contract was signed at State House in Dar es Salaam in December last year and was witnessed by Egypt's Prime Minister Dr Mostafa Madbouly who was accompanied by Energy Minister Dr Mohamed Shaqqah and over 150 delegates from the North African nation who comprised other

high-ranking government officials, executives of Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric, among others.

Banks throw their weight
This historic bold move by the government of President Magufuli in revolutionizing the energy sector got a major boost last month when United Bank for Africa (Tanzania) Limited (UBA) and CRDB Bank Plc partnered Afreximbank to issue the foreign portion of the performance and advance payment guarantees for a total sum of \$516m (about 1.16trn/-) required by the joint venture to access the US dollar funding from the government to commence the project work.

This constitutes 70 percent of the total bank guarantees required for the project while arrangements have also

been concluded to issue the remaining local bank guarantees of \$212m (about 496bn/-) representing the 30 percent local portion of the facility.

Speaking to pressmen during the handing over ceremony for the foreign bank guarantees in Dar es Salaam in April, United Bank for Africa Tanzania's Managing Director and CEO, Usman Isiaka said the bank is a big stakeholder in the economic development of Africa having presence in 20 African countries.

"We commend the fifth phase government of President John Magufuli for the Rufiji Hydroelectric power project initiative to drive its industrialization agenda and graduate the Tanzania economy into and industrialised middle income economy," Isiaka said.

"African governments need to invest on such projects which will have significant multiplier effect on other sectors of the economy and contribute positively to GDP growth of each country as being demonstrated by President Magufuli," Isiaka added.

Backing his boss, UBA Tanzania Head of Public Sector and Financial Institution Dominick Timothy expressed the bank's full commitment of the Rufiji Hydropower project which will help the country attain industrialization by 2025 in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 2030 objectives.

"It is our expectation that, beyond increased availability of reliable power supply, the unit price of electricity will reduce significantly if we use power generated from water as compared to gas, solar or wind and even generators which have negative effect on the environment" Timothy said.

Currently, the industrial sector of Tanzania is comprised of manufacturing (53 percent), processing (43 percent) and assembling industries (4 percent). The manufacturing sector in Tanzania consists mainly of food processing (24 percent), textiles and clothing (10 percent), chemicals (8.5 percent) and others.

Since agriculture is the mainstay of the Tanzanian economy, it is highly desirable that we have manufacturing companies that will process the agricultural products for higher contribution to the country's gross domestic product.

Currently, the majority of crops in Tanzania are sold and exported in their raw forms, while value-addition to agricultural products is mostly done on small-scale secondary level for products like cotton yarn, manufactured coffee and tobacco, sisal products (yarn and twine), and wheat flour.

Although, the country's agriculture value-added net output rose by 61 percent during the period 2009-2014, from US 8.6 billion to US 13.8 billion, the country's economy still has significant untapped value-adding agricul-

tural products processing opportunities which the completion of the Rufiji Hydropower project will galvanize in due course.

In line with the country's Vision 2025, industrialization backed by foreign direct investment is aimed at becoming a semi-industrialized country by 2025, for which the contribution of manufacturing to the national economy must reach a minimum of 40 percent of the GDP.

In order to achieve this, the government targets to transform the economy from being dominated by natural resource exploitation and extractive industries (agriculture, tourism and mining) to become an economy with a broad and diverse base of manufacturing, processing and packaging industries.

According to President John Magufuli's speech during the inauguration of the new Parliament at the end of 2015, industrialization will be a key priority to the government so that the country stops exporting commodities.

In order to accelerate industrialization, the President urged banks to lower interest rates for industrial projects during the President's Manufacturer of the Year Awards (PMAYA) held in May 2016. In addition, President Magufuli promised that his government will strengthen and transform Tanzania Investment Bank (TIB) so that it plays a key role in establishing an industrialised economy.

In dismissing criticism against implementation of PHPP, President Magufuli said, "The project has been opposed and I'm not surprised till today there are people with the same thoughts as in 1970s." He said once the project is completed it will be able to generate electricity for 60 years during which the cost of electricity will lower significantly.

Currently, consumers in the country pay more for electricity compared to other countries which is 10.7 US cents per unit while Egyptians pay 4.6 cents while the Chinese pay less than 8 US cents.

Zurich: Swiss insurer looks to gain bigger share of region's life industry

DUBAI

Swiss insurer Zurich has big ambitions - it wants to be leading provider of life insurance products in the region.

It is certainly achievable. The company, which has been operating in the UAE for 25 years, is already one of the leading providers for life protection with more than Dh200 billion in cover in the Middle East. It also supplies employer-sponsored workplace savings schemes to about 70 companies across the GCC, with \$1bn in assets under management.

"As a business, our position has grown. We have a 23 per cent market share in gross written premium terms; so our business is growing year on year," Walter Jopp, chief executive of Zurich Middle East, tells The National.

"Our biggest area in recent years has been the protection space because that is a massive need that is underserved. The penetration rate of pure life insurance is 0.6 per cent in this market - that is very, very low indeed and actually everybody should have life cover."

We do listen to the feedback. We are working on an array of new products and solutions and we will continue to put them out into the market.

However, like other global insurers in the region, the multinational has a nagging problem: dissatisfaction among UAE consumers with the long-term, contractual savings plans provided in the market. In Zurich's case this applies to its Vista product, which encourages users to save for a fixed period of between five and 25 years.

These types of insurance wrappers that combine a life insurance policy with an investment plan have come under fire in recent years in the Emirates for being expensive and inflexible, as clients are locked in for a set period of time and must pay the full charges associated with the product if they exit early.

"We do listen to the feedback," says Mr Jopp. "We are working on an array of new products and solutions and we will continue to put them out into the market."

In 2016, the UAE Insurance Authority proposed an overhaul of the life insurance sector to improve how savings, investment and life insurance policies are sold. At the time the regulatory body said it had received "an alarming number of complaints" from residents mis-sold long-term savings products - provided by global insurers and distributed by IA-licensed financial advisers.

The Central Bank of the UAE also clamped down on mis-selling from banks and finance companies, revealing in September 2017 that 100 clients had money returned to them by banks due to the

crackdown.

Since then a number of other changes occurred in this space. Friends Provident International, another supplier of fixed-term plans, told The National in July 2017 the life industry "could do better."

Other providers pulled their fixed-term plans from the market altogether: Old Mutual stopped offering its managed savings account and managed pension accounts to new businesses in January 2017 and Italian insurance company Assicurazioni Generali said in March it was not taking any new business for its Vision and Choice plans from the UAE market "with immediate effect", as it undergoes a strategy review.

When asked if Zurich would pull its own product, Vista, Mr Jopp says "products change over time and we continuously change our solutions and that's based on feedback and the market requirements and our own product development".

IA's third draft of its regulations was released in March, with no set date on when the regulations will come into force. Among the proposed measures for contractual savings plans is a cap of 90 per cent on the amount of commission paid out from a customer's first year contributions.

Mr Jopp says Zurich has already started changing its business ready for new regulations, including investing heavily in IT.

"We are engaging with our distribution partners; we're engaging with the Emirates Insurance Association and we are feeding back to the IA to try and make sure we get regulation that is good for the market, good for the country, good for consumers and good for our distribution partners as well," he says.

It is easy to see why change is needed. Scour the internet and it is awash with criticism of "expensive" and "inflexible" contractual savings plans, because advisers are remunerated upfront for selling the plan and several layers of fees are applied restricting the product's performance.

Log on to Zurich's website and download the Vista brochures and the list of charges is clearly spelt out. The 15 different charges include initial unit establishment charges of 4 per cent per annum, deducted monthly, management charges of 1 per cent based on the policy value, a monthly policy charge of Dh8.25, credit card charges of 1 per cent on the premium collected, fund investment charges, currency switch charges and more depending on which benefits a customers has signed up for.

There is also the surrender charge: pull out of a 25-year plan after one year and the charge is 100 per cent of the value of the initial units. After year two, it is 97.87 per cent and 93.62 per cent in year three.



Brokers stand in shock as UBER share values heads downwards.

Should you invest in Uber?

By Patrick Cairns

Uber Technologies' listing in New York on Friday morning was one of the most anticipated initial public offerings (IPOs) of the past few years. It was also one of the biggest.

At a listing price of \$45 per share, the company raised \$8.1 billion and achieved a total market capitalisation of \$82 billion. That values the company at only slightly less than Naspers, which has a market value of R1.5 trillion.

Uber, however, has never turned a profit. Over 2018 it recorded a loss of \$1.8 billion (R25.7 billion) and a net operating cash flow of -\$1.54 billion (-R22 billion). This is one of the reasons it had been so difficult to set a listing price.

"Public market investors find it very difficult to value companies that are loss-making," says Rory Spangenberg, director of global equities at Northstar Asset Management. "That is going to be what Uber battles with."

First-day flop
Before the listing there was a great deal of speculation about where Uber's value would be set. Some suggested it could come to as much as \$120 billion, but the final listing figure was well below the high end of the range. On its first day of trading, the stock was also immediately down

76%.

Gerrit Smit, head of equity management at Stonehage Fleming, says this highlights the challenge that any investor has when it comes to analysing the company. He considers Uber more of a speculative play than an investment.

"We would put it in the bucket of alternatives and not try to project any numbers because nobody can do that with any conviction, especially when it comes to profitability," Smit argues. "You can perhaps have a go at revenues, and then the only metric you can apply to try to value the business is price-to-sales, because there is nothing else."

He also believes it is worth comparing Uber's financial fundamentals with those of some of the more established tech stocks.

"On those numbers we can come up with quality companies that are cheaper, and give you a lot of earnings and cash flow," says Smit. "Alphabet, for instance, is extremely profitable, a strong cash generator, and its projected top-line growth is only a few percentage points below Uber's."

Uber may be growing faster than Alphabet, but Google's parent company is many times larger, has demonstrable cash flows, and has a far stronger balance sheet. It is also deliv-

ering earnings at a high margin.

Elusive earnings
This is something that Uber is far from proving. In fact, in its IPO filing the company cautions that it "may not achieve profitability". This highlights how Uber has had to subsidise its growth because it is so difficult to establish a competitive advantage in its industry.

"The competition is so fierce because there is no barrier to entry," Smit says. "Anyone can write a ride-sharing app and put up a business. So what happens - and this is where we are now - is that for any of these businesses to build their brand and market share they just have to continue undercutting each other. That is why Uber doesn't promise any profits." Spangenberg shares these concerns.

"The competitive advantage for a business like this can be the network effect - matching personal mobility demand and supply," he points out. "And Uber has done a pretty good job of this, which does bring a scale benefit. But is there any pricing power inherent in that? What stops their typical consumer from downloading another ride-hailing app? There is no friction to switching. Even the drivers will turn from one app to another. So there is nothing that actually holds you on that app."

WORLD

US industry groups denounce mounting tariffs on Chinese imports

WASHINGTON

SEVERAL U.S. groups representing a variety of industries have denounced Washington's recent move to increase tariffs on Chinese imports.

The U.S. administration of President Donald Trump increased the additional tariffs on 200 billion U.S. dollars' worth of Chinese goods from 10 percent to 25 percent on Friday, and has threatened to raise tariffs on more Chinese imports.

The new tariff measures are "catastrophic for the U.S. economy," said the American Apparel and Footwear Association in a statement released Monday, adding that it is "severely disappointed" by the latest tariff threat, which covers products "including clothing, shoes, and other textiles." It estimated that a U.S. family of four would be charged additional 500 dollars per year to cover these tariffs on clothing, shoes, travel goods, and related items.

"This is a self-inflicted wound that will be catastrophic for the nation's economy," said Rick Helfenbein, president and CEO of the association. "By

tightening the noose and pulling more consumer items into the trade war, the President has shown that he is not concerned with raising taxes on American families, or threatening millions of American jobs that are dependent on global value chains," he added.

According to the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), a Washington-based trade association representing companies from the information and communications technology industry, additional tariffs are counterproductive.

"The tariffs in force have already hurt consumers, rattled supply chains for U.S. manufacturers and businesses, and created uncertainty across economies," said Naomi Wilson, ITI's senior director of policy for Asia.

"Additional tariffs threaten to needlessly escalate this conflict and diminish the prospects for addressing longstanding trade issues with China," Wilson added.

As the China-U.S. trade tensions drag on, U.S. farmers have become increasingly impatient, especially those that grow soybeans -- one of the major U.S. export products to China.



"U.S. soybean farmers remain frustrated by the lack of progress between the United States and China in resolving the trade war, which continues to immediately threaten soy prices and, if not resolved, farmers' ability to stay in business," the American Soybean Association (ASA) said in a statement.

The ASA has consistently opposed using unilateral tariffs to address U.S. trade deficits with China and other countries, said the statement.

"Instead, ASA supports the negotiation of trade agreements and other measures that can increase U.S. agricultural exports, including soybeans." For soybean growers, the fact that no deal was reached yet after 11 rounds of consultation with China on trade disputes means that "we're losing," said ASA President Dave Stephens, who is also a soy grower from Clinton, Kentucky.

He said it took U.S. soybean farmers over 40 years to build the market in China, but now the Chinese market "will become increasingly difficult to recover" as the trade conflict continues.

"We've been understanding during this negotiation process, but we cannot withstand another year in which our most important foreign market continues to slip away," said John Heisdorfer, ASA Chairman and soy grower from Keota, Iowa.

The Consumer Technology Association said tech products account for more than half of the 300 billion dollars' worth of products that are now subject to the administration's new tariff threat.

"This immense round of tariffs is exponential-

ly worse for our country," it said. "China is one of the top export markets for American technology -- and its retaliatory tariffs will choke U.S. job creation and global sales for American manufacturers and innovators."

Tariffs are taxes paid by Americans, not China, said the association. "Raising tariffs in this questionably legal fashion hurts American families, workers and businesses."

The National Retail Federation said, "Slapping tariffs on everything U.S. companies import from China -- goods that support U.S. manufacturing and provide consumers with affordable products -- will jeopardize American jobs and increase costs for consumers."

The federation cited an estimate by the Tariffs Hurt the Heartland campaign as saying that imposing tariffs of 25 percent on all remaining imports from China, combined with the impact of retaliation, would jeopardize more than 2 million American jobs, cost the average U.S. family 2,300 dollars each year and reduce the value of U.S. GDP by 1 percent. In response to the U.S. move to increase additional tariffs on 200 billion dollars' worth of Chinese goods, China on Monday announced that it will raise additional tariffs on a range of U.S. imports from June 1.

"China doesn't want a trade war, but we are not afraid of fighting one," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said in Beijing on Tuesday. "If someone brings the war to our doorstep, we will fight to the end."

Xinhua

Pompeo's visit to Sochi shows serious approach to maintaining dialogue - expert

MOSCOW

TALKS between US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo and Russian President Vladimir Putin demonstrate the serious approach of both Washington and Moscow to maintaining bilateral dialogue, chairman of the Valdai Discussion Club Andrey Bystritsky told TASS yesterday.

"These meetings and Pompeo's visit to Sochi itself represent an important signal. From the political point of view, the significance of this meeting is that it actually took place.

Even if they reached some practical agreements, they will try to not disclose them publicly because those agreements will gradually show in what the parties in this discussion will do in the future," Bystritsky said.

"In this case, Russia and the US demonstrated that are having a serious meeting, that the US secretary of state is ready to go to Sochi and spend a lot of time there in talks. Both sides demonstrate readiness to negotiate," he added.

The talks also confirmed US President Donald Trump's inten-



tion to fulfill the promises he made during the election campaign, the expert noted.

"In some sense, Trump is ful-

filling his plans which he talked about before becoming president - he thinks that it is better to negotiate and reach agreements with Russians, as opposed to not talking and not reaching any agreements," the expert said.

Bystritsky said that one of the most important signals after Putin-Pompeo talks was the fact that the sides did not discuss the situation in Ukraine. "I would interpret this statement in the following manner: the basis formula is not being reconsidered.

The Minsk Agreements remain in force. What is there to discuss?"

Agencies

Brazil cancels another UN climate change event

RIO DE JANEIRO

AFTER backing out of hosting the 2019 UN climate summit, Brazil has now canceled a United Nations climate change event that was to be held in August in the city of Salvador.

The decision that came to light Tuesday was the latest blow to climate change consensus by the new government of far-right President Jair Bolsonaro.

The Environment Ministry said the event was conceived by a previous administration as a part of the UN's COP25 conference, which Brazil pulled out of hosting late last year, citing budget reasons.

Environment Minister Ricardo

Salles has called climate change a "secondary issue" and says he wants to focus on everyday problems like sanitation.

Salvador's sustainability secretary, Andre Fraga, criticized the cancellation of the regional climate workshop.

"It's very bad for Brazil's image," Fraga told The Associated Press. "It's sad to see Brazil losing an opportunity to be a leader in the world's fight against climate change."

He said local governments in Brazil will continue to make efforts against climate change even if the federal government is not behind them.

"They say they want to focus on urban issues, but anyone with the



minimum amount of knowledge about science and climate would know that urban environmental issues, like sanitation, clean wa-

terways, trash collection, have everything to do with climate change," Fraga said.

In a recent radio interview, the environment minister said he was more interested in dealing with the problems that affect Brazilians who aren't concerned about "climate change in Paris" or "meetings in Stockholm."

"They think I'm going to stop everything in the ministry for seminars and give money to NGOs to do studies? That's what they want!" Salles said.

"It's an industry," he said of the environmental movement. "It's an industry of consultants, an industry of lectures, an industry of seminars."

Under Bolsonaro, the Environ-

ment Ministry no longer has authority over Brazil's water agency and forestry service and it has eliminated three undersecretary positions, including one on climate change.

Last week, eight former Brazilian environment ministers from various political parties jointly protested what they called Bolsonaro's "dismantling" of environmental protection.

One of them, Rubens Ricupero, said the government's environment policies are "irrational."

"We never thought we'd see such a malevolent and destructive effort towards something Brazil has constructed for such a long time," he said.

Agencies

Poland demands reaction over assault of ambassador to Israel

WARSAW, Poland

POLAND'S prime minister yesterday condemned what he described as a "xenophobic" attack on the country's ambassador to Israel on a Tel Aviv street.

Israeli officials expressed shock at the attack and said they were investigating the assault on Marek Magierowski on Tuesday.

The incident comes amid a bitter standoff between Poland and Israel over how to remember the Holocaust and over demands that Poland pay reparations for former Jewish properties that were seized by Nazi Germany and later nationalized by Poland's communist regime.

Israeli Ambassador Anna Azari was summoned to the Polish Foreign Ministry in Warsaw yesterday over the assault. Michal Dworzczyk, the head of Morawiecki's office, said the Polish government expects the perpetrator to be punished.

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki expressed his concern at what he described as a "racist" attack.

"Poland strongly condemns this xenophobic act of aggression. Violence against diplomats or any other citizens should never be tolerated," Morawiecki said.

Israeli foreign ministry spokesman, Emmanuel Nahshon, said the assault was being investigated and that "we will update our Polish friends" on what is found.

"Israel expresses its full sympathy with the Polish ambassador and shock at the attack," Nahshon said. "This is a top priority to us, as we are fully committed to diplomats' safety and security."

Ties between the two countries became strained in January 2018 when Poland passed a law that criminalized blaming the Polish nation for the crimes of Nazi Germany during World War II. Poland's conservative nationalist government described it as an effort to end linguistic formulations such as "Polish death camps" to refer to the death camps that Germans operated on occupied Polish territory during the war.

However, many people in Israel felt it was an attempt by the Polish government to repress debate and scholarship looking at the cases of those Poles who helped the Nazis in killing Jews during the occupation.

The law was softened but tensions have continued to simmer, with tensions coming to the surface from time to time. Earlier this week the Polish government canceled a visit by an Israeli delegation, saying the Israeli government made last-minute changes that suggested it would focus on the issue of the restitution of former Jewish property. The Polish government insists that the matter is closed and that because it lost so much in the war it will pay nothing.

Agencies

Sudan military council, opposition reach agreement on rule structures, transition period

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S Transitional Military Council (TMC) announced yesterday that it agreed with the major opposition forces on the rule structures and a three-year power transition period.

"We have agreed on powers of the sovereignty council, the council of ministers and the legislative council," said Lt. Gen. Yasser al-Atta, a TMC member, at a press conference in Khartoum early yesterday.

The two sides have also agreed that "the transitional period duration will be three years," said the TMC member. "The first six months will be allotted for achieving peace all over Sudan."

A comprehensive deal that fulfils the aspirations of the people would be completed in less than 24 hours, he said.

According to al-Atta, the legislative council is to be comprised of 300 members, 67 percent of which is from the Freedom and Change Alliance and the rest will be from the other political forces.

The Sudanese military staged a coup on April 11, following four months of anti-government protests. President Omar al-Bashir who had been in power for nearly 30 years was overthrown

and then imprisoned.

Sudan's opposition Freedom and Change Alliance has been holding intermittent talks with the TMC, chaired by Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan and tasked with running Sudan's affairs following the ouster of al-Bashir, on procedures concerning the formation of the rule mechanisms during the transitional period since April.

Thousands of protesters led by the opposition forces have been gathering outside the army headquarters since al-Bashir's overthrow to express their demand for civilian rule.

Earlier this week, the latest round of negotiations between the two sides resumed amid clashes between unidentified groups and protesters, which killed several people and injured dozens.

"There are parties targeting the revolution," the TMC said in a statement in response to the violence. "They are working to foil any agreement reached and push the country into a dark tunnel." Last week, after meeting with al-Burhan, the African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson's Special Envoy to Sudan Mohamed El Hacen Lebart urged the political parties in Sudan to reach a deal.

Xinhua

Candidates vow next Australian prime minister will last

CANNBERRA

BOTH candidates vying to become Australia's prime minister in an election on Saturday are promising to stay in the job for the entire three-year term, shut the revolving door to high office and put the choice of the nation's leader back in voters' hands.

Lasting the distance between elections was once a prime minister's pledge that Australian voters didn't need to question. But since an extraordinary period of political instability began a decade ago, four prime ministers have been

dumped by their own parties and only one has been ousted by voters.

As a result, both the ruling conservative Liberal Party and the opposition center-left Labor Party have tightened their rules to make their leader's ejector seat more difficult to activate.

The changes acknowledge growing anger over voters' loss of control over who runs the country. Foreign governments have also become wary of striking bilateral deals with Australian prime ministers who can be replaced without warning. But both parties are also warning voters against trusting that the rival

candidate could maintain his government's support and end the chaos of Australia's recent political history.

If the winner in the race between incumbent Prime Minister Scott Morrison and opposition leader Bill Shorten keeps his promise to last three years, he will become the first to survive a single term since Prime Minister John Howard lost his Sydney seat in 2007 elections.

It was an ignoble end to the political career of Australia's second-longest serving prime minister. Howard lasted at the helm for more than 11 years, having led the Liberals to four consecutive

election victories. Since then, six prime ministers have been sworn in, including Kevin Rudd, who had the job twice. He was dubbed "Recycled Rudd" in his second incarnation before he became the only prime minister in the past decade to lose power at the will of voters, expressed in 2013 elections. The rest have been dumped by their own parties in the face of poor opinion polling.

Polls suggest Morrison will have one of the shortest tenures of the 30 prime ministers in the 118-year history of the Australian federation, having served in the job for only nine months by elec-

tion day. But both the ruling Liberals and Labor have acknowledged that the Australian public is sick of the revolving door to the prime minister's office and have changed their rules to make the job more secure.

Labor became the first party to increase the level of difficulty to dump a prime minister in a reform pushed by Rudd in 2013.

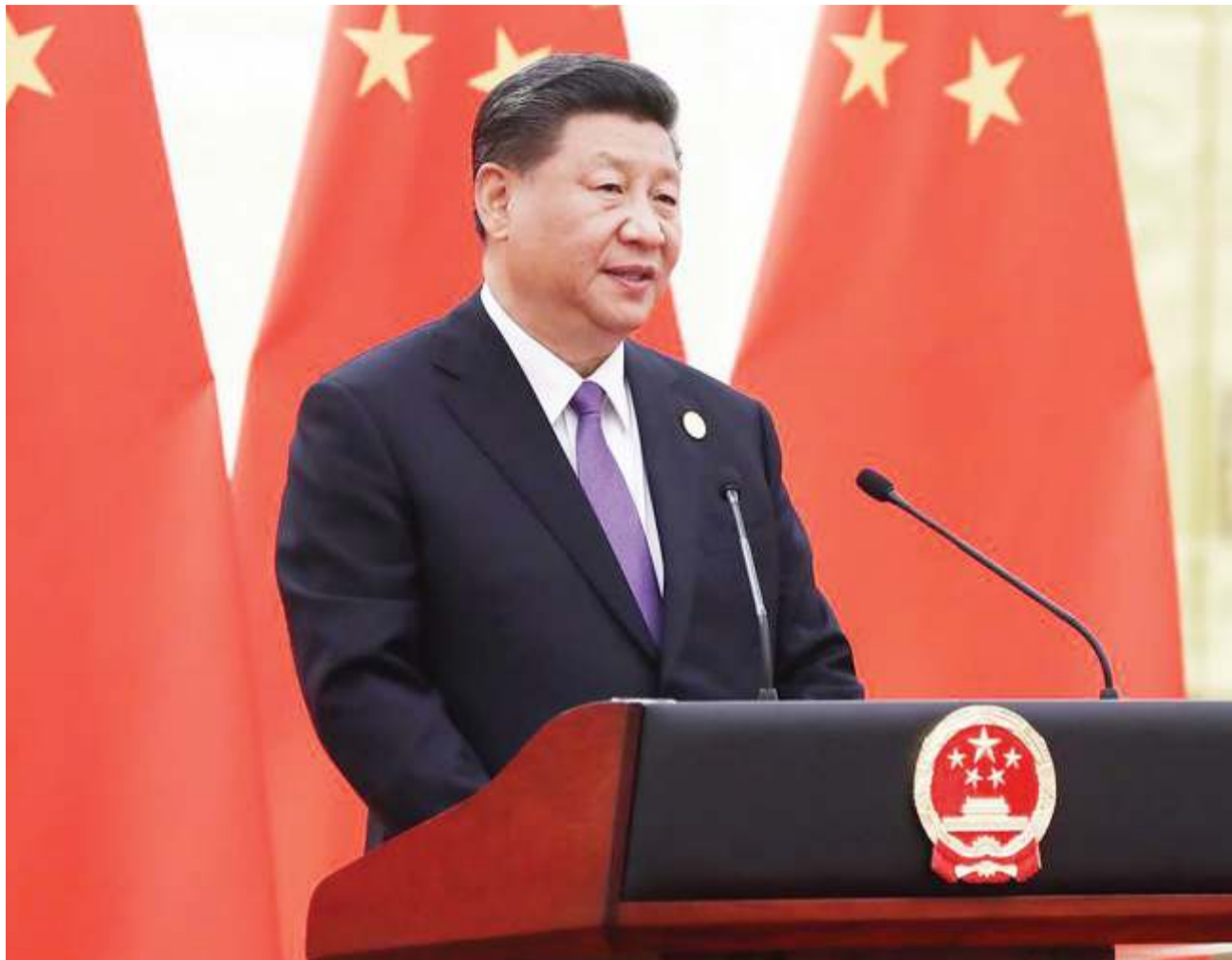
Rudd had been ambushed in 2010 in a plot conceived and executed over a few hours by Labor lawmakers who decided to switch support to his deputy Julia Gillard.

It was a shock to many Australians, who went to bed with Rudd in charge of the government and woke in the morning to find Gillard had taken over as prime minister.

Australian federal elections are presidential in the sense that the campaigns focus on the party leaders, who contend to be elected prime minister. But in fact, voters don't directly elect the prime minister. They vote for local candidates running for 151 seats in the House of Representatives, and the party with a majority of seats in that lower chamber forms a government.

Agencies

The power of dialogue



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a speech at a banquet in honour of guests who are in Beijing to attend the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC), on Tuesday. (Xinhua)

BEIJING

MORE than 1,300 years ago, Chinese Buddhist monk Xuanzang traveled thousands of miles to the revered Indian monastery of Nalanda, where he studied Buddhism for five years under the guidance of Abbot Silabhadra.

The two legendary Buddhist masters' interactions were much more

than personal exchanges. Their conversations have been considered one of the highlights of the long-running dialogue between the two ancient Asian civilizations.

In the ancient Greek language, Asia means "the Land of Sunrise." Over the millennia, the continent has been the cradle of many diverse civilizations on the Mesopotamia Plain, in the Indus Valley and Ganges River Valley, as

well as along the Yellow River and the Yangtze River.

In olden times, dynamic business exchanges along the ancient Silk Road trade routes and enlightening pilgrimages by Buddhist monks or Muslims have made dialogue between civilizations not only a reality, but also a tradition.

Today, as delegates from Asia and beyond gathered in Beijing for the

first Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC), which opened yesterday, a brand new platform for exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations is taking shape.

History shows that civilizations thrive as they learn from each other. In the current world, dialogue among civilizations, especially on the Asian continent, carries unique significance.

In his speech at the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization headquarters in 2014, Chinese President Xi Jinping said, "Civilizations have become richer and more colorful with exchanges and mutual learning. Such exchanges and mutual learning form an important drive for human progress and global peace and development."

During the medieval period of Europe, the Abbasid Caliphate of the Arabic world launched a movement to translate ancient classics that recorded Greek and Roman knowledge.

The translation movement saved the old wisdom from perishing with the fall of the Roman Empire, and enabled the European cultures in later times to revive in the Renaissance.

For Asian countries, exchanges between civilizations can also help them rediscover their identity on the world stage in this new and changing era.

There was a time when Asia was the envy of the world, a land of great empires and home to ancient philosophers, poets and writers. Algebra, the astrolabe, paper and printing were invented here.

Over the past decades, Asian nations have shaken off the yoke of imperial colonialism, achieved independence, accumulated miraculous economic and social progress, and inched back to the center stage of the international arena.

A recent Financial Times report predicts that Asian economies, as defined by the UN Conference on Trade and Development, will be larger than the rest of the world combined in 2020 for the first time since the 19th century.

As a whole, Asia is capable of making larger contributions to human civilization and world prosperity.

At present, platforms and mechanisms for regional cooperation such as the Boao Forum for Asia, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization are maturing. The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, which aims to build trade and infrastructure networks connecting Asia with Europe and beyond, also heralds a stronger connectivity of peoples and cultures.

The dialogue conference came with the recent public invoking of "clash of civilizations" worldview in the West, which is dangerously irresponsible and may lead to hatred and confrontation.

Beijing's message is loud and clear. It has chosen conversation over confrontation with a deep belief that boosting inter-civilization dialogue can help nations around the world shrink trust deficits, promote mutual understanding and friendship, and thus bolster their cooperation.

In this age of growing interdependence when the international community is grappling with a string of non-traditional security threats such as terrorism, refugee crises and climate change, no single nation or civilization can stand alone.

To meet common challenges and create a better future for all, China looks to culture and civilization to play their role, which is as important as the role played by economy, science and technology, said Xi while addressing the opening of the CDAC. The conference, he added, is convened just for this purpose, as it creates a new platform for civilizations in Asia and beyond to engage in dialogue and exchanges on an equal footing to facilitate mutual learning.

And in that process, dialogue and cooperation are the only sure path leading towards a better world for all, or in Xi's words, a community with a shared future for mankind.

Xinhua

Somali women aim at playing bigger role in law review process

MOGADISHU

THE African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) has sensitized 25 Somali women drawn from various civil society organizations on the ongoing constitutional review process, the organisation has said.

Mane Ahmed, AMISOM gender officer, on Tuesday said the representatives from various youth groups, women associations, sports and the media were engaged on how they can make meaningful contributions to the law review process in the country.

"Somali women are eager to contribute to the constitutional review process to ensure they are adequately represented, particularly in the political process and possibly have fifty percent representation," Ahmed said in a statement issued in Mogadishu.

The government has launched the constitution review process in May 2018. It is expected that by the end of the year, Somalia will have a new constitution, just in time for the 2020 one-person-one-vote elections.

Analysts say the holding of the 2020 universal vote is considered critical for the sake of entrenching the federal system of governance, which is required to appease communities and regions claiming systematic exclusion and marginalization for decades.

The election is also considered crucial because it would entrench political inclusivity, which is part of Somalia's roadmap to democracy. Ilhan Mohamed Hassan, a member of the Somali Professional Women's Union, encouraged women to be conversant with the specific constitutional provisions about women.

"We are advocating for the inclusion of the 30 percent quota, protection against sexual violence, and our rights for participation in the three arms of government," Hassan said.

Xinhua

Kenya hosts global public health nursing conference amid calls for investments

NAIROBI

A three-day international conference on public health nursing kicked off in Nairobi on Tuesday amid calls for massive investment in nursing services.

The fifth Global Network for Public Health Nursing Conference brought together international policy makers, public/community health nurses, clinical nurse practitioners, midwives and scholars.

In her opening remarks, Kenyan First Lady Margaret Kenyatta challenged governments to invest more resources in public health nursing so as to achieve aspirations of high quality healthcare provision for all.

Margaret said public health nursing is central to the functioning of any health system and should therefore be adequately resourced in terms of manpower, equipment and continuous capacity building.

"It will certainly benefit all our healthcare systems if we invest in building a strong cadre of public health nurses, through rigorous training, specialization and practice to enhance their skills," she told delegates drawn from across the world.

The public nursing conference whose theme is "Public health nurses achieving sustainable development goals (SDG) 3-Good health and wellbeing," is being held in Africa for the



Kenya Association of Private Hospitals (KAPH) Secretary General Timothy Oluet (R) addresses journalists in Nairobi on Monday. Oluet said that due process should be followed when revoking licenses of medical institutions that disregard proper medical practices. (Xinhua)

first time. "In my work and visits to health centers across Kenya, I have witnessed the role of nurses and community health workers as key influencers in the health and wellbeing of patients, communities and the populations they serve," she said.

The First Lady called on the conference participants to work together on finding solutions to not only the identified challenges facing the public nursing profession but the entire public health sector.

"The evolving role of public health nursing will be a conversation that you will be considering over the next three days, because we have to avert preventable diseases, provide better care and improve the quality of life of our people, by focusing on community health promotion and prevention," she said.

According to Margaret, a strong health system requires a competent and caring workforce pointing out that globally, nurses provide over 80 percent

of healthcare services.

Sicily Kariuki, Kenya's health cabinet secretary said Kenya's efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage can only be realized through skilled and motivated medical staff.

Kariuki said that global health challenges require global partnerships and expressed optimism that the three-day conference will come up with resolutions that will help resolve some of the challenges facing the public health sector especially nursing services. Xinhua

Kremlin: Iran reduces commitments to nuclear deal due to US pressure

SOCHI

MOSCOW regrets rising tensions surrounding the Iran nuclear deal and believes that the United States' actions are the reason, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"Unfortunately, we are witnessing rising tensions and Iran's decisions [to reduce its commitments to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) - TASS]," Peskov said, adding that "regrettably, the situation leads to further escalation."

"We clearly understand that Iran makes such decisions in response to the pressure that runs counter to the spirit and letter of the JCPOA," the Kremlin spokesman pointed out. "It is the United States that provoked Iran to take such actions," he added. "Unfortunately, concerns remain," Peskov said, noting that US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo had not given any assurances on the issue at Tuesday's meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Yesterday, Iran officially ended some of its commitments under the JCPOA. The Iranian Students News Agency (ISNA) reported, citing a source in the country's nuclear energy agency, that the step had been taken in accordance with a decision of the Supreme National Security Council.

The source added that if

other participants failed to ensure the deal's implementation within 60 days, Tehran might resume its uranium-enrichment activities and halt the redesign of the Arak heavy water reactor.

On May 8, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said that Tehran had decided to reduce its commitments to the JCPOA. "The EU/E3+2 will face Iran's further actions if they can not fulfill their obligations within the next 60 days and secure Iran's interests," he wrote on Twitter.

Iran nuclear deal issue

In 2015, Iran and six major powers (five member states of the United Nations Security Council - Russia, the United States, France, the United Kingdom and China - and Germany) agreed on the final Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

(JCPOA), which particularly stipulated the removal of sanctions imposed on Tehran over its nuclear program.

On May 8, 2018, US President Donald Trump announced Washington's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal. He said that old sanctions on Iran would be restored and new ones would be introduced in case Tehran attempted to pursue its nuclear ambitions.

The first batch of new US sanctions on Iran took effect on August 7 and the second one became effective on November 5. In the wake of Trump's decision, the leaders of Great Britain, Germany and France called on other participants in the deal to continue fulfilling it. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that Moscow would seek to maintain the agreement.

Agencies



UN chief, PIF leaders call for urgent global action against climate change

SUVA

THE United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) leaders yesterday called for urgent global action in the fight against climate change, which is believed to be one of the greatest threats to human beings in the years to come.

Guterres (pictured), who is in Fiji for his first trip to the Pacific region as UN chief, said at a high level political dialogue with PIF

leaders that this will be a critical moment as countries across the world strive for full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris climate agreement.

He stressed the importance of urgency, political will and ambition to deal with climate change.

"To address the intertwined challenges of climate change and ocean health, we need smart and far-reaching steps. This requires action that is aligned with the Paris agree-

ment and the 2030 Agenda, and that makes full use of tools such as the Convention on the Law of the Sea," he said. "We have the blueprints, the frameworks and the plans. What we need is urgency, political will and ambition. It is with that in mind that I will host a Climate Action Summit in September in New York."

The summit will be an opportunity for countries to scale up their pledges so that they can stop the increase in emis-



sions by 2020, and dramatically

reduce emissions to reach net-zero emissions by mid-century, he said, adding that he wants the summit to demonstrate the benefits of climate action and how everyone can benefit.

"We are committed to highlighting the Pacific region's concerns, along with other small island states, including in adaptation, resilience, finance and early warning. The summit will showcase initiatives in key sectors such as energy, mobility, agriculture and oceans. It

will underscore the need to end subsidies for fossil fuels and shift towards renewable energy, electric vehicles and climate-smart practices," he said.

The UN chief also emphasized the need for "a green economy, not a grey economy."

"My messages to governments around the world from the Pacific are clear: First, shift taxes from salaries to carbon. Tax pollution, not people. Second, stop subsidizing fossil fuels. Taxpayer money should

not be used to boost hurricanes, spread drought and heatwaves, melt glaciers, and bleach corals. Third, stop building new coal plants by 2020," he said.

When asked about how the UN will continue to play its role of multilateralism in the fight against climate change, Guterres told Xinhua that the UN will do everything it can to mobilize the international community in the fight against climate change.

Xinhua



BILL Cosby

Judge: Cosby accusers' testimony points to 'signature' crime

PHILADELPHIA

THE judge who presided over Bill Cosby's criminal case said he let five other accusers testify at the sex-assault trial because their accounts had "chilling similarities" that pointed to a "signature" crime.

A jury last year convicted Cosby of drugging and sexually assaulting Andrea Constand in 2004, after hearing from her and the five others. Cosby, 81, is appealing his conviction based on the women's testimony and other key rulings by Montgomery County Judge Stephen O'Neill.

Cosby began serving a three- to 10-year prison term in September at a state prison near Philadelphia.

O'Neill, in a lengthy opinion filed Tuesday, said he found "striking similarities" in the women's descriptions of their encounters with the comedian long beloved as "America's Dad."

"In each instance, (he) met a substantially younger woman, gained her trust, invited her to a place where he was alone with her, provided her with a drink or drug, and sexually assaulted her once she was rendered incapacitated," O'Neill wrote. "These chilling similarities rendered (their) testimony admissible."

O'Neill had allowed just one other accuser to testify at Cosby's first trial in June 2017, when a jury deadlock led to a mistrial. Cosby was retried in April 2018, months after the #MeToo movement burst into view with sexual assault accusations against producer Harvey Weinstein and other powerful men in Hollywood and beyond.

In the ruling Tuesday, O'Neill said the new defense team that handled Cosby's retrial never directly challenged him on the difference in his two trial rulings about the other accusers' testimony. At any rate, he said, judges are not bound

by their prior decisions.

The defense, in outlining their appeal issues, have also argued that Cosby had a binding agreement with a former prosecutor, Bruce Castor, that he would never be charged in the case. O'Neill again rejected the claim Tuesday, finding the signed press release from Castor - used to bolster the claim - falls short of an immunity agreement.

Castor had investigated Constand's complaint for about a month in 2005 before deciding not to bring a case, questioning why she waited a year to contact police. Before the year was out, 13 other accusers had come forward to support the lawsuit Constand filed against Cosby. He settled the case for \$3.4 million.

When Cosby's deposition testimony from the lawsuit became public in 2015, and the criminal case was reopened, Castor for the first time told his successor about the supposed "non-prosecution" agreement. He forwarded their correspondence to Cosby's defense lawyer and testified as a defense witness at a 2016 hearing, O'Neill noted.

O'Neill also rejected defense efforts to have him step down from the case because of his alleged bias, and outlined the four-year legal process that led up to Cosby's conviction and sentencing.

Cosby's latest team of lawyers has been awaiting the opinion so they can proceed with the appeal in Pennsylvania courts. The lead lawyer, Brian Perry, did not immediately return a phone message on Tuesday.

Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt, in a statement, said "O'Neill has a habitual habit of always trying to cover his many errors, which continues to show his hatred towards Mr. Cosby."

The Associated Press does not typically identify sexual assault victims without their permission, which Constand has granted.

AP

Curry, Warriors take Game 1 of Western Conference finals

OAKLAND, CALIF.

STEPHEN Curry had all kinds of room for a change and capitalized, finding his shooting touch in a hurry to get Golden State on a roll. Portland's defenders were too far back in the paint or a step behind all night.

"Practice shots," Trail Blazers star Damian Lillard said of Curry's wide-open chances.

So far, the Warriors are showing they can keep winning until Kevin Durant gets healthy.

Making it look easy again, Curry knocked down nine 3-pointers on his way to 36 points, leading the two-time defending champions past the Trail Blazers 116-94 on Tuesday night in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

"I know what I'm capable of on the floor. The situation calls for me to be a little bit more aggressive and hopefully that'll continue," said Curry, who came in shooting 37.1% on 3s this postseason. "Obviously it's nice to see the ball go in. I didn't shoot the ball well for 4 1/2 games the last series and got off to a good start tonight. I want to maintain that. Every game is different, you've got to re-establish yourself. That's my perspective no matter how I play."

Curry shot 12 for 23 in his fourth 30-point performance this postseason, finding far more open looks than he had in the last round against Houston. The two-time NBA MVP outplayed the Portland duo of Lillard and CJ McCollum, who combined to go 11 for 31 against a strong Golden State defense.

"It's good to see Steph have a game like that at a time that obviously we need him most," Draymond Green said.

Klay Thompson had 26 points, including a late one-handed slam. Green established the energy on both ends early for the well-rested Warriors, finishing with 12 points, 10 rebounds, five assists, three blocks and two steals.

Lillard scored 19 points back home in Oakland, just miles away from where he grew up. He appreciated all the support but wants to stick to basketball.

"That's part of what makes it special, I'm from here," Lillard said. "I could walk home from here if I wanted to, that tells you how close it is."

McCollum had 17 and missed five of his six 3s as the cold-shooting Blazers went just 7 for 28 from long range.

Game 2 is Thursday night, and the Warriors are unlikely to have Durant back from a strained right calf. An update on Durant's status is expected that day once the two-time reigning NBA Finals MVP is



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) shoots a 3-point basket as Portland Trail Blazers center Enes Kanter (00) watches during the second half of Game 1 of the NBA basketball playoffs Western Conference finals in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, May 14, 2019. (AP Photo)

re-examined.

"I think we played a terrible game and we still had a chance going into the fourth quarter," McCollum said. "So we need to tighten some things up and look forward to the game on Thursday."

Curry came off screens with authority and matched his postseason career high for 3s, also accomplished in Game 1 of last year's finals against Cleveland. He found his groove far earlier than in the Game 6 clincher at Houston on Friday night, when he scored all 33 of his points in the second half.

Little brother Seth struggled with three points for Portland, which shot 36.1% overall.

"It's not one-and-done. We've got a series, it's one loss," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "We've got to play better, particularly at the offensive end, but we've got to be better at both ends."

Lillard hit a game-winning 3-pointer with 6.3 seconds remain-

ing in overtime Dec. 27 in his last regular-season game at Oracle Arena. He averaged 28.3 points and 6.5 assists in four regular-season games against Golden State this season.

He arrived for Game 1 in a custom Oakland Athletics baseball jersey having averaged 30 points in his nine previous playoff matchups against the Warriors.

Green has at least 10 rebounds in six straight playoff games, matching his postseason career-best streak of six also done last year.

"This series is going to get tougher and tougher," Green said. FAMILY AFFAIR

Between warmup shots, Seth Curry stole a glance to the other end as his big brother went through his own pregame routine.

Back in the locker room, Stephen Curry said, "That was wild." Then, he joked, "Only me and Seth are going to score, the whole

series."

The Currys became the first brothers to ever face off in a conference final and the first in any round since Marc Gasol for the Grizzlies against Pau Gasol and the Spurs in the first round of the 2017 playoffs.

"I caught myself a couple times looking up in the stands at my parents," Stephen Curry said.

ON THE ROAD
Coach Steve Kerr certainly thought the rest benefited the Warriors.

"The schedule favored us but I thought we took advantage of the situation and got off to a good start," Kerr said.

The Blazers traveled straight to the Bay Area from Denver after winning Game 7 on Sunday rather than return to Portland.

"Denver seems like a week ago now," Stotts said.

AP

Karthik pipped Pant because of experience, says Kohli

MUMBAI

DINESH Karthik's experience and composure in pressure situations helped him pip young sensation Rishabh Pant to the second wicketkeeper's spot in India's World Cup squad, captain Virat Kohli has said.

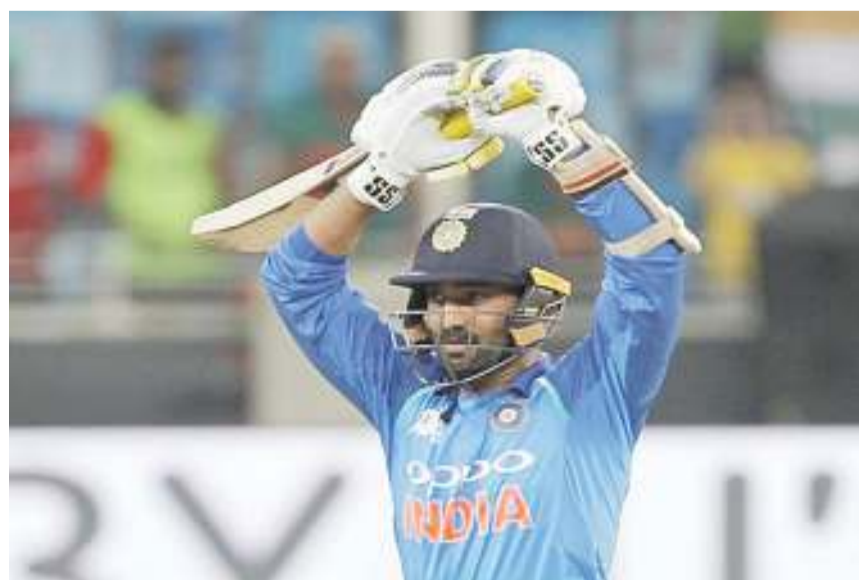
With Mahendra Singh Dhoni as the undisputed first-choice wicketkeeper of the side, the selectors preferred Karthik, 33, in their 15-man squad over Pant, who is known for his swashbuckling batting.

Teams can change players until May 23 and several former players believe India will miss the 21-year-old in the showpiece which gets underway on May 30.

"In pressure situations, he's shown composure," Kohli told the Times of India newspaper about Karthik. "It was something that everybody on board was convinced about."

"He has the experience. If, god forbid, something happens to MS (Dhoni), Karthik can be immensely valuable behind the wickets. As a finisher, he's done well."

"So, it was the overall exposure to a tournament of this magnitude that was



Dinesh Karthik

taken into primary consideration."

Karthik made his one-day international debut in 2004 and has played 91 matches for India in the format, compared with left-handed batsman Pant who has played just five after making his 50-over debut last October.

Karthik, who has also played 26 test

matches for India, has the ability to bat anywhere in the batting order which makes him a limited-overs asset.

"We can very well imagine there's more than an opinion in place that some capable guys have missed out," India coach Ravi Shastri added. "Heart goes out to them."

"Picking 15 from an immensely talented pool is never easy. I'd say to these guys: Keep going the way you have. Be prepared, in case there's an unforeseen requirement that pops up."

Unlike the India of the past, the 1983 and 2011 winners also boast a very potent pace attack, led by top-ranked ODI bowler Jasprit Bumrah.

The death-overs specialist will be aided by Mohammed Shami and Bhuvneshwar Kumar, with both known for their ability to swing the ball both ways - something which should be handy in conditions in England.

"The one common factor binding these guys is confidence," Kohli said. "They all believe that they can be the best."

"There's no set rule for anything - like Indian spinners have to be the best in the world, the best batsmen or whatever. The thing is, if you believe it, you can achieve it."

India begin their bid for a third World Cup title against South Africa in Southampton on June 5.

REUTERS

Jarmusch's star-studded zombie parable kicks off Cannes

CANNES, FRANCE

WITH a glamorous cast of flesh-eating undead including Iggy Pop, U.S. filmmaker Jim Jarmusch kicked off Cannes' cinema showcase on Tuesday with an acerbic swipe at American society - though the zombie romp lacked the bite some critics had hoped for.

The comedy marked the opening salvo of the Cannes Film Festival, where it will compete for the top Palme d'Or prize alongside the latest offerings from Quentin Tarantino and Pedro Almodovar as well as a clutch of movies by newcomer, young directors.

Set in a non-descript small town where the inhabitants start succumbing to a zombie apocalypse, "The Dead Don't Die" takes aim at climate change deniers, U.S. politics and a materialistic, smartphone-addicted world all at once.

Bill Murray, a long-time collaborator of the "Broken Flowers" filmmaker, Adam Driver and Chloe Sevigny star as cops fighting off the growing army of undead, with pop star Selena Gomez and actress Tilda Swinton also among the stellar line-up.

A darling of U.S. art house filmmaking and a Cannes veteran, Jarmusch nonetheless came up against the French festival's tough crowd, drawing a mixed bag of reviews with some lamenting a sluggish pace despite some spot-on jokes.

Laden with witty film references - including nods to George Romero's cult 1968 zombie-fest "Night Of The Living Dead" - the film plays with the artifice of movie-making, with self-aware moments where actors discuss its plotline.

Some critics took issue with the more self-indulgent moments, however. "Jarmusch's movie is in danger of succumbing to a zombie-ism of its own: a narcotic torpor of self-aware coolness," the Guardian's Peter Bradshaw wrote, describing the film as a "droll if directionless riff."

Others said Jarmusch had done little to refresh a much-exploited genre, even if gags like Iggy Pop's coffee-guzzling zombie and a horde of undead stalking the streets in search of a Wi-Fi connection raised chuckles.

REUTERS

Antoine Griezmann now to leave Atletico Madrid after five seasons

MADRID

ANTOINE Griezmann has informed Atletico Madrid that he will leave this summer, with sources confirming to ESPN FC that Barcelona are hopeful of signing him less than one year after he turned them down.

Atletico released a short statement Tuesday revealing that Griezmann had communicated his decision to leave the club after five seasons. They followed that up by posting a video of the French forward on social media explaining his decision to supporters.

"After speaking with [coach Diego Simeone], [CEO Miguel] Angel Gil Marin and with people in the club's hierarchy, I wanted to speak with you, the fans," Griezmann said. "You have always shown me a lot of love and I wanted to be the first to tell you that I've taken the decision to leave to see other things and take on other challenges.

"It's been a difficult route to take, but it's what I feel I need. Thanks for everything during five fantastic years here, where I was able to win my first big trophies. There have been some incredible moments that I will always remember. You, the supporters, will always be in my heart."

ESPN FC first reported in March that Griezmann, 28, wanted to leave Atletico at the end of the season. He had been offered to a number of Europe's biggest clubs, including Barca, although the Catalans weren't initially interested in reopening talks to sign him after he turned them down after last summer's events.

The 2018 World Cup winner with France has played his entire professional career in Spain, having arrived to Atletico from Real Sociedad in 2014. Another club with interest in Griezmann is Ligue 1 champions Paris Saint-Germain.

Barca thought they had a deal in place to sign Griezmann before the World Cup and were caught off guard when, days before the tournament began in Russia, he released a documentary called "The Decision," which ended with him committing his future to Atletico. He later signed a new deal at the Wanda Metropolitano.

However, Griezmann has had a change of heart since then and Barca, after much debate among the board, have also changed their minds since the possibility of signing him re-appeared in March.

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Griezmann scored a team-leading 133 goals in 256 games across all competitions in five seasons for the club. His 126 La Liga goal involvements (goals and assists) in that span are fourth in La Liga behind Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Griezmann won three titles in his five seasons with Atleti: the 2017-18 Europa League, 2018 UEFA Super Cup and 2014 Spanish Super Cup. He also missed a penalty in the 2016 UEFA Champions League final penalty-shootout loss to Real Madrid.

President Josep Maria Bartomeu told ESPN FC last month that there were no bad feelings with Griezmann over the documentary, which he labeled "water under the bridge." Barca have since made Griezmann, along with Ajax defender Matthijs de Ligt, one of their main targets for the summer.

The humiliating Champions League loss to Liverpool last week further enhanced the club's opinion that they need to add fresh blood to an aging squad.

Griezmann, meanwhile, has seen Atletico stagnate. They are on course to finish second in La Liga but came up short in the Champions League and the Copa del Rey. His closest ally in the squad, Diego Godin, also announced last week that he would leave when his contract expires in the summer. Griezmann cried at Godin's goodbye news conference.

Sources have told ESPN FC that Atletico were not informed by Griezmann where he will move, but he did tell them he will deposit his release clause with the league at the start of July. His current clause is €200 million, but it will drop to €120 million on July 1.

Barca could try to negotiate a deal with Atletico, but sources close to the club have said the Spanish champions remain reluctant to open talks before July when Griezmann's clause dips, due to the fact the Rojiblanco reported them to FIFA for making an illegal approach to Griezmann at the end of 2017.

(AGENCIES)

Liverpool players face intense 'pre-season' ahead of Spurs final - Klopp

LONDON

JUERGEN Klopp says he will fill the three-week gap before the Champions League final against Tottenham Hotspur by putting his Liverpool players through a two-week "pre-season".

The two Premier League clubs played their final domestic games of the season on Sunday and are in the unusual position of having a lengthy wait for the June 1 clash in Madrid.

Klopp has given his team a few days off to recover from a gruelling Premier League campaign in which they pushed Manchester City to the final day in the title race, eventually losing out by one point.

They will reconvene next week to prepare for the showpiece meeting at Atletico Madrid's Wanda Metropolitano Stadium.

"We have to do a couple of things in preparation for the Champions League, media stuff," Klopp told the club's website.

"We have to do that, then the boys will have a couple of days off and then we have two proper weeks as a pre-season for the Champions League final.

"We will do that, we will play that, (hopefully) win it, come home and then the people get what they deserve."

Liverpool, who defeated Barcelona to reach their second consecutive Champions League final, are bidding for their sixth European Cup, which would be their first piece of silverware under Klopp.

Tottenham, who produced a superb comeback to beat Ajax Amsterdam in the semi-final and reach their first Champions League final, will hope to use the gap to their advantage with top striker Harry Kane recovering from an ankle injury.

Manager Mauricio Pochettino, also seeking his first silverware after five years at Tottenham, said at the weekend after they clinched a top-four spot with a 2-2 draw at home to Everton that he would not put his players through a pre-season regime.

They were given Monday and Tuesday off before beginning the build-up to the final.

"We have our idea, we have our plan," he said. "We need to be natural. It is not a pre-season, but it is not going to be a holiday. The most important thing is that we apply common sense, we have the plan and we are going to deliver the plan so the players arrive in the best condition to win the final."

REUTERS

Is La Liga's era of European dominance finally over?

BY SID LOWE, SPAIN WRITER

AND so it ends. The lights were still on, but it was late, it was quiet, and they had all gone home. A few hours before, they'd waited in their thousands with fireworks and song, but the hope had died and they had left long ago. Some had even departed early, knowing it was over; not just the match, but more than that. Something deeper.

Valencia were beaten by Arsenal at Mestalla two days after Barcelona fell at Anfield, and for the first time in six years a La Liga team will not win a major European trophy.

Spain provides the venue for a final -- Liverpool and Tottenham will meet on June 1 at the Wanda Metropolitano in Madrid ready to compete for Europe's top club honours -- but none of the finalists. England provides all four of them: both Champions League finalists, like Spain had in 2016 and 2014, and both Europa League finalists, like Spain had in 2012. It's not supposed to be this way, or maybe it is. Maybe what was happening before was unusual, not this. But it's different, that's for sure.

Only twice in the past 14 years (2008 and 2013) has a Spanish team not won either the Champions League or the Europa League. Madrid (four) and Barcelona (one) have won the past five Champions Leagues; Sevilla (five), Atletico (three) and Valencia (one) have won nine of the past 15 UEFA Cups/Europa League titles, too. This year, they'll all be watching on TV.

Valencia were the last to fall on Thursday night, with the fans at Mestalla unable to resist, for their own sake and everyone else's. Into Spain's place step the English, they know. "Football knows no Brexit," ran the headline on the front of the sports daily AS.

No country has produced all four finalists before -- there used to be three competitions and six finalists, of course -- and what they're wondering in Spain is if this may be no one-off. If there is a belief that Madrid and Barcelona will be back, after hundreds of million euros' worth of signings -- perhaps including Eden Hazard, the man who scored the goal that took Chelsea through at Eintracht Frankfurt's expense last Thursday night -- it doesn't entirely diminish the concern that this might be the beginning of a significant shift. Not least because maybe it should be; there's an inescapable economic reality.

Perhaps what was remarkable was that they escaped it for so long.

On Thursday night, Valencia were defeated by two strikers who cost over €100 million between them. Valencia are not a poor club by any means, but they cannot compete with that. "It's undeniable that the Premier League has an economic power well above [ours]," Valencia manager Marcelino said, "but we knew that and we have to compete with that handicap; that's the way it is. Every English team, even those near the bottom can double the budget of Valencia or any other Spanish club that's not Madrid, Barcelona or Atletico. But we have to look at ourselves and that can't be an excuse."

Maybe not, but it can be part of the explanation.

What's curious is that this has happened in a season in which the economic health of the Spanish league has improved, debts have reduced and spending has increased. The TV deal, centralised now and more evenly distributed, is bigger than ever before. And while Madrid and Barcelona are always a case apart, that economic gap has been a reality for a while. If now in Spain they're asking -- and they are -- why English teams are dominating, it wasn't long ago that they were asking why they were not dominating instead.

This year may be exceptional, certainly among those economically powerful teams: Madrid's collapse was startling and Atletico had a 2-0 lead overturned by Juventus. Then there was Barcelona. Marcelino talked about the obstacles that stood in his team's way, including exhaustion and injury.

Sevilla's exit still baffles, barely plausible, but in the end, Sevilla were unable to compete for the trophy they made their own. Their former manager, though, will. And maybe



Barcelona

there is something in that. Not just in Unai Emery himself, but in what he represents, the process of which he forms part.

Emery, a Europa League winner three times in a row, in 2014, '15 and '16, will be in the final again this year, leading Arsenal. It is his record fourth straight. He hasn't lost a Europa League tie since 2012: 18 knockout rounds, three qualification rounds and three finals ago. He likes to tell the story of how it was the Sevilla president Jose Maria del Nido who impressed upon him the importance of lifting a major trophy.

"Do you know what it's like to live a final?" Del Nido asked. "No," Emery said but soon he did. In part, it was about priorities. That probably conditions Emery's interpretations and that mentality has been brought to Arsenal, along with his expertise and application.

In October, at a conference held at the Spanish Football Federation's base in Las Rozas, north of Madrid, Emery was asked why English clubs did not do as well in Europe as their financial muscle suggested they should. (Note how recent this was, and how swiftly the questions have changed).

One of the reasons that such an important league had performed relatively poorly, he suggested, was the very fact that it was such an important league. There was something in the culture, he concluded, but that culture could change. It already was changing, in fact.

"There, the Premier league is first, Europe is second. And in the Champions League they have come up against Madrid and Barcelona -- and recently, Atletico. Meanwhile, they didn't find a place for the Europa League; it didn't seem so important. It was too much of a sacrifice for them to take it so seriously; they didn't fight for it," Emery argued. "But the change in the UEFA rule four years ago, when winning the Europa League got you direct qualification for the Champions League, was important: that strengthened the Europa League."

"And so, in the last three years you've seen Liverpool in a final against Sevilla, when they hadn't qualified for the Champions League via the Premier League. The next year, Manchester United won it [over Ajax]. Last year, Arsenal tried, and they came up against Atletico, who are a huge competitive animal. So now the Europa League starts to be interesting -- for the teams that need it. Burnley [who didn't need it] played the qualifiers and were knocked out, and the same happened to West Ham."

The change had come yet Emery also insists that the Europa League matters because it is a trophy, not just a ticket to the Champions League. And he said: "I have been telling them that it is important from the first day, because of the Champions League but also as a title."

This was in October, remember. Seven months on and Arsenal will be playing in a final. So will one of the men sitting alongside Emery that day; Mauricio Pochettino, who began his career coaching at Espanyol but has since led Tottenham to the Champions League final, also pointed at the culture. "English players look at the league first; they leave the Champions League to one side a little, which means the Premier League is totally different [to Spain] in terms of demands, the fixture list," he said.

"I struggled to understand that at first. It's madness in January, the number of games you play. In England [because of the importance of the league] it's hard to rotate on a Saturday for [a game on] Tuesday. We have detected the effect that has now: so many games, so little rest, the way it means you don't get players in the best condition [by March, April]. We're trying to control that, trying to get them to the key moments with more energy."

Whether you agree or not, that was the perception from the inside. From outsiders inside. A new perspective was provided, a new view. Lessons have been learnt; they have also been imparted. And while there are many other elements, while fortune or fate plays a part -- and miracles too -- while the margins have been so fine as to be almost invisible, now both men have reached a final. With multinational English teams, this time.

It all suggests that the money alone was not enough; perhaps the money with the expertise was. The expertise, the luck, the collapse of competitors, the physicality. A shift in ideas and approaches; a shift perhaps in priorities, too. The contribution of foreign players has changed the Premier League; could it be that what was lacking, to change English experiences in the Europa League and maybe the Champions League too, was the contribution of foreign coaches? Is that why at last that economic advantage is being applied effectively? Look beyond these four, and you have Pep Guardiola (Man City), Nuno (Wolves) and Javi Gracia (Watford), too.

For some pundits in Spain it is an attractive idea, just as it is a concerning one; talent is departing not just on the pitch but on the bench as well.

The editorial in the sports daily AS last Friday claimed: "After our years of dominance, the Premier League claims its place with this formidable foursome, the causes of which are easy to identify. One: money. Their TV rights are worth much more than all the others. And another: they have spent years slowly rooting out the old guard of coaches, forged in an older football, guardians of a catechism that's outdated now. There are few left and they're doing badly."

"All four finalists have managers from outside England, just as Man City do, and they're close to winning the league. England is finally got up to date."

La Liga has been acutely aware of the threat from the Premier League for a long time. If it really is a case of them being up to date now, being better at the one thing they didn't do so well before, that threat grows. It is legitimate to wonder if Spain could be left behind. But they're not panicking, at least not publicly.

Marcelino was asked if that is something to fear. "No," he said, "because last year there were Spanish teams; two years ago, the Champions League final was two Spanish teams."

"This year, circumstances have brought four finalists from the same country for the first time," Marcelino continued. "In Spain we have three big teams; the rest of us are on a level below that. Compared to the Premier League, too."

But we have to compete. I think we're closer to Arsenal than the result suggests. Sometimes you can think that economic power is decisive in football. I think it's important -- it gives you more resources -- but it's not definitive. Until this season there were Spanish teams in finals, when the English league has been the strongest economically for six or seven years."

"It's cyclical," said Emery, underneath the main stand at Mestalla, where Arsenal had just given themselves the chance to win a third European trophy of their history and him the chance to win his fourth.

"English football is in a very good moment in terms of teams, players, television [money]. Spain had Real Madrid, Barcelona, Atletico ... they dominated those finals and now it's us, and with coaches with a past in Spain too. We'll try to enjoy it, fight for it. It's not easy to repeat four English teams in the final."

Outside, the Arsenal bus waited but no one else did. Valencia had been the last ones standing but it was late, it was over and everyone had gone home.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Is La Liga's era of European dominance finally over?

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5 EATV **TODAY @ 18:00**

THURSDAY

11:00 DADAT (RIVE)
12:00 MPPA
13:00 FUNGURA
14:00 BONGO HITS
15:00 B. HAKIWA
17:00 SILEKET
17:30 KURUGO
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music
19:00 SATY SAA I
19:30 MUJADALA
21:00 Bongo HITS

eNews is your one stop show for everything entertainment. It covers celebrity interviews, gossip, what's hot, what's not, trending online and offline and what happened in history.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Tanzania's athletes qualify for IAAF World Championships

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu Dodoma

ATHLETICS Tanzania AT has unveiled names of domestic athletes that have secured qualifying standards for this year's IAAF Doha World Championships.

They are Agustin Sulle, who clocked 2:07:45 in Toronto Waterfalls Marathon in Canada in October 2018, Alphonce Simbu, who recorded 2:08:27 in Lake Biwa Marathon in Japan in March 2019, Stefano Huche, who clocked 2:12 in Seoul Marathon in South Korea November 2018.

Also in the list are Ezekiel Jafari, who recorded 2:13 in Frankfurt Marathon in Germany in November 2018, Failuna Abdi Matanga, who recorded 2:29:55 in Hamburg Marathon in Germany April 2019.

Wilhelm Gidabuday, AT secretary general, noted Simbu and Failuna Abdi Matanga have also qualified for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

He pointed out seven domestic athletes are set to jet out to the US to battle it out in the Boulder Bolder 10km race that will take place in Boulder Colorado.

The runners will later travel to different destinations to take part in track events with a view to attain qualification standards that will give them chance to compete in Doha and Tokyo.

They are Alphonce Simbu, Teophil Panga, Magdalena Shauri, Cecilia Ginoka from Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF), Sylvester Monko from National Service, Nelson Sulle from Police, as well as Natalia Elisante from Talent Club.

The AT official added the athletes will compete in the races thanks to a special plan reached by their agents, the races' organizers and AT.



Alphonce Simbu has made it to this year's World Championships

Simba face Mtibwa Sugar acid test



Simba head coach, Patrick Aussems.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MAINLAND Premier League defending champions, Simba SC, will host Mtibwa Sugar this afternoon at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam in a must win encounter for the former.

The game could not have come at a better time as

the two sides have different missions.

Simba are in the second position in the table with 82 points and they need to win

today's game to keep their dreams of defending the league title alive.

Mtibwa have been placed fifth with 49 points and they need

three points to remain in top five teams.

Both Simba and Mtibwa head into the match with unimpressive record as they only managed to collect one point from a possible six in their two previous matches.

Simba, on the one hand, lost 1-0 to Kagera Sugar and then drew 0-0 with Azam FC while Mtibwa, on the other hand, drew one all with Singida United and later lost 1-0 to Coastal Union.

Simba need victory more than Mtibwa and any slip-up for the defending champions would be dangerous with the title race heading for the exciting final stages.

Yanga that are leading the league table with 83 points have mathematical chances of winning the title if they win the remaining games against Biashara and Azam FC and pray that Simba lose three games.

If the host side wins today, they will only need five points from the remaining four games, which will see them lock horns with Ndanda, Singida, Biashara and Mbeya City FC.

Simba have a better head-to-head record against the visitors Mtibwa, but, at this stage, teams

are not ready to lose points.

In the previous two games, the hosts' players had clearly shown signs of fatigue which can be attributed to playing many games in a space of few days.

But with Simba desperate for defending the silverware, they would be looking to grind out a win.

"In our game against Azam FC it was clear that they (Azam) came for a draw, they were only defending and playing the type of football which frustrated us ... we need eight points from the five games remaining, I am very confident that we will defend the title," Simba's coach, Patrick Aussems, said.

Mtibwa SC head coach Zuberi Katwila said his side is ready for tomorrow (today) game as their aim is to collect maximum points.

He said they have prepared well for the encounter against the league's favorites.

"The game against Simba will not be that easy, but we are well prepared for them, my players know the importance of winning this game and we will make sure that we emerge as winners," he noted.



A section of amputee football league's players take part in one of the league's matches, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently.

East Africa amputee football competition for Dar next month

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA will next month host the inaugural Confederation for East and Central Africa Amputee Football (CECAAF) competition in Dar es Salaam, officials from Tanzania Amputee Football Federation (TAFF) disclosed.

Peter Sarungi, who is TAFF President, said the tournament, which will be played for 10 days, will kick off from June 22 and has attracted Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Zanzibar and Mainland Tanzania and a team from West Africa that will compete at an invited guest.

He said the tournament will take place at two venues, Uhuru Stadium and the National Stadium, and noted participating teams will start arriving in the country on June 20.

Sarungi said this is the best opportunity for the country to show to the world that it has inclusive policies which allow people with disabilities

to be fully involved in recreation, leisure and sports.

The TAFF official appealed to stakeholders, cooperate world, companies and institutions to help the federation financially and materially so that it can successfully host the event.

"This is an honour to the country to host the inaugural CECAAF tournament, four countries have confirmed their participation," he noted.

"At the tournament we have also received request from Ghana and Nigeria who want to come for the tournament, but we will only invite one team from the West Africa region."

"This is the best opportunity for the country to show to the world that it has inclusive policies and also it's the opportunity to show people that Tanzania is ready for sports disabled tourism."

"Many disabled people are

nowadays involved in tourism and in most cases they come with helpers... we thank Kajumulo Sports Company which has promised to provide jerseys to our team."

Meanwhile, Sarungi said the country's disabled football national team which is fondly known as Tembo Warriors is expected to enter camp next week under the guidance of head coach Hassan Mustafa.

He said the team enters camp early with a view to improving chances of winning the tournament.

"The Tembo Warriors' side is made up of players who were selected during our maiden disabled football league, it will enter camp next week," he noted.

"The aim of early camping is to make sure that the team prepares well and win the championship for the first time, I am confident that with good preparations we can be champions."

Uganda coach to use COSAFA Cup as platform for growth

CAPETOWN

THE COSAFA Cup has long been a platform for players to showcase their qualities and build their reputations, but the same too goes for coaches and Uganda tactician, Abdallah Mubiru, hopes this will ring true for him in 2019.

Mubiru will stand in for regular head coach, Sebastien Desabre, in Durban as the East African guest nation enter the competition at the quarterfinal stage with a match-up against Lesotho.

Mubiru is the coach of local side Police FC and admits his elevation to the national team role has come as a surprise but one he is ready to embrace.

"My main target is to perform better in COSAFA by putting up good performances in the tournament which will earn us respect as coaches, players and the nation at large," Mubiru told www.football-256.com.

"I thank God for my appointment, it motivates me because I didn't expect it, I didn't apply for it but out of many good coaches I am the chosen one."

"I will learn new things, increase my proficiency and gain new experience just as any person who is hopeful of going higher."

Uganda will use the competition to give fringe players in their Africa Cup of Nations squad a run, as well as to prepare for the African Nations Championship qualifiers later in the year.

"I am just happy and proud of it because I am going to prepare the team for the 2020 African Nations Championships qualifiers, I only embrace the opportunity given to me."

Also, among the technical group is team manager, Geofrey Massa, who had a long and distinguished career, including in South Africa's Premier Soccer League.

Massa turned out for Jomo Cosmos, University of Pretoria and Bloemfontein Celtic, and is only recently retired.

"I am happy to work with them, Massa is a big name in Uganda's football, I am happy for his return because football has been missing him, he has a lot to share with young lads."

Mubiru will be assisted by Morley Byekwaso, a former teammate during their playing days.

"Morley Byekwaso is my long-time colleague, we played together, did everything together, so I hope for the best with them and eager to start working with them."

Uganda have long been a power in the East African region and over recent years have seen their fortunes change for the better on the continental stage as well.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHEN TEMPTED TO FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE, REMEMBER THAT THE FIRE DEPT. USUALLY USES WATER

HIC, I USE BEER HIC

