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National Pg 3
Cache of banned plastics seized



National Pg 4
TPSF launches advisory committees



National Pg 5
Zanzibar 'blue economy' opportunities



National Pg 6
Govt resolves land conflict in Morogoro



Samia confers with local Chinese business lobby

800 Chinese firms wish to invest



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) talks with a delegation of the Chinese Business Chamber of Tanzania led by Janson Huang (2nd R) at the State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday met leaders of the Chinese

Business Chamber of Tanzania (CBCT), assuring the chamber that the government is working to improve ease of doing business in the country.

The president pledged that all the challenges hampering investments in the country will be worked upon accordingly, along with taking precautions against

infections of the respiratory disease—Covid-19.

Early this month, the president

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CORRUPT ACTIVITIES
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WATER PROJECT
Page 7



'WASH'
Page 11



Z'bar to amend laws 'oppressing widows'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi has directed relevant authorities to prepare amendments for oppressive laws that deny basic rights to widows in the Isles.

Dr Mwinyi (pictured) issued this instruction at a meeting with leaders of the Zanzibar Widows Organisation (ZAWIO) at the State House here yesterday.

He said it would be better for ZAWIO to

formulate recommendations that can be appropriately used in amending such laws to remove deficiencies causing complaints from widows.

It is not wise for a woman to be divorced from a marriage with children without getting rightful assistance for their upkeep.

Dr Mwinyi explained that there were women who help their husbands to put up sizeable savings or properties, but in divorce they get nothing. "This is not wise at all despite excuses from their husbands," he said, signaling that he would immediately sign into law any such amendments.

He hailed ZAWIO for the good work in offering services to assist widows in Unguja and Pemba islands, efforts to which the president donated 10m/- to help cover administrative expenses for the NGO and iftar arrangements for 300 widows living in difficult situations.

He also called on the NGO to assist widows

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Treasury working to restore aid tax waiver

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Finance and Planning is working on a directive by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to reinstate the tax waiver on foreign aid to facilitate implementation of strategic projects.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the minister, made this affirmation yesterday at a meeting with Niinuma Takashi of the embassy of Japan who sought to know the progress on the matter.

He said the president issued the directive to shore up foreign aid hindered by the taxation proviso deducted from the same aid amount.

"We have started working on it and



We have started working on it and up to now we have already prepared a circular. We are only waiting for approval from the cabinet

up to now we have already prepared a circular. We are only waiting for approval from the cabinet," he elaborated.

He assured the envoy that the government will continue to cooperate with Japan on various issues to ensure development of the people for both sides, while the envoy said his country will continue supporting Tanzania in its development endeavours.

Japan intends by fund development projects such as the port expansion programme, noting that solving the issue of taxing foreign aid is the premise for progress in discussions

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State unfreezes CRDB rights group accounts

By Guardian Reporter

BANK accounts of the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), which were frozen by state agencies for seven months have been reopened.

Vicky Ntetema (pictured), the THRDC board chairperson said in a statement yesterday that board



is thankful to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her expressed reaffirmation of human rights and good governance.

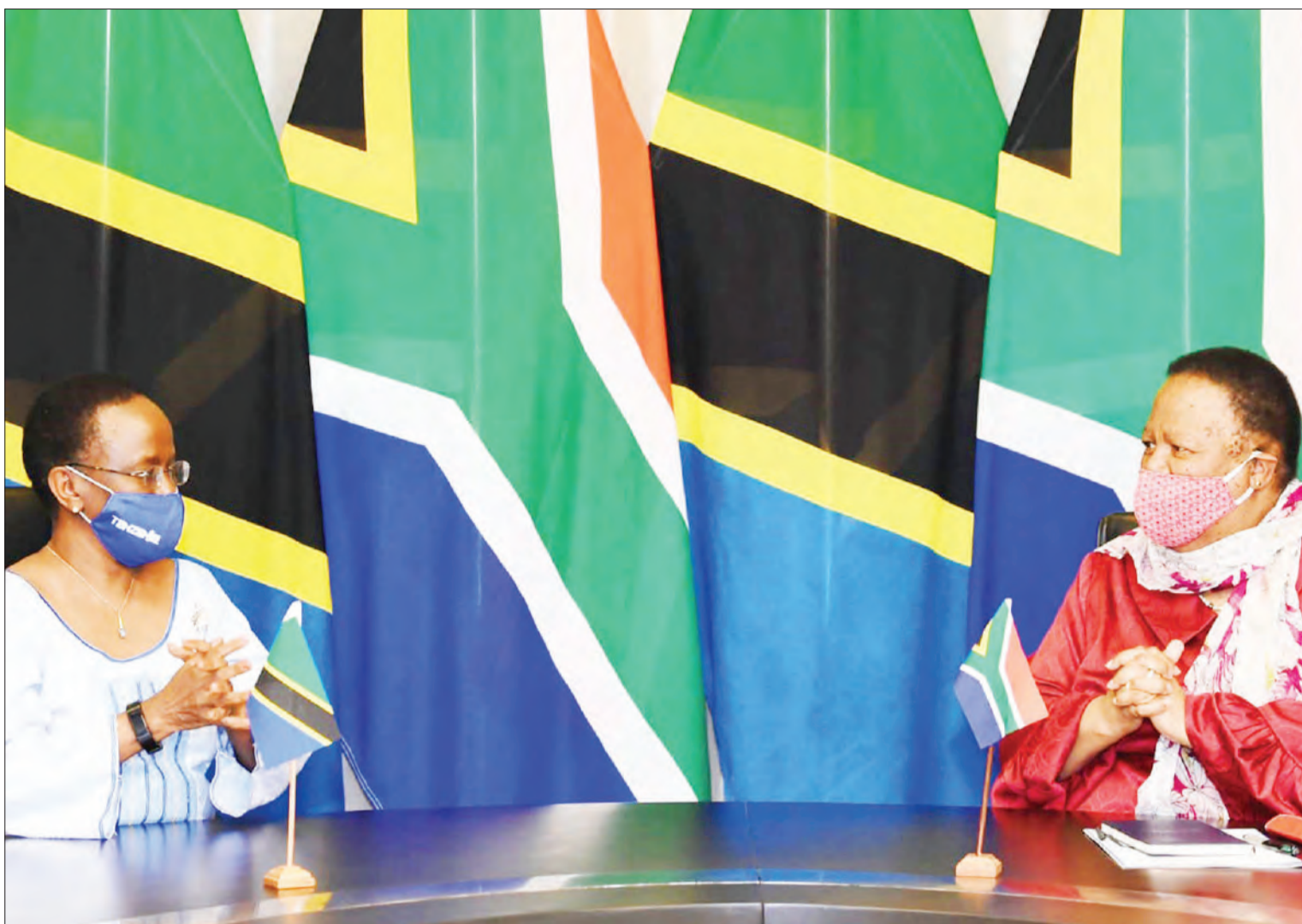
The reopening of accounts follows a directive from government authorities that initially ordered freezing of the accounts to allow investigation into certain allegations which has now been rescinded with instructions for reopening of the accounts, the statement indicated.

The coalition's accounts were closed last August, a situation which affected implementation of the

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Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation minister ambassador Liberata Mulumula (L) talks with her counterpart South African Foreign Affairs and International Relations minister Grace Naledi Pandor in Pretoria South Africa yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia confers with local Chinese business lobby

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said she was going to form a team of experts to evaluate the Covid-19 pandemic situation in the country and advise the government on the best way forward.

She pointed out that challenges hampering investment efforts in the country include difficulties in accessing work permits, tax administration, delays in project payments and other bureaucratic impediments.

"The government is working to address emerging challenges for locally produced goods in local and export markets," she affirmed.

CBCT chairman Janson Huang, leader of the delegation, assured President Samia that the Chinese business community is ready to work with the sixth phase government towards stimulating economic growth and uplifting the welfare of Tanzanians.

Huang said that over 800 Chinese firms have shown interest in investing and introducing projects in Tanzania.

He also outlined areas where Chinese companies wish to invest, citing assembling of mobile

phones, production of human medicine, automobile assembling and establishment of industrial parks.

The chamber also envisages enabling Tanzanians to acquire skills through an education program that will provide opportunities for Tanzanians to study in Tanzanian and Chinese universities, he declared.

While in China Tanzanian students would pursue engineering and tourism courses to be funded by the Chinese government through the chamber, he stated.

The Chinese delegation also bemoaned the late President John Pombe Magufuli, congratulating President Samia for the smooth transfer of power after Magufuli died at Mzena hospital in Dar es Salaam on March 17 from due to heart failure.

"The government is working to address emerging challenges for locally produced goods in local and export markets"

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coalition's responsibilities as per its plans for the year 2020, she said, noting that THRDC will continue to collaborate with various stakeholders to ensure the protection of justice and human rights.

THRDC shall work with government institutions, non-governmental organizations, the judiciary, the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), development partners, lawyers, academic institutions, the Registrar of NGOs and the media in ensuring the protection of human rights is done effectively and

State unfreezes CRDB rights group accounts

professionally, the statement elaborated.

She similarly lauded donor agencies and institutions that helped to ensure that the coalition continued to implement its activities "as it worked to seek reconciliation with the police force."

The network will pursue its operations on the basis of its 2021 plans, said Ntetema.

Following closure of its accounts, THRDC temporarily suspended operations, citing that the police force ordered CRDB Bank to block the THRDC account, for allegedly signing contracts with donors without consulting the Treasury or the Registrar of NGOs.

"Dear members and stakeholders, following an emergency board of

directors meeting, the board has come into conclusion to temporarily suspend the coalition's operations until further notice. The board apologizes to its members and stakeholders for the inconveniences caused by the decision including the delay in payments and such related issues," Ntetema had declared at that time.

Z'bar to amend laws 'oppressing widows'

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from challenges they face in producing various items by seeking out markets for the products.

For her part, ZAWIO chairperson Mgeni Hassan Juma cited efforts made by the NGO, pledging to work on the president's suggestion immediately, to as to help present formal amendments to the House of Representatives.

Mgeni, who is also Deputy Speaker of the House lauded the president for his support to the cause of ending oppression of

widows.

ZAWIO director general Tabia Makame Mohamed listed achievements and challenges facing the organization, set up under the 1995 law governing civil society organisations and registered on December 12, 2019.

As for now, the two islands have about 16,000 widows and the number was rising each day, in which case the organisations has posted coordinators in various Isles regions to train widows on entrepreneurship skills, she added.

MPs propose reforms for boosting Tarura activities

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament have proposed establishment of 10/- levy for phone users and another 50/- for vehicle owners to help boost the budget for the Tanzania Rural Roads Agency (TARURA) to perform effectively.

The MPs said Tarura was very small hence makes the agency fail to perform effectively calling for the essence of having the levies which they said should range from 10/- 50/- to 100/-.

The legislators were speaking when commenting on the budget proposals for the ministry of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government for the year 2021/2022.

Ilala MP Mussa Zungu advised the Tanzania Revenue Authority to formulate new revenue sources because there are various sources which can make the agency run effectively.

Speaking in parliament, Zungu said most of the MPs have been complaining of Tarura failing to construct roads in their constituencies due to budgetary

constraints.

"It is better to establish such levies as they do in Ethiopia where the money to construct rural roads comes from such revenues," he said.

He said the fact that there is an average 52 million phone users in the country would help generate 540bn/- which would help build roads.

He said if there is 50/- levy, more than 500bn/- would be generated while if the levy is 100/- about 1.8trn/- would be generated.

Makambako MP Deo Sanga echoed the remarks saying there should be some deductions from phone users to help in national building.

Solwa legislator Ahmed Salum supported the idea saying users should be deducted from the services they receive to help in road construction.

Another MP for Magu Boniventura Kiswaga said road construction has been a problem in rural areas hence there is need to have levies some of the services that people receive from the government such as communication.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa talks with Minister of State (Policy, Parliament Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and Disabled) Jenista Mhagama (L), Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Prof. Palamagamba Kabudi (2nd L) and Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene in the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: PMO

Treasury working to restore aid tax waiver

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on funding other projects so that they can be resumed.

Meanwhile, officials of the Tanzania Revenue Authority have started touring businesses to address challenges affecting them, to facilitate friendly and voluntary tax payment among all categories of traders and business operators.

Rose Maendeka, lthe acting manager for taxpayer education at TRA headquarters, said the process has already started in of Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Singida, Mwanza, Lindi, Mtwara and Mbeya regions. During the meetings the taxman shall be informing business operators on the best way to use Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFD), she said.

Tirson Kabuje, assistant TRA manager for Kilimanjaro region said the visits will be conducted at Mbuyuni, Kiusa, Kiborloni and later district by district.

The Regional Commissioner, Dr Anna Mghwira said the tax body must emphasize on more training to facilitate voluntary tax payment, after President Samia ordered TRA to stop harassing taxpayers but devise strategies to

expand the tax base so as to meet collection targets.

Speaking after coming into office, the president said tax collectors were employing enforcement tactics that pushed scores of big businesses into bankruptcy, tasking the tax collecting body to improve its methods to facilitate more business to reopen, thus widening the tax base.



It is better to establish such levies as they do in Ethiopia where the money to construct rural roads comes from such revenues



Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud (2nd R) listens to Zanzibar government printer acting managing director Salum Khamis Rashid Kaimu moments after his tour at Maruhubi yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

By Polycarp Machira,

Dodoma

'Tanzania many schools doing well in drinking water, sanitation and hygiene'

AT LEAST more than half of schools in the country have managed to drink clean and safe water, improved toilet facilities and hand washing facilities, a new report released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) had shown.

The 2018 School Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (SWASH) Assessment is the first comprehensive, nationally representative survey of primary and secondary schools was launched here, recently.

Speaking at the launch, government statistician general, Dr Albina Chuwa said the survey was designed to provide information about the status of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities as well as appropriate hygiene practices in Tanzania.

The results from the survey indicates that 68.2 per cent of the schools have an improved source of drinking water.

Schools in urban areas seem to have better access to an improved source of drinking water than schools in rural areas having 84.2 per cent against 63.8 respectively.

The most common improved sources of drinking water in Tanzania schools are water piped into school premises at 29.5 per cent, tube wells or boreholes at 12.1 per cent and protected wells, 9.8 per cent.

Seventy-six per cent of primary schools with drinking water sources in Tanzania provide drinking water to the youngest children in the school.

"Two thirds of the primary and

secondary schools with drinking water sources have made it possible for pupils with limited mobility or vision to access drinking water at school." Reads the report.

Classified with respect to the WHO/ UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) ladders for WASH in Schools, more than half of schools in Tanzania ,55.3 per cent had basic drinking water services.

Seven out of ten schools in urban areas or 70.5 per cent had basic water services, while slightly more than half of the rural based schools 1.0 per cent had basic water services.

High regional variations were noticed and the percentage of schools with basic water services ranged from 29.7 per cent in Songwe Region to 91.9 per cent in Kusini Pemba Region.

Thirteen per cent of schools had limited water services, meaning that they had improved sources but water was not available at the time of the assessment.

On the other hand, 31.8 per cent of schools had no water services, meaning that they either relied on unimproved sources, such as unprotected dug wells, unprotected springs/surface water, or had no water services at all.

The survey further established that two third of schools in Tanzania, being 67.3 per cent, did not treat their water prior to drinking. For the schools that treated water, the most common methods used were chlorination about 50.4 per cent and boiling about 39.3 per cent.

On sanitation services, the report shows that eighty-nine per cent of the

schools had improved toilet facilities, regardless of quality.

The three most common types of toilet facilities in Tanzanian schools, according to the survey were pit latrine with washable slabs ,41.8 per cent, flush to pit latrines ,19.7 per cent and ventilated improved pit latrines at 14. per cent.

"Less than one per cent of schools in Tanzania were found to have no toilet facilities. Thirty per cent of schools had basic sanitation services or improved single-sex sanitation facilities usable at the time of the assessment". States the report

Slightly more than a half of schools in urban areas, being 51.0 per cent had basic sanitation services compared to 24.3 per cent of schools in rural areas.

In addition, 58.4 per cent of schools were providing limited sanitation services, had improved facilities that were either not single sex or not usable.

Thirteen per cent of schools owned by the government had no sanitation services compared to only 2.4 per cent of non-government schools. Schools without sanitation services either relied on unimproved facilities, such as pit latrines without a slab, or had no sanitation facility at all.

Schools in rural areas were more likely to have no sanitation services than schools in urban areas at 13.4 per cent and 4.0 per cent, respectively.

On hygiene services, six out of ten schools equivalent to 63.8 per cent of schools, in Tanzania had handwashing facilities. Urban schools (75.3 per

cent) were more likely to have handwashing facilities than rural schools (60.6 per cent).

"The coverage of basic hygiene services in Tanzania was low at 17.6 per cent as only approximately two out of ten schools had handwashing facilities with soap and water available at the time of the survey" reads part of the report.

Government-owned schools had a smaller percentage of schools with basic hygiene services 14.4 per cent), compared to schools owned by non-government institutions at 9.0 per cent.

Significant variations in the availability of basic hygiene services in schools were found across regions, ranging from 1.4 per cent in Songwe Region to 47.2 per cent in Kilimanjaro.

Another cache of banned plastics seized in Mwanza

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

AUTHORITIES in Mwanza Region have seized 40 sacks and 16 cartons of banned plastic bags, one month after another hoard was found in the city.

A joint operation by the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and police nabbed the unauthorized packaging materials yesterday at the city's main market.

Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Selemani Jafu who was on official visit in the region went to Nyamagana Police Station where the items were kept and called for strict legal action against the persons found with the items.

Speaking after witnessing the consignment, minister Jafu commended NEMC, police, regional and Nyamagana district leaders for cooperating and succeeding in the operation.

"The government has on several occasions made it clear that wrapping materials are also banned just like carrier bags but it is unfortunate that there are some unscrupulous people who continue to distribute these bags," he said.

He said the government has done enough sensitization on the matter especially on the fact that plastic carrier bags and wrappers are injurious to the environment, adding that what follows now is enforcement of the law by punishing those who violate it.

Mwanza Regional Police Commander ACP Muliro Jumanne said the operation was successful thanks to cooperation between state agencies and well wishers who passed on information to authorities.

NEMC Lake Zone Manager Redempta Samuel urged citizens to immediately stop using plastic bags and wrappers banned by the government to avoid harming

environment and stay away from trouble.

Last month, NEMC seized prohibited tube plastics at Buswelu area in Ilemela district and blamed some of its officials for colluding with unscrupulous traders who import the materials from neighbouring countries.

NEMC Director General Dr Samuel Gwamaka said then that some of the council's unscrupulous staff charged with enforcing plastic ban are part of a syndicate that facilitate entry and sale of the bags.

"They (NEC staff) have a noble duty of ensuring that the banned plastics do not get into the country; they are not supposed to work with the criminals," he said.

From 1st June 2019 all plastic carrier bags, regardless of their thickness were prohibited from being imported, exported, manufactured, sold, stored, supplied or used in mainland Tanzania.

However, enforcement of this, while largely successful on carrier bags, has been facing challenges on the wrappers or tubes that NEMC is still struggling to get off the streets of major cities and towns. According to regulation 8 of the prohibition of plastic bags which lists five offenses of producing, importing, distributing, selling and using prohibited bags the penalty is a fine of between 30,000/- to 10bn/- or up to two years in jail.

They (NEC staff) have a noble duty of ensuring that the banned plastics do not get into the country; they are not supposed to work with the criminals



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE
BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS AND LICENSING AGENCY



PRESS RELEASE

EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION ON BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Dar es Salaam, April 2021

The Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA) cordially informs Company owners and the general Public that, the Minister for Industry and Trade through Government Notice No. 189 of 12th February, 2021 extended the time for submission of information on Beneficial Owners for a period of twelve months from 1st January, 2021 to the Companies registered before 1st July, 2020.

The requirement to submit beneficial ownership information arises from the amendments of the Companies Act, Cap. 212 which were done through the Finance Act, 2020.

This extension of time has been granted in accordance with section 459A of the Companies Act, Cap 212 which empowers the Minister to extend the time for submission of Beneficial Ownership information.

BRELA in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Trade is in the last stages of completing The Companies (Beneficial Ownership) Regulations that will specify the modality of submission and keeping of beneficial ownership information. Once the Regulations are published, BRELA shall start receiving the said information.

For more details, kindly contact us through email address usajili@brela.go.tz, phone number +255 (0) 22 221 2800 or visit our office located at The Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives Building, 6th floor, Lumumba Street, Dar es Salaam.

Issued by;
The Information and Communication Unit BRELA

Ushirka tower, Lumumba Street, P.O Box. 9393, Dar Es Salaam, Telephone: +255-22-2181344, 2180113, 2180141, 2212800, fax: +255-22-2180371, E-mail: ceo@brela.go.tz, usajili@brela.go.tz, Website: www.brela.go.tz

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Ndaki warns Livestock Ministry workers against corrupt activities

By Guardian Reporter

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Minister, Mashimba Ndaki has called upon staff and workers of the ministry to avoid corrupt practices, warning that whoever would be found to have engaged themselves in the vice stern legal steps would be taken against them.

Ndaki issued the warning at the opening of the Livestock and Fisheries Ministry's Workers Council (Livestock Sector) meeting in Dodoma on Tuesday.

Ndaki urged the workers and staff to abide by work ethics and accountability while performing government duties, saying it was not good for public servants to get mentioned so often in negative incidents that spoil the

government's good intentions. "A beseech all of you to shun acts that violate the country's laws and work procedures, it is not right to see some you being mentioned in



...it was important for public servants to respect each other and abide by work discipline, they should not despise one another, saying every worker was important in the ministry

corrupt scandals, avoid bribery," Ndaki stressed.

He added that it was important for public servants to respect each other and abide by work discipline, they should not despise one another, saying every worker was important in the ministry.

For his part, the Council Chairman Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel promised the minister that they have received his directives and will make sure the implement them to attain success for the ministry and the country in genera.

Prof Ole Gabriel added that through the Council they will continue to improve the Livestock sector's budget to elevate livestock keepers by enabling them to adopt modern livestock keeping practices.



Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) board chairperson, Angelina Ngalula (C) speaks at the launch of seven committees of the foundation in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are the foundation's chairman of the policy and advocacy research and lobbying and Kibaha MP Sylvestry Koka. Looking on is TPSF managing director Francis Nanai. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TPSF chair launches advisory committees on investment and business environment

By Guardian Reporter

THE Board chairperson of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) Angelina Ngalula yesterday inaugurated here seven committees that will, among other things do research and recommend TPSF positions on business environment and investment to be forwarded to the government for implementation.

The committees are on programmes and enterprise development, finance and administration, resource mobilisation and sustainability, investment and local content, outreach and membership services, policy and advocacy research and lobbying and audit and risk management.

Ngalula said the committees have been carefully selected and called on members to work diligently to achieve the goals for which the committees were formed.

"We ask and expect you to be thorough in your work so that we achieve all the goals for which

these committees have been formed," she said explaining that the collective work of the committees will put TPSF in a good position to advise the government on business environment and investment promotion.

TPSF, she said, is the voice of members of the business community, adding that the nation expects members in whatever their deals and conduct to remain patriotic, responsible and transparent in paying taxes so that the government achieve national development goals.

"The declared objective of the sixth phase government is to collect two trillion monthly. The obligation and opportunity of the private sector is help the government achieve this goal by paying timely due taxes," she said.

She called on the committees to develop close relation with Tanzanians in the Diaspora, so that foreign markets can be easily accessed and retained. On the local front, she said the committees should proposed

projects that will generate jobs for young people, build their working capacities and expose them to existing opportunities they normally to not recognize.

TPSF chairman of the Policy and Advocacy Research and Lobbying and Kibaha Member of Parliament Mr Sylvestry Koka said one of their strategic duties will be to ensure the voice of members of the business community is clearly heard and upheld in determining tax rates for the good on the nation.

The Chairman of the Finance and Administration, Mercy Sila, said the committee will ensure transparency in administration and finance management so that TPSF members remain loyal to the organization.

TPSF Managing Director Francis Nanai, said the TPSF secretariat will ensure the objectives it has set are achieved. He also said the secretariat will work keenly on the Diaspora issue because, he said, it very valuable to the growth of local members of the business community.

'Good leaders must be a source of solidarity'

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has challenged leaders and emerging leaders in the country to be reflective leaders and embrace agility for more sustainable results.

The premier said that on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam in the leadership graduation ceremony organised by Uongozi Institute and Aalto University Executive Education (AEE) of Finland.

He was represented by the Minister for Science, Education, Technology and vocation training Prof Joyce Ndalichako. Majaliwa said good leaders must be a source of solidarity and union in work places in order to realize economic development.

He added that as leaders, they must workout to solve the political and economic challenges in their respective areas. "A good leader must not be a source of conflicts in work places. I hope the knowledge you have acquired will be an advanced tool to end all those related to that," he said.

The premier expressed the

government's hope to leaders to be effective leaders and bring positive transformation in the public service.

The Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) said the training had enabled participants to be reflective leaders.

"I call on you to advocate and be good ambassadors of good governance in their work place," he said.

The Acting CEO of Uongozi Institute Kadari Singo said the event was organized under two long-term executive programmes: Postgraduate Diploma in Leadership and Online Certificate in Leadership.

During the ceremony, a total of 65 leaders were awarded diplomas and 46 emerging leaders and executives being awarded their certificates.

He said leaders from all sectors alongside 32 participants from the fifth cohort of the postgraduate will be in attendance.

"We launched the postgraduate in 2017 and certificate programme

in 2020, as part of our commitment to support African leaders to attain sustainable development for their nations and the continent" he said.

Singo said the course was designed for leaders who want to propel their professional development without putting their careers on hold.

"Both programmes are aimed at developing leadership competencies in three areas; Making strategic choices, leading people and other resources and excelling in personal leadership qualities," he added.

Postgraduate Diploma in Leadership is a year-long programme with a total of 10 modules. Each module runs for one month, consisting of 2-3 days in-class workshops as well as individual and group assignments. Certificate in Leadership includes three modules that are delivered exclusively online over the course of six months.

The two programmes motivate participants to become reflective leaders who can embrace agility for more sustainable results.

Plan underway to save seabirds from killer mice on remote S. African island

CONSERVATIONISTS have launched an ambitious project to save albatrosses and other threatened seabirds on a remote island off the coast of South Africa from a plague of killer mice who eat the chicks alive.

At least 18 out of the 27 species of bird on Marion Island are at risk of local extinction.

The mice were accidentally introduced to Marion Island, more than 2,000 kilometres south-east of Cape Town, in the early 1800s by sealers who brought them ashore on boats.

Over the last few decades, as the climate has become warmer and drier, mouse numbers on Marion Island -- which is about twice the

size of Paris -- have exploded. In the southern hemisphere winter, as plant and insect food on the island runs low, the mice have turned to feeding on the flesh of seabird chicks with increasing frequency.

Birds that nest in burrows, like petrels and prions, are especially vulnerable.

"They eat the eggs and chicks, and the parent has no defence mechanism against this behaviour," said Guy Preston, vice chairman of the Mouse-Free Marion Project, a South African non-profit. "For the mice they become 'sitting ducks'."

At least 18 out of the 27 species of bird that live and breed on the island -- which is also home to colonies of king penguins -- risk local extinction if the mice aren't dealt with. These include birds like the Wandering albatross, whose worldwide population is vulnerable due to declining numbers.

The conservationists are working towards dropping poisoned mouse bait across the island in mid-2023, during winter in the southern hemisphere. Mice stop breeding in winter, and most of the island's resident birds are away foraging for food.



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

TENDER NO. PA/068/NDC/2020/2021/INV/01

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A MODERN TYRE MANUFACTURING PLANT AT ARUSHA

- BACKGROUND:** The National Development Corporation ("NDC") was established as a statutory body by an Act of Parliament in 1962, wholly owned by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT), charged with responsibility of promoting economic development in Tanzania in partnership with the private sector. The NDC is mandated by the Government of URT to stimulate development of basic industries in Tanzania and to initiate and facilitate development of World Class Industrial infrastructure for sustainable and competitive industrialisation.

Arusha Tyre Manufacturing Plant (known as General Tyre East Africa Limited) is located in Njiro Industrial Area in Arusha Municipality, northern part of Tanzania. The installed capacity is 320,000 tyres per annum and there is an existing constructed new bay for plant expansion which has not been installed with production facilities. The Plant stopped its operations in 2009 due to lack of financial resources to run the operations/productions of the tyre plant. Following that, the Government of URT mandated NDC to construct a new and Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant at the same premises in Arusha in partnership with strategic investor(s).

The existing tyre manufacturing plant is old, its technology is outdated and can no longer sustain in the global market competition.

- OBJECTIVE:** the overall objective is to secure an experienced and competent investor (Strategic Partner) in tyre manufacturing industry who has World Renowned Tyre Brand to partner with the NDC on behalf of the Government of Tanzania to establish a new and modern tyre manufacturing plant. The new tyre manufacturing plant will be operated by joint venture company to be formed between the NDC and the Investor.
- PROJECT OUTLINE AND SCOPE:** The NDC intends to pre-qualify competent investor(s) (Strategic Partner(s)) to partner with NDC and form a Joint Venture Company which will have the right to:
 - Carry out feasibility study and environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) for establishment of Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant;
 - Prepare Business Plan;
 - Construct a modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant with an assumed capacity of 900,000 tires per annum. The tires will be of different types; and
 - Operate and maintain the Tyre Manufacturing Plant.
- INTERESTED investors,** must provide information indicating that they are qualified to be strategic partners by submitting a company profile indicating their technical, personnel, managerial and financial capabilities; as well as the experience and past performance in the tyre industry for the past five (5) years. In financial capability, the interested investor(s) is/are required to provide Audited Financial Statements for the past five (5) years. The evaluation criteria for pre-qualifying the Strategic Partner will take into consideration of the above mentioned items.
- Interested eligible Strategic Partner(s) may obtain further clarification from the office of the Secretary - Tender Board, Development House, Kivukoni Front/Ohio Street, 6th Floor, P. O. Box 2669, Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA from 09:00 – 16:00 hrs. EAT on Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays.
- Expressions of Interest (EoI) must be submitted in four (4) hard copies (one original plus three copies) including electronic copy and delivered to the address below at or before 14th May 2021 at 14:00hrs EAT, 6th Floor, Room No. 605, clearly marked "Expression of Interest for Construction of a Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant at Arusha."
- Late submission of Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- The Corporation reserves the right to continue or reject the tendering process without giving reason(s) thereof and shall incur no any liability

The Managing Director,
National Development Corporation,
Development House,
Kivukoni Front/Ohio Street,
P. O. Box 2669,
Dar es Salaam,
TANZANIA

Telephone: +255 22 2112893
Fax: +255 22 2113618
Email: info@ndc.go.tz

Ngorongoro halts eviction of encroachers

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) has indefinitely suspended the recently launched operation to evict people who settled within the protected area.

An official dispatch released yesterday by NCAA Commissioner of Conservation, Dr Freddy Manongi, stated that the operation which included demolition of permanent buildings in the wildlife precinct will stop until further notice.

The decision by NCAA management comes at the time when residents of Ngorongoro Division in Ngorongoro District were planning to send their own official letter to President Samia Suluhu Hassan, regarding the future of the Conservation Area in relation to their current predicament.

The mostly Maasai Pastoralists, were opposing the move of having the majority of them ousted out of the garden of Eden claiming they were born and bred there, long before the colonial government decided to establish Serengeti and Ngorongoro conservation entities.

Maasai representatives including, Metui Ole Shaudo

from Olbalbal, who is a former Chairperson of the local Pastoralist Council (NPC); Napokie Peshutio representing women in the NCAA and James Moringe a member of the Ngorongoro Pastoralists Council.

Speaking at a special meeting held in Arusha under the auspices of The Pastoralists Indigenous Non-Governmental Organizations (PINGO's) in association with the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition, the residents of Ngorongoro said they were in full support of ensuring that the conservation area is protected.

"But not at the expense of native residents who since time in history have been playing an important role of conserving wildlife and natural resources in both Ngorongoro and Serengeti," pointed out Ole Shaudo, adding that as the result, the conservation area is currently the only precinct in African with the highest number of free roaming black rhinos.

"The Maasai people share kinship with wild animals; for example the Rhino belongs to Mollel clan, the Elephant is related to Laizer and the Monkeys (Baboons) are part of the Lukumay's tribe," he explained,

adding that each clan protects their related animals.

A fortnight ago, President Samia Suluhu called upon experts in conservation matters to find ways of saving Ngorongoro Conservation Area, which reports indicated that it was overwhelmed by increasing population and human activities threatening the NCA future.

A special census conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) realized that the human population in the area reached more than 90,000 residents. When Ngorongoro Conservation was established in 1959, the area had only 12,000.

As the result, the NCAA management went out to start trimming down the number and as it happens, some 70,000 people will be required to vacate the conservation area, allowing the precinct to breath.

Many families will be affected by the move and already a number of permanent buildings have been earmarked for demolition including that of local area Member of Parliament, William Ole Nasha.

The Management of Ngorongoro Conservation Area is expected to release official statement later.



Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) managing director, Japhet Justine explains TADB's role in transforming the agricultural sector to Kyela District officials. On his right is District Commissioner of Kyela Claudia Kitita. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB plans to empower Kyela residents in farming, fishing and livestock sectors

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

TANZANIA Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) managing director, Japhet Justine, has said the bank plans to empower people in Kyela District to increase incomes from agriculture, fishing and livestock sectors.

Justine was speaking here early this week as he led the Bank's delegation in the Kyela District, Mbeya Region in efforts to increase benefits from farming, fishing and livestock activities in the district.

"We would like this district to mobilise itself and identify not less than three projects that would enable youth and women in the value chain in all these sectors," he said.

In regard to farming opportunities, Kyela District Commissioner Claudia Kitita, said the district has a major opportunity in the cocoa crop which every district resident has grown. "The big challenge is how to empower the residents to benefit from the crop because

many times some middlemen have been taking advantage on their lack of capital in the primary cooperative societies," she said.

She added: "this has resulted in many of our farmers to sell the crop to these middlemen at little profit. This is very discouraging."

In regard to the challenge on the cocoa crop, TADB managing director said his bank was ready to provide capital to the primary cooperatives in Kyela District to enable them buy the crop from farmers in time. "TADB is a financial institution for the development of the people. It is in our intention to increase profits from this crop that is in great demand at the world market"

"I know that in 2020 alone, despite many challenges including the Covid-19 pandemic, farmers, through their 69 cooperatives in the district managed to sell 10,000 tonnes of cocoa valued at more than 50bn/-" said the TADB boss.

He added: "This is an indication that cocoa farming is a big opportunity for the country's economy and for TADB to be able

to contribute in its cultivation."

Africa produces more than 3,622,000 tonnes a year and the International Cocoa Organisation ranks Tanzania at No 24 in world production with only 0.2 per cent, which, however, is expected to drop.

"Hence, as an agricultural development bank our duty is to work with various stakeholders such as TARI to facilitate for the availability of quality cocoa seedlings and the provision of capital to farmers to increase both production and profit, Justine said.

For his part, Kyela district Executive Director Ezekiel Magehema told the TADB delegation the intention of the Council to reap benefit from fishing in Lake Nyasa.

"We have the lake here, but still the big challenge is the lack of modern fishing gear and other equipment. Due to the lake's great depth we need more modern fishing equipment to enable our fishermen get appropriate fish catches for their own economic wellbeing." He added.

Deputy minister urges Kikwajuni youth to grab 'Blue Economy' opportunities

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

DEPUTY Finance and Planning minister Eng Hamad Yussuf Masauni has urged Zanzibar youth to grab economic opportunities from the 'Blue Economy' in fishing and fish processing activities for their own economic wellbeing

Masauni who is also Member of Parliament for Kikwajuni constituency in Zanzibar made the call when addressing to CCM leaders and supporters in the

constituency during his working visit in the Isles.

He said personally and the constituency's representative Nsor Ali Jazeerah including other leaders have planned to provide equipment to be used by the youth in fishing activities in the Blue Economy sector in order for them to earn reliable income.

"We want to look for the possibility of having in place a conducive environment for us to provide them with 'fishhooks' and

not "fish" and have prepared for them great things which I would not mention at the moment," he added.

For his part the Kikwajuni Constituency Representative Nsor Ali Jazeerah said all pledges made by him to his constituents during the elections last year would be fully implemented.

He called on the Kikwajuni residents to maintain solidarity, love one another and stop idle talk in order to implement plans in place for their development.



NOTICE OF THE 26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chairman and Shareholders,

Notice is hereby given that the twenty sixth Annual General Meeting of CRDB Bank Plc will be held on Saturday, 22nd May, 2021 at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall, commencing at 9.00 a.m. and the following Agenda will be transacted:

1. **Opening of the Meeting.**
2. **Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.**
3. **Adoption of the agenda.**
4. **Confirmation of the minutes of the Twenty Fifth Annual General Meeting.**
5. **To discuss the Matters Arising.**
6. **Adoption of the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements for year 2020.**
 - 6.1. Directors' Report.
 - 6.2. Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020.
 - 6.3. Declaration of Year 2020 Dividend.
7. **To approve the Amendments of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Bank - Special Resolution.**
8. **Directors Remuneration.**
9. **Appointment of the External Auditors.**
10. **Election of Board Members**
 - 10.1 One (1) Board Member to represent shareholders owning shares above 1% and below 10%
 - 10.2 One (1) Board Member to represent shareholders owning shares below 1%
11. **To deliberate on Proposals received from Shareholders.**
12. **Any other business with leave of the Chair.**
13. **To set the place, date and venue of the next meeting.**
14. **Closing of the meeting.**

NOTE:

1. *The Shareholders Register will be closed from 14/05/2021 and will be opened on 15/05/2021.*
2. *All proposals to be discussed under Agenda no.10 must be received by the Secretary not later than 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 07/05/2021.*
3. *Papers for the meeting may be collected from CRDB Bank Branches from 10/05/2021 and will also be available in Arusha from 21st to 22nd May, 2021 and Bank's website on 10/05/2021*
4. *Costs for transportation and accommodation will be borne by shareholders themselves.*

NOTICE OF SHAREHOLDERS SEMINAR

Notice is hereby given that there will be a shareholders seminar on "Online Purchase of Shares at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE)", "Awareness on Uncollected Dividends", "Significance and procedures of preparing Will and Administration" and "Investment through services and products offered by the Bank" on 21st May 2021, starting at 9.00 a.m. at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall.

The contact for communication is:

The Secretary
CRDB Bank Plc
Office Accommodation Scheme- Azikiwe Street, 4th Floor
P. O. Box 268
Dar-es-Salaam
Tel. no. 022 - 2114237, 2117442 - 7 - Fax or 022 - 2131005
Mobile no. 0753 260 176
WhatsApp no. 0767 757 215
E-mail - shares_unit@crdbbank.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

J. B. Rugambo
COMPANY SECRETARY

19th April, 2021

361 people rescued from the hands of illegal human traffickers in two years

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

IN a period of two years 361 people have been rescued from the hands of illegal human traffickers in three Southern Highlands regions as they were moved to other regions and outside the country.

This was revealed here early this week by the Director of the Centre for the Prevention and Combating Human Trafficking in the country, Ruttagwelela Mutakyahwa, during a training for empowering community development officers on how to control the illegal trade.

Mutakyahwa said the people rescued were from Mbeya, Iringa and Songwe regions out of who 56 per cent were men while 44 per cent of all of them were children.

He said the conduct of the exercise was in accordance with

the UN directives that included preventing the victims from being transported to be used as workers in the countries they were being moved to.

"But also there is a group of boys of more than 18 years of age who are trafficked to work in farms, mines and herding, the work that need much strength," he added.

He said apart from prevention, his institution has been working together with other institutions to bring back Tanzanians who were sent to foreign countries, saying on April 15 this year they received four Tanzanians rescued in Mombasa in Kenya who were ready to be trafficked to Arab countries.

The institution's Secretariat member from the Home Affairs ministry, ACP Ahmad Wen-Dadi said human trafficking was a big trade in the country.

He said trafficking in humans within the country was a big activity than those involving foreign countries, adding that many of those being trafficked were girls who are promised of jobs in the countries of destination.

He added that the girls are promised to work in big shops, as domestic workers and in other areas, but once they arrive they are assigned with other work.

Opening the training seminar, Mbeya City Medical Officer Dr Jonas Lulanda called upon the Community Development Officers to concentrate themselves in preventing the illegal trade by educating the community.

He said according to available statistics, southern Highlands regions were leading in the illegal trade hence cooperation was vital to eradicate it.



Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment), Geoffrey Mwambe (C) listens to Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC), executive secretary Dr Godwill Wanga (L) moments after his visit at the council's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Second (L) is the ministry's Permanent Secretary Prof Godius Kahyarara. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'TNBC changes aim at increasing efficiency'

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment) Geoffrey Mwambe has said that changes to the National Business Council (TNBC) are meant to increase efficiency in creating a conducive business environment and attracting investors in the country.

Speaking to journalists shortly after his meeting with the management and staff of TNBC yesterday, Mwambe said the council as an institution plays an important role in linking the public and private sectors. He said improvement of the council would result in increased investment as well as economic growth.

"Increasing the efficiency of the council would contribute to increased integration between public and private sectors leading to better ways of discussing on how best to create a conducive business environment, attract investment and increase government revenue," said the minister.

Minister Mwambe, who made

his first visit at TNBC since his recent appointment said that for the nation to develop economically, there must be a strong and inclusive private sector.

He said his ministry will work with all stakeholders in the investment and business sectors towards coming up with better strategies to attract more investments.

"I have come to see how TNBC works, to listen to their challenges as well as sharing ideas. We want to bring together the public and private sector for the country's development," he added.

Minister Mwambe commended TNBC saying it has a great role to ensure that public and private sectors work more closely to increase investment and stimulate youth employment.

TNBC as an institution that connects the public and private sectors, its operations has to be funded by both, but currently all the operations are financed by the government. He also promised to meet with Tanzania Private Sector Foundation

(TPSF) to see how best the foundation can participate in increasing efficiency to TNBC for the country's development.

The Minister urged all public institutions to reduce bureaucracy and deploy friendly methods when dealing with investors. He said it is through investments the country can achieve its targeted economic growth rates of 8 per cent per annum.

TNBC Executive Secretary, Dr Godwill Wanga assured the minister that the council will provide greater co-operation and continue creating a conducive environment for doing business and attracting investment.

"We have had various challenges including financial constraints and shortage of staff. This has affected our performances," he said.

Dr Wanga said the council will in the 2021/2022 financial year continue to continue to monitor and evaluate the implementation of business environment improvements, conduct in-depth research and advise the government.

Govt issued 4.29bn/- for SIDO development plan

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has issued 4.29bn/- to the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) for the development of Small Scale Enterprises in the year 2020/21.

The activities include development of technology and construction of small industries for small businesses.

Deputy Minister for industries and trade Exaud Kihage made the remarks when responding to a question from Vunjo MP Dr Charles Kimei.

In his question, the MP wanted to know the government plan to help small

scale businesses by providing them with loans to establish small scale industries.

In response, the deputy minister said the strategy by the government was to develop small industries aimed at increasing value to crops and products.

"The government has continued to build capacity to small industries especially to help develop technology according to needs," he said.

He said SIDO has various centres namely Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Kigoma, Lindi, Iringa, Mbeya and Shinyanga.

He added machines are available on SIDO's website and they are distributed to various

regions.

He further said the machines depend on the ability and the needs of the entrepreneur.

SIDO has continued to search for technology both locally and international and then use it to establish machines which will help businesses.

On the other hand he said SIDO is setting up modern machines which are able to help businesses and use it to develop.

"Let me assure our people those who need the machines that they are supposed to visit SIDO offices near them because the machines are available, this includes the people of Vunjo constituency," he said.

Hunting firm thanks govt for solving land conflicts in Morogoro District

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO Hunting Safari Ltd has thanked the government in Morogoro District after it resolved the land conflicts pitting the company and residents after it regained more than 10,000 acres of land that were invaded by farmers and herders in the Gonabisi hunting block in the district.

Speaking on the four-year old conflict, the hunting firm's manager, Kingalu Mbago said they legally own the area via a five-year licence beginning in 2017 to 2022.

He said soon after they were handed the area at the beginning of 2017, they were surprised to see a huge invasion whereby large scale farmers

from the country's various areas, including government officials started dividing the areas among themselves, thereafter herders also started introducing their animals.

"Even when we tried to air our complaints to district and regional government officials at that time, we did not receive any assistance, because, as we discovered they also had areas apportioned to themselves," Kingalu said.

Jamali Abdalah, the Morogoro Hunting Safari Ltd Director said the step taken by the district government under District Commissioner Bakari Msulwa shows that trust has returned to the investor and is according to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's call to have friendly environments

to investors.

He said earlier they had a hard time in implementing their activities due to the invasion, but now they trust the government step will increase hunting tourism since the block was adjacent to Julius Nyerere National Park.

For his part Morogoro DC Bakari Msulwa said the government will continue protecting all reserved areas and called on the people to stop the habit of invading areas without following procedures, the practice that spur investors to leave the country.

He said the conflict forced the investors to leave denying the government the much needed revenue but since they are to return the government will be assured of the revenue.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO: 2100893

Issued on: 20 APRIL, 2021
Deadline For Application: 01 MAY, 2021

JOB TITLE: National Lead Consultant -GCF project proposal development

TYPE OF REQUISITION: National Consultant (PSA)

DUTY STATION: Home based desk work and field visits (Dar-es-Salaam, Dodoma, Kagera, and Geita)

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: FRURT DURATION: 35 Days

FAO seeks gender, geographical and linguistic diversity in its staff and international consultants in order to best serve FAO Members in all regions.

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Organizational Setting

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is seeking to recruit a national expert to support the process of developing a funding project proposal.

Reporting Lines

The National Lead Consultant will work under the overall guidance of the FAO Representative in Tanzania and the technical supervision of FAO Lead Technical Officer, and guidance from Project Task Force. The Consultant will also work in close collaboration with the Project Team Leader (PTL) who will oversee the overall project development including the required background studies and annexes.

Technical Focus

The National Lead Consultant will make sure that the project is aligned with the beneficiaries, country's needs and priorities, and ownership of the project is ensured. The National Lead Consultant will work in close collaboration with the supporting team of other consultants responsible for the overall technical quality of the project development in respect to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) criteria.

Tasks and responsibilities

The tasks to be carried out by the National Lead Consultant will include, but not limited to, the following:

- Undertake specific review and analyses of feasibility study report and all study annexes (Gender Action Plan, Economic and Financial Analysis, and Environmental and Social Management Plan-ESMP) already drafted by the service provider;
- Write the investment criteria for the proposal that justifies the interventions from a GCF investment perspective, under the supervision of the international consultant;
- Advice on the proper institutional arrangement and implementation modality of the project;
- Assist to identify private sector to invest/ collaborate into the project designing and implementation;
- Ensure the proposed project is in line with country policies and strategies as well as national protocols and guidelines;
- Draft funding proposal using information from the feasibility study, annexes, concept note and comments from FAO and GCF secretariat;
- Develop a draft theory of change for the project in collaboration with the international team leader and other project team members;
- Make edits, reviews and changes to the draft funding proposal as directed by the international team leader until final;
- Ensure funding proposal, relevant annexes and

other attachments are final with complete editing before their submission to GCF Secretary; and

- Performs other duties as required.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in Agriculture, Climate Change, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Science, and/or Physical Geography;
- Working knowledge of English and Swahili;
- 10 years of working experience in climate change and/or financing mechanisms;
- Past work experience in development of climate change projects in Tanzania;
- Experience designing projects for the Multilateral/Bilateral funds such as Global Environment Facility (GEF) Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund, and others;
- Multi-sectoral knowledge on Policy and institutional framework with respect to climate change aspects;
- Solid analytical and conceptual skills and the ability to think creatively;
- Excellent drafting skills and capacity to synthesize of funding proposals;
- Excellent team leader and coordination skills;
- Experience or knowledge of UN systems is an added advantage.

FAO Core Competencies

- Results Focus
- Leading, engaging and empowering Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement
- Partnering and co-financing mobilisation
- Strategic thinking

Please note that all candidates should adhere to FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- FAO does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org
- Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
- Only language proficiency certificates from UN accredited external providers and/or FAO language official examinations (LPE, ILE, LRT) will be accepted as proof of the level of knowledge of languages indicated in the online applications.
- For other issues, visit the FAO employment website: <http://www.fao.org/employment/home/en/>

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the recruitment website at [Jobs at FAO](http://www.fao.org) (link: [Job Description - National Lead Consultant -GCF project development \(2100893\) \(fao.org\)](http://www.fao.org)) and complete your online profile. Only applications received through the recruitment portal will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from the recruitment portal at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org

FAO IS A NON-SMOKING ENVIRONMENT

Media called to raise awareness against violence, harassments

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

MEDIA practitioners and representatives have been urged to educate the general public on violence and harassment. Reportage should ensure full coverage of these issues and embrace an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach.

The international Convention on violence and harassment has already been adapted by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and among other aspects, it advocates for violence and harassment-free workplace.

Speaking during training of journalists and media representatives organized by Actionaid in Dar es Salaam recently, Advocate Annery Nahum said that media practitioners have the key role to play to educate the general public and ensure the international convention on violence and harassment is well understood.

"It is only through media that these issues can reach a wide range of stakeholders working in formal and informal sector. Media also have a duty to report accurately on acts of violence and harassments with a gender eye," he said.

Citing an example, he said the ILO C. 190 seeks further to ensure rights of the people and that justice is done at work places. The leaders, employers and the employees must all together and individually prevent, refrain from, and address violence and harassment at work places. The Media also should draw attention to injustices meted out to women by the male dominated communities.

"This international convention requires everybody to play his or her part. Our principles, decisions, acts and behaviours must reflect and embrace rights and justice of all people regardless of one's status at all levels," he said.

In this convention, it is not only reporting harassments but also exposing and generating awareness against society's ills and evils to ensure human rights are observed.

According to him, the

ratification and implementation of the international Convention No. 190 involves all workers working in informal and formal sectors. They including but not limited to the full time workers, part time workers, those looking for jobs, internships, field workers, volunteers and those who have the authority to offer employment among many others," he added.

The convention points out that people need to promote an environment of zero tolerance to violence and harassment at work places, work trips, through communications equipments, at accommodation and shelter places especially those offered by employers, and when going to and from work place.

For her part, Women and local rights programmes oversight Manager at Actionaid Amne Manangwa said that it is imperative for the media practitioners to understand well the international convention C. 190 so that they can educate the general public at large.

The newly adapted international convention C190 that was adapted by ILO on violence and various harassments requires everyone to understand, prevent and address violence, harassment and ensure gender responsive approach, but through the media, large section of the community can be reached very easily.

"Today we have organized a training that focus on raising awareness to journalists and media representatives from different media stations in Tanzania on the newly adapted international convention that was

adapted by ILO C 190 on various harassments. The reasons why we have organized this training it is because we recognize the role of the media on popularizing various agenda," she said.

This is one of the agenda that touches social welfare and the life of Tanzania communities and the significance of this convention is that it focuses on raising and providing protection to all employees regardless of their employment arrangements whether formal or informal to ensure that working environment does not attract any form of violence, harassment or discrimination and because the media has been playing a very good part to raise awareness to the communities on various issues, she added.

It is expected that the media will act as champions to further educate the wide public and also reach out to various stakeholders to keep on emphasizing and raise awareness on this convention

Interviewed during the training, some media practitioners and representatives said in recent years, the media has not been playing effective roles in educating the general public about violence and harassments happening in informal and formal sectors.

They said if the violence and harassments were published on daily basis like political news, such acts would have exposed and minimized.

News coverage of violence and harassments are not fully reported even when reported, there is no continuation.

"Sometimes there is no continuation and at times lack critical analysis and live examples. This training has equipped us with knowledge and skills to report these issues correctly and accurately," said Musa Twangilo from TBC Radio.

"If we decide, media can be the eye, ear and limb of the weak and marginalized groups in Tanzania and elsewhere, it can play a key role in our communities in the fight against violence and harassments especially protecting women and children," said David Rwenyagira.



This training has equipped us with knowledge and skills to report these issues correctly and accurately



Mtwara Regional Commissioner Gelasius Byakanwa stresses a point to members of Masasi and Mtwara cooperative union general meeting held yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Abdallah Khamis

Ruvuma CCM committee gives Tanesco one week to connect power to water project

By Guardian Correspondent, Madaba

RUVUMA CCM regional political committee has given one week to the power utility - TANESCO to connect electricity to the Madaba water project in Songea District to enable the residents to have safe and clean water supply.

Speaking early this week after the committee inspected the 2bn/- government funded project, its chairman Oddo Mwisho said the project had taken a very long time to complete hence as for now the government has resolved that it was time for Madaba residents to start benefitting from the project.

"I congratulate the Ruvuma Region RUWASA manager who within just a short time has supervised many water projects that saw the region receiving an award for its efforts in supervising

well water projects," said Mwisho.

On behalf of his committee, Mwisho instructed TANESCO in Ruvuma Region to make sure the deal with the power issue so that beginning the coming week Madaba residents start enjoying water supply, and added that his committee would not tolerate any dilly dallying on the matter.

Ruvuma regional commissioner who is a member of the Committee Christina Mndeme cited the water project as an old one and that the residents have experienced much hardship in regard to the issue of water.

However, she said RUWASA in Ruvuma Region have done a great job in implementing the project which was on its final stages of completion.

She said TANESCO has contributed to the project's delay

and gave five days to ensure the complete the task of connecting it with power, adding that there should not be any excuses.

"I will pass here Thursday this coming week and if I find you TANESCO have not done the job I will arrest all of you, I want this project completed, everyone should go to work," the RC stressed.

Earlier, Ruvuma Region RUWASA Manager Mathias Charles said the project was now more than 90 per cent complete and mentioned the work completed by 100 per cent was the construction of the 50,000-litre reservoir at Lituta Village.

Another completed work was another reservoir to hold 100,000 litres of water at Kipingo village as well as 21 out of 40 water drawing points have been completed.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PURCHASE AND DISPOSAL OF SCRAP METAL AND VARIOUS WASTES FROM GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring the service of Purchase and Disposal of Scrap Metal and Various Wastes and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest on the below listed service.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01179	PURCHASE AND DISPOSAL OF SCRAP METAL AND VARIOUS WASTES FROM GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 references from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GME01179)	75%
A valid environmental permit for collection and transportation of scrap materials	20
A valid environmental permit for storage of scrap materials	20
Proof of scrap yard inspection by NEMC	15
Proof of approved disposal facilities for the intended scrap materials	20
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01179) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 03 May 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email, documents should be submitted in PDF format (documents should NOT be submitted in link). In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

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PM's appeal for plan to stop pregnancies deserves support

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has issued an appeal and ministerial directive to set up a sort of task force to look into the problem of rising school pregnancies and report back to him on a plan of action that the government can put into action. What this new governance initiative implies is that the draconian precepts of the 1998 Sex Offences (Special Provisions) Act have not been the towering achievement they were supposed to be, to compel a check on male libido on young excited school girls. Forming such a task force or team of experts is to admit that organizational solutions are needed, not just arrests and jail terms.

Some insights can be gleaned on how to sort out the matter when one listens to discussions especially in lively morning phone in programs, where concerned citizens air their views on the issue. One section of opinion that has plenty to say are moral platforms with religious-inclined radios, which show clear streak of being disturbed by what is happening, but are more or less short of answers. A number of their phone in contributors focus more on casting the net even wider, not only the responsible fellow young people (either school mates, more commonly motorcycle riders who ease their way to school, among others).

This line of opinion looks morally astute but it is unlikely to help the government counter the situation, as it envisages crippling

not just families but even local civil officials where a schoolgirl becomes pregnant, buy using a 'where were you' sort of argument to make them accessories to that incident. What the premier appeared to drive at, by contrast, is what sort of environment can be engineered around young school girls, at the end of primary school and especially in secondary school, to stop pregnancies. What is crucial is how access to them can be reduced and also curbing a state of need on their part, susceptibility.

The most relevant suggestion in that regard - one that the government has worked for years to put in place but it can't all be done in a few years - is to widen space for girls boarding secondary schools, so that they are not routinely available to those who exploit their vulnerabilities. What can also be suggested in that regard is that after girls have attained relevant pass marks to join secondary school, there ought to be committees within schools, which can be formed at the end of exam period, to prepare a preferential list for boarding school space. Teachers can tell which girls can err more easily, psychologically speaking.

Those with some experience know that girls don't become pregnant all too accidentally, as there are signs written all along the way that there is a behavior of being excited about intimacy that develops over a period of time. The idea is that primary school teachers are in a position to see such tendencies at an early

Yes, indeed Africa needs global solidarity and vaccine justice

A COVID 19 vaccine is a vaccine intended to provide acquired immunity against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus the virus causing coronavirus disease. Prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, there was an established body of knowledge about the structure and function of coronaviruses causing diseases like severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), which enabled accelerated development of various vaccine technologies during early 2020. On 10 January 2020, the SARS-CoV-2 genetic sequence data was shared through GISAID, and by 19 March, the global pharmaceutical industry announced a major commitment to address COVID-19.

In Phase III trials, several COVID 19 vaccines have demonstrated efficacy as high as 95 per cent in preventing symptomatic COVID 19 infections. As of April 2021, 13 vaccines were authorised by at least one national regulatory authority for public use. In total, as of March 2021, 308 vaccine candidates were in various stages of development, with 73 in clinical research, including 24.

Many countries have implemented phased distribution plans that prioritise those at highest risk of complications, such as the elderly, and those at high risk of exposure and transmission, such as healthcare workers. As of 12 April 2021, 805.74 million doses of COVID 19 vaccine have been administered worldwide based on official reports from national health agencies.

African Development Bank president calls for global vaccine solidarity and justice for Africa. AFRICAN Development Bank President Dr Akinwumi Adesina has called for vaccine justice for Africa. Speaking at the launch of the Bank's African Economic

Outlook 2021 report over the weekend, Adesina decried the lack of Covid-19 vaccines reaching Africa.

"We need global solidarity and vaccine justice for Africa," Africa's premier development bank chief said.

Adesina underlined the stark disparities between vaccine acquisitions by several rich countries that have acquired sufficient vaccines to inoculate their populations twice over, and African countries, that remain primarily dependent on the World Health Organization's COVAX initiative for the minuscule quantities of vaccines acquired so far.

Speaking on CNN's First Move with Julia Chatterley on Friday, Adesina said: "So far, 14.6 million vaccines have been delivered in Africa, but many people still cannot get shots in their arms. That is only 1% of what we need. We are way off the mark in terms of getting to 60% of herd immunity, and sadly, I do not see that happening for another year or two at this rate - not unless things change."

According to Adesina: "We therefore need to improve Africa's access to vaccines. COVAX is doing a great job but still, we need more. We need them in adequate quantity. We need them quickly and we need them at an affordable price."

Acquiring vaccines has significant implications for African countries. As Adesina emphasized in a broader discussion with panelists at the launch of the African Economic Outlook 2021—including Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz, recipient of the 2001 Nobel Memorial Prize for Economic Sciences—for Africa, rapid vaccine acquisition is a matter of life and death. As elsewhere, Africa's first priority is to prolong lives and preserve jobs.



No to special courts for bandits

By Special Correspondent

IN a bid to find solutions to the general insecurity in the country, particularly the menace of banditry, kidnapping and ransom payment, former President Olusegun Obasanjo and an Islamic cleric, Ahmad Gumi, recommended that special courts be established to deal promptly with matters arising from those anti-social behaviours and others related to them like unlawful possession of firearm.

This stance was part of the outcome of a closed-door meeting in Abeokuta recently between the two who also asked the federal government to rehabilitate bandits who are willing to surrender.

The communique issued at the end of the meeting suggested that the government should wean those who are ready to be weaned out of the bushes and crime, settle and rehabilitate them, give them skills, empower them and let them have employment.

It went further to recommend that the hardened criminals must be hard hit with stick, unlawful carrying of arms should be very seriously punished, special courts should be created to deal promptly with cases of banditry, kidnapping, ransom demanding, and unlawful carrying of weapons.

There is no denying the fact

that the twin scourge of banditry and kidnappings is yet to abate in the country and something needs to be done fast. However, in the considered opinion of this newspaper, creating special courts to try bandits will not necessarily solve the problem and our reasons are not far-fetched. Previously, special courts did not reduce or tackle the crimes they were created to address.

We can recall that special tribunals created by the successive military regimes to try armed robbery cases didn't yield the required results. Although some notorious criminals like Oyenusi, Lawrence Anini and their ilk were arrested, tried and sentenced speedily, it still didn't change the scourge of armed robbery in the country. Indeed, creating a special court for bandits will be superfluous as the court of Practice Direction 2013 has already taken care of it.

This newspaper notes that the Practice Direction shall, save to the extent and as may otherwise be ordered by the president, Court of Appeal, pursuant to Section 248 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), apply to: All Criminal Appeals relating to the offence of Terrorism, Rape, Kidnapping, Corruption, Money Laundering and Human Trafficking.

Instructively, the purpose of this practice direction is to

establish a specialised system of case management in the Court of Appeal, that will provide for the fair and impartial administration of criminal and civil appeals arising out of cases listed in 3(a) (i) and (ii) below, and the rules made under this Practice Direction shall be construed and applied to eliminate unnecessary delay in the transmission and conduct of appeals and reduce the expense and time spent on appeals by all parties before the court; This Practice Direction shall enable the Presiding Justice of the Divisions of the Court to fast track the hearing and determination of appeals in respect of cases which fall under the offences of Terrorism, Rape, Kidnapping, Corruption, Money Laundering and Human Trafficking.

Also, for appeals of criminal cases, on May 1, 2013, Zainab Bulkachuwa, as acting president of the court of appeal, also ruled on the same practice direction for the appeal court while a former Chief Justice of Nigeria had on July 15, 2013, made the practice direction applicable to cases brought to the Supreme Court.

Indeed, banditry which is a violent crime has already been addressed by the court of practice direction. Sadly, administration of criminal justice system has been slow in Nigeria as it takes almost eternity for criminal or civil cases to be concluded. Experts

have attributed the lack of use of technology by some judges as the reason for the delay in the judiciary.

We have consistently advocated that the government should not negotiate or rehabilitate insurgents or bandits as it will be setting a bad example just as it will also demoralise officers and soldiers of the armed forces who have continued to make, in some cases, the supreme sacrifice in the war against insurgency. That, to us remains the best position on this issue.

We, therefore, call on the judiciary to apply the court of direction practice in dealing with cases of insurgency, banditry and kidnapping. Similarly, we also urge the courts and the judges to embrace technology to make court proceedings faster and more transparent. We insist that the nation does not need a special court to handle issues relating to banditry or the like.

As a matter of urgency, we urge the security agencies to get more resolute and smoke out the insurgents, bandits and kidnappers, and ensure that the full weight of the law is brought upon them. They must be made to pay for the crimes they committed against humanity. Nothing less will assuage the pain and anguish brave Nigerian soldiers and their families have to endure in the course of fighting insurgency.

Accommodating is watchword for monetary policy in 2021

By Special Correspondent

MEETING, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Bank of Ghana decided to keep the policy rate at 14.50% for the sixth consecutive time. The decision normally is a reflection of the Central Bank's assessment of inflationary pressures, liquidity and growth prospect of the economy. In taking the recent decision, the Committee had another factor to consider; that is the 2021 budget.

This was crucial because government will not expect any decision from the MPC which will dent the "hope" and expected boost to business confidence driven by the budget. It is this sort of thinking that will largely define monetary policy in 2021. The need for monetary policy to be accommodating especially given the times we are in and the need to implement measures that will revive the economy will be the platform on which this expected relationship will thrive.

Since Ghana recorded its first COVID-19 case in March last

year, the Bank of Ghana has implemented many measures to ensure that the financial sector remains sound and in position to support the economy. Some of these measures include the reduction in the monetary policy rate to 8-year low from 16% to 14.5%, reduction of the reserve requirements from 10% to 8% in order to provide liquidity support to critical sectors; and the reduction in the conservation buffer from 3% to 1.5%, which cuts the capital adequacy ratio from 13% to 11.5%. The Bank of Ghana and many analysts believe these measures and others have contributed significantly to provide reliefs during the pandemic hit.

Aided by these containment efforts to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, the Ghanaian economy is projected to grow by about 5 percent in 2021. This in many ways indicates that the country has moved on from "saving the situation" policy phase to "stabilization and recovery" phase with different demands on policy makers. The big question from the monetary side will be how Bank of Ghana will play its

part in this phase.

A key mandate of Bank of Ghana is "to maintain stability in the general level of prices." It is also required to "support the general economic policy of Government, promote economic growth and development, and ensure effective and efficient operation of the banking and credit system; and contribute to the promotion and maintenance of financial stability." In other words, high and sustainable economic growth and low inflation are the two main objectives of monetary policy in Ghana.

This is however not unique to Ghana although the debate about the exact nature of the relationship between inflation and economic growth remains open. Different schools of thought give varying evidence on this relationship. For instance, structuralists believe that inflation is necessary for economic growth, but according to monetarists' view, inflation is harmful to economic growth.

While the monetarists believe that inflation occur as a result of increases in money supply, structuralists argue that inflation

occurs due to institutional or structural impediments or both, which are encountered during phases of rapid growth and development. In other words, structuralists see inflation arising from the pressure of economic growth on an underdeveloped social and economic structure, mostly sighting agriculture, foreign trade, and government sectors as suffering from institutional rigidities that cause prices to rise with economic development.

Regardless of the belief school of thought the MPC members belong to, there will be the need at all times to access the risk to inflation and growth of any policy decision. The indication so far is that given the fiscal dominance situation in the country, the Bank of Ghana's policy measures this year may largely be reactionary to fiscal conditions to allow a smooth recovery process. To this end, it may concern itself with the liquidity requirement of the economy to drive growth. This does not mean that price stability will not be important, but the economy is believed to be operating below capacity.



Terms of Reference: Recruitment of an audiovisual production agency

INTRODUCTION

Abt Associates Inc.'s Sustaining Health Outcomes through the Private Sector Plus (SHOPS Plus) project, under its Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is soliciting proposals from firms capable of undertaking the tasks and producing the deliverables outlined below.

BACKGROUND

Sustaining Health Outcomes through the Private Sector (SHOPS) Plus is USAID's flagship initiative in private sector health. The project seeks to harness the full potential of the private sector and catalyze public-private engagement to improve health outcomes in family planning, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and other health areas. SHOPS Plus supports the achievement of US government health priorities and improves the equity and quality of the total health system.

In Tanzania, the project works with private providers and private sector health platforms, such as Accredited Drug Dispensing Outlets (ADDOs), through a range of approaches to increase access to and use of priority health services.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The responsibilities of the applicant are highlighted below. The responsibilities are not exhaustive of the requirements of the applicant. The sections are intended to be descriptive, not necessarily prescriptive.

PURPOSE

SHOPS Plus seeks an organization to create four instructional videos (10 minutes each) using facilitators from the field work that will support private prescribers and ADDO dispensers and act as a quick reference. The topics are:

- Step by step instructions on USSD report compilation and submission.
- Youth friendly FP dispensing practices and referral by ADDOs.
- Amoxicillin dispersible tablets dispensing practices for pharmaceutical retail dispensers
- Learning video with information on Amoxicillin dispersible tablets for prescribers.

The videos will comprise instructional learning sessions conducted by facilitators identified by the SHOPS Plus project and supported with necessary illustrations and photographs as required by the specific instructional video. The videos will be in English and Swahili with subtitles in Swahili for portions in English.

Specific tasks include:

- Holding a kick-off meeting between SHOPS Plus, videographer, and producer to review the video concept and logistics
- Developing all needed inputs to complete filming, including but not limited to a production schedule and story board
- Complete production of the video content by:
- Planning and managing in-person and remote recording of video and audio content
- Conducting and filming the sessions
- Designing text and motion graphics, as needed
- Completing post-production, including developing rough cuts and revised versions based on SHOPS Plus review
- Finalizing the video following SHOPS Plus approval
- Delivery of final video files to SHOPS Plus

Number of videos: 4

Video length: 10 minutes

Production state date: once the contract is signed

Delivery date: May 31, 2021

The video will be viewed on the SHOPS Plus website and through other channels identified by SHOPS Plus and its partners in Tanzania.

The video will be produced in accordance with the SHOPS Plus project's graphic standards and branding marking plan.

DELIVERABLES

- Video production schedule in line with the timeframe of the activity.
- Video footage with Fram.io software or timestamped transcripts
- Rough cut of video
- Final video with sub-titles in Swahili and English as MP4 file
- Signed consent forms

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Video Production

The applicant will provide a video production team with a camera operator to shoot the footage and a producer to manage the production of the videos based on an agreed-upon outline. SHOPS Plus will provide the names of the individuals to be filmed, the script, and the training materials and graphics to be included in the video. The videographer will be responsible for any transportation and per diem related expenses.

Pre-Production

The applicant will work closely with the SHOPS Plus Tanzania team to schedule and plan the various shooting sessions with the different facilitators in-country. This includes:

- Holding a kick-off meeting between SHOPS

Plus, videographer, and producer to review the video concept and logistics

- Developing a story board based on training script
- Creating a production schedule
- Determining location and format of in-person filming

Production

The applicant will plan and manage in-person recording of relevant content with identified participants. This will include:

- Planning and managing in-person and remote recording of video and audio content
- Conducting and filming the sessions
- Designing text and motion graphics, as needed

Post-Production

The applicant will manage post-production and video editing to ensure that the finished products meet identified needs. This will include:

- Rough cut using Fram.io software (preferred) or timestamped transcription of all interview content
- Management of the review and feedback process for all rough cuts (2-3 versions)
- Development and verification of sub-titles and other infographics as needed
- Include a sound track with background music
- Animated graphic, if necessary
- Delivery of final videos, in format specified by SHOPS Plus platform requirements with approved branding

Final Approval

Before the video is finalized, the videographer will obtain approval from the SHOPS Plus communications director and project lead.

RIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

The applicant grants SHOPS Plus Tanzania the exclusive and unconditional right to reproduce, display, share, and disseminate worldwide and in perpetuity, in whole or in part, in any traditional or electronic media format, without requiring SHOPS Plus to notify the applicant, seek permission, or additional fees beyond the agreed upon payment for services.

SHOPS Plus reserves the right to edit captions in accordance with its protocols and style guide. This agreement will apply to all photographs, videos, and other submissions supplied by the applicant and shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled in writing by either party or superseded by a subsequent agreement. The applicant assumes all responsibility for claims that result from false information knowingly provided by the applicant (copyright, captions model releases).

METHOD OF CONDUCTING THE MISSION

The applicant and team will work under the supervision of the Chief of Party of the SHOPS Plus Tanzania project in collaboration with the entire in-country team and from the headquarters with whom they will be required to report and communicate regularly. They will also participate in project meetings if necessary. They will use their expertise to carry out the activities and achieve the objectives of the mission. The following added values are required: good conduct, efficiency, spirit of innovation, integrity, and confidentiality.

REQUIRED SKILLS/PREREQUISITES

The assignment will require an applicant with demonstrable competencies:

- Previous experience of developing videos related to international development and public health
- Ability to manage video production and conduct interviews in English & Swahili
- Videography (in-person and remote)
- Video editing
- Knowing, having, and using the right equipment for different lighting/settings
- Saving, sending, storing video files
- Knowledge of cultures and customs in the areas where shooting will take place

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Interested agencies should submit the following:

- Compliance with technical specifications. Clearly specify the deviations, if any.
- Country of origin of company registration and country of basic operations.
- Price: The applicant will propose the costs that they deem realistic and reasonable for the cost of the services in accordance with the technical specifications of the applicant.
- Sufficient proof of capabilities, as evidences through past projects of similar nature and reference checks of those or other clients of the applicant.
- Delivery schedule.

Interested agencies are requested to send their submissions to the following address:

-Farhan Yusuf <Farhan_Yusuf@abtassoc.com>

The deadline for submitting a file is April 30, 2021 at 5pm Tanzania time.

Abt Associates also reserves the right to offer this price to more than one bidder.

Terms of Reference: Recruitment of an audiovisual production agency

INTRODUCTION

Abt Associates Inc.'s Sustaining Health Outcomes through the Private Sector Plus (SHOPS Plus) project, under its Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is soliciting proposals from firms capable of undertaking the tasks and producing the deliverables outlined below.

BACKGROUND

Sustaining Health Outcomes through the Private Sector (SHOPS) Plus is USAID's flagship initiative in private sector health. The project seeks to harness the full potential of the private sector and catalyze public-private engagement to improve health outcomes in family planning, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and other health areas. SHOPS Plus supports the achievement of US government health priorities and improves the equity and quality of the total health system.

In Tanzania, the project works with private providers and private sector health platforms, such as Accredited Drug Dispensing Outlets (ADDOs), through a range of approaches to increase access to and use of priority health services.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The responsibilities of the applicant are highlighted below. The responsibilities are not exhaustive of the requirements of the applicant. The sections are intended to be descriptive, not necessarily prescriptive.

PURPOSE

SHOPS Plus seeks an organization to create an end-of-project video using clips from interviews with SHOPS Plus in-country partners from the public and the private sector. The objective of this video is to highlight the work SHOPS Plus has done in the country to sustain health outcomes over its duration.

The video will comprise interview clips of a range of stakeholders (national programs, private sector, private providers) who have worked closely with the project over its duration. The interviewees will speak in English or Swahili. Each interview will respond to 10 to 15 questions about results and outcomes achieved through the project's support and why the private sector important. The video will also include photographs of the stakeholders and SHOPS Plus activities. The video will be in English and Swahili with subtitles in English for portions in Swahili.

The offeror will also capture pictures of places mentioned in the content of the video for use by SHOPS Plus and in the video. The photographer will be on site during filming and complete post-production work within the pre-defined schedule. The photos would include metadata with location and subject names / type, and signed release forms, if needed. Abt Associates will provide the photo release forms. The list of required images will be developed in consultation with SHOPS plus during the video pre-production stage.

Specific tasks include:

- Holding a kick-off meeting between SHOPS Plus, videographer, and producer to review the video concept and logistics
- Developing all needed inputs to complete filming, including but not limited to a production schedule and story board
- Complete production of the video content by:
- Planning and managing in-person and remote recording of video and audio content
- Conducting and filming the sessions
- Designing text and motion graphics, as needed
- Completing post-production, including developing rough cuts and revised versions based on SHOPS Plus review
- Finalizing the video following SHOPS Plus approval
- Photographing locations identified during pre-production stage
- Delivery of final video and image files to SHOPS Plus, along with required documentation

Number of videos: 1

Video length: 7 minutes

Number of photographs: 100-200 high resolution, easily shareable digital files

Production state date: once the contract is signed

Delivery date: June 6, 2021

The video will be viewed on the SHOPS Plus website and through other channels identified by SHOPS Plus and its partners in Tanzania.

The video will be produced in accordance with the SHOPS Plus project's graphic standards and branding marking plan.

DELIVERABLES

- Photographs - 100-200 high-resolution images (1600 x 1200 pixels or more) in easily shareable digital format and on an external physical drive
- Photo caption sheet with narrative caption, location and date.
- Video production schedule in line with the timeframe of the activity.
- Video footage with Fram.io software or timestamped transcripts
- Rough cut of video
- Final video with sub-titles as MP4 file
- Signed consent forms

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Video Production

The applicant will provide a video production team with a camera operator to shoot the footage and a producer to manage the production of the videos based on an agreed-upon outline. SHOPS Plus will provide the names of the individuals to be filmed, the script, and the training materials and graphics to be included in the video. The videographer will be responsible for any transportation and per diem related expenses.

Pre-Production

The applicant will work closely with the SHOPS Plus

Tanzania team to schedule and plan the various shooting sessions with the different facilitators in-country. This includes:

- Holding a kick-off meeting between SHOPS Plus, videographer, and producer to review the video concept and logistics
- Developing a story board based on training script
- Creating a production schedule
- Determining location and format of in-person filming

Production

The applicant will plan and manage in-person recording of relevant content with identified participants. This will include:

- Planning and managing in-person and remote recording of video and audio content
- Conducting and filming the sessions
- Designing text and motion graphics, as needed

Post-Production

The applicant will manage post-production and video editing to ensure that the finished products meet identified needs. This will include:

- Rough cut using Fram.io software (preferred) or timestamped transcription of all interview content
- Management of the review and feedback process for all rough cuts (2-3 versions)
- Development and verification of sub-titles and other infographics as needed
- Include a sound track with background music
- Animated graphic, if necessary
- Delivery of final videos, in format specified by SHOPS Plus platform requirements with approved branding

Final Approval

Before the video is finalized, the videographer will obtain approval from the SHOPS Plus communications director and project lead.

RIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

The applicant grants SHOPS Plus Tanzania the exclusive and unconditional right to reproduce, display, share, and disseminate worldwide and in perpetuity, in whole or in part, in any traditional or electronic media format, without requiring SHOPS Plus to notify the applicant, seek permission, or additional fees beyond the agreed upon payment for services.

SHOPS Plus reserves the right to edit captions in accordance with its protocols and style guide. This agreement will apply to all photographs, videos, and other submissions supplied by the applicant and shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled in writing by either party or superseded by a subsequent agreement. The applicant assumes all responsibility for claims that result from false information knowingly provided by the applicant (copyright, captions model releases).

METHOD OF CONDUCTING THE MISSION

The applicant and team will work under the supervision of the Chief of Party of the SHOPS Plus Tanzania project in collaboration with the entire in-country team and from the headquarters with whom they will be required to report and communicate regularly. They will also participate in project meetings if necessary. They will use their expertise to carry out the activities and achieve the objectives of the mission. The following added values are required: good conduct, efficiency, spirit of innovation, integrity, and confidentiality.

REQUIRED SKILLS/PREREQUISITES

The assignment will require an applicant with demonstrable competencies:

- Previous experience of developing videos related to international development and public health
- Ability to manage video production and conduct interviews in English & Swahili
- Videography (in-person and remote)
- Video editing
- Photography
- Capturing images that suit the specifications above
- Capturing meta data (names of places, people, and specific locations where photos are taken)
- Knowing, having, and using the right equipment for different lighting/settings
- Saving, sending, storing video files
- Knowledge of cultures and customs in the areas where shooting will take place

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Interested agencies should submit the following:

- Compliance with technical specifications. Clearly specify the deviations, if any.
- Country of origin of company registration and country of basic operations.
- Price: The applicant will propose the costs that they deem realistic and reasonable for the cost of the services in accordance with the technical specifications of the applicant. Applicants should propose cost in the template as indicated in Attachment A
- Sufficient proof of capabilities, as evidences through past projects of similar nature and reference checks of those or other clients of the applicant.
- Delivery schedule.

Interested agencies are requested to send their submissions to the following address:

-Farhan Yusuf <Farhan_Yusuf@abtassoc.com>

The deadline for submitting a file is April 30, 2021 at 5pm Tanzania time.

Abt Associates also reserves the right to offer this price to more than one bidder.

Nigerian youth should refuse to be led by their noses

By Tope Fasua

NEVER let anyone decide on your behalf what to make of your future. Nigerian youths should save themselves, learn about each other, broaden their minds, banish prejudice, find common areas of interest for the development of Nigeria, and at least try their hands on the leadership of this nation. Never let anyone decide on your behalf what to make of your future.

I have always advocated for Nigerian youths not to allow anyone make their minds up for them. It is true that old Nigerians have done themselves many injustices over time. But given the relative age of our union, I believe the youths of today should first ask to be given a chance at running the country or to organise themselves to do so, rather than listen to old tales of woe and betrayal from some old people who will not tell the whole truth about the past. I have come to realise that we Nigerians have some basic problems. We get easily carried away, especially when things do not go right for us for a while. I look around the big cities of Nigeria, at all the mansions and other possessions of our people and then I wonder why so many people are complaining. People own these assets. People have made money from this country. But how come many - millions - perhaps most people, are stuck in a bitter complaint mode? Is it that we easily dump the blame for our personal mistakes on the country? Are we attuned to the fact that life is about ups and downs? This is a subject for current and aspiring leaders to ponder on, for without understanding the psychology of the people, no one can lead successfully. As things stand, almost all leaders get disgraced out of office in Nigeria and their lives often turn to hell on earth. Sometimes I wonder whether it is a worthwhile venture to try and lead here. Perhaps that is why only charlatans are successful; they know that they don't intend to achieve anything for the people.

The other day I saw a news item about Nigerians whose monies are stuck with MBA Forex, a Port-Harcourt based company that had been at the forefront of forex trade in the country. These smart boys collected hundreds of billions of naira from Nigerians, young and old, under the promise of trading foreign exchange. When we hear that there is free or easy money to be made somewhere, we should be wary. These boys even sold the idea that Nigerian could curb unemployment through forex trading. The kind of asinine ideas one hears in this country is mind-boggling. But Nigerians rushed in en masse and as we read this, the Central Bank of Nigeria is trying to see what it can rescue from the company's operations in order to compensate the customers who were taken for a ride, with perhaps tiny fractions of their investments. The real news for me was that Nigerians could afford to



gamble with N171 billion in a single company! Many of these 'investors' chasing huge interests and returns possibly have families that they ignored while they stashed monies in a get-rich-quick scheme. Some have friends who they likely declined to assist. Go to them with a business transaction that could add value and some of them will launch into long tales of woe, cursing the leaders and the country and everything in between. Yet they had staked such amounts, which they eventually lost. I concluded that quite a number of us are actually mean. It seems that we are more interested in acquiring to pose. Not even the gloom of COVID-19 and the flimsiness of life that we have seen, have taught us lessons. Many of these people will even continue to curse Nigeria!

Seeing the Positive

As a corollary to calming down

on all the cursing of the country and permanent complain mode, I also want the youths to give themselves a chance and see if they can still make something good out of the diversity of Nigeria. You see, it may not be as enjoyable as we think it will be, if we create countries where only our type of people - the same language and same religion - exist. The logistics of achieving that is a different ballgame anyway. Whereas it seems that the Yorubas will easily create a monicultural society and maybe a nation therefrom (barring protests from outlying ethnicities within Yorubaland who don't speak Yoruba, such as the Badagry people), religion is another platform for division. Given how militant many Yorubas are on either side of Christianity and Islam, there is a likelihood of tensions arising in an Oodua Republic based on religious differences. We can see

what is happening in Kwara presently. The camaraderie we used to enjoy in the days of innocence has been replaced with suspicion. Many people input all sorts of spiritual meanings to everything these days. If your neighbour gives you meat or food from their religious festival, many Yorubas now believe the food is contaminated with some sort of spiritual poison. Back in the day, we looked forward to such gift.

Nigerian youths must go back and find that mutual trust. And they may find out in the process that they do not need to begin the process of cannibalising the country as proposed.

When asked if he could vote for an Igbo person, he sharply replied that he voted for Jonathan in 2011 and 2015, so he will if he sees a good candidate. Ibrahim showed me his crypto wallet and regaled me with the cheap cryptos he trades on the side. Remember, this was a shoemaker!

I recently returned from Kano, where I spent a longer period than I ever did there and learnt so much. When I got a Bolt taxi to take me to the Igwe's Palace (a restaurant run by Igbo people obviously) at Sabongari, I ended up with one interesting guy named Salisu. Very articulate and forward-looking, this fellow, is also a student at the

Bayero University, Kano. He is even a class representative. Do not begin to imagine some smooth 'aje-butter' or middle class person, because when he picked me up for the airport, as arranged, the next day, I found out that Salisu left Kano at the age of 17, after his School Certificate exams, to become a shoemaker in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State. From Yenagoa, he went to Port Harcourt, where he lived on Warri Street. He sold off his shoemaking business and began a business selling used cement paper, which he said are bought by companies manufacturing mosquito coils up North. I learned from him that the coils are made from paper pulp soaked in some mosquito-repellent chemicals. Now, Salisu, in his accent-laden English, is extremely intelligent. Someone from this kind of background is using words like 'getting the dynamics', and so on in a regular sentence. I've seen a lot worse elsewhere where there is claim to literacy.

18-year old Salisu later graduated to selling palm oil. He upped one day and shipped himself to Abuja, where he lived at 150 Clifford Street. From there on to Warri, and shuttling between there and Benin, he supplied palm oil up North. He would leave Warri and head to Accra and Kumasi, from where he still does the same business till today. He said the product is cheaper in Ghana, but as Buhari closed land borders, he reverted to buying from the South to sell in the North (these bans and forex restrictions do have some good sides). Salisu bought an old Honda Accord with which he runs the 'uber' business and sponsors himself through university. He is very serious about getting a 5-star rating (which I gave him) with each ride. He is about 35 years old today. The Kano indigene believes people should work and school at the same time. He calls it 'struggle'. "Struggle must be combined with schooling.

Nana Addo's IDIF: The role of a maintenance and reliability programme

By Abel Sallah

FOLLOWING Ghana's independence in 1957, the Nkrumah government embarked on an industrialization drive that saw manufacturing's share of GDP grow from 10% in 1960 to 14% in 1970. This growth resulted in the establishment of a diverse range of industrial enterprises, the most notable of which are the Volta Aluminum Company (Valco) smelter, sawmills and timber processing plants, and cocoa processing plants.

Breweries, cement plants, oil refineries, textile mills, and car assembly plants are only a few examples. However, many of these companies were only able to survive because of government security. In the state sector, shortages of raw materials and spare parts, as well as inadequate maintenance management practices, led to inflation from 1970 to 1977, then a downturn from 1977 to 1982.

The manufacturing sector never completely recovered after that, and output was poor until the 1990s. Underutilization of industrial capacity, which had been an issue since the 1960s, deteriorated significantly in the 1970s, with average capacity utilization in large and medium-scale factories dropping to just 21% in 1982. The supply of foreign exchange for imported machinery increased after the Economic Recovery Programme was introduced.

Following the implementation of the Economic Recovery Programme, the availability of foreign exchange for imported machinery and fuel significantly improved, and capacity utilization gradually increased to around 40% in 1989. Despite this, manufacturing production in 1987 was 35% lower than in 1975 and 26% lower than in 1980.

Ghana's industry accounts for about 25.3 per cent of the country's overall GDP. Due to government industrialization policies and commitments, Ghana's industrial output is rising at a 7.8% annual pace, making it one of the fastest-growing in the world.

His Excellency the President of the Republic, H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo government reignited the passion to drive industrialization by introducing their flagship industrialization programme called One-District, One-Factory (IDIF). The mission of the One-District, One-Factory programme is to identify and create business opportunities in the districts, harnessing the strengths and resources of the localities in an efficient technology and demand-driven value chain. While previous attempts at rural economic revitalization in Ghana had focused mainly on the provision of physical infrastructural facilities, the IDIF programme focuses on the promotion of commercially viable business development initiatives, to generate sustainable and accelerated economic development in peri-urban and rural communities.

"Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it" - George Santayana

In as much as these industrialization programmes are vital in the overall economic transformation and viability of the country, we need to go back to what led to the col-



lapse of our industries in the early '70s to the late '80s, and the stagnated growth in the 1990s.

One of the key lessons learnt was the non-availability of maintenance and reliability engineering regimes in the management of these national assets. The objective of maintenance and reliability engineering in the life cycle of industrial assets is to maintain the capability of the systems that make up the assets, so these assets can reach their expected performance and quality standards. The purpose of proactive maintenance is to ensure the maximum efficiency and availability of production or manufacturing equipment, utilities and related facilities at optimal cost and under satisfactory conditions of quality, safety and environmental protection.

The inability of asset managers and stakeholders to incorporate maintenance and reliability engineering culture into the management of their assets led to the collapse of these once vibrant industries. The repercussions of this negligence or neglect were enormous. Most of these companies became obsolete and led to job losses. This also led to the over-dependence on import products which we were early on producing in the country. It further deepened the country's woes by depreciating the value of our local currency since we have become net importers of goods. There is plethora of consequences to list with regards to the collapse of these industries.

Learning from this history it is important to put in the

necessary measures to guard factories under the IDIF from suffering the same fate.

To achieve this, the managers and stakeholders of these factories must take into cognizance the following maintenance and reliability engineering processes, tools, and culture to protect and sustain the integrity of these national assets.

Asset Management Planning, Strategy Development, & Performance

An Asset Management Plan (AMP) is a tactical plan for managing an organization's infrastructure and other assets to deliver an agreed standard of service. Typically, an asset management plan will cover more than a single asset, taking a system approach - especially where several assets are co-dependent and are required to work together to deliver an agreed standard of service.

A major use for asset management plan is to communicate information about assets, including particular actions required to provide a defined level of service in the most cost-effective manner.

Assets are a part of any enterprise in the public or private sector. Developing and implementing a strategic asset management plan will allow for a detailed understanding of what physical assets are currently held, their value, future value, and costs associated with maintaining them or disposing of them.

Asset Performance Management optimizes the equip-

ment performance and reliability on daily basis. It helps to identify the current asset's health and able to provide a long-term view to drive capital planning and understanding the Economic dynamics of the company. Asset Performance Management enables organizations to identify, contain, analyze, manage and optimize risk levels. This improves financial performance indicators such as Profits, Return on net Assets, Efficiency, and Service Factor. APM also improves Plant productivity, Reliability, Availability, Maintainability, and Safety.

Preventive Maintenance Optimization Program

Preventive maintenance is the simplest and most straightforward maintenance strategy to implement. It requires following manufacturer recommendations and establishing a standard maintenance schedule for critical assets and equipment. A world-class maintenance program reflects an organization's goals and works toward them through planning, implementation, and evaluation. This strategy helps organizations improve quality and output, increase equipment uptime and Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE), reduce costs, and safe and stable operating environment.

Maintenance Planning, Scheduling & Strategy

In today's competitive market, companies are under increasing pressure to produce higher quality goods and services at lower production costs. A key component of the overall cost of manufacturing is maintenance and the key role of maintenance is to guarantee the maintenance and reliability of the production plant. The introduction of the Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems makes it easier to plan, schedule and strategize maintenance for operational excellence.

The quality of the outputs from these systems is reliant on the quality of the inputs and these can only be assured if we have a robust management system to support maintenance, engineering and operations.

Providing space for WASH in review of NDCs impact

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

A TEAM of experts who gathered in Morogoro town recently to review Tanzania's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) examined measures to be undertaken in the water sector that would help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Globally, climate change has severely affected water resources as evidenced by degraded water sources, reduced water quantities, deteriorating flows from water sources and depleted amounts of water in groundwater aquifers. The impacts have inflicted economic and social shocks among Tanzanians as well as arrested some environmental functions. As characteristic with climate change impacts, some parts of the country have at times experienced unusually heavy rains that have resulted in flash floods which in turn have washed away crops, livestock, buildings and transport infrastructure. Both too little water and too much water have negative impacts on humanity.

Malfunctioning water systems often lead to poor sanitation as water may be contaminated, leading to outbreaks of dysentery, typhoid, diarrhoea, cholera and other water-borne disease. According to WaterAid, for hundreds of millions of the world's poor people, climate change is putting already stretched water resources and services under growing threat. A reliable clean water supply and decent sanitation systems could be the difference between coping and not coping with the effects of climate change.

This calls for specific strategies to deal with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and they must be reflected in the country's NDCs. Already, Tanzania has taken measures in addressing WASH issues by establishing policies such as the National Adaptation Plan (NAP, 2015) and the Climate Change Strategy of 2012 which is currently under review as well as the Health National Adaptation Plan. The Current Draft Nationally Determined Contributions document falls short of clearly indicating actions to address WASH. Its presence remains obscure.

The Tanzania Forum on Climate Change (FORUMCC), among others, noticed this gap and teamed up with the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) to highlight the importance of WASH in the NDCs well before the review process was planned.

The two institutions conducted a study, "Catalysing the Inclusion of WASH in the NDCs Review Process in Tanzania," after which they organized a workshop to present their findings. The workshop aimed to, among other things, discuss, exchange information, and share experience based on the study findings. It also aimed at empowering participants to access potential data and inputs that would be used to inform the inclusion of WASH in NDCs review process in Tanzania. The workshop brought together various Climate Change and WASH stakeholders representing the government, CSOs, development partners and private sector. The youth, research and academia groups were also represented.

Presenting initial findings of the study, Mr. Msololo Onditi who had been consulted to undertake the study informed the participants that "In spite of including water, health and waste management sectors as areas of GHG emission reduction, Tanzania NDCs had not explicitly explained how WASH issues will be addressed during the implementation," says Mr. Msololo Onditi.

According to the findings, the NDCs document hasn't provided examples of any climate change technologies to be applied in management of landfills or improving sanitation. There is also scant information on the source of energy and facilities to be used for incineration of waste generated from Health Center Facilities (CFs).

"Information is also lacking on management of similar waste produced by commercial activities despite the fact that incineration of industrial waste accounts for the emission of various greenhouse gas components," explains Onditi.

The study findings also indicate that there is no explicit articulation of



Clean hands need clean water (File Photo)

management of liquid waste produced in the WASH processes. Only solid waste is mentioned and in a general way.

Abdallah Henku, a Climate Change and Natural Resources expert notes that Tanzania NDCs document prioritizes water resources management and omits the water supply aspect which is important not only because consumers access the resources for different uses including sanitation and hygiene but also because they eventually produce liquid waste. "Both water supply and sanitation are affected by climate change. It is important therefore to include WASH in the NDCs so that the whole chain of WASH benefits the end users. Reliable and safe water access and improved sanitation must be given due concern," explains Henku.

Euster Kibona, FORUMCC Board Chairperson and an expert climate change and natural resources issues underscores participation of local communities in developing climate change response plans. "This is to provide opportunity to communities to learn about sanitation and hygiene and put into practice what they have learned in order to improve their health," she says, adding that lack of participation among members of communities leaves them with limited knowledge about climate change and WASH in general and they thus become more vulnerable to impacts of climate change.

"Since sanitation and hygiene matters are part and parcel of human settlements, it is important that town planners become aware of climate change and incorporate the various aspects of WASH in their plans," she notes.

According to the World Health Organisation-WASH is not only a prerequisite to health, but contributes to livelihoods and helps to create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

"Drinking unsafe water impairs health through illnesses such as diarrhoea, and untreated excreta contaminates groundwaters and surface waters used for drinking-water, irrigation, bathing and household purposes. Chemical contamination of water continues to pose a health burden," says the UN Agency in one of its publications.

Evidence suggests that improving service levels towards safely managed drinking-water or sanitation such as regulated piped water or connections to sewers with wastewater treatment can dramatically improve health by reducing deaths arising from diarrhoea and related disease deaths.

"Today, 2.2 billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water services and 4.2 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services. Unsafe hygiene practices are widespread, compounding the effects on people's health," says another UN Agency, UN Water.

Thus during the review, participants added some inputs in the Draft NDCs document in order to reflect various issues of WASH. One addition was directed to implementation of NDCs that proposed the enhancement of conservation of water sources in both urban and rural communities to ensure not only adequate flows but also clean and safe supplies.

The group also proposed scaling up public awareness raising and educational campaigns on sanitation as well and improving water supply infrastructure to ensure the provision of clean and safe water. Such campaigns are intended to encourage people to take actions like washing hand, using toilets and keeping them clean as wells boiling drinking water for drinking, particularly in the rural areas where very often water is not treated.

Another addition was the construction of sewerage systems in urban areas that can withstand the impacts of climate change. This would control spillage of liquid waste from sewers and storm-drains and as such reduce outbreak of water-borne diseases.

"The fact that the reviewed Draft NDCs now addresses WASH in its entirety makes the document a concrete presentation of Tanzania's commitment to undertake adaptation and mitigation contributions with the aim of building climate resilient communities, says Onditi.

Standard Bank Group appoints new Chief Executive for Africa regions

By Guardian Reporter

STANDARD Bank Group—Africa's largest bank by assets has appointed Yinka Sanni as its new Chief Executive for Africa Regions and a member of the Group Leadership Council.

Sanni (pictured), the group's Regional Chief Executive for West Africa, takes over from Sola David-Borha, who is retiring after 31 years of distinguished service to the group.

Sanni holds a B Agric (Hons) degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Nigeria and an MBA from Obafemi Awolowo University. He attended the Advanced Management Programme at Harvard Business School in 2009 and the Global CEO Programme at the Wharton School in 2017. He has over 30 years of experience in the financial sector across wholesale, retail and asset management, and joined Standard Bank Group's Nigerian subsidiary, Stanbic IBTC Bank Plc, in December 1990.

In a note to employees, Standard Bank Group CEO Sim Tshabalala congratulated Sanni on his appointment and thanked David-Borha for her extraordinary contributions to the group.

"Sola was appointed as the Chief Executive of Africa Regions in January 2017 and is one of the group's most deeply expert and experienced bankers," Tshabalala said. "Under her leadership, the Africa Regions portfolio has grown remarkably in capacity, market share and contribution to the group's headline earnings."



David-Borha has been a passionate advocate of culture change and executive leadership development, having sponsored the 'Last Mile' programme, which has resulted in the successful promotion of talented people into both Regional Chief Executive and Country Chief Executive positions, including the appointment of two female Chief Executives in the Africa Regions business.

"It has been a great honour and privilege to serve and contribute to the growth of the Standard Bank Group," David-Borha said. "I am delighted to be handing over to Yinka Sanni, an exceptional, authentic and experienced leader who will take the baton forward in driving Africa's growth."

David-Borha will remain with the group until the end of June to ensure a successful leadership transition and handover process. Sanni's appointment is effective from today, 15 April.

Rwanda now seen as global leader in the fight to end plastic waste

By Guardian Reporter

IN contrast to polluting approaches like "waste-to-energy" incinerators and landfills, since 2004, Rwanda began a process of carrying out national bans to reduce the consumption and manufacturing of single-use plastic in the country.

The adverse health and environmental effects of plastic pollution is one of the most pressing issues of this time. Plastic has infiltrated our waterways, air, and food, and has had detrimental implications for ecosystems and the livelihoods of people.

For the East African country, the approach to tackling plastic waste management entailed the enforcement of strong policies, which has reaped environmental, social and economic benefits.

Rwanda's success in reducing plastic can be attributed to its dedicated countrywide campaigns about the impacts of plastic on biodiversity, human health and community development, and using different mediums to educate and spark behavioural change from citizens.

Moreover, the government's investment into alternatives saw boosted employment and support for local businesses that started the transition to producing environmentally friendly products, as well as the growing traction around reusable alternatives.

Neil Tangri, Science & Policy

Director at the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA) said: "With plastic production doubling every 18 years, it is clear that we cannot recycle our way out of the problem. We need to stop plastic pollution at the source, the production phase. Rwanda's success demonstrates to the world that a country free of plastic pollution is not a utopia but a realistic, affordable, and practical reality. Rather than looking to Europe or the US for solutions, Rwanda demonstrates that any country can solve plastic pollution and significantly reduce its climate footprint with simple, strong national policies."

The capital city of Kigali in Rwanda is considered one of the tidiest urban areas in the African continent and has therefore fostered a sense of national pride in citizens who celebrate their clean and green country. Rwanda was the first country in the African region to introduce a law banning plastic and is now recognised as one of the few countries in the world to progressively react to the issue of plastic pollution. The ban has resulted in recognisable environmental, social and economic success. As of 2019, 1,219,529 tourists visit the country annually, where 89,607 jobs exist within the tourism sector.

Innocent Musore, Executive Director for the Global Initiative for Environment and Reconciliation (GER) in Rwanda said: "We have seen the positive changes

of the plastic bans through the cleanliness in the country, as well as how the public adapted to the alternatives. We see a vivid reduction of plastic bags. Plastic is a continental and global issue, the experience of Rwanda, in banning plastic, needs to be shared with other countries that are still struggling to beat plastic. Rwanda has lessons and a good record to share."

Neighbouring East African countries, like Tanzania, have also implemented a ban on the production, importation and use of plastic carry bags, since 2019. Ana Rocha, Executive Director for Nipe Fagio in Tanzania said: "Despite our government's efforts in banning plastic carrier bags, which we value and support, the market is being flooded with various kinds of plastic packaging that are not collected and cannot be recyclable. It is urgent that an extension of the plastic carrier bag ban is implemented, moving the country towards a single-use plastic ban."

"Rwanda took a bold standard when implementing its plastic ban, not allowing plastic replacements to be implemented and keeping the ban strict in the long term. The country, despite being the pioneer in the region to implement a ban, adjusted to the change under the pressure of strict implementation and remains until now as the biggest example of a successful plastic ban not only in the region but in the world."

When will women have equal access to land?

By Esther Ngumbi

IN Kenya, residents of a women-only village established in 1990 were finally granted ownership of their tract of land this month. In Tanzania, the government affirmed its commitment to promoting equality in access, ownership and use of land, noting that women's economic development is pre-requisitely determined by how easily women can access land. These recent developments are to be celebrated, particularly since African women depend on land to power agriculture, which is a source of livelihood for 70 per cent of the continent.

But even as we celebrate these progressive steps, much more still needs to be done to achieve gender equality in land ownership.

In Kenya, for example, women own less than 2 per cent of all titled land even though they almost 55 per cent work in agriculture according to a 2020 USAID Kenya gender analysis report. In Malawi, women still struggle to attain equality in land ownership. Globally, according to the World Economic Forum, women including those from the African continent, own less than 20 per cent of world's land. This is not okay.

Women should have equal access to land ownership. Land and the ownership of it is recognized as a foundational element for advancing agriculture and other sustainable development agendas. Lack of access to land for women hinders their ability to access financial services and other development initiatives and schemes needed to continuously improve land and agriculture.

Furthermore, not owning the rights and title deed to the land women are living in disenfranchises them and exposes them to all forms of abuses. In addition, a recent study in Lesotho and Zimbabwe revealed linkages between lack of land ownership and entrepreneurial performance. In Ethiopia, another study revealed linkages between adopting climate-smart agriculture with lack of access or user rights to land.

I know about the vulnerability women feel when their ability to own land is not assured. Growing up in the Kenyan Coast in the 80's and 90's, I still remember wondering if my father would consider giving my three sisters and myself a piece of land, since, it was uncommon for women to own land. I also wondered what would happen to my mother should our father pass away.

Luckily, my father, despite all the traditions, and societal norms, ensured that all of us, including our mother, have land and own the title deed to our land.



This gave us peace of mind and more assured security should anything happen to him.

My family should not be the anomaly. We must fight for a world where every woman, no matter what country they are living in - developed or developing - has equal rights to land. Women must be able to own land if they wish.

Women land tenure rights must be an issue that governments and policy makers prioritize. Countries should further review their land policies and laws, in order to ensure that women have equal land tenure rights. Furthermore, several practices including recognition of customary land rights of women, community land de-

marcation and collective titles, establishing decentralized land administration systems and gender-sensitive land registration programs can help rectify this challenge.

Moreover, there are benefits that can come with improved land tenure rights. Land titles can be used as a collateral to improve access to credit for agricultural investment while enhancing women's willingness to make medium- to long-term investments on their land. All of these steps can facilitate the attainment of three sustainable development goals-eliminating poverty (SDG 1), ending hunger (SDG2) and gender equality and empowerment of women and

girls.

When women thrive because they have equal rights - including equal access to land - everyone benefits, including their families, communities, countries, and our global world.

Dr. Esther Ngumbi is an Assistant Professor with the Entomology Department at University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Illinois. She is a Senior Food Security Fellow with New Voices, The Aspen Institute and has also served as a Clinton Global University Initiative (CGIU) mentor for Agriculture.



A China Mobile employee adjusts and tests 5G base station equipment in Xiangyang, Central China's Hubei Province on Jan.11. File photo

China to shore up 'dual-gigabit' networks construction before 2023

CHINA will strive to complete construction of "dual-gigabit" featuring both wired and wireless gigabit broadband within three years completing in 2023, the network infrastructure of which will basically cover Chinese urban areas and townships, forging the nation's core competitiveness in network technologies.

In an action plan issued last week, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) set the goal to build at least 20 cities with the gigabit capability by the end of this year, and gigabit fiber optic network covering 200 million households. Newly built 5G network stations will exceed 600,000.

By the end of 2023, the gigabit capabilities should extend to 100 cities in China, and 5G networks will cover key areas in rural towns and villages, according to the plan.

The gigabit connection is typically delivered over fiber optic lines and provides speeds of 1,000 Mbps, which is also referred to as "1 Gbps" or "Gigabit" internet.

The rapid development of "dual-gigabit" networks has promoted ultra-high-definition video streaming and applications such as augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) technology to integrate with production and daily life.

In addition, leading enterprises and scientific research institutions are encouraged to increase investment in research and development of ultra-high-speed fiber optical transmission, next-generation optical network technology and wireless communication technology, join international standardization work, strengthen the development of group standards, and form core competitiveness of China's "dual-gigabit" network technology, the MIIT said.

Shanghai has taken the lead in building a "dual-gigabit" broadband city from the perspective of network infrastructure capabilities, network coverage, and user perception. The city has achieved continuous 5G coverage in its key districts, with an average upload speed of over 300 Mbps and a download speed of over 800 Mbps, media reports say.

China aims to complete the construction of the 5G network during the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) period, when countless progress will be made in network speed and coverage, while continuing to develop vertical applications.

China has rolled out 718,000 5G base stations throughout the country, mostly scattered in large and medium sized cities, including 330,000 shared among the country's four major telecom operators, data from the MIIT showed. More than 600,000 5G base stations were built and put into operation in China in 2020.

Global Times



The gigabit connection is typically delivered over fiber optic lines and provides speeds of 1,000 Mbps, which is also referred to as "1 Gbps" or "Gigabit" internet

DRC holds key to addressing the global climate crisis

By Jeanine Mabunda Lioko

THE road to a clean energy future runs through the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). A global transition to renewable energy will require the mass deployment of new sources for both electricity production and storage. The DRC accounts for more than 70 percent of the world's cobalt, the mineral vital to battery production.

The world will need our country's resources to save itself from the impacts of climate change, for which the Congolese bear little responsibility. It is time for the organizations and government working to save the world to realize the value of that contribution.

African countries must be true partners in global climate efforts.

This month U.S. President Joe Biden will host a virtual summit of world leaders to discuss actions to "tackle the climate crisis." The White House has noted that it will include representatives from the 17 countries responsible for 80 percent of global emissions and global GDP. It will also include the leaders of five African countries, which is an excellent start. But more must be done to recognize the stakes for Africa and engage the continent as true partners in this global effort.

Africa bears the least responsibility for global climate change but is the most vulnerable to its effects. China, the European Union, and the United States emit over 40 percent of total global greenhouse gases, while all of Africa emits just 7 percent. The President of the African Development Bank, Akinwumi Adesina, recently pointed out that, "ten of the top 12 countries most at risk of drought are in Africa." [Editors' note: Wildfires that are still flaring on the slopes of Table Mountain, which have destroyed rare books and manuscripts about Africa in the University of Cape Town library, is an example of such drought-induced tragedies.]

International policies mean deeper African crises - climate effects, conflicts, vaccine inequity.

The climate crisis risks exacerbating other challenges facing the continent. Foundational issues such as insufficient infrastructure, access to capital, and the need for debt relief have made it harder to respond to the variety of other challenges that continue to arise. For example, insufficient roads and limited access to electricity have undermined efforts to distribute the few COVID-19 vaccines that have been made available to African countries. The responses to these crises cannot be successful in isolation. Addressing the core constraints to economic growth in African countries should be pursued with the same fervor as combating global climate change, as they are directly correlated.

The impacts of climate change also pose additional challenges to ongoing peacebuilding efforts in the DRC and throughout the region. Disputes over water access, arable land, and the conditions resulting from drought or severe weather events, all threaten the peace. Solutions to this global problem will need to be implemented at the community level if we are to mitigate the potential impacts on the most vulnerable.

The transition to net-zero emissions cannot come at the expense of development for those countries who



Climate action is about people, their health and their future.

currently lack sufficient access to electricity. While nations with full access convert to renewable sources, Africa must take whatever actions are necessary to expand access to the energy needed for economic and social development. According to the World Bank, at the current rate of electrification, 84 million people (80 percent of the total population) in the DRC will still lack electricity in 2030. The DRC should not be asked to live without electricity, while providing the vital component of the world's clean-energy future. The Congolese people need power now.

Protect Congo's people while exploiting their essential minerals.

There are many serious issues with the current conditions in which cobalt is mined in the DRC, including the deplorable use of child labor and resulting environmental degradation. We must do more to combat these problems by protecting our children, enforcing new regulations, and creating economic opportunities for our people. But the world must also support efforts to develop these resources in a responsible manner - one which improves working conditions and environmental standards, and also ensures an appropriate return for the people and communities delivering this vital resource to the world.

According to recent projections by the World Economic Forum's Global Battery Alliance, the demand

for cobalt for use in batteries will quadruple by 2030. The dramatic increase in demand will put a strain on current supply chains. Asking a Congolese mining community that lacks access to electricity, roads, and healthcare - and whose people are digging cobalt from the earth by hand - to quadruple their output is not only unrealistic but immoral. It is incumbent on all of us, from the miners to the regulators to the end-users, to make sure that future clean energy does not come at the cost of the wellbeing of the Congolese population.

By submitting above, you agree to our privacy policy. The world's largest economies can lead the way into a clean energy future and deliver on the promise of the Paris Agreement. These efforts are vital to the survival of our planet and to averting a climate crisis that will devastate the African continent. If we are to succeed, we must recognize the role of the entire supply chain and come together to lift up those being asked to play a central part in saving the world.

Jeanine Mabunda Lioko is the former President of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the first woman ever elected to that position. She also previously served as the Special Representative to Combat Sexual Violence and Child Soldier Recruitment in the DRC. She is currently an MP for Bumba, DRC, and the founder of Lux Africa, a solar power initiative to expand access to renewable energy.



Thursday 22 April 2021

CAG faults TRA handling of multinational corporation's tax evasion tactics

By Francis Kajubi

TRANSFER pricing remained unchecked by Tanzania Revenue Authority as a means of tax evasion by multinational corporations during the 2019/20 fiscal year despite being a strategic goal by the revenue body.

Controller and Auditor General, Charles Kichere said in his 2019/20 report that TRA had no clear strategy to address the vice which causes loss of billions of shillings in state revenue. "Lack of a specific strategy for controlling transfer pricing functions led to TRA failing to prepare goals and targets. This would have ensured that Multi-National Corporations (MNCs) are controlled with regards to manipulation of transfer pricing," the CAG report said.

However, CAG's review of the TRA's business plans for International Taxation Unit (ITU) covering financial years 2016/17 to 2019/20 and database of existing MNCs, noted that the revenue body did not plan for transfer pricing audits to match the large number of MNCs.

"TRA at the time of the audit, out of 504 MNCs in the database which were attended by ITU it was able to initiate only 60 transfer pricing audits between financial years 2016/17 to 2019/20," asserted the CAG while adding that,

as a matter of fact, transfer pricing controls were not adequately addressed in TRA's corporate plan.

"According to the annual progress reports for financial years 2016/17 to 2019/20, there was significantly low rate of completion of the conducted audits. Out of the 60 audits initiated since 2016/17 to 2019/20, TRA was able to complete only 23 audits for the four financial years," the CAG added saying the numbers represented only 38 percent of the anticipated accomplishments of at least 444 MNCs.

Furthermore, the CAG noted that the revenue body used manual risk assessment tools for selection of MNCs to conduct transfer pricing audits which would cause mishap in capturing the most risky MNCs to be considered for audits.

"TRA had a tendency of accepting ad-hoc transfer pricing cases during each financial year which were dealt out of risk analysis," the CAG explained while noting that the move undermined the risk-based audit approach as new ad-hoc cases were handled out of planned case.

There were also no documented efforts that showed how transfer pricing audits and cases were complementary within TRA departments. Multinational companies with a total turnover of 4.239trn/- for financial years 2016/17, 2017/18



TRA commissioner general, Alphayo Kidata.

and 2019/20 and US\$137.048 million in financial year 2018/19 were audited.

"From these transfer pricing of 152.67bn/- of tax was assessed recovery was 108.61bn/- while 44.07bn/- was still disputed by audited MNCs," the report added saying despite its efforts, the ITU was understaffed with only 19 members including management for the period.

The CAG recommended that TRA should strengthen the ITU by providing adequate staff and technology to enable it deal with transfer pricing audits and other related matters relating to MNCs.

Tira urges insurance companies to speed up processing of claims

By Francis Kajubi

INSURANCE companies and agents have been ordered to speed up processing of claims by clients so as to encourage more people seek covers against risks which will lead to growth of the industry.

Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (Tira)'s acting Director of Legal Affairs, Emily Kiria said currently the regulatory body is receiving many complaints from the public relating to delays in processing claims.

"My office has been receiving complaints on either denial or delays in claims payment. Most of the claims are coming from life and motor vehicle insurance clients regardless of a low uptake of such covers," Kiria said during a graduation ceremony for training of trainers course in microfinance fundamentals organized by Financial Sector Deepening Trust.

She said Tira has registered 22 insurance companies doing general insurance business and most have turned notorious in paying claims while the uptake is only 16 percent. "I have been talking to the firms regularly and would like to take this opportunity to insist that you guys abide by the contracts you signed with your clients," she ordered.

Kiria further noted that according to a recent FinScope Tanzania a study by FSDT, on financial services inclusion as of 2017, only one percent of adult Tanzanians have a life insur-



Tira's acting director of legal affairs, Emily Kiria hands over a certificate to Antimaria Kajuna of Institute of Finance Management after graduating from the training of trainers program at an event in Dar es Salaam this week. Center is IIT president, Bosco Bugali and immediate left is FSDT's executive director, Sosthenes Kewe. Photo: Francis Kajubi.

ance, one percent personal accident insurance, four percent motor vehicle and other covers take

three percent. Most of them have health covers with CHF 48 percent, NHIF 36 percent and TIKA five per-

cent, the report stated.

"Tira takes on a market coordination role to ensure a favourable

enabling environment is in place to promote achievement of the national target of at least 50 percent of the adult population using at least one product," she noted saying by 2030, claim processing is also expected to be prompt. "To achieve such goals, the authority launched a new system of transacting motor insurance cover earlier this month," Kiria stated.

Giving a briefing on the course, FSDT's Executive Director, Sosthenes Kewe said the program involved pre-qualification of trainers, short-listing stages, co-facilitation of the course with the master trainer and completion of a written assessment.

"The program is a novel and innovate initiative, attributing its success to public private partnerships through a memorandum of understanding, as well as the willingness and commitment of the insurance industry to take an active role of value addition to the industry," Kewe said.

According to him, the microfinance fundamentals course aimed to build a sustainable supply of micro-insurance training services and skilled practitioners in the country. The targeted audience is senior and technical staff from insurance companies, brokerage firms and distributors that engage in the micro-insurance business.

Insurance Institute of Tanzania's President, Bosco Bugali underlined that the insurance sector had prioritized eight insurance objectives within the Financial Sector Development Master Plan 2020/21 to 2029/30. "The course is aligned to the capacity building objectives of the sector such as enhancing financial inclusion and ensuring financial consumer protection," Bugali said.

Digital money can reshape cross-border payments and remittances

WASHINGTON

ADVANCES made in digital money can help reshape cross-border payments and remittances making them "easier, faster and cheaper," Kristalina Georgieva, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, said.

Divergences in access to vaccines, in recoveries from the pandemic and access to a digital future are challenges the world must address, Ms Georgieva said at a virtual workshop on how digital money can facilitate remittances. Remittances have played a key role in improving the lives of people in developing economies and supporting economic activity, and can benefit from the "revolution" in digital money, she said.

"We need to use every tool we can to support those most affected by the pandemic. And with the risk of a growing digital divide between rich and poor countries, we must also ensure that all countries can benefit from the latest innovations in digital money and payments, particularly remittances," Ms Georgieva said. The biggest beneficiaries of adopting digital currencies in remittances would be vulnerable people sending small value amounts, the IMF chief said.

The IMF chief's comments came on the same day as Coinbase's debut on Wall Street on Wednesday, with the digital currency exchange's stock opening at \$381, giving it a market value of \$100 billion. The company's listing on a public stock exchange is seen by some as a watershed event for digital currencies.

Central banks across the world are also stepping up efforts to develop digital currencies to modernise financial systems, speed up payments and counter a possible threat from cryptocurrencies.

"Last October, The Bahamas launched the Sand Dollar, the world's first central bank digital currency. Many other economies are exploring their pilot programmes," Ms Georgieva said.

Jason Quinn to take over as interim Absa CEO

JOHANNESBURG

DANIEL Mminele will be stepping down as CEO of Absa Group and Absa Bank at the end of April 30, 2021.

Mminele's departure brings to an end a stint that just lasted 15 months, after he took the job following being a South African Reserve Bank deputy governor. He joined Absa after an extensive search, when then CEO Maria Ramos left at the end of February 2019. In a statement, Absa said the departure was a result of conflicting views when it came to changing the bank.

"It is a matter of considerable regret that we reached this position,"

said Absa Group chair, Wendy Lucas-Bull. "The parting of ways merely reflects divergent professional views and approaches, and is on a 'no fault' basis," she added.

Lucas-Bull said the parting "was a very difficult decision that was not reached lightly," but it was in the best interest of the company and Mminele. The group's CFO, Jason Quinn will take over from Mminele as interim CEO.

Quinn has been the CFO since August 2016. Prior to this job he has been with the group in various senior roles since 2008, and before that was a partner at Ernst & Young. Absa said it will announce the appointment of an interim CFO in the

coming days, pending regulatory approvals.

The departure of Mminele is further disruption to the top leadership of the country's third-largest lender, following the death of former deputy CEO Peter Matlare, weeks ago. It will also mean with the appointment of Quinn, Absa will once again be run by a second interim CEO within two years.

Despite the differences it had with him, Absa's board thanked him for his contribution and wished Mminele well. Lucas-Bull said an "appropriate separation arrangement" was agreed to but no figures were provided. At 1:44pm, Absa's share price had dropped about 4% to R120.98.



Absa Group acting CEO, Jason Quinn.

Airtel team up with People's Bank of Z'bar to digitise customer transactions



Peoples Bank of Zanzibar managing director, Dr Muhsin Salim (L) and Airtel Money director, Isaack Nchunda display a placard after launching a partnership which allows customers to transact between their mobile money wallets and bank accounts seamlessly. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

By The Banker Reporter

EFFECTIVE yesterday, customers of People's Bank of Zanzibar can transact between their bank accounts and Airtel Money mobile wallets thanks to a deal reached by the bank and Airtel Tanzania Plc.

Announcing the agreement in Zanzibar mid this week, PBZ Managing Director, Dr Muhsin Salim and Airtel Money Director, Isaack Nchunda said the deal will enable customers to digitize their payments hence allowing them flexibility to transact from anywhere at anytime.

Dr Masoud said in order to improve customer experience, the bank has come up with innovative services and products aimed at serving them in a more affordable and better way. "A part from this partnership helping our customers to adapt to digital transactions, it is aimed at promoting financial inclusion as per government's plans," Dr Masoud said.

He pointed out that financial inclusion means that more people participate

in building Zanzibar's economy and supporting the government's development agenda as spelt out by President Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

The PBZ Bank and Airtel Tanzania deal allows Airtel Money agents to serve the bank's clients easily, efficiently and conveniently just like a PBZ physical branch. The agents who are customers of PBZ Bank will also be able to transact between their mobile money wallets and bank accounts.

Commenting on the agreement, Airtel Money's Nchunda said that they have partnered with PBZ Bank to ensure that customers adapt to digital money transactions. "Our partnership will make customers here in Zanzibar and other parts

of the country get banking services easily. I call upon our Airtel Money customers and agents to make use of this opportunity as it is safe, affordable and convenient," Nchunda noted.

He further stated that the telco understand that Airtel Money agents are business people just like any other who need cash flow all the time hence the partnership, will assure them of reliable cash flow at all times.

"This partnership will also help to boost the government's financial inclusion agenda in the country because we are currently living in a world where payments are processed every second and mobile money transactions are also on the increase," he added.

"Our partnership with PBZ Bank will help us accomplish our vision of providing unique and affordable services and products which fit in to the daily needs of customers," Nchunda stated while advising the public to embrace digital payment systems being introduced in the market by banks and telcos.

Airtel Money is currently connected to over 1000 billers including utility service providers and is also integrated with over 40 financial institutions which allow customers to make withdrawals and savings. In addition, Airtel Tanzania is rapidly expanding across the country with more than 800 Airtel Money branches providing all services and products.



Goldman Sachs chief executive, David Solomon.

Goldman Sachs CEO says digital currencies 'important' to future of financial systems

NEW YORK

GOLDMAN Sachs chief executive David Solomon underscored the importance of cryptocurrencies as the US' fifth largest bank posted record first quarter net profit and revenue on the strong performance of its investment banking and trading businesses.

The lender's net income rose an annual 464 per cent to \$6.8 billion in the three months to March 31. Its revenue more than doubled to \$17.7bn on an annualised basis, topping analysts' expectations of \$12.6bn.

As activities in the areas of "cryptocurrency, blockchain and the digitisation of money" accelerate, there will be "significant disruption and change in the way money moves around the world", Mr Solomon said during the bank's earnings call.

"Many central banks are looking at digital currencies ... working to apply this technology to their local markets and determine the longer term impact on global payment systems." "There is also significant focus on cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, where the trajectory is less clear as market participants evaluate their possibility as a store of value," he added.

As a bank, Goldman Sachs is looking for ways to expand its capabilities to support its clients' crypto needs while operating "within the regulatory guidelines", Mr Solomon said. Digital currencies are "important to the future of global financial systems," he added.

His comments came the same day Coinbase, a trading platform for cryptocurrencies, went public on the Nasdaq. Its shares opened at \$381 and rallied as high as \$429.54, before dropping to close at \$328.28, giving the crypto exchange a market cap of about \$86bn. In a virtual interview on Wednesday, the US Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell compared cryptocurrencies to gold and said they are "vehicles for speculation." "They are really vehicles for speculation ...

they are not really being actively used as payments. For thousands of years, human beings have given gold a special value that it doesn't have," he said.

Goldman Sachs is reportedly working to offer its first investment vehicles for Bitcoin, the world's biggest cryptocurrency, and other digital currencies to its private wealth management clients. The bank restarted its cryptocurrency trading desk in February.

Last month, the world's biggest electric vehicle company Tesla started accepting Bitcoin as payment for its cars. FinTech company PayPal is also offering its US customers an option to use digital currencies in their wallets to pay for purchases at online merchants.

During the January-March period, Goldman Sachs gained across all four of its major business units. Its investment banking arm generated record quarterly net revenues of \$3.8bn, 73 per cent higher than the first quarter of last year. The global markets business added \$7.6bn, almost 47 per cent more than the same period a year ago. Asset management earned \$4.6bn in three months, compared with only \$96 million last year. Whereas, revenue in consumer and wealth management surged 16 per cent annually to \$1.7bn.

"Our first quarter results underscore the ongoing strength ... evidenced our successful execution towards the strategic priorities. We delivered the best performance in global markets in a decade," Mr Solomon said. Mr Solomon said the global economic recovery will depend on the progress around Covid-19.

He said while the roll out of vaccines is well underway in the US and the UK, the distribution has been challenged in a number of other countries. "We remain vigilant to risks across markets. We are mindful of elevated valuation levels across certain asset classes, increased volatility in certain single name stocks and are aware of the inflationary risks."

Individual investors raise public debt stake by 41pc

NAIROBI

INDIVIDUAL investors and private firms have raised their investment in government debt by nearly half since the beginning of the current fiscal year, pointing to the growing popularity of bonds as an investment option among Kenyans.

Central Bank of Kenya's latest data on holders of domestic debt shows that the class of investors comprising saccos, listed and private companies, self-help groups, educational institutions, religious institutions and individuals have raised their holdings of state debt by 41 per cent or Sh57 billion since July 1, to Sh194.9 billion. The total stock of government domestic debt stood at Sh3.57 trillion as at April 9.

During the Covid-19 economic downturn, investors have increasingly turned to fixed income investments—mainly government bonds—in search of returns due to the poor performance of other investment classes.

The securities are paying interest rates ranging from 7.1 per cent on the shortest tenor to 13 per cent for long-term paper, which is well above the average returns from the stock market and bank deposit rates. Lending to government has for a long time been associated with large institutional investors such as banks and pension funds, which have the advantage of aggregating funds and are thus able to bid large amounts.

Other investors such as self-help groups and investment clubs had been more active in the equities market in the past, but with the NSE currently in a prolonged bear run, they have been turning their



Central Bank of Kenya governor, Patrick Njoroge.

attention to the bonds market.

The pace of new lending to government by these investors relative to their outstanding amount at the beginning of the fiscal year in July 2020 has therefore outstripped that of pension funds, insurance firms, banks and parastatals.

Insurance firms have grown their lend-

ing to government by 22.2 per cent to Sh234.9 billion, while pension funds have seen their debt holding go up by 17.7 per cent to Sh1.09 trillion. Parastatals have grown their outstanding government debt portfolio by 8.9 per cent to 198.2 billion, while that of banks is up by 6.6 per cent to Sh1.86 trillion.

MARKETTRENDS

Nedbank introduces electronic payments on WhatsApp

JOHANNESBURG

NEDBANK, working with Mastercard and South African fintech player Ukheshe, has launched the ability for banking clients to make payments to businesses in Facebook-owned messaging platform WhatsApp.

The new offering, called Money Message, lets small and micro businesses receive secure in-chat payments from their customers via WhatsApp. It has been specifically developed to process payments for merchants and small businesses, Nedbank said. The solution allows merchants to send an invoice requesting a payment from any customer through WhatsApp. The customer, in turn, can settle a payment directly in the app.

"To support entrepreneurship and sustainable business growth across all markets, we need to deliver low-cost, accessible and flexible solutions that leverage widely accessible technologies," said Nedbank emerging payments executive Chipo Mushwana in a statement on Wednesday. "Money Message looks to overcome a variety of cost, security and technical barriers by enabling micro merchants and their customers to transact with each other easily on an existing platform, which is WhatsApp."

Anyone with a valid South African identity document and South African bank account can access Money Message. Merchants will first need to register for the service. The business owner sends a request-to-pay message to the customer and for first-time users, a notification is sent via SMS prompting them to register. The customer enters their name and registers their card details to make the payment securely. This means that customers can make secure, cardless payments via their cellphone numbers or QR codes.

A beta version of Money Message has been available to a small selection of micro merchants for just over a month and the product will gradually be rolled out to the broader market during the rest of the year.

Financial institutions have a crucial role to play in financial literacy campaign

By Omari Mtiga

THE local banking sector is changing rapidly with visible transformation brought about by digitization, fintech, increasing regulatory reforms such as; financial consumer protection regulations and foreign exchange directives that were issued by Bank of Tanzania in 2020 hence triggering fierce competition in the market.

These developments have made banks to become innovative while offering new and old financial products and services to meet dynamic customers' demands. This diversity of financial products and services has increased the need for financial literacy among customers.

I would like to pose a challenge to the 'The Guardian' reader. Imagine that the interest rate on your savings account is one percent a year and inflation is two percent a year, after one year, would the money in the account buy more than it does today, exactly the same or less than today? Simple question right! However, it's likely that most of us will not get the correct answer. This test solidifies the fact that there is a lot to learn about financials.

Financial education provides customers with the knowledge and skills needed to make sound decisions in order to create and secure financial wealth. Banks can also benefit from financial education in several ways. For example, at a time when there is high competition in retail banking, tailored client-centric financial education programs can open new roads into untapped populations, like, rural farmers, small-scale businesses, and informal saving groups and associations.

It goes without saying that banks and other financial institutions play a crucial role in promoting financial literacy. According to Bank of Tanzania, as of September 2020, the country had a total of 49 banks, with numerous branches spread across making them best placed to roll out financial education campaigns.

Stanbic Bank Tanzania is trailblazing the banking sector in this regard. In 2020, the bank initiated a free zoom financial education webinar under the theme, 'A journey towards financial wealth,' aimed at equipping society with skills needed to generate and expand their income.



There is no better way to demonstrate commitment than through understanding the customer and working together to create programs geared towards life-long learning, partnership, and financial growth. The impact of financial literacy is far-reaching and can support individuals and companies to grow thereby having a positive impact on Tanzania's economy.

In fact, according to the National Financial Education Framework (N-FEF) 2016-2020,

financial education has the potential to contribute towards the broader goals of the Financial Inclusion Framework by improving the levels of financial capability of the population.

Financial Sector Deepening Tanzania (FSDT) highlights that almost six in 10 adults (56 percent in Tanzania are financially included, which makes access to financial education an effective tool in promoting financial inclusion.

But the big question is, what more can the banking sector do to improve financial literacy? Stanbic Bank Tanzania believes that the solution is to increase awareness and develop financial education programs, tailored for different demographic groups, developing public skills in terms of financial capacity, and promote cooperation among financial institutions in providing financial education.

In 2021, Stanbic Bank is deepening its work on financial education, particularly in the area of creating wealth. It will examine in more detail the important role of financial education in increasing consumer awareness and understanding of financial issues, including how they can best benefit from the products and services provided by banks and other financial institutions.

Omari Mtiga (pictured) is the Stanbic Bank Head of Personal and Business Banking

Crypto craze fuels Dogecoin rise from joke to \$50bn



Representations of the Ripple, Bitcoin, Ethereum and Litecoin virtual currencies are seen on motherboard in this illustration picture.

NEW YORK

WHILE Coinbase Global captured the headlines with its market debut, the frenzy around digital tokens is taking its zaniest turn yet in the price of a token created as a joke.

Dogecoin, boosted by the likes of Elon Musk and Mark Cuban, rallied roughly 180 per cent Friday, according to CoinMarketCap.com, reaching a market value of more than \$48 billion. It's now up 18,000 per cent from a year ago, when it traded for \$0.002 and was worth about \$250 million.

Doge's surge is part of a rise in altcoins, a term for all the digital tokens that have sprang up in imitation of Bitcoin. Like most of them, its use case is limited, making it a tool for speculators and raising concern that a bubble is inflating in a crypto world now worth more than \$2.25 trillion.

"This reminds me of the dot-com days. We knew something big was going on, a lot of investors were chasing it hard. That led to a bubble," Scott Knapp, chief market strategist at CUNA Mutual Group, said. "For every Amazon.com there were 10 pets.com that went bankrupt. Is Dogecoin the pets.com of the cryptocurrency era?"

Interest in crypto is on the rise again after companies from PayPal to Square started enabling transactions in Bitcoin on their systems, and Wall Street firms like Morgan Stanley began providing access to the tokens to some of the wealthiest clients. All along, crypto diehards who say the blockchain technology will rewire the financial community have been plugging crypto, becoming rich in the process.

The Shiba-Inu themed Dogecoin was created as a joke by software engineers Billy Markus and Jackson Palmer in 2013. Mr Musk sparked a rally in it earlier this year when he posted a photo of a faux

magazine Dogue featuring a dog in a red sweater.

But Michael Novogratz, chief executive of Galaxy Digital Holdings, isn't buying the hype, since Dogecoin "doesn't really have a purpose." "It's reminiscent of GameStop," he said in an interview with Bloomberg TV, referring to the meme stock mania that gripped markets in February. "I would be very, very worried if one of my friends was investing in Dogecoin at these prices."

With little to back up the case for buying cryptocurrencies, the likelihood of them cratering remains high, leaving novice traders who jumped in on the hype vulnerable to steep losses. "The government has pumped so much monetary and fiscal stimulus into the economy now, even worthless assets are being bid up," said Michael O'Rourke, chief market strategist at JonesTrading.

Yet altcoin popularity is hard to ignore. While Bitcoin is worth more than \$1tn, the total market cap of the token universe now exceeds \$2.25tn, according to CoinGecko.com, which tracks more than 6,700 coins.

Bitcoin's dominance in the crypto world has declined 28 per cent since the beginning of the year, according to OKEX Insights Analyst Robbie Liu, citing data from Tradingview. The waning influence started to accelerate this month and Bitcoin now accounts for less than 54 per cent of the crypto market capitalisation - the lowest level in about two years.

"On the altcoins front, we continue to see strong momentum," said Pankaj Balani, chief executive of Delta Exchange, a leading crypto derivatives exchange. He noted Ether's recent record and increased activity in decentralised finance, or DeFi, and added that "decentralised exchange coins will be in focus in the next few days, given that the market has validated Coinbase at a \$100 billion valuation."

Other tokens with shaky to no fundamentals are also rising. Cardano and Polkadot, both in the top 10 cryptocurrencies by market cap, have surged this week. "Polkadot and Cardano have very few 'users'," said Shashwat Gupta, founder of Altcoinbuzz.io, though he added that there's a substantial amount of development being built on them.

And it looks like Coinbase chief executive Brian Armstrong may have been on to something when he said after the listing that it marks a "shift in legitimacy" for crypto. The Coinbase listing "ultimately will deliver more 'use cases' for cryptos and should keep the crypto market growing," said Edward Moya, senior market analyst for North America at Oanda Corp.

BANKING & FINANCE

Mminele exit: Absa board faces serious questions

JOHANNESBURG

THE manner in which Absa Group chief executive Daniel Mminele resigned on Tuesday shocked the market. On Friday, Business Report hinted at a disagreement between the former CEO and the board. "Heated talks" last week failed to result in any agreement. Then on Tuesday morning, Business Live all but confirmed Mminele's departure.

The bank was forced to issue a statement at 9am, euphemistically titled Discussions with Group Chief Executive, which confirmed that: "Mminele and the Boards [of the Group and the Bank] are working on a suitable separation arrangement and a further announcement will be published shortly after midday."

It was clear by then that Mminele's working relationship with the board had deteriorated to such an extent that neither party could see a way forward. Speculation is rife that Absa Group chair Wendy Lucas-Bull and the board were unhappy with changes Mminele

wanted to make to the group's strategy.

Group's statement

When announcing on Sens just before 1pm that he would step down, the group said it "has become clear to the parties that there is non-alignment on matters of strategy and culture transformation". The inclusion of these last two words is telling.

Group FD Jason Quinn will take over as interim CEO with immediate effect, pending South African Reserve Bank approval. But the problems predate all this - by quite some margin. The issues started in February 2019 when the board was seemingly blindsided by then Group CEO Maria Ramos's decision to "retire" at the end of that month.

Prescience

At that time, Moneyweb argued that the absence of a clear succession strategy was a failure of the board. The problem the group found itself in, rather predictably, was that Ramos had "moulded the new Absa Group in her



Absa Group chair, Wendy Lucas-Bull.

image." The "rebrand, the strategy, and the executive team" were "all her choices (she'll tell you there was broad consultation, which there was, but this is Maria's Absa)." It was clear as day then that the new CEO would "inherit" all of these choices.

"What if, for argument's sake, the new CEO wanted someone else to run (read: turn around) the retail bank? Why on earth would an experienced executive take the toughest job in South African banking, only to be judged on a plan developed by their predecessor?!" And so the bank then found itself with a convoluted 'solution' where non-executive director René van Wyk was asked to take over as interim CEO from March 2019 to January 2020.

The board clearly wanted Mminele as CEO, despite a number of other credible candidates for the role. Evidence of this was that it was prepared to wait for his six-month cool-off period following his departure from the SA Reserve Bank. That he was the bank and therefore the board's preferred candidate was evident from the various leaks towards the start of this "gardening leave."

'Considerable regret'

In a statement announcing his departure, Lucas-Bull references that: "The Board was very excited about Daniel's appointment and the positive role he was going to play at Absa. It is a matter of considerable regret that we reached this position. The parting of ways merely reflects divergent professional views and approaches, and is on a 'no fault' basis." Mminele was up to the challenge of leading Absa Group, despite Hilton Tarrant arguing on Moneyweb that he faced an "unenviable task" in the role.

Experienced central bankers have many options open to them when moving on, almost all far easier and less stressful than running Absa. This remains the toughest job in South African banking, made impossible by the fact that any taker inherits a strategy, path, group structure, executive team and brand set by Ramos ahead of her sudden exit.

WORLD

US jury finds Chauvin guilty of all three charges over death of George Floyd

WASHINGTON

Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was found guilty of two counts of murder and one count of manslaughter over the death of George Floyd, the judge presiding over the high-profile trial announced Tuesday, reading the jury's verdict.

Right after judge Peter Cahill announced the verdict, which came after the 12-member jury was sequestered Monday afternoon and deliberated for about 10 hours, Chauvin, who listened in the courtroom, was handcuffed and taken into custody by the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.

The jurors found Chauvin, a white man, guilty of second-degree murder, third-degree murder and second degree manslaughter, all three counts he was charged with over the killing of black man Floyd. Chauvin pleaded not guilty

to all of the charges.

Chauvin would face presumptive prison sentences of 12.5 years for the second-degree murder charge, 12.5 years for the third-degree murder charge, and four years for the second-degree manslaughter charge, according to Minnesota sentencing guidelines.

Since Chauvin has no previous criminal record, he would avoid the maximum sentence for each of the three charges, which is 40 years for second-degree murder, 25 years for third-degree murder, and 10 years for second-degree manslaughter. Prosecutors, though, said they will seek a harsher sentence.

Cahill revoked Chauvin's bail after the conviction and said the defendant will be sentenced "eight weeks from now."

"This case is a turning point in American history for accountability of law enforcement and sends a clear message we hope is heard clearly in every



Derek Chauvin

city and every state," Ben Crump, an attorney for Floyd's family, said in a statement.

President Joe Biden, in a phone call with Floyd's family that Crump recorded and posted on Twitter, pledged to accomplish meaningful police reform and told them that "nothing is going to make it all better, but at least now there's some justice."

Vice President Kamala Harris, who was also on the phone call, said: "We are going to make something good come out of this tragedy." Biden and Harris are expected to give remarks on the verdict later in the evening.

Biden said earlier in the day that he was praying for the "right verdict," comments that immediately drew concerns over possible intervention by elected officials into the highly publicized trial. The White House said Biden didn't intend to influence

the trial's outcome.

Between now and the day when the sentencing is announced, according to Cahill, the court would look at written arguments from Chauvin "within one week" and issue factual findings on it, according to Cahill.

Then the court will order a pre-sentencing investigation report, "returnable in four weeks," followed by a briefing on the pre-sentencing investigation report six weeks from now, Cahill said.

It was not immediately clear whether Chauvin's attorney, Eric Nelson, would appeal. But if he does so, he could base his argument on the potential improper influence of extensive media coverage of the case and the trial, or more particularly, the influence of public comments by politicians, including those incendiary ones by Democratic congresswoman Maxine Waters over the weekend that Nelson claimed were "threatening and intimidating."

Waters urged protesters to be more "confrontational" if Chauvin was acquitted in the trial, comments that led to calls from Congressional Republicans for her to be censured. Just before the verdict was released, the Democratic-controlled House voted along party lines to table a vote on a resolution to censure Waters.

Once the defense attorney files an appeal, a state court of appeals would review the case and make the final decision, or it could send the case back to trial for additional proceedings. The defense could also request the Minnesota Supreme Court review the case.

Putin vows Russia will always uphold its spiritual and moral values

MOSCOW

SPIRITUAL and moral values, which some countries are beginning to forget about, only make the Russian people stronger, Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday in his annual State of the Nation Address to the Federal Assembly.

He noted that throughout history, the people of Russia had triumphed over their trials and tribulations thanks to their unity.

"And today, family, friendship, mutual assistance, and compassion have come to the fore for us. Spiritual and moral values, which some countries are forgetting about, have, on the contrary, made us stronger, and we will always uphold and protect these values," Putin pledged.

He noted that, during the pandemic, the solidarity of Russia's residents had manifested itself in specific deeds, such as taking care of loved ones, and people's willingness to help those in need.

Millions of people became volunteers, and the We Are Together national campaign has brought together individuals from all walks of life, the Russian president noted.

Putin added that the service of representatives of traditional religions had become "the spiritual backbone of society, as it always was in difficult times."

That said, the head of state addressed the clergy present in the hall, "I would like to take a deep bow before you all. Thank you very much."



Ohio police kill Black teenage girl seen threatening others with knife

POLICE in Columbus, Ohio, on Tuesday fatally shot a Black teenage girl they confronted as she lunged at two people with a knife, as seen in police video footage of the encounter, authorities said.

The incident, sparking street protests in Ohio's largest city, came as the nation was focused on the guilty verdict a Minneapolis jury returned against a white former Minneapolis police officer charged with murdering George Floyd last year by kneeling on his neck.

Releasing police body-camera video of Tuesday's shooting hours later, the interim Columbus police chief, Michael Woods, said officers involved there were responding to an emergency-911 call from someone who reported an attempted stabbing at a home on the city's southeast side.

Arriving police encountered a chaotic scene of several people on the front lawn where the teenager in question, brandishing a knife, charged toward one female who falls backwards, then lunged at a second female, the video showed.

A slow-motion replay of the video shows the second victim stumbling backward against a car parked in the driveway as the knife-wielding youth raises the weapon as if about to stab her, and an officer opens fire.

The teenager immediately collapses against the parked car and onto the ground, and the weapon, which appears to be a kitchen-style knife, is seen lying on the pavement near her as an officer crouches at her side to render medical aid.

Authorities described the youth who was fatally shot as a 15-year-old girl. But family members have identified her as Makiyah Bryant, aged 16.

The police chief said the video, which he said shows the slain teenager trying to stab both females, was released to the public within hours of the incident in the interest of "transparency."

The officer who opened fire was not identified but appears from the video to be white. The chief said he "would be taken off the street" pending an investigation.

Around the time the video was made public, live television news coverage showed a growing crowd of protesters on city streets after dark, confronting a small line of police officers on bicycles.

The demonstration appeared from media coverage to be peaceful, with protesters repeatedly chanting the girl's name.

The Columbus Dispatch reported that demonstrators had gathered near the scene of the shooting earlier in the day.

Woods said the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) had opened an inquiry into the case. The city's public safety director, Ned Pettus, Jr., appealed for calm while the investigation proceeds and facts are uncovered in what he called "a devastating" loss of life.

"Fast, quick answers cannot come at the cost of accurate answers," Pettus told a late news conference with the police chief and mayor. "BCI will conduct a fully independent investigation, which will be made public. If an officer has violated policy or the law, if they have, they will be held accountable."

Agencies

Scientist surprised by WHO chief's remarks on virus origin

A SCIENTIST who took part in the international team studying the origins of COVID-19 has expressed surprise and dissatisfaction at remarks made by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom over the hypothesis that the virus leaked from a laboratory in China.

If the next phase of global source tracing for the virus comes to a deadlock, the WHO must assume its due responsibility, said the scientist, who requested anonymity.

The response from the scientist came after Tedros said in a briefing on March 30 that although the team has concluded a laboratory leak is the least likely hypothesis, "this requires further investigation, potentially with additional missions involving specialist experts".

He added he is ready to deploy an additional mission, and "all hypotheses remain on the table" as far as WHO is concerned.

The WHO director-general has disregarded the hard-won research outcomes and con-



sensuses among the international science community in his remarks, the scientist said.

"It should not be a position held by the WHO," he said, adding pressure from the United States and the WHO hierarchy was palpable during the communication process with international colleagues.

He added there are some forces harboring ulterior motives using Tedros' remarks to question the authority and scientific nature of the report from the international team. "Experts from the joint team are all very worried and dissatisfied."

An international team of sci-

entists visited Wuhan between Jan 14 and Feb 10 to conduct a COVID-19 origin-tracing study, before releasing a 120-page report on March 30 saying the virus most probably jumped from an animal, potentially a bat or pangolin, to an unknown intermediate animal host and then to humans.

The scientist said he did not understand why the WHO chief would make such a statement in spite of the research and consensus among experts.

He explained the hypothesis that the virus emerged from a lab leak was without any scientific basis in the first place, and

this was a virtually a consensus among the international scientific community.

However, in the spirit of upholding respect to science and with an attitude of staying highly responsible to the source-tracing work, the joint expert team conducted careful research over all relevant hypotheses, the scientist said.

There could only be two hypotheses over the laboratory theory, one being the virus was artificially synthesized and the other being it was leaked.

The hypotheses the virus was artificially synthesized has already been proven to be impossible under current technological conditions, while the hypotheses about a lab leak can only exist if Chinese labs have the virus in storage.

"If the virus cannot be synthesized within a lab, then how can it be leaked?" he said.

He noted the international expert team visited the Wuhan Institute of Virology with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and centers for disease control

and prevention in Hubei and Wuhan to learn about the protocols of the lab management and operations and to hold discussions with relevant experts.

The team even conducted antibody tests on the lab workers, and all samples were negative, he said, adding this is more than adequate evidence to prove such speculations are groundless.

He also refuted Tedros' remarks that members of the international team expressed the difficulties they encountered in accessing raw data, saying Chinese and WHO experts have been conducting joint research and analysis on data in Wuhan.

"There is no difference for Chinese and foreign experts in access to data.

The international expert team has expressed their full understanding, and the two sides have conducted frank exchanges.

There were no difficulties over the issue as the director-general has described."

Xinhua

S. Korean court dismisses 'comfort women' case against Japan

SEOUL

A South Korean court yesterday ruled against the South Korean sex slavery victims during World War II demanding damages from the Japanese government, contradicting a ruling rendered by the same court three months earlier.

A judge at the Seoul Central District Court dismissed the case brought by 20 wartime sex enslavement victims, euphemistically called "comfort women," and their bereaved families, citing a sovereign im-

munity that allows a state to be immune from civil suit in foreign courts.

The court ruled that if any exception of the sovereign immunity is accepted, a diplomatic conflict can be inevitable, saying the 2015 agreement, reached by South Korea and Japan, met diplomatic requirements though opinion was not collected from the victims in the process of negotiations.

Seoul and Tokyo agreed in December 2015 to "finally and irreversibly" settle the issue on Korean women, who were

forced into sexual slavery for the Imperial Japan's military brothels under the 1910-45 Japanese colonization of the Korean Peninsula.

A Japan-funded foundation for the comfort women was launched in Seoul in July 2016, but it was dissolved three years later under harsh criticism from the victims and civic activists who demanded sincere apology and legal responsibility of the Japanese government.

The Seoul court's ruling was in a stark contrast to the verdict handed down by a differ-

ent judge at the same court, which ordered the Japanese government in January to pay reparations of 100 million won (about 90,000 U.S. dollars) to each of 12 plaintiffs.

The 12 plaintiffs filed a petition for dispute settlement with a court in August 2013, but the damages claim suit was referred to the Seoul court in January 2016 as the Japanese government declined to officially receive the civil case petition. The first hearing was held in April 2020.

When the Seoul court ruled in favor of the 12 victims, it

said the sovereign immunity cannot be applied to the case as the illegal acts, which the plaintiffs suffered from, were crimes against humanity committed by the Imperial Japan deliberately, widely and systematically.

Lee Yong-soo, one of the few surviving South Korean comfort women victims and also one of the 20 plaintiffs who lost the damages claim suit against the Japanese government, was quoted by local media as saying the ruling was "ridiculous."

Xinhua

China's human rights development acknowledged at six online side-events to 46th session of UN Human Rights Council

CHINA'S endeavours and achievements in promoting and protecting human rights attracted great attention and were generally acknowledged during six seminars held on the sidelines of the 46th regular session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) recently via video link.

Officials with relevant social organizations and human rights experts and scholars from dozens of countries, including China, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia, Nepal, and South Africa, conducted extensive and in-depth discussions and exchanges during the webinars, which were organized by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Chinese Association for Interna-

tional Understanding (CAFIU) and other human rights research institutions at home and abroad.

During a seminar on employment and labor rights in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, experts agreed that Xinjiang's various policies and practices concerning employment and job security comply with China's Constitution and relevant laws, accord with international labor and human rights standards, and have effectively guaranteed the rights to life and development of all ethnic groups.

Nilufer Gheyret, a Ph.D. candidate at the Communication University of China, has conducted a survey among 70 employees of Xinjiang's ethnic minority groups working

in five enterprises in south China's Guangdong province.

The results of her survey, which were shared at the seminar on employment and labor rights in Xinjiang, showed that these workers from Xinjiang chose to work in enterprises voluntarily, and that all their labor rights have been fully guaranteed.

Working outside of Xinjiang has also helped them increase their family incomes, broaden their horizons, improve their language skills and vocational and technical skills, according to the respondents.

At a webinar on poverty alleviation and culture preservation in southwest China's Tibet autonomous region, experts pointed out

that by adhering to the country's targeted poverty alleviation strategy,

Tibet has secured historic results in poverty reduction and greatly guaranteed the rights to life and development for people of all ethnic groups under the support of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese government.

Participants at the symposium discussed the successful practices and cases in Tibet's poverty alleviation and cultural protection efforts, which Zheng Dui, director-general of the China Tibetology Research Center, believes can help the international community see through the slanderous remarks made by some people against Tibet.

Dr. Sarbottam Shrestha, president of the Arniko Society in Nepal, noted at the symposium that the Chinese government is committed to protecting traditional Tibetan culture and respects the Tibetan people's love for traditional culture.

Experts participated in a webinar on exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations and promotion of human rights protection reached a consensus that jointly tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges faced by mankind requires people of all countries to deepen mutual understanding and maintain mutual trust and unity.

China's remarkable achievements in economic and social de-

velopment have not only greatly improved the quality of Chinese people's lives, but also provided huge opportunities for other countries, said Garth Shelton, director of the East Asia Project at the Wits University in South Africa, who considers striving for such achievements exactly a way of respecting to and protecting human rights.

Yilixinna, a woman of the Uygur ethnic group with the CAFIU, shared stories about how the generations of her grandmother, mother and herself of the Uygur ethnic group enjoyed education and found jobs at a seminar on the development and human rights protection of ethnic minority groups in China.

People's Daily

Hackers from abroad tried to steal Russian coronavirus vaccine inventions – FSB

MOSCOW

HACKERS from abroad tried to steal Russian coronavirus vaccine inventions, Deputy Director of the National Coordination Center for Computer Incidents set up by the Federal Security Service (FSB) Nikolai Murashov said yesterday.

"The perpetrators showed special interest in the results of scientific studies and Russian coronavirus vaccine inventions," he said at the conference on IT security Infoforum in Yaroslavl.

The data gathered by the National Coordination Center for Computer Incidents for 2020 indicate that most computer attacks on the Russian information space were carried out from abroad, mostly from the territory of the United States, China, Germany and the Netherlands, Murashov noted.

The hackers targeted state governance, financial, defense industry, scientific, educational, healthcare and transport entities.

As their priority task, foreign special services sought to obtain access to protected information and disrupt the operation of vital information infrastructure, he said.

The remote work regime introduced during the period of the pandemic prompted an increase in cyberattacks on the staff's remote access services. In particular, the hackers made intrusions into computers with malware to steal valuable information, he said.

Apple unveils new products, credit card service, podcasts subscriptions

SAN FRANCISCO

APPLE on Tuesday unveiled its new iPad Pro, iMac models, iPhone 12 in the purple finish, along with Apple TV 4K, AirTag, Apple Card Family service, and podcasts subscriptions during its virtual Spring 2021 event.

The new generation of iPad Pro features 5G and the company's own-designed M1 chip. With a new Ultra Wide front camera, the new 11-inch and 12.9-inch iPad Pro will be available in silver and space gray finishes. The new device also supports Thunderbolt. The 12.9-inch iPad Pro features a new Liquid Retina XDR display.

"The revolutionary M1 chip has been a breakthrough for the Mac, and we're incredibly excited to bring it to iPad Pro," said Greg Joswiak, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Marketing.

Featuring a more compact and 11.5 millimeters thin design and enabled by the M1 chip, the new iMac has a 24-inch 4.5K Retina display with 11.3 million pixels.

It also includes a 1080p FaceTime HD camera and a six-speaker sound system. The Touch ID comes to iMac for the first time. "M1 is a gigantic leap forward for the Mac," said Joswiak.

The new iPad Pro and iMac will be available to order beginning April 30 in 31 countries and regions including the United States and China, and will be available in the second half of May.

Apple also unveiled a purple finish for its iPhone 12 and iPhone 12 mini. Both models feature a dual-camera system with Super Retina XDR displays, an Apple-designed A14 Bionic chip, and 5G, the company said.

"The new purple finish, just in time for spring, adds another bright and fun option to the lineup, and we think customers are going to love it," said Joswiak.

The AirTag is an accessory that helps keep track of and find the items with Apple's Find My app while keeping location data private and anonymous with end-to-end encryption.

Apple said. Third-party products and accessories can add support for finding with the new Find My network accessory programme.

Customers can order the new purple iPhone and AirTag beginning Friday, April 23, and they will be available beginning Friday, April 30. The new generation of Apple TV 4K is equipped with the A12 Bionic chip, delivering high frame rate High Dynamic Range (HDR) with Dolby Vision. It enables fast-moving action at 60 frames per second (fps) to play more smoothly.

650,000 children in 3 African countries vaccinated against malaria - WHO

NAIROBI

MORE than 650,000 children in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi have received the malaria vaccine in the last two years since its launch, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday ahead of World Malaria Day to be marked on April 25.

Kate O'Brien, WHO director of the Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals said the three African countries have established robust infrastructure to ensure that children are inoculated against the tropical disease. "Ghana, Kenya and Malawi show that existing childhood vaccination platforms can effectively deliver the malaria vaccine to children, some of whom have not been able to access insecticide-treated bed net or other malaria prevention measures," she said in a statement issued in Nairobi.

"This vaccine may be key to making malaria prevention more equitable and saving more lives," she added.

More than 1.7 million doses of the world's first malaria vaccine candidate called RTS,S have been administered in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi during the pilot phase that was launched in 2019.

"In some ways, malaria is the child health emergency of a lifetime-or many lifetimes- in Africa," said Akpaka Kalu, team leader for tropical and vector-borne diseases in the WHO African region.

"We applaud the work of participating countries that has resulted in malaria vaccine pilots with strong vaccination coverage that will add to our understanding of the RTS,S vaccine's potential to improve child health and strengthen malaria control and, potentially reverse trends," Kalu added.

Xinhua

Dumping reactor water 'extremely irresponsible'

CHINESE experts have condemned Japan's unilateral decision to discharge contaminated water into the Pacific Ocean, calling it "extremely irresponsible".

Dumping the contaminated water that resulted from the 2011 accident at the Fukushima nuclear plant is not Japan's only option, said Liu Senlin, a researcher with the China Institute of Atomic Energy.

Japan's decision to release the contaminated water is extremely irresponsible, Liu said. The choice, which involves the lowest economic cost to Japan, was made before seeking consensus with the international community and stakeholders, and before exhausting all available options.

Liu said there are several other options for contaminated wastewater disposal which include burying it underground or evaporating it into the air, but Japan opted for the cheapest plan.

"The decision passes the responsibility that should be borne by Japan itself to the whole world, setting a very bad precedent," he noted.

The ultimate responsibility for ensuring safety of spent fuel and radioactive waste management rests with the state, he said.

Japan should implement prudent measures in a manner that takes responsibility for its own people and the international community, said Liu, adding it should choose the best way to dispose of the contaminated wastewater with participation and supervision from stakeholders.

It is also doubtful that Japan's treated reactor water truly meets discharge standards, said Zhao Chengkun, an expert with the China Nuclear Energy Association.

As of the end of 2019, more than 70 percent of the contaminated wastewater still exceeded Japan's discharge standards after treatment, said a report from an organization researching the treatment of reactor water from the Fukushima nuclear accident.

Standard met?

Tokyo Electric Power Company, the operator handling the contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear accident, also has a record of covering up and falsifying information, Zhao said.

Liu Xinhua, a researcher with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, added there is a fundamental difference between contaminated wastewater arising from the Fukushima nuclear plant accident and liquid effluents from the normal operation of nuclear power plants in terms of source, radionuclide type and processing difficulty.



Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant is seen from Namie town, Fukushima prefecture, north of Tokyo on April 13, 2021. Japan's government said on Tuesday it has decided to start releasing massive amounts of radioactive water stored in tanks at the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant in two years after treatment. (AP)

The liquid waste to be discharged after the Fukushima

accident contains radionuclides and extremely toxic transuranic elements such as plutonium and americium. Liquid effluents discharged normally from nuclear power plants do not directly come in contact with the fuel pellets and barely have the transuranic elements, Liu said.

China sees robust growth of smart appliance market



Citizens exercise on smart fitness equipment that can record exercise time and physical indexes in Changxing County, east China's Zhejiang Province, Jan. 13, 2021. File Photo

CHINA'S smart home appliance industry embraced rapid development in recent years. Around 82.4 percent of Chinese families used smart appliances last year, up by 15.1 percentage points from 2019, according to data analytics firm All View Cloud.

Today, vacuum robots are freeing people from the daily grind of household chores; smart locks allow people to unbolt the doors with their fingerprints; intelligent speakers can play not only music, but also radio dramas upon voice command.

"We'll have a peace of mind even when our kids and parents are home alone," said a woman surnamed Wang living in Chaoyang District, Beijing who has recently installed a smart camera at home. The device enables her to see what happens in every corner of her house on a mobile application when she's out, and she can even speak to her families through the camera.

According to statistics, China is home to a total of 5,759 firms related to smart speakers.

Smart appliances enjoy a very high reputation among Chinese consumers. Liu Qian, associate researcher with China Center for Internet Economy Research, Central University of Finance and Economics, explained that smart appliances, aiming to make home management more efficient, can tangibly improve the life quality of users.

"With the application of 5G technology, as well as the integration of artificial intelligence and internet of things, the functions of these appliances will be further enhanced, thus attracting more consumers," she said.

A man surnamed Pan from Guigang, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, was planning to buy a smart phone for his family. "I thought my parents wouldn't agree, but the result was exactly the opposite," he said.

In the era of internet, which features efficient and highly connected logistics networks, smart appliances are no longer exclusive to citizens in first- and second-tier cities. They are more and more accepted by users from lower-tier

markets, including Pan's parents.

According to a recent report issued by Tmall, an e-commerce platform under Alibaba, Chinese families in third- and lower-tier cities are now major consumers of smart appliances and moving forward at an accelerated speed.

It indicated a change in the consumption demand of many residents, said experts. Consumers, most of whom were pragmatists in the old days, are focusing more on whether products can improve their life quality. This marks a change of consumption value, and also reflects people's attitude toward smart appliances.



People's Daily

A man surnamed Pan from Guigang, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, was planning to buy a smart phone for his family. "I thought my parents

Parliament backs Merkel's push for more lockdown control

GERMANY'S lower house of parliament backed Chancellor Angela Merkel's controversial lockdown law, as officials struggle to check a fresh wave of coronavirus infections that's putting intense pressure on hospitals.



Merkel's ruling coalition pushed the legislation through after her government failed to find common ground with regional leaders on measures needed to fight the pandemic. The law - which expires at the end of June - triggers tighter restrictions in virus hotspots, including nighttime curfews and closing schools and non-essential stores.

"We have to break this third wave" by reducing contact as far as possible, Health Minister Jens Spahn told lawmakers during a stormy Bundestag debate. "The situation is serious, very serious," Spahn added. "The scene in many hospitals remains dramatic, and some patients are having to be transferred and treatments delayed."

Merkel moved to effectively override regional authorities because the renewed surge in infections threatens to overwhelm some intensive-care units. The number of COVID-19 patients in ICUs has been rising steadily since mid-March, and is close to 5,000, not far from a peak of 5,745 scaled at the beginning of January.

The number of confirmed coronavirus cases in Germany increased by 24,884 to 3,188,192, data from the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) for infectious diseases showed on Wednesday.

The reported death toll rose by 331 to 80,634, the tally showed.

EU The European Union's (EU) long-awaited COVID-19 shot surge is finally here, raising hopes the continent can bring the pandemic under control and reopen economies faster than expected.

The inflection point came this month, with Germany nearly doubling the pace of vaccinations after an increase in supplies and the decision to let general practitioners administer doses in their regular offices. France, Italy and Spain are following a similar trajectory.

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) said it will restart deliveries of its vaccine to the EU after the bloc's drug regulator said Tuesday the benefits of the shot outweigh the risks of a possible link with cases of rare blood clots.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) noted there had been more than 300 cases worldwide of rare blood clotting incidents combined with low platelet counts after use of COVID-19 vaccines.

There were 287 occurrences with the AstraZeneca vaccine, eight with Johnson & Johnson's shot, 25 for Pfizer and five for Moderna, said Peter Arlett, head of data analytics at the EMA.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the J&J decision was "good news for the roll-out of vaccination campaigns across the EU".

SPORT



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Hassan Abbas.

Government permits musicians to freely upload works on Youtube

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S musicians, who upload their works on their personal Youtube accounts, will not have to either register with the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) or pay fees as they did a few years ago.

The musicians have been asked to use their professionalism well in promoting their works instead of messing up on social media, given they have an influence on society.

The changes were announced on April 19 by Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Hassan Abbas, at a meeting with officials of the Tanzania Film Federation (TAFF).

Abbas reminded the artistes that they have all seen what was going on on social media in recent days and explained that it kills music and the artistes.

"Today even companies that have begun to confidence in artistes have and artists have started showcasing hesitation, respect art, given it is life and this will build respect for them instead of negative portrayal, 'dirty cookies,' he disclosed.

In search of stunts, he noted the artistes are taking away the trust of the community that they have built at great cost and longevity and had seen them achieve a lot.

Abbas moreover said his ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and TCRA had agreed to do opt out of punishing musicians, when the latter upload their works, so that the musicians and other non-news content stakeholders could broadcast their work without charge.

He made the issue public in response to the 1m/- fine musicians were previously paying for posting their songs on Youtube.

The move, he said, stemmed from the importance of allowing musicians to use these platforms to promote their works in the country and increase their income-generating opportunities.

"We have talked to our colleagues about the content of online TV, we have seen there is a huge difference between news and art. So, we will improve the code, we have seen artistes have to do their work for free. I am happy to tell you from now on whether it is music or film artists this challenge has come to an end," he disclosed.

Simba SC forward now seeks to impress Gomes

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC striker Charles Ilanfy, who is on loan at Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, has said that he has high hopes of doing well and persuading his parent club's head coach Didier Gomes to bring him back into the squad.

Ilanfy was sent to KMC FC on a six-month loan during the reign of former Simba SC's head coach Belgian Sven Vandebroek in a mini transfer window in January.

The move was deployed after the muscular player had endured a difficult time finding a place in Simba SC's first team.

Vandebroek regularly fielded in-from forwards, Chris Mugalu, Meddie Kagere and John Bocco, leaving Ilanfy on the bench.

Ilanfy turned out for Simba SC in one top flight game against Rukwa-based Tanzania Prisons.

The match, which took place in Rukwa on October 22 last year, saw the hosts edge the visitors 1-0 with towering forward Samson Mbangula scoring the lone goal for Prisons.

Commenting on his goals, Ilanfy said: "I left Simba SC under coach Sven Vandebroek with the aim of coming to KMC FC and getting more opportunities to play and improve."

"A lot of things have changed now, Simba SC has got a new coach and they seem to be getting stronger," he disclosed.

He opined: "This situation gives me the motivation to keep on fighting, making sure that I raise my level and get a chance to return to Simba."

The muscular attacker had previously been a prolific goal getter during his stint at KMC FC and his performance was noticed by Simba SC, which roped the attacker in.

SPORTS

Hasheem Thabeet all out to play in NBA League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIAN basketball player, Hasheem Thabeet, is looking to make USA's National Basketball Association (NBA) League comeback after his contract with Taiwan club, Hsinchu JKO Lions, expires this season.

The move was confirmed by his agent Jerry Dianis.

The 7'3" center just won MVP honours while playing for the Taiwan club, Lions, this season.

Dianis said: "Bottom line Hasheem Thabeet was given a opportunity, and he killed it."

He disclosed: "The MVP performance with career highs in points, rebounds, minutes played, assists and steals. Thabeet averaged 18.3 points, 14.3 rebounds and 3.3 blocks per game."

"With the recent conclusion of his season in Taiwan, Hasheem is an unrestricted free agent," Dianis added.

He noted: "He is in the best shape of his life as certified by his recent MVP performance."

He stated: "Hasheem looks forward to helping an NBA League team that needs his athleticism and size off the bench. I have no doubt Hasheem will be inundated with worldwide opportunities."

Thabeet most recently played for the Oklahoma City Thunder in the NBA League in 2014.

He has played for the Memphis Grizzlies (most notably), Portland Trail Blazers, and Rockets.

The most recent team he played for in America was the Fort Wayne Mad Ants in 2019.

After being drafted in the first round of the G-League draft that season he played nine games in for the Mad Ants and averaged 1.7 blocks per game in just over 16 minutes per game.

Thabeet is in great shape, and there is a good reason to believe that he could help an NBA League team off the bench.

Should any of NBA League outfits want to recruit Thabeet, they have to hurry because another team could rope him in, and it would be a shame



Hasheem Thabeet

not to boost the club's chances of lifting title.

It is hard to see who would try his luck when he has just dominated a championship light years from the NBA League by turning to fairly modest figures given the opposition: 18.3 points, 14.3 rebounds and 3.3 blocks.

Before his stint in Taiwan P League+, Thabeet has played 224 games with four different NBA League teams.

His last stint in the States came with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants—G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers during the 2019-20 season.

Drafted in second position in 2009, the Tanzanian did not enjoy his first tenure as he has not been in the league since 2014 and has career averages of 2.2 points and 2.7 rebounds in 224 games.

He was seen in the G-League with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants in 2019. He was not at all convinced turning four points, 4.3 rebounds and 1.7 against in 16.4 minutes in nine games.

However with huge improvements to his game

Thabeet, 34, still has not drawn a line on the NBA League.

The center, drafted in second position in 2009, still dreams of setting foot in the big league, he who has just been voted as MVP of the Taiwanese championship, not really a benchmark.

Pre-COVID-19, he had workouts with the Milwaukee Bucks, Denver Nuggets, Golden State Warriors, New York Knicks and Philadelphia 76ers in the last few year.

Nchimbi happy with netting goal for Yanga

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

YANGA's attacker, Ditram Nchimbi, says he was not happy when he failed to score for his outfit.

The striker scored his first goal for Yanga this season in the team's Premier League tie against Gwambina FC, which took in Dar es Salaam two days ago.

Nchimbi had yet to net a goal for his side after one year and 52 days.

The speedy attacker netted Yanga's opener in the outfit's 3-1 win over Gwambina FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

After the final whistle, Nchimbi said he was happy to score the goal and he was hurt to have failed to score in the games he had taken part in.

In Tuesday's clash, Nchimbi scored the goal on the 18th minute of the game, beating Gwambina FC keeper with a low shot from outside the area.

Yanga defensive midfielder, Mukoko Tonombe, initiated the move which led to the opener, given he executed a good pass to winger, Deus Kaseke, the latter picked Nchimbi with an equally good pass.

Nchimbi confidently collected the ball and let go of a fierce shot, which went in and left the Mwadui FC goalie sprawling on the turf.

The last time Nchimbi scored for Yanga was in the squad's 3-0 win over Mwanza's Alliance FC in Dar es Salaam on February 29 2021.

Yanga's interim head coach, Juma Mwambusi, reinstated Nchimbi in the first team in the clash against Gwambina FC.

Nchimbi's return led to Said Ntibazonkiza coming in from the bench.

Mwambusi had not made major changes to the squad compared to the one which played against Biashara United at the venue and won 1-0.

Yanga had, in the Tuesday tie,



Ditram Nchimbi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

fielded keeper Faruk Shikhalo, Kibwana Shomari, Adeyem Saleh, Dickson Job, Abdallah Shaibu, Mukoko Tonombe and Tuisila Kisinda.

Others are Carlos Fernandes, Yacouba Songne, Deus Kaseke and Nchimbi.

The substitutes were Ramadhan Kabwili, Paul Godfrey, Bakari Mwamnyeto, Said Juma, Haruna Niyonzima, Michael Sarpong and Said Ntibazonkiza.

Players, fans hail 'beautiful day for football' as Super League unravels

LONDON

PLAYERS, pundits and fans cheered a "beautiful day for football" after the breakaway European Super League unravelled with the withdrawal of the six English clubs who had signed up to the controversial competition.

Following a storm of protests and threats of sanctions from the game's European and world governing bodies, the Super League said it would "reconsider" its next steps after it was reduced to three teams each from Spain and Italy on Tuesday.

Amid reports that Italian sides Inter Milan and AC Milan had also withdrawn, former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher declared the competition dead in the water.

"Super League is finished! Well done to all fans up & down the country!" he said on social media.

Manchester City were the first to back out of the venture, before Arsenal, Manchester United, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur and Chelsea announced they were following suit.

"What a beautiful day for football. Let's keep playing, let's keep fighting, let's keep dreaming," said Manchester City defender Benjamin Mendy.

Manchester United executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward became the first casualty of the backlash, announcing his resignation shortly before his club gave up on a project he had been influential in bringing about.

Former Manchester United captain Rio Ferdinand, a fierce critic of the breakaway competition from the outset, said the teams were coming to their senses.

"Teams finally seeing sense and pulling out of the #SuperLeague ... Football is and ALWAYS will be about the fans," he said on social media.

"The fans have obviously not been a consideration at all ... dis-

grace."

"WE SAVED FOOTBALL"

Fans gathered in large numbers outside Chelsea's Stamford Bridge stadium ahead of their Premier League match against Brighton & Hove Albion to protest against the breakaway league.

They ended up chanting, "We saved football!" after reports filtered through that Chelsea was abandoning the project.

The Football Association welcomed the withdrawals of the six English clubs, saying the Super League had "threatened the whole pyramid".

"English football has a proud history of opportunity for all clubs and the game has been unanimous in its disapproval of a closed league," the FA said.

"It was a position that, by design, could have divided our game, but instead, it has unified us all."

The split in the game threatened by the Super League, and the strength of feeling it generated, led political leaders across Europe to speak out, and, in some cases, threaten intervention.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said his government would consider passing legislation to stop the breakaway, likening the plans to creating a cartel.

There is lingering anger toward the owners of the six English clubs, with some pundits suggesting their stewardship was no longer tenable.

Liverpool great Graeme Souness said supporters would not be able to forgive them despite the U-turns.

"They have been shown to sell their soul, basically," the Sky Sports pundit said.

"They were going to sell the souls of our major institutions. They were selling their souls for quick money. Our supporters will not forgive them. We are not America."

REUTERS

Super League finished: How could they get this so wrong?

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ONE of the army of public relations folks hired by the 12 clubs behind the Super League notified media late Tuesday that, after an emergency meeting, the project was "suspended." Yeah, suspended by a thread over a giant pit of derision, incompetence and failure.

By that point, five of the 12 "founder" clubs had issued statements that they were withdrawing from the competition. Another, Chelsea, withdrew within minutes. Reports elsewhere said AC Milan, Internazionale and Atletico Madrid had also opted to quit. Barcelona were reportedly on the brink.

Who was left? Juventus, who had to deny reports that chairman Andrea Agnelli had resigned. And Real Madrid. Their president, Florentino Perez, had been among the biggest cheerleaders -- he was also the Super League's chairman -- and, 24 hours earlier, had talked about how clubs would be "dead" without it and how it would save football.

He was scheduled to appear on Spanish radio to continue his charm offensive on Tuesday evening. He was a no-show. (Reportedly, he will appear Wednesday night, instead.) Thus ended the most remarkable 48 hours -- from the statement announcing the birth of the Super League on Sunday night to the mass defections two days later -- most in football can remember.

A sport that was supposed to be revolutionised by 15 of the world's biggest clubs setting up, running and, crucially, owning their own competition for the next 23 years (the length of their commitment in the contracts they signed) had suddenly returned to some semblance of normality. And the football world woke up to the reality that power doesn't just rest with the biggest, best and wealthiest teams. It's also in the hands of the institutions, players, governments, coaches and, yes, fans.

Q: So what swung it in the end? It was the fans, right?

A: The optics were evident at Leeds United vs. Liverpool on Monday night and Chelsea vs. Brighton on Tuesday. We saw Liverpool fans travel to the match, stand outside (Premier League games remain closed to fans due to the pandemic) and protest loudly alongside Leeds supporters. On Tuesday, more than 1,000 Chelsea fans blocked traffic outside of Stamford Bridge, disrupting the team bus to the point that club legend-turned-executive Petr Cech had to come out to calm them down. Moments later, Chelsea had reportedly opted out.

Those were powerful scenes, particularly after 48 hours during which reaction from media and supporters in most countries was overwhelmingly negative. But you can't discount the reaction from players and managers. On Monday night, Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp talked about how he hadn't been aware of it until the news broke. Manchester City's Pep Guardiola, talking about the guaranteed spots (and revenue) for the "founder" clubs, said on Tuesday that "it is not a sport when success is already guaranteed. ... It is not a sport when it doesn't matter whether you lose."

Players from Bruno Fernandes and Marcus Rashford at Manchester United to the entire Liverpool squad came out against it on social media. And these were all people employed by "founder" clubs. You can imagine the others.

That said, there were a lot of moving parts. And they most definitely got off on the wrong foot.

Q: Like what?

A: The initial damage, I think, came on Monday, when Borussia Dortmund, Bayern Munich and Paris Saint-Germain -- three clubs that hadn't yet signed on but were assumed to be part of the plan since three "founder



Chelsea fans voiced their displeasure about joining the Super League and ultimately, the club's brass listened. (Agencies)

spots" had been left open -- ruled themselves out. That was a big blow, because a Super League without two of the biggest and wealthiest economies in Europe was always going to be a tougher sell to prospective sponsors and broadcasters.

On that same day, UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin came out strongly against the rebel clubs that, just 72 hours earlier on Friday, had voted to approve UEFA's Champions League reforms. He called out by name people such as Agnelli and Manchester United's executive chairman Ed Woodward, using words including "snakes" and "liars." And he vowed to stand by the statement -- jointly released 24 hours earlier with the backing of leagues and federations in Italy, Spain and England -- stating that rebel clubs would be kicked out of their domestic leagues and their players barred from international competition.

He also set to work rallying institutions including the European Union and politicians such as the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and Italy, as well as the president of France. The goal was to turn up whatever regulatory heat they could, particularly in terms of the 12 clubs' continued participation in the domestic leagues.

And when, on Tuesday, UEFA received the backing of FIFA president Gianni Infantino, who reiterated that competitions had to be run on merit, it was another milestone. Ceferin and Infantino had been serious rivals in the very recent past, whereas the FIFA president is close to Real Madrid boss Perez. Some feared FIFA might "triangulate" with the clubs to undermine UEFA, but on this occasion, they stood shoulder to shoulder.

Q: These are big clubs led by smart, successful men. How could they get this so wrong?

A: Three ways.

First, they failed to "read the room." They completely misjudged what the reaction would be, from fans to media to politicians to UEFA. They expected pushback, but not to this level. One example: By Tuesday night, Liverpool legend Jamie Carragher was on television saying that owners Mike Gordon and John W. Henry should consider selling the club rather than show their face in Liverpool again. And this is an ownership group that, until last week, had been adored, partly for bringing the Champions League and Premier League titles back to Anfield, and partly for the way they were so mindful of being in tune with the spirit and mentality of their fans.

Second, they got the timing wrong. Voting to approve something on Friday (after a very long and tense negotiation) and then releasing a statement disavowing it on Sunday is not a good look. It humiliated UEFA and made them look two-faced and untrustworthy. Had they made their announcement a month earlier and used it as a basis for negotiations, it might have been a different story. Doing it this way simply stoked more anger, and that was especially important because their plan was only going to work with UEFA's green light, whether they were strong-armed into it or not. Remember: It was a 20-league team, with 15 permanent "founder" members and five qualifying via UEFA competitions and domestic leagues.

Third, they made no attempt to win over hearts and minds by making a case for the Super League. Other than Perez' appearance on Monday night, when he talked about how younger generations didn't enjoy football as much because the games "took too long," and how it was necessary to innovate and evolve, and how the Super League would be more entertaining, we got nothing. Nobody involved with the clubs spoke out. Nobody put their face to it.

Q: Did they have a compelling case to make, though?

A: It depends on your point of view. The pandemic obviously hit football very hard, like all sports, with estimated losses of \$6.5 billion to \$8.5 billion, and the rebel clubs -- who have bigger stadiums and bigger sponsorship deals -- bore the brunt of those losses. Some felt that because those clubs generate most of the money, it was only fair that their slice of revenues grew even further to reflect this and help see them through.

The argument was that a Liverpool or a Real Madrid cutting back on spending was going to damage the sport as a whole more than, say, a Genk or a Dinamo Zagreb cutting back. And they felt that they could do a better job than UEFA at controlling the commercial aspects, selling the game to sponsors and broadcasters. Finally, they were willing to share some of those profits, pledging an estimated \$10 billion over the next 23 years in "solidarity payments."

Would that have moved the needle? We don't know, because we never heard it.

Q: Were those valid arguments?

A: Some might have found them valid. Others would have pointed out that because they keep talking about how this is a business,

well, when a business suffers losses, it's normal for the owner to either put his hand in his pocket and inject more equity or cut costs. That's the thing about sports: More than half your costs are labor costs, and every year, a quarter to a third of your players become free agents. And because players are fungible, you can replace high earners with those on cheaper contracts.

As for whether this formula was more attractive or more lucrative, who knows? What we do know is they never presented any evidence nor did they ever tell us how they would distribute their solidarity payments.

Q: So will they be welcomed back, and will everything be fine and dandy?

A: They'll come back. The Champions League and UEFA need them, and vice versa. They do have a point that serious reform is necessary, particularly when it comes to governance and cost control.

Financial Fair Play helped turn a \$1.8 billion cumulative loss a decade ago into a profit in the last two years before the pandemic, but enforcement was lax in some cases, too rigid in others. And it didn't do enough to address issues such as debt.

There has to be a better way to contain costs, which basically means bringing player wages in line with revenues. That has to be a priority, and it's something clubs will need to thrash out with UEFA. More transparency wouldn't hurt either, on all sides. You had clubs spending hundreds of millions while their finances were a disaster. That's not sustainable.

But at least they'll be working together now, mainly because they have no choice. And just as important, the game is left with more faith in the power of institutions and supporters. Institutions aren't flawless -- witness the scandals of FIFA six or seven years ago, or UEFA's handling of racist incidents -- but they at least comprise people who are voted in (and can be voted out) and have a mandate to look out for the greater good. The clubs' first loyalty is to themselves. It's the checks and balance between the two that keep the system working.

As for supporters, we were reminded of the awesome power they can wield even when, as seemed to be the case here, their clubs treat them purely as customers. And how when supposedly sharp business minds ignore one of the first rules of business -- know who you're selling to, and know what they want -- there's a stiff price to pay.

Cheerio, Cheerio, Cheerio': newspapers bid good riddance to hated Super League

LONDON

BRITISH newspapers hailed a "defeat over greed" and a victory for fans on Wednesday after all six English clubs withdrew from the European Super League, leaving the controversial project in tatters.

The Super League promised annual games between the world's richest clubs, which were guaranteed a spot each year and stood to earn billions of dollars.

But after a storm of condemnation from outraged fans and legal threats from football authorities, the breakaway league's "dirty dozen" were reduced to six as the English clubs pulled out.

In Britain the Super League garnered ironic praise from the press for having done the impossible: uniting fans, players, politicians, and even members of the royal family in condemnation.

The Sun, one of the country's biggest tabloids, led the storm of celebrations over the collapse of the "despised" plans, with a front-page splash bidding "Cheerio, Cheerio, Cheerio" to the Super League and hailing the "victory for fans".

Irreverent competitor the Daily Star called the league's organisers "a laughing stock" and praised fans for scuppering the project with their vehement opposition.

The Daily Mail lauded the "Defeat over Greed", commending supporters for pressuring their teams' withdrawal, while the Daily Mirror said the move gave

"new hope for football".

Across the channel, French sports paper L'Equipe -- which Tuesday praised European football giants Paris Saint-Germain and Bayern Munich for refusing to join the Super League -- said English fans had "sunk" the plans.

Despite English clubs having been at the heart of the project, the paper said, grassroots fans had united to bring down the "plotters" behind the super league.

"English football will emerge proud of this fight, which collectively helped them remember their history, their responsibility, and their place in the community," the paper said.

The Spanish sports daily Marca said the Super League was "over", crediting English fans for bringing the project to its knees.

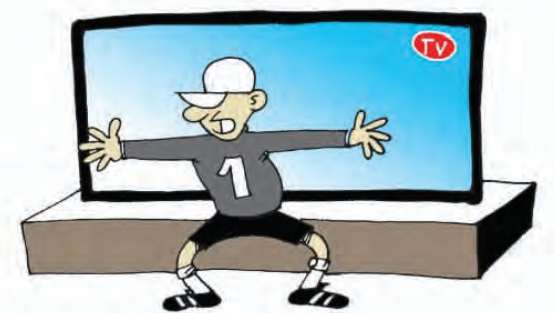
The paper said the Super League had gone "Super Ridiculous" on its Wednesday front page, describing it as now "mortally wounded" -- despite a statement from the six remaining teams, three of which are Spanish, that they will press on.

In Italy, home to the other three remaining clubs, La Gazzetta dello Sport said it was really the "fist of politics" that had brought down the league -- uniting everyone from the international press to the European Commission and political leaders in condemnation.

The paper compared the project to a dam made of cardboard, and mocked the Super League for lasting as long as "a cat on a motorway".

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Super League finished: How could they get this so wrong?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Yanga's new head coach, Nasreddine Nabi (C), addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam early this week once the outfit had entered a contract with him. He has been flanked by Yanga's Acting Secretary General, Haji Mfikirwa (R), and the coach's assistant. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Yanga's new head coach cherishes facing new challenge

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA have finally unveiled Nasreddine Nabi as their third head coach this season after he arrived in Tanzania on Monday.

The 56-year-old tactician has been given the mantle to handle the Jangwani Street giants after they fired Burundian Cedric Kaze.

The Vodacom Premier League giants have been in the market since early March when Burundian coach Cedric Kaze was relieved of his duties after a loss to Coastal Union.

The Guardian exclusively reported earlier this week the club had settled on the Tunisian to replace Kaze.

The Tunisian tactician arrived at Julius Nyerere International Airport and was received by the team's top officials before he was driven straight to the team's headquarters, where he was paraded to the media.

He noted: "I have been following a lot about this team and when they contacted me, it was an offer I could not resist." Nabi told reporters at the unveiling ceremony.

He disclosed: "I know the magnitude of the club I have joined, I know how ambitious they are and I know what they want to achieve at the end of the season, so my work will be to make sure the club reaches the goals they had set before the season started.

"It is a big challenge for me, but I will make sure we move in a good direction, because my philosophy is always to win matches, so I will ask the fans to support us and I know they will."

The tactician was recently in charge of Sudanese giants Al Merreikh but he was let go after just three games at the club.

His exit came after they had secured a 0-0 draw against Yanga SC rivals Simba SC in the Caf Champions League.

Yanga had already confirmed Mwambusi, who has been working as an interim head coach since Kaze's departure, will be maintained as an assistant in order to guide the new head coach.

Initially, former Kenya's Harambee Stars' head coach Sebastien Migne had been linked with the job although the Frenchman is understood to have applied for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) national side's head coach position.

Yanga will be under a third head coach in the season as they hired Zlatko Krmpotic and fired him at the beginning of the season.

Kaze was then brought on board before four draws in six matches and a defeat to Coastal Union cost him the job.

Yanga are still in the title race as they hope to end a three-season wait where their age-old rivals Simba SC have been successful.

They played Gwambina FC on Tuesday at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium for a league clash which ended with 3-1 win in favour of Yanga.

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Initially, former Kenya's Harambee Stars' head coach Sebastien Migne had been linked with the job although the Frenchman is understood to have applied for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) national side's head coach position.

BTF now to issue decision on Dar boxers' participation in Olympics

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Open Boxing Federation (OBFT) leadership say they have not yet been officially communicated by the Olympic Boxing Task Force (BTF) on the status of local boxers' participation in the Tokyo Olympics.

Lukelo Willilo, OBFT Secretary General, yesterday said although local boxers Alex Isendi and Michael Changarawe are favoured due to their rankings, the federation has not received any official communication from BTF.

The BTF suspended all Tokyo Olympics' boxing qualifying events and 53 quota places that would have been available at the World Olympic Qualifiers will now be assigned based on rankings instead.

The best-ranked boxer per region, per weight category will get a Tokyo Olympics berth.

According to rankings, Changarawe and Isendi stand a chance of qualifying for Tokyo Olympics as they are ranked.

Isendi is placed 48th in Light Welterweight category while Changarawe is placed 21st in Light Heavyweight category.

Willilo disclosed in absence of BTF official communication, OBFT considers that the two are not qualified for the Tokyo Olympics.

"Up to this time, we have not received any official communication from Olympic Boxing Task Force (BTF) regarding the status of our boxers, we are waiting for the official communication from them otherwise no boxer has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics," he said.

He, however, expressed his optimism that the two will represent the country at the Tokyo Olympics.

He stated: "The two (Isendi and Changarawe) and others are attending intensive training at Lugalo, they are doing this as we don't know when BTF will communicate to us on their status."

"You never know maybe the two can be invited to the Tokyo Olympics or the number can increase or be reduced, so they are on guard preparing for everything," he said.

The BTF was created in 2019 by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The BTF was put in place as per a decision by the IOC session to keep boxing on the sports program for Tokyo Games slated for later this year.

Mtibwa Sugar all out to maintain spot in VPL



Mtibwa Sugar interim head coach, Vincent Barnabas. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA SUGAR

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MOROGORO'S Mtibwa Sugar have maintained they are working hard in this season's Vodacom Premier League to see to it the team finish in a safe place in the showdown.

The club's interim head coach, Vincent Barnabas, noted in an interview after his side's league match against Coastal Union he is working hard to see the team finish the league in a good place.

Mtibwa Sugar ended their winless run in recent fixtures of the Premier League, thumping Coastal Union 2-0 in the league's clash, held in Tanga Tuesday.

The Tuesday win saw Mtibwa Sugar move to 13th position, three places up on the table, collecting 28 points from 26 games.

Mtibwa Sugar have never tested any win in the Premier League since mid December last year, but the squad's youthful coach said he is working hard to fix the mistakes which his team have been committing.

"We have won today (Tuesday) but

our focus is on our coming games, we will work hard, our aim is to finish the league in a good position, we don't want to play play offs, we want to remain in the league," the gaffer disclosed.

In the past two games, Mtibwa Sugar were hammered 5-0 by Simba SC and recorded 1-1 draw with Biashara United.

After the Biashara United game, Barnabas said he is confident that his side will bounce back to its winning ways.

"We are playing well only that we are not scoring, but let me clearly say that we will bounce back and remain in the league, the good thing is that we have many games to play, the only thing needed is dedication," he said.

Coastal Union went into the match with high spirits after winning their previous game, cruising to 2-1 victory against Ruvu Shooting.

The squad, nevertheless, had an afternoon to forget as they failed to withstand Mtibwa Sugar's firepower.

Mtibwa Sugar's goals were scored by attacker, Jaffary Kibaya, on 20th minute and 30th minute of the game.

Barnabas hailed his boys for the Tuesday win, saying it has boosted the morale in the camp.

He disclosed: "My players played according to instructions. Of course, we started on a slow note but I am grateful to my players for picking up the tempo of the match to silence our opponents."

"I am happy for them and it is my hope that they will continue with the fine form, we will not rest, we will prepare well for our coming games," he said.

Coastal Union's head coach Juma Mguda conceded defeat and he promised to work on the shortfalls he has observed in his side.

"We did our best but our opponents were at their best, we will rectify the mistakes which we committed and hopefully we will come back stronger," he said.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV THURSDAY

MORNING @ 11:00

DADAZ.

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msozi Kitaani (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Ujenzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wagonga Ulimbo (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA!
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

DADAZ A show that explores social and political issues from a feminine perspective.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM