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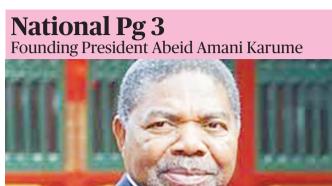
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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 7 JANUARY, 2020











Police, TAWA hunt poachers, nab 12, capture tusks, weapons

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MULTI-SECTORAL efforts to combat poaching in Morogoro region have borne fruit after authorities said the last incident was recorded back in July last year.

Noti Mgaya, the chief conservator for Selous Game Reserve at Ilonga western zone, said during the period only two ivory tusks and 13 teeth pieces were seized. The seized government trophies were of an elephant that was killed by poachers mid last year.

The government has been working closely with the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and the police force, with the multi-sectoral efforts against poaching successfully controlling

poachers killing the big animals, he stated. The last poaching incident was recorded in July last year where police seized two ivory tusks and 13 teeth pieces worth over 137m/-, said the Morogoro RPC Wilbroad Mutafungwa when briefing journalists on the region's December 2019 law and order performance.

He said in December 27th police arrested

He said in December 27th police arrested seven people holding local weapons, with the suspects arrested at Kimbala village in Kisaki ward

seven people holding local weapons, with the suspects arrested at Kimbala village in Kisaki ward at around 7pm.

The RPC noted that in the night of December 30th police in collaboration with game wardens from TAWA arrested five people possessing 13 elephant tusks worth 103,412,250/- . The suspects were also found with local weapons (firearms) and 7 bullets believed to be used to kill elephants.

Mutafungwa (pictured) named the suspects as Abdallah Mputa (36), Fanuel Mbena (34), Fikiri Salum (28), Salum Ally (22) and Novatus Kadinda (34) all residing in Morogoro region.

In another incident, Selemani Kitambi (31) and Charles Godson (40), farmers from Ruhembe village in Kilosa district were arrested by police for allegedly owning a firearm make 'Break Action' and one shotgun with 9 bullets.

The weapons were hidden in a forest and after interrogations, the suspects admitted to have used the weapons to kill animals in the forest, the RPC added.



NIDA office loses three computers, two cameras



Shinyanga residents escort their children at the start of a long journey of education after enrolling in Standard One at Town Primary School in its

Minister launches consolidated public sector accounting system

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Phillip Mpango yesterday launched a new electronic fiscal administration format, the Government Accounting Consolidation System (GACS) aimed to strengthen transparency and accountability in the public sector as well as cut down time and costs for preparing He launched the system financial reports.

Dr Mpango said that Tanzania becomes the first country in Africa to have the standard financial system prepared by local experts, noting that it will also help to boost revenue collection.

"We were previously using private and foreign experts to prepare our financial systems and this was costing us a lot but this one has been prepared by local experts. This makes us the first in Africa," the minister noted.

in Dar es Salaam when opening a three-day meeting of accountants public organizations

He launched the system in Dar es Salaam when opening a three-day meeting of accountants from ministries and various public organizations.

Consolidated reports which will be prepared under the system will represent a significant shift in demonstrating how the public sector, both at individual entity and whole-of-government level, meets its financial management responsibilities.

The minister assured accountants of full support from the government to ensure that from ministries and various the system is protected and maintained for the country's benefit.

> "I'm so excited to launch this system today, proud that our country has patriotic and creative experts to be able to develop a quality

TURN TO PAGE 2

He also gave three days to anyone involved in stealing the equipment to return them since they will all be arrested and arraigned in accordance with the law

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

AS the deadline for biometric registration of telephone lines approaches, a group of thugs invaded offices of the National Identification Authority (NIDA) in Arusha city on Sunday night disappearing with some important equipment used for registration.

NIDA is responsible for issuance of the national identification numbers (NIN).

Arumeru District Commissioner, Jerry Muro said there was still controversy on how the thugs entered the offices and managed to go away with the registration equipment including three computers, two cameras and several other items in the targeted office.

"We still don't know how the equipments were stolen because guards were on duty throughout the weekend. However, the door to that particular office was not broken," said the DC, noting that security guards have denied seeing anyone entering the office over the weekend.

DC Muro, who was accompanied by the district's police head, said a similar incident occurred last vear at NIDA offices in Arumeru district.

"Security organs including



Dr Magufuli directed TCRA to make sure all unregistered telephone numbers are switched off after January 20th, 2019

experts are going on with investigations. We will soon release information to the public on the whereabouts of the stolen equipment," he

He also gave three days to anyone involved in stealing the equipment to return them since they will all be arrested and arraigned in accordance with the law.

"Anyone found in possession of the computers will be considered to own government trophy like elephant tusks or giraffe skin. This is sabotage against the country's development and successful biometric registration currently going on countrywide," he declared.

The DC warned Arusha residents especially those operating video and music stores to avoid buying computers from individuals to avoid purchasing the stolen equipment.

He said police are holding some NIDA officers for questioning as investigations continues.

One of the security guards said they normally ensure all the office doors are closed after working hours, insisting that no one entered the building during the weekend. He said yesterday morning one of the workers-named Wilson - attempted to open the door but he realized that it was not locked.

Last month President John Magufuli announced an extension of the biometric registration of telephone lines to January 20th to allow SIM card owners without national identification number

TURN TO PAGE 2

Zanzibar in great strides to develop water sector

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR is making great efforts to develop clean and safe water projects and soon challenges facing these projects will be history.

Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein made this pledge during a ceremony to inaugurate the Zanzibar Water and Sanitation Project (ZUWSP ADF 12) at Saateni as part of events to mark 56 years of the Zanzibar Revolution.

Dr Shein said the seventh phase government has Salama Aboud Talib, Minister for Lands,



embarked on major projects for water development Water, Energy and Environment

and expressed the hope that these will be further developed by coming administrations. He said clean and safe water services before the revolution were being offered by

discrimination despite that water is God-given. During those years the principal social services were only given to dwellers of Stone Town, the old city or Mjimkongwe, he stated.

Development partners including Ras al Khaimah, Sharja, Japan, China, India and others had extended support in developing the water sector in Zanzibar, he stated.

Zanzibar has a long history in ensuring clean water services, as in the past ships used to come to Zanzibar to take water. As the population of Zanzibar increased water availability started to dwindle but efforts by the government in

TURN TO PAGE 2

Guardian

NATIONAL.NEWS

Zanzibar in great strides to develop water sector

sourcing for funds for clean and safe water projects culminated in securing a total of USD 268 million for the projects, Dr Shein elaborated.

He praised the Minister for Water and his team for managing various water projects that ensured the people of Zanzibar get clean and safe water at all times, urging people not to get their homes connected to water services without following laid down procedures.

He stressed that water services are free but whenever the government

calls for contribution to run the sector people are expected to do so as the government has good intentions for the people.

He also called upon Zanzibaris to protect all water sources as many of them have been invaded by people building houses, citing the case of the Mwanyanya area.

He also directed the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) to increase water experts for the construction of new water infrastructures. These experts should train water officials on how to manage the water sector, he added.

THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

Police to tighten key coastal road travel regulations after new attacks

More travel restrictions on the Lamu-Mombasa route are in the offing as security officials convened an urgent meeting with local transport stakeholders following Sunday's al-Shabaab attack.

The Monday meeting to address the security situation also comes amid increased terrorist attacks by militants targeting motor vehicles.

Speaking to journalists in Lamu, County Commissioner Irungu Macharia (pictured) said the government was forced back to the drawing board to find a more effective approach that will ensure safety of passengers and other road users on the Lamu-Mombasa

According to Mr Macharia, users

of the key road should expect major changes soon.

"We have organised a meeting this morning where the security team will be meeting all stakeholders in the transport sector, particularly those plying the Lamu-Mombasa route. So far security has been intensified on the road but there is a need for the road users to be encouraged to adhere to any new restrictions that they will experience on the road. All this is done to ensure safety of the travellers," said Mr Macharia.

He said security officers have already been deployed to various parts of Lamu to ensure safety of citizens and their property.

AGENCIES



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein cuts a ribbon to officially open a water tank at Saateni as part of the 56th anniversary of Zanzibar Revolution yesterday. On his right is Minister for Lands, Housing, Energy and Water Salama Aboud Talib. The event took place in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: State House

FROM PAGE 1

and secured system like this. The fifth phase government's zeal is to see people's lives are being improved, and this is why we are working tirelessly to ensure that resources and public funds are protected," he told the gathering.

The minister further directed the permanent secretary to supervise accountants' ethics and make sure that those found violating rules and principles are punished accordingly.

"We are facing a lot of challenges with ethics and integrity among accountants in the country, many reportedly getting involved in corrupt

Minister launches consolidated public sector accounting system

practices. This should be stooped," the the interest of the country." minister intoned.

He urged the experts live up to their professional oaths, observe ethical rules when conducting their duties which include unearthing mismanagement of public finances.

"Accountants have a major role and capability to fight corruption and embezzlement as per their oaths for

Earlier, the Accountant General Francis Mwakapalila said that the new system has been prepared jointly by experts from the Financial Information Systems Management (FISM) department and the accountant

"Various reforms which have been taken have made Tanzania a 'centre

of excellence' attracting a number of experts from countries like Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Gambia and others to learn on what Tanzania has achieved in preparing quality financial reports," he declared.

John Sausi, director of financial information systems management at the ministry said the system will be connected to all public entities.



FROM PAGE 1

(NIN) to secure them and register. Earlier, the Communications and Regulatory Authority (TCRA) set December 31st as deadline for the biometric registration exercise which started on May 1st last year. Biometric registration is supported by NIN and SIM card holder's fingerprints.

NIDA office loses three computers, two cameras

Dr Magufuli directed TCRA to make sure all unregistered telephone numbers are switched off after January 20th, 2019.

registration of SIM cards is crucial to enhance national security and control crimes. The move is also

The president said biometric meant to get rid of dishonest SIM card users and registration agents who harbored malicious intentions, including committing crimes.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT



The Family of the Late Vincent Yambande Mbelle of Mango Mbinga, regrets to announce the death of Prof. Ammon Vincent Yambande Mbelle who passed away on 4th January, 2020 at his residence, Nyanza Street Kunduchi Mtongani, Dar es salaam.

The funeral ceremony of the late **Prof. Ammon V.Y.** Mbelle will be held on 8th of January 2020 by St. Nicholaus Parish-Kunduchi, starting from his residence at Nyanza Street in Kunduchi. Thereafter burial will take place at Kondo Cemetary, Ununio.

May His Soul Rest in the eternal peace Amen!



Meru town council residents in Arusha region queue at the National Identification Authority offices to register for national identity cards yesterday.





The new pontoon MV. Ilemela floating in the water on Lake Victoria yesterday. It will offer serves between Kayenze and Bezi. It has a seating capacity of 200

Students, women groups benefit from photography tourism, says official

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

A TOTAL of 1,500 primary and secondary school students in Burunge Wildlife Management Area (Burunge-WMA), various women groups and 19 households have benefited from the investment of Chemchem Association in Babati district, Manyara region through photography tourism.

Community development official from Chemchem Association Walter Pallangyo said in the period 2008 to 2019 the institution made huge in photography tourism.

Pallangyo said in that period fencing was erected around 19 households to prevent wildlife, lions in particular, that used to devour their livestock, while 150 women from various groups have benefited with loans for starting small businesses. "Also during the period 150 people have been given training on entrepreneurship, 200 others had learnt various international languages so that they can be able to conduct businesses with tourists, and buildings

contributions through its investments in five schools had been refurbished while there many children who had been sponsored in higher education and technical schools," he said.

He said in the war against poachers Chemchem Association had assisted in fighting them by enabling various antipoaching groups.

Pallangyo said in order to end land conflicts their institution had also assisted in the planning for better land use, offer employment to people in the area and establishing a football league with the aim of waging war against

Burunge WMA spokesman Marceli Yeno said due to right investment in the area in the last ten years revenues had increased from 500m/- up to 2.3bn/- in

He said the money was collected from various investors in the area and included levies and other taxes from tourists who visited the area, and added that the money had been used in various projects including building of schools, health centres and other community projects.

> INVESTMENT **FORUM**

Founding President Dr Abeid Amani Karume made immense contribution in education sector, says Dr Shein

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has said his government has made great strides in the education sector due to the strong foundation made by the founding President Abeid Amani Karume.

Dr Shein made the remarks during the inauguration of Mwembeshauri secondary school as part of celebrations to mark 56th years of Zanzibar Revolution.

He said the liberation of the country by the Afro Shirazi party (ASP) under Karume's leadership in 1964 also saw the introduction of free education in the Isles, the procedure that was to continue for decades later.

He said before the 1964 Revolution, one had to pay for education, hence children of indigenous Zanzibaris failed to get the opportunity.

He said the following administrations also made great development in the education sector by improving infrastructures thereof including building more schools whose number had now reached 381, out of which 284 are secondary schools.

He said the building of nine new schools will reduce the challenge of congestion of students in classrooms. He gave an example of some schools whereby three teachers teaching in one classroom at one time due to a big number of students.

He said the government still works on various challenges that hinder development in the education sector, including the availability of books and desks, and added that the second phase will see the importation of 42,135 desks from China for use in primary schools.

Dr Shein explained that the government is still boosting State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) by increasing the number of faculties and other programmes to ensure the country gets many experts in various

He said the government has given Third Education Project (ZATEP).

priority to the education sector, adding that in the current Financial Year FY 2019/20 the government allocated 178.9bn/- for the sector. He also said the issue of the shortage of science teachers is still being dealt with and already the government had contacted various donors for assistance.

Meanwhile, Dr Shein was against the views by some people who claim that the country's education had plummeted, saying it is not clear which vardsticks they use, especially taking into consideration that Zanzibar now had several more higher learning institutions as compared in the past.

He said being proficient in the use of the English language is not a gauge for the level of education and reminded of many countries in the world that have immensely developed by using their own languages for teaching.

The Minister for Education and Practical Training Riziki Pembe Juma said the building of the two-storey school aimed to solve the problem of space and explained that they will be used for two schools to do away with the unfriendly environment at Vikokotoni and Darajani schools that have been encroached by business

He said his ministry has put in place strategies to ensure students continue to do better in their examinations.

He also made official request to President Shein for Mwembeshauri school to be named 'Dr Ali Mohamed Shein school' whose aim, he said is to recognise his great contribution in the development of the education sector.

Earlier, the ministry's Permanent Secretary Dr Idriss Muslih Hijja said the new Mwembeshauri school is among new schools whose constructions had been completed in both Zanzibar and

He said the construction obtained funds from Zanzibar government and OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), through Zanzibar



NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) No. 72062120RFA00003

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Tanzania is seeking applications for Cooperative Agreements from qualified Tanzanian organizations to implement a Comprehensive HIV activity in the Police and Prison facilities.

The purpose of the Police and Prison activity in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs in Tanzania is to reduce HIV, and tuberculosis (TB) transmission through detection, care, and treatment of people living with HIV and TB in police and prison settings. This includes prisoners, servicemen and women in the uniformed forces, their dependents, and civilians living in the vicinity.

> If interested, you can follow this link to access the Notice of funding Opportunity

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html? keywords =72062120RFA00003.

> Please note that eligibility of this award is restricted to local Tanzanian entities.



NATIONAL.NEWS

Guardian

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

A LABORATORY expert at Simiyu Regional Referral Hospital Raphael Kambona says they are facing the challenge over the availability of adequate vaccines for hepatitis, the situation that compels them to suspend vaccination at times.

Kambona said yesterday in his immense. office saying six months since the the response from public has been

Simiyu faces acute shortage of hepatitis vaccines, expert

hospital started Hepatitis vaccination, receiving patients because the stock of the vaccines is small, hence if they

He said they had often suspended they will run short of vaccines to other patients.

He said in the six months period a

start giving vaccines to new patients total of 251 patients, equivalent to 3.2 the disease and were referred per cent came for examination and treatment of hepatitis out of whom treatment. eight were found to have contracted

to Bugando hospital for further

Senior medical officer at Simiyu

Region Referral Hospital Dr Matoke Mahanji said as the hospital continues to operate it will have the capacity for self sufficiency.

He said currently the hospital is still in its infancy but the expectation is that it will expand and improve its essential services that are still curtailed.

Dr Matoke further said apart from the challenges they have been facing, they have been able to offer mobile medical services to 924 people at last year's Nane Nane Exhibitions.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Kingdom's Business Company limited (KCBL) is in the Process of Establishing a University in Mwanza City-Tanzania and one of required pre-requisite is to have the required caliber of academic staff. We hereby invites applications from suitable and qualified individuals from all over East Africa in the following vacant positions for the proposed University.

Field of Specialization:

Human Anatomy (2); Physiology (2); Biochemistry (2); Health Systems Management (1): Medical Tourism(I); Insurance & Risk Management(2): Public Health (I); Hospital Administration (I); Health Records and Information Technology (2).

Qualifications for Teaching Position:

Holders of Masters/PhD from a recognized University with at least 4.0 GPA or B + plus and Bachelor degree with first or upper second class with GPA of at least 3.5 or B +.

Note: For Health Records and Information Management Candidates with only Bachelor Degree first or upper second with GPA of at least 3.5 or B+ may apply.

Mode of Applications:

Applying candidates are required to submit their applications electronically accompanied with curriculum vitae, copies of certificates, academic transcripts and with names and contacts of three referees and any other relevant document portraying competence in the field.

Application deadline will be 20th January 2020.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted through phone.

All application Addressed: The Human Resource Manager, **KCBL** P.O.BOX 1719 Mwanza - Tanzania

All Application Submitted Via These E-mails:

info@tihest.org Copies to:

drjkavit@gmail.com revdicksup@gmail.com



Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Centre and Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute reseachers educating farmers on best uses of agriculture inputs at a rice scheme in Mwanga district, Kilimanjaro region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Godfrey Mushi

United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF, Tanzania Country Office Plot 133, Karume Road, Oysterbay P.O. Box 4076, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

LRPS-2019-9155075)

Date Issued: 20th December 2019

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

Wishes to invite Request for Proposal for

Provision of consultancy services for the review of the existing drawings, design & preparation of additional drawings and preparation of detailed BOQs for the Comprehensive Emergency Maternal Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) facilities in Dodoma region (LRPS-2019-9155075)

Proposals by hand delivery must be submitted to UNICEF Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Office latest by 20th January 2020. The validity of the proposals must be at least 90 days. More details about this RFP can be found via this link https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/Index/101851

Proposals should be submitted to the following:

Supply and Procurement Specialist **UNICEF Tanzania Country Office** Plot 133 Karume Road, Oysterbay P.O. Box 4076 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

IMPORTANT:

Proposals received after the closing date and time will be considered invalid



INVITATION FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP - 2020/01-001

FOR THE PROVISION OF GROUP LIFE ASSURANCE FOR Jhpiego EMPLOYEES.

Jhpiego (pronounced "ja-pie-go"), is an international non-profit health organization affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University.

For more than 40 years and in over 40 countries, Jhpiego has empowered front-line health workers by designing and implementing effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions to strengthen the delivery of health care services for women and their families. By putting evidence-based health innovations into everyday practice, Jhpiego works to break down barriers to high-quality health care for the world's most vulnerable populations. Jhpiego's focus is on training and support for health care providers-including doctors, nurses, midwives and health educators working in limited-resource settings throughout Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Jhpiego's program management strategy recognizes the technical complexity and geographical, cultural, socio-economic and political diversity among our programs. We develop global program initiatives and technical interventions that can be adapted for country-specific applications. In support of this field-driven philosophy, Jhpiego uses a decentralized organizational structure that consists of a global "delivery system" designed to implement the entire portfolio of Jhpiego awards with assistance from key technical, programmatic and administrative staff.

Jhpiego Tanzania office hereby invites sealed proposals from eligible registered insurance companies to submit proposals for provision of Group Life Assurance.

A prospective bidder having any question regarding this RFP shall send an email 3 days prior to the due date and time for submission of offers to the following addresses: TZ-Jhpiegobids@jhpiego.org

Interested eligible bidders may collect or request a complete set of bidding documents on the submission of a written application to the address given below from Monday to Thursday at 8.00 AM to 5.00 PM (GMT+3) and Friday from 8.00 AM to 1.30 PM (GMT+3) local time except on public holidays.

All proposals in one original plus one copy, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address given below before Monday, 20th January 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

Jhpiego reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the bidding process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to Bidders. The Jhpiego is under no obligation to accept the lowest proposal. Late proposals, electronic proposals, proposals not received shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Offers must be delivered on or before the due date to:

The Country Director Jhpiego Tanzania Plot No. 72, Block 45B, Victoria Area, New Bagamoyo Road P.O. Box 9170, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 756 888 388





Mirerani primary school head teacher in Simanjiro district, Manyara region Tenisia Elias talks to parents and guardians of Standard One pupils enrolled at the

SUA-Katavi campus to start enrolling fresh students in November this year

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

SOKOINE University of Agriculture (SUA) Katavi Campus is expected to start enrolling new students in November this year.

This was revealed over the weekend when Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof Joyce Ndalichako inaugurated the university campus name of Mizengo Pinda. located at Kibaoni ward, Mlele District, Katavi region.

Prof Ndalichako said that the government will ensure that the institution provide quality education that would transform agriculture in southwestern Tanzania and the country at large.

During the inauguration of the university campus, former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda handed over the buildings to the SUA Chancellor Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba.

Pinda is the founder who supervised completion of the buildings, which were originally planned to be a primary school, but after long discussions with different stakeholders it was agreed to establish an agricultural university.

Prof Ndalichako lauded Pinda for his endeavour in establishing a university agriculture, pledging that the

government will provide all the needed support to ensure the new campus meets the expectations.

For his part, Judge Joseph Warioba congratulated Pinda for his tireless efforts in serving the nation despite the fact that he has retired, to honour his commitment the university authority has agreed to call the campus by the

"I am very grateful for pinda's commitment, with this respect we have accepted the campus to be called the Mizengo Pinda campus," Warioba said.

Speaking at the event, Pinda said he alone could not have made it possible, he acknowledged the support from China and Japan Embassy in Tanzania, he also thanked the village authority for providing 263 acres of land for building the institution facilities.

However, the deputy minister for Agriculture, Omary Mgumba said the college will have potential impact to the nation, urging the Katavi Regional Commissioner Juma Homera to keep on investing in agriculture as the government expects that the established college will bring out more agricultural experts.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila has directed the police in the region to remove all billboards from the streets that advertise traditional healers, including those promoting enhancement of male sexual prowess.

Chalamila also said after billboards removal campaign is completed the police should embark on another operation to arrest all traditional healers who go against the country's norms and its structure and take them to court.

The RC gave the order at the weekend after handing over two children of one family who had been abducted back to their parents.

RC Chalamila orders removal of traditional healers signboards

The children Faisal Mashaka (5) and Farhana Mashaka (I year and five medicine to remain as these help months) were reported lost from their the wananchi, but not those who family's home in Mbeya but were later found in Tabora Region.

He said the healers cheat people especially the youths that they will assist them but they do nothing of the kind only subjecting them to further destruction and inflaming feuds in families.

"We want healers for alternative true and stressed that the law will take many bizarre happenings. engage in superstition, who cheat and cause family feuds, hence I order their signboard pulled down from the streets," Chalamila said.

He said there are now some young men who believe that enhancing sexual power can be obtained from traditional healers the belief that is not

its course.

He said after he has dealt with these healers he will embark on verification exercise of all churches and various religious sects in the region so that those contravening laws and regulations should be closed.

He said Mbeya City is second in Africa for having many churches of various religious sects but still it has

He said some of the sects contravene laws and regulations and his office has started receiving complaints that some of them have started to be a threat to peace and stability in the region.

"We shall verify their leaders, followers, sources of funding and how they use the funds, there is this certain church that has started involving in fights among themselves thereby

threatening peace in the region, after the verification exercise we will close all which will be found to be going against the laws," he said.

Leader of traditional chiefs in Mbeya Region, Chief Rocket Mwsashinga said as of now the region is enveloped with many incidents associated with superstition.

He said despite the region being home to many churches of various religious sects, one would expect these bizarre happenings to decrease, but the opposite is now the fact.

"Every day you will hear children getting lost, children raped and many others, and we ask ourselves from the number of the churches we have from where does these happenings come from?" he asked.



ADVERTISEMENTS

ZANZIBAR REVENUE BOARD



PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT REFORM PROGRAMME (PFMRP)

TENDER NO. SMZ/F0111/C/ NCB/2019~20/04

FOR

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICE (EFD) IN ZANZIBAR.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (RE- ADVERTISED)

- I. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for Zanzibar Revenue Board that appeared in the Zanzibar Leo of 16th September, 2019and through ZRB e-procurement Web Portal: zanrevenue.org/eproc/.
- 2. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has received funds from donors under Basket Funds arrangement toward the cost of Public Finance Management Reform Programme (PFMRP) Phase V and intends to apply part of the proceeds for eligible payments under the contract for developing a Three-Year Strategic Plan for Implementation and Management of Electronic Fiscal Device (EFD) in Zanzibar.
- 3. The overall Scope of assignment will involves conducting a survey on taxpayers' perception on EFD; propose required policies and legislative procedures; and efficient measures to be taken into Virtual Fiscal Devices (VFD) operationalization by all Taxpayers in collecting Taxes Revenue and Non-Tax Revenue at source Entities such as Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in a real-time in Zanzibar.
- Finally, the assignment shall involve designing a strategic formulation in administrative perspectives and developing an implementation plan (operational plan) to achieve the best possible result of establishment of EFD in both Unguja and Pemba.
- 4. The Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB), on behalf of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, now invites eligible consulting firms to express interest in providing the above-mentioned services. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (description of experience in similar assignments, experience of working in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff including Team Leader, EFD Technical Expert, Tax expert and other relevant information of the firm including Legal status of the firm i.e. firm's legal documents and the firm's core functions)). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications
- Consultants will be selected in accordance with the Zanzibar Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act No.11 of 2016 (Goods, Works, and Consultant Service by Tender) and its

Regulations of 2006 (Selection and Employment of Consultants based on Quality and Cost Based Selection i.e. QCBS). In assessing the submissions, consideration will be given to the technical competence of the consultants, the qualification, and experience of key staff to be proposed for the assignment, experience in similar projects and the capacity to undertake the assignment.

- 6. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 08:00-15:00 hrs, Monday through Friday.
- 7. This is not a request for proposals. After a review of expression of interests, only the best-qualified consultants will be invited to submit the technical and financial proposals. The consultancy will be for a period of ninety (90) days and is expected to commence on April, 2020.
- 8. Any request for clarification with regard to this assignment shall be addressed to the undersigned. The Client shall respond to clarifications received not less than one week before the deadline for submission.
- Expression of Interest in one (I) original and three (3) copies
 must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00hrs
 Thursday 06th February, 2020 and marked "Development
 of a Three-Year Strategic Plan for Implementation and
 Management of Electronic Fiscal Device (EFD) in Zanzibar".
- 10. The Expression of Interest (EOI) will be opened immediately after deadline for submission in Public and in the presence of Consultants' representative who choose to attend in the opening at the Conference Room, 4th Floor of the Zanzibar Revenue Board Building- Mazizini- Zanzibar.
- 11. Late Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances

Secretary
Tender Board
Zanzibar Revenue Board
P. O, BOX 2072, 2nd Floor, Room No: 209
Mazizini- Zanzibar.

ZANZIBAR REVENUE BOARD



TENDER NO: SMZ/F0111/G/NCB/2019~20/02

For

SUPPLY OF OF ID CARD PRINTERS AND ACCESSORIES

Framework Contract

Invitation for Tenders

- I. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for Zanzibar Revenue Board that appeared in the Zanzibar Leo of 16th September, 2019 and through ZRB e-procurement Web Portal:zanrevenue.org/eproc/.
- Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) has set aside funds from its Budget for the year FY 2019/2020. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payment under the contract for supply of ID Card Printers and Accessories.
- Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) -Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidder for supply of ID Card Printers and Accessories as follows:-.

S/n	S/n Item		nit Estimated	
			Quantity	
1	ID Card Printers	Pcs	04	
2	Ribbons	Pcs	150	
3	Laminator Cleaning Kit	Set	12	
4	Print Station Cleaning Kit	Set	12	
5	Print head Polishing Card	Set	12	
6	Laminate - Top - 750 Prints	Pcs	200	
7	Laminate - Bottom - 750 Prints	Pcs	200	
8	Cleaning Rollers	Pcs	100	
9	PVC Cards Box of 500	Pcs	130	
10	Print head	Pcs	05	

The above items constitute one lot and bidders must quote for all items and full quantities specified in the lot.

- 4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement (Goods, Works, Consultant Service and Disposal of Public Assets by Tender) Act No.11 of 2016 and are open to all Bidders as defined in the Regulations.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Secretary -Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) P.O, BOX 2072, Mazizini- Zanzibar Tel: 255-24-2230639/2233041

Fax: 255-24-2233904 email: zrb@zanrevenue.organd inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given above from 8:00-17:00 Monday to Friday except for public holidays.

- 6 A complete set of Bidding Document(s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 5 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tanzania Shilling One Hundred Thousands (100,000/-). Payment should be by bank payable to Zanzibar Revenue Board through the following bank details; Bank name -People Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ), A/C Name; Commissioner —Zanzibar Revenue Board andA/C No.0404003000. Also interested eligible bidder may download tender document through ZRB e-procurement Web Portal:zanrevenue.org/eproc/
- 7 All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of 2% of the bid amount in the format provided in the Bidding documents.
- 8 All bids in one original plus three (3) copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00hrsThursday 06th February, 2020. Bids will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the address below
- 9 Late tenders, portion of tenders, electronic tenders, tenders not received, tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

SECRETARY
TENDER BOARD
ZANZIBAR REVENUE BOARD
P. O, BOX 2072, 2NDFLOOR, ROOM NO:209
MAZIZINI- ZANZIBAR.

ZANZIBAR REVENUE BOARD



TENDER NO: SMZ/F0111/G/NCB/2019~20/11

For

SUPPLY OF OFFICE STATIONERY

Framework Contract

Invitation for Tenders

- 1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for Zanzibar Revenue Board that appeared in the Zanzibar Leo of 16th September, 2019 and through ZRB e-procurement Web Portal: zanrevenue.org/eproc/.
- 2. Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) has set aside funds from its Budget for the financial year 2019/2020. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payment under the contract for supply of Office Stationery.
- 3. Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) -Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidder for supply of Office Stationery for Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB)
- 4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets (Goods, Works, and Consultant Service by Tender) Act No.11 of 2016 and are open to all Bidders as defined in the Regulations.
- 5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Secretary Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) P. O, BOX 2072, Mazizini- Zanzibar Tel: 255-24-2230639/2233041 Fax: 255-24-2233904 email: zrb@zanrevenue.org and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given above from 8:00 17:00 Monday to Friday except for public holidays.
- 6 A complete set of Bidding Document(s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 4 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tanzania Shilling One Hundred Thousand (100,000/-). Payment should be by bank payable to Zanzibar Revenue Board through the following bank details; Bank name -People Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ), A/C Name; Commissioner –Zanzibar Revenue Board and A/C No.0404003000. Also interested eligible bidder may download tender document through ZRB e-procurement Web Portal: zanrevenue.org/eproc/ after making respective payment.
- 7 All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of 2% of the bid amount in the format provided in the Bidding documents.
- 8 All bids in one original plus three (3) copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00hrs Thursday 06th February, 2020. Bids will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the address below
- 9 Late tenders, portion of tenders, electronic tenders, tenders not received, tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

SECRETARY
TENDER BOARD
Zanzibar Revenue Board
P. O, BOX 2072, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM NO: 209
Mazizini- Zanzibar.



LEGAL SERVICES FACILITY (LSF)

PRE-QUALIFICATION NOTIFICATION INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES FOR 2020-2024

The Legal Services Facility (LSF) is inviting Suppliers from Tanzanian based organizations/Companies for pre-qualification to participate in the process of various bidding processes as listed below.

The organization

The Legal Services Facility, represented by the Chief Executive Officer, a registered NGO with Registration No. 00NGO/R2/00011. LSF strives to increase access to justice for all, in particular for women, through a legal empowerment approach. LSF channels its funding on equal opportunity basis to organizations which promote, provide or support legal aid and paralegal services and work towards empowerment of poor women, children and men

OBJECTIVE

Reference

The objective of this invitation is to prequalify interested reliable suppliers and service providers. LSF intends to update its list of suppliers for goods and services and hence invites eligible and interested bidders to apply for prequalification for provision of the listed goods and services for the period 2020-2024.

The firm/Company interested is requested to submit documents justifying registration with relevant authorities attaching copies of relevant certificates such as TIN,VRN, Certificate of Incorporation, Current and Valid Business License.

Vendor will be selected and prequalified based on submitted business profile which entail legal compliance, experience in the market, financial (provision of audited financial statements) technical competence (CVs of key staff,) ability to meet current & future demand, compliance to LSF general terms and Conditions, Warrant Validity, After sale services and Manufacturer's authorization.

CATEGORIES FOR SUPPLY OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Number	CATEGORY A: SUPPLY OF GOODS
LSF/PQ/01/2020	Supply of general stationery.
LSF/PQ/02/2020	Supply of office supplies.
LSF/PQ/03/2020	Supply and maintenance of photocopiers, scanners, computers, printers, Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), laptops, software, toners and accessories.
LSF/PQ/04/2020	Supply of branded items and promotional materials.
LSF/PQ/05/2020	Supply of bottled water, dispensing machines and maintenance.
LSF/PQ/06/2020	Supply of fuel
LSF/PQ/07/2020	Supply of motor vehicle parts and accessories.
LSF/PQ/08/2020	Supply of mobile phone
LSF/PQ/09/2020	Supply of office furniture's and fixtures
LSF/PQ/10/2020	CATEGORY B: PROVISION OF SERVICES
LSF/PQ/11/2020	Provision of catering services.
LSF/PQ/12/2020	Provision of air travel, reservations and ticketing services.
LSF/PQ/13/2020	Provision of sanitary, fumigation, pest control and cleaning services.

LSF/PQ/14/2020	Provision of internet services.
LSF/PQ/15/2020	Provision of ICT consultancy services
LSF/PQ/16/2020	Provision of courier and mail delivery services.
LSF/PQ/17/2020	Repair, maintenance services of generators, power stabilizers and pumps.
LSF/PQ/18/2020	Supply and maintenance of air-conditioners, installations and services.
LSF/PQ/19/2020	Provision of hotel accommodation and conference facilities. In Dar es salaam, Dodoma, Arusha, Mtwara, Mwanza, Mbeya, Pemba and Unguja.
LSF/PQ/20/2020	Provision of medical Insurance.
LSF/PQ/21/2020	Provision of motor vehicle insurance and office equipment insurance.
LSF/PQ/22/2020	Provision of security services (guards, dog patrols and security survey).
LSF/PQ/23/2020	Servicing, repair and maintenance of vehicles
LSF/PQ/24/2020	Provision of car hire and taxi services in All regions of Tanzania
LSF/PQ/25/2020	Provision of professional consulting services in administering social surveys, projects evaluations and conduct baseline studies
LSF/PQ/26/2020	Provision of audit services
LSF/PQ/27/2020	Provision of Human Resources (HR) Services

TENDER PROCEDURE

Interested and eligible candidates may obtain a complete set of prequalification documents from our website www.lsftz.org from 07th January 2020. Interested applicants must submit their application documents not later than Friday 31th January 2020 14.00 hrs. electronic submission should be made to info@lsftz.org.

Sealed envelopes should be clearly marked "category No... for the Pre-Qualification...... (a signed and dated receipt will be provided to the deliverer) to the address below:

Chief Executive Officer
Legal Services Facility
Bima Street, Nyati Rd, Mikocheni B,
P.O. Box 31480 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: 0222 781061



Tanzania Shipping Agents Corporation director general Emmanuel Ndomba talks to journalists on abolished tariffs in the maritime transport sector in Dar es Salaam yesterday. With him is director, ports and shipping regulation Deogratias Mukasi (R) and economy controller Nahson Sigalla. Photo: Correspondent Maraji Msala

Mbeya in water shortage after heavy rainfall

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Water Supply and Sanitation to supply water as Isyesye ward and Authority has started supplying water using bowsers in areas of the city which are hardly hit by water crisis. The move came after water sources were filled with siltation as the result of environmental degradation in the upper parts of the water sources due to increasing human activities.

Public Relation officer of Mbeya-WSSA, Neema Stanton said due to the ongoing rains at some areas water sources have been filled with mud and rubbish, making it difficult for water to reach users.

Stanton further explained that the situation caused a lot of complaints from the people in the region, forcing the WSSA leadership to start distributing water by using a bowser

The officer mentioned some of the areas where they have started the small town of Mbalizi where its people have missed the service for more than a week. "We received a lot of complaints from the public, now we have started to address the challenge by distributing water by using a truck despite the fact that there are some areas with infrastructure challenges," the PRO explained.

She said the service is provided free of charge and people are allowed to fetch water without paying as they used to do.

She called on people in the region to remain patient when the authority makes extra efforts to address the problem and resume the service promising to clean up the blocked area and bring back the service to the people.

Drink more milk to improve body nutrition, expert tells Tanzanians

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

TANZANIANS have been urged to drink more milk because of its huge potential in improving nutrition in people's health.

"Milk is a powerhouse of energy. It boosts people's metabolism. So, it is high time for Tanzanians to imbibe a habit of drinking milk regularly," said Nadomana Nyanga (pictured), manager of milk sources at the Tanga-based milk processing plant-TangaFresh.

She was speaking to journalists who visited the plant over the weekend to see achievements recorded by the factory.

Nyanga said that milk also contains retinol, a known antiaging and skin-restoring antioxidant. Plus, milk's vitamin D is also an anti-aging vitamin thanks to its anti-inflammatory effects and protection from UV rays. Dairy has also long been associated with causing acne.

According to her, milk is essential for growth and skin health, these amino acids act as natural nourishing, hydrating and anti-wrinkle agents.

The expert further described milk as an immunityboosting food due to certain nutrients like zinc and vitamin D. "It is also good for your heart, having a glass of milk can improve good cholesterol level in the blood. Also, it is rich in good fats that have certain significance in boosting the overall metabolism of the body."

She said that milk is linked with the prevention of diabetes. "It is said that milk can effectively lower the elevated blood sugar levels in the body. Due to high levels of potassium, milk is beneficial in maintaining a regular blood pressure."

For his part, goat dairy expert from Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) Tanga, Ayubu Kambadu encouraged people to drink milk regularly because of its nutritious value.

He also encouraged Tanzanians to venture into goat farming because of its profitability in terms of milk and meat. Kambadu said that goat milk was highly nutritious and therefore recommended for consumption by especially



Milk is a powerhouse of energy. It boosts people's metabolism. So, it is high time for Tanzanians to imbibe a habit of drinking milk regularly



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION **TASAC**



PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF EXCLUSIVE MANDATE BY TASAC IN SHIP TALLYING **SERVICES AND SHIPPING AGENCY**

Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) is established under section 4 of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act, Cap. 415 as maritime administration, regulator of maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment, ports and shipping services. The Corporation is also given exclusive mandate to conduct shipping business on clearing and forwarding for specified import and export shipments, ship tallying, document control and specified areas of shipping agency in accordance with section 7(1) of the Act.

TASAC plans to implement the functions related to shipping agency and ship tallying services as mandated under Cap 415 with effect from February 2020.

The general public is thus informed that:-

- (a) the Corporation will operationalize shipping agency functions in accordance with Cap. 415 with effect from 3rd February, 2020;
- shipping agency which will be operationalized by TASAC on the 3rd February, 2020 covers tanker ships, cruise ships, exploration vessels, military vessels and any vessel calling for discharging or loading military cargo; and
- the Corporation will operationalize **ship tallying** functions in accordance with the Cap. 415 with effect from 17th February, 2020.

This Notice is issued to enable ship owners/operators, shipping agents, shippers, consignees, clearing and forwarding agents and all stakeholders to prepare themselves accordingly and accord cooperation to TASAC to fulfill its legal obligations.

Please note that it is contrary to section 7(3) of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act, Cap. 415 for any party other than TASAC to carry out or facilitate the carrying out of exclusive mandate functions as mentioned in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above with effect from 3rd February, 2020 with respect to shipping agency and 17th February, 2020 with respect to ship tallying services.

> Issued by: **Director General Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation**

PPF Tower Building 8th Floor, Garden Avenue/Ohio Street, P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania, Tel: +255 222 127 314, Fax: +255 222 127 313, Email: dg@tasac.go.tz, info@tasac.go.tz

EDITORIALS.OPINION

Guardia.com

TUESDAY 7 JANUARY 2020

Taking A New Look **At The News ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Improving cancer care in East Africa is extremely essential

involving abnormal cell growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of the body. These contrast with benign tumors, which do not spread. Possible signs and symptoms include a lump, abnormal bleeding, prolonged cough, unexplained weight loss, and a change in bowel movements. While these symptoms may indicate cancer, they can also have other causes. Over 100 types of cancers affect humans.

Tobacco use is the cause of about 22 per cent of cancer deaths. Another 10 per cent are due to obesity, poor diet, lack of physical activity or excessive drinking of alcohol. Other factors include certain infections, exposure to ionizing radiation and environmental pollutants. In the developing world, 15 per cent of cancers are due to infections such as Helicobacter pylori, hepatitis B, hepatitis C.

Approximately 5-10 per cent of cancers are due to inherited genetic defects from a person's parents. Cancer can be detected by certain signs and symptoms or screening tests. Many cancers can be prevented by not smoking, maintaining a healthy weight, not drinking too much alcohol, eating plenty of vegetables, fruits and whole grains, vaccination against certain infectious diseases, not eating too much processed and red meat and avoiding too much sunlight exposure. Early detection through screening is useful for cervical and colorectal cancer. The benefits of screening in breast cancer are controversial. The chance of survival depends on the type of cancer and extent of disease at the start of treatment. In children under 15 at diagnosis, the five-year survival rate in the developed world is on average 80 per cent.

In 2015, about 90.5 million people had cancer. About 14.1 million new cases occur a year (not including skin cancer other than melanoma). It caused about 8.8 million deaths

ANCER is a group of diseases cancer and stomach cancer. In females, the most common types are breast cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer and cervical cancer.

> Tanzanian and two partners, the Aga Khan Health Services and the French Development Agency, on last year signed a 13.3 million Euros (about 14.8 million U.S. dollars) grant agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to improve cancer care in the East African nation.

> The funding will be run by the Tanzania Comprehensive Cancer Project (TCCP), an innovative publicprivate project aimed at enhancing cancer care in Tanzania. Under this funding, the French Development Agency will release a grant to the tune of 10 million Euros and 3.3 million Euros will be contributed by the Genevabased Aga Khan Foundation, which is part of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN).

> Speaking shortly after the signing of the agreement in the commercial capital Dar es Salaam, Tanzania's Deputy Minister for Health Faustine Ndugulile said with the rise in the prevalence of cancer in Tanzania, the project will serve to accelerate performance in cancer screening, prevention and early detection targeting low-income groups through mobile outreach campaigns.

> Harrison Chuwa, a consultant oncologist at the Aga Khan hospital in Dar es Salaam and director of TCCP, said the project was a four-year plan designed to reduce the burden of cancer mortality and morbidity in Dar es Salaam and Mwanza regions.

> Chuwa said under the project, the implementing partners will create an integrated health care network at local and hospital levels to accelerate performance in cancer care in the country.

Iulius Mwaiselage, the executive director of the Ocean Road Cancer (15.7 per cent of deaths). The most facility was currently receiving 64,000 common types of cancer in males are cancer patients annually, compared to lung cancer, prostate cancer, colorectal 30,000 patients received in 2015.

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Convention against corruption: South Africa must turn the screws to get our money back

By Wayne Duvenage

A's delegation to an anticorruption convention in Abu Dhabi must apply pressure on the UAE authorities, as well as China and India, to return our stolen assets and extradite the known fraudsters to South Africa.

This week, the United Nations will be holding its Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in Abu Dhabi, to which South Africa has sent +a strong delegation headed by Justice Minister Ronald Lamola (pictured), along with Institute, the country's leading facility | a team under advocates Shamila for treating cancer patients, said the Batohi and Hermione Cronje from the National Prosecuting Authority and the Investigative Directorate. With a new SA government team in play, this is the best opportunity to call for corrective action related to corruption that has crossed international boundaries and seen the corrupt movement of substantial funds from South Africa to other parts of the world including China, India and the UAE.

The UNCAC conference, which runs from 16 to 21 December 2019, is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument on the international stage. With its broad approach and significant mandatory characteristics, this conference is a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to the global problem of corruption.

The vast majority of United Nations member states are parties to the Convention against Corruption, which was ratified by many countries (including South Africa) in 2004, and signed into force by 178 countries on 14 December 2005.

The convention covers five main

International cooperation; information exchange.

of corruption which this convention spans, (such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, and various acts of corruption in the private sector), a highlight of the convention is the inclusion of a specific chapter on asset recovery, aimed at returning assets to their rightful owners, more specifically to the countries from which such assets had been illicitly taken. With the Guptas and Salim Essa in mind, this aspect is of keen interest to South Africa.

US sanctions against Gupta

Earlier this year, the US Department

Control (OFAC) issued an Executive Order (EO 13,818) blacklisting the Gupta brothers and Salim Essa from doing business in the US and with US businesses, in particular for their involvement in grand corruption in South Africa. Minister Lamola has noted the action taken by the US to ensure that the South African interests of justice against the Gupta family and their associates unfold without any

Aside from the direct impact on the financial and private interests of affected individuals, these sanctions will ensure that companies or individuals are prohibited from conducting any business in the US or with any US company worldwide. Fortunately, South Africa and the US have a long history of cooperation on criminal justice, law enforcement and mutual legal assistance. Both countries are state parties to the United Nations Corruption Convention against and have a bilateral treaty. These international multilateral and bilateral frameworks allow law enforcement agencies of both countries collaborate on matters of common interest, to ensure that perpetrators of corruption have nowhere to hide.

Against the backdrop of the US sanctions against the Guptas lies our desire to see this week's delegation to Abu Dhabi apply pressure on the UAE authorities as well as China and India to return our stolen assets and extradite the known fraudsters back to South Africa, to face the rule of law.

China's fraudulent trade with SA

From as early as 2012, Transnet's management under Brian Molefe drastically inflated prices to direct the procurement of more than 800 locomotives from Chinese locomotive

manufacturers China South Rail (CSR) and China North Rail (CNR). Riddled with corruption and kickbacks, SA taxpayers forked out almost R3billion in kickbacks that were directed through these Chinese governmentowned companies to Essa and the Gupta brothers, who are currently being safely accommodated by the United Arab Emirates. Together, they have several bank accounts at international banks including HSBC, Standard Chartered, NBAD (National Bank of Abu Dhabi) and Mashreq in the UAE. Ironically, this is the very same country hosting the UN Convention

Against Corruption in 2019. And yet, China - which has also adopted and signed the legally binding international anti-corruption multilateral treaty - allowed and enabled the corrupt middleman transactions that robbed South Africa, its biggest trading partner in Africa, of billions of rand.

The SA delegation to UNCAC will this week be expected to actively drive the issue of corruption that transpired in transactions between Transnet and the locomotive deals with China, during the State Capture years under Jacob Zuma's rule.

This same delegation is being encouraged by civil society group Outa and others to raise their voices against countries that allow corrupt businessmen like Essa and the Guptas to hide from extradition in countries that have adopted the UNCAC. The fact that these known fraudsters are allowed to conduct their business unhindered from within the borders of the UAE and use their local currencies is a slap in the face of the convenors of

the UNCAC conference. evidence exposed by investigative journalists and other

whistle-blower information abroad has enabled Outa's assessment of money flow transactions to display a strong correlation between the Transnet payments to the Chinese locomotive manufacturers and the kickbacks to Tequesta and Regiments Asia, which landed billions of rand in unwarranted funds in the hands of companies linked to Essa and Gupta. This is depicted in the graph:

About R2.6-billion was paid in kickbacks by the Chinese locomotive manufacturers to Gupta/Essa linked accounts. These findings and evidence were handed to the law enforcement agencies this year and Outa is satisfied that the newly established Investigative Directorate under Hermione Cronje will leave no stone unturned in its pursuit for justice. Silence between SA and Chinese authorities Of sincere concern to civil society and the South African public, is that two state-owned entities of two countries (South Africa and China) are able to engage in corrupt transactions, and more so when the governments of these two countries do not appear to be engaging at the highest level to investigate this serious matter.

Both South Africa and China are members of BRICS and have had ample time to discuss and raise these issues since they became public knowledge over recent years. In essence, one government's owned entity is stealing from the other government's taxpayers, without any of the two even trying to address the issues at the highest level. The question we must ask is, what we can expect from trade with China in the future if this serious matter is allowed to go unresolved? The South African public want decisive action and answers and the authorities have no excuse to look away.



Child survival has two key stages, and we are doing badly on the first

substantial diminution of maternal and child deaths and enhanced survival chances up to five years from birth, which is usually the most worrying period for child care and hope for the baby's future. But there is new information where the data is broken up more pointedly, and what comes out of it isn't encouraging, as it says that babies dying in the first month of life accounted for 41.3 per cent of all deaths among children under five in 2018, up from 25.2 per cent in 1990. It means there is nearly twice the number of babies dying before a month is over.

Whether this report or datum is astonishing or sobering is one thing, but it raises issues as to why the relevant authorities were not aware of this discrepancy until a UN agency takes a hard look at statistics. UNICEF says that over the past three decades, the world has seen remarkable progress in child survival, cutting the number of children worldwide who die before their fifth birthday by more than half. But there has been slower progress for newborns, as worldwide babies dying in the first month accounted for 47 per cent of all deaths among children under five in 2018, up from 40 per cent

This global trend shows that there is indeed a rise in deaths of children before reaching one month, that it isn't just a Tanzanian problem but goes much broader. But as it is likely to be the case, the poorer a country is, the less it is capable of taming a problem that is felt everywhere, and thus this may explain the sharper rise in less than a month old babies here compared

FFORTS to improve mother to the global trend. That is a key and child care have led to reason for UNICEF's Every Child Alive campaign to emphasize immediate investment in health workers with the right training, who are equipped with the right medicines to ensure every mother and newborn is cared for by a safe pair of hands to prevent and treat complications during pregnancy, delivery and birth.

> The report says that too many mothers and newborns are not being cared for by a trained and equipped midwife or nurse, and the results are devastating. In that case it is possible for the world to ensure that millions of babies survive their first day and live into this decade and beyond if every one of them is born into a safe pair of hands. As plenty is being done in that direction already, this precaution is a matter of emphasis, that we may be doing well enough, but it is not sufficient for the urgency of the situation.

> UNICEF says that in Tanzanian children have a much better chance of surviving past their fifth birthday today compared to the situation in previous years. The government's high-impact programmes such as immunization, promotion of breastfeeding, Vitamin A supplementation, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and improved management of common childhood illnesses have saved lives of children across the country. However, Tanzania is among countries with the highest number of newborn deaths in the world.

> The fund levels and trends in child mortality report (2019) shows that Tanzania has 44,082 neo-natal deaths that occur during the first 28 days of life and 76,644 infant deaths during the first year of life. It is that bad.

Preventive measures: Criminalisation and law enforcement; recovery; and Technical assistance and

Aside from the many different forms

brothers and Essa

of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets

Lack of oil palm processing industries in Kigoma, is it a lost opportunity for the private sector and investors?

By Gerald Kitabu, Kigoma

Majaliwa ordered revamping the oil palm production in Kigoma region almost two years ago, it was expected that different stakeholders including Kigoma for multiplication the private sector would seriously put up similar efforts and distribution to the to start planning to venture farmers. Adding to 277,335 into oil palm process factoseeds which have been ries and other large indussupplied previously, TARI tries with better technolohas cumulatively supplied gies. a total of 327,335 seeds to

If the private sector and Kwitanga Prison. other stakeholders would have invested in large oil seeds of oil palm variety palm processing industries, being new variety after the investment would have crossing two local varieties namely DURA and PISIFERA several impacts and benefits, some being to increase the which are female and male value of the crop, increase respectively. income of Kigoma residents, Dr Mkamilo said that the

revenues and spur the efforts of multiplying and nation's economy. disseminating the improved Unfortunately, this is not seeds of Oil Palm at local happening. There are little government authorities and efforts by the private sector to farmers in Kigoma would to establish large oil palm processing industries with Also TARI-Kihinga Centre latest technologies. What is happening now is that

Director and National Coordinator for oil palm research some people, individually, in Tanzania, Dr Filson Mbezi Kagimbo said his centre is such as retired government officials have made efforts working round the clock to to establish local machines. ensure availability of better But the local machines seeds for the farmers. being established are Explain further he said currently there are three purchased from local

oil palm varieties grown in

designers. They have poor

technology as most of them Tanzania. Dura is the widely use rudimentary means to grown variety in Tanzania. process the oil palm into The variety is characteredible oil or soap. In fact ized by thin mesocarp, thick the available local machines shell and low yield potential. such as Burundi expellers Dura constitutes about 90 are locally made with little percent of all oil palm trees grown in Tanzania. The regard to efficiency. In an interview with one of second variety is Tenera, the local machines owners characterized by thick meswho resides in Mahembe ocarp, thin shell and high Mwalimu Kafumba Juma yielding potential. Tenera constitutes about 10 percent said that many people who owns the machines have of all oil palm trees grown in Tanzania. The third variety little capacity to invest in big Oil palm industries. He cited is Pisifera which is characseveral other challenges terized by thick mesocarp such as lack of reliable and have no shell. Pisifera power supply especially in constitutes about less than the remote areas. However, 0.01 percent of all oil palm he defended the local trees in Tanzania and are hardly found. Dr. Kagimbo machines saying although inefficient but for the time said that the motive of TARI being they serve purpose Kihinga is to produce more and helps the local farmers TENERA seeds which is the only improved oil palm vato process their oil palm. "I have another challenge riety so as to raise its proof lack of power, I use fuel duction percept in Tanzania. Tenera variety is also to run the machine instead of electricity. I also have no considered as an improved reliable transport," he said. commercial variety by large At small industries oil palm producing coun-

development Organisation tries.

investments.

better technology," he said.

government interventions oil palm variety, Tanzania

(SIDO) offices located at the He said to boost oil outskirt of Kigoma town production in palm things are more or less Tanzania for increasing the same. Technicians are palm oil availability, designing the machines among others, three most but they are not effective important interventions enough and lack latest are being fulfilled: The technology. The Objective of first intervention is the SIDO is to develop the small production of improved commercial oil palm industry sector in Tanzania. variety (Tenera) and supply One of the local machines to farmers. The second designer at SIDO Shabani Mashauri said that the intervention is to deploy all machines can be improved the potential area for palm if there will enough oil production in Tanzania by planting Tenera variety. "I learnt this technology The third intervention is of designing these local to replant the old oil palm machines at SIDO. The trees existing in Tanzania machines are very strong with Tenera variety. TARI but need more investment Kihinga has a priority to produce improved oil to be advanced. There is need for other stakeholders palm variety (Tenera) and to come in and invest in supply to oil palm growers at the same time sensitizing advanced machines with oil palm growers on the Since the Prime Minister's importance of replanting directed was issued, Kigoma their old oil palm trees with region and the farmers in Tenera variety. Given the particular have seen several availability of improved

to ensure availability of has a potential to be a big producer of palm oil because better seeds. For example, in this year alone, the there is ample land suitable Agricultural for oil palm production. For instance, in Kigoma region Research Institute (TARI) 114,000 ha are suitable for under leadership of Dr. oil palm production but only Mkamilo has 23,000 ha are planted. visited and supplied 50,000 improved seeds of oil palm variety coded TENERA to Kwitanga Prison in

In Tanzania, palm oil is the most consumed oil due to its widespread availability and, at a relative lower-price. In 2016, Tanzania edible oil consumption was estimated to be 570,000 MT, 64 percent of it being palm oil, 30 percent sunflower oil and 2 percent cottonseed oil. In the

same year, Tanzania edible oil production was estimated to be 210,000 MT, 83 percept of it being sunflower oil, 5 percent cotton seed oil and 2 percent palm oil. This indicates that about 99.3 percent of palm oil consumed in Tanzania is imported from other palm oil producing countries. Tanzania spends about 432 billion shillings per year to import edible oil from foreign countries. Such expenditure stands as one of the stumbling block for the economic growth of the country.



One of the local oil palm processing machines at Mahembe in Kigoma region. Kigoma residents calls upon the private sector to invest in new technological industries to spur the economy of the region. Photo by



Absa Group Limited (AGL) appoints **Daniel Mminele as Group Chief Executive**

- Mminele to start on 15 January 2020
- A "forward-thinking" leader that will drive Absa's long-term growth

Absa Group Limited (AGL) today announced the appointment of Aaron Daniel Mminele as Group Chief Executive of Absa Group, effective from 15th January 2020. Mminele will be taking over from René van Wyk, who has been leading the bank on an interim basis since Maria Ramos' retirement in February 2019.

"We are delighted to welcome Daniel to the Absa family. He brings with him a deep understanding of the financial services industry both in South Africa and abroad," said Wendy Lucas-Bull, Chairman of the Absa Group Board. "His unique skills set and global perspective makes him a suitable leader to drive our bank's focus on long-term growth that is digitally-led across our markets. Absa launched its strategy in March 2018, which focused on regaining market share in core businesses. We then reconfigured our operating model and made changes to our Executive Committee to set up the business for implementation of the strategy.

"In terms of his starting point, Daniel will want to assess where we are in implementing that strategy and asses how he can play a role in strengthening the team's ability to continue on that journey. As a leader, he will make his own assessment of what is required but he has a complete open mandate as the Group CE to lead this organisation," said Lucas-Bull.

Mminele spent more than 20 years at the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), where he rose through the ranks to be a Deputy Governor and a member of key committees such as the Monetary Policy Committee and Financial Stability Committee. His other main responsibilities at the SARB included financial markets and international economic relations and policy.

He has represented South Africa in a number of international forums such as the G20, BRICS and the International Monetary Fund. He was also a regular participant in National Treasury's international investor roadshows to promote South Africa.

"I am delighted to be joining the Absa group. I look forward to being part of and leading the exciting journey that Absa has embarked upon to fully establish itself as an African financial services group with deep roots across the continent and a global reach."

Before joining the SARB, Mminele worked as a banker. After completing a Diploma in Banking at Sparkasse Paderborn in Germany in 1987, he spent eight years in various roles at the Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, at its Düsseldorf and London offices. He continued his studies while in the UK and obtained various certificates from the UK's Chartered Institute of Bankers.

He came back to South Africa in 1995, then spent about two years each at Commerzbank, working as a customer relations manager in corporate banking, and at African Merchant Bank, as a project and structured finance specialist, in Johannesburg.

"We are really looking forward to Daniel joining the Absa Group and to his leadership in driving our strategy and guiding this organisation into the future," said Lucas-Bull.

"We are also thankful to René for the job that he has done, especially overseeing the progress we made in our separation from Barclays PLC and the key milestones we achieved in 2019," she added.

Van Wyk will step down as Chief Executive on 14th January 2020, but remain with the Group as an executive director for handover purposes until 31st January 2020. He will rejoin Absa Group and Absa Bank's boards as a non-executive director, following a six-month cooling-off period.

For more information, please contact:

Aron Luhanga Head, Marketing & Corporate Relations Barclays Bank Tanzania Limited +255 768 221 717 aron.luhanga@barclaysafrica.com



Barclays is changing to Absa. Even though things may look different, your banking details won't change and



Part of the Absa family



ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS FOR CUSTOMS AGENT'S LICENSE FOR THE YEAR 2020

Following our earlier public notice inviting applications for Customs Agent's Licenses for the year 2020, we hereby inform the applicants and the general public that after a thorough scrutiny of the applications, the following 246 applicants have been shortlisted and are hereby invited for a written interview that will be conducted on 25th January, 2020 at the Institute of Tax Administration (ITA), Mikocheni Industrial Area, Dar es Salaam.

	BLUE OBIT CO LTD	JOHN P MSUYA
19	BLUESTONE CLEARING & FORWARDING CO.LTD	ERASTO ELIAS KAVISHE
20	BLUPEAK INTERNATIONAL COPR LTD	WINFRED MBWETE RICHARD
21	BRAIN LOGISTIC LIMITED	LEILA SAID OMARY
22	BRIILTEX M. COMPANY LTD	IDD ABDUL JUMA
23	BROWN HOLDING LOGISTIC CO LTD	IBRAHIM SUED FAIZ
24	BUGSNET COMPNY LTD	SAKILA MOSES BUNANGO
25	CARGO POINT COMPANY LIMITED	REGINA ANTHONY MNANKA
26	CDV AFRICA LOGISTICS CO.LTD	VALENTINE PATRICK
27	CELER LOGISTICS LIMITED	MSINA SAIDI LUGILIMBA
	CFWORLDLINK CLEARING &	WONA SAIDI EGGILIWIDA
28	FORWARDING LTD	MAKARATULE MUYEMBA YOHANA MLONDWA OLE
29	CHAGULAGA TRADE LINK (TZ) LIMITED	ORMANOO
30	CHAPLIN AFRICA LOGISTICS LIMITED	JANE BARAKA BALISIDYA
31	CHENENE LOGISTICS LTD	DEMETRIA PETER RUGALABAMU
32	CHIMBA LOGISTICS LIMITED	ELIZABETH PAUL OSAKA
	CHOOSEN GENERATION 2018	
33	CLEARING & FORWARDING COMPANY LIMITED	CUTHBERT CHRISTIAN KASIMBAZI
34	CHRISTAL LOGISTICS CO. LTD	KASSIMU JAFFARI
35	CLADDO TANZANIA LTD	SALIM RASHID ALI
36	COASTLINE FORWARDERS LIMITED	SHUKURU MLAMA
37	CORBRAL INVESTMENT CO. LTD	ALI ALI ABDALLA
38	COSTCO AGENCY COMPANY LTD	DELTON DITRICK MMARY
39	CROWN PRODUCT COMPANY LTD	ABDILLAH WERYA HASHIMU
40	CURIOUS INTERNATIONAL LTD	JOSEPH CORBINIAN KOMBA
41	CUSCO TANZANIA LIMITED	SEIPH MUSTAPHA NDEE
42	DAPROT COMPANY LIMITED	SADOCK MREMA JUSTINE
43	DECENT MARITIME LIMITED	SELEMANI ALLY
44	DELI CLEARING AND FORWARDING	FRANK FEDRICK
18	BLUE OBIT CO LTD BLUESTONE CLEARING &	JOHN P MSUYA
19	FORWARDING CO.LTD	ERASTO ELIAS KAVISHE
20	BLUPEAK INTERNATIONAL COPR LTD	WINFRED MBWETE RICHARD
21	BRAIN LOGISTIC LIMITED	LEILA SAID OMARY
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25	CARGO POINT COMPANY LIMITED	REGINA ANTHONY MNANKA
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26	T CDV AFRICA LOGISTICS CO.LTD	VALENTINE PATRICK
26 27	CELER LOGISTICS LIMITED	
27	CELER LOGISTICS LIMITED CFWORLDLINK CLEARING &	MSINA SAIDI LUGILIMBA
	CELER LOGISTICS LIMITED	MSINA SAIDI LUGILIMBA MAKARATULE MUYEMBA
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47	DILUSA COMPANY LIMITED	JOHNSON N. GOSBERT	
48	DOLPHINE CUSTOMS AGENCY LIMITED	ZUWENA ATHUMANI KISAKENI	
49	DOPPELT M CONSULTECH LTD	MURTHAZAR MANSOOR SALUM	
50	DORRIE TRADING & LOGISTICS LIMITED	MARIA PETER MATYA	
51	DOUBLE EAGLE COMPANY LTD	EVANCE KACHENJE	
52	DRIMAH MJ FREIGHT LIMITED	XAVERY GROLIMUS	
53	DSA LOGISTICS CO.LTD	FREEMAN F. KWEKA	
54	E AND G PENUELIS TRANS &LOGISTIC COMPY LTD	ERICK ERNEST KAHAGWA	
55	ELBURLIZ HOLDINGS LIMITED	ELIZA DAVID PAREIYO	
56	EM FASTFRET BUSINESS SERVICES	HERI OSMUNDI KIPENGELE	
57	EMASHU INVESTMENTS (T) LIMITED	MAXWELL JOSEPH PUKA	
58	EMBARK TRADING COMPANY LTD	EUGEN JASSON MUKWENDA	
59	ENJOY MJ INVESTMENT & COMPANY LIMITED	ALEX KULINDWA JOHN	
60	ESSE & GENERAL SUPPLIERS LTD	DAMSO DARIO	
61	ETAMI CLEARING & FORWARDING CO. LTD	IBRAHIM SAID MWANAMBEGA	
62	EXPRIMIR COMPANY LTD	ALLY RASHID MOHAMED	
63	F & Y CONSULTANT CO.LTD FAIHAM LOGISTICS AND FREIGHT	THEREZA PAUL NG'UMBI	
64	LTD FREIGHT	GEOFRAY Y. OMARY	
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66	FARHAS LIMITED	CHACHA MWITA MSYOMI	
67	FAST DELIVERY CO LTD	SALEH DHAHIR KHAMIS	
68	FJ DAYWELL SERVICES LIMITED	JOHN GAGIRI JOSIAH	
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70	FOCUS VISION CO LTD	SAID SULEIMAN MOHD	
71	FRETZ LOGISTIC LTD	FREDY Z MLAY	
72	FSM TZ COMPANY LIMITED	ELDA EMMANUEL DANIEL BAKARI RAMADHANI	
73	G & N LOGISTICS LTD.	MWAFUMO	
74	GAMBIRA LOGISTIC LTD	ZAINAB RAMADHANI NDIDI	
75	GAMKO LIMITED	NSANGALUFU LOTH	
76	GANSOL FREIGHT	JIRAN CLEMENCE GANDYE	
77	GAVAO HOLDINGS LIMITED	AMINA KASSIM SAID	
78	GEJJ LIMITED	MIKO WILLIAM MLAGULWA	
79	GENUS OVERSEASES LOGISTIC CO LTD	DEODATI N MLYUKA	
80	GERMIDIX COMPANY LIMITED	MOHAMED NASSOR RASHID	
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81	FORWARDING LIMITED	GAUDENCE MTUI	
82	GIDEGA CO LTD	SALEHE JUMANE MSHANA	
83	GOBLESS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED GOLDEN COAST INTERNATIONAL	SHEKHA SARAHANI ALLY SAID BAKARI TINDI	
84	GOLDEN ROCK GROUP LTD		
85	GOLDEN ROCK GROUP LTD GOMA LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	NICHOLOUS KAHALE YONA CHRISTINA M BERNAD	
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	LIMITED	SCOLASTICA EDWIN MPANYII	
87	LIMITED INTEGRATED		
87 88	GRAVITY INTEGRATED INCORPORATION LTD	BARAKA IRENGE	
87 88 89	GRAVITY INTEGRATED INCORPORATION LTD GREAT WALL COMPANY LIMITED GREEN RIVER CLEARING AND	BARAKA IRENGE BEDA BAZILI MAKOYI FOLORA FORTUNATUS	
86 87 88 89 90 91	GRAVITY INTEGRATED INCORPORATION LTD GREAT WALL COMPANY LIMITED	BEDA BAZILI MAKOYI	
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96	HAMJON FREIGHT LTD HANDLERS LOGISTICS COMPANY	HYACINTHA NYAMWIZA KABALI
97	LIMITED	YAHAYA SIMBA HALFAN
98	HARAKA CARGO & CLEARING LIMITED	SEIF ALI ABDALLAH
99	HATBAH COMPANY LIMITED	JOSHUA GODSON KAOMBWE
100	HEIRATO COMPANY LIMITED	JOHN AMOS RWAKAMALI
101	HOLLOWAY LOGISTICS LIMITED	ZAINABU A. KIDUNDA
102	HUBLEX LOGISTICS LIMITED	EMMANUEL KENNED'
103	IMPERIUM OPES GROUP LIMITED	CECILIA MICHAEL TEMU.
104	IMPOEXPO LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	BEATUS STEPHEN KIRUKU
105	INSIGHT FREIGHT COMPANY LIMITED	ALEX PASTORY MATEMBE
106	INTER BLESS LOGISTIC	ANTHONY EMANUEL MUSHI
107	INTERCOM TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	SADA ALLY MVUGALO
108	INTERCOM GROUP LTD	LATIFA MFAUME
109	INTERGRITY BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS COMPANY LTD	OMARY HASSAN OMARY
110	INTERLECK GROUP FORWARDERS LIMITED	DAUDI DISMAS KILEO
111	ISIMANI LOGISTICS LIMITED	GERYSON LAVIAN SHAYO
112	ISSANASSIR INVESTMENT COMPANY	GODFREY EBEHARD LUOGA
113	IVZ INVESTMENT LTD	MONICA GEORGE SILUMBE
114	IYAN LOGISTICS LIMITED	SIMON ERICK
115	J&J IMPORT AND EXPORT CO LTD	BENJAMIN MWEGOHA
116	J&J LOGISTICS CO LIMITED	JACQUELINE LLOYD LYIMO
117	JACMAC ROADWAYS LTD	FESTO FABIAN
118	JADIN CARGO CO. LIMITED	MISSIWA MKOSAMALI
119	JAOMA FREIGHT FORWARD LTD	SIXTUS WANCHOKE
120	JHL LOGISTICS CO.LTD	ARNOLD ALFRED BITEGEKO
121	JJP 2018 COMPY LTD	AURELI LIHAMIKWE
122	JL INVESTMENT COMPANY LTD	HELLONE MISSO
123	JTM CLEARING AND FORWARDING LIMITED	ENISA FRANCIS MUSHI
124	JUMIGO LOGISTIC	ABDALLAH SAID MSANGI
125	KAHONDA COMPANY LIMITED	MUSA PETER NG'HONI
126	KANAY CONSULTS COMPANY LIMITED	ABUBAKAR SIMBA MGAYA
127	KASELIA INVESTMENT CO LIMITED	PETRO MWITA MDENDI
128	KAWA LOGISTICS LIMITED	WILFRED AMINIEL
129	KINEVE FREIGHT FORWADERS LTD	IBRAHIM KARIM
130	KITONGA LOGISTIC CO LTD	YUSUF RAMDHANI
		NASIBU MOHAMEI
131 132	KIVIA INVETMENT 2017 CO. LTD KIYINZA INVESTMENT CO.LTD	PANGAHELA GEOFREY MATHIAS DAFFA
132	KONA FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	EDIAS TITO
134	KYASALA COMPANY LTD	PETER TUMAINI
135	LABOCK COMPANY LTD	GODIAN GODWIN
136	LCP DIRECT SERVICES T LTD	THOBIAS JOHN MUNGE
137	LIAMSON COMPANY LTD	CHRISTIAN THOMAS
137	LOHE TANZANIA LIMITED	LENARD PETER MUNISI
139	LOS BENDITO CO LIMITED	JOHN MAKALA
140	LUTELWEDI TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS CO LIMITED	EDDAH BOKEYE MBUSIRO
141	M3G PERFECT VISION COMPANY LTD	MUSTAFA IMAN
142	MABUSATI TRADING AND CLEARAING LTD	MASOUD ALI MASOUD
		ABELY REVOCATUS
143	MACEJU INVESTMENT CO. LTD	MAHINDUKA
144	MAGSON INTL LTD MAKANDOLA GROUP COMPANY	NELSON J MAGIGE
145	LIMITED	HONEST SHABANI MIYUNGUA
146	MALINDI CLEARING AND FORWARDING	CASSIAN SIMON MWINGIRA



147	MAMLEWIS T LIMITED	OLIVER KOMBA
148	MANWALY INVESTMENT LIMITED	WISTON ELIUD MUNISI
149	MARINETECH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	PETER FLORIAN
		JOHANES ANDREV
150	MARTFED LOGISTICS CO. LTD	ALEXANDER
151	MASHUA FREIGHT (T) LIMITED	RICK JOHN NSABE
152	METU GENERAL LTD	LADISLAUS JOSEPH MTEI
153	MKAMILO INVESTMENT COLTD	IDDY A MAYOSA
154	MO MASH MANAGEMENT COMPANY LTD	SAMWEL JULIUS FUND
155	MOCHAS TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	HEBRON JOHANA MALELE
156	MOKILAI COMPANY LIMITED	EMANUEL J NGOTY
157	MOMBA FREIGHT LIMITED	SHADHIRI RASHII MWANAJIMMBA
158	MONOX CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD	ROSELINE ALOYCE MUNISHI
159	MOOCHA CLEARING & LOGISTICS LIMITED	ROBERT MALOGO NGOMBELA
159	MOPAA CLEARING AND	NGOMBELA
160	FORWARDING CO LTD MOSALKO FREIGHT FORWARDERS CO	MARIETHA VENANCE
161	LTD	GLORY RAPHAEL MMARI
162	MOTELA CLEARING AND FORWARDING FREIGHT LIMITED	AUDIFAS PRIVATU LIGALLAMA
102	FORWARDING FREIGHT LIWITED	MOHAMED HASSAI
163	MREJEBE COMPANY LIMITED	MGALLAH
164	MSP COMPANY LIMITED	THANI SAID AHMEN
165	MUCAC LOGISTICS CO	ALMACHIUS MEDARD
166	NANA FREIGHT CO LTD	RAMADHANI SAID CHIMB. MIZUNGU
167	NANDERA FREIGHT FORWADER LTD	RAMADHANI NAFASI
168	NANGUMBI LOGISTIC LIMITED	PHILIPO ABDALLAH MSUYA
	NANTWA FREIGHT FORWARDERS	
169	CO.LTD	ALICE JAMES MACHAKU
170	NARA LOGISTICS LTD	GIFT ALPHONCE KIPILIMBA
171	NASADI LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	ROY TIMOTHY KINGU
172	NATIVE PROFFESSIONALS COMPANY LIMITED	JOHN YAKOBO OBEDI
173	NG'ANDE INVESTMENT LTD	ZENA MESHACK ANANIA
174	NHFL INVESTMENT CO.(T) LTD	PAUL SILAS MASATU
175	NICONAT LOGISTICS CO LTD	ANASTAZIA NATASHA MAX
176	NJECHELE COMPANY LTD	SAID A. HEMED
177	NOVA ESPERANCA SERVICES LIMITED	PIUS MTUKA
178	NOVIR LOGISTICS LIMITED	ODEA JAMES MACHAKU
179	NOZOMI LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	RICHARD CLEMENC HILLARY
180	NRM GROUP COMPANY LTD	MARIAM SHABANI NGATILE
181	NR'S GENERAL COMPANY LTD	LAYLA MOHAMED ZAHOR
182	NSIADEDE ENTERPRISES & COMPANY LIMITED	MSAFIRI OMARY HASSAN
183	NVV CLEARING & FORWARDING COMPANY LIMITED	MADTINI THADELIS KOMBA
100	OOIVII AINT LIIVIITED	MARTIN THADEUS KOMBA SALVANUES ELISEUS
184	OBY STAR AFRICA	NGAMESAI ELISEUS
185	ONYX LOGISTICS LTD	STANFORD MORA
186	PD BUSINESS SOLUTION LTD	VICENT ALLAN KHALID
187	PESAMBILI INVESTMENT COMPANY	KHALID ABDALLAH MBONDE
188	PHOEBES LOGISTIC LTD	FAISAL SAID FAISAL
189	PISHON TANZANIA LIMITED	ISIHAKA R.CHAMBIKA
	PORT MARINE CLEARING AND	ONESPHORO FANUEL
190	FORWARDING LIMITED PRABERT CLEARING AND	MSENGI
191	FORWADING CO LTD	EDMUND NDESARIO
192	PRO ASSET LIMITED	MWITA JOHNSON MAGIRA
193	PRO-CLAS SERVICES COMPANY LTD	HAMIDA FADHIL MDIM
194	PYUTA COMPANY LIMITED QC COMPANY LIMITED	SALUM HAMISI MGELWA ELIZABETH AGUSTINI LEKA
105	RAGANA LIMITED	ALOYCE J.MBUNDA
196		JAQUELINE ISSACK MEQ
196	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED	JAQUELINE ISSACK MFOI MOHAMED SALUM MAJID
197	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD	
196 197 198 199	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED	MOHAMED SALUM MAJID
196 197 198 199 200	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED REFATH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED REKIBO INVETMENT LTD	MOHAMED SALUM MAJID HIJAT MUHARAM SELEMAN WINNIE LEMA MLILEGE AMBANGIL
196 197 198 199 200	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED REFATH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED REKIBO INVETMENT LTD RICHRENS LOGISTICS LTD	MOHAMED SALUM MAJID HIJAT MUHARAM SELEMAN WINNIE LEMA
196 197 198 199 200	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED REFATH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED REKIBO INVETMENT LTD	MOHAMED SALUM MAJID HIJAT MUHARAM SELEMAN WINNIE LEMA MLILEGE AMBANGIL KANYEYE
196 197 198 199 200 201 202	RAJOO DIGITAL AGENCY LTD RAMSO TANZANIA LIMITED REFATH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED REKIBO INVETMENT LTD RICHRENS LOGISTICS LTD RISE & SHINE LOGISTICS CO. LTD	MOHAMED SALUM MAJID HIJAT MUHARAM SELEMAN WINNIE LEMA MLILEGE AMBANGILI KANYEYE ELIZABIBU G. MBWAMBO

205	ROUT CARE LOGISTIC CO LTD	TWALIB ALI PAZI
206	SACON FREIGHT AND FORWARDERS	EVANCE ODONGO NGERE
207	SAFETY DELIVERY TANZANIA LIMITED	ZAKAYO ZABRON MPEFO
208	SAMBO CONSOLIDATION LIMITED	ALLEN MUNZARI RITTE
209	SAMEMO INVESTMENT CO. LTD	CAROLINE HENRY KABOGO
	SEVENTH INVESTMENT COMPANY	
210	LIMITED SGA SECURITY T LTD	SIMON DAUDI MALAMALA COLLIN GJEMIN MCHOME
212	SHAKI G5 LIMITED	VICENT S.SHULA
213	SHANI CARGO FREIGHT LTD	MIRAJI JUMA MANYANJE
214	SHESHE LOGISTICS LIMITED	ZENA MESHACK
215	SIFONGO FREIGHT & LOGISTIC	JONAS L KILEO
216	SIRA LOGISTICS (T) LIMITED	ALPHONCE FARID BURITO
217	SOLKAZZ LOGISTICS LIMITED	ROSE ALOYCE
218	STANHA FREIGHT FORWARDERS	PRINCE G JOSIAH
219	STRAIGHT CLEARING SERVICES LIMITED	WAHIDA MNYAMANI
220	TAHA GOING LOGISTICS AND FREIGHT LTD	HAPPINESS WILLIAM KESSY
221	TANDY QUICK COMPANY LTD	AMANI JUMANNE AMANI
222	TANPEAK BUSINESS & LOGISTICS LTD	LUCAS M.KIULA
223	TARABENI AGENCY CO. LIMITED	GODFREY URASSA FABIAN
224	TBG FREIGHTERS CO.LTD.	ESTER FURAHA NKYA
225	THE GIAT -TZ COMPANY LTD	MALICK MKILINDI KHATIBU
226	THE ONLY LOGISTICS CO LTD	KISAKA RAMADHANI JUMA
227	TRANSOCEAN EXPRESS LOGISTICS LIMITED.	RASHID SAID SELEMAN
228	TRISTAR ENERGY (TANZANIA) LIMITED	OMARY AYOUB NOFLI
229	TRUENORTH SERVICES COMPANY LIMITED	EDWIN SIMON MOLLEL
230	TWENTY FIRST LOGISTICS CO LTD	ALVIN PASCAL SANYENGE
231	UNGANDO CONTRACTORS & GENERAL SUPPLIES LIMITED	SEIF I. SEIF
232	UPENDO INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARD LTD	SUBIRAH HASSAN KAHOYE
233	USEI LOGISTIC LIMITED	SOPHIA LUCAS MINJA
234	VEVINA INTERNATIONAL LTD	BENADETHA APOLINARY
235	VYAKA'S FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS CO.LIMITED	FRANK NORBET CHENGULA
236	WALLMARK GROUP CO LTD	AWLA KASSIM SAIDY
237	WAY IMPEX CO.LTD	JULIUS GIDEON SINKONDE
238	WILL LOGISTIC T LTD	CHARLES YASSIN
239	WINOME (T) LIMITED	FADHILI JOHN MNYAWAMI
240	XPOTRUS COMPANY LIMITED	ELIFADHA ALLY
241	YULONG LOGISTICS LIMITED	YASSER SAID AHMED
242	ZAN FREIGHT COMPANY LIMITED	ABOUD M ABOUD
243	ZANZIBAR S & G CARGO CO.LTD	SALMA ABDILLAHI IDDI
244	ZARA FREIGHT FORWARDERS COMPANY LTD	LATIFA OMAR
245	ZD - OCEANAIR LOGISTICS LIMITED	SAMWEL NAGABONA JUSTINE
246	ZS LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD	MNIBU MOHAMED KIBINDU
	AL CONDITIONS FOR THE SHORTLISTED APP	

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS

- I. Interviewees should appear with identity cards and introduction letters signed by the Director of the Company affixed with his/her passport size photograph together with a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.
- 2. The interview will start at 08:30 a.m. All candidates should report and register at the Institute of Tax Administration (ITA) at least an hour before commencement of the interview.
- 3. The following persons are not allowed to appear for this interview even if their names might have inadvertently appeared in the list above:
- i. A candidate who previously sat for similar interview under another company and passed the interview.
- ii. A director or a shareholder of a Clearing and Forwarding Agent company whether currently in operation or is suspended or revoked for violation of customs laws and procedures

NB: I.This notice is also published in the TRA website www.tra.go.tz

 $2. \, \mbox{Companies}$ not mentioned in this notice did not qualify for the interview.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Juma B. Hassan
For: COMMISSIONER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

FEATURE

Guardian

ROME

et's face what lies ahead with open eyes: 2020 is going to be a very tough year for the world, and developing countries in particular. The infant decade has already begun with the harbingers of climate disaster as thousands fled to beaches in Australia from raging bush fires, and the Middle East braced for more conflict after a U.S. air strike in Baghdad killed Iran's top general.

But even as the world needs a concerted and decisive response to its challenges, we risk more of the backsliding and indifference towards humanity that in 2019 characterised the behaviour of many powerful governments, from Australia to the United States, from Brazil to China.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has cited wars, the climate crisis, gender-based violence and persistent inequality in warning that the world is well behind meeting the deadlines of its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2019 SDG report showed momentum for positive change, but also identified several areas that need urgent collective action: the climate crisis, human suffering, quality education, and gender discrimination.

Many countries and stakeholders have indeed responded with pledges of "SDG Acceleration Actions". But we need to be brutally honest about the gulf between past promises and ac-

Warning that the world will still have 500 million people in extreme poverty in 2030, Mr. Guterres has called for this to be a Decade of Action. But he surely didn't envisage what

President Donald Trump had in mind with the drone strike he ordered that killed Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad on January 3. Iran quickly pledged "tough revenge" and "World War III" was trending on Twit-

Even without further conflict in the region, the proxy war fought in Yemen between Iran and Saudi Arabia is expected by the UN to continue as "the world's worst humanitarian crisis" in 2020 after nearly five years of fighting. An estimated 24 million people, or 80 per cent of Yemen's population, will remain in need of aid.

Worldwide 168 million people will need humanitarian aid and protection in crises across more than 50 countries in 2020, according to the UN's emergency relief coordinator. The UN humanitarian affairs coordination office (OCHA) launched its Global Humanitarian Overview 2020 with an appeal for nearly \$29 billion in aid from donors. "It is the highest figure in decades," Mark Lowcock, head of OCHA, said, blaming climatic shocks, large infectious disease outbreaks and intensifying. protracted conflicts for an increase of some 22 million people in need last year.

Armed conflicts are already killing and maiming a record number of children, with women and girls at higher risk of sexual and gender-based violence than before.

The UN Children's Fund UNICEF has called for \$4.2 billion for its 2020 emergency appeal to reach 59 million children with life-saving support in 64 countries. This is more than triple the funds requested in 2010.

"Around the world today,

2020: A year full of danger



Protesters demonagainst direction taken by change

we're seeing the largest number of children in need of emergency assistance since we began record-keeping. One in four children lives in a country affected by conflict or disaster," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore.

UN risk assessments were blown off course by worse than expected climate crisis-related

events, such as drought, flooding and tropical cyclones.

But the world's efforts to deal with the climate emergency have been dealt a most severe blow by the policies of Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro.

Deforestation of the Amazon, the world's largest tropical rainforest, soared in 2019 to levels not seen in a decade. Protected areas have been opened to mining and agricultural conversion, and murders of environmentalists have increased. Commenting on the global picture, Rhett Butler, founder of the Mongabay non-profit environment website, says: "After a decade of increased deforestation, broken commitments, and hundreds of murders of rainforest defenders, the 2020s open as a dark moment for the world's rain-

Agronomists such as Carlos Nobre and Thomas Lovejoy warn that the Amazon is reaching a critical tipping point as it shows signs of shifting from humid tropical forest towards degraded

releasing massive amounts of carbon into the atmosphere. It is urgent that Brazil move away from unsustainable agribusiness monocultures of cattle, sov and sugarcane, and launch a major reforestation project on already degraded lands.

But Mr Bolsonaro is also joined by Mr Trump, who will seek re-election this year, in abandoning climate leadership and damaging global conservation

The latest mantra for climate scientists and UN envoys seeking to broker global agreements is that "2020 is the last best chance" to turn the tide of the climate emergency. Under the 2015 Paris Agreement countries pledged to review and, hopefully, ramp up their efforts to cut greenhouse gases by this year, meaning that a lot of effort is needed ahead of the crucial UN climate conference, COP26, to be held in Glasgow in November.

As noted by climate news site Carbon Brief, with key emitters such as the US, wooded savanna which would result in Australia and Brazil hostile towards

international climate action, a lot now hangs on China and the EU acting as one to maintain the Paris Agreement's momentum.

But China, along with Brazil and India, have been called out by the Association of Small Island States as actively blocking ambitious outcomes in discussions on carbon credit discussions.

Last month's COP (Conference of the Parties) in Madrid was widely viewed by climate activists as a flop.

Protestors outside the conference hall, including Swedish teenager Greta Thunberg, demonstrated the yawning gulf between their aspirations and those inside of procrastinating governments.

The diplomatic Mr Guterres said he was "disappointed" at the outcome and said the major emitters of greenhouse gases need to "do much more" in 2020. Indeed. Much, much more.

Agencies



TENDERS FOR THE YEAR 2020

Swissport Tanzania PLC, the leading ground handling services provider operating at Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) and Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA); hereby invites tenders from reputable companies for the supply of the following goods and services for the year ending 31st December 2020.

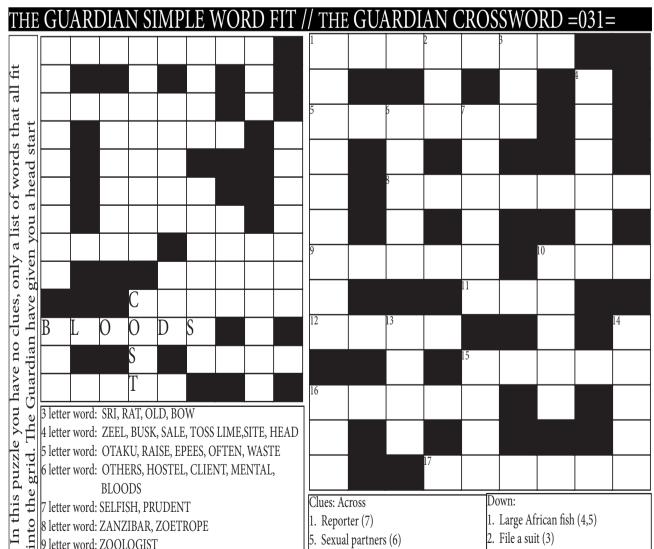
TENDER NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION
Tender No. 1	Supply of Diesel (Gas Oil) and Lubricants at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 2	Supply of Stationeries at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 3	Maintenance of Weighing Scales at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 4	Supply, Servicing and repair of Fire Extinguishers at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 5	Supply of Tyres and Tubes for Motor Vehicles and Ground Support Equipment at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 6	Printing and Supply of pre-printed stationaries at JNIA
Tender No. 7	Provision of Laundry Services for Workshop Uniforms at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 8	Supply of Security Tapes and Pre-printed Cash Receipts at JNIA
Tender No. 9	Supply, Servicing and Repair of Air Conditions at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 10	Maintenance of the Access Control platform at JNIA
Tender No. 11	Maintenance of CCTV at JNIA
Tender No. 12	Provision of Cleaning and Hygiene Services at JNIA
Tender No. 13	Supply of Cleaning Materials at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 14	Supply of Tea Items (Milk, Sugar, Coffee and Tea Bags) at JNIA and KIA
Tender No. 15	Supply of staff transport service at JNIA

- A. Interested bidders must submit their bids together with copies of certificates of registration, audited accounts, valid Business Licenses, VAT and TIN registration certificates. Bidders must also indicate Physical Address of their offices as well as Names and Addresses of their Bankers.
- Detailed tender documents and/or samples may be obtained from the Office of Purchasing and Supplies located at Terminal one (JNIA). The office is accessible through Gate 7 near Police Station, Terminal One (JNIA) and from Finance Office located at the Cold Storage Facility (KIA), during weekdays between 0800hrs and 1600hrs upon payment of non-refundable fee of Tshs 100, 000/= for each tender in cash.
- Bids in plain sealed envelopes, clearly showing the type of tender applied for, should be addressed to the **Tender** Committee Secretary, Swissport Tanzania Plc. P.O. Box 18043, Dar es Salaam and must be deposited in the tender box located at:
 - JNIA: Finance department, located at first Floor, Swissport Freight Terminal **KIA: Maintenance Workshop**
- D. Deadline for submission of all bids shall be Tuesday, 28th January 2020 at 1600hrs. Bids submitted late shall
- E. Swissport Tanzania Plc. is not obliged to accept the lowest bid or any tender.

SECRETARY

Tender Committee-Swissport Tanzania Plc.

FROM LANDING TO TAKE-OFF: WE CARE!



. Reporter (7)

17. Flavorings from plants (6)

8 letter word: ZANZIBAR, ZOETROPE

9 letter word: ZOOLOGIST

Large African fish (4,5)

2. File a suit (3) . Sexual partners (6) Donkey (3) . Be enough (7) Cunning deceptions (6) 9. Charges (5) Go to see somebody (5)

10. Question somebody (3) 11. Long thin fish (3) . Reject (6)

10. Without company (5) 12. Put out of sight (4) 13. Household dirt (4) 15. Full of sand (5) 14. Embakments to prevent floods (5) 16. Somebody who works with stone (5)

16. Piece of carpet (3)

Comments: 0789 43 73 09

15. Break with sharp noise (4)

SIVART MONEY

Tuesday 7 January 2020

BUSINESS → ECONOMY → MARKETS → WEALTH



CURRENT NEWS

Samsung Electronics says will unveil 'innovative devices' next month



BUSINESS NEWS UK car sales hit sixvear low on Brexit and emissions uncertainty

Page14

OUTLOOK & ANALYSIS

South Korean restaurant owners voice concerns over \$4 billion Delivery Hero deal

Page15

Agro-bank issued 1bn/- loan to boost productivity and value chain last year



The Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) managing director, Japhet Justine shares a light moment when he visited Njombe District Commissioner Ruth Msafiri over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent,

Development Bank (TADB) has provided productivity and value chain of products in the livestock and industrial sectors in Niombe region.

TADB managing director Japhet Justine made the revelation during the banks' visit in Njombe region where officials inspected various projects and loan beneficiaries

farmers and livestock keepers. The loans were provided in 2019.

The TADB boss was accompanied by Njombe District Commissioner, Ruth Msafiri. They also visited Njombe Milk factory which is owned by the association of Njombe livestock keepers and a privately owned maize mill-Mama Seki Group.

Njombe Milk Manager, John Kusila said the bank has been providing support to the factory through provision of equipment which has led into

increased milk production. He said TADB also conducts capacity building training to factory workers.

"This milk processing project benefits over 900 dairy farmers who are members of cooperative unions under Niombe livestock keepers association", Msafiri told visiting officials.

Owner of Mama Seki Group, a privately owned maize mill, Lucy Yona commended TADB for assisting her with a modern mill and a machine used to make packaging materials. She

said the mill can grinder up to 30 tonnes of maize per day.

Yona said with bank's support she has been able to expand business and employ more than 12 people.

Meanwhile, TADB Executive Director, Japhet Justine said the bank is proud of being supportive to farmers and livestock keepers, and that it is working to ensure reliable and coordinated markets for the locally made agricultural products.

He said the factories

that locally produced but sold internationally as well as provide employment to young people. He said the Mama Seki Group is apart from providing employment, enhances

food security in Njombe and

surrounding regions. Jusine said the bank also provided loans to dairy cattle keepers are avocado farmers in the region. He said TADB is supporting the country's agriculture sector due to its importance in development. He said the bank will continue boost invest in the sector and ensure value addition.

"The agriculture sector is important for industrialization and economic growth. We are going to reach many farmers through our zonal branches in Dodoma, Mwanza, Kigoma, Dar es Salaam and Southern Highland regions", Justione.

The fifth phase government under the stewardship of President Magufuli is working towards turning Tanzania into medium sized and industrial increases the number of goods to provide financial support to based economy by 2025.

Rungwe district council issues 120 million/loans to 21 groups of entrepreneurs

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

RUNGWE District Council in Mbeya Region has issued loans amounting to 120m/- to 21 groups of women, youths and people with disabilities during the second quarter of FY 2019/20 to enable them conduct entrepreneurship ac-

The loans were handed over to the groups at the weekend by the Chairman of Rungwe District Council Ezekiel Mwankota who was official guest at the event.

Speaking about the loans, the District's Acting Community Development Officer Deodatus Nenze said during the first quarter of FY 2019/20 they issued loans amounting to 90m/whose recipients have started repaying.

He said at present, if the loans for the first and second quarters are added the total comes to 210m/- which is part of the implementation of the law that requires 10 percent of the Council revenues to be allocated to the groups.

He said some of the groups that had received loans included motorcycle (bodaboda) drivers, cooking oil and food processors, tailors and food vendors.

He said they will continue to issue loans according the requirements of the law as well as making follow ups for loans repayment so that other in need of loans should be issued with

On his part, the Rungwe District Development Director (DED) Loema Peter called upon those who have received the loans to repay in time so that others get the same or for them to get more loans.

"The goal of the Council is to extend loans amounting to more than 400m/- by FY 2019/20 that ends June this year, hence if we arrive at the goal it's better for you who have received the loans to repay them in time," Loema said.

Rungwe District Council Chairman Mwankota praised his DED for managing well the loans making the council among those which implements the government directives.

He also called uipon wananchi to pay various levies for the goods they sell so as to make the Council increase revenue collection which will in turn increase the amounts of loans to be extended to the groups.

Bunda residents climb Mount Balili in new drive to promote domestic tourism



By Guardian Correspondent, Bunda

MORE than 100 people of different ages and socio-economic background in Bunda Town Council in Mara Region have climbed Mount Balili as part of promoting domestic tourism and conservation.

Among the climbers who spent two hours to reach the peak of the mountain include children aged between 6 and 13, who were led by chairman of the town council, Abraham Mayaya.

The event has been organized by a local NGO-NCT 'Twende Kutalii' (Let's go for tour) in collaboration with Bunda-based community radio--Mazingira FM.

Speaking soon after the event, climbers said that the move is meant to encourage more people to venture into domestic tourism as

well as conservation. Mayaya said that the council honors tourism and in making that as a reality, the council provided free of charge a piece of land to the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to build office for the western zone. The TANAPA offices will be build on

the foothills of Balili Mountain. He encouraged people in the area to inculcate a habit of visiting tourist destinations within and outside the council as well as doing business which are related to tourism. "This will also help to improve their income as it is to people in northern Tanzania's regions, where people use tourism as one of the sources of income," he said.

A tour operator and chairman of NCT 'Twende Kutalii', Albert Chenza said that apart from promoting domestic tourism, the event is meant to promote the mountain, which has diverse of untapped opportunities.

He described Balili as a mountain with a wide-range of unexplored opportunities, hence encouraging people in the area to visit the area rather than waiting for foreigners to climb the mountain. He said the mountain provide a thrilling view.

During his life time, the late father of the nation Mwalimu Nyerere planted a tree on the foothill of the mountain as part of promoting conservation spirits in the country.

What could bring US stocks down to earth

NEW YORK

ne U.S. stock market's relentless drive higher has caused some nailbiting on Wall Street that the rally is about to end. Geopolitical risks - such as the latest escalation of U.S. tensions with Iran - are just one on a list of worries for 2020.

Stocks ended 2019 with their best year since 2013, with the benchmark S&P 500 .SPX rising nearly 29%. That's put the S&P index at just under the 3,260 level that a Reuters poll forecast the index would achieve at the end of 2020.

Some investors are now increasingly nervous that the vearend "melt-up" in shares will turn into a scary melt-down.

Here are some of the risks preoccupying Wall Street as the 2020 has started

The stock market's stunning 2019 gains came despite a lackluster year for corporate profit growth, but performance may suffer if earnings lag in 2020.

Fourth-quarter reporting season starts in the coming days and results are expected to be anemic, with S&P 500 earnings seen down 0.3%, according to Refinitiv data.

But analysts expect S&P 500 earnings to rise 9.7% in 2020. There are some skeptics, notes Chuck Carlson, chief executive at Horizon Investment Services in Hammond, Indiana, who said bears are "still having some negative thinking that corporate profits aren't going to be all that great (in 2020) because the economy is probably going to be a little softer."

Indeed, data on Friday showed the U.S. manufacturing sector contracted in December by the most in more than a decade.

An initial U.S.-China trade agreement provided a year-end boost for stocks, but any hitch in the Phase 1 deal between the world's two largest economies could rattle markets.

"The rivalry between the U.S. and China hasn't gone away," Mark Haefele, chief investment officer at UBS Global Wealth Management, said in a recent note.

"Investors will be alert for any sign that tensions are re-emerging, or either side is dissatisfied with the



Traders work at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York, U.S. File photo.

implementation of the Phase 1 agreement," Haefele said.

"When the Fed injects money, funds generally flow to the bestreturning market," said analysts at Bianco Research in a recent note. "The big question is, what happens when the Fed ends Tbill purchases and repo support," said Bianco.

In October, the Fed announced that it would start buying about \$60 billion per month in Treasury bills to ensure "ample reserves" in the banking system, a program that would continue at least until the second quarter. The Fed would also continue to support the short-term lending markets by offering daily operations in the market for repurchase agreements, or repo.

"Be wary of a correction in the first half as Fed balance sheet increases wane," said Andrew Brenner, head of international fixed income at NatAlliance Securities,

UK car sales hit six-year low on

Brexit and emissions uncertainty

Markets will increasingly focus on the U.S. presidential race as Democratic primaries begin next month and the general election in November draws closer.

Several prominent investors have warned of steep stock declines should a progressive candidate secure the Democratic nomination and defeat President Donald Trump. Of particular concern is if Democrats sweep the presidency and both houses of Congress, paving the way for major policy overhauls.

Investors currently see little market risk from the impeachment of Trump. That could change if U.S. senators in Trump's own Republican party begin defecting against him in significant numbers in the Senate trial.

As the market soared in 2019, so did investor bullishness about equities despite rising valuations, a potential sign to be wary.

According to the AAII Investor Sentiment Survey, bullish senti-

ment rose in the Dec. 19 reading to its highest level since October 2018, just before the market endured a year-end swoon. Such bullishness has since pared back to around historical averages.

"Some of the sentiment readings have turned pretty aggressively," said Horizon's Carlson. "While we may not be there yet, that would be something to watch as we go into the early part of 2020, is 'are we getting a little too excited or too ebullient on this market.'

Stocks were hit on Friday and investors moved into safe-haven assets after a U.S. air strike in Baghdad killed Iran's most prominent military commander.

"Geopolitics has come back to the table and this is something that could have major cross asset implications," said Salman Ahmed, chief investment strategist at Lombard Odier Investment Management in London.

Oil prices climb 2pc after Iran, Trump trade threats

SINGAPORE

Oil prices rose a further 2% on Monday, pushing Brent above \$70 a barrel, as rhetoric from the United States, Iran and Iraq fanned tensions in the Middle East after the killing of a top Iranian gen-

Brent crude futures LCOc1 soared to a high of \$70.74 a barrel and was at \$70.03 at 0747 GMT, up \$1.43, or 2.1%, from Friday's settlement.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate CLc1 crude was at \$64.15 a barrel, up \$1.10, or 1.7%, after touching \$64.72 earlier, the highest since April.

The gains extended Friday's morethan-3% surge after a U.S. air strike in Iraq killed Iranian commander Qassem Soleimani on Friday, heightening concerns that a widening Middle East conflict that could disrupt oil supplies.

The region accounts for nearly half of the world's oil production, while a fifth of the world's oil shipments pass through the Strait of Hormuz.

On Sunday President Trump threatened to impose sanctions on Iraq, the second largest producer among the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), if U.S. troops were forced to withdraw from the country. Baghdad earlier called on American and other foreign troops to leave Iraq.

Trump also said that the United States will retaliate against Iran if Tehran were to strike back after the killing.

"The big uncertainty now for markets is how Iran will respond to this attack," ING analysts said in a note.

"While clearly, the latest developments put U.S. assets in the region at risk, it also increases the risk of disruptions to oil supply in the Middle East, be it through the Iranians disrupting Strait of Hormuz oil flows, or through attacking energy infrastructure of U.S. allies in the region."

However, Goldman Sachs analysts said the current risk premium embedded in Brent monthly price spreads is already elevated and an actual supply disruption is now necessary to sustain current oil prices.

"The precedent set by the Abqaiq attack showed that the oil market has significant supply flexibility starting when Brent is at \$70/bbl, even before shale production needs to ramp up, suggesting only moderate upside from here, should an attack on oil assets actually occur," the bank said, referring to an attack on a Saudi processing complex in September.

In the United States, U.S. crude stocks fell by their most since June as exports exceeded 4 million barrels per day for the first time in history, the Energy Information Administration said on Friday. [EIA/S]

Elsewhere, bad weather shut all four east Libyan oil export terminals on Sunday and the closure could last three days, port sources said.



Pump jacks operate at sunset in Midland, Texas, U.S. File photo.

Euro zone business activity close to stagnation despite services bounce

LONDON

Euro zone business activity remained close to stagnation at the end of last year, a survey showed on Monday, as an upturn in services activity only partially offset a continued decline in the bloc's manufacturing industry.

IHS Markit's final euro zone composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), seen as a good indicator of economic health, nudged up to 50.9 in December from November's 50.6.

That beat a preliminary estimate which suggested no change from the previous month but remained close to the 50 mark separating growth from contraction.

"Another month of subdued business activity in December rounded off the euro zone's worst quarter since 2013. The PMI data suggest the euro area will struggle to have grown by more under licence from IHS Markit and than 0.1% in the closing three months of 2019," said Chris Williamson, chief

business economist at IHS Markit.

That is worse than the 0.2% growth predicted in a December Reuters poll. [ECILT/EU]

A PMI for the bloc's dominant services industry bounced to 52.8 from November's 51.9, above a preliminary reading of 52.4. But a manufacturing PMI out last week showed factory activity contracted for an 11th straight month in December.

The upturn in services meant firms were at their most optimistic about the year ahead since May. A composite future output PMI jumped to 59.4 from

Indicating services activity may remain resilient, firms in the sector were unable to match demand last month for the first time since July. The backlogs of work index climbed to 51.0 from 49.7.

Detailed PMI data are only available customers need to apply for a licence.

New Land Rover cars are seen in a parking lot at the Jaguar Land Rover plant at Halewood in Liverpool, northern England.

LONDON

The number of new cars sold in Britain last year fell to its lowest since 2013, as consumers held back from purchases amid increased restrictions on diesel vehicles and ongoing economic uncertainty in the run-up to Brexit.

dd to signs that households grew more cautious about their spending last year, despite low unemployment and rising wages.

New car registrations dropped by 2% in 2019 to 2.31 million, according to provisional data from the Society

of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), the third annual fall since sales peaked at 2.69 million in

"Undoubtedly consumer confidence on big-ticket items is still very weak," SMMT Chief Executive Mike Hawes said.

Car buyers' reluctance to purchase diesel vehicles following Volkswagen's emissions scandal, plus planned restrictions on older diesel vehicles going into city centers, also hurt demand.

Sales in December alone were up 4% from a year earlier, when stocks of some models were limbest," he said. ited pending new emissions tests.

Brexit remained the industry's top concern, Hawes said, due to the risk of 10% tariffs on imports and exports of cars in 2021 if Prime Minister Boris Johnson cannot negotiate a post-Brexit trade deal with the European Union before then.

A tariff of this level would make a lot of car production in Britain uneconomic, and the risk of this has caused many manufacturers' investment plans to stall, he

"There may be some light at the end of the tunnel, but it is a dull, flickering one at

Tougher environmental rules are another problem for the industry. After Brexit Britain is expected to stick to existing EU plans to fine car manufacturers whose vehicles emit more than 95 grams of carbon dioxide per kilometer traveled, which will take full effect in 2021.

Cars sold last year in Britain emitted 127.9 grams of carbon dioxide per kilometer on average, up 2.7% from a year earlier and above the 2018 EU average of 120.4 grams, largely due to Britons' increasing preference for bigger cars.

Fewer sales of more efficient diesel cars, and a change to emission testing methods, also played a role.

Currently manufacturers can offset emissions from cars sold in Britain against those sold in other markets, such as Italy, where buyers favor smaller, more efficient vehicles. But after Brexit this is unlikely to be possible, Hawes said.

To reduce the extra cost for consumers and industry, Britain should expand subsidies for battery-powered electric cars, which made up under 2% of sales last vear, he added.

South Korean restaurant owners voice concerns over \$4 billion Delivery Hero deal



The Delivery Hero headquarters is pictured in Berlin, Germany. File photo.

SEOUL

South Korean restaurant owners expressed concern on Monday over food delivery giant Delivery Hero's (DHER. DE) proposed \$4 billion acquisition of its local rival, saying the move could undermine competition and lead to higher fees.

Delivery Hero, the second-largest food delivery app operator in South Korea, said last month that it agreed to buy larger rival Woowa Brothers backed by Goldman Sachs in a deal subject to antitrust approval.

The combination of the two giants would create an entity with a combined market share of nearly 99% in food delivery apps, according to data from mobile big data platform IGAWorks.

Restaurant owners, already struggling with the slowing economy, raised concerns that the dominant player would raise commissions that it charges restaurant owners for taking orders via their apps.

"The biggest problem is that the companies can move the market to whatever direction they want to," said Kim Kyung-moo, who runs a franchise restaurant, said at a news conference at the parliament.

Restaurant owners, food delivery riders and lawmakers urged the fair trade commission to thoroughly review the potential merger, which they said could also limit consumer choices.

A spokesman at Woowa Brother told Reuters that the firm is not planning on increasing commission fees.

South Korea, with a dense population and high smartphone use, is the world's fourth biggest market for online food orders, with an annual value of \$5.9 bil-

Berlin-bgased Delivery Hero last week submitted an application to the Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC) for an approval, an official at the antitrust regulator said, declining to comment further as a review is in progress.

In 2009, the watchdog approved U.S. online commerce firm eBay Inc's (EBAY.O) deal to acquire local rival Gmarket in South Korea on the conditions that there would be a ban on raising sales commissions for the next three years.

Little Caesars to deliver pizza finally - with DoorDash service

Little Caesars Enterprises Inc will partner with DoorDash Inc to provide pizza delivery services at 3,600 restaurants in the United States and Canada, starting on Monday, DoorDash said.

While pizza restaurants helped pioneer the idea of delivering food to people's houses years ago, Little Caesars - the world's third-largest pizza chain - has not offered delivery until

Little Caesars will not be listed on the DoorDash platform as a participating restaurant. Instead, orders will come through Little Caesars' own website and mobile app, the delivery company said.

The orders will then go out to DoorDash's driver fleet for fulDoorDash Drive.

The deal comes as pizza restaurants, long a mainstay of food delivery, are under pressure from other kinds of restaurants large and small using delivery platforms, including DoorDash, Grubhub Inc, Uber Technologies Inc's Uber Eats and Postmates Inc.

Domino's Pizza Inc, the world's biggest pizza chain with its own fleet of delivery drivers, reported sales that fell short of expectations for the last four quarters, hurt by the growing competition.

And delivery services themselves are facing possible upheaval as they fight each other for territory and customers.

Unlike some other chains, Little Caesars will not require

fillment through a service called minimum purchases to get deals or apply discounts only to carryout orders, David Scrivano, Little Caesars' chief executive officer, said in a statement.

The chain's full menu will be available for delivery and prices will be the same as they are for take out.

DoorDash will cover about 90% of Little Caesars' U.S. and Canada locations.

While it was possible in some areas to get Little Caesars pizza delivered via other platforms, those arrangements were through franchisee relationships and will end under the terms of the contract with Door-Dash, the delivery service said.

Both companies are privately owned. Detroit, Michigan-based Little Caesars has stores in all 50 U.S. states and 24 countries.



The logo of Samsung Electronics is pictured at the company's factory in Tijuana, Mexico.

Samsung Electronics says will unveil 'innovative devices' next month

SEOUL

Samsung Electronics said on Sunday that it will introduce new, innovative devices in San Francisco on Feb. 11, with the electronics giant widely expected to unveil its new foldable phone and a new version of its flagship S model.

The move comes as the world's top smartphone maker seeks to maintain its lead in the foldable phone and 5G phone markets, with rivals plotting a catch-up in the nascent, but growing segments.

"Samsung Electronics will unveil new, innovative devices that will shape the next decade of mobile experiences," the South Korean firm said at an invitation letter. It said the event at 11 a.m. Pacific time will be live-streamed.

In a teaser image, Samsung hinted at two phones - one shaped like a square and another with a rectangular form.

In October, Samsung Electronics unveiled its new foldable phone concept that folds vertically like an old flip phone. Its first foldable phone, which folds horizontally, was launched in September after delays caused by screen problems.

Samsung Electronics has traditionally unveiled new versions of its flagship Galaxy S phones ahead of the Mobile World Congress which takes places in February.

A Samsung spokeswoman declined to comment on which models it will unveiled at the upcoming event.

Mitsubishi Motors enlists Israeli startup as Japan plays catch up on connected cars



Mitsubishi signage is pictured next to a Mitsubishi electric car at the Tokyo Motor Show, in Tokyo, Japan.

Mitsubishi Motors Corp has signed on to Israeli startup Otonomo's car-data marketplace as Japanese automakers race to make up ground on U.S. and European rivals to provide in-vehicle connected services.

The first Japanese auto manufacturer to join a platform like Otonomo's, Mitsubishi Motors will get access to a network of some 100 retailers, insurers and others who will pay for the data and provide revenue-generating services such as parking apps, on-demand car washing and sub-

scription-based refueling. The initiative will roll out this year in the United States and Europe, with Japan following later, the companies said. They did not disclose the financial terms of the

The Japanese have lagged in providing connected-car ser-

vices, with just 30 percent of vehicles sold last year equipped with embedded connectivity, compared with more than half in the United States and Europe, according to consultancy SBD Automotive.

It could be a costly missed opportunity. McKinsey & Co. predicts the market for in-vehicle data will swell to as much as \$750 billion by 2030.

In addition, the Japanese brands risk losing touch with an increasingly connected consumer globally.

"It is about understanding customer behaviors: how they use their cars and how they maintain them," Mo Al-Bodour, a Detroitbased analyst at SBD, said by email.

"This has implications that range from current customer relationships to how future prod-

ucts should be designed." Other Japanese manufacturers have so far focused on building their own platforms.

Toyota has a subscriptionbased service called T-Connect, which offers things like real-time traffic information and links to a human operator for help with restaurant booking or getting assistance in the event of an ac-

Honda has developed a similar offering called Honda Connected, but it has partnered with Alibaba in China to develop connected services specific to that market.

What Otonomo offers is a way to scrub and standardize the data coming out of the vehicles and ensure its use conforms to the privacy laws of each region.

The four-year-old, Tel Avivbased startup also has partnerships with Daimler and BMW. It expects to announce more tieups with car makers later this year, co-founder and CEO Ben Volkow said by email.

Guardian www.ippmedia.com

WORLD

Huge crowds in Iran for commander's funeral, daughter warns US of 'dark day'

DUBAI/WASHINGTON

HUNDREDS of thousands of Iranians thronged Tehran's streets yesterday for the funeral of military commander Qassem Soleimani, killed by a U.S. drone strike last week, and his daughter said his death would bring a "dark day" for the United States.

"Crazy Trump, don't think that everything is over with my father's martyrdom," Zeinab Soleimani said in an address broadcast on state television.

U.S. President Donald Trump had ordered Friday's attack that killed the general, the architect of Iran's drive to extend its influence across the region. Iran has promised to avenge his death.

The size of the crowds in Tehran, shown on television and which state media said numbered in the millions, mirrored the masses that gathered in 1989 for the funeral of the Islamic Republic's founder, Ayatollah Ruhollah

Soleimani was a national hero to many Iranians, even those who did not consider themselves devoted supporters of Iran's clerical rulers.

In response to Iran's warnings of retaliation, Trump has threatened to hit 52 Iranian sites, including cultural targets, if Tehran attacks Americans or U.S. assets, deepening a crisis that has heightened fears of a new Middle East conflagration.

The coffins of Soleimani and Iraqi militia leader Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis,

who was also killed in the strike, were passed across the heads of mourners chanting "Death to America".

Aerial footage showed crowds packed thoroughfares and sidestreets in central Tehran, a welcome show of national unity for the government after deadly protests in November.

INFLUENCE

One of Iran's main regional goals driving U.S. forces out of neighboring Iraq - came a step closer on Sunday when the Iraqi parliament backed a recommendation by the prime minister for all foreign troops to be ordered

"Despite the internal and external difficulties that we might face, it remains best for Iraq on principle and practically," Iraqi caretaker Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi said.

Iraq's rival Shi'ite leaders, including ones opposed to Iranian influence, have united since Friday's attack in calling for the expulsion of U.S. troops. About 5,000 U.S. military personnel are in Iraq, mostly acting as advisers.

Esmail Qaani, the new head of the Quds Force, the Revolutionary Guards' unit in charge of foreign operations, said Iran would continue Soleimani's

Soleimani built up Iran's network of proxy regional forces, creating a crescent of influence stretching from Lebanon through Syria and Iraq to Iran. Allies also include Palestinian and Yemeni groups.



Force, and Iraqi militia commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, who were killed in an air strike at Baghdad airport, in Tehran, Iran yesterday. REUTERS

Prayers at Soleimani's funeral in Tehran, which will later move to his southern home city of Kerman, were led by Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who wept as he spoke. Soleimani was widely seen as the second most powerful figure in Iran behind Khamenei.

Ismail Haniyeh, leader of Palestinian militant group Hamas, made his first trip to Iran since taking up his role in 2017 in order to attend.

"Resistance against the Zionist project on the land of Palestine will not stop, and resistance against the American dominance will not be broken and will not be weakened," Haniyeh said, referring to Israel.

NUCLEAR TENSIONS

Adding to tensions, Iran said it was taking another step back from commitments under a 2015 nuclear deal with six powers, which the United States withdrew from in 2018.

Germany said Iran's move to abandon limitations on enriching uranium could end the pact, which European governments have been trying to stop from collapsing.

Since quitting it, the United States has imposed new sanctions on Iran, describing its policy as "maximum pressure" and saying it wanted to drive down Iranian oil exports - the main source of government revenues - to zero. Iran's economy has been in freefall as the currency has plunged in value.

Talking to reporters on Sunday, Trump stood by his remarks to include cultural sites on his list of potential targets, despite drawing criticism from U.S. politicians.

"They're allowed to kill our people. They're allowed to torture and maim our people. They're allowed to use roadside bombs and blow up our people. And we're not allowed to touch their cultural sites? It doesn't work that way," Trump said.

Democratic critics of the Republican president have said Trump was reckless in authorizing the strike. Some said his comments about targeting cultural sites amounted to threats to commit war crimes. Many asked why Soleimani, long seen as a threat by U.S. authorities, had to be killed now.

Republicans in the U.S. Congress have generally backed Trump's move.

Trump also threatened sanctions against Iraq and said that if U.S. troops were required to leave the country, Baghdad would have to pay Washington for the cost of a "very extraordinarily expensive" air base there.

It was not clear if Washington had advised any of its allies of its plans prior to the attack. Britain, which also has troops in Iraq, said it understood why the United States had killed Soleimani but urged a de-escalation of tensions to avoid war in the Middle East.

Oil prices jump 2% yesterday, rising above \$70 a barrel, on concerns about an escalation.

Japan PM Abe sticks to plan to deploy SDF to Middle East

IAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe repeated his plans to deploy the Self-Defense Forces to the Middle East to ensure the safety of its ships, even as tensions in the region erupt in the wake of the United States' killing of one of Iran's top military commanders.

At a televised news conference yesterday, Abe called on nations into ease tensions and avoid further escalation.

"Tensions are rising in the Middle East and I am deeply worried. Further escalation should be avoided and I call on all parties concerned to exhaust all diplomatic effort to ease tensions," Abe told reporters in Ise, central Japan.

"We plan to dispatch Self-Defense Forces to this region to strengthen information gathering and secure volved to make diplomatic efforts the safe passage of Japan-related



ships," Abe said, reiterating a plan nounced late last month it will send unveiled last month ahead of the latary a warship and patrol planes to the

sem Soleimani in a drone strike on his convoy at Baghdad airport, an attack that took long-running hostilities between Washington and Tehran into uncharted territory and raised the specter of wider conflict in the Middle East.

The Japanese government an-

The United States last week killed nearly 90% of its crude oil imports.

Iranian military commander Qas- Japan, a US ally that has maintained friendly ties with Iran, has opted to launch its own operation rather than join a US-led mission to protect shipping in the region.

A Japanese defense ministry official has said the government aims to start the operation of the patrol planes sometime in January, while the destroyer will likely begin activities in the region in February.

Egypt explains to Western ambassadors rejection of Turkish intervention in Libya

CAIRO

EGYPTIAN Foreign Ministry held a meeting with U.S. and European ambassadors in Cairo to explain its rejection of the Turkish plan to send troops to war-torn, neighboring Libva, the ministry said in a statement on Sunday.

During the meeting, Egypt's Assistant Foreign Minister Motaz Zahran and other diplomats stressed con-

DEADLY bush fires raging in Aus-

tralia have left cities, towns and vast

areas of the countryside shrouded

firefighter battling a blaze in New

South Wales on Dec 30. In that state,

more than 900 homes have been de-

stroyed, a number that is expected to

Late last month, images of a dehy-

drated koala approaching a cyclist in

temperatures of 40 C begging for wa-

ter in the middle of a road near Ade-

In New South Wales, it is estimated

that 8,000 koalas, or about one-third

of the number in the state, have died

University of Sydney, some 480 mil-

lion mammals, birds and reptiles have

been killed directly or indirectly by

the bush fires, according to the web-

A statement issued by 22 health and

site Sydney News& Life.

According to ecologists from the

laide, South Australia, went viral.

around the world.

in the fires.

cerns over the recent approval of the erating militarily with Libya without Turkish parliament to send Turkish military forces to Libya, the statement

"The Turkish parliament's move is an explicit violation of the international legitimacy decisions and the UN Security Council resolutions concerning Libya," said the Egyptian foreign ministry. It noted that UN Resolution 1970

(2011) prohibits sending arms or coopments that foreshadow regional esca-

the approval of the relevant UN sanction committee. Egypt also warned against the consequences of any foreign military intervention in Libya, saying it would undermine "the course of comprehensive settlement in Libya and the stability of the Mediterranean region." It called on the international community to bear its responsibilities in confronting such negative developlation, according to the Egyptian statement.

On Thursday, the Turkish parliament approved a motion authorizing the government to deploy Turkish troops in Libya. Libya has been locked in a civil war since the ouster and killing of former leader Muammar Gaddafi in

The Libyan conflict escalated in 2014, splitting power between two rival governments: the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) in the capital Tripoli and another in the northeastern city of Tobruk allied with selfproclaimed Libyan National Army (LNA) led by Khalifa

THE Iranian nuclear programme will remain under strict international control after Tehran's announcing a new stage of reducing commitments to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOR), Russia's Permanent Representative to international organizations



in Vienna, Mikhail Ulyanov said on Sunday.

According to him, Iran had declared that its nuclear program would be based on its technical needs. "This decision does not give answers to all questions so far. Time will be needed to clarify the general picture and understand a new reality," Ulyanov (pictured) blogged in Twitter.

Iran's nuclear program remains under IAEA control, says Russian envoy

"However, Iran confirms that his cooperation with the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency - TASS) will continue. This means that the nuclear program remains under strict international control, including on the basis of the additional protocol.

This is of paramount importance from the point of view of nuclear non-proliferation," the envoy stressed.

On Sunday, Iran declared a final step to reduce commitments to the 2015 nuclear deal. The new step envisages that Tehran won't abide by the ICPOA limits on the number of centrifuges for enriching uranium.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action was signed by Iran with the UN Security Council permanent members (Russia, the UK, China, the US, France) and Germany in 2015.

The deal restricted Tehran's nuclear development in exchange for lifting the UN sanctions and the unilateral restric-

tions imposed by the US and the EU. The future of the 2015 agreement on Iran's nuclear program was called into question after the United States' unilateral pullout on May 8, 2018, and Washington's oil export

sanctions against Iran. As the Iranian side argues, the other parties to the nuclear deal, first of all, the European signatories, do not comply with their economic commitments in full and that is why the deal in its current form has no sense.

Due to this, Iran started to scale down a part of its obligations under the JCPOA related to uranium enrichment and research activity.

Sudan rebels urge security reforms during peace talks

JUBA

THE Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) faction led by Malik Agar on Sunday requested Khartoum to agree to set up security and governance reforms during ongoing peace talks in Juba.

Yasir Armani, deputy chairman of the SPLM-N, said that they had proposed to the newly formed Sudan Sovereign Council headed by Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok to start undertaking security and governance reforms to

help stabilize the fragile economy. "Without security sector reforms in Sudan, the economic problems will not be solved. The civil rule will not come to the country, democracy will not be realized and there will be no security in Sudan,"

Armani said in Juba. He said the rebel group also requested the government to set up the required security arrangements that will pave way for the integration of some

fighters from the Southern Blue Nile region. "The discussions are at an advanced stage on various issues. We hope our opinions on security arrangements will be agreed on by all armed groups with the spirit of unity. It

will bring progress in Sudan," said Armani. He said the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) should have national character representative of all Sudanese people after the overthrow of former long-serving President Omar Al-Bashir in April last year in a popular uprising in Khar-

"The Sudan armed force has wide-ranging experience to represent the whole country, the Rapid Support Force (RSF) has to establish national military institutions that will play a critical role in the country," said Armani.

Mohamed Al-Hassan Al-Taishi, member of the Sudan government delegation at the talks, said ongoing negotiations in Juba will not miss the Feb.14 deadline agreed on earlier with the various opposition groups to conclude the talks being mediated by South Sudan President Salva Kiir.

"If we discuss and agree on the security arrangements as well as the political arrangements, we will then go on to the comprehensive peace accord," said Al-Taishi.

Xinhua

World feels the heat of climate change

in dense smoke and made headlines medical organizations declared the levels of air pollution caused by the fires a "public health emergency". The fatalities include a volunteer

> More emergency warnings were issued on Dec 30. Some 40,000 vacationers were urged to evacuate East Gippsland, a tourist resort in the state of Victoria in the southeastern part of the country. Many people who ignored the advice have been told it's too late now and that they should take shelter.

> All six Australian states and the Northern Territory reported temperatures higher than 40 C on Dec 30. In New South Wales, there were close to 100 bushfires that day as lightning strikes in dry forests sparked new

blazes. Scientists warn

Scientists have long warned that a hotter and drier climate would increase the incidence and intensity of bushfires in Australia.

A survey conducted in late November by polling company UComms found that more than half of the 1,500 Australians surveyed agreed that climate change had worsened the threat of bushfires, which are just one of the growing number of climate changerelated disasters recorded globally in the past year.

Counting the Cost 2019: A Year of Climate Breakdown, a report released on Dec 27 by Christian Aid in London, listed the 15 most destructive weather events of the year, including droughts, floods, fires, typhoons and cyclones. Each disaster caused damage of more than US\$1 billion, and four of them resulted in damage of over US\$10 billion each.

The report said the figures are likely to have been underestimated, as often only insured losses are shown and no account taken of other financial costs, such as lost productivity and uninsured losses.

While the vast majority of deaths were caused by just two events in India and southern Africa, reflecting how the world's poorest people pay the heaviest price for the consequences of climate change, the financial cost of disasters was highest in richer countries, such as Japan and the Unit-

The report said all the events were linked to climate change caused by humans. It stated that scientific studies have shown that climate change made a particular event "more likely or stronger", while in other cases, an event was the result of shifts in weather patterns, such as higher temperatures and reduced rainfall that made fires more likely, along with higher water temperatures that fueled tropical storms.

Michael Mann, director of the Earth System Science Center at Pennsylva-

nia State University in the US, said: "If anything, 2019 saw even more profound extreme weather events around the world than the previous year. With each day now, we are seemingly reminded of the cost of climate inaction in the form of ever-threatening climate change-spiked weather extremes."

'Not good news'

At COP25, the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Madrid last month, World Meteorological Organization Secretary-General Petteri Taalas described two reports by his organization as "not good news".

"Global warming continues," he said, adding that average global temperatures had risen by about 1.1 C since the preindustrial era and in the oceans by 0.5 C.

"We have started seeing hunger increase once again after a period of decline. Now, we have more than 800 million people suffering from a lack

of food." Records have been broken worldwide concerning emissions of the three main greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide; methane; and nitrous oxide. Carbon dioxide is regarded as the most significant challenge.

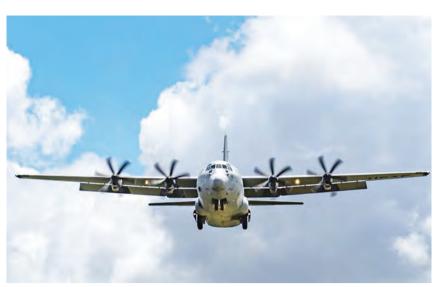
Taalas, who comes from Finland and started his second four-year term as head of the WMO on Wednesday, said: "We are heading toward a temperature increase of 3 to 5 degrees C by the end of the century. If we use all fossil fuel resources, we will move toward 8 C.'

Some 85 percent of the world's energy still comes from fossil fuels and only 15 percent from renewable en-

The United Nations Environmental Programme's 2019 Emissions Gap Report issued in late November also painted a bleak picture. It said the goals of the Paris agreement on climate change "will slip out of reach" unless the world begins to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Agencies





In this photo taken Aug 26, 2019 and released by the US Air Force, A US Air Force C-130J Super Hercules approaches for landing at Camp Simba, Manda Bay, Kenya. The al-Shabab extremist group said on Jan 5, 2020 that it has attacked the Camp Simba military base used by US and Kenyan troops in coastal Kenya. (PHOTO / AP)

3 Americans killed in attack on Kenyan airfield by al-Shabab

A US service member and two Department of Defense contractors were killed, following an attack by al-Shabab on Sunday at the Manda Bay Airfield in Kenya, according to the United States Africa Command (AF-RICOM).

Additionally, two Department of Defense members were injured, who are now in stable condition and being evacuated, the AFRICOM said in a

The US army said Sunday it has kicked off identification process to establish the number of soldiers who may have been injured or killed in the daring dawn attack at an airstrip in coastal Kenya by al-Shabab terrorists.

The army also said an accountability of personnel assessment is underway and additional facts and details will be updated.

"As we honor their sacrifice, let's also harden our resolve. Alongside our African and international partners, we will pursue those responsible for this attack and al-Shabab who seeks to harm Americans and US in-

We remain committed to preventing al-Shabab from maintaining a safe haven to plan deadly attacks against the US homeland, East African, and international partners," US Army General Stephen Townsend, commander of the AFRICOM, said.

According to the AFRICOM statement, the attack on the compound involved indirect and small arms fire. After an initial penetration of the perimeter, the Kenya Defense Forces and the AFRICOM repelled the al-Shabab attack. Six contractor-operated civilian aircraft were reportedly damaged to some degree.

The Manda Bay Airfield is utilized by US forces, whose missions include

providing training to African part-

ners, responding to crises and pro-

tecting US interests in the area, ac-

cording to the statement. Paul Njuguna, spokesman of the Kenya Defense Forces, confirmed that five al-Shabab terrorists were killed in the attack in which the extremist

group claimed responsibility. Al-Shabab 'exaggerating security

The US army confirmed that Manda Bay Airfield which has been in use by both Kenyan and US forces since 2017 has been cleared but not fully.

"The airfield is cleared and still in the process of being fully secured," the Africom said in the statement but admitting that the situation was still "fluid."

"Al-Shabab has put out multiple press releases exaggerating the security situation on the ground. This practice has proven common place for this terror organization."

"Al-Shabab resorts to lies, coercion, and the exertion of force to bolster their reputation to create false headlines," said William Gayler, Africom director of operations.

Gayler said it was crucial to counter al-Shabab where they stand to prevent "the spread of this cancer."

Meanwhile, the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) which had earlier canceled all flights to Lamu until further notice said it has lifted the suspension, allowing normal operations

"KCAA wishes to notify aviation stakeholders and members of the public that after the early morning incident in Lamu County, the temporary closure of Lamu Civilian Airstrip operated by KAA has been lifted allowing for normal operations to resume," said Gilbert Kibe, KCAA director-general in a statement.

House to vote to limit Trump's military actions on Iran - Pelosi

US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the House will introduce and vote on a war powers resolution this week to limit US President Donald Trump's military actions regarding Iran.

"This resolution is similar to the resolution introduced by Senator Tim Kaine in the Senate," Pelosi (picured) said in a statement late on Sunday.

"It reasserts Congress's long-established oversight responsibilities by mandating that if no further Congressional action is taken, the Administration's military hostilities with regard to



Iran cease within 30 days.

The resolution is likely to win approval in the Democratic-led House, but prospects for passage are less certain in the Senate, which is controlled by Trump's fellow Republicans, many of whom have said they support the president's action on Iran.

Iraq's parliament called for US and other foreign troops to leave as the backlash againstthe US killing on Friday of a top Iranian general grew, and Trump doubled down on threats to target Iranian cultural sites if Iran retaliates.

Trump also threatened sanctions against Iraq and said that if US troops were required to leave, Iraq's government would have to pay Washington for the cost of a "very extraordinarily expensive" air base there. Xinhua

China urges countries to help de-escalate Middle East tensions

CHINA has ramped up its diplomatic efforts to de-escalate the heightened tensions in the Gulf region over the weekend, vowing to play a constructive role in maintaining peace and security in the Middle East, the Foreign Ministry said.

State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had telephone talks on Saturday with the foreign ministers of Iran, Russia and France, reiterating that China opposes the abuse of military force in international relations.

On Friday, China's top diplomat, Yang Jiechi, expressed the country's grave concern over the current Middle East situation in a telephone conversation with United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. He urged relevant parties, particularly the US, to maintain restraint.

The rarely seen diplomatic activity has come after the US killed Qassem Soleimani, a high-profile commander of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, in an airstrike near Baghdad International Airport on Friday morning. The attack sparked outrage in Teheran, and Iranian officials vowed to retaliate.

tween Washington and Teheran looms large, fears are growing about a further escalation of tensions in the Persian Gulf region.

Yang, a member of the Political Buthe office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, told Pompeo that relevant parties to achieve, as soon as possible, a deescalation of tensions.

In telephone talks with Iran's For-

Speaking to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and French Foreign mentioned that their countries, together with China, are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and therefore shoulder important responsibilities in safe-

He called on the two countries to Both Lavrov and Le Drian said their

countries have positions similar to China's on the flare-up between the US and Iran and stand ready to maintain close communication with China to play a positive role in preventing escalation.

As the risk of further violence be-

reau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and director of should return to the track of dialogue

eign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Wang said that the military adventurism of the US goes against basic norms governing international relations and will aggravate tensions and turbulence in the region.

"Military means will lead nowhere. Maximum pressure won't work either," Wang said. "China urges the US to seek resolutions through dialogue instead of the abuse of force.

"China will continue to uphold an objective and just position and play a constructive role in safeguarding peace and security in the Gulf region of the Middle East."

Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, Wang guarding world peace and security.

strengthen their strategic communication with China, jointly uphold international law, jointly safeguard the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and basic norms governing international relations, jointly oppose unilateral military action and play a responsible role in properly handling the current situation in the Middle East.

Thousands march in NYC against anti-Semitism in wake of attacks



People march across the Brooklyn Bridge in solidarity with the Jewish community after recent string of anti-semitic attacks throughout the greater New York area, on Sunday in New York. (AP)

NEW YORK

THOUSANDS marched over the Brooklyn Bridge in New York City on Sunday in a show of solidarity with the area's Jewish community following a spate ofanti-Semitic violence in recent weeks, including the stabbing attack on Hanukkah celebrants at a rabbi's home.

The interfaith protest, sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and other Jewish groups, began at Manhattan's Foley Square before proceeding across the East River into Brooklyn for a rally at Cadman Plaza as marchers chanted, "No hate, no fear."

"I am so grateful to the people of all faiths who have come here today, Christian and Jewish, Hindu and Muslim, and every other faith, to say that we ... New Yorkers and we Americans will not stand for hate and bigotry," US Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, told the

The Senate Democratic leader was joined by several other prominent fellow New York Democrats, including Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor

Andrew Cuomo, Mayor Bill de Blasio, and US Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

"It was just very inspiring, and I hope that people recognize that we are strong and that we will not allow this anti-Semitism that has been rampant in New York City and in the tri-state area and in America to continue," said demonstrator Gail Senten.

"An attack on any house of worship is an attack on all houses of worship," Ismael Claudio, bishop of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ in Brooklyn, told USA Today. "I'm standing with my Jewish brothers and sisters. Today [it's] them: tomorrow, might be us."

The march came just over a week after a man armed with a machete burst into the home of a Hasidic rabbi in suburban Monsey, New York, in the midst of a Hanukkah celebration, and began slashing at guests before he fled.

Six people were wounded, one of them a 72-year-old man who suffered devastating machete blows to his head, arm and neck that left him comatose and unlikely to recover, according to

charged separately with federal hate crimes by US prosecutors citing journals they said he kept with references to

by police.

family members.

Adolf Hitler and "Nazi culture." The stabbing in Monsey, a hub of Hasidic life in Rockland County's heavily ultra-Orthodox Jewish community north of New York City, capped a string of incidents in which Jews have been physically attacked or accosted in the greater New York City area in recent weeks. Two Hasidic Jews were killed in a shooting at a kosher supermarket in Jersey City, New Jersey, last month. The two assailants in that assault were killed

The 37-year-old suspect, described

by his attorney as suffering from severe

mental illness, was arrested after fleeing

to Manhattan. He faces six counts of at-

tempted murder in state court, and was

New York's police commissioner said last week that anti-Jewish hate crimes had jumped 21 percent last year, reflecting a rise in anti-Semitic incidents reported across the county.

Russian lawmaker slams as 'clumsy' Brussels' idea to invite Iranian foreign minister Josep Borrell asked Iranian Foreign aimed at protecting US troops sta-

THE European Union's idea to invite Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to Brussels for talks on deescalation in Iraq seems too clumsy and looks like "summoning for questioning," Konstantin Kosachev, the chairman of the Federation Council's international affairs committee, said on Sunday.

"The European Union has sent an invitation for the Iranian foreign minister to visit Brussels with the aim to 'hold talks on the situation in the Middle East after the US air strikes.' Along with this, EU High Representative for Foreign

Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell voiced his 'concern' about the killing of IRGC General Qasem Soleimani Ithe head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' elite Quds Force - TASS]. To my mind, this rather clumsy initiative looks like summoning for questioning," Kosachev wrote on Facebook.

The lawmaker believes that "amid this explosive situation" a more responsible option for Brussels would have been to invite, instead of Zarif, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo "as the man of the hour" with the aim "to explain to him that following these adventurous actions, Washington has placed its European and regional allies

in a predicament."

Moreover, according to the senator, as an option, the European Union could have "dispatched Josep Borrell to Tehran today in case the EU is so eager to assume the role of a peacekeeper."

"It should have seemed at least outwardly decent. In my opinion, Brussels has chosen the worst scenario from all the available options so far," the chairman of the international affairs committee of the upper house of Russia's parliament said.

According to the statement released on Sunday by the European External Action Service, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to visit Brussels to discuss de-escalation in Iraq and the Iran nuclear deal (or the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, JCPOA).

Earlier, a diplomatic source in Brussels told TASS that the European Union feared that confrontation between Iran and the United States could cause the collapse of the Iran nuclear deal. On January 3, the Pentagon reported

that a missile strike near Baghdad's airport had killed General Qasem Soleimani, the head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' elite Quds Force.

According to the US Administration, the operation was defensive, as it was

tioned in the Middle East. According to Washington, the attacks planned by the Iranian general could have led to the deaths of hundreds of Americans and Iraqis. After the attack, Iran's Supreme Na-

tional Security Council vowed at an emergency session to exact "severe revenge" on those involved in the killing of Soleimani, blaming the US for the attack. In a telephone call with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif bashed the attack as an act of terrorism by the US.

Smoke stalls rescues as Australia plans for next fiery onslaught

MELBOURNE/SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN officials took advantage of better weather yesterday to reopen roads blocked by wildfires and move some people to safety although thick smoke stalled rescue efforts and hundreds of people remained strand-

Fires have ravaged more than 8 million hectares of land across the country, an area nearly the size of Austria, killing 25 people, destroying thousands of building and leaving some towns without electricity and mobile coverage.

Police yesterday confirmed the death of a 71-year-old man on the south coast of New South Wales (NSW) state who was reported

missing on Dec 31. A second day of light rain and cool winds brought some relief from heat-fueled blazes that con-

sumed parts of two states over the weekend, but officials warned the dangerous weather was expected to return this week.

Victoria state Premier Daniel

Andrews said about 400 people

were airlifted on Sunday out of Mallacoota, a small, coastal holi-"We had a plan to airlift another 300 out today. Sadly smoke

means that is not possible," he

Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who has come under criticism for what opponents call his government's failure to tackle climate change, announced A\$2 billion (US\$1.4 billion) over two years for a newly formed National Bushfire Recovery Agency.

"What we are focusing on here is the human cost and the rebuilding cost for people's lives," Morrison told reporters in Canberra.



In this Dec 7, 2019, file photo, Rural Fire Service firefighters control a backburn in an effort to contain an approaching fire near Nattai, southwest of Sydney. Hot dry conditions have brought an early start to the fire season.

He said nearly 4,000 cattle and sheep have been killed in the fires. Countless wild animals have been

abyne in the Snowy Mountains,

used the break in the immediate

threat to his town to visit his wife

Dean Linton, a resident of Jind-

He also picked up a fire-fighting pump and generator to help him protect the family home. "There's a lot of fuel in that na-

and four children who had fled to

tional park; it would only take one lightning strike," Linton told Reu-

The bushfire season started earlier than normal this year following a three-year drought that has left much of the country's bushland tinder-dry.

Following are some highlights of what is happening:

* New Zealand Defence Force said the first of three air force helicopters being sent to help departed on Monday while the other two were expected over the next two days.

* There were no emergency warnings in fire-ravaged states on Monday following the weather change. Two people were missing as 146 fires burned in New South Wales (NSW) but all were back at the "advice" level, the lowest alert

* Victoria state had 39 fires with 13 "watch and act" alerts. All missing people had been accounted

for, authorities said.

* About 67,000 people have left or been evacuated from fireravaged areas in Victoria, state **Emergency Services Minister Lisa** Neville said.

* Victoria set up a Bushfire Recovery Agency, with initial funding of A\$50 million. The recovery is expected to cost "a lot more" than A\$500 million, state premier Andrews said.

* Fire officials said light rain that has brought some relief posed problems for back-burning efforts

to starve fires of fuel. * NSW state power distributor Essential Energy said its network had suffered "significant damage", with almost 24,000 customers without power. It might take a while to restore power to some areas because of the extent of damage and difficulty in gaining safe access, it said. Affected areas

include Batemans Bay on the New South Wales south coast.

* As conditions eased, the NSW

fire service said residents of Bega, Tathra, Merimbula, Eden, Pambula, Bermagui and villages to the north and south can now return though they need to monitor con-

* Insurers have received 5,850 bushfire-related claims in NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland since the Insurance Council declared a bushfire catastrophe on Nov 8.

* Losses are estimated at A\$375 million since November, with a further A\$56 million in insured property losses in September and October, the Insurance Council said. Figures do not include properties lost over the past 24 to 36 hours in areas such as the NSW Southern Highlands and south **Agencies**

Guardian



Justin Thomas holds the champions trophy after winning Tournament of Champions golf event, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, at Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii. Thomas won after a three–hole playoff. (AP Photo)

Justin Thomas hangs on to win Kapalua in a playoff

KAPALUA, HAWAII

JUSTIN Thomas won the Sentry Tournament

of Champions, and he still doesn't know how. He lost a two-shot lead with three holes to play. He had to play the par-5 18th hole four times Sunday and always seemed to be scrambling just to stay in the game in a threeman playoff. There was more exhaustion than elation.

"I really don't know how I won today," Thomas said. "I got very fortunate."

The thrill-a-minute start to the year on the PGA Tour ended with Thomas chopping his way to bogey on the 18th, getting another chance when Xander Schauffele three-putted for par on the final hole in regulation to force a playoff, and then twice having to watch Patrick Reed stand over a putt to win.

On the third playoff hole – the last one before darkness - Thomas recovered from another poor shot with a sand wedge that illustrates why his short game is among the best in golf. He played a high cut from 113 yards that landed just over the ridge with enough spin to settle 3 feet away for birdie.

His caddie, Jimmy Johnson, asked if it was safer to put the ball in the air or pitch it low and ride the slope. Thomas replied, "I need to make birdie. I'm not worried what the safest play is. We need to make 4."

Reed, who never had the lead all day, had a 30-foot eagle putt and a 12-foot birdie putt in the playoff to win. His last chance was an 8-foot birdie with Thomas in tight, and it was too strong. Making the finish even uglier is a fan who screamed, "CHEATER!" after he hit the putt. Reed turned and glared.

It was a reference to his rules violation in the Bahamas when video showed him scooping away sand to improve his lie. Reed was penalized two shots for it, and faced extreme heckling by the Australian crowd at the Presidents Cup.

"It stings at the end whenever you don't birdie for the win," Reed said, whose 7-under 66 matched the best score of the tournament. "But really, I gave myself an opportunity. I put myself in position to have a chance, and I needed a little bit of help at the end there, and they gave it to me, allowing me to even get in the playoff."

Thomas, who closed with a 4-under 69 after bogeys on two of his last three holes, won for the third time in his last six starts on the PGA

Tour. It was his 12th career victory, one more than Jordan Spieth and the most of any active player under 30.

Thomas hit a terrible tee shot in regulation. and the 3-wood that followed didn't carry the knee-high vegetation. He took a penalty drop, hit wedge to 8 feet and missed the par putt.

Schauffele, who closed with a 70, hit the green in two – only the seventh time that happened all week on the rain-softend conditions of the Plantation Course - and had 35 feet for eagle. The 30 mph gusts helped to send his first putt 7 feet by the hole, and he missed the birdie putt in his bid to become the first player in 10 years to win back-to-back at Kapalua.

Schauffele was eliminated after the first extra hole when he three-putted from 100 feet away at the front of the green, leaving his first putt 20 feet short.

"I should have won the tournament," said Schauffele, bidding to become the first backto-back winner at Kapalua in 10 years. "J.T. was right there. But under the circumstances, I should have closed it out. I did everything I was supposed to until the last moment."

Reed was never tied for the lead until nearly an hour after he made a 20-foot birdie putt on the final hole. That put him at 14-under 278, which looked as though it would not be good enough.

Thomas had a two-shot lead when he swirled in a 3-foot birdie putt on the 15th hole, and then he came undone. His tee shot on the 16th hole found a bunker, and he missed an 8-foot par putt. Thomas holed a 6-foot par putt on the next hole, lightly pumping his fist because he kept a one-shot lead with the par-5 18th remaining.

"I botched it up pretty badly," Thomas said. For a moment, he thought he had wasted one of the best rounds he had ever played. He ran off six birdies in eight holes to turn a two-shot deficit into a two-shot lead, an astounding display given the strength of the

"That stretch of holes J.T. went through, I'd like to see anyone else try it," Schauffele said. "He was hitting ridiculous shots, making good putts in the wind, and he deserved the lead

Ultimately, Thomas got he victory that took longer than he might have expected.

Simba SC spoiled for choice in midfield

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL MWEBE

S many as 10 players are set to compete for three positions in Simba SC's midfield for the upcoming season.

The arrival of Luis Miguissone increases the number of midfielders at Sven Vandenbroeck's disposal and the former Zambia national team's head coach faces the pleasant headache of having to pick between several talented players.

The Guardian presents each of the 10 men who will challenge for a spot in the starting line-up.

Jonas Mkude

He has been on the team since his breakthrough season in 2012/13 season. Despite all the talks about his lack of poor work rate he is one of the few players who know the team's style inside out and he is considered as an undisputed starter.

Said Ndemla

A baffling midfielder who has never nailed a starting position despite being in the team for more than four seasons. His name is brought up amongst those who may depart in every transfer window but he always manage to stay despite playing only a handful of games.

Ndemla is probably the player who is most affected by an overcrowded midfield but has never shown the desire to walk away from the Msimbazi Street squad's den.

Hassan Dilunga

He had a great 2018/19 campaign, receiving lots of praise and being fondly referred to as HD. This season he has shown that he deserves a spot in the



Simba SC's Medie Kagere (L) celebrates with fellow players (L-R) Shomari Kapombe, Mohamed Hussein and Muzamiru Yassin after the forward had netted the firstgoal for the squad in the Vodacom Premier League clash against Young Africans (Yanga) in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO; CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Clatous Chama

The Zambian is one of the most talented midfielders but his questionable work rate can be frustrating at times. He brings creativity and his ability to fashion chances out nothing for others and himself makes a vital member of the first team.

Muzamir Yassin

A dynamic player with an admirable work rate. His performance tend to be inconsistent but his willingness to cover distances makes him a valuable member especially in matches where Simba need to be defen-

Ibrahim Ajib

He returned to Simba SC after spending two seasons at arch rivals Young Africans (Yanga) but has seen himself spend more time on the bench than on the vince the coach for more play-

A fan favourite but he seems to not have the confidence of Simba immediate former coach and even the current one.

Ashraf Shiboub

One of the most balanced midfielders in the league, the Sudanese has both flair and gritty to play either deep or in an advanced midfield role.

Gerson Fraga

One of the two remaining Brazilians after the departing Henrique Wilker da Silva, his versatility has seen him being deployed as a defender though he prefers the midfield role.

He was on the bench in the Vodacom Premier Leaguegame between Simba SC and Yanga, popularly known as Dares Salaam Derby, which means he has a fight in his hands to con-

Francis Kahata

After a slow start at Msimbazi Street squad, the Kenyan international has hit top gear and earned the confidence of coach Vandenbroeck.

The former Gor Mahia midfielder has been directly involved in six goals in his last six matches for Simba in all compe-

Luis Miquissone

The latest addition to the already congested Simba SC midfield department, Miquissone comes with a record of having scored against the club in the CAF Champions League preliminary round.

He is also the first signing done since Vandenbroeck took charge and is considered a prime candidate for the attacking midfield role.

Clippers get 30-plus from 3 players, beat Knicks 135-132

A DAY after a 26-point loss to Memphis in another matinee, the Clippers had a least three players score at least 30 points for the first time in franchise history.

Montrezl Harrell scored 34 points off the bench, reserve Lou Williams scored 32 to match starter Paul George, and Los Angeles beat the New York Knicks 135-132 on Sunday.

It was the first time in the Clippers' history that three players scored at least 30 points. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, it was the first time two players have scored 30 points off the bench in a regulation NBA game since the 1970-71 season.

"Montrezl and Lou were fantastic. History is good. Someone has to make it," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said.

Harrell didn't say much after tying a career high and producing the seventh 30-point game of his fouryear career. One day after saying the Clippers were "not a great team" following the embarrassment by Memphis, Harrell walked past reporters with a smile on his face and said, "You all have a good Sunday."

George, who missed Saturday's game with left hamstring tightness, said it was important to not come out flat two afternoons in a row.

"We saw Lou and Montrezl lead the way. Watching that from the bench, it got us motivated. We knew the job we had to do," said George, who posted his seventh 30-point game this season. He was 9 of 14 from the field, including 5 of 6 on 3-pointers, in 32 minutes.

Both teams shot 54% or more from the floor in a game that will not go down as a defensive masterpiece.

Los Angeles was up by 15 late in the third quarter and 121-110 with 7:06 remaining in the game when George fouled out. New York scored eight straight points to draw within three and was still within one possession in the final minute when Williams drove the lane and hit a floating jumper with 18.5 seconds left to make it 133-128.

Marcus Morris – who led New York with a career-high 38 points – hit a jumper with 10.4 seconds left to lead 76-69 at halftime. That to get the Knicks back within three, was the most points scored in but Williams put it out reach after the second period of an NBA



Los Angeles Clippers' Montrezl Harrell (5) dunks over New York Knicks' Marcus Morris Sr. (13) and Reggie Bullock (25) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

a timeout with a pair of free

"You can win games with bad offense and good defense," Rivers said. "Tonight people can say either the offense was phenomenal or both teams struggled defensively. The players will say one thing but the coaches will say the other." Rivers might be surprised

that George agreed with him. "We still allowed too many

points and have to get better," George said. "It's an area we have to improve, but our offense got us over the hump

RJ Barrett added 24 points for New York and Julius Randle had 16 points and eight rebounds.

"At end of the day, we wanted to win but took a positive step in our competition level," Morris said. "For us to be in the game against one of the top teams in the league and have a big lead says a lot.'

Los Angeles trailed by 16 at the end of the first quarter but put up a 47-point second quarter the fourth most in any quarter.

Williams led the way with 18 points in the period, including three straight 3-pointers that tied it at 51 with 7:16 remaining. Harrell had 14 points in the quarter, including 10 of the Clippers' first 13 points during the run.

The Knicks went on a 24-8 run in the first quarter to lead 33-19. New York, which came in making 10.7 3-pointers per game, made four during its spurt while Randle scored seven points.

The Knicks extended their lead to 45-29 at the end of the quarter as they went 19 of 29 from the field. The output was tied for the third-most points scored in the first 12 minutes of an NBA game this season and marked the first time the Knicks have scored at least 44 points and shot over 70% from the field in the first in nearly 11 vears. The last time it happened was also against the Clippers, on March 25, 2009.

"It was one of the wilder games that I have been a part of," Knicks coach Mike Miller

game this season and tied for said. "We put together a big first quarter and then it flipped. But we showed grit to stay in the game and put ourselves in position at the end."

> Meanwhile, in Miami, James Johnson scored on his first possession in more than a month. Dragic either scored or got somebody else points pretty much every time the ball was in his hands.

As often is the case for Miami, bench guys came up big.

Dragic had 29 points and 13 assists, Bam Adebayo added 20 points on 9-for-10 shooting and the Heat - without Jimmy Butler – never trailed in a 122-111 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Sunday night.

"It doesn't matter for us who's playing or not," Dragic said. "We don't use excuses."

Dragic tied a career best with seven 3-pointers. Derrick Jones Jr. scored 19 points for the Heat, who got 14 from Kendrick Nunn and 12 in 22 minutes from littleused Johnson -- who was called upon largely because Miami was without Butler.

It was Johnson's first minutes since Nov. 27. AP

SOCCER.NEWS

Ancelotti fumes as Everton flop against Liverpool kids

19

manager Carlo EVERTON Ancelotti is planning an immediate inquest into his side's embarrassing FA Cup defeat against Liverpool's

Ancelotti's team wasted a golden opportunity to win at Anfield for the first time since 1999 as 18-yearold Curtis Jones fired Liverpool to a 1-0 win in the third round on Sunday.

Liverpool-born Jones, 18, is a graduate of Liverpool's youth academy and he was joined by four other raw rookies in Jurgen Klopp's

Klopp made nine changes, fielding a starting line-up which cost £43.9 million, while Everton's team cost in the region of £222

Ancelotti had sent out a virtually full-strength team, but they wasted a host of chances in the first half before surrendering limply after the break.

Everton are without a win against Liverpool since 2010, making this a bitter first taste of the Merseyside derby for former Napoli boss Ancelotti, who is ready to discuss the tame display with his players.

"I am not used to speaking to the players after the game but I am going to speak to them about this," Ancelotti said.

"I think in the second half we

were not able to keep the right ideas on the pitch as we did in the first half, when we had the opportunity

"The fact we didn't score in the first half affected the performance in the second half, which was not good enough.'

It was suggested to Ancelotti that Everton had a mental block when it came to games at Anfield, but he said it was a matter of losing intensity in the second half.

"The line-up of Liverpool didn't affect our idea. It was to play a good game. We knew Liverpool would put fresh players in and the intensity could be high," Ancelotti

"The defeat arrived because we were not able to keep a high intensity in the second. We lost energy and confidence."

After a performance which former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher described as the worst derby display at Anfield in 35 years, the difficult situation Ancelotti has inherited was laid bare.

"We are going to speak all together and find a solution to try to improve the team," Ancelotti said of potential moves in the transfer window.

Meanwhile, Klopp was delighted as his decision to rest the majority of his injury-hit squad paid rich dividends.

Liverpool kids sink Everton, Lucas rescues Spurs

LONDON

LIVERPOOL inflicted fresh misery on Merseyside rivals Everton as a superb strike from teenager Curtis Jones sealed a 1-0 win in the FA Cup third round on Sunday.

Jones' second half curler sent Anfield into ecstasy as the club's youth academy graduates handed Everton an embarrassing derby defeat.

The 18-year-old Liverpool-born midfielder was making only his fifth appearance and his memorable matchwinner was his first senior

Jones is the youngest goalscorer for Liverpool in a Merseyside derby since Robbie Fowler in 1994.

"They played brave football. individual Unbelievable performances from the kids and the adults as well," Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp said.

"I'm so happy they all showed up tonight. Sensational game and a sensational goal from a Scouser. Who could ask for more?"

Without a win over their rivals in any competition since 2010 and thrashed 5-2 at Anfield in the Premier League earlier this season, Everton will feel the pain from this defeat against their under-strength neighbours for some while.

Hit by injuries that left him with 12 fit senior outfield players, Klopp had made nine changes, selecting Nat Phillips, 22, and teenage trio Neco Williams, Harvey Elliott and Jones.

In contrast, Everton manager Carlo Ancelotti made just two changes, fielding a strong team as the visitors chased a first win at Anfield since

Liverpool's Curtis Jones (L) celebrates his superb winner against Everton in the FA Cup

1999.

Liverpool's injury problems mounted within 10 minutes when James Milner limped off to be replaced by another teenager Yasser

Ancelotti's side threatened early on when Dominic Calvert-Lewin's strike was pushed away from Adrian, who then repelled Mason Holgate's header and Richarlison's shot.

Liverpool's youngsters had been thrashed by Aston Villa while the senior stars were away at the Club World Cup in December.

But they acquitted themselves much better this time and Japan striker Takumi Minamino, making

his debut after joining from Salzburg,

glanced a header narrowly off-target before Divock Origi's low drive was brilliantly saved by Jordan Pickford.

Jones' moment of magic came in the 71st minute when he played a chipped pass to Origi, took the return ball and curled a stunning effort into the top corner. - Spurs held -

Elsewhere on Sunday, Lucas Moura kept Tottenham's FA Cup hopes alive with the equaliser in their 1-1 draw at second tier Middlesbrough, while Callum Hudson-Odoi got back in the groove as Chelsea cruised to a 2-0 win over Nottingham Forest.

Ashley Fletcher put Middlesbrough ahead in the second half at the

But Brazilian winger Lucas headed the equaliser to send the tie to a replay in north London later in

"When we were losing 1-0, at that moment I had the feeling of 'we are in trouble'," Tottenham boss Jose Mourinho said. "But then everyone reacted. I reacted. The boys reacted."

At Stamford Bridge, there were signs that Hudson-Odoi might be emerging from his sophomore slump.

He opened the scoring against the second tier side in the sixth minute, just his second goal of the season and his first since September.

Blues boss Frank Lampard had made nine changes, but Chelsea doubled their lead in the 33rd minute when Hudson-Odoi's shot was parried straight to Ross Barkley and the midfielder poked home at the back post.

Crystal Palace became the third Premier League club to be knocked out this weekend as second tier Derby won 1-0 at Selhurst Park.

Jayden Bogle fizzed a cross to the far post and Chris Martin tapped into the net in the 32nd minute.

In a VAR first in England, referee Michael Oliver used the pitch-side monitor to change a decision, sending off Luka Milivojevic after initially booking the Palace midfielder for kicking out at Tom Huddlestone in the 63rd minute.

Sheffield United avoided a nonleague upset with a 2-1 win against AFC Fylde at Bramall Lane.

West Ham saw off third tier Gillingham as second half goals from Pablo Zabaleta and Pablo Fornals clinched a 2-0 win at Priestfield.

'Shame on you': Balotelli slams Lazio fans for racist abuse

MARIO Balotelli slammed Lazio soccer fans after the Italian forward was once again the target of racist chants in Brescia's 2-1 home defeat on Sunday.

The Serie A match was halted for a few minutes shortly after the halfhour mark and an announcement unjustified behavior and confirms made to fans at the stadium, while Lazio coach Simone Inzaghi gesticulated to the visiting fans to stop the chants.

Brescia was leading 1-0 at the time racial abuse earlier in the match.

goal on Instagram after the match a match in November. and wrote: "Lazio fans that were

The 29-year-old Balotelli was singled out by Lazio fans for abuse all match with other offensive chants, that weren't specifically racist, against him and his family.

after the game. "As has always happened in the

Mourinho slams FA Cup

'beach ball' after draw

past, Lazio dissociates itself in the most exhaustive way possible from the discriminatory behavior carried out by a very small minority of fans during the match against Brescia," it read. "The club reiterates once again

the condemnation of similar its intent to prosecute those who betray their sporting passion causing a serious injury to the image of the club and the team."

Balotelli was also the target of following a goal scored by Balotelli, racial abuse earlier this season who had also been subjected to when he threatened to leave the field due to racist chants directed Balotelli posted a video of his at him by Hellas Verona fans during

Racism has been a problem all today at the stadium SHAME ON season in Italy with offensive chants aimed at Romelu Lukaku, Franck Kessie, Dalbert Henrique, Miralem Pjanic, Ronaldo Vieira and Kalidou Koulibaly as well as Balotelli. All of the players targeted - except for Pjanic, who is Bosnian – are black, Lazio released a statement hours and many of the incidents have gone unpunished.

Star-struck minnows pay big penalty as PSG cruise in French Cup

Saint-Germain rested superstars Neymar and Kylian Mbappe before defeating sixth-tier Linas-Montlhery 6-0 in the French Cup on Sunday as the amateur side, and self-confessed fans of their monied rivals, were left to rue a missed penalty when trailing just 1-0.

The part-timers, whose budget is 2,000-times smaller than the Qataribacked Parisian giants, fell behind to a goal on the half-hour by teenager Adil Aouchiche.

However, they were then awarded a penalty after Colin Dagba brought down Issa Cisse.

Up stepped Idrissa Kanoute but his tame spot kick was well-saved by Sergio Rico in the PSG goal.

Less than a minute later, Uruguayan

for the night, tucked away PSG's second and the game was up. Cavani, starting for the first time in two months, added his second just on the hour mark before Pablo

Sarabia (63rd and 70th minutes) and Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting (87th) completed the rout. "We played seriously and with

humility," said PSG coach Thomas Tuchel. "We deserved to win, it was a good

match for the team and the club and a good start to 2020." Tuchel was also full of praise for

Cavani who has been linked with a winter transfer window move to Atletico Madrid in Spain. "'Edi' is there to score, that's what we ask him to do. This will give him

confidence, that's the best thing." Linas-Montlhery, Tottenham's Tanguy Ndombele played in his teens, take their name from neighbouring towns in the

southern outskirts of Paris. But their home ground was judged to be too small for Sunday's game which was shifted instead to a 15,000-capacity arena at Bondoufle to the south of the capital.

They are such big fans of PSG that coach Stephane Cabrelli is a seasonticket holder who has been watching their games for the best part of 50 years.

"It was impressive to play against a team of such stars," admitted Linas-Montlhery skipper Johan Roca who spent four years in the PSG youth system from 2000 to 2004.



Fan club: A supporter runs towards Paris Saint-Germain's Edinson Cavani during the game at Bondoufle, south of Paris, on Sunday (AFP

- 'Lot of fun' -

"We looked them in the eve but felt the gap between us. It was hard physically, tactically, technically.

"Well done to PSG, they respected us and we had a lot of fun." Andre Villas-Boas' Marseille

needed penalties to win away to fourth-tier Trelissac in their last 64 Lassana Diakhaby and Ange

Gnaleko missed the crucial spot kicks for the minnows as the 10-time former winners avoided a second straight cup exit to a side from National 2.

hosts after 20 seconds following a the winning penalty. goalkeeping howler by Yohann Pele and France midfielder Dimitri Payet equalised after 20 minutes for the visitors who had Japan right-back Hiroki Sakai sent off in the closing stages of normal time.

"In your worst dreams you don't need to suffer in that way," Villas-Boas said.

"If we had been knocked-out without Sakai and with a humiliation like that, it would have been tough to take," he added.

Pele made up for his early mistake by saving Diakhaby and Gnaleko's Abdoulaye Diaby scored for the efforts before Lucas Perrin slotted

JS Saint-Pierroise on Saturday became only the second overseasbased team to win a French Cup knockout tie and it was achieved playing more than 9,000km from home.

The club, based on the Indian Ocean island of Reunion, and which once boasted the talents of current Marseille star Payet, defeated seconddivision Niort 2-1.

An overseas side has only once before achieved a similar feat when Geldar FC of French Guiana made the round of 16 in the 1988-1989 season.





usual complaint after his side were forced to settle for a replay at Riverside Stadium

Jose Mourinho says the ball used miles away [today]." in Tottenham's FA Cup clash at Middlesbrough was "too light" and whole Mourinho admitted the like a "beach ball", though he insisted that was not the reason why his side failed to come away with a victory.

Spurs needed a late equaliser from Lucas Moura to earn a replay after Ashley Fletcher put the Championship side ahead five minutes into the second half.

Speaking after the game Mourinho had an unusual gripe, claiming there was a notable difference with the ball used in the inside their defensive line with lots FA Cup compared to the Premier League, which hampered his side's ability to maintain possession.

"I think this ball is [a] beach ball. It's too light. I don't think it helps acted. The boys reacted. the players. But that's not an excuse," he told BT Sport.

disallowed Fletcher's goal for off- easy last balls. (Agencies)

side, but the technology was not in place at Riverside Stadium.

"Yeah because the Middles-THE Spurs boss made an un-brough goal is offside. VAR would give [the offside decision]," Mourinho added. "The referee was not some guy in an office 200

> Reflecting on the game as a side lacked a cutting edge without the injured Harry Kane, with Son Hueng-Min and goalscorer Lucas starting in his absence.

However, the former Chelsea boss said the 56th-minute introduction of Giovani Lo Celso and Erik Lamela helped the team to get a grip on the game as the second half wore on.

"When we were losing 1-0 without strikers or the power to play of bodies and great soul, at that moment I had the feeling of 'we are in trouble'," he told BBC Sport. "But then everyone reacted. I re-

"Giovani Lo Celso and Erik Lamela helped us a lot. If one team has The Portuguese was also ag- to win, it has to be us because we grieved as he felt VAR would have had so many chances. We missed

Guardian www.ippmedia.com

TTA targets to improve tennis promotion

SPORT

Liverpool kids sink Everton, **Lucas rescues Spurs**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Big day for Barsapara ends in tragicomedy

AN air of uncertainty had hung over the T20I series opener between India and Sri Lanka in Guwahati right from the build-up to the match. This was supposed to be India v Zimbabwe in the first place, but with the ICC suspending Zimbabwe, the BCCI summoned its old friend Sri Lanka Cricket to jump in. Zimbabwe's suspension was later lifted, but India v Sri Lanka had been locked in already.

In the days leading up to the game, there had been political turmoil in Guwahati following the parliamentary approval to India's Citizenship Amendment Bill - the final day's play between Assam and Services in the Ranji Trophy was called off in December because of a state-wide curfew.

Some normalcy was restored in the next few weeks. but then it was wet weather's turn to cast doubts over the Guwahati T20I. It had rained by the time most of India's players landed in the city on Friday and the rain returned on the morning of the game. It cleared briefly in the evening to tease a capacity crowd, but rain and a damp pitch eventually forced an abandonment.

The showers lasted less than an hour and the ground staff steadfastly covered the pitch - and the bowlers' run-ups - but they still allowed water to seep into the 22 yards, something that was described as a "schoolboy error" by Aakash Chopra on Star Sports.

The ground staff then resorted to various measures. ranging from using super-soppers to steam irons, in order to dry the wet patches near the middle of the pitch, but to no avail. After seeing repeated inspections and braving the wet weather for three hours or thereabouts, a sell-out crowd, that was desperate to catch a rare glimpse of international action, returned home disappointed.

This was shaping up to be a big day for the Barsapara stadium. Giant posters of Virat Kohli and Lasith Malinga were splashed all around Guwahati and all tickets were reportedly sold out. Before Sunday, this venue had hosted just two internationals - the latest being an ODI against West Indies in October 2018.

The first T20I against Sri Lanka was set to be Barsapara stadium's dress rehearsal for IPL 2020 too. The venue was in the fray to be Rajasthan Royals' second home in the competition, and some of the Royals' officials were apparently in attendance on Sunday, but the abandonment might have thrown a spanner in the Assam Cricket Association's works.

They had beefed up security following political unrest in the approach to the game, but political slogans and chants could still be heard from the stands.

As for the groundstaff, it was a rather tragicomic evening. The super-sopper operator lost control and wound up splashing water on the LED ad boards and then on a member of the ground staff. The loudest cheers on the evening was reserved for this blooper and not for Kohli for a change. The ground staff then brought in hairdryers and vacuum dryers to get a sodden pitch into a surface fit for a game of cricket. However, it was not to be and it was called off shortly before 10pm.

It wasn't all gloom and doom for the Guwahati crowd, though. On a rainy day with very little hope of cricket, the stands were full until the match officials made the final announcement. By the time the DJ played Tip tip barsa paani, the drizzle became a full-blown downpour, but the crowd lapped it up and grooved to the tune. Harbhajan Singh, who is working on this series as a TV commentator, couldn't resist the buzz and showed off his bhangra skills near the edge of the boundary.

At 8.40pm, the entire crowd sang Ma tujhe salam, flashing the torchlights on their mobile phones. An inspection then was scheduled for 9pm, but it got delayed to 9.30pm. The cut-off time for a five-over shoot-out was 9.46pm, and the crowd now swapped song and dance for nervous excitement.

AGENCIES



Dar es Salaam junior tennis player, Wazaino Mutale, battles it out in the last year's edition of the BQ Open competition which took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC). PHOTO; CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Club (DGC).

The week-long tournament has attracted nine nations.

He said investing in grassroots' project is one of the association's efforts to improve the sport, as it is a ground where talents are groomed.

Makoi also said TTA is planning to venture into marketing tennis Dar es Salaam Gymkhana in a move to attain self-reliance in the association's operations. He said TTA will develop

mechanisms and marketing strategies that can help the sport generate sustainable income.

"We are working very hard to see to it that tennis is played in all parts of the country, time has come for tennis to be played not only in city centers, our plan is to go upcountry as that is a place

that has unearthed talents," he said.

The TTA president pointed out his leadership has worked hard to see to it that the association is regaining its status on the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and Confederation of African Tennis (CAT).

"We have been working tirelessly to promote the sport

in the country, during my stay as TTA president we have manage to pay our arrears to ITF and CAT, and now we are a full member of the two organizations," Makoi disclosed.

to our renewed membership last September I attended the ITF annual general meeting in Lisbon, Portugal and now we are hosting this big junior event," he added.

"This year there are a number of activities which will be held in the country," he said.

Makoi also expressed his optimism that the country will pull a surprise performance at the East and Central Africa Junior tennis championship.

"Our players have been training well ahead of this tournament and I'm sure we will perform well, yes we might not be the champions, but we will be among the best teams at the tournament," he

He thanked ITF and CAT for giving the country opportunity to host the tournament.

He as well expressed gratitude to the tournament's sponsors, SBC through Pepsi brand, Coca-Cola and Knight Support, for supporting the championship both materially and financially.

Countries which are competing at the event include defending champions Kenya, Uganda, Eritrea, Seychelles, Rwanda, Comoros, Somalia, Burundi and hosts Tanzania.

Simba SC supporters dissatisfied by team's showing in derby

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

By Correspondent Joseph

have said they are working

hard to ensure that the

sport is played by all

people in all parts of the

president, issued the

statement yesterday at the

opening of this year's East

and Central Africa Iunior

tennis championship at

Dennis

Makoi, TTA

A section of Simba SC supporters have said they were displeased by the squad's showing in the Vodacom Premier Leag game against rivals, Yanga, which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The match, held at National Stadium, ended with the age-old rivals locked to 2-2 draw.

The results did not go well with many of Simba supporters, as it was the case for the side's information officer, Haji Manara, who, on his Instagram post, blasted the team's players for putting poor showing in the clash.

Manara pointed out a section of the squad's players are lacking fighting spirit and they do not know the value of donning Simba

"Yes, football has three results, but the Saturday results is not what supporters expected," he disclosed.

"You (players) are letting down the management and even the person (Mohamed Dewji) who has invested a lot of his money on the team," said part of Manara's Instagram post.

Simba SC head coach Sven Vanderbroeck also said he was not satisfied with the 2-2- draw which his team registered against their age-old rivals.

Speaking after the high profile match, Vanderbroeck said he respect the results of the game, but complained that Yanga's two goals were scored in a space of three minutes when one of his players was attended by first aid personnel outside the pitch.



A section of Simba SC fans cheer their outfit during the squad's Vodacom Premier League clash with Yanga, which took place at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. The clash ended with the two sides locked to 2-2 draw. PHOTO: **CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA**

"We conceded both goals with one man down and I am sure that if it had not happened, they could not have come back into the game," he said.

The Belgian tactician blasted his players' attitude in the early minutes of the second half saying they were not in the game.

"Somehow in the early minutes of the second half my players were not in the game, I don't know what really happened to them," he disclosed.

"This attitude gave our oppo-

goal and then equalize... all in all it was a good game," he said.

Commenting on the overall performance of both teams in the game, Vanderbroeck said his side was good technically and tactically both as a team and individually while their opponents were good at playing collectively.

"We played well and everybody saw it, we were good as a team and also there were some individual skills from my players," he

"I saw a lot of agility, endurnents the opportunity to score a ance, pace, balance and strength

while our opponents were very good as a team and they also were more organized and were more physical," he said.

The coach also commended the referee, Jonesia Rukyaa, saying she handled the difficult and emotional match in a professional manner.

Simba who were the clash's hosts were leading 2-0 courtesy of goals scored by Meddie Kagere on the 42nd minute of the first half through a penalty and Deo Kanda who scored on the 47th minute of the game.

However, Yanga staged one of the memorable comebacks to earn the 2-2 draw, they scored through midfielders Mapinduzi Balama and Mohamed Issa

Yanga interim head coach, Boniface Mkwasa, his players for their strong determination, saying their fighting spirit and commitment were vital in the high tension

"When we conceded two goals, I thought it was extremely hard to come back into the contest but, they fought hard to equalize both goals, which was a very important thing for us," Mkwasa disclosed.

He further said he is delighted with the results considering that most of the players he featured in the game were new to his team.

"I'm very delighted, we had many players like Adeyun Saleh, Nchimbi (Ditram), and others who are new in the team and they did not have enough time to train with their friends, but today (Saturday) they played well against Simba which has been together for a long time," he said.

Despite the stalemate, Simba still lead the 20-team league table with 35 points from 14 matches while Yanga sit fourth on the ladder with 25 points from 12 encounters hence a 10-point gap to catch up with the defending champions.

Both Azam FC and Coastal Union have 26 points to occupy second and third slots respectively with the two clubs being separated by goal difference.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

