



**ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY**  
In Tanzania  
"WHERE YOUR DREAMS ARE NURTURED"

Calling all Old Students of **SJCET, SJCIT, SJCMC, SJCHS and SJUIT-ARUSHA**  
SJUIT invites its Alumnus for the Alumni night from 4:00PM-9:00PM on **24th August, 2019**, "entrance is free". For details [www.alumni.sjuit.ac.tz](http://www.alumni.sjuit.ac.tz)

For more information contact:  
**+255 676 504 147 / +255 745 281 505**

### National pg 3

NEMC to tighten noose on scrap metal export



### National Pg 4

SADC: Tanzanian factories to go international



### National Pg 5

Govt to build modern conference facility



### Pg 9

Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



## WHO says no new Ebola cases in Goma, vaccinates over 1,300

GOMA

THE World Health Organisation has vaccinated over 1,300 people who potentially came into contact with the Ebola virus in the Congolese city of Goma, it said yesterday, helping to contain what many feared would be a rapid spread in an urban centre.

A year-long Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo has killed at least 1,800 in the second biggest toll ever, and efforts to contain the virus have been hobbled by militia violence and some local resistance to outside interference.



**No new confirmed cases have been reported in Goma since the WHO's last report on Aug. 2.**

Goma, a lakeside city of nearly two million people on the Rwandan border, has been on high alert over the past week after a gold miner with a large family contaminated several people before dying himself.

"Ongoing vaccination activities have reached the majority (98 per cent) of eligible contacts, and 1,314 contacts, while frontline workers have been vaccinated to date," the UN agency said in a statement.

No new confirmed cases have been reported in Goma since the WHO's last report on Aug. 2.

The use of an experimental Ebola vaccine, developed by Merck, has proven to be a key weapon against the hemorrhagic fever, although reaching contacts in rural areas beset by violence has proven difficult.

The vaccine's success has been most obvious in cities where contacts are easier to trace, helping to avoid the widespread havoc seen in densely populated areas during a 2013-2016 outbreak in West Africa that killed over 11,000 people.

# PM forms probe team on tanker fire horror



President John Magufuli pictured yesterday consoling one of the people admitted to Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam on transfer from Morogoro after sustaining severe burns in Saturday's oil tanker explosion in the municipality's Msamvu suburb. Photo: State House

The premier urged relatives of the deceased to observe calm as the government has assigned officials to conduct DNA tests on disfigured bodies for identification.

By Guardian Reporters

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday formed an investigative team to look into the causes of Saturday's disaster in Morogoro where dozens were killed after a tanker overturned and spilled fuel.

The premier was addressing members of the public and relatives of the deceased who gathered at the Morogoro regional hospital.

He gave the team five days to submit the horror accident report to his office.

The PM tasked the investigative team to find out why responsible government bodies including police and traffic officers failed to take actions, including restricting people from scrambling for fuel when the tanker overturned.



**The death toll has now reached to 69 while those injured are put at around 70.**

The tanker registered T 717 DDF with a trailer 645 CAN Toyota Scania overturned at Msamvu in Morogoro. The vehicle was heading to Iringa from Dar es Salaam.

The death toll has now increased to 69 while those injured are put at around 70.

"The accident occurred at an open area, near the main Msamvu bus terminal where there were several traffic and police officers but no action was taken to disperse the crowd that was scrambling for fuel from the damaged vehicle. I am giving you until Friday, August 15th to submit a complete report," said Majaliwa. He called on the media to report the tragedy accurately by avoiding giving out unconfirmed data.

The premier urged relatives of the deceased to observe calm as the government has assigned officials to conduct DNA tests on disfigured bodies for identification.

"Health officers have taken samples for DNA tests. We expect the results to be out later today for you to start identifying your relatives for burial," said the PM, noting that some bodies can be identified by looking into their attire, earrings, watches and bracelets that have not been burnt.

He said the government will take responsibility to bury all unidentified bodies and those whose relatives cannot afford the costs. He said that DNA numbers will be placed on

## SADC secretariat mulls food security think-tank

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) is set to establish a special foundation that will address food security challenges in the trading bloc.

Domingos Gove, the director of food, agriculture and natural resources in the SADC Secretariat, said yesterday that this initiative is among a chain of actions set to be launched to address the problem.

Addressing reporters yesterday, he said that during the last crop season most



**We had the lowest rainfall this season, actually the lowest to be registered for the last 15 years in the entire region**

southern African states apart from South Africa and Zambia recorded food deficits.

Gove attributed the situation to rainfall, cyclones and unfavorable climatic conditions. "We had the lowest rainfall this season, actually the lowest to be registered for the last 15 years in the entire region," he said.

Calamities such as cyclone in case of Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Madagascar and Comoro made the situation in relation to agriculture quite bad, he said.

TURN TO PAGE 2

## Kubenea: Private motion to ratify protocol on human rights coming

By Correspondent James Kandoya

UBUNGO legislator Said Kubenea yesterday said he will table a private motion in the National Assembly demanding that the country ratifies and domesticate the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa.

Kubenea (Chadema) announced this

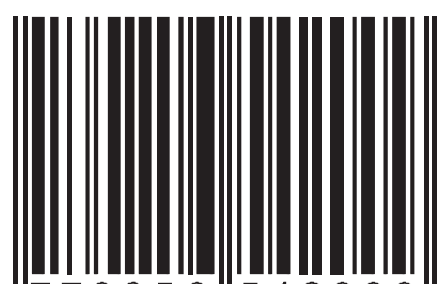


intention at a press conference in Dar es Salaam, noting that he would submit a letter of attention to the Clerk to the National Assembly today.

Since the government has signed the protocol as from last year, it is time to ratify it and domesticate it, the MP contended.

TURN TO PAGE 2

TURN TO PAGE 2





# SADC secretariat mulls over food security think-tank

FROM PAGE 1

"In the food balance sheet produced by each of the member states, the balance in South Africa and Zambia is too small to supply all countries that are in deficit," he stated.

SADC was closely monitoring the situation through the Climatic Service Centre, he elaborated.

In every quarter the centre launches projections of the climatic situation for the next three months for all the 16 member states so that stakeholders are well informed, he pointed out.

He said the secretariat was also working with national vulnerability assessment committees and early warning units to agree and define on a contiguous plan to ensure every country is not heavily affected.

"We are working to ensure that policies and programs in all member states are harmonized so that we walk as one for all inhabitants of each of the 16 nation bloc," he further noted.

The secretariat was working on a program meant to address agriculture production and productivity and areas of promoting trade in agricultural products, he remarked.

On his part, the secretariat's communications and public relations officer Innocent Mbvundula said it is high time a friendly environment for each bloc member state was created.

This would enable member states access markets of more than 350 million inhabitants.

Mbvundula noted that SADC countries are doing whatever it takes to break trade barriers to ensure business was conducted under minimal restrictions within the bloc.

The regional bloc has 33 protocols of which 25 have already ratified by member states, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa addresses a rally in Morogoro municipality yesterday during the identification of the bodies of 69 people killed in an inferno after a fuel tanker overturned on Saturday and burst into flames. Photo: PMO

# PM forms probe team on tanker fire horror

FROM PAGE 1

top of the graves to allow relatives to later identify their beloved ones.

The bodies will be buried at Kola cemetery today.

Majaliwa commended various government officials and from the private sector who tirelessly worked to assist in the rescue effort and preserving the bodies. Jenista Mhagama, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour Employment, Youth and the Disabled), has been on the scene coordinating efforts since Saturday.

During a visit to the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) yesterday afternoon, President Magufuli urged doctors to provide first class specialized treatment to the 43 injured persons admitted at the facility at government cost.

"The government will cover all the treatment cost since most of the injured

are poor Tanzanians who cannot afford settling medical bills," he said, expressing satisfaction with the services offered at MNH.

Dr Magufuli urged the public to continue praying for their recovery and stop judging them as thieves because not all those injured were scrambling for fuel.

"Let us not become judges. Not all the injured persons were scrambling for fuel, some went there to assist and ended up being burnt," the president intoned, having visited patients whose bodies were burnt by upwards of 80 percent.

Earlier, MNH Executive Director Prof Lawrence Museru said they received 46 patients from Morogoro, but three among them have since died. About 15 patients were left to continue with treatment at Morogoro regional hospital as they bodies were burnt below 10 percent, he elaborated.

"We will provide them with therequired

treatment. We have requested for 60 additional nurses from the Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) and some from the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS)," he stated.

MNH spokesman Aminiel Eligaesha was quoted saying the hospital has set aside a total of 89 beds out of which 21 are in the Intensive Care Unit.

In case the main hospital gets overwhelmed by the number of patients, some of them will be transferred to the Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI).

In his condolence message on Saturday, President Magufuli announced three days of mourning. He urged members of the public to stop the dangerous habit of stealing fuel from tankers.

"I am horrified by the looting of fuel from damaged vehicles. There are vehicles that carry dangerous fuel oil and others that carry toxic chemicals or explosives. Let's stop this practice," he said.

For his part, Southern African Development Community (SADC) chairperson and Namibian president Hage Geingob described the death of up to 69 people in an oil tanker inferno on Saturday as a loss to the region.

In a condolence message, Dr Geingob said the regional bloc had "learnt with great sorrow and sadness" of a deadly fire accident. "This is a loss not only to Tanzania but to the SADC region as a whole," he said.

"SADC sympathizes and remains in solidarity with the government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania during this painful and sad moment. We wish all Tanzanians courage and strength as the country faces this big loss."

A similar tragedy occurred in Mbeya in 2000 when a number of villagers were burned in an oil tanker explosion. Around 33 were killed at the incident that happened at Isongole village.

# Kubenea: Private motion to ratify human rights protocol coming

FROM PAGE 1

At the African Union summit last year the state parties agreed and signed the protocol including Tanzania, in which case it is vital to ratify it, he said.

Kubenea (pictured) specified that apart from ratifying the protocol, there is also need to review the law on human and people's rights on the rights of persons with disabilities in the country.

"The regulation stipulates that I'm obliged to submit a letter before the next parliamentary session commencing September 1 and I will do so," he said.

He called upon fellow MPs to join hand in the effort to ensure that the rights of people with albinism are explicitly promulgated, for the government to ratify the protocol.

People with albinism were in danger of disappearing due to killings and injuries associated with witchcraft in many parts of the country, he said in alarm.

"Unless we take the issue seriously, our brothers, sisters and children with albinism will disappear completely," he said. He said among AU member states only Morocco had signed, "but for the wellbeing of our people with albinism it is the right time to ratify it."

For his part, Under The Same Sun (UTSS) legal officer Maduhu William called on parliamentarians to support their colleague in his intention to fight for their rights.

"We, people with albinism are living under threats of being kidnapped or killed. We therefore call on the MPs to play their part in ensuring the protocol is ratified," he said.

Musa Geuza, the chairman of people living with albinism in Ubungo district, said that they need their rights to be sufficiently recognized in the law -including district councils to set aside funds for assisting with sun skin lotion.

Currently it is not legally binding for district councils to set aside funds to procure the lotions but the protocol has clearly stated t his need as key to protect PwA.

"We need the government to ratify and domesticate the protocol so that this can be implemented legally in the country," he added.

# Kenya gears up for population census to enhance planning

NAIROBI

KENYA has put solid measures in place to facilitate a seamless carrying out of national population and housing census towards the end of this month, an official said on Friday.

Government spokesperson Cyrus Oguna said the sixth national population census to be conducted in Kenya since the country gained self-rule, will enable the government to collect data that will aid planning and resource distribution.

"The census will be conducted using digital devices to achieve more accuracy and enhance security of data. We have already procured the devices from local assemblers and have trained enumerators who will conduct the exercise," said Oguna.



Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Constantine Kanyasu pictured at the weekend addressing small miners at Mataba in the Biharamulo-Chato national tree farm supervised by Tanzania Forest Services Agency in Geita Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





George Simbachawene (L), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), inspects a container stuffed with scrap metal at the Dar es Salaam Port yesterday. He is with National Environment Management Council director general Dr Samuel Gwamaka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Simbachawene directs NEMC to tighten noose on scrap metal export

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) George Simbachawene has ordered National Environment Management Council (NEMC) to use its zonal offices in controlling export of scrap metal.

Speaking over the weekend shortly after touring the Dar es Salaam port where he inspected the export of scrap metal, Simbachawene hinted that the current system used in exporting the raw materials in question leads to loss of government revenues.

"This business has huge profit to dealers, but the system used is unfavourable to revenue collection due to the fact that no receipts are issued," he said.

Simbachawene noted that at this era where the government is eyeing a middle income and industrial base economy by 2025, scrap metal is potential raw materials for domestic industries.

"Only the cast iron are for export the rest must remain in the country because the domestic industries need the materials," he explained, adding that NEMC must act tough on the matter.

"I am calling on NEMC to make use of its zonal offices, regional and district Commissioners to control the export of scrap metal so as to serve country from losing revenues," he said.

In another development, The minister asked the responsible authorities to

explain in details as to why a permission to export 18 containers of scrap metal was issued amidst the export ban.

"All the authorities responsible with the inspection scrap metal before export should come together and come up with answers as to why 18 containers of scrap metal were exported despite the ban, scrap metals now is a big business perhaps bigger than of minerals," he said.

The port's customs manager, Njaula Mndenu said the Minister's tour has shed light on the management of scrap metal, promising to implement all the orders and find solutions to the challenges.

"We thank the minister in the way at which he has elaborated on various issues, this will increase efficiency on our part and permanent offices of NEMC staff is vital as will ease the inspection task and sorting out which one of the scrap metal are for export," he said.

Since his appointment to the post, minister Simbachawene has been stressing the need for NEMC to enforce the implementation of environmental laws and regulation to protect environment.



**Only the cast iron are for export the rest must remain in the country because the domestic**

## AfDB commends Chinese investment and partnerships across Africa

By Aderemi Ojekunle

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has commended Chinese investment and partnerships geared towards the development of special agro-industrial processing zones (SAPZs) across Africa.

Prof. Banji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka, the Senior Special Adviser on Industrialisation to the African Development Bank's President, stated this when he led a private sector consortium from China to the office of Nigeria's Vice President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo

on Thursday, August 8, 2019.

According to the AfDB, discussions at the meeting focused on Chinese direct investments as well as ventures with Nigerian state governments and agribusinesses in the development of agro-industrial parks.

Ebrima Faal, African Development Bank Nigeria country director, extolled China's commitment to the development of the African Continent since joining the Bank Group in 1985.

"China has supported the concessional funding base of this institution over many

years and is a major contributor to ADF-14. During the China/Africa Cooperation summit in 2015, it pledged a \$60 billion package to implement a ten-point cooperation plan with Africa. China also established the Africa Growing Together Fund, which became operational in November 2014 with \$2 billion for 10 years alongside the Bank's own resources to finance eligible projects in Africa," he added.

"Nigeria has the potential to become the food basket of the world, but this depends on our ability to deploy the right technol-

ogy. Our partnership with you allows us to harness the knowledge and skills to realise this potential. We work with the African Development Bank at the highest levels to ensure that investors face no constraints in doing business," Osinbajo said.

The Development Bank said it is committed to developing the Special Agro-industrial Processing Zones (SAPZs) quickly in line with its Feed Africa Strategy - which aims to turn the massive natural endowment of the sector into competitive advantages that create wealth and sustainable agribusiness

## TBS inaugurates inspection to flush out substandard iron bars

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has launched a countrywide market inspection to nab traders who continue to import and sell substandard iron bars.

Speaking during the inspection in Dar es Salaam's Buguruni area, TBS senior inspector, Eng. Donald Manyama said the campaign has been conducted in various parts of the country's commercial capital.

So far, Eng Manyama said the standard watchdog visited traders in Kigamboni, Kariakoo, Mbagala and Buguruni areas. He said next week the campaign would go to other regions.

Manyama explained that in Dar es Salaam they found most of iron bars did not have required specifications particularly in length.

He said the length of iron bar should be between 38, or 40 feet. But they have found that there are many of them with 37.6 or 39.7 feet long which is wrong and loss to the consumer.

Manyama said they would contact with manufacturers to rectify the error, or take stern measures for those who would defy directives.

He urged manufacturers to abide by the stipulations and requirements in manufacturing iron bars

Speaking, Ramadhani Shija, a quality assurance officer of the bureau said all iron bars have been graded. They range from 300, 350, 400, 450 and 500 grades.

He urged consumers to look for the grade and length of the iron bars before they purchase and start construction work

According to him, failure to do so would lead to a damage of their houses or structures.

He counseled people who engaged in construction to get advice on quality materials from recognized institutions.

He asked Tanzanians who purchase construction materials to understand their grades in order to have permanent structures.

Shija also insisted local manufacturers to continue improving their goods in order to fetch markets beyond Tanzania.

"Manufacturers have a great role to play in improvement of our economy thus they need to enable our country export more," he insisted.

According to him, they will continue to provide education awareness to the entire manufacturers on the best practices governing the production of sensitive products like iron bars.

He said quality certification institutions play a crucial role for the

development of local industries and government collect revenue for the development of Tanzania.

The Inspector said the Bureau would continue to educate and inspect industries and other manufacturers to ensure they comply with production standards within the region.

He added that Tanzania has decided to go to industrial economy few years to come so all manufacturers have to support the government by producing quality goods which can be sold at any market in Tanzania and beyond borders.


Speaking, a marketing Manager of 92 Hardware Company at Buguruni area identified as Emmanuel Mwalongo thanked the TBS officials for visiting at their premise adding they have been importing goods which meet required standards

He said they would continue collaborating with relevant government authorities in order to avoid importation of substandard goods.

Standards Act No. 2 of 2009 states clearly that TBS is mandated to promote standards, and in doing so it cannot compromise quality.

The act empowers them to suspend production or importation of any goods which do not follow required procedures.






# PALM VILLAGE

The Iconic Landmark of Mikocheni

RESIDENCE | MALL | HOTEL | OFFICES



**2 BR | 3 BR | 4 BR APARTMENTS AND DUPLEXES**


2 YEAR PAYMENT PLAN  
ZERO INTEREST RATE

Prime location | Panoramic seaviews | Stress free living  
Value for money investment | Advanced security  
Modern Amenities & facilities

Deal directly with the Developer

Palm Village, 119 Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikocheni

0659 800 800  
0624 880 880



21537001



## SADC challenges Tanzanian factories to go international

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

DELEGATES from Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, who are in the country for the regional summit, have urged local factories to expand production and marketing scope to export more.

The delegates threw the challenge over the weekend while at the tour of the packaging factory in Coast Region dubbed Global Packaging Limited located in Kibaha district that increase of production would stimulate export industrial goods.

Giving explanations to the delegates during the tour, the Global Packaging (T) Limited managing director, Benno Mwitumba said the company already has plans to expand production, adding that the new expansion phase was underway.

He added that the expansion plan goes hand in hand with efforts to look for markets in SADC member countries in a bid to make sure that the factory which was launched in 2017 by President John Magufuli contributes in earning foreign currency after it has largely helped in meeting domestic demands.

"In these two years of production we have achieved a lot in terms of production and market share and now we have entered a third phase of expansion which eyes international market especially opportunities already available in SADC countries," he said.

Mwitumba emphasized: "We are determined to make sure that after the completion of the expansion phase we will be able to serve the international market especially the one available in SADC countries and we believe with the support of our government which is readily available we will achieve our goals".

He called on the institutes responsible with the industrial management in the country to increase efficiency in service delivery in a bid to make sure that the government goal of building an industrial country is becoming a reality.

The National Development Corporation (NDC) managing director, Prof Damian Gabagambi said as a stakeholder in the factory in question, NDC sees a lot of opportunities in the SADC countries and would make sure that the expansion plan is implemented to increase production for export.

"Our production now stands at 25 million small packaging and 17 million big ones per annum but we expect that the expansion will triple the production which will ensure our penetration to SADC market in a full swing," Prof Gabagambi said.

He added that the good investment environment put by the fifth phase government led by President John Magufuli has led to a significant growth in the industrial sector which is key in instigating competition in the international market.

The SADC delegate leader, Gastom Kaziri hailed the factory for having in place a modern factory that has assured massive production at higher quantities.

"Global Packaging is an example of factories employing modern technologies and at the step which you have reached it's the high time you embraced the international market especially the one in SADC countries," he said.

The owner of Wande Printing and Packaging (T) Ltd who are the shareholders in Global Packaging (T) Ltd, Joseph Wasonga, said the expansion plans were well underway, hailing financial institutes for being supportive.



Delegates to Southern African Development Community meetings in progress in Dar es Salaam are briefed on fruit processing when they visited Elvenagri factory in Bagamoyo District at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mnangagwa hails external support on his first election anniversary

HARARE

ZIMBABWEAN President Emmerson Mnangagwa has paid tribute to China and other friendly countries outside the African continent for standing by Zimbabwe as it undergoes political and economic reformation.

In a state of the nation address on Friday night to mark his first elective year in office, Mnangagwa said Zimbabwe will remain eternally grateful to the

countries for the support.

"We remain eternally grateful to all those nations outside the African Union which have stood by us through thick and thin, principally the People's Republic of China, Russia, India, Belarus, Spain and Brazil. We never take their support for granted," Mnangagwa (pictured) said.

He said as his government continues to engage and re-engage the world, he will visit Russia in October this year, the second such visit in a year.

He also said through the re-engagement efforts, Zimbabwe was now enjoying warm relations with Western countries that had remained hostile to it over the past two decades.

He said the ultimate goal was the complete removal of punitive Western sanctions on Zimbabwe.

He commended the political, economic and legislative reforms his government has undertaken over the past year to improve democratic space in



the country. He pledged to bring about a

lasting democratic dispensation under his new government.

"As I address you, bad laws are being repealed, and are set to be replaced by good ones which comply with our celebrated Constitution and international tenets of good governance. No piece of legislation which is deemed offensive, restrictive, or undemocratic will be spared," he said.

Among the laws facing repeal and replacement include the Public Order and Security Act

and the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, blamed by the civic society and opposition for stifling fundamental freedoms and liberties of Zimbabwean citizens.

On the economic front, the president said painful but necessary reforms had been undertaken over the past year, the major highlight being the scrapping of the multiple currency regime that had been in place since 2009, and the re-introduction of the Zimbabwe dollar.

"Through this key reform, and the operationalization of open market in all spheres, we have geared our economy for a major transformation underpinned by greater efficiencies, fair value and secure property rights," he said.

He urged the nation to remain patient with the reforms, saying while the beginning may be painful, the medium to long run will deliver durable jobs, economic stability, growth and development.



Concrete poles along the pavement of Dar es Salaam's Kawawa Road undergo painting as part of effort to add a touch of beauty to the city, as found yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

## AU, AfDB ink \$4.8m grant for continental free trade secretariat

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Development Bank Group on Monday signed a \$4.8 million institutional support grant to the African Union (AU) for implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

In a statement, the AfDB noted that the grant, approved by the Group's Board of Directors on 01 April 2019, forms part of a series of interventions by the Bank in its lead role to accelerate implementation of the Free Trade Agreement, seen as a major force for integrating the 55-nation continent and transforming its economy.

Albert Muchanga, AU's Commissioner for Trade and Industry, initialled for the continental body, and Obed Andoh Mensah, representing the Bank's Director of the Industrial and Trade Development Department (PTTD), signed on behalf of the Bank, signalling the startup of implementation.

African leaders meeting in Niamey, Niger in early July launched the implementation phase of the free trade area agreement established in March 2018 after it became operational at the end of May this year.

Currently, 54 states have signed the deal and are set to begin formal trading next July.

"The AfCFTA is going to work and we are confident that by the 1st of July next year, all the 55 countries would have been State parties - meaning, they would have signed and ratified the agreement and intra-African will start," Muchanga said and urged countries to use this period to complete the parliamentary processes.

Muchanga commended the Bank's strong and consistent support to ensure

smooth implementation of the Agreement, saying the grant would be used judiciously for the rollout of various protocols relating to the structure and mandate of the AfCFTA secretariat.

The AU currently has an interim secretariat, tasked to provide the organizational structure for the permanent administrative body, its work program and related issues including its budget. The Niamey summit announced the siting of the AfCFTA secretariat in Accra, Ghana.

The Continental Free Trade deal has the potential to create the largest free-trade area in the world - uniting 55 African countries with a combined gross domestic product of more than \$2.5 trillion.

It is a major force for continental integration and expansion of intra-African trade, currently estimated at around 16%. The trade agreement is expected to expand intra-African trade by up to \$35 billion per year, ease movement of goods, services and people across the continent's borders and cut imports by \$10 billion while boosting agriculture and industrial exports by 7% and 5% respectively.

In his remarks, Andoh Mensah stressed that the deal will help stabilise African countries, allow small and medium-sized enterprises to flourish, promote industrialisation and lift millions out of poverty.

"If the AfCFTA is complemented by trade facilitation reforms, reduction in non-tariff barriers, improved infrastructure and policy measures to encourage employment and private sector investments, it will stimulate poverty reduction and socio-economic development across Africa," he said, noting that the goals of AfCFTA are aligned to the Bank's flagship High 5s.





Serengeti Breweries Limited managing director Mark Ocitti (2nd-L) has a word with a visiting delegation from the UK at the company's premises in Moshi late last week. Among other things, the guests took part in the planting of 1,000 trees in Kilimanjaro Region under the firm's environmental conservation campaign. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Inadequate space for health service provision factors hinder community participation, say parliamentarians

By Henry Mwangonde

INADEQUATE space for health service provision and lack of skilled workers in facilities hinder Tanzania's proactive actions towards improving reproductive, maternal, newborn child and adolescent health despite its endeavors, a visiting association of Asian and African parliamentarians has said.

Speaking over the weekend, Tanzania Parliamentary Association on Population and Development (TPADP), Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) said increasing investments on the services will place Tanzania on a much stronger footing in ensuring increased service quality, availability and accessibility.

package of sexual and reproductive health service and information.

The visit of the Asian and African parliamentarians which took them to Mainland and Zanzibar from August 4 to 8 was aimed at exchanging information, and sharing experiences and insights on reproductive health and rights.

It was also a platform for parliamentarians to reflect on the international conference on population and development and discuss agenda issues of the upcoming conference to be held in November this year.

Tanzania suffers high adverse sexual and reproductive health indicators including high levels of: maternal mortality, adolescent births, mother to child transmission of HIV, intimate partner violence, persistence of child and teenage marriages, girls forced to drop out of school due to pregnancy, and low contraceptive prevalence. Sexual reproductive health programmes have limited orientation to key populations and there is little evidence of integration of and HIV/Aids interventions.

Although Tanzania has met its country target for reducing the under-five mortality rate, newborn deaths are responsible for 40% of all under-five deaths and is an area for concern.

"There are delays in delivering of commodities such as contraceptives and this also brings insufficient demand generation for service by the public," said Mpanda Rural MP Sebastian Kapufi.

He said it is the duty of the MPs to monitor closely policy implementation, review of policies to determine efficiency in promoting respect, protecting and fulfilling the sexual and reproductive health and rights of individuals by removing barriers towards realizing the availability, accessibility of comprehensive reproductive

## Kenyatta mourns Morogoro's victims of fuel tanker tragedy

NAIROBI

KENYAN President Uhuru Kenyatta on Saturday mourned victims of the fuel tanker fire tragedy in Morogoro. Kenyatta sent a message of condolence and comfort to the families of the victims of the fuel tanker fire tragedy.

ed in which at least 60 people were killed and 70 others injured on Saturday.

In his condolence message released in Nairobi, Kenyatta said it was unfortunate for the country to lose citizens in such an unfortunate accident.

He assured his Tanzanian counter-

part, John Magfuli of his support and prayers as the country comes to terms with the unfortunate incident.

He also wished quick recovery to those who were injured in the incident and admitted in various hospitals.

Saturday's explosion happened when people tried to scoop fuel com-

ing out of the tanker which then burst into flames in an incident similar to what happened at Sachangwan in Kenya's Nakuru County ten years ago.

Tanzanian authorities have expressed fears the number of deaths could rise as some of the victims were critically burnt.

## We'll continue creating employment opportunities for graduates - Prof Kabudi

By Guardian Reporter

FOREIGN Affairs. East Africa, Rwegional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi has said that the government is determined to continue creating a number of employment opportunities for university graduates in

the country.

Prof Kabudi said this at the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the first graduation ceremony for students who pursued studies abroad through Global Education Link (GEL).

He said that the fifth-phase government was working closely with private sector in creating

better environment that leads to job opportunities for graduates who pursued studies within and outside the country.

He however commended the graduates, who went abroad to get education and then came back to build the nation by working in different fields taking into account that the government is

implementing many development projects.

"As government, we're tirelessly working on building strong country's economy, which in turn will come up with a number of employment opportunities to our people," he said, adding:

"We are also working hard to address corruption loopholes, so that the money is channelled to development projects hence reduce poverty to Tanzanians."

Prof Kabudi lauded Global Education Link for their efforts to send 5,600 students abroad, saying: "This is a very commendable efforts that needs to be emulated by other players in the education sector."

Executive Director of Global Education Link, Abdulmalik Mollel, said that this year the agency is expecting to send more than 1,000 students abroad. Since the establishment of the institution, about 11 years ago, a total of 5,400 students had been enabled to study at various varsities outside the

country and 40 percent of them had been employed and others employed themselves.

Last week GEL emerged number one among all universities and education exhibitors during the Nane nane climax at Simiyu that was officially closed by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

## Govt to build modern conference facility to boost tourism

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government is planning to construct a biggest and modern conference facility to accommodate big international conferences as one of tourism products.

The international conference facility to be constructed in Dar es Salaam will attract many international conferences and tourists.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Prof. Aldof Mkenda made the statement at the National Museum when inspecting different tourism attractions for the promi-

nent SADC delegations that plan to visit the Museum.

Prof Mkenda said conference tourism was one of tourism products that attract many tourists at one moment.

"We want to have a bigger and modern conference facility which will attract international conferences such as World Health Organisation, World Trade Organisation, African Union and many others" he said adding that such meetings will attract many tourists in our country.

The Firth Phase Government has completed construction of Third Terminal building at Julius Nyerere International

Airport with the capacity of handling over six million passengers per year; he said adding that the government has also facilitated ATC to operate effectively including to have international routes.

"All these are enabling environment in the conference tourism that will need people to travel for the conferences and tourism," he said.

He gave an example of a country like Rwanda that has a bigger conference centre which attracts international conferences and tourists.

"The Rwanda conference attract more than 200 conference per year which means it

benefits their country economically," he said.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Permanent Secretary said the SADC meeting was a blessing to Tanzania because it has provided business opportunities to Tanzanians.

"Hotels within the city centre are full, tour operators and tax drivers are busy and Dar es Salaam is flourishing," he said.

He said his Ministry participated fully in preparation of the meeting in the area of marketing of our tourism attractions including national parks, natural resources, port infrastructures, hotels, culture and

heritage. Tanzanians ought to effectively use the SADC meeting economic opportunities, he said adding that

Prof Mkenda said despite of attracting the SADC delegation to different tourism attractions, Tanzania will also show her contribution to African liberation.

The National Museum is having special exhibition on contribution of Tanzania in liberation struggle of African countries.

The first President of Tanzania Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere spearheaded the struggle and was the Chairman of Frontline States.





**BBC MEDIA ACTION**  
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH MEDIA AROUND THE WORLD

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

BBC Media Action is the BBC's international charity. We believe in the power of media and communication to help reduce poverty and support people in understanding their rights. Our aim is to inform, connect and empower people around the world. With an expanding portfolio, we are now advertising for the following positions in Tanzania:

**Partnerships Development Manager:** will sustain and grow Media Action Tanzania's relationships with broadcasters and media-development / media-for-development partners including CSOs, NGOs, social enterprises, and relevant government bodies such as the TCRA. The Partnerships Development Manager will also manage Media Action's capacity-building team, ensuring programme activities are on time and on budget, reflect BBC editorial values and make a measurable difference to the professional capacity of the individuals, teams and organisations we work with.

Please only apply if you meet the basic criteria under the person specification which can be downloaded at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/jobs/partnerships-development-manager-2019>

Candidates should send their CV and a cover letter (PDF or Microsoft Word format) which outlines their experience and suitability for the role in English by email to: [recruitment@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org](mailto:recruitment@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org) with the title of the position applied for in the subject line before 5pm on **Tuesday 20th August 2019**. Please do not send certificates or other attachments. Applicants with no separate cover letter will not be considered. These are local posts applicable to people who have the legal right to live and work in Tanzania and national terms and conditions will apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

\*The role may involve working with groups of vulnerable children and adults. For the successful candidate, mandatory training will be provided on BBC Media Action's safeguarding policy and staff code of conduct. A police background check may form part of the recruitment process. BBC Media Action operates a zero-tolerance policy concerning all forms of abuse and exploitation of vulnerable people.\*



## 'Tanzania likely to attain set economic growth targets if the various available resources are utilised more judiciously'

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Tanzania, Tae-ick Cho, has said the country is likely to attain its set economic growth targets if the various available resources are properly utilized.

He said Tanzania is among African countries that have been endowed with various resources including national parks, forests, arable land, and different types of minerals.

Speaking over the weekend in Arusha during celebrations to launch the Urafiki Solar Plant at Ngurdoto in Arumeru district, the ambassador said that if proper utilized, the resources may help improve the economic welfare of Tanzanians.

"I have been in Tanzania since December last year, I learning the country's culture including Kiswahili language", he said noting that Tanzania is globally known as an attractive and peacefully country.

Ambassador Cho added that Tumaini Solar Plant will help economically empower people at Ngurdoto viillage since they will use the electricity on agricultural activities including irrigation. He said the bilateral relationship between Tanzania and Korea is meant to benefit citizens in a number of sectors.

Speaking at the event, Arumeru District Commissioner, Jerry Muro

said the project will empower the villagers economically and help them graduate from poverty.

Muro said the village was facing a number of challenges in the past year, but his office in collaboration with stakeholders, villagers and a research institute-Innovative Technology and Energy Center (ITEC) have been able to install power at the village.

He explained that the solar power plant will benefit more than 50 villagers, and that it will also be used to pump water into the irrigation schemes. He said with the irrigation agriculture, villagers will reap more for both, food and business.

Project Manager from Innovative Technology and Energy Center (ITEC) Dr Herb Rhee said they have implemented three solar and water projects namely, Tumaini, Urafiki and Maisha. He said the two solar projects (Tumaini and Urafiki) have been completed.

"We are working to complete the Maisha water project which its implementation is at final stages", said the project manager.

He said that in January this year, the institute launched the Matumaini solar plant but due to increase demand of the service, they were requested to implement the Urafiki project that was launched over the weekend.



Mara regional commissioner Adam Malima (2nd-R) and regional administrative secretary Caroline Mthapula (R) all smiles when receiving desks from NMB Bank Pic Lake Zone manager Abraham Augustino (2nd-L) and the bank's Musoma Branch manager, Sebastian Kayaga, at the municipality's Buhare Secondary School at the weekend. As part of its CSR programme, the bank supported four secondary schools, three primary schools, and three health centres with an assortment of items worth 50m/- in total. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Cross-border disease outbreak simulation operation reinforces preparedness in East Africa

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

JACKSON Tipapa, a Kenyan cattle farmer from Loitokitok, explained the dire situation on his farm to a team of health and livestock experts.

The 48-year old husband and father of four represented a distraught community whose cattle were dying. A strange disease was threatening further loss of their goats, sheep and what was left of his cows.

"The cattle are weak and ill with diarrhoea. Some have died while others have miscarried," he told the visiting team. It was not just livestock that was affected. Some people in the community had fallen sick - with diarrhoea, high fever and vomiting.

Meanwhile, across the Tanzanian border in the town of Longido, another farmer explained a similar situation to a rapid response team of health experts and vets who were following up

on an alert about the situation. They examined the animals and took dung and blood samples for testing while health workers engaged members of the community and answered questions about their concerns.

Fortunately for Jackson and neighbouring farmers, this scenario was part of a Field Simulation Exercise (FSX) that occurred in June 2019 at the Namanga One Stop Border Post (above) and the surrounding ar-

eas in both Kenya and Tanzania.

The exercise was convened by the East Africa Community (EAC) and implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO) to test both countries' preparedness and response to disease outbreaks. It covered various real-life simulations involving the health, livestock, agriculture, tourism and environment sectors. The simulation that was presented was not unusual in the region, and

highlighted the daily challenge of managing the risk of disease outbreaks.

The exercise scenario depicted a cross-border Rift Valley Fever (RVF)-like virus outbreak (a fictitious virus described as East Rift Fever was created so as not to interfere with current public health efforts targeting real viruses circulating in the region). The outbreak scenario impacted humans and animals, lives and livelihoods, agriculture, trade

and tourism, peace and security and the overall regional economy.

In response to the need to prepare EAC Partner States for Ebola due to the ongoing outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the fictitious exercise featured a RVF virus that mutated into a pathogen that could be transmitted between humans, causing a severe haemorrhagic fever that resulted in a high number of cases and

deaths.

This aspect of the simulation allowed for an assessment and strengthening of EAC capacities to prepare and respond to an Ebola-like situation using the One Health approach.

During the exercise, the rapid response teams acted on emergency alerts sent from a control room. The follow-up response was tested to examine how efficiently health and other emergency teams reacted.

## The Guardian Limited

### VACANCY

#### Freelancer Sales Executive

The Guardian Limited is looking for self driven sales personnel to join our advertising Sales Team in Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Tabora, Pwani, Ruvuma, Katavi and Rukwa

#### Responsibilities

- Be responsible for aggressive development of new clients and growing existing business.
- Proactively develop new business avenues
- Devise and monitor business plans to ensure substantive sales
- Develop strategic solutions that meet the unique needs of each client

#### Qualifications

- The position requires someone who can deliver the set targets within deadlines under competitive working environment.
- Applicants need to be highly organized, self-motivated with a positive attitude, and can thrive on setting and reaching new goals.
- Holders of a University degree or Diploma in Business Administration
- Experience in Sales and Marketing is an added advantage

**NOTE: This is a commission Based Position**

**Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**All applicants should specify the region they are applying for and send their application via Email to [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) before 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.**



Bishop Dr Charles Gadi of the Good News For All Ministry prays at Mapinga in Bagamoyo District at the weekend for President John Magufuli and the upcoming Southern African Development Community summit to be held in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## UNESCO due to come up with new programme for the youth

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is set to come up with a new programme dubbed: "03" meaning "our right, our lives and our future", which will help youth to know their rights and responsibilities.

UNESCO head of office and Representative, Tirso Dos Santos said yesterday when he paid a courtesy call on Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein at the State House in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Santos said his organization will also continue to support Zanzibar's development projects.

He said that his organisation is also working closely with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), UN Women and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to empower girls and women with different skills, hence step out of poverty. The project is to be implemented in both Unguja and Pemba islands.

Other districts in Tanzanian mainland include Sengerema, Kasulu and Ngorongoro

For his part, Dr Shein said that his government will provide all the needed support to projects implemented by UNESCO.

He assured the UN official that his government honours the current rela-

tions and would continue to do so for the well-being of Tanzanians, noting that UNESCO has been implementing a number of projects in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

He said most of the UNESCO's supported projects ranges from education, water, culture, health and the enhancement of Stone Town of Zanzibar -- UNESCO World Heritage Centre

"All these projects have contributed to the development of Zanzibar islands," President Shein said, commending UNESCO's initiatives to improve education through community radios in Micheweni area of Pemba islands.



# Pan African Parliament, WHO join efforts to champion the health agenda in Africa

PRAIA, Cape Verde

The Pan African Parliament (PAP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are working together to advance an effective health agenda on the continent.

The Joint Work Plan 2019-2020 was discussed during the Joint Sitting of the PAP Permanent Committees on Health and Gender held in Praia this week.

Chairperson of the PAP Health, Labour and Social Committee, Aurélien Simplicite Zingas Kongbelet, recognized WHO as first technical partner of PAP and encouraged to continue their role as technical advisor and "take this cooperation to the National Parliaments and establish caucuses in specific health issues such as Tuberculosis and immunization".

This statement was done during the Public Health orientation session led by WHO Officer in Charge in Cabo Verde, Tomas Valdez.

"We had a very rich year of cooperation with strong engagement and solid outcomes, since the signing of the WHO and PAP Memorandum of Understanding last February, on the margins

of the AU Summit. We had regular joint meetings since then and we are planning follow-up discussions on other important issues such as maternal mortality, health security including the implementation of the International Health Regulations in the region, highlighted Innocent Ntaganira, Head of the WHO Liaison Office to the African Union (AU) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The strategic areas for engagement of the Joint Work Plan presented by Innocent Ntaganira include Legislation, Advocacy, Budget allocation and Accountability. "Universal Health Coverage shall be the overall frame for the WHO-PAP engagement, with focused work plan aiming at concrete results, which stimulates close working relations between WHO country offices and National Parliaments Health Committees", added.

The Health Committee sessions held in Praia were an opportunity to report back on actions undertaken until now and define the next cooperation steps. PAP adopted this year a resolution on the establishment of an African Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization,

to drive the body's commitment to ensuring all children across the African Continent have access to the vaccines they need. The African Union Commission, in collaboration with WHO, will report back to Heads of State at the January 2020 AU Summit on progress made in attaining the 10 commitments of the Addis Ababa Declaration of Immunization.

Jean Marie Dangou, Coordinator of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Primary Prevention at the WHO Regional Office for Africa, warned of the growing burden of NCDs in Africa, perpetuating poverty and underdevelopment and expressed that "WHO is committed to reduce the preventable and avoidable burden of morbidity, mortality and disability due to NCDs by means of multisectoral collaboration and cooperation at national, regional and global levels."

"NCDs often coexist with communicable diseases such as Tuberculosis and HIV. Tackling NCDs is central to achieving our global development goals and targets, and to ensuring gender equity, socio-economic well-being and healthy lives for all", informed the WHO Coor-

ordinator for NCD Prevention. The meeting recommended this NCD presentation to be also made next October at the PAP ordinary session, which brings together the 270 Members of Parliament (MP).

Likewise, during the session was also discussed the NCDs Call to Action that the PAP will present in the next plenary meeting to scale up the implementation of ambitious multisectoral national NCD responses and foster an integrated approach to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

This declaration is a focused and prioritized plan aligned with the current context and health system challenges for Africa that will contribute to accelerate the implementation of the WHO NCD "Best Buys and other interventions for the prevention and control of NCDs" and mobilize adequate, equitable, predictable and sustained funding for national NCD responses, while promoting specific legal and regulatory assistance including innovative financing, and national multi-stakeholder dialogue and accountability.

"I will strongly advocate for this Call to Ac-

tion and NCDs presentation to be included in the agenda of the next plenary of PAP in October 2019 to convey this concern and officially launch the Immunization Caucus", noted the Chairperson of the PAP Health, Labour and Social Committee.

The Officer in Charge of WHO in Cabo Verde, Tomas Valdez, addressed to the audience of over 50 parliamentarians encouraging them to become health champions to achieve the targets of the Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals. "It is critical for the future of the next generations to complement and integrate our actions for a common health agenda in Africa to tackle challenges such as maternal mortality, health security, immunization and UHC in our continent", added the WHO Officer.

He advised that the figures presented on NCDs in Africa "should not be seen as intimidating but they must call us for action. Most NCDs are preventable and solutions are in our hands, strategies to fight NCDs are available and WHO is ready to support African countries".



Frank Anthony, Tigo's Morogoro regional sales manager, speaks at the launch of 3G network site at Kisaki in Morogoro region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Woman climbs Africa's highest mountain to raise awareness on online safety for children

By Mildred Europa Taylor

A GHANAIAN woman has finally fulfilled her mission to climb Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro, to raise awareness about online safety for children.

Awo Aidam Amenyah, who is also the executive director of the organization, Child Online Africa, reached the top of the mountain located in Tanzania on Sunday.

The climb was also to raise funds to support programmes in the area of online safety, literacy and well-being programmes across the regions in Africa.

"It's official: I walked at the highest point in Africa with the hope that the safety & well-being of children online is taken a lot seriously on the African Continent," she wrote on her Facebook page while sharing pictures of her achievement.

Amenyah had earlier indicated that her move to climb the continent's highest mountain was to "send the message across to all the people concerned in Africa to do the needful for children and young people".

"Many developed countries have made significant progress when it comes to children and young people's safety on the Internet, though that has not made



them immune to the challenges we see these days: at least it has made most people including us what really the issues are when it comes to the safety and protection of children and young people online.

"Same level of preparation cannot be said of the African continent. We have close to zero level of knowledge at some level for adults, you can imagine what children and young people will face then under the watch of such adults? The vulnerability is there for everyone but it is worse in the case of children," she said.

Amenyah said that she chose to climb Kilimanjaro because "there could not have been any significant location to make this call to Africans than at the Uhuru Peak of Kilimanjaro which is the highest point of Africa".

With its summit about 4,900 metres (16,100 ft) from its base and 5,895 metres (19,341 ft) above sea level, Mount Kilimanjaro is among Africa's leading tourist attractions. The mountain has

been the subject of many scientific studies because of its shrinking glaciers and disappearing ice fields. In recent years, it has been used to raise awareness about certain societal problems.

Six African women with albinism who have overcome several challenges associated with their condition scaled the mountain last October to highlight their plight.

The novice climbers, who are visually impaired and between the ages of 26 and 35, were from Tanzania, Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, Senegal and Zimbabwe. Each of them climbed the 19,340-foot mountain every day for between four to five hours with a guide.

Jane Waithera, a human rights activist, speaker and change agent who was behind the initiative, at the time, said: "The climb will give me and my sisters with albinism a platform to amplify our voices from Africa's highest peak and challenge the stigma associated with albinism. We will be speaking not just for ourselves but also for the future generations of people with albinism, so that they may be given equal opportunities, dignity and respect. I see myself opening limitless doors to people with albinism in Africa."

## 'To uplift a woman is to uplift a village'

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

KHADIIJA Zuberi, 23, from Ruaha Mbuyuni village in Tanzania's central highlands, is a single mother to her four-year-old son, Hashim.

It has been a financial struggle for Zuberi—who has completed high school, but has no further qualifications—to raise her son. While she is still in a relationship with Hashim's father and he reportedly supports them, he doesn't live in Ruaha Mbuyuni village, located in Iringa.

Zuberi has worked all sorts of jobs to provide for her son. She remembers her first job as a helper at a local food outlet. She was paid the equivalent of a dollar a day for a job that started at 5am and ended 14 hours later.

"You find yourself working so hard and when you get paid you can't even meet your basics needs," she told IPS.

Last March, Zuberi became a recipient of a project called Malkia wetu, Swahili for 'Our Queens'. It is a programme run by Kilimo Kan, a local agribusiness that supports the development of smallholder farmers in Iringa. Malkia wetu specifically targets young women between the ages of 14 and 24 from Ruaha Mbuyuni village. After training the young women, they are each allocated a piece of land and agricultural inputs with the agreement that the produce will be sold back to Malkia wetu.

"The programme facilitates young women to use agribusiness to avoid risky livelihood options such as early marriage and pregnancy or prostitution and instead become financially literate, entrepreneurial leaders generating income from farming," the company says on a Facebook post.

Now Zuberi runs her own small

food business, selling soup to villagers in the morning and evening and also farming tomatoes.

Many don't have access to critical reproductive health services

Young women like Zuberi aren't an exception here. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), one in four Tanzanian adolescents aged 15-19 have already begun having children and the fertility rate is five children for every woman in a country of just over 57 million people.

While women are increasingly using contraceptives to plan their families, UNFPA states "there are still too many who lack agency, education, and access to critical reproductive health services. The unmet need for family planning for married women (aged 15 to 49) stands at 32 percent".

A Department for International Development (DFID) study titled "Barriers to Women's Economic Inclusion in Tanzania" lists these barriers as time poverty (because women spend significant time on household chores); lack of education; and even reproductive health pressures.

While Tanzania remains one of the African nations to experience sustained economic growth, according to USAID this is limited by a high population growth: "High population growth and low productivity in labour-intensive sectors like agriculture, which employs 75 percent of the population, limit broad-based economic growth."

With less than 100 days to go before the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25), African and Asian Parliamentarians met in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from Aug. 5 to 8 to address what needs to be done ahead of the November summit.

ICPD25 refers to a 1994 meeting in Cairo, Egypt, where world governments adopted a plan of action, calling for women's reproductive health and rights to take centre stage in national and global development efforts.

Titled the "African and Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development for ICPD+25", the Tanzania meeting this week aimed to provide a platform for deepening regional parliamentarians' understanding of the significance of UNFPA's work and equipping parliamentarians with knowledge and skills to take concrete measures to advance the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and Sustainable Development Goals.

The Programme of Action recognises "that reproductive health and rights, as well as women's empowerment and gender equality, are cornerstones of population and development programmes," according to UNFPA. The meeting was organised by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA). While parliamentarians recognised that progress had been made since Cairo, considerable gaps remain within certain countries.

Tanzania's Speaker of parliament, Job Ndugai, said that his country was committed to the ICPD Programme of Action. He also urged Tanzanians to limit the size of their families relation to their economic status so that parents could provide their children with the basic necessities.

"We should look at this on a family level. You and your family...the children that you are [having] do they reflect your financial status? The important thing here is the amount of people we have should relate with our economic [status]," said Ndugai.



Global Packaging managing director Benno Mwitumba (L) shows one of the items produced at his factory to members of a Southern African Development Community delegation who visited the facility in Coast Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



# The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

MONDAY 12 AUGUST 2019

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Women's soccer team has done us proud, once again

**T**ANZANIA'S Under-20 women soccer side, Tanzanite, lived to the reputation that the country's women soccer side has built in the past two or three years. They reached the final of the U-20 CECAFA Women's Championship, while the proper women's national side holds the CECAFA title that it has won twice. There was of course plenty of chance that the U-20 title would also come to Tanzania in yesterday's midday final, but luck can't always be counted upon to deliver. We all expected the best, all the same.

Their opponents, the Zambian side are also a well regarded team as the senior side was in the semi-final clash against Botswana and all talk in Zambian newspapers was that they should 'emulate their juniors' in reaching the final.

Like ourselves in this instance they were also counting on luck, to reach that far for both teams, and seemingly asking too much from Lady Luck just like ourselves, as Tanzania is current champions of the senior women's CECAFA tournament, and was looking forward to add the U-20 title as well. It is elating for the national spirit but it can be a torture to wish to succeed all the way but it happens.

The stage for the Tanzania-Zambia final was prepared after the Zambians beat Zimbabwe 1-0 to qualify to the inaugural Cosafa U20 Women Championship final in Port Elizabeth. Zambia scored in the 32nd minute of the game and little changed up to the final whistle, so they were waiting for the other semifinal, where Tanzania edged South Africa by the same score line. It was thus a happy moment for the two finalists as the U-20 tournament for women has just been restored, after it was in abeyance for

30 years.

Chroniclers say that the first tournament was played in Zanzibar in 1986 and won by the host team. After that there was no tournament for the next thirty years, while efforts continued to revive the tournament. They say a bold effort to hold the women's championship in the CECAFA region was attempted in Zanzibar for October 2007, but the tournament was cancelled and never played. The next edition then was proposed for 2016, a full nine years later.

That 2016 edition was hosted by Uganda and played in Jinja, while noticeably there were no other bids to host the tournament, on the basis of the chronicler.

Tanzania won the championship and also Burundi were playing their first official FIFA recognized games ever, and in that context the 2019 edition was again won by Tanzania.

This shows that Tanzania stands well in this genre of competition in the region, something we often lack in familiar men's tournaments.

Still we have had something to show in Under-21 CECAFA championship for men, as Serengeti Boys won the CECAFA Youth Championship last year, despite that it was their first win ever in that tournament.

That means our teams are either improving as in the latter context or stable as in the women's tournaments - and it appears, similar stories can be narrated by our regional rivals or current opponents.

Reaching the final and especially grabbing the title is a huge morale booster for the sport, as it creates role models for youths to follow, the way great sportsmen and women constantly do.

Winning the final would add up to a legend that is already being built. Well done Tanzanite and keep up the spirit.

## We shouldn't tolerate use of car lights endangering safety

**P**OLICE have issued a strong warning to motorists who change their car lights or motorcycle lights configuration by fixing powerful additional ones, making it easier for them to see the road ahead and often paralyzing the sight for other motorists. Dar es Salaam Special Police Zone Commander Lazaro Mambosasa said this a press-briefing on controls on movement of motor vehicles and especially passenger motorcycles during this period of a series of meetings related to annual summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The key point was adding nuisance lights troubling road users.

The commander elaborated on the manner in which individual drivers add lights to give them a peculiar advantage on the road, as other users, either drivers or pedestrians, are compelled to stand aside or clear the way for the powerful searchlight car or motorcycle to pass.

The RPC said at times this kind of facility is vital for acknowledged functions, but it is misused by private motorists to clear the road so that they pass at their own comfort. Other users first think the car or motorcycle is likely to be up to something important security-wise or thereof, and then discovers it is little more than a naughty boy.

The RPC said that when a motorist meets that kind of vehicle, he or she is compelled to slow down and move to the left, nearly having to park, for the powerful headlights to pass first. Obviously there is no reason anyone should inconvenience other motorists just for amusement - rushing to a bar, a wait-

ing girlfriend and that sort of irritating explanation for searchlight and speeding. The police said that hunt for that sort of vehicles was being launched, and clearly not everyone has heard the RPC as even after this was spoken, that kind of light was visible, people still insisting on enjoying themselves on major roads.

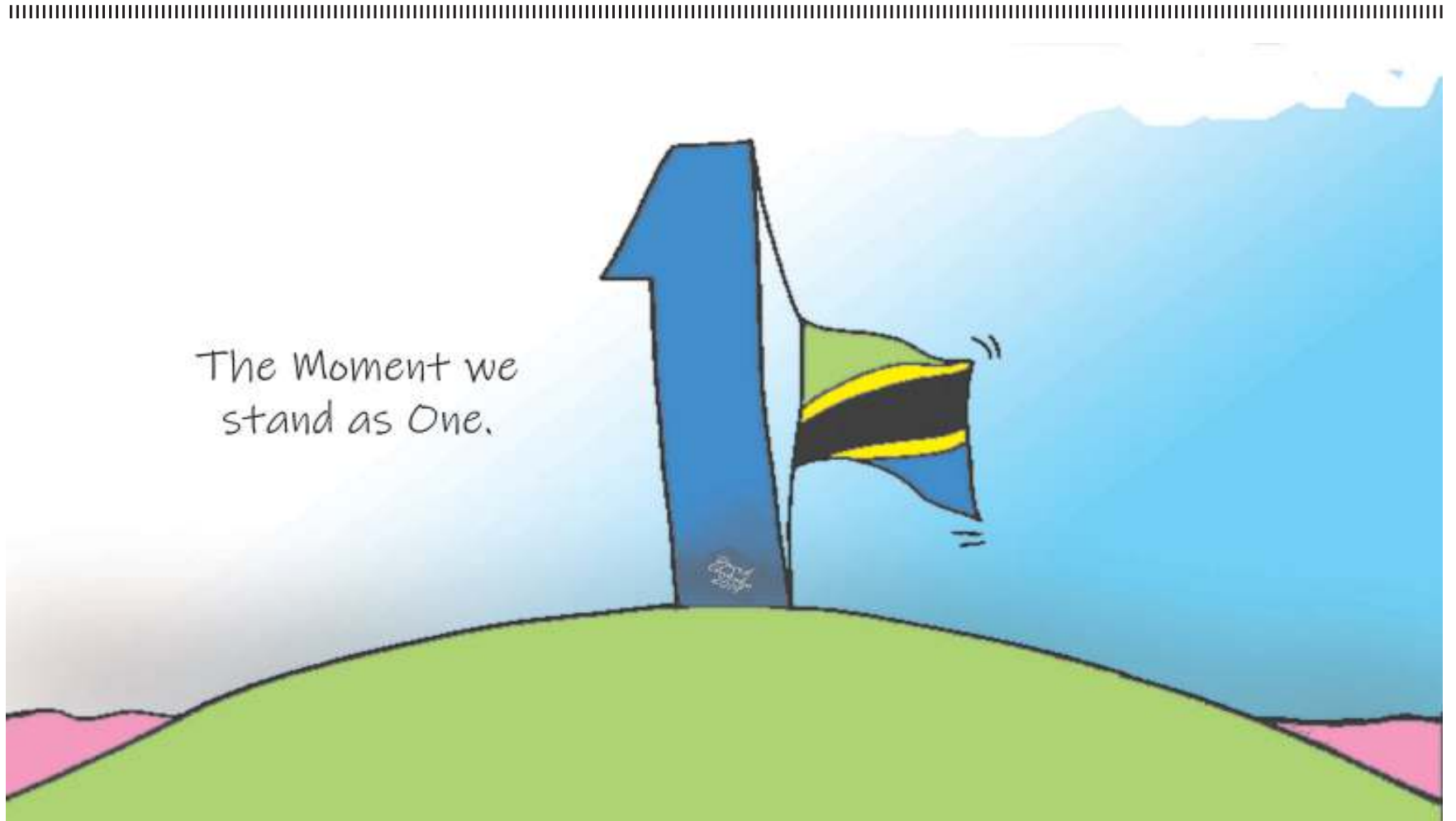
It is important that this matter is followed up for driving is part of social facilities where equity should be the rule, that one has lights that correspond to the size of the vehicle, and indeed the level of lighting that is regulated by law and known to manufacturers. When lights meant for other functions or uses are just padded on a vehicle at the behest of the user, so that he becomes 'king of the road,' then such a person ought to be shown his right place, which could be a fine and spending a few hours at a police station to rectify the lighting system. A few will grumble, those who are habitually undisciplined, citing 'freedom.'

The majority of road users, including responsible drivers, will see the sense - and urgency - of this police operation and will not find this as an intrusion, as that kind of behavior is proclivity and meanness which is often confused for personal taste. Freedom for exercising this or other kind of taste ought to be done within the realm of the law, which essentially implies that the freedom of others to do the same is not interfered with. That is exactly where this notion of style or freedom errs, for it only sees a relationship between the driver and the road, not the driver and other road users, as they appear to be irrelevant there.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts  
MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO  
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk  
General Line: 022 2700735/8  
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757 154767  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising  
Manager Sales & Marketing:  
Kauthar D'souza  
Cel: + 255 767 223311 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: lppmedia.com



## A complex question of identity

By Andile Zulu

**I**N a political climate where race continues to loom hauntingly, questions about who is or isn't African can appear as a divisive exercise in race-baiting.

"Are white South Africans African?" Five years ago I would have dismissed the question as dumb. The answer is in the query itself. And while the African identity of whites in this country is complicated, their bond and belonging then appeared indisputable. Most were born here and some can trace their family histories back hundreds of years.

Listening to white people speak of this country, their attachment to this tip of the continent is passionate in its sincerity. Yes, there is a panicked escape to Australia or New Zealand, but to most, South Africa cannot be defined as anything other than home.

In a political climate where race continues to loom hauntingly, questions about who is or isn't African can appear as a divisive exercise in race-baiting. Nonetheless, recently I don't feel at all confident calling whites of this country African. Let's be clear, I don't have any authority to grant or rip away another person's identity. I don't think anyone has the power or knowledge to unearth or construct an objective definition of what it means to be African.

To look across this continent and examine more than a billion people who inhabit hundreds of languages, dozens of religions and myriad cultures, and assemble a universal definition of what it means to be African would be a daunting task. Still, when I hear some white people claim the label of African as their own, a stinging frustration makes my headache and stomach twist. I can't ignore this feeling, especially because now more than ever I see an increasing number of white people, sometimes in hysterical aggression, clinging onto that broad, malleable umbrella of "African". But why does any of this matter? Hasn't the obsession with differentiating human beings on superficial lines of ethnicity and race nearly ruined this country? I'd like to argue that the categories we have invented are not as superficial

as they seem. They are in fact rooted in history many have yet to unravel: an era in which "white" wasn't a mere description of light skin and thin hair, but the genesis of a new category of human. A human whose very essence needed to be imbued with superiority, a superiority over other newly encountered humans. A superiority justified by the church, science and state.

British soldiers, French ministers, Dutch merchants and German missionaries needed to become white - why? To devour the Earth's resources for themselves, wage war on indigenous populations who refused to be subjugated, own the bodies of other human beings for profit and create governments that maintained the political and economic supremacy of this new "kind" of human. The horrors of conquest needed to be masked by the newly-forged mythology of race.

Labels are unavoidable and identity indispensable. They serve us as existential tools: to profess our commitment to certain values, define our relationship to others, express our loyalties and help us create the sense of purpose we endlessly crave in our lives. It's why I find the response of "I was born here" to be inadequate. It doesn't deal with the complex meanings of identity. Sadly, the labels we have created in recent history have worked to stifle human freedom rather than enable its flourishing.

I'm closer to understanding the basis of my current frustrations: the Africa I know and the one romantically adored by some white people are almost radically different. Teasing at a very simple definition, one could argue that those who are African experience their identity as a relationship to certain languages, religious beliefs, moral values, traditions, artistic tastes and living memory of colonial subjugation; a moment of the past which permeates the African present.

I deem the love of Africa by some white people to be romantic because like the love you have for a high school crush, it's produced by distance from the thing one supposedly loves. The object of love isn't seen in its entirety but rather through a selective, idealistic lens - specifically from afar and above. How can



some whites call themselves African when they do whatever is possible to distance themselves from their "fellow" Africans? I'm not referring to the state-imposed segregation of apartheid. Casual forms of apartheid still exist today.

We know what the social chasms among us look like. White parents who lament the swarming of private and former Model C schools with black faces. The braais where the sound of crackling fire mingles with grievances over the downward spiral of the neighbourhood as one more Indian or coloured family settles down the street.

Hundreds of years later and I still find myself having to explain common cultural practices to some white friends. Hundreds of years later and still many white citizens have a weak grasp of indigenous languages. It's 25 years later, yet some white ears remain numb and a few willingly dead to calls for the economic justice that was deferred in 1994.

There are exceptions to this state of mutual alienation. Hearing Johnny Clegg being called a white African or white Zulu causes no dissonance in my mind. In his artistry and anthropological work, one sees engagement with Zulu culture that is intimate. It's an engagement fuelled by a passion to know those denigrated as "Other" and see them as human - unlike the many culture vultures enamoured by the exotic natives.

There have been, and increasingly are today among younger generations, white people who interact with Africa and Africans from within rather than from afar or above. The gap between the Africa of whites and people of colour springs from economic conditions left largely untouched by our transition

into democracy. It's one thing to be told that you are a superior kind of human being; in itself, the illusion of supremacy is obviously absurd, but ultimately harmless. When delusions are corroborated by laws and economic policy, the fantasy of supremacy can become lethal to a society.

The political dominance of whites in SA during apartheid and colonialism was grounded in economic systems that demanded cheap labour. This meant most people of colour existed as instruments, tools to expand the industry, grow profit and keep eternal the prosperity of white South Africa. The truth of another person's humanity is veiled when people only see each other either as a servant or master.

Some of you may object: apartheid is over. We are all equal before the law. I partly agree, the political project of white supremacy is dead. Yet the uneven and unfair distribution of wealth, inextricably tied to the resources and opportunities that come with it, remains as a lively relic of the past, therefore the dynamics of master and servant continue.

Of course, it isn't as clear-cut as it used to be. There are working-class and poor whites who will never know the riches gained by a gradually growing black elite. Nonetheless, white citizens largely remain in the upper brackets of socio-economic wellbeing.

Most of the African faces they encounter exist to serve them food, clean their homes, sweep their streets, tend their gardens, mop their corporate floors and unearth precious minerals in their mines or assemble machines in their factories.

The point of questioning the battles over identity is to cast critical suspicion on categories we take for granted. I suspect that some white people latch on to the mantle of African to frantically paint over an uncomfortable element of their identity.

amely, that the majority are the descendants of colonial settlers. Discussing these origins isn't an attempt to shame white people or extract from them some misplaced admission of guilt. Rather it's an attempt to reconcile contradictions: If the economic blueprints that positioned people as "white" are still partly abided by, and if they result in whites being positioned as relatively privileged and socially segregated from those with whom they "share" the continent, then what substantiates their claims to being African?

Maybe the question is not who is or isn't African. History has dropped us all onto this continent. Peaceful co-existence, at least as peaceful as humans can be, is a necessity now more than ever. We tried creating peace on foundations of hollow reconciliation, it failed. Indifference to the injustices of the past and present will not achieve the stability this country needs. It is worryingly clear that how wealth is currently massed and distributed in South Africa is unsustainable.

Perhaps reflection on how we exist in Africa, and how we relate to all its people, is a route to explore. Do we relate as those who subdue and exploit, or as free and equal citizens, deeply conscious of other's humanity?



## Start the week with Cynthia Stacey

## ...in homage to Nane Nane Day...and all things agricultural!

JAMBO for the week, and did you see any cheering sights in the last one...I did!

...It was of President John Pombe Magufuli...doing very impressive 'press ups' in some media photos. What a change from all the usual boring pictures of so called important people, shaking hands with other so called important people... or speaking at the many seminars, conferences, contract signings etc... plus presentation awards for services to...whatever, the themes remain constant.

It's nearly ten years ago, that a number of local newspapers, showed a charming photograph of former president Jakaya Kikwete and a female companion, sitting relaxed on a grassy area, smiling and chatting to one another.

In a clever analysis of its composition and the story behind it, journalist Joachim Buwembo said in the Guardian on Sunday, "Give us more of those great photographs".

Bemoaning the often dull and predictable pictures that filled the newspapers then, especially at election times, he says there are so many opportunities for quirky and interesting photo shots, and he's right.

Anyway, it was a good time to take that picture of JK visiting Makete, but it was a missed chance for another group of people whose project in the area was on the verge of collapse...and looking at the photo...I thought Makete?...then I remembered...the ailing apple project.

"An apple a day, keeps the doctor away", goes a well known saying in England. Fortunately not wholly true, but at 600 to 1000sh a piece in Tanzania, citizens must have found suitable substitutes for a doctorless lifestyle!

But over the years, it's been shocking to see this fruit imported from South Africa, along with other products that should be locally produced, and I've long asked why apples can't be grown here... but it seems they can, very successfully.

In February 2009, when President Kikwete was visiting the area, the promoter of an apple project in Makete, Elisha Mahenge, told a government paper that they started it in 2003, but terrible access roads made it impossible to haul the hundreds of tons of fruit they'd grown to the

market.

He said they couldn't even get a 100/- for an apple, but in Iringa they were selling for 400 to 600/-, and they'd called on the government to help save the 30 million /- investment.

Sadly, he said that "they'd yet to feel the impact of the Kilimo Kwanza initiative there, as they didn't have extension officers, and the infrastructure was poor".

Though I tried, I never found out what happened to this venture, but it would have been too much of a fairytale ending to hope that someone from the project chanced to meet the president when he went vote hunting in the area...and on requesting assistance from him... magically got it!

But there'd have been no better example than this, for the government's new found commitment to agriculture to have been put to the test. And if JK could have improbably been the poster boy...I can just see it...the picturesque rural setting...the white teeth flashing as he bites into a shiny red apple, besides a bill board bearing the words... "THINK LOCAL, BUY LOCAL ...A MAKETE APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY".

Yeah, it could have been another groovy image...but even groovier if the project had been saved!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
When I first came to Tanzania in great ignorance of the country, on learning (as it was then) that over 80 per cent of its people were rural peasants, I naively thought that as the dominant majority with a crucial role, they'd be a powerful voice.

But I eventually realised that the term "agricultural backbone" and those it represented, had become just a useful descriptive peg for ambitious leaders to hang their commitment from, and make empty declarations about.

How much past neglect of the peasant farmer in the darkened rural recesses has contributed to the poverty, I don't know, but in a bold query, given the often feeble language of diplomacy, a former German Ambassador Dr. Guido Hertz, citing the abundant resources here, asked a few years ago... "Why all this poverty in Tanzania?".

Of course many sectors apart from agriculture can strengthen the economic



**Agriculture, now a high profile sector, is undergoing a transformation. A beneficiary of the FAO supported youth incubation programmes, Levina Christopher, and other members of Umoja ni Nguvu, work on their green pepper field at Msalato area in Dodoma. Now well promoted, drip irrigation is a modern way of crop watering, which has gained popularity in the last few years. File photo**

'backbone', and a past Guardian article explaining why they didn't, gave a partial insight into why the nation had remained poor, and what had kept it so.

Attending an investors meeting in Germany nearly a decade ago, Tanzanian Benjamin Nkonya was surprised they knew so much about his country, and logging on to their research website, said he started learning also.

As a child, he said jatropha seeds in his area were used for lighting and the plants for livestock hedging etc., but a German entrepreneur he met was processing these in Rukwa region, and exporting them as biofuel.

And he said, "we only later learnt the potential". Likening it to the times when natives in Shinyanga used to play with 'stones' that later became the stock of the Williamson diamond mines, which at the time, brought wealth to the foreigners, but not the locals.

The long established and well resourced Sokoine University of Agriculture also could have played its part, having a broad base of specialised experts, but Mr Nkonya says their findings often lay dormant, though it was the governments role to transform them into action.

He said, this created a vacuum, easily filled by foreigners who came here, took the findings to their entrepreneurs, who then returned to profit from the results...the 'stones' to diamonds syndrome without benefit to the stones owners!

One way of changing this, he thought, could be to link research and training organisations directly to

entrepreneurs and financial institutions. This made sense, and in the time since it was written, might have been spotted by an alert government official in the field, and now, hopefully be common practice...maybe?

Whatever the case, it's very cheering to see the huge changes that have taken place in the last decade, and today, agriculture is the buzz word, information and training is available for farmers, and the vital role of extension officers finally acknowledged and acted on. Like teachers in the past, farmers were respected and valued members of the community, but limited government input and inadequate commitment to the sector, among other factors over the years, demoralised their calling and themselves.

But the Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT) Chairperson Jacqueline Mkindi recently said, "For the first time ever in the history of the country, agriculture has become a priority in the national budget...and the government is determined to create a sound investment environment in this sector."

...of course they should, and it's vital to do so...but...Oh dear, that much used word "investment" again, which in any context, translates into money and profit...but can we not for a change, think in terms of happy farmers, meaning happy families = equals happy citizens. So collective pride in the nation, yes, should the resultant success of the agriculture sector become a profitable reality...but with the proviso, that the people come first, and the creating of another opportunity to fill the government coffers...second. Oh yeah!



**Chinese President Xi Jinping**

## China to jointly build a beautiful planet with rest of the world

WE only have one Earth. Nature is where human beings exist and develop, thus the way forward shall be green development in accordance with nature and eco-friendly progress.

"We must protect this planet like our own eyes, and cherish nature the way we cherish life. We must preserve what gives our planet life and embrace green development."

The remarks of Chinese President Xi Jinping at the opening ceremony of the International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 Beijing carry huge significance.

In the first half of this year, the Chinese President attended a series of international events and diplomatic activities where he spared no efforts to promote the ecological civilization characterized by harmonious coexistence between man and nature, calling the world to work together for a green and better future for all and contribute to sustainability.

Today, China has become an important participant, contributor, and torchbearer in the global endeavor for ecological civilization.

John B. Cobb, one of the earliest scholars to bring up the concept of "green GDP" and member of American Academy of Arts and Sciences, remarked that China has shed a light of hope upon global ecological civilization.

The Belt and Road is a road for open and green development, and green development is one of the most important guiding principles for the high-quality construction of the Belt and Road.

At the second Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation (BRF), it was proposed by President Xi to launch green infrastructure projects, make green investment and provide green financing to protect the Earth which we all call home.

In this connection, China and its partners have set up the Belt and Road Sustainable Cities Alliance and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) International Green Development Coalition, formulated the Green Investment Principles for the Belt and Road Development, set up the BRI Environmental Big Data Platform and implemented the Belt and Road South-South Cooperation Initiative on Climate Change.

These concrete moves and plans indicated that building a green Belt and Road is real actions rather than empty talks. Under China's efforts to promote green development of the Belt and Road, wildlife-crossing structures have been built for Kenya's Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway to allow safe passage for giraffes and other wildlife; Sinai Peninsula of Egypt is analyzing China's experiences of water-saving terraces; and Brazil has built the Belo Monte super high voltage hydroelectric plant that runs on clean energy.

On the way to construct a green Belt and Road, Chinese green technologies and plans are benefiting the people of participating countries and regions.

The International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 Beijing was held by the beautiful

Guishui River and at the foot of the majestic Great Wall. At the opening ceremony of the Exhibition, President Xi delivered an important speech, noting that the world needs to advocate harmony between man and nature, pursue prosperity through green development, follow a philosophy that cares for nature, adopt a scientific approach to ecological conservation, and join hands to meet common challenges. These five proposals have chartered the course for global countries in working together to build a clean and beautiful world.

The world is seeing strong needs to live in a more "green" environment, and China is showing the world how to do that, how to make decisions and how to implement, said President Bernard Oosterom of International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIHP), giving high recognition on China's responsibility to promote global ecological civilization at all levels.

The interests and security of every country in the global village are intertwined. In President Xi's proposal to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity, "clean and beautiful" possesses an important position.

During President Xi's trip to Europe in March, he said that the community with a shared future for mankind boasts lots of common grounds and similarities with one planet initiative proposed by his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron. The French President gave high evaluation on China's important role in and contribution to climate change, peace keeping and other multilateral agendas.

President Xi also called for each party to contribute wisdom and power to building a better homeland at a global governance forum held by China and France.

When attending the 23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, President Xi called for concerted efforts to fully implement the United Nations' 2030 sustainable development agenda and stressed the importance of economic growth, social development and environmental protection.

He systematically expounded the proposal to enhance global cooperation on sustainable development, noting that China will stick to the pursuit of green development, and try to build a beautiful homeland with harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature.

During the G20 Osaka Summit, China and France once again held a meeting on climate change together with the United Nations, reaffirming their strong commitment to enhancing international cooperation on climate change to ensure full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. China's "nature-based solution" was hailed by Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres.

China's promise and actions to practice green development have won wide appraisal from the international society.

**People's Daily**

## Tanzania to boost palm oil production to reduce edible oil importation

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Bariadi

TANZANIA, like other African nations along the equator in East and West Africa, is investing to boost the cultivation of oil palm and production of palm oil. The Tanzanian government has announced a plan to set aside some US\$4.3 million to boost plantation area and output in the Kigoma region of the country, where 80 per cent of the country's palm oil is currently produced.

Native to West Africa, suitable climate and soil have also made oil palm a potentially attractive crop in East Africa. The goal of the investment is not to groom palm oil as an export, but to reduce the imports of edible vegetable oils - in line with similar plans announced in Nigeria, Cameroon and Uganda. Beyond cultivation, Tanzania is also looking into upgrading the palm oil processing facility in Kwitanga and to also make the former prison the national research centre of palm oil.

Tanzania imports some 55 per cent of the country's total edible oil consumption, mainly palm oil and sunflower oil. National palm oil demand is estimated to be some 600,000 tons; domestic production is tiny and the majority of imported palm oil is sourced from Malaysia.

Planted areas in Tanzania are currently estimated to be less than 50,000 hectares, but the significant local and foreign investment could triple that area over the next five years.

Oil palm is one of the main sources of cooking oil worldwide and Tanzania in particular. The crop has the highest yields of edible oil per hectare than all other oil-producing crops like sunflower, sesame, groundnut, cotton, and soybean. Acting Centre Director and National Coordinator for oil palm research in Tanzania, Dr. Filson Mbezi Kagimbo granted an exclusive interview with Guardian Correspondent GERALD KITABU at Nanenane in Nyakabindi exhibitions grounds, Bariadi district, Simiyu region.

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 per cent



**National oil palm research coordinator Dr Filson Mbezi Kagimbo displays a bunch of healthy oil palm fruits during the Nane Nane exhibitions held at national level at Nyakabindi in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu**

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 per cent 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.

In Tanzania, oil palm production is mainly concentrated in Kigoma region, which accounts for more than 80 percent of all oil palm production in Tanzania. Other producing region includes Mbeya, Morogoro, Kagera, Tanga, Dar es Salaam, Coast and Zanzibar. The average oil palm yield in Tanzania is 1.6 tons per hectare which is lower than the average yield of 8 to 9 tons per hectare obtained in Malaysia. The low palm oil produced is contributed to the use of low yielding oil palm varieties, small area of land devoted to palm production, poor agronomic practices, use of low-quality planting ma-

terial, old palm trees which have not been replanted for over 70 years, poor processing facilities and lack of extension services.

To ensure availability of enough edible oil and reducing expenditures on acquisition of edible oil from foreign countries, Tanzania is now promoting oil palm production. In 2018 the government of Tanzania have included oil palm in the list of strategic priority crops. Tanzania government went a step further by establishing Oil palm research centre (TARI Kihinga) in Kigoma region which is one of the research centres under Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute. The Centre has a national mandate to conduct and coordinate all research on all aspects of oil palm value chain in Tanzania. TARI Kihinga was officially established in July 2018 and started operating officially in October 2018. Currently the centre has 9 research staff and 4 allied workers.

Three oil palm varieties are locally grown in Tanzania. Dura is the widely grown variety in Tanzania. The variety is characterized by thin mesocarp, thick shell and low yield potential. Dura constitutes about 90 percent of all oil palm trees grown in Tanzania. The second variety is Pisifera which is characterized by thick mesocarp and have no shell. Pisifera constitutes about less than 0.01 percent of all oil palm trees in Tanzania and are hardly found. The third variety is Tenera hybrid which is produced from a cross between Dura and Pisifera. Tenera is a popu-

lar commercial variety in large oil palm producing countries characterized by thick mesocarp and thin shell with high yielding potential. In Tanzania, Tenera variety constitutes about 10 percent of all oil palm trees grown and it produces 5-10 times higher palm oil compared to Dura. Most farmers in Tanzania grow exclusively Dura type with low yielding potential in old farms which have been established in 1920s and have never been replanted ever since. This is one of the main causes for low oil palm yield in Tanzania.

TARI's three most important interventions to boost oil palm production in Tanzania.

To boost oil palm production in Tanzania for increasing palm oil availability, among others, three most important interventions needs to be fulfilled: The first intervention is the production of improved commercial oil palm variety (Tenera) and supply to farmers. The second intervention is to deploy all the potential area for palm oil production in Tanzania by planting Tenera variety. The third intervention is to replant the old oil palm trees existing in Tanzania with Tenera variety. TARI Kihinga has a priority to produce improved oil palm variety (Tenera) and supply to oil palm growers at the same time sensitizing oil palm growers on the importance of replanting their old oil palm trees with Tenera variety. Given the availability of improved oil palm variety, Tanzania has a potential to be a big producer of palm oil because there is ample land suitable for oil palm production. For instance, in Kigoma region 114,000 ha are suitable for oil palm production but only 23,000 ha are planted.

Since October 2018, TARI Kihinga has pollinated 1,290 oil palm flowers which are expected to yield 1,935,000 improved Tenera seeds when they mature. This amount of seeds can be planted on 38,700 acres of land. The good news is that, TARI Kihinga have started harvesting oil palm fresh fruit bunches which were pollinated in October 2018. At this juncture, 41 bunches have been harvested and processed to seeds where 63,000 improved Tenera seeds were obtained. The seeds have been distributed to three institutes which were appointed by the government to be oil palm production sites in Tanzania. Kwitanga Prison received 30,000 improved seeds which will be planted on 600 acres; JKT Bulumbora received 19,000 improved seeds which will be planted on 393 acres and Ilgala prison received 10,000 which will be planted on 200 acres of land. Kwitanga prison, JKT Bulumbora and Ilgala prison are prepared to plant 6,000, 2,000 and 500 acres respectively. TARI Kihinga will supply the improved oil palm seeds to these institutes before supplying to Kigoma district councils and other growing regions of Tanzania.



# Inside Africa's bid for digital economy

By Julius Bizimungu

NETWORK infrastructure and connectivity are backbone of a vibrant digital economy. Yet, there is still a big gap when it comes to linkages in transport, communications, energy, and water networks across the African continent.

This was observed on Tuesday at the 'Investment Forum' organised by the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) and Africa50, ahead of the latter's Annual General Shareholders' Meeting on Wednesday.

At the forum, experts from the banking sector, technology, and health, made a case for increased investment to bridge the gap in Africa's infrastructure connectivity, which they said will be realised through private and public partnerships.

Infrastructure funding gap in Africa is estimated to be around \$130-170 billion a year, according to the African Development Bank.

To bridge such a gap, Diane Karusisi (pictured), the chief executive officer of Bank of Kigali, cited a case of Rwanda and the lead that Government took to lay out broadband infrastructure to enhance connectivity.

"Rwanda was a pioneer in laying the fibre optic backbone across the country to enable last-mile connectivity. This has helped businesses a lot - those in smart transportation and bankers like us - to ensure our customers easily transact on their mobile phones from wherever they are," she said.

The fibre optic backbone has also seen more people in Rwanda connect to the internet, and currently, internet penetration stands at about 50 per cent of the population.

Harkirit Singh, the Global Head of Solutions for Tata Communications shared his experience working in Tanzania in the 1990's, and said connectivity drives many sectors and economies.

"My first job back in 1997 was to set up a first telephone link connecting Tanzanian tea plantation farmers and Tanzania Telecom Corporation, and I have seen the delight that people had than they had before," he said.

## Digital strategy

Singh said that connectivity provides opportunities which drive economies, emphasising the need to create conducive frameworks for entrepreneurs and investors, something he said propelled his country, India, to develop fast.

"In India, we did not create innovation hubs or an innovation city, what we created is the enabling framework that allowed people to be sure that when they come up with some technol-



ogy or innovations, they are going to be protected," he said.

That same framework [the National Digital Strategy], he said, also allowed people to receive support from financial institutions in terms of investment they are looking to build, as well as support from academic institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology.

These institutions have enabled India's mobile digital revolution and have trained outstanding technologists and engineers who work for multinational corporations such as Google, Amazon and Facebook.

Most of these are companies that are building digital infrastructure, allowing millions of people to do business without relying on traditional infrastructure.

Singh said it was, therefore, important for African governments to invest significant resources in educational institutes that are able to train the next generation of engineers and adopt innovative financing models for connectivity.

"We are working with Google and Facebook to promote open internet access and the model is innovative. If today we set up Wi-Fi infrastructure on buses, railways and across the city in Kigali, the number of people using application on that platform, every time they click using that Wi-Fi infrastructure, Google and Facebook pays back," Singh says.

Such financing model is being adopted by big technology companies to expand their reach, especially in rural areas and this is helping bring connectivity access to people living in remote areas.

## Bridging the gap

A recent report by the Global Infrastructure Hub which focused on ten African countries - Rwanda, Morocco,

Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Egypt, Ghana, Tunisia, Benin, and Guinea - indicated that there was a huge financing gap.

To keep pace with success stories elsewhere such as Vietnam in terms of developing roads, railways, airports, sea ports, electricity, water and physical telecommunications infrastructure, these nations require investments of \$2 trillion through 2040.

Patrick Singa, a Medical Director at babyl - a startup that provides digital healthcare solutions by helping patients consult doctors using their mobile phones - said they are finding a way around physical infrastructure to bring innovative solutions to people in need.

"We are tapping into digital platforms that are affordable and accessible to offer services to people. We are now using USSD (a global system for mobile phones) to allow patients to consult doctors," he noted.

But Singa reckons that there is an urgent need to liberalise the digital space, especially to break the monopoly of services like data hosting and network provision offered by telecom companies and other big companies.

For Alex Ntare, the head of the ICT Chamber in Rwanda, connectivity services for basic needs like that provided by babyl and education should not be subjected to the same pricing as those that are entirely commercial in nature.

Rwanda officially the Republic of Rwanda is a country in central and East Africa and one of the smallest countries on the African mainland. Located a few degrees south of the Equator, Rwanda is

bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Rwanda is in the African Great Lakes region and is highly elevated; its geography is dominated by mountains in the west and savanna to the east, with numerous lakes throughout the country. The climate is temperate to subtropical, with two rainy seasons and two dry seasons each year.

The population is young and predominantly rural, with a density among the highest in Africa. Rwandans are drawn from just one cultural and linguistic group, the Banyarwanda, although within this group there are three sub-groups: the Hutu, Tutsi and Twa. The Twa are a forest-dwelling pygmy people descended from Rwanda's earliest inhabitants. Scholars disagree on the origins of and differences between the Hutu and Tutsi; some believe differences are derived from former social castes within a single people, while others believe the Hutu and Tutsi arrived in the country separately, and from different locations. Christianity is the largest religion in the country; the principal language is Kinyarwanda, spoken by most Rwandans, with English and French serving as additional official languages. The sovereign state of Rwanda has a presidential system of government. The president is Paul Kagame of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), who took office in 2000. Rwanda today has low corruption compared with neighbouring countries, although human rights organisations report suppression of opposition groups, intimidation and restrictions on freedom of speech.

The country has been governed by a strict administrative hierarchy since precolonial times; there are five provinces delineated by borders drawn in 2006. Rwanda is one of only two countries with a female majority in the national parliament.

Hunter gatherers settled the territory in the stone and iron ages, followed later by Bantu peoples. The population coalesced first into clans and then into kingdoms. The Kingdom of Rwanda dominated from the mid-eighteenth century, with the Tutsi kings conquering others militarily, centralising power and later enacting anti-Hutu policies. Germany

colonised Rwanda in 1884 as part of German East Africa, followed by Belgium, which invaded in 1916 during World War I. Both European nations ruled through the kings and perpetuated a pro-Tutsi policy. The Hutu population revolted in 1959. They massacred numerous Tutsi and ultimately established an independent, Hutu-dominated state in 1962. A 1973 military coup saw a change of leadership, but pro-Hutu policy remained. The Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front launched a civil war in 1990. The presidents of Rwanda and Burundi, both Hutus, died together when their plane was shot down in April 1994. Social tensions erupted in the 1994 genocide, in which Hutu extremists killed an estimated 500,000 to 1 million Tutsi and moderate Hutu. The RPF ended the genocide with a military victory.

Rwanda's developing economy suffered heavily in wake of the 1994 genocide, but has since strengthened. The economy is based mostly on subsistence agriculture. Coffee and tea are the major cash crops for export. Tourism is a fast-growing sector and is now the country's leading foreign exchange earner. Rwanda is one of only two countries in which mountain gorillas can be visited safely, and visitors pay high prices for gorilla tracking permits. Music and dance are an integral part of Rwandan culture, particularly drums and the highly choreographed intore dance. Traditional arts and crafts are produced throughout the country, including imigongo, a unique cow dung art.

Rwanda's has been governed as a unitary presidential system with a bicameral parliament ruled by Rwandan Patriotic Front since 1994. The country is member of the African Union, the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations, COMESA and the East African Community.

The name "Rwanda" is derived from the Rwanda-Rundi word *rwanda* meaning "domain" or literally an "area occupied by a swarm". The official name of the country was "Rwandese Republic" until May 2003, when the adoption of a new national constitution changed it to its current name of "Republic of Rwanda".

Modern human settlement of what is now Rwanda dates from, at the latest, the last glacial peri-

od, either in the Neolithic period around 8000 BC, or in the long humid period which followed, up to around 3000 BC. Archaeological excavations have revealed evidence of sparse settlement by hunter gatherers in the late stone age, followed by a larger population of early Iron Age settlers, who produced dimpled pottery and iron tools. These early inhabitants were the ancestors of the Twa, aboriginal pygmy hunter-gatherers who remain in Rwanda today. Between 700 BC and 1500 AD, a number of Bantu groups migrated into Rwanda, clearing forest land for agriculture. The forest-dwelling Twa lost much of their habitat and moved to the mountain slopes. Historians have several theories regarding the nature of the Bantu migrations; one theory is that the first settlers were Hutu, while the Tutsi migrated later to form a distinct racial group, possibly of Nilo-hamitic origin. An alternative theory is that the migration was slow and steady, with incoming groups integrating into rather than conquering the existing society. Under this theory, the Hutu and Tutsi distinction arose later and was a class distinction rather than a racial one.

The earliest form of social organisation in the area was the clan (*ubwoko*). The clans were not limited to genealogical lineages or geographical area, and most included Hutu, Tutsi, and Twa. From the 15th century, the clans began to coalesce into kingdoms; by 1700 around eight kingdoms existed in present-day Rwanda. One of these, the Kingdom of Rwanda, ruled by the Tutsi Nyiginya clan, became increasingly dominant from the mid-eighteenth century. The kingdom reached its greatest extent during the nineteenth century under the reign of King Kigeli Rwabugiri. Rwabugiri conquered several smaller states, expanded the kingdom west and north, and initiated administrative reforms; these included *ubuhake*, in which Tutsi patrons ceded cattle, and therefore privileged status, to Hutu or Tutsi clients in exchange for economic and personal service,<sup>[23]</sup> and *uburetwa*, a *corvée* system in which Hutu were forced to work for Tutsi chiefs. Rwabugiri's changes caused a rift to grow between the Hutu and Tutsi populations. The Twa were better off than in pre-Kingdom days, with

## Here's how the world can be better prepared to handle epidemics

By Dr Ifeanyi Nsofor

THE 2019 G20 Summit was held recently in Osaka, Japan. The Summit ended with the "G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration", which identifies health as a prerequisite for sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and the leaders committed to various efforts to improve epidemic preparedness.

These efforts are commendable, but the G20, comprised of 19 countries and the European Union with economies that represent more than 80 percent of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), also must do more to lead by example in epidemic preparedness by ensuring they all have a ReadyScore.

This is managed by preventepidemics.org, the world's first website to provide clear and concise country-level data on epidemic preparedness. It measures a country's ability to find, stop and prevent health threats. Then, they need to demonstrate they are ready to take steps to improve their score, as needed.

This is an important issue because within 36 hours, an infectious disease can travel from a remote village and can be carried to major cities worldwide, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If anything kills over 10 million people in the next few decades, it would most likely be a highly infectious virus rather than a war. The next disaster is not missiles, but microbes, said Bill Gates in his 2015 TED Talk.

As Gates was giving his 2015 TED Talk, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa



was coming to an end after causing the deaths of over 11,300 people, reducing the GDPs of Guinea, Liberia & Sierra Leone by \$3 billion and devastating the health workforce in the three countries. Overall, the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa cost global economy an estimated \$53 billion.

As long as there are communities globally in which people are unable to access healthcare because of their inability to pay or due to other inequities, the risks of infectious diseases remain.

Outbreaks are not a thing of the past, however. In 2019, there are measles outbreaks in the US and Europe; Ebola outbreak in DRC and Uganda and several other infectious disease outbreaks in Nigeria, Vietnam and South Africa.

To be assigned a ReadyScore, countries should undergo a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) which is a voluntary,

collaborative, multisectoral process to assess country capacities to prevent, detect and rapidly respond to public health risks whether occurring naturally or due to deliberate or accidental events.

Right now, only 100 out of 195 countries (51 percent) have conducted the JEE. Until all 195 countries conduct the JEE, it would be difficult to assess global preparedness for prevention, detection and response to epidemics.

Based on records on preventepidemics.org, the following G20 countries have an unknown ReadyScore: Brazil, China, France, India, Italy, Russia and Turkey. An unknown score implies that a country has not volunteered to have a JEE. On the

other hand, the ReadyScore of Argentina, Canada, Germany and Mexico is pending. This means that they have committed to have a JEE, but data are unavailable. Some G20 countries that do have a ReadyScore include United Kingdom (84 percent), USA (87 percent), South Africa (62 percent), Indonesia (64 percent) and Japan (92 percent).

To be better prepared for epidemics, a country must have a ReadyScore of 80 percent and above, otherwise the international community cannot categorically say that all G20 countries can prevent, detect and rapidly respond to infectious disease outbreaks. So, what needs to happen next?

First, the G20 should work with the World Health Organisation and other partners to conduct JEE to make our world safer. JEE is a voluntary activity and no nation can be compelled to conduct one and very few G20 countries have their ReadyScore. The WHO on its own must strengthen advocacy to the G20 countries that have no ReadyScore. The advocacy should make these countries acknowledge that when it comes to epidemic preparedness, the world is as strong as its weakest.

Second, universal health coverage and global health security must both be addressed together. Billions of people do not have access to healthcare, and this poses serious risks for global health security. As long as there are com-

munities globally in which people are unable to access healthcare because of their inability to pay or due to other inequities, the risks of infectious diseases remain.

A number of G20 countries already fund different health interventions in low- and middle-income countries. It is time for the G20 to push for integrated health programs instead of the current vertical system in recipient countries. Universal health coverage is heavily dependent on political will. Therefore, the G20 should use its influence to advocate to countries without universal health coverage to gradually move to one. Development aid to such countries earmarked for health should be conditional - to be used to develop a publicly-funded universal health coverage health system which is accessible to all.

Third, G20 countries can invest in networks of reference and specialised laboratories as part of disaster prevention. Detection and control of infectious diseases is delayed if bio samples have to be taken to other countries located thousands of miles away in order to get definitive diagnoses.

For example, during the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, to confirm Ebola in Nigeria, blood samples had to be taken to Senegal (more than 3 hours by flight). This obviously delayed the response efforts. Although the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has since increased its diagnostic ca-

capacity, national public health institutes such as NCDC still require financial and technical support to ensure global health security.

G20 countries should lead by example and get a ReadyScore by being open for joint external evaluations and meet all Osaka Leaders' global health commitments. If other countries follow suit, then the world would move closer to being better prepared to handle epidemics.

An epidemic is the rapid spread of infectious disease to a large number of people in a given population within a short period of time, usually two weeks or less. For example, in meningococcal infections, an attack rate in excess of 15 cases per 100,000 people for two consecutive weeks is considered an epidemic.

Epidemics of infectious disease are generally caused by several factors including a change in the ecology of the host population (e.g. increased stress or increase in the density of a vector species), a genetic change in the pathogen reservoir or the introduction of an emerging pathogen to a host population (by movement of pathogen or host). Generally, an epidemic occurs when host immunity to either an established pathogen or newly emerging novel pathogen is suddenly reduced below that found in the endemic equilibrium and the transmission threshold is exceeded.



## UN lauds govt on efforts to improve agriculture, pledges more support

By Guardian Correspondent

THE United Nations (UN) has commended efforts by Tanzania for improving the agriculture sector in the country calling it the right direction towards growing the country's economy.

Speaking during the climax of the national farmers' day (Nane Nane) celebrations in Simiyu region, the Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to Tanzania, Fred Kafeero, said that as development partners they appreciated the efforts and called for stronger partnership to achieve the goal.

"As development partners we will continue supporting the Government of Tanzania in efforts to attract more investments in agriculture, livestock keeping and fisheries to boost food security, nutrition and incomes.

Talks are underway to ensure that these exhibitions are made sustainable so that farmers can come and learn from here throughout the year," he said.

Kafeero was speaking on behalf of the other UN Agencies that were participating in the just ended national celebrations to mark Nane Nane whose climax was graced by the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Majaliwa Kassim Majaliwa.

Besides FAO, other UN Agencies that participated included the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the UN's Resident Coordinator.

"To us agriculture, food security and nutrition are core areas of our work. As we celebrate Nane

Nane for this year, the UN through the participating Agencies, we would like to see that no one is left behind by ensuring that people particularly farmers have good health and equality when performing their different roles in agriculture," he pointed out, adding:

"My message to all Tanzanians is that agriculture pays, it helps in poverty alleviation, it improves the country's economy. Let us all join hands to improve agriculture by putting more efforts and investments into it."

This year's Nane Nane theme was 'Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries for Country's Economic Growth and it was specifically meant to highlight the importance of the subsectors into the country's development process.

In his speech, Prime Minister Majaliwa Kassim Majaliwa called upon the respective Ministries to ensure that the investments made at the Nyakabindi grounds for Nane Nane exhibitions in Simiyu region are made to serve the country sustainably and not just for the week-long celebrations in August each year.

"This is a very huge investment. We can turn this place into a centre of excellence as far as agriculture is concerned. Farmers from all across the country can come and learn from here practically throughout the year," he said while calling on the ministries responsible for agriculture, livestock, fisheries, trade and industry to ensure that happens the soonest.

The call was echoed by the Minister of Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga and Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka, who said that discussions were underway with different local and international partners to that effect.



A member of the United Nations staff makes a briefing on post-harvest methods to farmers at weeklong Nane Nane (Farmers Day) agricultural exhibitions held at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region, climaxing on Thursday - August 8. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Singapore makes record-breaking African ivory and pangolin seizure

SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE has announced a record seizure of pangolin scales and ivory tusks made last weekend after authorities there uncovered three containers filled with 11.9 tonnes of pangolin scales and 8.8 tonnes of elephant ivory that were shipped from the DRC and headed for Viet Nam.

The seizure took place after China Customs officers shared relevant intelligence with the Singapore authorities following the recent arrest of 12 people on suspicion of wildlife trafficking in China.

"We warmly welcome this example of international enforcement co-operation, which is essential if the activities of wildlife traffickers are to be curtailed, while collaborative follow up investigations should provide real insight into the organised crime gang involved," said Steven Broad, Executive Director of TRAFFIC.

Singapore's National Parks Board (NParks), Customs and the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) inspected the shipment that was said to contain timber, according to the bill of lading.

A NParks said the scales were assessed to be from close to 2,000

Giant Ground Pangolins *Smutsia gigantea* while the ivory would have derived from hundreds of African Elephants *Loxodonta africana*.

This is Singapore's largest seizure of elephant ivory to date, eclipsing their previous record of 7.12 tonnes in 2002, which was long considered the largest ivory seizure worldwide since 1989 when detailed record keeping began. The 237 bags of scales found on Sunday brings the total to 37.5 tonnes of African pangolin scales seized in the island nation this year alone.

TRAFFIC's data analysis showed

key Southeast Asian countries from 2017 to 2019 where shipments of illicit wildlife products exported from DRC were destined or intercepted as Malaysia, Viet Nam, Thailand, with Singapore recently joining the list.

Viet Nam's role has once again been thrown into sharp relief: the country topped the list, receiving a total of over 20 tonnes of trafficked ivory and pangolin scales, including a single seizure of 9.1 tonnes of African elephant tusks discovered in Da Nang's Tien Sa port in March 2019 from the Matadi port in the DRC—the largest ivory seizure on record globally.

The DRC's role as a critical exit point from Africa is also highlighted following the Singapore enforcement action.

Over 66 tonnes of illicit ivory and pangolin scale shipments seized worldwide between 2017-2019 originated from the DRC. At least 2,469 kg of ivory and pangolin scales were also seized within the DRC in 2017 and 2018, in 17 incidents.

### The seized ivory tusks

Such seizures, including the latest in Singapore, point to the persistence of large-scale trafficking in ivory and pangolins from

Africa to Southeast Asia. Apart from Sunday's seizure, Singapore has seized close to 30 tonnes of pangolin scales and ivory from just four incidents since 2018, all of which originated from Nigeria and were reportedly heading to Viet Nam.

"Clearly, Singapore has remained vigilant since it made massive back-to-back pangolin scale seizures in April this year and is commended for this major seizure," said Kanitha Krishnasamy, Director of TRAFFIC's Southeast Asia programme office.

"The scale and persistence of trafficking into Southeast Asia

is frightening. But seizures like these are an important piece of the puzzle in determining if the illegal trade is being fed by recently poached animals or old stocks."

"Singapore can lead by example and undertake a thorough forensic examination of the seized products to determine their age and origin: this will help enormously in revealing those directly involved in the trafficking, while we welcome last week's Financial Action Task Force announcement to prioritise wildlife trafficking—following the money could lead directly to those pulling the strings behind the scenes."



Livestock and Fisheries deputy minister Abdallah Ulega presents a trophy to Brigita Stephen (R), Vodacom Tanzania's northern zone head of sales, after the firm emerged winner in the Communication category at the just-ended Nane Nane exhibitions in Arusha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Burundi disputes UN malaria stats, says 4.3m infected, 1,400 deaths

BUJUMBURA

BURUNDI has disputed recent reports that close to half of its population were affected by malaria.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in its latest report said 5.7 million cases of malaria had been recorded in Burundi in 2019 – a figure roughly equal to half its entire population.

The global health outfit, World Health Organization (WHO), earlier this week affirmed that malaria cases in the East African nation had

reached epidemic proportions.

Burundi Health Minister Thadée Ndikumana told journalists the figures were lower – 4.3 million recorded cases (not 5.7 million), and that 1,400 not 1,800 deaths had been recorded this year.

He added that the current situation did not match to a 2017 outbreak that affected close to 5 million people, killing 4,300.

The country of 11 million people in the Great Lakes region has still not declared a national emergency, despite OCHA saying the outbreak crossed "epidemic proportions" in

May.

"The national malaria outbreak response plan, which is currently being validated, has highlighted a lack of human, logistical and financial resources for effective response," OCHA said in its latest weekly bulletin on humanitarian emergencies.

A lack of preventative measures like mosquito nets, climatic changes and increased movements of people from mountain areas with low immunity to malaria were driving the crisis, OCHA said.

A World Health Organization

(WHO) official told AFP that "the decision to declare an epidemic is the sovereignty of the Burundian state."

WHO bulletin on health emergencies: Burundi

Since week 48 of 2018 (week ending 2 December 2018), there has been a progressive increase in the number of malaria cases reported across the 46 districts of Burundi, with the epidemic threshold reached or exceeded in week 18 (week ending 5 May 2019).

In week 29 (week ending 21 July 2019), 152 243 cases including 65 deaths have been reported from

39/46 districts. There is a 164% increase in the number of cases reported in week 29 of 2019 compared to week 29 of 2018 and a 13.5% decrease in the number of cases reported in week 29 compared to week 28 of 2019.

Eight more cases have been reported in week 29 compared to week 28 of 2019.

From week 1 (week ending 5 January 2019) to week 29 of 2019, a cumulative total of 5 738 661 cases and 1 801 deaths (CFR 0.03%) have been reported.

## China's small farmers struggle to ensure armyworms in check

MENGHAI, China

YAN Wenliu leans on the side of his cart as he prepares to leave his sugarcane field in Southwest China, bewildered by the formidable new pest that has ambushed his crops this year. "I don't know what it is," says Yan, a 36-year-old farmer from Menghai county in Yunnan province. "But it is bigger than other ones. I have never seen this worm before."

The creature Yan is unable to name is fall armyworm. Known locally as the "heart-devouring worm," the destructive pest has spread more than 3,000 km (1,865 miles) north since migrating from neighboring Myanmar seven months ago, reaching 21 provinces and regions in China and posing a grave threat to grain output.

In Yunnan alone, where the pest struck first in China, some 1.29 million mu (86,000 hectares) had been affected by mid-June, including corn, sugarcane, sorghum and ginger crops.

First found in the Americas, fall armyworm has spread through Africa and Asia since 2016, flying up to 100 km (60 miles) a night. It can't be eradicated and its management is both costly and difficult.

This poses a formidable challenge in China where about 90% of crop production comes from small farms of less than a hectare (2.5 acres) and owners lack basic knowledge and resources to tackle the pest.

Beijing warned earlier this year that armyworm was a severe threat to the country's food security and in May launched a campaign to "snatch grain from the insect's mouth."

Millions of yuan have been allocated to affected regions and experts sent to educate farmers.

To those in Yunnan, the solution to the worm problem seemed obvious – pesticide.

"You have to keep spraying chemicals. If you don't kill the worm, you will end up penniless," says sugarcane farmer Yan in Mengkang village. But paying for the pesticide in the quantities required has left many farmers out of pocket, while a failure to follow the complex regime needed – using different pesticides at different crop growth stages and rotating them to prevent resistance – means the money is often wasted.

"You just can't kill them," says Yan Hanne, a 44-year-old farmer, from nearby Nuodong. "I have been farming for 20 years but have never seen this many worms."

A frustrated Yan applied pesticides five times to his last crop of sweet corn, but output nearly halved. He has already sprayed his new crop twice, to little effect. "They told me to use one bucket but I used three. It still did not work. What can you do?" he asked.

Local government has held many meetings to brief farmers on the pest and villagers have improved their approach to using pesticides, said Yan Xiangwa, a village official in Nuodong.



# Rights are at the root of fighting climate change

By Robert Nasi

**T**HE climate crisis is one of the greatest challenges of our time, leading a million youth around the globe to pour onto the streets, demanding political leaders wake up to this destruction of our planet. And it comes not a moment too soon.

Fortunately, we already have one very effective tool for climate-change action. I refer to rights: land-use and tenure rights for indigenous peoples, women, youth and local communities.

Evidence shows that when local communities have authority over their forests and land, and their rights legally recognized, deforestation rates are often reduced. Insecure tenure can be a recipe for deforestation and forest degradation.

Forests are the front line for fighting global warming. By absorbing carbon dioxide and trapping carbon, forests reduce the greenhouse gas emissions linked to climate change.

Consider Guatemala's 2.1-million-hectare Maya Biosphere Reserve, where almost a dozen community forests are managed locally, based on standards set in Forest Stewardship Council-certified land-use plans. Deforestation rates there have been close to zero over the past 14 years - a better rate than in the core zone of the reserve.

Or look at community forests in the Indian state of Meghalaya. Government there has demonstrated confidence in local management by handing over more than 90% of forests to local communities, plus offering incentives to over 60 village councils to revive and protect some 27,000 hectares of forests.

In Nepal, local forest user groups show how greater tenure security has enabled community-based institutions to improve forest management and build sustainable livelihoods.

More than 18,000 forest-user groups manage over one-third of Nepal's forest area. Forest cover has increased considerably and many user groups

have licensed new kinds of forest-based enterprises generating jobs and incomes - something they could not do legally before devolution of forest rights, according to research by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR).

Despite the multiple benefits, land-use rights and tenure security are not easily achieved. Indigenous peoples and local communities legally own only about 15% of forests worldwide. Yet, their traditional areas cover about 25% of the world's land surface, which overlap with some 40% of global land-based government-protected areas, including ecologically intact landscapes such as boreal and tropical primary forests, savannas and marshes. These landscapes are often rich in biodiversity.

Local communities and indigenous peoples fighting for their rights must often confront vested political interests and demands of the wealthy and powerful - cattle ranchers, mega-farmers, major logging firms and illegal loggers - which often work against local community control of lands and forests.

A cause for hope are discussions this weekend at the world's largest platform on sustainable land use, the Global Landscapes Forum, which is focusing its flagship summit on rights and their importance in landscape restoration and confronting climate change.

Local community representatives, indigenous peoples, scientists, policymakers, and activists for women's rights will converge in Bonn to try to change the narrative, to see local people as part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Recognizing and securing tenure first requires a strong, evidence-based understanding of the challenges facing indigenous peoples and local communities in order to design effective strategies to overcome these challenges.

The power of rights to help solve climate change has yet to be fully witnessed - but I look forward to seeing



it soon.

Climate change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. The climate system comprises five interacting parts, the atmosphere (air), hydrosphere (water), cryosphere (ice and permafrost), biosphere (living things), and lithosphere (earth's crust and upper mantle). The climate system receives nearly all of its energy from the sun, with a relatively tiny amount from earth's interior. The climate system also gives off energy to outer space. The balance of incoming and outgoing energy, and the passage of the energy through the climate system, determines Earth's energy budget. When the incoming energy is greater than the outgoing energy, earth's energy budget is positive and the climate system is warming. If more energy goes out, the energy budget is negative and earth experiences cooling.

As this energy moves through Earth's climate system, it creates Earth's weather and long-term averages of weather are called climate. Changes in the long term average are called climate change. Such changes can be the result of internal variability, when natural processes inherent to the various parts of the climate system alter Earth's energy budget. Examples include cyclical ocean patterns such as the well-known El Niño-Southern Oscillation and less familiar Pacific decadal oscillation and Atlantic multidecadal oscillation. Climate change can also result from "external forcing", when events outside of the climate system's five parts nonetheless produce changes within the system. Examples include changes in solar output and volcanism.

Human activities can also change earth's climate, and are presently driving climate change through global warming. There is no general agreement in scientific, me-

dia or policy documents as to the precise term to be used to refer to anthropogenic forced change; either "global warming" or "climate change" may be used. The first describes the average effect on a global scale, whilst the second describes how different geographical regions are affected differently.

The field of climatology incorporates many disparate fields of research. For ancient periods of climate change, researchers rely on evidence preserved in climate proxies, such as ice cores, ancient tree rings, geologic records of changes in sea level, and glacial geology. Physical evidence of current climate change covers many independent lines of evidence, a few of which are temperature records, the disappearance of ice, and extreme weather events.

The most general definition of climate change is a change in the statistical properties (principally its mean and spread) of the climate system when considered over long periods of time, regardless of cause.

Accordingly, fluctuations over periods shorter than a few decades, such as El Niño, do not represent climate change.

The term "climate change" is often used to refer specifically to anthropogenic climate change (also known as global warming). Anthropogenic climate change is caused by human activity, as opposed to changes in climate that may have resulted as part of Earth's natural processes.<sup>[6]</sup> In this sense, especially in the context of environmental policy, the term climate change has become synonymous with anthropogenic global warming. Within scientific journals, global warming refers to surface temperature increases while climate change includes global warming and everything else that increasing greenhouse gas levels affect.

A related term, "climatic change", was proposed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1966 to encompass all forms of climatic variability on time-scales longer than 10 years, but regardless of cause. During the 1970s, the term climate change replaced climatic change to focus on anthropogenic causes, as it became clear that human activities had a potential to drastically alter the climate. Climate change was incorporated in the title of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Climate change is now used as both a technical description of the process, as well as a noun used to describe the problem.

Prior to the 18th century, scientists had not suspected that prehistoric climates were different from the modern period. By the late 18th century, geologists found evidence of a succession of geological ages with changes in climate. In the years since, a great deal of scientific progress has been made understanding the workings of the climate system.

## Manufacturing now among top sectors for investment flows into Africa

By MUHARRAM MACATTA

**H**IGHLIGHTING the key role of South Africa as the regional economic hegemony and finally, this episode evaluates the performance of the SADC Free Trade Area on the basis of several indicators and concludes that the project is a success despite some shortcomings.

Africa is a resource-rich continent. Recent growth has been due to growth in sales in commodities, services, and manufacturing; Southern Africa in particular, East Africa, Central Africa and West Africa, are expected to reach a combined GDP of "\$29 trillion by 2050".

In March 2013, Africa was identified as the world's poorest inhabited continent: Africa's entire combined GDP is barely a third of the United States' GDP.

However, the World Bank expects that most African countries will reach "middle income" status (defined as at least \$1,000 per person a year) by 2025 if current growth rates continue.

In 2015, Africa was the world's fastest-growing continent at "5.6% a year and GDP is expected to rise by an average of over 6% a year between 2013 and 2023".

In 2017, the African Development Bank reported Africa to be the world's second-fastest growing economy, and estimates that average growth will rebound to "3.4% in 2017, while growth is expected to increase by 4.3% in 2019".

Growth has been present throughout the continent, with over one-third of African countries posting "6% or higher growth rates, and another 40% growing between 4% and 6% per year".

Several international business observers have also named Africa as the future economic growth engine of the world. The dawn of the African economic boom (which is in place since the 2000s) has been compared to the Chinese economic boom that had emerged in Asia since late 1970's.

In 2013, Africa was home to seven of the world's fastest-growing economies. As of 2018, Nigeria is the biggest economy in terms of nominal GDP, followed by South Africa; in terms of PPP, Egypt is second biggest after Nigeria.

Equatorial Guinea possessed Africa's highest GDP per capita albeit allegations of human rights violations. Oil-rich countries such as Algeria, Libya and Gabon, and mineral-rich Botswana emerged among the top economies since the 21st century.

While Zimbabwe and DR Congo, potentially among the world's richest nations, have sunk into the list of the world's poorest nations due to pervasive political corruption, warfare and brain drain of workforce. Botswana remains the site of Africa's longest and one of the world's longest periods of economic boom (1966-1999).

We herein discuss the evolution and prospects of manufacturing and industrialization in Africa. It ultimately offers business leaders an overview of Africa's biggest opportunities in the manufacturing sector, discussing trends, drivers, perspectives, and strategies for effective investment by 2030.

It provides policymakers with some options likely to attract private investors, accelerate manufacturing and industrial development, and contribute to growth and poverty alleviation, facilitating the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

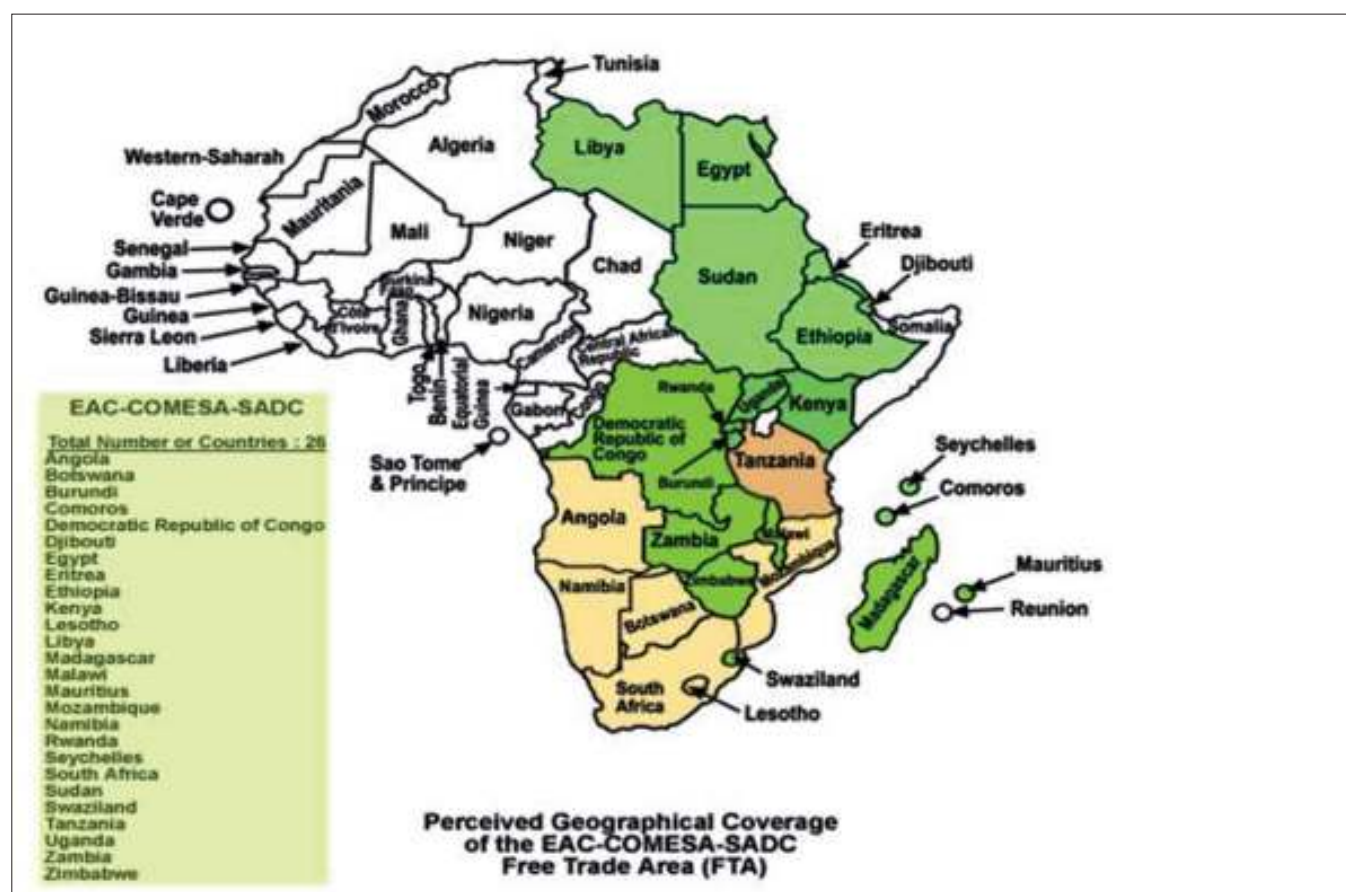
While policy solutions are likely to differ across countries, manufacturing and industrial development will be central to Africa's ability to meet its development goals.

The key boon of manufacturing is that it absorbs large swaths of workers and places them into productive and decent paying jobs. Throughout history, this exact recipe has transformed the United States, United Kingdom, France, Japan, and Germany into some of the world's wealthiest nations.

Most recently, a new age of industrialization has helped push China into one of the world's fastest growing economies boasting the largest middle class, with other Southeast Asian countries following closely behind.

These are all examples of how industrialization can generate rapid structural change, drive development, and alleviate poverty and unemployment.

However, this narrative seems to exclude many African nations. Despite



their manufacturing potential and promising trajectories, most African countries have remained relatively dearth of factories.

This limited industrial development represents a missed opportunity for economic transformation and quality employment generation that alleviates poverty.

Today, leaders are increasingly realizing that manufacturing is a major factor in helping Africa achieve their goals of successfully reaching the next stage of economic development.

The African Union has put the sector front and center in its Agenda 2063. Apparently, African governments are seeking new and innovative ways to attract investment and nurture industry.

They often discuss about implementing strategies that involve targeted investment in infrastructure, improved regional integration, and the establishment of special

economic zones (SEZs) for priority subsectors.

However, in order to reach its manufacturing and industrial potential, much needs to be done by the public and private sectors to increase Africa's economic complexity, diversity, competitiveness, and productivity.

This description explores some of the key structural constraints that have prevented Africa's manufacturing sector from maturing and from launching the same kind of economic modernization process witnessed in other developing regions.

It also conducts a cross-national comparison of the manufacturing sector in Africa, providing illustrative examples of countries that are experiencing four unique trajectories of industrial development, and identifying specific opportunities in each country based on the size and level of competitiveness

of their manufacturing markets.

Finally, with special attention to current major transformations, the analysis draws conclusions about the future of the manufacturing sector in Africa.

At the same time the scrutiny ultimately offers business leaders an accessible overview of Africa's biggest opportunities in the manufacturing sector, discussing trends and perspectives by 2030.

It provides policymakers with some options likely to attract private investors, accelerate manufacturing and industrial development, and contribute to growth and poverty alleviation, facilitating the fulfillment of the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

While policy solutions are likely to differ across countries, manufacturing will be central to Africa's ability to meet its development goals. Though African manufacturing grew in the immediate

post-independence period, largely shaped by state-led and protectionist policies, by the mid-1980s, a series of external shocks—including oil price increases, commodity price decreases, real interest rate rises, withering public coffers, and the limitations of domestic markets—were major factors in industrial decline in the continent.

We had experienced and overcome few stumbling blocks; though structural adjustment reforms like privatization of state-owned enterprises and trade liberalization, along with foreign aid, restarted African manufacturing in the 1990s, increased competition from foreign products and new pressure on African currencies, such as devaluations, made these gains short-lived.

By 2006 the share of manufacturing in GDP had declined to roughly 10 percent—the same as it had been in the mid-1960s. As noted, since the late-1990s economic growth rates in Africa reached impressively high levels (even during the 2008-2009 global financial crisis). Yet, until recently, growth in manufacturing has lagged behind that growth except in just a few exceptional markets. In 2017, manufacturing's share of sub-Saharan Africa's total GDP was just under 10 percent. Due to natural resource wealth in Africa, much of the region's industrial production remains centered on resource-based manufacturing.

Along with upstream and downstream sectors like construction and extraction, manufacturing is now among the top sectors for investment flows into Africa, accounting for "22 percent of total foreign direct investment (FDI) in 2015".

Thus, there is still significant room for growth in African manufacturing within the continent. Intra-African trade in manufactured goods has already increased from "10 percent of total trade in 2000 to about 16 percent in 2014".



## BUSINESS

## CENSURE

## Steel factory shut down over harmful emissions

KIGALI

Rwanda Environment Management Authority, (REMA) has shut down SteelRwa, a steel making factory for air pollution.

Coletha Ruhama, REMA Director-General told Sunday Times that the Rwamagana-based plant was emitting harmful gases. Ruhama said the environmental protection body had warned the factory over pollution, but it did not heed the warning.

"People dwelling in the locality of the factory have been complaining about the harmful gasses until they petitioned parliament," Ruhama said. "Emissions are harmful. People who dwell near the factory are exposed because they inhale them all the time," she said.

She pointed out that when REMA made a spot check on Wednesday night, it found that the factory was emitting pollutants. "We realised that when we inform [the factory managers] about our assessment visit they conceal the gases so we decided to visit them without notice," she said.

"We endorse investments, but, we do not support investments that intoxicate Rwandans, or other people in general, leaving them suffering from diseases from toxic emissions," Ruhama said. She said that the body tells investors to always make environmental impact assessment so that they take precautionary measures to mitigate such impact.

Ruhama further added that the factory could be using some systems to control emissions during day but did not use at night as they want to cut

electricity consumption costs, something she described as cheating.

Some of the people complained that they considered relocating their children to places free from the gases, adding that children, the elderly, and people with health problems are more affected by the gases than others because of their relatively low resistance level.

On the complaints from the residents that their children are coughing, Ruhama said that there is a need for medical research to come up with evidence-based conclusion. Confident Nzihonga, the Human Resource Manager at SteelRwa, said the emissions were unintentionally released in the night arguing that it resulted from a power cut.

"There was power cut for about 10 minutes, which made the chimney system unable to retain emissions because it was not powered. Emissions are bad, that's why the factory set up the chimney to hold them," he said.

"The closure of the factory implies a huge loss both for the factory and the 580 employees. However, we are not above law," he said adding that the factory management was waiting for instructions and requirements to meet so that it can carry on activities.

According to figures from the factory, it has the capacity to produce about 3,000 tonnes of iron bars per month. Ruhama pointed out that factories should comply with the laws and instructions put in place to regulate emissions, pointing out that there should be continued awareness and environmental impact assessment, as well as its implementation.



NIT Rector Professor Zacharia Mganilwa

## EXPANSION

## National Institute of Transport introduces five diploma courses

By Guardian Reporter

**F**IVE new courses ordinary diploma course in auto-electric and electric engineering have been introduced by National Institute of Transport this calendar year. Speaking with reporters in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, NIT Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa named the other new ordinary diploma courses as electronics, telecommunication engineering, electrical engineering, library information studies and that of records, archives and information studies.

"A candidate who wants to

join in our new programme such as ordinary diploma in auto-electrical and electronic engineering must have a certificate of secondary education examinations (CSEE) with a minimum of four passes with D grades in Physics or Engineering Science, Basic Mathematics, Chemistry and English," Prof Mganilwa said.

"Or a candidate must also have a certificate of secondary education examinations with minimum pass of D grade in two subjects as I mentioned above which must include basic mathematics and national vocational award level 3 in auto-electrical and electronics, basic technician certificate

(NTA Level 4) in related field recognized by NACTE as well as Technician Certificate (NTA Level 5) in related field," he added.

The NIT chief further noted that those wishing to join ordinary diploma in electronics and telecommunication engineering must have CSEE with a minimum of four passes at D grades in physics or engineering science, basic mathematics, chemistry and English.

"All applications can be done online through a link on the NIT website and the deadline is 13th September, 2019 for online applications," he noted while urging prospective candidates

to start the application process immediately to avoid last minute disappointments.

Established in 1975, the NIT is a public higher learning institution for training of the then National Transport Corporation employees. Its status was upgraded through the amended NIT Act of 2002 which made it an autonomous higher learning institution under Ministry of Communications and Works. Currently, the Institute is under the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications.

The Institute is fully accredited with the National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) to provide Competence Based

Education and Training (CBET) programmes at the level of certificates, diplomas and degrees.

It is also accredited with Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) to offer Master of Science in Logistics and Transport Management.

NIT collaborates with Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT International) to teach and examine CILT programmes. In addition, the Institute also collaborates with Open University of Tanzania (OUT) to offer MBA in Logistics and Transport Management.



Steel bars at SteelRwa factory.

## EXPANSION

## FCC plans zonal offices by 2023 after demand for services grows

By Francis Kajubi

GROWING demand of fair market competition in the local market is pushing Fair Competitions Commission to open zonal offices in the near future.

FCC's Senior Communications and Public Relations Officer, Frank Mdimi said in Dar es Salaam last week while giving a summary on the commission's participation at this year Nane Nane Agriculture Fair which climaxed in Bariadi district of Simiyu region that zonal offices will be opened in Tanganyika, Mbeya and Mwanza.

"Demand for our services is very high countrywide which necessitates opening zonal offices to attend to the public closer to their places of business," Mdimi said. He said the FCC has already opened its offices in the new capital city, Dodoma in the past six months.

He further stated that in 2018/19 the financial year, FCC made significant progress in addressing challenges faced by businesses with 66 out of 72 merger applications received, 66 were



FCC Director General Dr John Mduma.

processed to completion leading to approval of which 55 applications were without conditions, 11 with conditions while six are in the process.

According to him, the commission received and processed 46 Standard Form Consumer Contracts in line with the Standard Form Consumer Contracts Regulations, 2014 of which 15 were successfully reviewed and registered.

Mdimi further noted that the Standard Form Business to Consumer (B2C) Contracts are reviewed as a stopgap measure to remove caveats and terms and conditions that oppress consumers. He cited that such contracts come predominantly from the financial sector, although other sectors such as transportation have also been handled.

He asserted that the commission is administering consumer awareness through consumer clubs in Morogoro Municipality and Dodoma City.

Mdimi pointed out that the FCC also administered advocacy awareness and business awareness support sessions at Mzumbe University and University of Dodoma's business and law students, members of the

business community under Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture in Dodoma and Confederation of Tanzania Industries in Dar es Salaam.

During the period, FCC did inspect 3,312 containers in entry points, seized 143 of them with fake goods and conducted a total of 31 raids in storage and outlet centers countrywide.

## PERSECUTION

## Mozambique indicts 20 people over \$2bn hidden-debt scandal

MAPUTO

Mozambique has charged 20 people, including the son of former President Armando Guebuza, over a fraud scam in which state-owned companies contracted \$2 billion in debt for dubious projects.

Legal action may follow against former finance minister Manuel Chang, who Mozambican authorities as well as the US Justice Department want for his alleged role in approving government guarantees for foreign debt of \$2 billion in 2013-14. Chang, currently being held in South Africa on US charges, is no longer immune from prosecution after he resigned as a lawmaker effective July 19.

The final indictment of the 20 that follows an earlier one and arrests in February, comes as the southeast African country prepares for elections scheduled for October 15. The accused include Armando Ndambi Guebuza, the former head of state security Gregorio Leao and Antonio Carlos do Rosario, chief executive of the three state companies for which the debt was contracted.

Charges include corruption, money laundering, criminal association, possession of prohibited weapons, blackmail, abuse of office and the falsification of documents, the attorney-general said in an emailed statement on Thursday.

"The attorney-general issued the final indictment after four months, which is unlawful," said Alexandre Chivale, a lawyer for Guebuza. "Our clients should be released immediately on the grounds of that violation."

A former Credit Suisse Group AG managing director, Andrew Pearce, has admitted taking millions of dollars in kickbacks to help arrange bank loans for the companies. Proindicus SA was to perform coastal surveillance, Mocambicana de Atum SA, or Ematum, was to engage in tuna fishing, while Mozambique Asset Management, or MAM, was to build and maintain shipyards. None of the three have reported a profit and their assets are lying idle.



## ASSISTANCE

# NMB Bank extends 5m/- support to Morogoro hospital for blast victims



Mara Regional Commissioner Adam Malima.

By Guardian Reporter

**N**MB Bank Plc has donated medical devices and materials which included mattresses, bed-sheets and blankets worth 5m/- to Morogoro Regional Hospital to assist with treatment of oil tanker blast casualties.

In a statement yesterday, the bank said it was shocked to receive news of the accident which killed more than 60 people and left hundreds injured on Saturday. The medical devices and materials were handed over to Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Dr Steven Kebwe.

Meanwhile NMB has donated desks, corrugated iron sheets, labour ward beds all valued at 50m/- to public schools and health centres in Musoma and Butiama districts of Mara region.

Speaking after handing over the donation, NMB's Lake Zone Manager, Agustino Abraham said the donations were meant to back state efforts to improve education and health services. Abraham said the government's industrialization agenda can only be realised with a healthy and educated people.

"Though our corporate citizenship budget we have already spent over 550m/- in support to the two sectors but also disaster relief assistance," he noted while saying that this year, the bank has allocated 1bn/- for the purpose.

Mara Regional Commissioner Adam Malima paid tribute to the bank for its continued support of government initiatives to improve delivery of education and health services in the country. "While we thank you for this support, we also request you to continue assisting us in these two important sectors and especially girls education," Malima said.

He said because of outdated poor traditions, Mara region is planning to construct safe havens for girls who are targeted through gender based violence which also impacts on their ability to pursue education hence need protection.

"Many girls have been forced to drop out of school because of such violence hence curtailing their bright futures," the RC stated. He requested NMB to also assist development of the region's agriculture sector through NMB Foundation.

In a vote of thanks, Buhare Secondary School's Headmaster, Jonas Zakayo said the NMB donation will go a long way in addressing challenges being faced by public schools and health facilities in the region.

"Our needs are many such that the state alone cannot successfully address them hence the need for other stakeholders including banks like NMB to assist us," Zakayo said while promising that the donation will be used to improve the targeted services.

## SLOWDOWN

## MTN SA loses 1.9m subscribers

JOHANNESBURG

MTN Group's interim financial results for the six months to June 2019 show that its South African business is under pressure as the result of new sector regulations and the weak economy.

Ebitda margin fell by 1.9 percentage points in the past year to 33.3% as a result of lower out-of-bundle tariffs and the onboarding of Cell C as a roaming customer. (Ebitda is a measure of operational profitability.)

The company improved service revenue, with growth in the wholesale and consumer post-paid segments, but this was offset by a 5.5% reduction in prepaid service revenue coupled with "Cell C adjustments made."

Weakness in the prepaid business was mainly the result of Icas's new data services regulations and the reduction of out-of-bundle tariffs. The weak economy also exerted downward pressure on the numbers. However, the consumer post-paid business "remained resilient in tough conditions", growing service revenue by 7% year on year.

"Consumer additions were muted on the back of stricter vetting rules targeting a reduction in credit risk due to tougher economic times," MTN said. "A combination of changes in the acquisition strategy in consumer post-paid as well as the discontinuation of the IGB acquisition promotion in prepaid ... resulted in a 1.9 million decrease in the subscriber base from December 2018 to a closing subscriber base of 29.2 million," it said.

Crime hits hard

Operating expenses rose due to Eskom load shedding, battery theft and site vandalism. "These, together with the progressively expanding network footprint, resulted in a 3.7% increase in total costs year on year.

## INVESTMENT

# Egypt's Red Sea coast set to get a new mega resort

CAIRO

Rixos Hotels agreed to manage its largest all-inclusive luxury resort in the world on Egypt's Red Sea Riviera as it continues its expansion push across the Middle East.

The luxury Turkish hotel brand, in which hospitality Group Accor acquired a 50 per cent stake in 2017, has partnered with the Eastern Company for Investment and Touristic Development to takeover and renovate an existing beachfront property on Egypt's Red Sea coast, near Hurghada, about 300km north-east of Luxor. Scheduled for completion in 2020, it will be re-launched as the Rixos Hurghada Makadi Bay - a 1,636-key mega-resort with leisure, sports and entertainment facilities.

"This marks a pivotal moment in the growth story of our brand, bringing to market our largest resort globally and offering our most comprehensive range of facilities and unique and dynamic entertainment experiences yet," said Fattah Tamince, founder and chairman of Rixos Hotels, which was established in 2000.

The resort will feature villas, indoor and outdoor spa and fitness facilities, a waterpark, conference centre and an expansive entertainment area with an amphitheatre. "Our vision is to transform Makadi Bay into the leading leisure and entertainment destination on the Red Sea and in this respect, the [tie-up with] Rixos brand ... makes strategic sense," said Mahmoud El Sayed Moussa El-Sharkawy, chief executive

of the Eastern Company for Investment and Touristic Development.

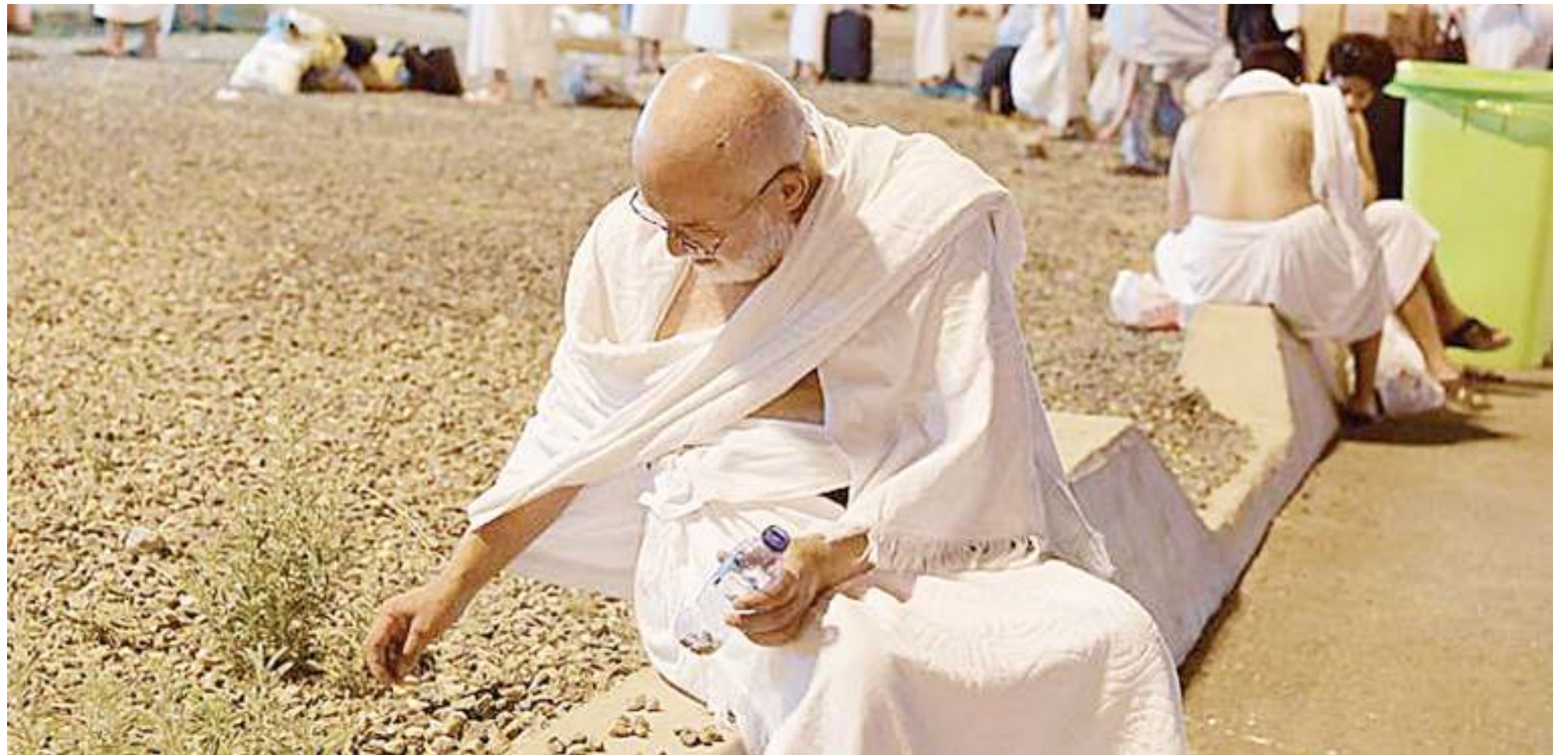
The Rixos Hurghada resort is the first project of its kind since Accor bought into Rixos in 2017, which increased the brand's footprint to four resorts in Egypt where its already operates properties in Alamein and Sharm El Sheikh and eight across the Middle East.

"This unique takeover opportunity strengthens the Rixos offering in Egypt's Red Sea Riviera and highlights the strong collaboration Accor has established with Rixos team to develop the brand regionally and globally," said Mark Willis, chief executive of Accor Middle East & Africa.

The renovation plan of the existing development in Makadi Bay will be phased in two stages, each spanning a year, with phase one already underway and including the refurbishment and expansion of the resort hotel.

When phase one is complete, Rixos Hurghada Makadi Bay will be officially launched and will feature 815 rooms including villas. Phase two will start as soon as the refashioned property opens its doors. Rixos Hurghada will expand Accor's footprint in Egypt to 25 properties with 13 more projects in the pipeline across its portfolio of brands including Fairmont and Mövenpick, it said.

On Egypt's Red Sea and north coast, the company's portfolio includes Rixos Sharm El Sheikh, Rixos Alamein and Rixos Premium Seagate in Nabq Bay, as well as Mövenpick El Gouna and Mövenpick Soma Bay.



Rixos plans to develop its latest resort on Egypt's Red Sea coast.

## REORGANIZATION

# Portland Cement sacks 800 staff, to rehire on 40 per cent pay cut

NAIROBI

East African Portland Cement Company (EAPCC) has declared redundant all its 800 employees, setting the stage for a leaner workforce with an eye on trimming the company's bloated wage bill.

Acting EAPCC managing director Stephen Nthei Thursday said the sacked employees' roles will be merged and salaries reduced to keep the struggling cement maker afloat. "We have a workforce whose total cost, compared to the productivity, is very high. Our target is to operate with less than 600 people earning less than what they are earning now," said Mr Nthei.

Employees who successfully reapply for their jobs will be expected to take a 40 per cent cut on their previous wages. Portland Cement had 936 employees at the end of June 2018, split as 448 on permanent basis and 488 on contract, but this

has since dropped to about 800 according to the acting MD.

Mr Nthei sent a memo to all employees saying the firm is incurring Sh8 million loss every day, and will have to declare redundancies to escape from collapse. "All positions of the company will be declared redundant and the employees released. Subsequently, all jobs will be reconfigured in terms of job consolidation and enrichment in line with restructured and leaner organisation structure," read the memo.

"The company acknowledges that the exercise is a difficult decision but the best option in the present business circumstances." He has called for a meeting with all staff on Friday next week at the factory's headquarters in Athi River.

EAPCC has already notified the workers' union and the Labour office. The

first group of employees is to be laid off early next month. Mr Nthei said the management wants a staff count of not more than 600, estimating it intends to spend about Sh600 million in the redundancy.

"It is this high because majority of people who have been on unionisable levels have to be paid their gratuity levels when severing the relationship," he said.

The management has told staff that all payments will be made at the point of exit. Permanent workers will get a golden handshake of 30 days for every year worked, accrued gratuity, as well as outstanding leave days.

For those on contracts, he said, the only severance will be to pay for contract termination. According to him, majority of the contracts are ending in December, leaving them with just about 25 employees on contract.

It will also have to pay workers Sh1.5 billion that was awarded to contract staff after losing the case to stop the award that was issued by the industrial court in July 2015. EAPCC is stuck in negative working capital with obligations maturing within the next 12 months outstripping current assets by Sh7.3 billion. This potentially makes it difficult to service its short-term obligations.

However, Mr Nthei said in a phone interview EAPCC is counting on cash inflows from the sale of land to Kenya Railways Corporation (KRC). He says about Sh3 billion is still outstanding. "We have received commitment of the payment of this money and we want to be matching it with phased implementation of this programme," said Mr Nthei. In 2018, EAPCC sold 900 acres of its prime land to KRC at Sh5 billion for an inland depot currently under construction. It has already received a down



EAPCC managing director Stephen Nthei.



DECELERATION

# India's car industry stalls as demand wanes

NEW DELHI

Stalling car sales in India have prompted dealerships to close down and factories to temporarily shut up shop amid the worst slump in almost 20 years, analysts say.

"The biggest challenge that the industry faces is weak consumer demand," says Rahul Agarwal, the director at Wealth Discovery, a stock broking firm based in New Delhi. "There are just not enough car buyers who are willing to buy a car right now. Subdued buyer interest has led to inventory build-up, production cuts and massive job losses in the auto ancillary industry."

More than 280 dealerships have shut down since the start of last year, according to the Federation of Automobile Dealers Association, a lobby group for the sector in India. India's economic slowdown, the growing popularity of ride hailing apps and a liquidity crunch among non-banking lenders - which had become a popular source of loans for consumers - are factors that have dampened demand for cars.

The car sector is considered a bellwether for the wider Indian economy - and those trends have also been worrying. On August 7, the Reserve Bank of India, in its bi-monthly monetary policy meeting, lowered its growth projection for the current financial year to 6.9 per cent, from its earlier forecast of 7 per cent. India has already lost its tag as the world's fastest-growing major economy after GDP growth in the March quarter of financial year 2019 slipped to 5.8 per cent, government data show.

Car sales in India in the quarter to June saw their sharpest fall in almost two decades, according to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (Siam). Its figures reveal that 712,620 cars and utility vehicles and vans were sold in the quarter, down 18.4 per cent on the same period a year earlier.

The car industry in the country accounts for more than 7 per cent of India's GDP and directly and indirectly employs 29 million people, according to Siam. "With no signs of an imminent and fast turnaround, the industry is staring at its worst slowdown, which has deep negative ramifications



A Tata Motors showroom in Mumbai, India.

for the overall Indian economy," says Mr Agarwal. "The current slump in the sector is a prolonged one and this is the 10th month of continuous decline."

The malaise is so deep that car makers, dealers and parts manufacturers may have cut some 350,000 jobs since April, Reuters reports, citing an unnamed senior industry source. Unemployment is a worry for the country and prime minister Narendra Modi's government, which was re-elected in May. Official data have revealed that unemployment in India hit a 45-year high of 6.1 per cent in the year to June last year.

Amid the slowdown and reports of job losses, which include temporary positions at car factories, India's major car companies have suffered dramatic declines in business. The country's largest car maker Maruti Suzuki saw its passenger vehicle sales tumble more than 36 per cent last month compared to a year earlier to 98,210 vehicles.

Meanwhile, Honda's sales in India fell 49 per cent and Toyota's sales last month were down 24 per cent on a year earlier to 10,423 vehicles sold in India. "The industry is deeply concerned with the increasing pressure of low customer sentiment faced by the sector," says N Raja, the deputy managing director at Toyota Kirloskar Motor, the Indian subsidiary of Toyota

Motor. "High insurance costs, rise in taxes and a liquidity crunch across the non-banking finance segment, tightening of lending norms, have significantly affected domestic sales in the last few months."

He adds that "we are trying to lend maximum support to our dealers through the hard times faced by the

industry by maintaining lean inventory." India's Tata Motors is also having a bumpy ride.

"In the short to medium term, the sector faces some challenges due to the ongoing credit crunch, low consumer spending and the transition in emission norms by 2020," N Chandrasekaran, Tata Motors' chairman,

said in the company's latest annual report, released last month.

BS Rai, automotive expert at Singhi Advisors, an investment bank headquartered in Mumbai, says the sector is "witnessing job losses, lower profitability and a high inventory of cars at the dealers' end." A significant factor in all this stems from a crisis in the non-banking financial sector in India, which started towards the end of last year. With non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) facing a liquidity squeeze, this has severely impacted their ability to lend to potential car buyers.

"A significant decline is due to scarcity of easy finance by NBFCs. NBFCs have been a major driver of growth in recent times by way of liberal financing," says Mr Rai. "Also, across the board, there is lower credit growth in automotive financing."

Other factors that have

weakened demand for car purchases include a surge in the use of ride-hailing services across the country's major cities - in particular Uber and its homegrown Indian competitor Ola - and the broader trend of "millennials having less interest in car ownership", he says.

Maruti Suzuki in India cut its production in July on the year by about 25 per cent to make 133,625 vehicles in the month, the car maker said in a stock exchange filing. "In order to align production with sales, manufacturers are taking deep production cuts and having temporary shut downs at their various plants," says Ashwin Patil, the senior research analyst at LKP Securities. And many analysts do not see the situation in the car industry improving any time soon, unless steps are actively taken by New Delhi to address the challenges that the sector is grappling with.

"Going forward, this crisis is going to continue for a longer duration considering the fact that internal factors within the sector like new launches will not revive the sector. But something like external stimulus, for example GST [goods and services tax] rate cuts, and NBFC financing easing will help," says Mr Rai. "If the government does not take quick and effective steps then the sector will be under immense pressure."

Mr Raja says he wants the GST rate in sector to be brought down from 28 per cent to 18 per cent "to accommodate the downturn in sales." Authorities have already started to take some steps that could help the industry. The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday cut interest rates by 35 basis points to 5.40 per cent, which should bring down borrowing costs for car buyers who take out bank loans for their purchases.

DEPRECIATION

# World's wealthy shed \$117 billion in market mayhem

NEW YORK

The wealthiest 500 people on Earth lost 2.1 per cent of their collective net worth on Monday as US stocks plunged in their biggest drop this year.

Twenty-one members of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index lost \$1 billion or more as investors reacted to stepped-up tensions between the US and China. Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos declined the most, shedding \$3.4bn as shares of the online retailer tumbled. But he's still the richest person on the planet with \$110 billion.

Other big losers include the Frenchman Bernard Arnault, chairman and chief executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy - Louis Vuitton, the world's leading luxury products group, who lost \$3.2bn of his fortune and

Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg whose fortune dwindled to \$2.8bn. Indian businessman Mukesh Ambani shed \$2.4bn and Microsoft's Bill Gates \$2bn. The losses are an abrupt reversal for the world's richest, who up until today had experienced steady gains.

Other forces have also eroded fortunes in recent weeks. Hong Kong's elite are feeling the pain from nine weeks of protests that have jammed the financial hub's streets, weighed on growth and battered local stock prices. The net worth of the 10 richest tycoons who derive their fortunes from Hong Kong-listed companies has tumbled \$19bn since July 23.

Even after Monday's losses, the 500 individuals on the index control almost \$5.4tn, an 11 per cent increase from January 1.

## INDIA NEW CAR SALES (JULY 2019 VS JULY 2018)

Company	July 2019	July 2018	Y-o-y (%)
Maruti Suzuki	98,210	154,150	-36.3
Tata	32,938	50,100	-34.3
Mahindra	31,705	37,566	-15.6
Hyundai	57,310	59,590	-3.8
Toyota	10,423	13,677	-23.8

Source: marklines.com

The world's richest man, Jeff Bezos of Amazon.



ITV PGM SCHEDULE	
<b>MONDAY 12 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 10:00 Movie: It wasn't me 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 14:00 Movie: Maisha 16:00 Ibada ya Eid 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mipishi rpt 18:30 Kesho Leo 19:00 Afiya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Insta Bet 22:15 Series: Iris 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 CNN International
<b>TUESDAY 13 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamsam za pwani 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Shamsam za pwani 11:25 Igizo: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Afiya ya jamii rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Uchumi na biashara 13:30 Kipindi Maalum: Tafakari rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Series rpt: Iris 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Tanzania yetu 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: SADC 22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International
<b>WEDNESDAY 14 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Kipindi Maalum: SADC 11:00 Habari 11:25 Igizo: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Afiya ya jamii rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Uchumi na biashara 13:30 Kipindi Maalum: Tafakari rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Series rpt: Iris 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Tanzania yetu 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: SADC 22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International
<b>THURSDAY 15 August</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Igizo: Kivuko 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Igizo: Kivuko 11:15 Kipindi maalum: SADC 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Ijue Sheria 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Sanaa na wasanii 13:30 Tanzania yetu 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Mr Tanzania Rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mipishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri wako 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International
<b>FRIDAY 16 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu
<b>SATURDAY 17 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 11:00 Usafiri wako 11:30 Series rpt: Iris 13:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko 14:15 Igizo rpt: Ahadi 14:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 15:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele 15:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt 16:00 Mr Tanzania 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mipishi 18:30 Igizo: Ahadi 19:00 Sanaa na wasanii 19:30 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele 21:30 Kesho Leo 22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja 23:00 Isidingo rpt 01:30 CNN International
<b>SUNDAY 18 Aug</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:45 Aibu Yako 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Young billionaire 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 Mr Tanzania 16:45 Igizo: Ahadi 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mipishi 18:30 Mizengwe rpt
<b>MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM</b>	10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo 11:30 Korean: The Great queen 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: SADC 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt 14:15 Series rpt: Iris 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru -live 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:00 Uchumi na biashara 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 CNN International
<b>CAPITAL</b>	18:45 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Biko 21:10 Mizengwe 21:30 Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo Movie: Shinikizo 00:30 Series rpt: Iris
<b>Thurs 15 Aug</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera 08:00 CNN International News 09:00 Al Jazeera 10:00 Kumekucha 10:30 Kumekucha Michezo 11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo 12:00 Sports Gazette 12:30 Out n' About rpt 13:00 Series rpt: Grapes of wine 13:45 Series rpt: The land of wind 14:30 Business Edition rpt 15:00 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the sea 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the spotlight 19:30 Tanzania yetu 20:00 Series: Grapes of wine 20:45 Series: The land of wind 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Capchat rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera
<b>Frid 16 Aug</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera 08:00 CNN International News 09:00 Al Jazeera 10:00 Kumekucha 10:30 Kumekucha Michezo 11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo 12:00 Innovation rpt 12:30 The Décor rpt 13:00 Series rpt: Grapes of wine 13:45 Series rpt: The land of wind 14:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 15:00 Korean Dram rpt: Emperor of the sea 16:00 CNN International 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Drive it 19:30 EcoAfrica 20:00 Aibu yako 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition 20:45 Series: The land of wind 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt 00:00 Al Jazeera
<b>Sat 17 Aug</b>	08:00 CNN International 09:00 Drive It rpt 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt 10:00 Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Innovation rpt 11:00 Out n'about rpt 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Usafiri wako rpt 12:30 EcoAfrica rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the sea 14:30 Telenovela rpt: The land of wind 17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:45 Bundesliga kick off 18:15 Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe
<b>Wed 14 Aug</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera 08:00 CNN International News 09:00 Al Jazeera 10:00 Kumekucha 10:30 Kumekucha Michezo 11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo 12:00 Innovation rpt 12:30 Culinary delight rpt 13:00 Series rpt: Grapes of wine 13:45 Series rpt: The Land of wind 14:30 Local Pgm: The Monday Agenda Rpt 15:15 Capchat rpt 16:15 CNN International



## WORLD

# Democratic presidential contenders demand action on guns

DES MOINES, Iowa

DEMOCRATIC presidential contenders on Saturday urged Congress to take action to curb gun violence following mass shootings last weekend in Texas and Ohio that left 31 dead.

Speaking at a hastily convened forum in Iowa, they called for the imposition of universal background checks on gun buyers, so-called "red flag" laws, and ultimately a ban on military-style assault weapons.

They also said they believed the long-standing debate on gun violence in America was shifting in favor of stronger restrictions.

"We are going to make change. We are going to pass gun safety laws in this country," said U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts.

The candidates took questions from gun-control advocates and shooting survivors at a program sponsored by Everytown for Gun Safety, an advocacy group founded by former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

In the shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, the gunmen used semi-automatic weapons with high-volume magazines.

Pete Buttigieg, the mayor of South Bend, Indiana, called for those weapons to be taken off the streets.

"They have no basis in our neighborhoods in peacetime in the United States of America," Buttigieg said.

Buttigieg was among a group of more than 200 mayors who sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McCo-

nnell, a Republican, this week urging him to cancel the August recess and summon lawmakers back to Washington to vote on gun-control legislation.

Several 2020 candidates highlighted how they would use the executive powers of the presidency to pursue gun-control measures if Congress again fails to act.

Warren said she would impose increased background check requirements and more reporting on multiple gun purchases, and expand age restrictions to limit teenage access to guns. She said she would also push to do away with the filibuster, which would allow gun legislation to pass the Senate by a simple majority vote.

U.S. Senator Kamala Harris of California, who has said if elected she would give Congress 100 days to put a gun control bill on her desk, said they need to have "the courage to act."

"It's not like we are waiting for a good idea, all of the good ideas have been had ... we do not lack for ideas," she said.

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet of Colorado - where 12 were killed in a high-profile mass shooting at Columbine High School in 1999 and another 12 were killed and 70 injured during a 2012 massacre at a movie theater - said he would "galvanize every single federal agency" to treat gun violence as a "public safety crisis."

Iowa is a key focus of campaigning because in February the state will hold the first nominating contest in the Democratic presidential primaries ahead of



US Senator Elizabeth Warren

the November 2020 presidential election.

Many have called for measures such as an assault weapon ban, universal background checks and other gun control reforms long stymied by partisan fighting in Washington.

Democrats have criticized Republican President Donald Trump's mixed messaging this week on possible support for some gun control measures.

Trump on Friday suggested that he could sway the nation's powerful pro-gun lobby, the National Rifle Association, to drop its opposition to gun restrictions. He also said he had assured the organization that its viewpoint would be "fully represented."

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota suggested on Saturday that Trump would not stand up to the group. "We have a guy in the White House who is afraid, afraid of the NRA," she said, criticizing McConnell for refusing to bring a background check bill and other legislation to the floor for a vote.

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont said, "People in America who should not own guns based on their history, will not own guns under a Sanders administration."

Former Vice President Joe Biden, the current

Democratic front-runner, touted his work in the Senate in the 1990s passing an assault weapons ban that has since expired.

"I've taken on the NRA nationally, and I've beaten them," Biden said.

"Red flag" laws would allow the police to temporarily confiscate guns from people deemed by a judge to be a threat to themselves or others.

Candidates also want to close the so-called "boyfriend loophole," which permits convicted domestic abusers to continue to purchase firearms if they were not married to their victims.

U.S. Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey, who could not attend Saturday's forum due to a funeral, dedicated his seven-minute allotment at a Democratic fundraising dinner on Friday night to gun violence, noting that 2020 rival Beto O'Rourke was not present due to one of last week's shootings being in his home town of El Paso.

Media magnate Bloomberg has pledged to use his well-funded political action committee in next year's elections to defeat candidates who resist gun-reform legislation.

If the current push for new restrictions fails, as has happened in the past, Bloomberg said, "We have made sure all those who stood in the way face the consequences."

Agencies

## Putin urges Ukraine's Zelensky to halt Donbass shelling

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has called on Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky to abstain from any further shelling of Donbass communities by the Ukrainian Armed Forces that leads to civilian deaths, the Kremlin press service reported following the leaders' telephone conversation initiated by the Ukrainian side.

"During the course of discussing the settlement in southeastern Ukraine, it was emphasized that it is vital to strictly abide by the ceasefire reached on July 21, as well as to disengage forces and hardware from the line of contact.

The Russian president stressed that to reach de-escalation of the conflict it is of dire importance to refrain from further shelling of the Donbass Region's communities by the Ukrainian forces, which leads to victims among civilians," the press service's statement reads.

This has been the second phone call between the leaders of the two countries since Zelensky was elected President of Ukraine. The first one took place on July 11 also at the Ukrainian side's initiative.

On Tuesday, Zelensky called on the Normandy format leaders - Russian President Vladimir Putin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron - to convene as soon as possible following the deaths of four Ukrainian servicemen after alleged actions by the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) militia. Donetsk slammed these statements as bearing no relation to reality, adding that the incident took place too far from the line of contact and outside of the republic's weapon range.

Releasing captives and other issues

The presidents also hashed over the issues of stepping up effort on releasing captives, the Kremlin press service said. "The sides agreed on intensifying efforts to return captives," the press service stated.

The two leaders confirmed the importance of consistently fulfilling the Minsk agreements, including legal aspects of granting a special status to the self-proclaimed Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics. In this context, the sides noted the need for a constructive dialogue, including in the framework of the Contact Group.

Putin and Zelensky also discussed prospects of cooperating in the Normandy format (Russia, Ukraine, Germany and France).

Agencies

## East African countries urged to harness fisheries resources to boost food security

ADDIS ABABA

EXPERTS and policymakers in the food security sector have urged East African countries to exert concerted efforts to harness the existing rich fisheries potential to improve food security across the region.

The urgent call was made by experts and policymakers in the food security sector, who are drawn from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) member countries, during a regional meeting in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa on Friday.

The Director of IGAD Affairs at the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kenea Kuma, stressed during the meeting the need to establish scientific studies, initiatives and recommendations regarding the effective exploitation of the "largely untapped" potential in the fisheries sector among the four IGAD member countries as well as other countries in the region.

Kuma also noted the vital significance of undertaking scientific studies on the sector, which would be made on the basis of "request and consent" of member countries that are sharing river basin resources.

The two-day regional meeting, which aimed to deliberate on the effective utilization and exploitation of the region's potential in the fisheries sector, mainly envisaged to validate a regional baseline on three major trans-boundary river basins that are shared between Ethiopia and South Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya, as well as Ethiopia and Somalia, respectively.

IGAD's Head of Biodiversity Management Programme, Debalkew Berhe, also stressed the importance of knowledge-based exploitation as well as managing the existing abundant resources in the fisheries sector in the East African region, with particular emphasis given to fisheries along cross border areas.

"Considering the huge potential of fisheries along the cross border areas, knowledge-based utilization and management of sustaining of food safety standards of the products are of paramount importance," the IGAD Biodiversity Management Programme Head said.

The three cross-border river basins that are currently under validation by the four IGAD member countries are the Baro-Akobo river basin that is shared between Ethiopia and South Sudan, the Omo-Turkana river basin, which is shared among Ethiopia and Kenya, as well as the Shebelle-Genale river basin, shared between Ethiopia and Somalia, it was noted.

Xinhua

## Africa urged to modernise civil registration systems

ADDIS ABABA

THE United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on Friday urged African countries to modernise civil registration and vital statistics systems to create inclusive and efficient societies.

The urgent call was made by Oliver Chinganya, director of African Center for Statistics at the ECA, as the African continent on Saturday marks the second Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day under the theme "Birth Certificate for All: Fundamental for Protecting Human Rights and Promoting Inclusion."

The ECA estimated that more than 500 million people across Africa do not have identity cards, of which about 120 million are children who do not have birth certificates.

"Birth certificates also facilitate access to school, health services and social protection benefits,

which reduces children's vulnerability to poverty and risk of exploitation," an ECA statement quoted Chinganya as saying on Friday.

Registration of birth is a key event of civil registration in the life cycle; it is a human right and promotes inclusion," the ECA director added.

Civil registration increases the credibility of national and local administrators and enhances their capacity to deliver social services by helping to identify what services are needed, where and by whom," he said.

Figures from the ECA also show that more than half of Africa's children are not registered at birth, which the ECA said "renders most of the continent's poor unseen, uncounted and excluded, and by extension affecting their ability to enjoy universal human rights."

Chinganya (pictured), who is also director for the Technology, Climate Change and Natural



Resource Management Division at the ECA, said the continental Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day commemoration event aspires "to improve public awareness of the importance of making everyone visible in Africa through universal birth registration and certification."

"The ECA director also stressed that an efficient birth certificate

platform helps to prevent violations of rights of children, including child marriage, trafficking, child labor and the use of child soldiers, particularly among vulnerable and marginalized populations.

"Unfortunately, in Africa, the demand for registration services remains weak because many people have no adequate awareness about the importance of civil reg-

istration for them and their families and the implications that this has for improving access to core government services," Chinganya added.

The ECA also stressed that the civil registration and vital statistics system is "essential for the modern administrative system and good governance, protecting human rights and creating inclusive societies."

The African Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day, which was declared by African leaders in December 2017 in Nouakchott, capital of Mauritania, is commemorated across the continent for the second time this on Aug. 10.

The first African Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day was observed last year under the theme "Promoting Innovative Universal Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System for Good Governance and Better Lives."

Xinhua

WASHINGTON'S disloyalty and limits-testing attempts were fully revealed by the frequent farces of disregarding international rules made by some US officials.

The White House has arbitrarily withdrawn from international agreements and organizations, recklessly started trade disputes with global countries and undermined the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Lately, some US officials went further and released a memorandum about the status of the developing countries in the WTO. In the memo, the US required substantial progress toward reform to be made by the WTO within 90 days, or else it will take uni-

## International rules shall not be challenged

lateral actions. Such a move, ignoring orders and treading on rules, caused widespread concern in the international community. Is the Uncle Sam really preparing for a global trade war?

The rule-based multilateral trading system is the cornerstone of economic globalization and free trade, and not private property of one or a few countries. The authority and effectiveness of the system must be respected and safeguarded.

Nearly 2/3 of the 164 WTO members are developing countries. The core values and fundamental principles of the organization are manifested in the

Special and Differential Treatment, whose purpose is to ensure fair treatment for developing countries in the organization.

The majority of the WTO members advocate that these core values and fundamental principles be upheld regardless of how the organization is reformed. Any formulation of and revise to the rules shall respect the general will of the WTO members, and any act that ignores the authority of the WTO rules is considered a denial of justice.

Some American politicians should really introspect on why both proposals about the status of developing

countries they submitted to the WTO met with opposing voices. Clearly, they were not on the side of the general will and justice, so a failure was destined.

No country in the international community can neglect the connections between rights and obligations. However, some people in the US are draining their brains to maximize their rights in the global market. As such egoism swells up, they completely forget about the international obligations that the US should assume as a major country.

They even claimed that fulfilling the

obligations simply means that they are losing in the global market.

Calling for the revamp of rules in the name of so-called fairness and justice, they care little about fairness and justice. For these people, maintaining superiority in the world is their priority. Ignoring the rules is considered a breach of promises and will be condemned by justice and punished by laws.

Since the US has repeatedly blocked the appointments of the judges to the WTO's Appellate Body and caused a manpower shortage and deadlock in the division, 114 WTO members jointly

issued a statement in June, demanding that the US immediately stop intervening in the appointment of the WTO's judicial officers.

Meanwhile, the US has attracted mounting criticism from the international community for its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The comment of Fred Bergsten, co-founder of the Peterson Institute for International Economics in the US, is very representative: the unilateral policy of the US will only isolate itself and no country will follow it.

People's Daily





Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Carrie Lam attends a press conference in Hong Kong, south China, on Saturday. (Xinhua)

## Hong Kong people express support for police, calling for end to violence

HONG KONG

LARGE groups of Hong Kong people visited several police stations in Hong Kong Saturday to express their firm support for and utmost respect to the police force.

The scene stood in stark contrast to the chaotic and violent sieges of police stations by black-clad protesters on many nights over the past weeks.

"The police have been working really hard to safeguard social order. We came here to show our support," said a resident surnamed Chan, who visited Kwai Chung Police Station with his wife and son. The boy gave the police a hand-written card as a gift.

"I hope our children can learn to love peace and how to act as righteous people," Chan said. "I also want to see society restore order and for there to be no more violence."

Local business leader Raymond Tsoi Chi-chung and his friends visited Central Police Station to express their support to the "core force for protecting Hong Kong."

"Recent violent incidents have reduced Hong Kong to an economic trough," Tsoi said. "I hope Hong Kong people can focus on stabilizing the economy."

A police officer surnamed Lau has become an internet celebrity after a video went viral showing him confronting a crowd of protesters that had surrounded and attacked him.

"Hong Kong police are capable of coping with the mobsters, but it has torn my heart out either to hit them or not, as they are also Chinese," said Lau in a text message to a reporter, which drew immense online support for both his bravery and compassion.

Carrie Lam, chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), on Friday visited Wong Tai Sin Police Station and dormitory quarters which had been attacked by radical protesters. Lam expressed thanks to the police personnel for their hard work to safeguard public security in Hong Kong.

Lam also demanded renovation of the damaged buildings and heightened security in the dormitory quarters to give the peace back to the police families.

### PROFESSIONAL AND RESTRAINED

Over the past two months, the Hong Kong police have been praised for showing professionalism and exercising restraint with the use of appropriate force to cope with violent protests.

"The approach the police adopted to dealing with violence is appropriate and balanced," said Chan Man Ki,

founding president of the Small and Medium Law Firms Association of Hong Kong.

Chan noted that far from rallying in a peaceful manner, the protesters have committed various offenses on the street, ranging from setting fires and throwing rocks and iron bars at the police to using offensive weapons, including explosives and homemade sharp objects, and besieging police stations.

"Facing violence of such degree, the police had every right to use appropriate force in an effort to end violence and protect public safety," said the legal expert.

During the protests, police officers balanced the exercise of the right to freedom of speech for protesters and the right of other people to use the roads, a Hong Kong police officer told Xinhua.

But police were mandated to take action when crimes were committed, said the officer, who declined to be named or disclose his rank.

"All the duties assigned to on-site police officers bear one characteristic: totally not proactive," he said.

The officer said he saw in person one of his colleagues hit hard by a protester in the face.

"Part of his eyeball collapsed, which severely affected his eyesight. The injury may be permanent," she said.

In response to the attacks, the police officer said his colleagues only resorted to the minimum use of force, such as using batons, tear gas and rubber rounds to disperse the crowd. "We never used any lethal or deadly weapon against the protesters."

Elsie Leung, former secretary for justice of the HKSAR government, said various actions of the protesters have gone far beyond the realm of peaceful demonstrations -- ranging from storming and vandalizing the Legislative Council building and storming the institution of the central government in Hong Kong to paralyzing the transport network and assaulting the police force with bricks and petrol bombs.

"No one is above the law," she said, stressing that all the offenders should be brought to justice.

### ENORMOUS STRESS

While battling to contain violence on the street, Hong Kong police officers had to face online assault, enduring all sorts of ridicule, humiliation and even threats.

"Many police officers are working more than 10 hours each day. They are also under tremendous mental stress for being assaulted by the radicals on social media," said Lam Chi-wai, chairman of the Junior Police Officers' Association of the Hong Kong Police Force.

Xinhua

## Russia calls for cooperation with China against US meddling

MOSCOW

RUSSIA and China should exchange information on the interference of the United States in the internal affairs of the two countries, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

The ministry's spokesperson Maria Zakharova said at a news briefing that Moscow is aware of Chinese statements that the United States interferes in Hong Kong affairs and it treats this information "with all seriousness."

"Moreover, I think it would be right and useful to exchange such information through respective serv-



es," Zakharova (pictured) said, adding that she and her Chinese colleagues will discuss the issue soon.

Zakharova said the United States' secret service is using technology to destabilize Russia and China.

Earlier on Friday, the Russian Foreign Ministry said it had summoned US Embassy Political Section head Tim Richardson, and presented him with an official protest against the US encouraging an unauthorized opposi-

tion rally on Aug 3.

The ministry criticized the United States for attempting to interfere in Russia's domestic affairs.

Also on Friday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying called on the US side to immediately stop intervening in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs.

On Thursday, the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region lodged stern representations with the US Consulate General in Hong Kong after a diplomat at the consulate generally reportedly met with "Hong Kong independence" activists. **Agencies**

## Disgraced money manager Epstein dead in apparent suicide

NEW YORK

DISGRACED financier Jeffrey Epstein was found dead on Saturday after an apparent suicide in the New York jail cell where he was being held without bail on sex-trafficking charges, and a source said he was not on suicide watch at the time of his death.

Epstein, 66, was found unresponsive in his cell in the Special Housing Unit of the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) and taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, which operates the lower Manhattan jail, said in a statement. It declined to comment further.

Epstein, a well-connected money manager dogged for years by allegations that he sexually abused girls and young women, was found hanging by his neck, according to the source, who was not authorized to speak on the record.

The financier, who once counted Republican US President Donald Trump and Democratic former President Bill Clinton as friends, was arrested on July 6 and pleaded not guilty to charges of sex trafficking involving dozens of underage girls as young as 14, from at least 2002 to 2005.

The FBI and the Department of Justice's Inspector General were opening investigations into his death, US Attorney General William Barr said, adding that he was "appalled" to learn of the apparent suicide in federal custody.

Last month, Epstein was found unconscious on the floor of his jail cell with marks on his neck, and officials were investigating that incident as a possible suicide or assault.

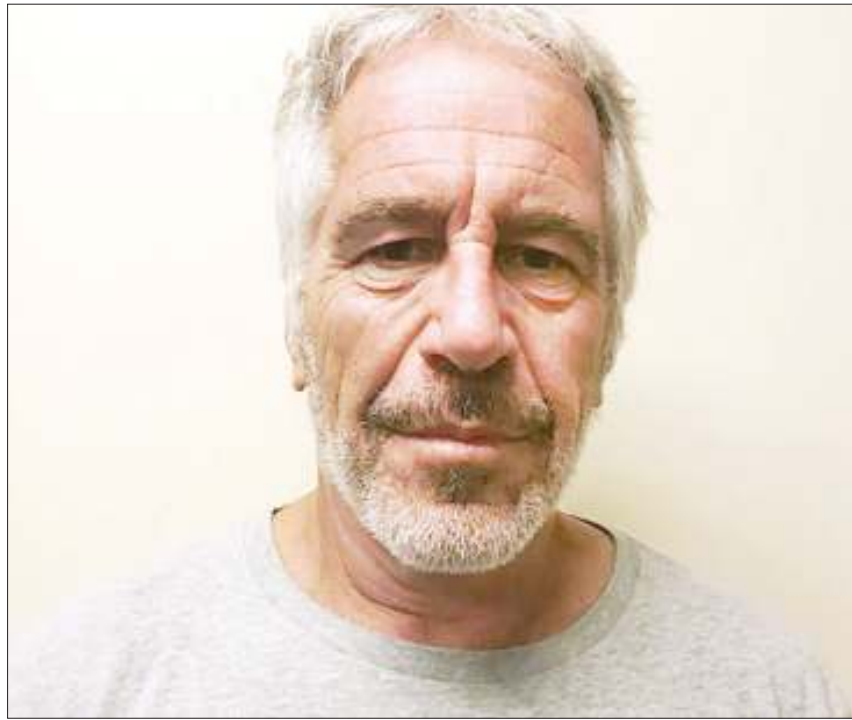
"Mr Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a statement.

Even though Epstein was found unconscious last month, he had recently been taken off suicide watch, a special set of procedures for inmates in danger of taking their own life, according to the source. The financier was in a cell by himself when his body was found.

It was not immediately clear why Epstein was taken off suicide watch.

At the MCC, two jail guards are required to make separate checks on all prisoners every 30 minutes, but that procedure was not followed overnight, according to the source. In addition, every 15 minutes guards are required to make another check on prisoners who are on suicide watch.

Guards generally remove any prisoner placed on suicide watch from the Special Housing Unit where Epstein was housed, according to a Twitter post by Preet Bharara, a former Man-



This March 28, 2017 photo, provided by the New York State Sex Offender Registry shows Jeffrey Epstein. (AP)

hattan-based US attorney. The unit separates inmates such as accused sex offenders from the general population for their protection.

Aja Davis, a spokeswoman for the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, said she could not say how Epstein died before her office examined the body.

### Investigation to continue

Epstein was arrested on July 6 at a New Jersey airport after taking a private plane from Paris. Last month, a judge refused Epstein's request to release him on bail and allow him to live under 24-hour guard in his opulent townhouse on Manhattan's Upper East Side. The financier was appealing that ruling.

The indictment accused Epstein of knowingly recruiting underage women to engage in sex acts with him, sometimes over a period of years while paying the women for each encounter.

Prosecutors said a search of his townhouse, conducted under a warrant, uncovered evidence of hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of nude photographs of "what appeared to be underage girls," including some photos cataloged on compact discs and kept in a locked safe.

In a court filing on July 25, the government said it was pursuing an "ongoing investigation of uncharged individuals" in connection with the case.

That investigation, by the US Attorney's Office in Manhattan, will continue despite Epstein's death, a different source familiar with the matter said.

"Today's events are disturbing, and we are deeply aware of their potential

to present yet another hurdle to giving Epstein's many victims their day in court," Geoffrey Berman, the US Attorney in Manhattan, said in a statement. "Our investigation of the conduct charged in the indictment - which included a conspiracy count - remains ongoing."

In addition to Trump and Clinton, Epstein has socialized with L Brands founder Les Wexner over the years, and according to court papers, with Britain's Prince Andrew. None of them was mentioned in the indictment against Epstein.

The charges were announced more than a decade after he pleaded guilty in Florida to state charges of solicitation of prostitution from a minor in a deal with prosecutors that has been widely criticized as too lenient.

One of the Florida prosecutors, Alexander Acosta, resigned as US labor secretary in July as the deal came under fresh scrutiny after Epstein's arrest in New York. His death came a day after the unsealing of a court filing in which a woman who accused Epstein of keeping her as a sex slave said one of the financier's associates had instructed her to have sex with at least a half-dozen prominent men.

The claim by Virginia Giuffre came in a deposition that was included in about 2,000 pages of documents related to her defamation lawsuit against Ghislaine Maxwell, the associate whom Giuffre said helped Epstein procure girls for sex.

Lawyers for Maxwell did not respond to several phone and email requests for comment.

Agencies



## S. African Presidency defends funding for presidential election campaign

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH African President Cyril Ramaphosa "did nothing wrong" in his 2017 campaign to become the head of the party African National Congress (ANC), said presidential spokesperson Khusela Diko in a statement on Saturday.

The spokesperson refuted accusation that Ramaphosa (pictured) and his campaign team received funding from Bosasa company, also known as African Global Operations, in violation of the Executive Ethics Code.

From the outset, Ramaphosa and his campaign team promised the campaign to be clean, within necessary legal prescripts and in line with values and principles of the ANC, said Diko.

The statement came after a report released in July by Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane, who accuses the president of receiving 500,000 rand (about 33,000 U.S. dollars) illegal funding from Bosasa to fund his campaign.

Mkhwebane said in the report that Ramaphosa deliberately misled the parliament in November last year by saying he did not know the details of the donation his campaign office received.

The public protector insists that the president did know where the donation came from as he personally attended the fund-raising dinners.

The spokesperson said Ramaphosa had been made aware that the confidential banking information of his campaign contributors had been leaked to the media.

"The information, supposedly held only by the public protector, includes bank statements of third parties, which record private transactions and which are strictly confidential," the statement said.

The president noted "with grave concern" that the disclosure amounts to a violation of the constitutional right to privacy, Diko said, adding that the information had been obtained in an illegal manner.

Xinhua



**The information, supposedly held only by the public protector, includes bank statements of third**

## US reaction to water-dousing attack on NYPD reveals double standards

STEVEN Larosa, 35, was recently arrested by New York police for allegedly dousing two NYPD traffic enforcement agents in Queens days before.

The man is facing harassment and obstructing governmental administration charges.

NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill confirmed the information and stressed that "this is unacceptable."

In the US, it's a common sense that the authoritative nature of a policeman's law enforcement right must not be violated, and the police officers would never hesitate before they stop the acts that

disrespect their authoritative-ness or threaten their personal safety. Such acts are not tolerated by the public, either.

"Use your discretion - make arrests when necessary - and know that you have our support and full confidence," NYPD Chief of Department Terence Monahan tweeted to express support for his officers.

New York local media, citing a police memo, said that "Police officers are not expected to tolerate conduct that may cause risk of injury to themselves or the public, interferes with performance of their duties, or tampers with or damages their uniform, equipment

or other department property." NYPD Chief of Patrol Rodney Harrison stressed that "there is a line that cannot be crossed."

The dousing case triggered heated discussion on US social media. Many people said such practices that hurt the interests of the police must be stopped.

"He needs to be arrested for assaulting an officer! What are we waiting for?" a Twitter user named Mila Frosty replied to a Wall Street Journal's relevant report. "Show some respect, some class, some honor. People in the United States should know that if it wasn't for men and women in blue it would have been a mayhem," another

Twitter user replied.

Politicians also made their voices on the case. "It's not acceptable for anyone to interfere with the NYPD when they're effectuating an arrest," said mayor of New York Bill de Blasio. "Throwing things at NYPD officers is not only not acceptable, it can lead to charges," the mayor added.

De Blasio's predecessor Rudy Giuliani warned that crime would not decrease as long as officers are in this environment. "The way you reduce crime is to have police officers with high morale," Giuliani said. "That uniform should be respected."

To crack down upon such ac-

tions, New York Assemblymen Mike LiPetri and Mike Riley immediately announced a proposed bill that will make it a felony to throw or spray water or any other substance on an on-duty police or peace officer. The charge would be punishable by up to 4 years in prison.

"We must send a strong message that such acts will not be tolerated and I am confident that this bill provides law enforcement the tools they need to properly react," LiPetri said.

"We employ police forces to maintain the potentially fragile existence of order. And when established law and order break down, criminal elements in our midst sense

opportunity and become emboldened," said James A. Gagliano, law enforcement analyst of CNN in a recent article. Civil disorder, anti-social behavior, and blatant disrespect for law enforcement must not be tolerated anywhere in America, the article noted.

The American society's reaction to the water-dousing attack indicated the zero-tolerance of the country for the assaults on police officers. As a matter of fact, to safeguard the authoritative nature of police officers is a basic principle of not only the US, but also every legal state. And it is a bottom line that should never be crossed in every corner of the world.

Unfortunately, the US is a country that has long adopted double standards. It never allows its own citizens to tread on the authority of the rule of law, but describes the civilized law enforcement of the policemen in other countries as "oppressing" the so-called "peaceful protest". What's more, the US government is even indulging the criminals of other countries.

Such strong comparison will only reveal the arrogance and prejudices, hypocrisy and cold-bloodedness, as well as selfishness and hegemony of the US.

People's Daily





A section of African footballers attending a two-week football and English course in Manchester, England, in a group picture after training last week. The course that started on July 28 ends today. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Company sponsors young African footballers to attend training in UK

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

QNET, the official direct selling partner of Manchester City FC, as part of the firm's commitment to developing talents and as a corporate social responsibility exercise, has sponsored three young African footballers to attend the City Football Language School in Manchester.

The City Football Language School is a two-week football and English course for young football players.

The course began on July 28 and climaxes today.

The young footballers were selected from a competitive process in Ghana, Cameroon and Ivory Coast. The course, as noted by organizers, is at no cost to the young footballers.

City Football Language school is an inspiring two-week football and English course for young players aged 12-17, taking place in the heart of Manchester City's training grounds at the City Football Academy.

Organizers noted the selected young players are exposed to Manchester City's training philosophy and methodology through training sessions led by City Football Schools' coaches.

The youngsters also have the opportunity to improve their English language skills on an interactive journey through the world of football with British Study Centers' language teachers.

The young footballers are learning and training at the home of Manchester City in the heart of the Etihad Campus, with access to outstanding facilities.

The highly innovative football and English

language syllabus focuses on maximizing learning both on and off the field.

The training is covering key areas of a professional footballer's life. In addition to its British Council accreditation, the course, organizers disclosed, is accredited by EQuals, whose aim is to guarantee high quality in language teaching and learning worldwide.

Speaking about the opportunity, Biram Fall, QNET Regional General Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, said: "QNET continues to invest in talent development at all levels. The sponsorship of Manchester City Football Club as the official direct selling partner, is one of our commitments to the game of football and the passion that accompanies it globally."

"The game of football unites people from different races and walks of life. It promotes teamwork, team spirit, hardwork and passion. These are some of the core values of QNET as a business."

In Africa, QNET is a Direct Selling Partner for Total CAF Champions League, Total CAF Confederation Cup and the Total CAF Super Cup.

QNET continues to entrench its reach across the continent, providing entrepreneurial opportunities for people and helping change their stories positively.

Apart from sports partnerships, QNET is also a company that invests in social responsibility, giving back meaningfully and sustainably in all its operational regions.

In November 2018, the company was awarded the e-Commerce Corporate Social Responsibility Company of the Year by the Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility West Africa.

## Australia's Starc enjoying pace jostle and team success

LONDON

AUSTRALIA's strength in pace makes Mitchell Starc believe that he and fellow quick Josh Hazlewood will have to work harder to break into the playing XI in the ongoing Ashes series against England.

Left-arm quick Starc finished as the highest wicket-taker in the 50-overs World Cup last month but was overlooked, along with Hazlewood, for the Ashes opener in Edgbaston which Australia won by 251 runs.

Starc naturally wants to play the second test at Lord's from Wednesday but is even keener on Australia bringing home the urn, even if it means spending more time on the sidelines.

"We're here to win the Ashes," said Starc, who took 10 wickets in the last test he played, against Sri Lanka in February at Canberra.

"We're not just here to make it on the park. We want to win this Ashes."

"Whether that's a different bowling attack each game, or the same through five test matches, it's pretty exciting."

Instead of wallowing in personal disappointment, the 29-year-old is finding joy in the success of his pace colleagues, describing the group as a "really close set of mates".

He was particularly pleased with a fit-again Pattinson's return to test cricket after more

than three years.

"It's awesome to see Jimmy back after what he's been through and I guess similarly what Pat Cummins has been through previously," said Starc.

"Having his body let him down and to come back and play test cricket again was pretty special."

"To see your mates work it back and pull on the Baggy Green again and perform so well in the test match, that's exciting for us."

"It makes Josh and I have to work that bit harder to try and make it back as well, which I think you want from a whole squad."

Starc said Australia have acquired an all-surface pace attack, complimented by off-spinner Nathan Lyon who ran through England's second innings at Edgbaston.

"We've got a couple of a bit more aggressive guys, a couple of holders there that build pressure and take wickets that way and a couple of guys that are probably a hybrid of both," Starc explained.

"We're quite a well-rounded attack and then you throw in Nathan Lyon, who just knows how to get it done in all conditions."

"We're prepared for all conditions whether it be flat, green, seaming, swinging, slow, fast."

REUTERS

## MAINLAND PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW

# Will Simba make it three in a row?

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL MWEBE

THE 2019/20 Tanzania Premier League season will kick-off on Saturday next week.

The first block will include some exciting fixtures, including the Mwanza derby between Mbao FC and Alliance FC, as well as Mbeya derby between Prisons and Mbeya City FC.

Probably the pick of the opening round's action involves Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, who host Azam FC at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

It has been a while since there has been so much excitement before the start of a new season in Tanzania.

The top four sides, namely Simba, Yanga, Azam FC and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, have made a significant leap in quality compared to last season.

**KMCFC**

The Municipal-owned KMC have managed to put together a very exciting and talented squad, which boasts of some of the finest young players in Tanzania. After a very good topflight debut season, they appear to mean business after snapping up some serious new firepower including last season first runner up in the list of goal scorers, Salim Aiye, Vitalis Mayanga, Ivorian attacking midfielder Serge Niguez and the experienced duo of Jean Mugiraneza and Janvier Bokungu who have previously featured for Azam FC and Simba respectively.

Under head coach Jackson Mayanja, KMC FC might even be better but they are a couple of seasons away from being considered a serious threat to the usual title contenders. They are almost certain to finish 10-20 points behind the top two but another top four finish will confirm their rising status.

**Azam FC**

They may not have made flashy signings, but Azam who finished third last season have quietly had a good transfer window. They still have the financial muscle to dominate the local transfer market but under the newly appointed Burundian coach, Etienne Ndayiragije, Azam have tried to look for value and trust in their youth set up.

In appointing Ndayiragije, one could say Azam are becoming more pragmatic and building for the future. Ndayiragije has not won anything in Tanzania but the compelling reason to give him the hot seat is his readiness to promote and trust youngsters will help the club integrate academy graduates who have often found it difficult to get into the first team under



Mainland Premier League defending champions, Simba SC.

previous coaches.

Arguably Azam's most interesting acquisition is that of Iddi Selemani 'Nado' from Mbeya City FC. It was only three seasons ago when Nado was catching attention in the Nondo Cup, a popular off season tournament that involves teams from various streets in Dares Salaam as well as playing in the backwaters of the First Division League.

The unfortunate truth for Ndayiragije is that he has inherited a team that was seen as a serious title contender but finished 18 points behind Simba and 11 behind Yanga last season. There is also the goal scoring issue that has derailed the team in the last two seasons. Donald Ngoma and Obrey Chirwa have not really been that good while Burundi striker Selemani Ndikumana looks like his best days are well behind him.

With several signings in the bag and a CAF Confederation Cup return to look forward to, there is real cause for optimism at the Chamazi based club though on paper they look a little bit lightweight compared to the defending champions, Simba.

**Yanga**

The upturn in the club's finances has translated into an ambitious, and ultimately fruitful, transfer market. The ambitious transfer window has seen the addition of 10 new players and offloading of ageing ones. Thabani Kamusoko and Amissi Tambwe.

The arrival of last season

Uganda Premier League top scorer Juma Balinya, Congolese David Molinga, Zambian Maybin Kalengo and the experienced Namibian Sadney Urikhob will help reinforce the striking department which over relied on Congolese Heritier Makambo last season.

The only disappointment for Yanga so far has been Makambo's transfer to Guinea moneybags, AC Horoya, but Yanga have managed to invest the \$70,000 transfer fee received back into their squad by boosting their striking options.

Yanga's supporters can be proud of the progress that has been achieved by the new administration within a short time. There is still work to be done on the pitch, of course, but with three solid sponsors in SportPesa, GSM and Taifa Gas, they finally have the resources to bridge the financial gap with their rivals, Simba and Azam FC.

That said, it is surprising that Yanga could only manage to replace their two left full backs, Gadiel Michael and Mwinyi Haji with the relatively unknown and inexperienced Muharami Issa 'Marcelo'.

**Simba**

After a crazy transfer window, Simba will be hoping to march towards a feat achieved by the generation team of 1976 to 1980, which won the league title five years in a row. First they have to go after a hat-trick of league titles and with their star-studded squad, the question is if

anybody can stop them.

Even though their closest rivals have beefed up their squads, when one looks at the quality of the Simba squad, it is hard to find reasons why they should not win the league. They have the squad with the most depth in all positions, by far. It will be difficult for Azam and Yanga to fend off a side which has grown in confidence and experience.

While Emmanuel Okwi, Juuko Murushid, James Kotei and Haruna Niyonzima are big names that have left the Msimbazi Street team's den, the addition of Sudan international Sharaf Shiboub, Francis Kahata, and Deo Kanda from TP Mazembe has rejuvenated the squad. Three Brazilians have also been added with one, Tairone Santos Da Silva already looking like a good bet while the other two still need to convince.

But above all, Simba have maintained their influential players with the exception of Okwi. With rumours circulating about the future of Meddie Kagere who has been sensational since his move from Gor Mahia, Simba swiftly acted and extended his deal for two years which will keep him at Msimbazi up to 2022. Clatus Chama contract has also been extended while the local core of Jonas Mkude, Erasto Nyoni, Aishi Manula, Shomari Kapombe and John Bocco have all been retained after their contract expired at the end of last season.

## Richard Gere, Italy's Salvini clash over migrant ship

LAMPEDUSA, ITALY

HOLLYWOOD star Richard Gere on Saturday urged the Italian government to stop "demonising people" and instead help migrants who have been stranded on a Spanish charity boat in the Mediterranean for more than a week.

Gere, who visited the Open Arms ship in a show of support on Friday, joined a news conference on the Italian island of Lampedusa to call for the 160 migrants stuck on the boat to be allowed to disembark.

He compared the political situation in Italy, where League leader and Interior Minister Matteo Salvini has repeatedly refused requests by migrant ships to dock, to that of the U.S. administration of Donald Trump.

"We have our problems with refugees coming from Honduras, Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico... It's very similar to what you are going through here," he said, accusing politicians in both Italy and the United States of demonising migrants.

"This has to stop everywhere on this planet now. And it will stop if we say stop," he said, adding that he only wanted to help people and not get into a political fight.

Salvini, who this week pushed through parliament tougher sanctions on charity ships that seek to bring migrants rescued at sea to Italy, was quick to reply.

"Given this generous millionaire is voicing concern for the fate of



U.S. actor Richard Gere holds a news conference in support of an NGO ship "Open Arms", which carries stranded migrants, in Lampedusa, Italy, on August 10, 2019. REUTERS

the Open Arms migrants, we thank him: he can take back to Hollywood, on his private plane, all the people aboard and support them in his vil-

las. Thank you Richard!" he said in a statement.

Standoffs with non-governmental organisation boats have become common in the last year

as European states at odds over who should be responsible for accepting migrants have refused port to vessels carrying rescued people, often leaving them stranded at sea for days awaiting a solution.

The Open Arms said it had rescued more people on Saturday.

The boat was at sea near Lampedusa with 121 people aboard from earlier rescues when, late on Friday evening, Maltese authorities asked it to assist 39 people in a wooden raft.

Malta had offered to accept the 39 people from this rescue but not the 121 already aboard, among them 32 minors, they added, saying the NGO had refused the offer.

"[Malta] has refused to disembark the other 121 people who have been aboard for 9 days. This has created a serious security problem aboard. Their levels of anxiety are unsustainable," Open Arms founder Oscar Camps said on Twitter.

The boat has been in limbo since Malta and Italy rejected requests to disembark there. Spain's Socialist government accepted the Acquarius NGO boat last year following a similar standoff but has since hardened its position, saying that the Open Arms should look for a closer port.

This week the European Union's executive called on member states to show solidarity and find a solution for the boat.

REUTERS



## Neymar left out of PSG opener, exit talks 'more advanced'

SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAIVE, FRANCE

PARIS Saint-Germain revealed on Saturday that Neymar transfer talks are "more advanced than before" after the Brazilian was dropped for the French champions' opening Ligue 1 match.

Sporting director Leonardo confirmed to reporters that the Brazilian was near the exit door but that PSG were "not yet ready to give their approval (to the transfer)" ahead of Sunday's game against Nîmes at the Parc des Princes.

PSG coach Thomas Tuchel said: "Neymar did not complete training and it's not possible that he plays tomorrow."

The club are impatient for the transfer saga to reach a conclusion, one way or another.

"It's important to shape our future for everyone," Neymar's fellow Brazilian Leonardo told a press conference.

"If he stays, he plays. If he leaves, he leaves. The quicker (we know) the better."

Real Madrid or a return to Barcelona are the most likely destinations for the world's most expensive footballer, with Spanish media on Friday saying that Zinedine Zidane's side will battle Barca for the 27-year-old's signature.

Sports newspaper AS claimed Neymar has been offered to Madrid by PSG, who are open to selling if they can either recoup the 222 million euros (\$249 million) they spent on him in 2017 or receive half that amount with players included in the deal.

Barcelona-based Mundo Deportivo says that he would prefer a move back to Catalonia to play alongside former teammates Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez.

Neymar started the new season by angering the Qatari-backed club when he turned up one week late for training.

The player's camp maintained he had a prior agreement to stay away but that didn't wash with his employers who threatened to take "appropriate action".

Off the pitch, Neymar was informed by a Brazilian judge on Friday that the rape case which has been hanging over the footballer for months had been dismissed due to insufficient evidence.

Neymar had vehemently denied allegations he raped a Brazilian woman in a Paris hotel in May.

- Courting controversy -  
The forward, whose time in France has been marked by injuries and controversies, has made a series of remarks that strained his relationship further with the club and sparked outrage on social media.

Asked by an online sports channel about his best memory in football, he cited Barcelona's incredible 2017 Champions League last-16 comeback against PSG when he inspired the Catalans to a 6-1 second-leg victory after a 4-0 first-leg defeat.

Neymar was signed by PSG to bolster their hopes of a maiden Champions League title, but they have instead since lost twice in the last-16 phase -- to Real Madrid and Manchester United.

He missed PSG's last games in both Champions League campaigns through injury and twice courted controversy last season.

Neymar insulted VAR officials on Instagram after the team's humbling by United and received a three-match ban from UEFA, and then appeared to punch a Rennes fan after PSG's shock French Cup final defeat.

In total, he has scored 51 goals in 58 games for the capital side, winning two Ligue 1 titles and the 2018 French Cup and French League Cup.

AFP

## 'Don't make mistakes': Guardiola has VAR concerns after City rout

LONDON

PEP Guardiola says VAR will only be worthwhile if decisions taken by the controversial system are always correct after Manchester City's 5-0 win at West Ham was interrupted by several replay reviews.

Guardiola's side kicked off their Premier League title defence with a confident display as Raheem Sterling's hat-trick and goals from Gabriel Jesus and Sergio Aguero demolished the Hammers.

But City's ruthless finishing wasn't the main talking point in east London as VAR made a first major impact on a Premier League match.

The Video Assistant Referee technology is being used in the Premier League for the first time this season after featuring in the FA and League Cups in England last term.

The system was given quite a workout at the London Stadium, with several decisions reviewed, including City's Jesus having a goal disallowed for offside against Sterling, while Aguero was able to score a retaken penalty after his initial saved spot-kick featured West Ham encroachment.

There was also VAR approval for Sterling's second goal and an early West Ham penalty appeal was turned down by the system.

The offside decision against Sterling was extremely close and Guardiola disagreed with the call, insisting the constant interventions are only worth the hassle if they are always right.

"Only what I wish is that VAR doesn't make mistakes please. When it's offside it's offside, when it's a penalty it's a penalty," he told reporters.

"Rules are rules, no problem. But I



The big screen informs the crowd that the VAR is checking Manchester City's third goal at West Ham (AFP Photo)

will be upset if it's something that is right and it's disallowed. Then it will be not good.

"The only thing I'm concerned is when VAR makes a mistake. It happened quite often in the past, then it is better for the referee to make decision."

Guardiola has already experienced the agony of VAR overturning a key decision when Sterling had what would have been a last-gasp Champions League winner against Tottenham ruled out for offside last season.

Since then, the Spaniard has joined the rest of his Premier League managerial counterparts for a VAR demonstration in London.

He remains hopeful the system will prove to be fairer in the long-term, even if it needs to be quicker to make decisions after both teams had returned to their kick-off positions before Jesus's goal was eventually disallowed.

- 'Mentally strong' -

"After what happened against

Tottenham in the quarter-finals last season, we were there, 60,000 people jumping with joy, then one second later we lost because it was offside. Now I'm used to these situations," he said.

"We had a managers' meeting in London last week and they showed us how VAR will work with all the cameras and angles.

"I think it will be fairer. Maybe it will be quicker in the future.

"You have to be mentally strong when VAR is not on our side. You think at 3-0 the game is almost over but at 2-0, it's completely different.

"It is going to change the dynamic not just for the team but for the spectators. It will be a good lesson for our future."

Regardless of the latest VAR issues, Guardiola was content with the way City recovered from a lethargic first 15 minutes to put West Ham to the sword.

It was the ideal response from the champions after title rivals Liverpool crushed Norwich 4-1 in their season

opener on Friday.

"Perfect start? It terms of the result yes, in terms of the performance no. In the first half we were sloppy with our passes," Guardiola said.

"We didn't have the rhythm but that is normal in the first game. In the second half we settled down."

Sterling stole the show with a display of lethal finishing that convinced Guardiola the England winger could thrive as a central striker.

"For me a striker would be an incredible position for him. I know the quality of the player, the consistency," he said.

Meanwhile, Raheem Sterling said it was a "joy" to score for Manchester City after his hat-trick in the Premier League champions' opening 5-0 demolition of West Ham on Saturday.

Brazil forward Gabriel Jesus opened the scoring midway through the first half in London before Sterling took over, scoring three goals in the second half as the champions started their title defence in ominous form.

Sergio Aguero was the other goalscorer, opening his account for the season from the penalty spot in the closing minutes of the game.

"The most important thing was to start well and get the win. Once the second goal went in I thought we were brilliant," Sterling told BT Sport.

"It was quite difficult in the first half. Some of our touches were sloppy but once the team got into a rhythm the passes came and more chances came.

"With the players we have here there are competitions in training every day. It's a joy to put the ball in the back of the net."

AFP

## Kane hails Eriksen effect on Spurs fightback

LONDON

HARRY Kane highlighted the impact of Christian Eriksen as Tottenham came from behind to beat Aston Villa 3-1 to open their Premier League campaign on Saturday.

Eriksen started on the bench with his future at last season's Champions League finalists still uncertain.

The Dane has just one year left on his contract at Spurs and could yet leave in the coming weeks with the transfer window across Europe still open until September 2.

However, Eriksen showed no lack of commitment as he sparked Tottenham's attack into life after being introduced 25 minutes from time by Mauricio Pochettino.

He played a part in debutant Tanguy Ndombele's equaliser before Kane struck twice in the final four minutes to secure a vital three points.

AFP

## Neymar should favour Barca over Real - Alena

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

BARCELONA midfielder Carles Alena says it would be hard to take if Neymar signed for rivals Real Madrid as he called on the Brazilian to return to Camp Nou this summer.

Paris Saint-Germain sporting director Leonardo has confirmed discussions are ongoing with other clubs over Neymar's future but didn't reveal which one the talks are with.

Sources have told to ESPN FC that Barca would be interested in re-signing the forward, despite the way he quit the club for PSG in a world record €222 million deal two years ago.

Barca could face competition for Neymar from Madrid, though. Los Blancos may make a move after failing to push through a deal to sign French midfielder Paul Pogba from Manchester United.

Gerard Pique said in Miami earlier that he would be "delighted" to have Neymar back in Barcelona and Alena echoed those comments after Saturday's 4-0 win over Napoli at Michigan Stadium.

"I've played with him for five years now," said Kane. "We know the quality he has on the ball, his assists, his goals.

"He dictates the pace of the game and for me it's perfect. I can make my little movements off that."

Victory was crucial for Spurs to respond to Manchester City and Liverpool's strong starts to the season with 5-0 and 4-1 thrashings of West Ham and Norwich respectively.

Spurs travel to City next weekend and Kane is keen to not let the champions surge clear at the top of the table.

"They set the standard last year," added the England captain.

"From our point of view we kept with them for a while last season then fell off in the second half of the season.

"We have to keep up with them. It's the first game but it's always nice to win, especially at home."

AFP

BY COLIN UDOH, SPECIAL TO ESPN

AT £40 million, Alex Iwobi's Deadline Day move from boyhood club Arsenal to Everton has made him the most expensive Nigerian transfer ever, and saved the Super Eagles from an embarrassingly quiet window.

Finally, a Nigerian has cracked into the top 10 of all-time most expensive African transfers. Iwobi moved into sixth spot, pushing Egypt's Mohamed Salah (£36.9m) down to seventh. It was a rare Nigerian big-ticket move this offseason.

It is perhaps a reflection of the current state of the transfer market that Iwobi's transfer barely moved the interest needle on the continent. Certainly, it caused nowhere near as much interest as his uncle Austin Okocha did when he moved to PSG from Fenerbahce in 1998, for the then-African record fee of £12m.

For perspective, when Salah moved for his then-record fee from AS Roma to Liverpool, it set continental headlines on fire. But since then, the likes of Naby Keita (£52m), Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang (£56m), Riyadh Mahrez (£60m), and Cedric Bakambu (£65.4m) have all eclipsed the Egyptian.

And with Ivorian Nicolas Pepe eclipsing all of that with a £72m move from Lille this window, it is understandable that Iwobi's fee would seem almost like a cheap afterthought.

But most here is the most important thing...

Pepe's move had a direct consequence for the Nigerian. As soon as Arsenal signed the Ivorian, it was almost inevitable, as the transfer window creaked shut, that Iwobi would be moving on from the club where he has spent the last 17 years.

Even then, the move happened pretty quickly. One minute, there were whispers that he would be joining Everton, the next he was having a medical and signing a five-year contract on the blue side of Liverpool.

Leaving Arsenal for Everton could be considered a career regression. The Gunners are previous Premier League champions, something alien to the Toffees. They are also serial European qualifiers, where they



Alex Iwobi's transfer from Arsenal to Everton is the most expensive for a Nigerian, ever, at 40 million pounds. (Agencies)

have almost always played in the Champions League, until recently.

With that big picture admission out of the way, let's look at the more granular situation. Iwobi has seen minutes during his time at Arsenal, but Pepe's arrival meant that those minutes would have been severely restricted this season.

He could have stayed, kept his big name club tag and struggled for minutes. But Nigeria coach Gernot Rohr has made it clear to his players that consistent playing time at club level are a key essential for a starting spot in the Super Eagles.

Leicester's Kelechi Iheanacho is a not-so-luminous example of the consequences of being on the wrong side of that standing rule.

And at 23, Iwobi has more than enough time to work his way back up to another big club. Everton, one of Premier League's best of the rest, offers an irresistible opportunity for regular first team football, something it appears he will get, according to Marco Silva.

"Alex was one of our main targets for this window. He is a direct and skilful winger who fits exactly the profile of player I want in my model," said the

Everton manager.

Silva's words pose both an opportunity and a conundrum for Nigeria. Over the last year and a bit, Iwobi has been deployed as a central midfielder by the Eagles have had some struggles in recent years. Even more so in the last few months, with first the absence and then retirement of John Mikel Obi.

Silva's classification of Iwobi as a winger is at odds with what a source close to the player told ESPN when the move was announced.

"It's a new challenge for him but a very bold decision with the potential

to grow into a bigger and better player playing in his preferred No 10 role," the source said.

That is hard to see, with Gylfi Sigurdsson installed as Everton's first choice in that position, complete with the jersey number.

But according to the source, Iwobi is prepared to work for it: "There are no guarantees in football but you work hard and earn your points and I have no doubts about Alex's qualities."

For the time being, Brazilian Bernard is expected to be the immediate casualty of Iwobi's arrival and the situation for Nigeria is set to be no different to what it has been, where the 23-year-old played as a winger for Arsenal and centrally for Nigeria.

But it could leave Rohr continuing to cast his eye out for a proper central midfielder, which would throw the door open for a player like Ebere Eze. Impressive all of last season, the QPR midfielder carried on from where he stopped, marking his season opener with a crafty individual goal that underlines exactly what the Super Eagles need in that area.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# Tanzanite win COSAFA U-20 Women Championship title



National U-20 women football team celebrate their 2-1 win over Zambia in the COSAFA U-20 Women Championship final which took place in South Africa yesterday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COSAFA

## SPORT

'Don't make mistakes': Guardiola has VAR concerns after City rout

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

**5 EATV** **TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**UJENZI**

**MONDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:00 UTACE  
16:30 KHASHITAC  
17:00 SLELEKI  
17:55 KURASA  
18:00 eNews  
18:30 MUSIC  
19:00 EATV SAA I  
19:30 MIJADALA  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 SPORTS LIVE  
22:30 BONGO HITS

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
14:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

*Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier*

## No need to panic for England, insists Jos Buttler

LONDON

JOS Buttler has insisted there is no need for England to panic after their defeat in the first Ashes Test at Edgbaston, and denied the loss would serve as a wake-up call.

Despite having Australia 122 for 8 in their first innings, England fell to a 251-run loss in Birmingham, with a final-innings capitulation that might have been expected to bring about wholesale changes.

But they are likely to make only two changes at Lord's, one of them injury-enforced, with Jofra Archer and Jack Leach primed to replace James Anderson and Moeen Ali.

"We're one-nil down, but there's four matches to go in the series," said Buttler, speaking at a Kookaburra event at Lord's. "Test cricket is hard - you're playing against the best players in the world.

"If you're not good enough for long enough, then you're not going to win the game. But we've got a fantastic team ... nothing really changes. We've lost that game, but we come here with a lot of excitement and belief that we're a good enough side to win this Test and make it one-all."

Despite the heavy margin of defeat, there were positives for England in their win, not least the first 45 overs of Australia's first innings, and Rory Burns' maiden hundred.

And Buttler emphasized that England had not been completely outplayed from first to last at Edgbaston.

"My view is we didn't play well enough for long enough, really," he said. "The first couple of days especially, we played a lot of really good cricket, and got in a really good position. Any time you lose James Anderson is a huge moment in the game, isn't it?"

"Not being able to take those two wickets quicker [from 122 for 8] was obviously a huge part of the game. Steve Smith played an excellent innings. That's Test cricket - you're playing against great players.

"We know how Test cricket generally happens in England: there can be periods of the game that tend to meander along and then periods that happen very fast. If you look back to the India series [last summer], the big moments in those games we managed to get out on the right side and play well - that will be the same throughout this series."

Buttler struggled with the bat at Edgbaston, as he was dismissed twice by Pat Cummins for single-figure scores, but says he feels he is "not far" from his best form.

"I've felt in good form for 18 months or so. I feel like I'm the best version of myself that I've ever been, so I take a lot of faith from that. I'll prepare well, and give myself the best chance."

Several of England's World Cup winners have opened up about the emotional comedown after the drama of the final, with Ben Stokes and Liam Plunkett both revealing that they had struggled in the days immediately after. **AGENCIES**

By Guardian Reporter & Agencies

NATIONAL U-20 women soccer team, Tanzania, have won the inaugural COSAFA U-20 Women Championship's silverware after recording 2-1 victory over Zambia in a pulsating final which took place in Port Elizabeth in South Africa yesterday morning.

Much as the Tanzania team were not among the favourites in the competition, they displayed impressive showing in the event and ultimately went on to make short work of the Zambians in the final at Wolfson Stadium.

Forward Opa Clement notched the opener for Tanzania on the 24th minute, Zambia midfielder Loveness Malunga levelled matters for her team 11 minutes into the second half with a fierce effort from outside the area.

Zambia were thereafter intent on dominating the duel, given they pushed forward and had several good opportunities, which were though wasted.

Tanzanite keeper Tausi Abdallah also deserve credit for the squad's victory given she made a string of good saves, mostly in the second period, to frustrate the Zambians.

Tausi foiled an attempt by Zambia to take the lead shortly thereafter given she made a good dive and calmly saved a header by a Zambia forward from within the penalty area.

Protasia Mbunda made it 2-1 for Tanzania three minutes from the final whistle as she beat Zambia keeper with a 20 meters blockbuster.

She had raced to a rebound resulted from a weak clearance by a defender that had reacted to Tanzania skipper Eneka Kasonga's long throw.

A delighted Tanzania head coach Bakari Shime said after the duel his squad showcased improvement as time went on and he also expressed satisfaction over the girls' performance in

the final.

"We put a good showing in the first match and we continued to improve as time went on... we studied our opponents' strengths and weaknesses and worked on them," Shime disclosed.

"We went for a different game approach in the final, we pushed our opponents and we have in the end laid our hands on the trophy."

Tanzania are, therefore, the first guest nation to win a COSAFA tournament's trophy.

The team, placed in Group B, had an impressive start to the tournament, cruising to 2-0 victory over Botswana and thereafter thumped Eswatini 8-0.

Tanzania wound up the group stage with a 2-1 loss to Zambia, the results nevertheless did not affect their progression to the last four of the tournament.

The Tanzania girls, against all odds, notched 2-0 win over South Africa in the last four to

make it to the final, which saw the former again confront the same group stage opponents.

South Africa claimed the bronze medal in the COSAFA Women's Under-20 Championship after they triumphed 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out following a 1-1 draw with Zimbabwe.

It was an evenly contested game with few clear-cut chances, but the home side held their nerve in the shoot-out to grab the win.

Miche Minnie had two excellent chances to open the score for South Africa when she first shot wide and then saw her goal-bound effort cleared off the line.

The home team took the lead though when prolific forward Shakerah Jacobs netted her fourth goal of the campaign just before half-time to move joint top of the scorers charts.

They might have hoped to hold on to that success to the break, but allowed Zimbabwe

a leveler when Prayence Zwawanda pounced on a defensive error to score.

Tshegofatso Motlogelwa had an excellent opportunity put South Africa in front in the second period, but shot wide, while Jacobs could have also added a second with more clinical finishing.

The match went to penalties and eventually sudden death, before Zimbabwe goalkeeper Cynthia Shonga missed her spot-kick and South Africa claimed the win.

South Africa defended their silverware in the 2019 COSAFA Women's Championship, recording 1-0 win over Zambia in the final which was held at the Wolfson Stadium the same day.

South Africa were seeking a hat-trick of titles when they took on Zambia in the final.

The home side have looked the more accomplished throughout the competition, even without their overseas-based stars, but Zambia will be a stern test of their strength in depth.

South Africa have won five of the six COSAFA Women's Championship finals played, including the last two, while coach Desiree Ellis is unbeaten in 14 previous matches she has coached in the competition, winning 12 with two draws.

That includes the tournament and team record 17-0 thrashing of Comoros Islands earlier on in this year's even in Nelson Mandela Bay.

Zambia were appearing in their first final having three times before claimed the bronze medal, ensuring that whatever happened in the decider,

this will be their best ever finish.

Zimbabwe wrapped up third place at the competition with another accomplished performance as they cruised to a 3-0 victory over the 10 players of Botswana at the Wolfson Stadium in Nelson Mandela Bay on Saturday.

It is the first time Zimbabwe have claimed the bronze medal in the competition, having won a gold and two silvers in the past, and they can be proud of a solid showing at the championship where they were only beaten by hosts South Africa in the semifinals.

Goals in the second period from Felistas Muzongondi (two) and Mavis Chirandu sealed the victory as Zimbabwe proved the more clinical side on the day and might have won by a greater margin.

Botswana ended the game with 10 players after a red card for Lone Gaofetoge with a little over 20 minutes to go, the first sending-off of what has otherwise been a very 'clean' tournament.

Zimbabwe were on top from the first whistle but battled to turn their dominance into goals in the opening half.

But once Muzongondi had them in front three minutes after the break, they followed that up with a quick second to kill off the hopes of Botswana as Chirandu netted for a fourth time in the championship.

It was plain sailing from there as the Mighty Warriors kept the ball and created a few clear-cut opportunities, and added to their score through a second in injury-time from Muzongondi.

## Azam FC loses to Fasil Kenema in CAF Confederation Cup

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S Azam FC has opened its campaign in the CAF Confederation Cup disappointingly, losing 1-0 to Ethiopia's Fasil Kenema in the preliminary stage's first leg that took place at the latter's backyard yesterday.

Azam FC survived a scare on the second minute as a Fasil Kenema FC winger whipped in a pin point delivery, his teammate then frustratingly failed to slot home from within the area.

The hosts saw more of the ball in the first 10 minutes of the clash played at a packed Bahir Dar Stadium, making full use of flanks to torment the visitors.

Fasil pushed up front on several occasions at the time in pursuit of an early goal that could unsettle Azam.

Fasil Kenema continued to push for the opener and they, in the process, put Azam FC defense under



Azam FC striker, Obrey Chirwa (L), challenges Uganda's KCCA FC player in this year's Kagame Cup competition's duel which took place in Rwanda recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

pressure.

The Ethiopians threatened to post a goal on the 20th minute in which Azam's central defender Oscar Masai had to react on time to frustrate the former's forward that had sped into the area and attempted to beat keeper Razak Abalora.

Azam slowly grew in confidence later on, they had their first meaningful opportunity four minutes from the breather when midfielder Salum Abubakary's left foot attempt from outside the area went straight into Fasil keeper's hands.

The hosts grabbed the opener during the added on time of the period via forward Bezabih Meleyo that slammed home from within the area after he had been released by team mate.

The Ethiopians led by the lone goal at the breather. The visitors were a re-

juvenated side after the restart, they had several good opportunities only to be let down by poor finishing.

In one of Azam's opportunities, forward Richard Djodi went for a diving header within Fasil's area from a good cross whipped by Iddi Selemeni, the effort disappointingly went off target.

Fasil, however, still looked likely to register more goals, they had a good opportunity later on when the squad's striker cut in from the left but managed a weak effort which was easily saved by Abalora.

Azam threatened to level matters later in the period after Richard's right foot attempt had hit Fasil's crossbar.

The visitors continued to press forward in an effort to level matters, wasting several more opportunities.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

