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Aides allay fears over health of Kibaki, Moi

NAIROBI

FORMER Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki is not admitted to hospital as some media reports suggested yesterday, his Private Secretary Ngari Gituku has said.

However, the 88-year-old retired head of state visited The Nairobi Hospital on Monday, a trip Gituku described as "a routine check-up".

"It was a normal visit and there is nothing new," he told the Nation on phone.

While Kibaki has been battling a recurrent knee problem after sustaining an injury in a road crash in Machakos in 2002, Gituku could not confirm if it was the reason for the latest visit.

"At his age and stature, they can check anything (during routine medical trips), including the hair follicle, the prostate and eyesight," he said.

A source who sought anonymity because she is not the family spokesperson said the retired president is recuperating at his Nairobi home and that he is "alert".

Kibaki's visit to The Nairobi Hospital came on the same day Kenya's second and longest serving President Daniel arap Moi returned there for what his Press Secretary Lee Njiru said was a "routine exam".

Man imprisoned for life for impregnating daughter (14)



NMB Bank Plc acting managing director Ruth Zaipuna (C) makes remarks as a member of a workplace gender equality panel organised in Dar es Salaam yesterday by the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Participants included executives representing financial institutions, entrepreneurs and gender equity crusaders in Tanzania. She is with Standard Chartered Bank CEO Sanjay Rughani (R) and UN Women's Representative in Tanzania, Hodan Addou. IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in developing countries. The Group has set two goals for the world to achieve by 2030: end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity in every country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

The accused asked for the copy of the judgment proceedings and that he had nothing else to say in mitigation

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

MPANDA District Court in Katavi Region yesterday sentenced a 35-year-old man to life imprisonment after finding him guilty of defiling and impregnating his 14-year-old daughter, who is a Standard Seven pupil.

District Magistrate Gosper Luoga handed down the sentence to Lazaro Charles, resident of Mpanda municipality after the prosecution proved without doubt that he committed the crime.

The prosecution led by State Attorney Gregory Muhangwa presented five witnesses while the defense side produced one witness - wife of the accused.

Earlier, State Attorney Muhangwa alleged in court that the accused committed the offense on January 1 2017 and April 29 2019.

He claimed that the accused committed the offense at his home when his wife, the mother of the child was away during which he used to enter her room and commit acts of defilement.

The State Attorney claimed before the court that after the acts the accused placed leaves on her private parts allegedly to relieve the pain

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At his age and stature, they can check anything (during routine medical trips), including the hair follicle, the prostate and eyesight

However, a family source told the Nation that the Nyayo-era leader was rushed to the facility on October 18 after developing breathing problems.

Kibaki, the former NARC party leader, is set to mark his 89th birthday on November 15.

He was first admitted to The Nairobi Hospital on January 20, 2004. His medical team at the time said they found a blood clot in his right leg.

In August 2016, the former leader underwent surgery at Netcare Sunninghill Hospital in South Africa to remove a blood clot in a vein in his neck.

A South African source told Nation that doctors at the facility located the clot in good time while it was in a relatively safe part of the body.

Kibaki was the third president of Kenya, serving from December 2002 to April 2013.

Kibaki served as vice president for ten years from 1978 to 1988 under President Moi. He also held cabinet ministerial positions in the Kenyatta and Moi governments, including time as minister for Finance (1969-1981) chiefly under Kenyatta, and Minister for Home Affairs (1982-1988) and Minister for

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EAC tax authorities ponder staff integrity, smuggling challenges

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AN East African Revenue Authorities Technical Committee (EARATC) meeting which kicked off here yesterday is expected to dwell on how to fix unethical behavior by revenue officials and the habit of condoning the smuggling of goods, hindering effective collection of taxes.

In an opening speech to the meeting, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) Commissioner General Dr Edwin Mhede said the meeting will also discuss how to come up with harsher punishment for such offenders.

"Unethical behaviour by some workers within the revenue authority and illegal entry of goods over our borders are the biggest problems we face. We will discuss how to cooperate in curbing these challenges," he said.

He called on staff in revenue authorities in EAC member states to intensify integrity at workplaces so as to maximize revenue collection in the region.

Dr Mhede underscored the need for employees in the region to discharge their duties honestly, professionally and with integrity.

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The two-day meeting will discuss among other things opportunities and challenges of the social media in promoting integrity, the impact of illicit trade on revenue collection and integrity.

Other issues are new types of corruption and lessons learnt and the role of whistle blowing in the fight against corruption and other malpractices, he said.

He also asked participants to ensure that their deliberations focus on integrity matters that are impeding all tax authorities in the region and suggest the best ways to address them.

"Integrity issues have been eroding much of our taxes and other revenues in the region, and indeed, on the broader picture we share common issues. That is why we need to look into how best we can address them so that we can further raise our revenues," said the CEO.

Speaking at the occasion, the Commissioner for Internal Audit and Compliance at the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), Dr Begumisa Protazio who chaired the meeting said there were still

Chinese found working in goldmine illegally 'negotiate' terms of release

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

GEITA regional authorities have released 85 Chinese nationals who were arrested last week and held for working in a gold mine without permits after "negotiations" with the foreigners.

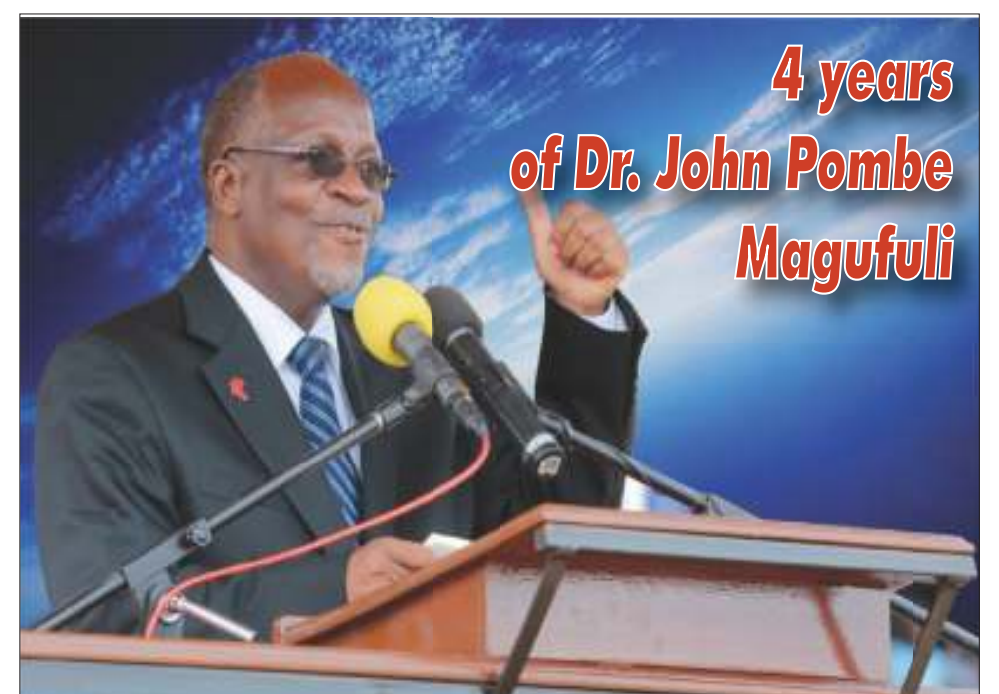
Speaking at a regional security committee meeting here on Wednesday, Geita Regional Commissioner Robert Gabriel said the decision to set the Chinese nationals free was reached after they (Chinese) confessed to offences of working in the country without permits and avoiding paying related levies.

Regional security officials took part in the negotiations with the foreigners led by their lawyer, advocate Francis Kiganga, said the RC, who also chairs the regional security committee.

"They were set free after agreeing to pay 654m/- in levies and charges payable to the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and the Labour Department," he explained.

The foreigners were nabbed within the premises of Eagle Brand gold mine located at Nyamahuna village in Geita District and were being held by police and afterwards released by

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4 years of Dr. John Pombe Magufuli

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

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Global Affairs Canada's representative in Tanzania, Stefan Paquette (R), and Rukwa regional commissioner Joachim Wangabo (2nd-R) wash hands at one of the water supply points installed with Canadian government support through the region's safe parenting project in efforts to ease maternal and child mortality. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Dar city launches map to help planners curb floods, pollution

By Henry Mwangonde

DAR ES SALAAM City Council yesterday launched a thematic atlas which showcases city natural assets and importance for the national economy, while providing an overview of what is at stake if it continues in a 'business as usual' trajectory.

Produced as part of the INTERACT-Bio project, the atlas is helpful to urban planners make informed decisions as it represents challenges such as rising urban heat, air pollution or flooding, and shows how urban ecology can help to address the challenges.

It also gives critical inputs for greening the city and keeping urban and peri-urban ecosystems intact.

"This thematic atlas show how nature's benefits protect and sustain our city and make it livable. It will help us prioritise investment in urban nature

and enable the city's five municipalities to direct their plans to incorporate nature contributions to enhance urban quality of life, livelihoods and the economy," said Sipora Liana, the city director in a speech read by Gaston Makwembe, the council's head of communication.

Liana said the launching of the document brings up the question of how the city authorities can ensure Dar es Salaam residents a safe environment, enjoy good quality of life and make living in the city sustainable.

ICLEI, a network of 1700 local governments globally through its INTERACT-Bio project, pioneered a tool that embraces informality.

It can be developed without complete data and provides a solution to fast-growing cities faced with limited resources and threats to biodiversity.

Godfrey Mkude, a senior town planner at the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development said the launching of the document gives a way forward on how to manage cities. "This is a good start and there is need to scale up this idea to all local governments countrywide," he said.

City Council senior urban planner Grace Mbena said the atlas will be a guideline in protecting and conserving the city's biodiversity. "We have put in place strategies to ensure that all our municipalities set aside budget funds for maintaining biodiversity and ensure that all our plans are aligned to this atlas," she asserted.

The city council signaled the need for, and initiated the development atlas as a tool to support strategic prioritization around greening for improved wellbeing of Dar es Salaam residents.

Unicef, Femina Hip partner to extend children's rights education to stakeholders

By Getrude Mbago

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has partnered with Femina Hip to implement a programme dubbed "Children and Young People's Agenda" aimed to advocate and bring children to the centre, support them in defining their rights so as to shape better future of the group.

Speaking during the advocacy meeting which brought various religious leaders in Dar es Salaam yesterday, UNICEF Communication Specialist Tahseen Alam said that the partnership involves reaching out to various stakeholders including children and young people with key education on children rights such as protection, development and survival among others.

The meeting aimed to discuss various challenges facing children and how to promote and supervise their rights ahead of the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child slated later this month. According to her, through the partnership, at least 600 children in various parts of the country have been reached to discuss on their right, capacitating them and enabling them to advocate their rights for their better future.

"Also, we have reached about 40,000 young people through online platforms, mobile phones and other internet means to listen to their views and what they want for their development and future as well," she added.

UNICEF has a long-standing history and mandate of working towards advancing the rights of all children globally, which includes adolescents until the age of 18. In recent years though, it has begun to recognise the transformative power that youth over 18 years have as change makers and champions of children's and adolescents' rights.

UNICEF communications officer Usia Ledama said that the Convention was

adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 November 1989.

She said that the anniversary creates a momentum for the international community to step up its efforts to make children thrive, and to renew their commitment to protect and promote all their human rights.

Ledama further underscored the need for religious leaders to continue championing and promoting children rights to ensure their fulfillment.

"With their ability to influence behaviour at the family and community level and across all social strata, religious leaders have enormous power to advocate rights and lasting change in the lives of children."

Geoffrey Mchemba, a youth and children champion urged the government to review and improve curriculum in schools so as to produce competent professionals that caters to the needs of current market. "Nowadays graduates are being encouraged to employ themselves after completing their studies, but we have been asking ourselves that are our colleges/curriculums lead us to self employment or entrepreneurship?," he queried.

He also called on the government and stakeholders to strengthen reproductive health education and services to adolescents so as to enable them to grow being well informed hence bolster economies and contribute to sustainable development.

Speaking during the meeting Fr Alphonce Raraiya from Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) stressed on the area of children development urging parents and the general public to take well care of their children teaching about hard work, good life skills for their bright future. "Children should be taught on entrepreneurship, agriculture and other life skills to enable them to employ themselves after completing their studies and hence help curb employment crisis facing the country," he said.

Aides allay fears over health of Kibaki, Moi

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Health (1988-1991) under Moi.

Kibaki served as an opposition Member of Parliament from 1992 to 2002. He unsuccessfully vied for the presidency in 1992 and 1997. He served as the Leader of the Official Opposition

in Parliament from 1998 to 2002. In the 2002 presidential election, he was elected as President of Kenya, buoyed by the 'Kibaki tosha' slogan generated by a veteran opposition leader and ex-ruling party secretary general, Raila Odinga.

EAC tax authorities ponder staff integrity, smuggling challenges

FROM PAGE 1

many corrupt elements in the region, therefore officials in the tax watchdogs ought to have strength of character.

"The corrupt are many and strong, so if you think you are weak you better change your department," he said, elaborating that officials in the tax bodies need to be wise and smart as criminals often change tactics.

Distributed via ipmedia

"EAC member states rank high in integrity listing as revenue authorities' losses reach about 10 percent of revenue through corruption and integrity lapses, said Esther Masibuge, secretary to the committee.

EARATC was established in June 2014 as a platform for revenue authorities within the region to share experiences, best practices and strategies in promoting ethical conduct

in the regions' tax administration. The key intention is to enhance revenue collection performance as well as building and maintaining trust with stakeholders.

The organ helps the respective revenue bodies to identify challenges, carry out studies and analyse current technical issues in tax administration.

The EARATC's key achievements in the past few years include

the annual publication of the Regional Comparative Revenue Report, Performance Based Pay, Succession Management Framework, technical assistance to South Sudan in establishing its revenue administration, study and analysis of production sharing agreements and identification of inadequacies in the laws targeting extractive industries, among others.



Mkuranga District community development officer Mary Mushi (with microphone) makes remarks yesterday at a 'Women in Energy' meeting organised by the Tanzania Gender and Sustainable Energy Network. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE World Bank has applauded the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) for quality statistics that have helped shape the national economy.

Speaking here yesterday, the bank's senior economist for Poverty and Equity Global Practice, Rob Swinkels attributed ongoing economic gains and development to right statistics by the NBS that help policy makers make good decisions.

He said Tanzania is one of the few countries globally that have made commendable economic growth and resilience to international shocks. "The World Bank is proud to have a strong relationship with NBS which has made Tanzania in the lead in the statistical game in Africa," he declared.

Swinkels who led a delegation from the World Bank that engaged the management of NBS in capacity building meetings from Monday this week noted that Tanzania ranks second

World Bank commends NBS on volume, quality of statistics

behind South Africa as countries with quality statistics in the continent.

He said the meeting was aimed at helping the national body to adequately prepare for the second Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP), terming the first master plan as a great success.

"Lots of concrete outputs have been realized in the first plan and we are working to build on the good work in an effort to have even better results in the coming master plan," he stated.

The World Bank has embarked on a new partnership with the African Union (AU) to push forward statistical capacity in the continent, thus Tanzania is definitely among the beneficiary country, the bank official affirmed.

A grant amounting to \$ 8.6m euro to Tanzania through the World Bank for statistical development has been approved and a memorandum of association signed to that effect, he

pointed out.

World Bank senior economist for Africa Region, Nadia Belhaj Belghith said the relationship between NBS and the World Bank goes beyond exchanging experiences.

NBS has been able to produce a big amount of quality data that helps in poverty reduction in the country.

"There has been a lot of progress in poverty reduction since 2007, thanks to the good work by NBS which informs policy makers on the steps to take," she said.

This has resulted in improved access to water by the rural population, improved provision of health services and education, among other services.

A lot more needs to be done to improve on gains made to help improve people's livelihoods. In so doing farmers should be enabled to reach markets for their produce, she urged.

Another focus is the need to facilitate access to finance for households in order to enable them to start small scale businesses, the analyst noted.

NBS Director General Dr Albina Chuwa thanked the World Bank team for the fruitful engagement ahead of the master plan. She said the previous plan had big mileage but preparations for the second plan are also crucial, thus the mission from the bank came to help do much better. "NBS and WB are working closely. Cooperation and collaboration between the two institutions is always there," she said.

NBS has the mandate to provide official statistics to the government, the business community and the public at large. It recently shifted to its new headquarters in the capital and it generates a wide range of economic, social and demographic statistics on the country.

Man imprisoned for life for impregnating daughter (14)

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afflicted on those areas.

He further claimed that the child's health condition started to deteriorate which prompted her teachers to take her to hospital for medical examination which showed that the student was pregnant. And when questioned she mentioned her father, Lazaro Charles as the one responsible for the pregnancy.

Magistrate Luoga, after listening to testimony tendered in court from the prosecution side said he had satisfied himself beyond doubt that the accused committed the offense. Hence the court found the accused guilty under Section 158 (I)(a) of the Penal Code Cap 16 as amended in 2002.

Magistrate Luoga called on the accused whether he had anything to say on mitigation to make the court give him a reduced sentence.

The accused asked for the copy of the judgment proceedings and that he had nothing else to say in mitigation.

After the request the State Attorney Muhangwa prayed for the court to mete out a stern sentence to act as a deterrent to other parents nurturing similar habits.

After listening to presentations from both sides, magistrate Luoga read the judgment finding the accused guilty under Section 158 (I)(a) of the Penal Code Cap 16 as amended in 2002 and sentenced him to life imprisonment from yesterday.

Chinese found working in goldmine illegally 'negotiate' terms of release

FROM PAGE 1

regional authorities before being taken to court.

Gabriel also ordered the management of the mine to provide contracts for the over 1,400 workers found working there without any documents.

Eagle Brand Gold Mine is owned by local and foreign investors from China.

"Ensure you give contracts to the employees within seven days and pay them their benefits," the RC directed.

Geita Resident Mining Officer Daniel Mapunda said the Ministry of Minerals will shut down all mines operated by investors who do not abide by the country's laws, including those who do not give work contracts to their employees.

Speaking at the same meeting,

Geita Regional Labour Officer Ahmed Majaliwa said that after visiting the mine they discovered the management disregarding labour laws and foreigners working without work permits.

Geita Ag. Regional TRA Officer John Njau said the lack of workers' payroll records contribute to loss of government revenue.

Eagle Brand Gold Mine legal officer Advocate Francis Kiganga, speaking on behalf of the foreign nationals, said the mine provides employments to Tanzanians including those who are illiterate. He appealed to the regional authorities to educate the mining investors.

The mine employs foreigners only in professional jobs due to eligible locals not having adequate qualifications for the jobs, he added.



Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a certificate of appreciation to NBC Ltd acting retail banking director Benjamin Nkaka (L) at an SME women's forum. It was co-organised by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, G51 Company and Private Agriculture Sector Support (PASS). NBC was one of the forum's sponsors. Right is G51 board chairman Jembe Menye. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Abidjan

Tanzania to get 1.5trn/- AfDB loan for Msalato International Airport, roads

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has praised the decision by President John Magufuli to shift to the country's capital—Dodoma promising to approve US \$ 455 million equivalent to 1.5trn/- for construction of Msalato Airport and feeder roads within the city.

This has been revealed by AfDB President Dr Akinwumi Adesina when he held talks with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Prof Palamagamba Kabudi at AfDB Head office in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

He added the bank will continue cooperating with President Magufuli during his tenure as Chairman of Southern African development Community (SADC).

Dr Adesina said AfDB has already approved US \$ 180 million for the construction of feeder roads around Dodoma city and another US \$ 275 million for an international airport at Msalato which is set for approval early November this year.

He said AfDB believes in the economic transformation being carried out under President Magufuli including social services such as free education, health and water as well as concerted fight against corruption and to instill accountability in the public service.

Dr Adesina revealed his aim to see the African continent making huge

development strides now and not later, and that during his period at the helms of the Bank he will struggle to ensure the aim is realised.

Prof Kabudi thanked AfDB for the cooperation it has shown to Tanzania particularly in the implementation of strategic projects undertaken by President Magufuli which basically were a vision of the father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere in making Tanzania, and the continent as a whole economic self-reliant.

Prof Kabudi further said already AfDB is prepared to finance Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) for the stretch

from Isaka to Kigali in Rwanda that will later extend to Congo DRC and that the initial talks about this financing have already started.

Prof Kabudi called on AfDB President Dr Adesina to bolster the bank's zonal offices so that they can offer its services near its beneficiaries as well as to support strategic projects that link individual African countries in developing inter African transport to facilitate free trade among them.

Prof Kabudi is in Abidjan, Ivory Coast to participate in a two-day emergency meeting of ministers for finance organized by AfDB.

Govt efforts to promote tourism in central zone circuit bear fruit

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

EFFORTS by the government to promote tourism in central zone circuit have started to bear fruits following an influx of tourists from within and outside the country visiting the Swagaswaga Game Reserve.

Since commencement of the 2019/20 fiscal year, at least 63 visitors have paid a day-tour at the said endowed game reserve, to watch key animal species, including lesser and greater kudus, jumbos, lions, giraffes and leopards, to mention but a few.

Moreover, the crucial tourism site features of 52 rock paintings out of which, 20 are of high tourism potential.

In an exclusive interview with The Guardian, Manager of Swagaswaga Game Reserve, Alex Choya, said the reserve was offering other mesmerizing tourism services like walking safaris, photographic tourism, adding that plans are afoot to start offering horse safaris.

"We're impressed to the manner to which tourists from different parts of the world and the country are now aware of the reserve presence something which was not the case in the past," he expressed. He said plans are afoot to introduce new tourist attractions at the reserve which includes the Mountain Githau—the highest peak of the reserve.

"When standing at the roof of mountain Githau visitors can have a full view of Dodoma Region," he said.

He added that the reserve is currently under intensive 800m/- worth General Management Plan (GMP) project, being financial patronage of the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA).

According to him, the ongoing management plan works involve construction of visitor's hostel, improvement of infrastructure facilities, and installation of artificial water sources as well as modern offices and staff quarters.

Choya unveiled that the project majors also in setting-up of an airstrip in order to attract many visitors, added: "The hostel we're constructing will have a capacity to accommodate 72

visitors at a go," he said.

Several researchers from Poland and local universities are conducting a research in the area with an eye to establish how professionally the reserve can be developed to become the best crowd-puller tourism site within the country.

However, Choya insisted that doors were wide open to individual well-wishers, companies and other stakeholders to chip-in and invest at diverse sectors within the key reserve, including construction of high-profile lodges as well as tented camps.

"Some investors have so far paid a special tour to the reserve and expressed interest to invest, but doors are open to many others to come and invest in order to enable the reserve to be equipped with best-standards services and facilities," he revealed.

In this fiscal year, TAWA set aside at least 1.5bn/- for general management plan of Swagaswaga game reserve and Mkungunero game reserve situated in Chemba and Kondoa districts respectively, in Dodoma region.

Previously, the reserve was used as a hunting block, but TAWA has decided to transform it into a photographic tourism and walking safaris site to cement efforts by the fifth phase government to spur tourism sector across the country.

For decades, Dodoma and Singida were considered as tourism -barren regions, despite being endowed with numerous attractions.

But of late, especially since the government shifted its headquarters from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, the two regions have started to witness some development in tourism activities at all potential sites.



When standing at the roof of mountain Githau visitors can have a full view of Dodoma Region



Clan and religious leaders in Siha District, Kilimanjaro Region engaged in a meeting held yesterday called to deliberate on ways to end cruelty targeting girls. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

Govt embarks on new move to assess medicines' supply across the country

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government is set to embark on a quarterly review and auditing of the utilisation of medicines in all regions so as to curb misuse and loss of drugs as well as to strengthen supply of medicines in health centers.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (Health), Dr Dorothy Gwajima said this on Wednesday during a meeting with pharmaceutical experts in Dodoma.

According to her, the new move will involve evaluation of use of medicines in each region.

"The exercise will start in Singida, Dodoma, Manyara,

Kagera and Geita regions before extending to other parts of the country," she said.

She wanted the experts to ensure they use electronic logistics management information system (eLMIS) that links health facilities with the central store to collect and distribute logistics data in real time.

Knowing which medicines are used and which medicines are required helps supply chain managers provide continuity of supply for patients.

"The quarterly assessment is also meant to ensuring that medical commodities are available in health centers on time. We want regional health authorities to ensure that they conduct the audit

and submit the report to the ministry for immediate measures including sending essential drugs to the areas which are facing the challenge,"

Dr Gwajima noted that President John Magufuli has been implementing well the manifesto of the ruling party by prioritising the health sector, and in the financial year 2019/20 the government has approved a budget of 57.4bn/- with medicine availability being among top three priorities.

"So we as leaders have to ensure that we complement President Magufuli's efforts by ensuring that supervise proper use of drugs and other medical commodities by curbing all kinds of theft and loss of the products," she

said. Earlier, the ministry's director for health and social welfare Dr Ntuli Kapologwe said the meeting aimed to discuss and come up with better solutions to ensure sustainable access to medicine.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

APPLICATION FOR TANZANIA CITIZENSHIP

LUKIA MAMA NAGADIA whose photograph provided above, is applying to the Minister of Home Affairs for Tanzania Citizenship. Her Nationality is present is UGANDIAN. Country of origin UGANDA. Employment HOUSE WIFE. She has been living in Tanzania since 2010. Any person who knows any reason why Citizenship should not be granted to the applicant, should send a written and signed statement of facts to the Principal Commissioner of Immigration Services, PO BOX 512, Dar es Salaam. Use reference DN. 609512.

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Government of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been allocated grant funds from TradeMark East Africa. TMEA, in close collaboration with the Direction Générale des Migrations, la Direction Générales des Douanes et Accises and the Ituri Province intend to apply the funds to eligible direct payments under the contract for which this Invitation for Bid is issued.

As a result, TMEA now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Civil Works for Construction of One Stop Border Post at Mahagi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The tender documents can be obtained at <http://www.trademarkea.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the Tender Title and Number in the email subject should be emailed to procurement@trademarkea.com. The closing date for submissions is 29 November 2019 at 11.00 am (Kampala Time).

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 5 days or less prior to the submission deadline.

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

Road safety education must involve the public, MP says

THE government has been challenged to expand the scope of road safety education to the public to have a community which is free from road crashes.

Fatuma Tawfiq, a member for the global network for road safety legislators, told The Guardian that despite traffic police data indicating the decrease in road crashes by 35 percent from last year, still there is a need to sensitise the public on how to safely use the roads.

Statistics from the police traffic department shows that from January to March this year there were 776 reported road crashes, while in the same period last year, there were 1183 road crashes.

But also, in the same period there were reported cases of 735 injured people in the road crashes.

Tawfiq who is a Special Seats MP noted that as the government strengthens interventions towards road safety, there is a need to enable the public who are main users of the roads to understand traffic laws and regulations.

"The ongoing interventions towards road safety should not leave aside local citizens who are the main target," she insisted. The lawmaker, proposed for the review of Road Traffic Act 1973 in some clause which contains lot of gaps

that retard efforts to end road crashes.

She said parents, guardian and relatives are the key group that needs to be educated about the effects of using a motorcycle as means of transporting students to school. But also, education should be provided to parents who loosely let their children sit in front of the car while driving.

"We need to increase the level of enforcing road safety laws to road users who needs to understand the extent of road crashes and the importance of adhering to laws in order to strengthen road safety," she said.

"We need to act for every soul which is lost in road crash, because we might have lost the future leader, president, minister or who could deliver his or her positive contribution to the country," she explained.

A member of the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) Henry Bantu said that road safety is a cross-cutting issue which needs joint efforts from various stakeholders. "More needs to be done as the existing Traffic Police report, shows the reduction in road accident is not promising that we can achieve the target of reducing accidents rate by 50

percent," he explained.

"Also, involvement of several stakeholders in the road safety is crucial to make sure that awareness is provided in every area," he said.

He added that drivers are supposed to pursue refresher courses in order to nourish their skills and to be competent in the road.

Bantu emphasised that traffic police should strengthen vehicle inspection exercises in all parts of the country to identify old vehicles that are in the risk of causing accidents.

Road crashes have got severe impact in the nation and we need to increase efforts and interventions to make sure we eliminate the problem.

The United Nations Decades of Action demands member countries to make sure road crashes are reduced by 50 percent come 2020.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a series of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development goals (SDGs). The SDG number three demands that by 2020 to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes.



Tigo's Head of Products and Services, David Umoh, addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday at the launch of affordable 4G cell phone dubbed "Kitochi 4G Smart" meant to provide internet services to an even bigger number of ordinary people in Tanzania. Left is chief commercial officer Tarik Boudiaf. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

COSTECH underscores need for enhancing investment in traditional medicine studies

By Aisia Rweyemamu

THE Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) has stressed the need for more investment in traditional medicine research to save the health of Tanzanians through their endowed natural resources.

Chief Research Officer for COSTECH, Dr Khadija Malima has said this during her visit to the Institute of Traditional Medicine at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) as a part of celebrations towards the African Science Granting Councils meeting next month.

The conference is expected to bring together over 250 public funding agencies, scientists, innovators, policy makers and development partners.

Malima explained that the country has a good number of resources such as plants and roots that contain natural medicines requiring scientific research to make them more useful for human health.

Dr Malima said the commission wants to put more efforts in looking for health studies that helps to improve the welfare of human being. "The health sector is still facing challenges. We want the public to understand that we are using public funds to solve their challenges", she said.

The chief researcher explained that there are many health studies which have been done previously but most of them focused on raising awareness of specific disease.

"Now we want the research to focus on resolving such health problems," she explained. COSTECH has funded a good number of researches at MUHAS, including a research to study for fungal medicine from plants.

Commenting, Prof Mohamed Sheikh, Director of Research, Coordination and Promotion at COSTECH said the meeting will engage in strategic dialogue covering broad Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) topics into open science for development and public engagement.

"The aim of making science open is to enable policy makers and other stakeholders to use it for sustainable development," Prof Sheikh noted.

He added that the commission continues to coordinate and promote research and technology development activities in the country for the interest of the public.

The meeting scheduled to take place from 11th to 15 November in Dar es Salaam is being organised by the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH).

Bank vows to offer better services to cashew stakeholders in Mtwara

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

EXIM Bank Tanzania has reaffirmed its commitment to support stakeholders on every step of the way in the cashew industry in Mtwara Region so as to improve the agricultural sector.

Being part of its drive to continue partnering with stakeholders in the growth of the nation's economy, early this week, the bank organised a dinner for small and large-scale stakeholders of the cashew industry in Mtwara which had in attendance the sector experts, the bank's officials and high-level government officials. "We are proud of our relationship with our customers as this is very important to us. As a bank, we have been able to achieve this height because our customers never stopped believing and using our services, and because of them we promise to do more," said Andrew Lyimo, Exim Bank's Head of Retail.

Lyimo said the bank has been supporting the cashew nut farmers and exporters for many years by providing seamless financial services throughout the supply chain. "We have had a presence in Mtwara for many years, supporting farmers and exporters by providing them with innovative financial products and services to grow their businesses."

For the past 5 years, the bank has been working with farmers through the Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies in Mtwara and Tandahimba, which is a platform that support farmers with production, processing, transporting and marketing of various cash crops, according to Lyimo.

Speaking during the occasion, the Mtwara- Mikindani District Council Executive Director Emanuel Mwaigobeko said, "The government is committed to ensuring the purchase of cashew nuts from farmers goes smoothly by preventing all acts aimed at spoiling the image of the government and the entire agricultural sector."

Apart from commending the bank for its cooperation with the cashew stakeholders in Mtwara, Mwaigobeko called on other financial institutions in the region to help in providing financial education especially to small scale cashew stakeholders including farmers.



AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION TANZANIA LIMITED

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF BANK PURSUANT TO SECTION 7 AND 8 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT 2014

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

(Amounts in Million Shillings)

	Current Quarter 30-Sep-19	Previous Quarter 30-Jun-19
A ASSETS		
1 Cash	3,521	3,705
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	12,015	7,367
3 Investment in Government Securities	33,025	32,774
4 Balances with other banks and financial institutions	5,548	4,452
5 Cheques and Items for Clearing	(48)	190
6 Interbranch float items	-	-
7 Bills Negotiated	-	-
8 Customers Liabilities on Acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	91,839	94,037
10 Investment in Other Securities	-	-
11 Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of Allowances for Probable Losses)	130,381	132,226
12 Other Assets	33,902	34,172
13 Equity Investments	1,000	1,000
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	4,109	4,391
16 TOTAL ASSETS	315,291	314,314
B LIABILITIES		
17 Deposits From Other Banks and financial institutions	91,364	97,633
18 Customer Deposits	97,865	89,299
19 Cash letters of credit	-	-
20 Special deposits	-	-
21 Payment Orders/ transfers payable	-	-
22 Bankers Cheques and Drafts Issued	-	-
23 Accrued Taxes and Expenses payable	-	-
24 Acceptances Outstanding	-	-
25 Interbranch float items	-	-
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	25	50
27 Other Liabilities	5,869	6,303
28 Borrowings	68,364	67,881
29 TOTAL LIABILITIES	263,487	261,165
30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	51,804	53,149
C CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
31 Paid-up Share Capital	116,014	116,014
32 Capital reserves	-	1,284
33 Retained Earnings	(61,839)	(63,123)
34 Profit (Loss) Account	(3,433)	(2,091)
35 Other capital accounts	1,062	1,065
36 Minority Interest	-	-
37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS	51,804	53,149
38 Contingent Liabilities	7,711	8,130
39 Non performing loans and advances	21,077	22,303
40 Allowances for probable losses	16,060	19,807
41 Other non performing assets	-	-
D PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		
(i) Shareholders Funds to Total Assets	16.4%	16.9%
(ii) Non performing Loans & Advances to total gross loans	14.4%	14.8%
(iii) Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits	77.4%	81.3%
(iv) Loans and Advances to Total Assets	41.4%	42.1%
(v) Earning Assets to Total Assets	82.7%	83.9%
(vi) Deposit Growth	1.2%	-3.5%
(vii) Assets growth	0.3%	-0.8%

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

(Amounts in Million Shillings)

	Current Quarter 30-Sep-19	Comparative Quarter 30-Sep-18	Current Year Cumulative Profits/Losses 30-Sep-19	Previous Year Cumulative Profits/Losses 30-Sep-18
1 Interest Income	10,859	11,825	32,045	39,116
2 Interest Expense	(4,699)	(5,074)	(14,152)	(17,214)
3 Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)	6,160	6,751	17,894	21,902
4 Bad Debts Written Off/Recoveries	566	-	1,663	(8,327)
5 Impairment losses on Loans and Advances	(700)	(1,434)	(2,154)	596
6 Non Interest Income	1,380	1,707	3,997	4,221
6.1. Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains/(Loss)	434	718	1,432	1,439
6.2. Fees and Commissions	814	300	2,191	799
6.3. Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4. Other Operating Income	132	689	374	1,983
7 Non Interest Expense	(8,704)	(8,232)	(24,695)	(23,495)
7.1.1 Salaries and benefits	(2,750)	(2,454)	(8,077)	(7,367)
7.1.2 Fees and Commission	(5,953)	(5,778)	(16,618)	(15,528)
7.3. Other Operating Expenses	(1,297)	(1,208)	(3,297)	(6,103)
8 Operating Income/(Loss)	(45)	(136)	(136)	(48)
9 Income Tax Provision	(1,342)	(1,208)	(3,433)	(5,151)
10 Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax	(1,342)	(1,208)	(3,433)	(5,151)
11 Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
12 Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	(1,342)	(1,208)	(3,433)	(5,151)
13 Number of Employees	156.00	156	156	156
14 Basic Earnings Per Share	(0.55)	(0.49)	(0.35)	(0.52)
15 Diluted Earnings Per Share	-	-	-	-
16 Number of Branches	7	7	7	7
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	-1.71%	-1.42%	-1.45%	-3.02%
(ii) Return on Ordinary Shareholders' Funds	-10.23%	-8.45%	-8.72%	-18.02%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	115.43%	97.33%	112.81%	89.94%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	3.64%	2.95%	3.53%	4.79%

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

(Amounts in Million Shillings)

	Current Quarter 30-Sep-19	Previous Quarter 30-Jun-19
I Cash flow from operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	(1,297)	(790)
Adjustment for:		
- Impairment/amortization	1,588	1,560
- net change in loans and advances	1,054	1,463
- gain/loss on sale of assets	-	-
- net change in deposits	2,297	(6,807)
- net change in short term negotiable securities	(250)	1,801
- net change in other liabilities	(459)	2,522
- net change in other assets	507	(923)
- tax paid	(45)	-
- Net change in SMR	-	-
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	3,395	(1,173)
II Cash flow from investing activities:		
Dividend received	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(35)	(163)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-
Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-
Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-
Others (specify)	-	-
Net cash provided/(used) by investing activities	(35)	(163)
III Cash flow from financing activities:		
Repayment of long-term debt	-	-
Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	-	2,738
Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-
Payment of cash dividends	-	-
Net change in other borrowings	-	-
Issue of preference shares	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	-	2,738
IV Cash and cash equivalents:		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	3,361	1,401
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the quarter	109,562	108,161
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter	112,923	109,562

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

	Share Capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others	Total
Current Year 2019							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	116,014	-	(67,756)	-	1,284	1,065	50,607
Profit for the year	-	-	(3,433)	-	-	-	(4,433)
Issue of share	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	1,284	-	(1,284)	-	-
Others	-	-	4,633	-	-	(3)	4,630
Balance as at the end of the current period	116,014	-	(65,272)	-	0	1,062	51,804
Previous Year 2018							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	116,014	-	(69,349)	9,119	1,114	1,384	58,282
Profit for the year	-	-	(7,355)	-	-	-	(7,355)
Issue of share	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	9,118	(9,118)	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	(170)	-	-	170	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	(320)	(320)
Balance as at the end of the previous period	116,014	-	(67,756)	0	1,284	1,065	50,607

During the quarter, BancABC was penalized TZS 145 Million by the Bank of Tanzania following AML/CFT breach.

	Name	Signature	Date
Managing Director	I. John		25-Oct-19
Ag. Head of Finance	H. Kharbush		25-Oct-19
Head of Internal Audit	J. Kilato		25-Oct-19
We, the under-named, non executive members of the board of directors, attest to the correctness of the above. We declare that the above statements have been examined by us, and to the best of our knowledge and belief prepared in conformance with the instructions and are true and correct.			
	Name	Signature	Date
1 Director	Dr J P. Kipokola		25-Oct-19
2 Director	Mr.R. Dave		25-Oct-19



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Kilombero DC pleads for stakeholders' joint measures to tame effects of climate change

By Correspondent James Kandoya

KILOMBERO District Commissioner James Ihunyo has appealed to the Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) to scale up environment conservation awareness to other villages in the district to tame effects of climate change.

He made the appeal over the weekend in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region after receiving a report on the ongoing land tenure exercise taking place in the district.

He said the programme implemented by LEAT in collaboration with Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF) under the umbrella of Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA) with support from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) was important towards ending land disputes in Kilombero.

"There is a huge demand for environment conservation awareness in the remoteness

villages. Educating them on various environment issues would help control the adverse impacts of climate change," he said.

The district commissioner also urged the land council to adhere to working ethics to avoid disputes. As the land officials' main responsibility is arbitration and not otherwise.

Representative from LEAT, Edina Tibajuka said lack of by-laws within the district councils contributes to failures in environment protection and control of natural resources. She underscored the need for bylaws to conserve the environment.

She said during the implementation of their programme in five villages, low awareness about conservation sustainability and its management was one of big challenge villagers were facing.

She said the programme implemented by LEAT in collaboration with partners aims at

envisaging Tanzania sustainable and well managed environment and natural resources for current and future generations.

Edna said in the first quarter, the programme was implemented in five villages namely, Sagamaganga, Mofu, Signal, Miwanganani and Ihenga. She said similar programmes were also implemented in Kilombero, Ulanga and Malinyi districts in the region.

She said during the implementation period, a total of 220 villagers received training in managing environment and natural resources. She said the villagers were also provided with skills on accountability to be able to manage the resources.

Kilombero District Environment Officer, Samweli Mtafya said environment destruction within the district was 60 per cent calling for ward councilors to play a role of educating the residents on the impacts of de-structing the environment.



Information, Culture, Arts and Sports minister Dr Harrison Mwakyembe (R) shares a light moment in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday with NBC Ltd customers' relationship managers Lena Mwakisale (C) and Isidory Maumba at an SME women's forum jointly organised by GSI Company, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation and the Private Agriculture Sector Support (PASS), in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. The bank was among the forum's sponsors. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



MAMLAKA YA MAPATO TANZANIA

TAARIFA KWA UMMA KUHUSU KUHAMISHA SHUGHULI KWA BAADHI YA OFISI ZA TRA JIJINI DAR ES SALAAM

Dar es Salaam, 31 Oktoba 2019:

Mamlaka ya Mapato Tanzania (TRA) inapenda kuutangazia umma kuwa, kuanzia tarehe 4 Novemba, 2019 baadhi ya ofisi za TRA za jijini Dar es Salaam zitahamisha shughuli zake kama jendwali linavyoonesha;-

NA	OFISI	ILIPOKUWA	ILIPOHAMIA
1	Idara ya Forodha na Ushuru wa Bidhaa	Mapato House (Long Room)	Jengo jipya la TPA Sokoine Drive Ghorofa ya 1
2	Idara ya Walipakodi Wakubwa	Mapato House (Long Room)	Wizara ya Fedha na Mipango (Mtaa wa Madaraka)
3	TRA Mkoa wa Kikodi wa Ilala	Summit Tower/Kipata – Mnazi Mmoja	Mapato House (Long Room)
4	TRA– Shauri Moyo	Mariam Tower	Mapato House (Long Room)
5	TRA Upanga	Samora House	Mapato House (Long Room)
6	TRA Mkoa wa Kikodi Kariakoo	14 Rays Building-Gerezani	Mtaa wa Kipata Mnazi Mmoja

Kwa maelezo zaidi wasiliana nasi kwa kupiga simu bure namba 0800 780 078 au 0800 750 075 au tuma ujumbe kwa WhastsAp 0744 233 333, barua pepe huduma@tra.go.tz

Imetolewa na

Richard M. Kayombo

KAIMU MKURUGENZI WA HUDUMA NA ELIMU KWA MLIPAKODI

Manufacture of motorbikes due from next year at Arusha plant

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AS the government ventures into industrial revival initiatives, a new factory in Arusha plans to start manufacturing motorcycles right from stage one at its Njiro-based plant from next year.

The Executive Director of 'Uzalendo Industries Limited,' Chun Zhang Yu said so far the factory is producing motorcycle accessories such as helmets, bumpers and spare parts, but they plan to expand the operations into fully-fledged vehicle productions.

"We are supporting the government in its industrialisation drive but we are also appealing to the state to support local industries against imports so that we may be in a better position to create employment and contribute towards the economy," said Zhang Yu.

The Executive Director of Uzalendo Industries Limited was addressing a delegation of experts from the Regional Commissioner's Office led by the Regional Trade Officer, Franco Ildelfonce that made a courtesy call at the firm in Njiro.

"The government should protect internal industries by ensuring that investors get all the support needed while also acting upon controlling of unnecessary imports, ensuring quality from local products and reducing taxes," he said.

Zhang Yu revealed that his factory was at the moment producing motorcycle spares and add-ons but already working to build assembly lines to build whole bikes from scratch and thus help reduce the importation of such two-wheeled vehicles or related spares.

The Njiro based plant is currently making 12 types of motorcycle spares, riders helmets and other accessories and according to the factory officials, they are just waiting for the relevant permits to start producing actual bikes.

"Our factory will save the country a lot of expenses in terms of foreign currency if we are to manufacture and buy locally," said the Director who pointed out that the factory produces a batch of 2000 helmets and over 730 motorcycle spare parts on daily basis.

"And we have readymade market outlets in Tanzania and across East Africa it is only left upon us to start churning out motorcycles," he said.

Asked why they don't start straight away, Chun explained that the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) is yet to clear them on a number of issues concerning their products.

"We intend to source 80 percent of raw materials from Tanzania. Should the situation call for imports then it will be only by 20 percent or less," pointed out the investor saying the rest will be brought from China.

The factory has started with permanent employment of 12 young Tanzanians among them seven female workers.

The factory is also working to establish outlets across the border but already it has sell points in major cities including Dodoma and Dar-es-salaam in addition to the hometown of Arusha.

Meanwhile also, the 'Uzalendo Industries Limited,' has donated a consignment of 235 riders' helmets valued at 3.2/-million to the Regional Traffic Departments across Tanzania.

The Factory Production Manager, Hussein Swalehe said they have temporary employment for 40 young people with the majority being women accounting for 34 workers in the batch of casual labourers.

Regional Trade Officer Franco Ildelfonce said Arusha has managed to establish 301 factories between 2015 and 2019 and among those 13 are large scale plants, 20 medium factories and 268 small industries with total value of 40 billion/-

Arusha has also set aside 212,228 hectares for investments in the

Govt reiterates need for public to shift to clean energies usage

By Aisia Rweyemamu

The government has called for deliberate efforts by stakeholders from public and private sectors to ensure Tanzanians use clean cooking solutions.

It is estimated that only 5 percent of all Tanzanians have access to clean cooking energies, with the rest using unclean ones such as firewood and charcoal.

Eng Innocent Luoga, Assistant Commissioner for Electricity in the Ministry of Energy, said this yesterday during discussions on access to clean and efficient cooking energy in Tanzania which involved women, private sector, government officials, CSOs and the media.

The discussion was jointly organised by Tanzania Gender and Sustainable Energy Network (TANGSEN) and Hivos—a development aid organisation. The two organisations are working to implement the “Green and Inclusive Energy Programme”.

To date, 500,000 tonnes of charcoal are approximately being used in Dar es Salaam only and over 1,000,000 tonnes of charcoal across the country.

Eng Luoga, said approximately 469,420 hectares of forests are lost each year with charcoal burning contributing largely to the loss.

He explained that the biggest victims in terms of access to quality cooking energy are women and children who are forced to take on the responsibility of finding cooking energy that is currently inaccessible.

“The use of briquettes charcoal and bio gas are among the good substitutes for firewood and charcoal that need to be developed,” Eng Luoga said.

He called for stakeholders’ efforts to find a workable and sustainable solution to access of clean energy in order to reduce the burden to women and children.

He said the involvement of various groups in finding solution to challenges in the sector will lead to increased use of clean and efficient cooking energy in the country.

According to Eng Luoga, the government through the ministry of energy in collaboration with TANGSEN, development partners and international institutions finalised the Gender Action Plan, 2018 with the aim of empower-

ing women to participate fully in all aspects of the energy sector and freeing themselves from unclean cooking energy.

Earlier, Executive Secretary of TANGSEN, Hezron Kajange said the objective of the discussion was to gain greater understanding of the cooking energy sector, as well as available challenges and opportunities.

Kajange said TANGSEN, has the ultimate goal of ensuring sustainable energy benefits both, women and men equally.

Meanwhile, stakeholders of clean cooking solution called for the government to sensitise people on the importance of using clean energy such as bio gas which is efficient and cost friendly.

Brenda Kazimili from Tanzania Renewable Energy Association said public awareness and education on the usefulness of clean energies is the main challenge towards ensuring use of clean energies.

She insisted on stakeholders to conduct clean energy awareness campaign and empowerment in order to have good number of people using the energies.



A trader dries fish scales at Kamanga in Mwanza Region yesterday for later sale at 15,000/- per sack. He would not say what the items are used for. Photo: Correspondent Elizabeth Faustine

Flood risk to continue across East Africa

By Guardian Reporter

A tropical storm named KYARR has been developing in the northern Indian Ocean and is expected to reach Puntland and Somaliland in four to five days.

A statement released yesterday by the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) said affected areas will experience strong winds and light rains.

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is in one of its strongest positive states since 2006. In this state, warm moist air flows westwards inland increasing the likelihood of higher rainfall over East African countries. “According to our monthly and seasonal forecasts, higher than usual rains are expected to persist throughout November and December.

We encourage all stakeholders to take the necessary measures to mitigate the potential impacts” said Abubakar Salih Babiker, Climate Scientist at ICPAC.

The seasonal forecast released by ICPAC at the end of August this year indicated above normal rainfall during this season across the majority of the region.

According to the statement heavy rains currently experienced in the region are likely associated with the positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) state.

These heavy rains and flooding have already led to losses in property and livelihoods in parts of Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, and Kenya.

The overall current forecast presents positive prospects for increased crop yields for major cereals in the equatorial and southern agricultural areas of

the region as well as improvement in pasture, range and water resources for livestock.

In the northern parts of the region where the crops were in advanced stages of maturity, the increased rainfall activity poses the risk of interrupting crop maturation and harvesting.

The risk of flooding is high and wet conditions might increase the risk of crop fungal and bacterial disease outbreaks, and livestock diseases such as Rift Valley Fever in disease-prone regions.

If the wet conditions continue beyond November - December, the usual cessation dates, there may be challenges with harvesting and post-harvest crop management, and this could lead to significant post-harvest losses in both grain quality and volume.

Citizens’ documentation crucial in govt planning, Dr Shein says

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohammed Shein has said the use of electronic Zanzibari National Identification Card (ZanID) for residents will help the government to save people’s details in the main database for identification.

Dr Shein made the remarks when launching the new electronic identity cards at an event which was held at Sheikh Idrissa Abdul Wakil Hall at Kikwajuni in the Isles.

He said the new ZanID will help the government, institutions and private companies to plan for various social development projects.

He said the availability of the new identification system will help the government to easily plan and identify people who are eligible to receive various social services as stipulated in the Zanzibar Constitution of 1984.

Dr Shein said the government will easily collect taxes and serve the people hence improve social services including education, health, security

among many others. He said the technology has been manufactured in a certain way that it is not easy to tamper with and has been used in various countries.

Dr Shein asked Regional Commissioners to ensure they administer the identification exercise from the local authorities to ensure all the people are well identified and their data are well collected.

Earlier, Minister for Local Government, Haji Omar Kheir called upon all the eligible citizens to register at the located centres within the Island.

“These IDs will also be used to facilitate residents’ access to all important services including licenses, money transactions, registration of mobile phone numbers and several others”, said the president.

Zanzibar Civil Status Registration Agency (ZCSRA) Executive Director,

Dr Hussein Khamis Shaaban, said his office will continue to issue IDs to all eligible Zanzibaris and the exercise is expected to be completed by the end of next year.

The issuance of ZanID started in 2005, he said.

Addressing journalists early this week, Dr Shaaban said: “The ZanID smart card is one of the best in Africa. The smart cards had four features in the chip: electronic Identification (e-ID), electronic driving licence (e-DL), electronic health card (ehealth) and electronic wallet (e-wallet)”.

He said the exercise is implemented in collaboration with the National Identification Authority (NIDA).

The Zanzibar Civil Status Registration Agency was established under the Act No 3 of 2018 to be responsible for births, identification cards, marriages, divorces and deaths.



VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT



The Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS) is the Project operating in all Regions of Tanzania under the framework of Tanzania-Swiss Cooperation. The Project is funded by the Swiss Government through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and it is implemented by the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH). Through the HPSS Project, the Government of Tanzania (GoT) is supported to strengthen the health system by implementing innovative approaches, which are tested jointly with the Government for adoption at the national, regional, district and community levels. The Project has been implemented in phases; phase one started in 2011 and completed in 2015, which was succeeded by the second phase from 2015 to July 2019. The Project is now entering the phase 3 which is the exit phase with a goal of providing Technical Assistance to the GoT for the nationwide implementation of iCHF, Jazira PVS, HTM systems and Health Promotion approaches, as well as contributing on supporting implementation of MoHCDGEC strategy for digitisation of the health system. In the exit phase, the development, discussion and dissemination of evidence is of crucial importance for the successful completion of the project. In this respect, Project will implement key strategic evaluation and operational research activities to generate evidence to further inform the GoT on development of health insurance, supply chain and management of health commodities, health technology and physical infrastructure management as well as health promotion and disease prevention.

The Project is looking for the qualified professional to fill in the position mentioned hereafter:

Coordinator Evidence Collection, Capitalization and M&E (1 Position)

Reporting to: Project Manager
Location: Dodoma
Level of Engagement: Full-time
Duration of engagement: 1 year.

Summary of the Position

The Coordinator Evidence Collection, Capitalization and M&E will have responsibility for all evidence collection and dissemination interventions and activities associated with the Project and supporting the Project Manager with M&E activities. The coordinator reports to the Project Manager and will have close interaction with all Component Experts and Advisors of the Project, as well as the Communications officer. Jointly with the Knowledge of Project Manager, the Coordinator will develop the HPSS Phase 3 Evidence Collection and Capitalization plan, and establish indicators for monitoring progress and will be responsible for guiding all research studies, ensuring high quality of methods and results.

Main Tasks

- Managing and monitoring evidence collection and dissemination interventions;
- Work closely with Swiss TPH staff and technical assistants in Basel and in Tanzania to develop a costed Evidence Collection and Capitalization plan for the HPSS Phase III;
- Assist in the revision of the project log frame matrix, particularly in the areas of performance indicators and their measurement
- Assist in the development of project baseline data for each project component and for all Project indicators
- Ensure the timely completion of study reports and success stories and other programmatic information on the project for dissemination to the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), other partners and in appropriate forum.
- Coordinate evidence collection interventions, including design, data collection, management and analysis to assure high quality;
- Coordinate activities of the project steering committee for research and evidence generation
- Prepare, submit applications for research ethical clearance from the relevant authorities and ensure adherence to the research ethical regulations as stipulated by the authorities.
- Participate in the process of development of annual research agenda for the project.
- Support Project strategically with favourable relationships and alliances with local, regional and international research institutions and regulating authorities, including obtaining all needed ethical and other clearances and approvals.
- Support the Project Manager in defining an M&E framework for the Project and undertaking subsequent follow up on M&E data collection activities, tracking regular program performance and supporting the project manager to develop appropriate action plans to improve project performance.
- Collect data on a regular basis to measure achievement against the performance indicators.
- Maintain and administer the M&E database; conduct data quality assessment; analyse and aggregate findings;

Qualifications and experience

- Masters’ degree or post-graduate degree in international development, social science, medical sociology, epidemiology, Social Sciences, Public Health, or any other related fields;
- Minimum of 5 five (5) years’ experience in designing, conducting/commissioning operational research of public health interventions in developing countries;
- Knowledge of major evaluation methodologies (e.g qualitative, quantitative, mixed method, and impact) data collection and analysis methodologies.
- Experience in planning and managing surveys and research

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER (2 Position)

Reporting to: Project Manager
Location: Dodoma/TBD
Level of Engagement: Full-time
Duration of engagement: 1 year.

Aim of the job

The IT Officer is responsible for the management of IMIS and all data related activities to all Project’s components not limited to iCHF in his/her zone. The Project’s components in the national contexts have multiple digital components that need further development and integration into the IT landscape of Tanzania. The ICT officer will be the key person to the HPSS Digitization efforts as he/she will form the interaction point of the Project with relevant government ICT related stakeholders as well for coordination with other part time ICT experts based abroad and with the IT vendor. The main objective of the IT Officer will focus on building capability/capacity of the government structure in Tanzania to take over the reforms. This position requires a well organize professional staff with a high level of honesty and transparency.

Main Tasks

The IT Officer will have the following responsibilities and duties;

- Support IMIS, OpenMedis and related IT infrastructure of multiple offices in Local Government Authorities in the zone.
- Support Health department and CHF offices in the management of IMIS and OpenMedis by providing training, coaching and backstopping / trouble-shooting
- Support implementation and integration of inventory management system OpenMedis,
- Ensure backup systems operates effectively;
- Contribute to organizational policy regarding quality standards and strategic planning;
- Conduct ICT training based on the demand of the Project and local government authorities.
- Managing of internet and local network facilities.
- Manage a system for keeping safely all ICT equipment, software and other related materials.
- Supporting users on change control and system updates.
- Providing training and user manuals to users of a new system.
- To Provide day to day support to end users in regards to mobile applications that are used in connection to the IMIS system.
- Maintenance, installations of applications.
- Recording of all challenges/problems in the zone concerning IMIS and report them to the management.
- Management of printer; backup system of Project documents.
- Manage IT equipment warranty.
- Liaise with the local Internet Service Providers such as (TTCL) for any technical fault.
- Provide technical support to Project staff and partners on IT affairs such as access to internet and configuration/settings at Project offices.
- To identify user needs of the system applications and communicate to the TSO and IT System Analyst.
- Maintaining data integrity, backup, security and troubleshooting of critical parts of the organization network infrastructure in the zone.
- Contribute towards achievements of Project outcomes: 2, 3, 4, 5 (IT aspects) and outputs: 2.1-2.4, 3.1 – 3.4, 4.1 – 4.4, 5.1 – 5.3 (IT aspects)

Qualification, experience and other skills:

- Minimum a Bachelor degree in ICT.
- Proven experience as IT applications.
- Knowledge and understanding of programming languages (NET, Java, Javascript, Python).
- Knowledge and understanding of server and networking configuration.
- Knowledge of databases, system security and troubleshooting.
- Proficiency with MS Office Suite (Word, Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint, Access).

HR and Administration Assistant (1 Position)

Reporting to: Chief Finance and Admin Officer
Location: Dodoma
Level of Engagement: Full-time
Duration of engagement: 1 year.

Aim of the job

Human Resources and Administration Assistant is required to support the administrative and human resources tasks of the Project. The Human Resource and Administration Assistant reports to the Chief Finance and Admin Officer and he/she is assisting the CFAO on daily Project human resources and administrative issues. The officer is responsible for ensuring smooth operationalization of Project activities by providing advice, guidelines, updates of labour laws of the country and managing personnel affairs.

Main Tasks

- Assist the facilitation of the recruitment, selection and hiring process which includes but not limited to, advertising vacant positions, screening CVs, shortlisting and conducting interviews;
- Assist in arranging orientation of new Project staff and facilitating the exit process for terminated/resigned staff;
- Maintenance and updates of Employee personal file and records;
- Provide assistance to the CFAO on Industrial Relations matters as and when required;
- Assist counselling and guidance to staff on company policies and procedures;
- Timesheet management and ensuring that staff submits timely;
- Leave administration (receiving leave forms and processing for approval);
- Ensure compliance in all aspects of HR related functions and ensure relevant documentation is evident;
- Provide support to CFAO with performance management process, as and when required;
- Provide support to CFAO in facilitating and process of Continuous Education Plan, workshops and training to all Project staff as per Swiss TPH policies.
- Assist FAO on checking the Payroll.
- Administer Project employee benefits.

Qualification:

- BA, BBA in Human Resources Management/Administration
- 3 years’ experience in managing and administering human resources and office business processes.
- Conversant with HR policies and processes and Tanzania labour laws and regulations.
- Proficiency with MS Office Suite (Word, Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint, Access) and human resource information system software.

Application should be accompanied with:

- A well-typed CV;
- Certified copies of relevant certificates;
- Names of at least three (3) referees from previous jobs (line managers) with reliable contacts;
- Contact address during daytime (Postal Address, Telephone, e mail and Fax)

Send your application to the following address:
Chief Finance and Administration Officer,
Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS) Project,
P.O. Box 29,
Dodoma

OR

Online application via email: elton.mapesal8@gmail.com and, or german.martinezpacheco@swisstph.org
Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

DEADLINE: The deadline for submission of application is on 8th November, 2019 at 16.00 hours.

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We need to get down to real business and implement efforts to end malaria

THE very mention of the word 'MALARIA' makes many of our people shudder, and this for no other reason than that the disease has wreaked untold havoc in our country over the decades.

There is the paradox that the disease is highly preventable but still kills millions of people every year while there appears to be little let-up in the mortality and morbidity it causes across communities, nations and continents.

Additionally, heavily funded global initiatives to tame the disease have made some headway in making the world safe enough, amid reservations as to the level of seriousness governments, other institutions and individuals attach to such efforts.

This is, at best, bad news - and the likes of the World Health Organisation have remarked as much, though often in diplomacy-coated language.

For instance, the UN agency has had occasion to declare that progress in the war on malaria had levelled off - and this after more than ten years of steady advances.

WHO reported that no significant gains were made in easing the incidence of the disease in the period 2015 to 2017, noting: "Urgent action is needed to get the global response to malaria back on track - and ownership of the challenge lies in the hands of countries most affected by malaria."

Accordingly, on the occasion of World Malaria Day (April 25) this year, the agency said it was joining the vigorously touted RBM (Roll Back Malaria) Partnership to End Malaria, the African Union Commission and other partner organisations in promoting "Zero malaria starts with me".

This is a grassroots campaign specifically designed to keep malaria high on the political agenda, mobilise additional resources, and empower communities to take ownership of malaria prevention and care.

As noted on numerous previous occasions, the killer disease has all but defied national, regional and global to kick it out of circulation, if you will.

Trouble is that the world will not afford to retreat or withdraw from this war because doing so would be a recipe for a catastrophe in public health. So, nations must continue to play ball by doing the most they can to translate into concrete action calls by experts towards that end.

Many official websites have repeatedly run heartwarming reports on the progress some countries have made towards taming malaria, even if by merely mitigating the havoc the disease can wreak on national development - public health in particular.

For instance, Zanzibar is credited with having produced phenomenal gains in implementing malaria prevention and treatment interventions, while joint efforts by the US-based Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Tanzania's Ifakara Health Institute (CDC/IHI) have won global recognition for leading applied research to guide malaria control programmes in Tanzania.

Surely, administering highly effective malaria treatment drugs, delivering insecticide-treated mosquito nets, documenting distribution of drug-resistant strains of malaria and undertaking national surveys on quality of antimalarial drugs can make much difference. But they definitely do not constitute a cure-all.

WHO has aptly warned that, despite the advances made globally in the war on malaria, "reaching the next level - elimination - will not be easy".

But what, if one were to ask, is preventing us from keeping mosquitoes permanently at bay by investing more of our own efforts and part of the outside funding coming our way in environmental cleanliness campaigns? Seriously, we need to toe this line.

So, what of this mystery over Dar's Kinondoni Cemetery?

SINCE as long ago as the 1980s, there have been suggestions to the effect that Dar es Salaam's much-preferred Kinondoni Cemetery had run out of "public" burial space.

What that was meant to mean was that only families, communities or individuals who had "booked" space in the graveyard would have any hope of finding room there when they needed it. The rest, in their millions, had no option but to settle for space elsewhere - including at sites well outside the city.

But surprise, surprise, burials have continued to be held at the Kinondoni Cemetery, and it has not been only at the reserved VIP "wing".

What is even more startling is that the ministerial, municipal, cemetery or other authorities concerned do not appear to have seen or felt the need to keep the stunned public in the loop on the situation on the ground.

One consequence of this lack of relevant information may be the eruption of rumour upon rumour in the city and beyond with respect to what is actually going on and why.

This may include 'speculation' that, in fact, the cemetery ran out of public burial space as long ago as when it was announced years ago that any graves dug there since that time are but "mere replacements".

This would suggest that there is demand for the re-use of grave sites within the cemetery - which, by extension, would necessitate the mounting of new graves on old and supposedly forgotten ones or exhuming whatever lay in the years-old graves for subsequent relocation.

But there is ample evidence from many parts of the world that the re-use of space already used for burial, and

therefore necessitating the relocation of the remains of the dead, can cause be considerably distressing.

At least one media survey found several years ago that there was a bewildering shortage of handy graveyards in Dar es Salaam. Kinondoni Cemetery was easily cited as the most notorious, the other burial sites in the city also affected by then including those in the Mwananyamala kwa Kopa, Mburahati, Magomeni, Kisutu, Upanga, Sinza kwa Remi, Hananasif, Chang'ombe and Temeke Wailesi suburbs.

As if this was not bad enough, or so the survey showed, cemeteries in Dar es Salaam are no longer the 'sacred' places they used to be regarded as - what with all manner of criminal activities going on deep inside graveyards.

Reining in criminal elements frequenting those areas was, at least by the look of things, as easy to ensure as would be reducing to zero the number of cases of body exhumations to pave the way for grave re-use - as all that was needed was tighter security including concrete-fencing of graveyards.

The way one's loved ones are laid to rest is no joking matter. That is precisely why the way cemeteries are treated counts for much in all communities where respect for human dignity still has pride of place.

Tanzania remains one such civilised and caring "community", and this makes us feel compelled to demand that all concerned answer this question: Has Kinondoni Cemetery run out of burial space or hasn't it?

It would serve really useful purpose for the answer to cover wide enough ground to relate to the state and status of cemeteries in all our urban areas and elsewhere in the country.



Facts and myths about the degree to which the uvula serves your body

By Dr Joseph Mercola

THE uvula is the dangly bit of flesh that hangs at the back of the throat, a body part that has prompted many to wonder: "Why is that even there?" Fittingly, the word uvula comes from the Latin word 'uvula', which means 'small bunch of grapes'.

In ancient times, the uvula was believed to play a role in speech and immunology. It was also somewhat feared and regarded as a potentially hazardous organ that could cause apnea and death.

Apnea is a common sleep disorder in which an individual's breathing repeatedly stops and starts during sleep. Symptoms include daytime sleepiness, loud snoring and restless sleep.

Writing in the journal Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, researchers suggested in the 1990s that the most important function of the uvula may be due to the muscularis uvula - the muscle that moves the uvula up and down.

"Its function could be related to drinking while bending over," they stated, citing a previous assumption that the uvula may be leftover from mammals that drink while bending their necks downwards.

However, when they studied the soft palate (the soft tissue at the back of the roof of the mouth) of eight different mammals, "a small underdeveloped uvula" was found in only two baboons. In other words, it seems that most other mammals do not have uvulas, which pretty much debunked the 'drinking while bending over' theory.

What happens if your uvula is removed?

In some areas, including in several sub-Saharan African countries, traditional uvulectomy - or removing all or part of the uvula - is performed for cultural reasons.

Other ethnic groups may perform uvulectomy in order to treat everything from vomiting and anorexia to refusal to breastfeed in infants, growth retardation and fever.

Anorexia nervosa, often referred to simply as anorexia, is an eating disorder characterised by low weight, food restriction, fear of gaining weight, and a strong desire to be thin. Many people with anorexia see themselves

as overweight even though they are, in fact, underweight.

There are clear risks to the surgery (uvulectomy) itself, but whether the lack of a uvula poses additional problems is more of a mystery. Many people do live healthy lives without a uvula, but that isn't to say that the organ is not important.

Clues to the purpose of the uvula may be gleaned from uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP), which is surgery that may be used to treat obstructive sleep apnea or severe cases of snoring (even though in the long term it may only reduce snoring in 46 per cent to 73 per cent of patients and results for treating sleep apnea are mixed).

The surgery typically involves removal of the uvula along with other tissues, such as part of the roof of the mouth, excess throat tissue, tonsils and adenoids and the pharynx.

The purpose is to widen the airway, allowing air to move through more easily and potentially reduce the severity of obstructive sleep apnea and snoring.

Some people who have the surgery have unpleasant complications, including changes in speech, drainage of secretions into their nose and a nasal quality to their voice, which may be related, in part, to their lack of a uvula.

Five possible reasons to 'retain' a uvula

The uvula may have multiple purposes, some of which may have yet to be discovered. However, research to date has uncovered several plausible reasons why humans have uvulas.

One: It is an accessory organ of speech. It has been suggested that the uvula prevents excessively nasal speech and also is used to produce uvular sounds found in French, Arabic and some West African languages.

According to researchers from Hasharon Hospital in Israel: "Both uvula and speech serve to differentiate human beings from animals. Our conclusion is that the uvula is possibly an accessory organ of speech ... and may be another marker of human evolution that differentiates man from other mammals."

However, adding to the complexities, some research suggests that removal of the uvula does not have a negative effect on speech.

Two: To keep the throat lubricated.

It's known that the uvula has the ability to produce and secrete large quantities of thin saliva. When it is surgically removed, some people even experience dryness in the throat as a result.

When we speak and swallow, the uvula swings back and forth, and it's been suggested that the purpose is essentially to help "keep the throat moist and well lubricated." This lubrication may assist with the complex sounds of human speech.

Three: To help keep food from going up the nose, to serve as a drain for mucus. Another theory suggests that the uvula exists to block the path of food and liquid from going up the nose. It does this by sealing off the passageway between the throat and the nose (the nasopharynx), keeping food and liquid in the right place.

It's this seal that may also help prevent an overly nasal-sounding voice, as it helps direct air and vocal vibrations out of the mouth instead of the nose. It is known, though, that the soft palate can typically create this seal on its own.

It's also been suggested that the uvula may help to drain and direct the flow of mucus secreted from the nasal cavities, helping it to flow towards the base of the tongue and down the throat.

Four: To trigger the gag reflex. If something touches the uvula, it will trigger the gag reflex, which causes a contraction at the back of the throat that thrusts objects forward and helps prevent choking. It could be that the uvula exists for this purpose, that is, to help expel any objects that are too large to swallow.

The uvula is one of only five parts of the body capable of triggering one's gag reflex when touched. The others are the roof of the mouth, the back of the tongue, the back of the throat and one's tonsils.

Five: Immunological importance. When researchers analysed the frequency and distribution of immune cells in uvula tissue samples, they found that the uvula may be a site for induction of mucosal tolerance to inhaled and ingested antigens, that is, substances capable of stimulating an immune response.

Mucosal tolerance occurs only on mucosal surfaces and results in the suppression of one's immune responses to inhaled or ingested antigens. The purpose is to prevent the body from launching an unnecessary

immunological attack against harmless substances like pollen or foods.

Interestingly, the uvula also has its own protection against potential microbial pathogens.

A long uvula may trigger a chronic cough

If you suffer from a chronic cough with no explanation, it's worth considering whether the uvula could be to blame. It has been found that some people have a uvula that is so elongated that it irritates the upper airway and induces a cough reflex.

For the most part, however, you and your uvula probably coexist without any problems. Occasionally, a case of a swollen uvula is reported, which may occur due to an allergic reaction, infection, trauma or a genetic condition called hereditary angioedema, which causes swelling of the uvula, throat, face, hands and feet.

For the most part, this is a mild condition that will clear up on its own, but in rare cases your uvula could swell enough to make swallowing or even breathing difficult.

In these latter cases, seek medical help immediately. For minor irritation of the uvula, sucking on ice chips or gargling with warm salt water will do.

Rethink having the uvula pierced

Although it's not common, some people choose to have the uvula pierced. This process comes with numerous complexities and risks, however, starting with the piercing process itself. Because handling the uvula will trigger a gag reflex, it is very difficult to safely pierce this sensitive area.

Since the long-term consequences of piercing - or removing - the uvula remain rather unclear at this time, it's best to leave the organ alone.

• **First published in Dr Mercola's Natural Health Newsletter. The contents of this website are based upon the opinions of Dr Mercola, unless otherwise noted. The information is intended as a sharing of knowledge and information from the research and experience of Dr Mercola and his community. Dr Mercola encourages people to make their own health care decisions based upon informed research and in partnership with health care professionals.**

Empowering communities to deal with climate change challenges: Case of Chalinze District

By Gerald Kitabu

CHALINZE district council had been supported to conduct climate change vulnerability impact assessment (VIA), with a support from USAID under SERVIR project. E-Link Consult implemented this study. The study identified Talawanda ward to be among the most vulnerable area with regard to climate change impacts. The District Natural Resources Officer Revocatus Samweli noted the importance of this study in contributing to a broader climate knowledge that existed in the district, while identifying areas for strategic climate change adaptation intervention. A total of 20 community members from five villages of Talawanda, Msigi, Mindukene, Kisanga and Magulumatali were trained on climate change concepts, impacts and how they are linked to other development activities. The District Community Development Officer Frank Makala said, "Deliberate efforts were made to ensure that selected community members were representing key community groups found within Talawanda ward level from all the five villages. Participants included representatives from agricultural groups, livestock keeping groups, small scale business groups and special need group.

Msigi Village Executive Officer Exaud Mhelela said that these groups have been very instrumental in spreading information, knowledge and innovation to other community members, thus they are used as ambassadors of change. He added that these social groups have empowered most of the community members especially women to participate in different decision making bodies at the village and ward levels, thus inviting them to participate in such climate change awareness and capacity building sessions is a good opportunity, which empowers them to respond to climate change challenges using available knowledge and resources". The session brought together community members and district officers from various departments including agriculture, livestock, land, water, environment, community development and natural resources. Each district officer had an opportunity to share how these sectors have been impacted by climate change impacts, and how to respond to such challenges. It was very interesting when the Agricultural officer Abdallah Almas mentioned that biological predators such as praying mantis, toads, chameleon, wasps, bees, dragonfly, ladybird beetle and weevil ants were very important to the farmers because they eat crop pests, however due to changes in the weather and climate, such predators have decreased. He added that in turn, there has



been increase in crop pests and diseases such as; bacterial bright, anthracnose, leaf spot, white flies, hornworms, meal bugs and stem borers. Participants were enlightened with sustainable and climate smart agriculture practices as measures to respond to climate change challenges facing agriculture sector. Participants were further warned against farming practices which contribute to deforestation leading to poor farm lands and crop productivity. Poor law enforcement was mentioned as among the key drivers to these challenges.

Citing an example of influx of the pastoralists, he said that the solution is to ensure village leaders comply with the existing regulations and guidelines, while educating communities to set aside areas for grazing.

Chalinze District Veterinary Officer Dr. Agrey Nkwabi advised pastoralists to improve their pastoral practices to be able to adapt to climate change impacts which have caused notable impacts to livestock and on the pasture quality and quantity. He advised them to keep improved cattle rather than the traditional cattle. "Improved cattle adds more value to the household income, helps to conserve the environment, helps the pastoralists to engage in other income generating projects, generates substantial amount of revenue compared to the traditional species" he said. He advised community members to engage in improved livestock keeping practices, which will help them tackle emerging challenges imposed by climate change.

Land use conflicts were noted during the session. The District Land Officer Selestine Liweje acknowledged government efforts to institute change in the management of land and other natural resources, urging the villagers to support the efforts by operationalizing village land use plans for those villages that have developed these plans.

Talawanda ward residents attend a two-day seminar on the impact of climate change on development activities. It was held at Msigi in Chalinze District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

Those that do not have yet, the district is still soliciting support from various sources to ensure that those villages develop village land use plans

Chalinze district Environment Officer Nadhir Kabiliga and water technician Lightness Ndosa said the ongoing environmental destructions are mainly caused by increased unsustainable human activities and have already started causing big problems in some parts of the district.

"I urge you to take action and participate in conserving the environment through planting trees and stop degradation of water sources. It is also important to invest in rainwater harvesting technologies at the household level" said Ndosa.

Contributing to the training, the villagers said that they were ignorant of the causes of climate change; as such they were encroaching and degrading the forests, random cutting down trees, and clearing forests for agricultural land. But after the training, they have acquired knowledge and skills on how to conserve the environment for their own future benefits.

Msigi Village Executive Officer Exaud Mhelela explained that the training will contribute to change of behavior and attitude toward the challenges we have been facing, especially drought and decreased rainfall, which have impacted all groups economically and socially. "Most of the farmers have witnessed decrease in crop productivity and increased food insecurity. This training has helped them understand that they have a role to play in order to be food secure"

He further added that the ward is challenged with increased population, shifting cultivation and livestock over flock. Villagers are now aware of the effects of climate change and measures to be taken before things go worse. I am sure we are going to convene village meetings in every village

in the entire Talawanda ward, to help inform others on how these challenges can be responded"

Meeting participants added that the village and the ward at large is faced with many problems such as land use conflicts between the farmers and pastoralists, unsustainable charcoal making and shifting cultivation, a situation which has contributed a lot to deforestation in the ward.

"In the past there were rivers with water flowing naturally in every part of the ward. Crops such as cashewnuts, cassava, and maize were thriving well even without using fertilizers but today almost all rivers have dried up and these crops are no longer thriving again," said Mwanahamis Said from Talawanda village.

A representative from pastoralists' community, Michael Mogitu said that not all pastoralists are destroying the environment; there are some of them who conduct their activities without compromising the environment. He urged the government and other stakeholders to continue providing them with education and knowledge on how to conduct their activities sustainably while adapting to climate change impacts.

Explaining how climate change has affected the district, Shafii Tengeza from Magulumatali village said in the past, farmer would cultivate only one acre and get bumper harvest even without applying fertilizer, but in recent years, the same farmer would cultivate five acres but end up getting nothing.

At the end of the training, the villagers came up with several measures in an effort to adapt to climate change impacts.

They recommended that education on environmental conservation should continue adding that it should be regular agenda in the village meeting and during the meetings held by different income generating groups in the village.

"We recommend that the district council should put in place a special condition that requires women and youth groups that want grants from the 10 percent set aside by the district council to plant trees first for them to qualify," they said.

They also promised to launch tree planting program to curb climate change, to use their income generating projects to spread environment education awareness. "We want to introduce environmental mentors and forums to talk about the environment and climate change," they added. They also recommended that the district council and the region should enforce laws governing environmental conservation adding that the villagers should start harvesting rain water and construct water dams for use during dry season.



Migrants walk through the barren landscape near Obock. Photo: IOM

Ethiopian migrants' decision-making the focus of new research in Djibouti

By Special Correspondents

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Zinatou says learning difficulties forced her to drop out of school in Ethiopia. She soon set her sights on reaching Saudi Arabia through Obock, a coastal village in neighbouring Djibouti.

"I just followed a group of friends who decided to migrate. My family was not aware of my travel," she says. Zinatou also travelled without a back-up plan.

"What shocked me the most was seeing dead bodies of migrants abandoned on the road. We saw dead bodies in two different places," she says, adding: "It was hard to look at them because we were thirsty and we were afraid to end up like them, abandoned on the road."

New research by the International Organisation for Migration's (IOM) Regional Data Hub in the Kenya capital is looking to cast the spotlight on these movements. It seeks to explore the nexus between migrant integration, decision-making and the expectations of the migration journey among young Ethiopian migrants venturing through this migratory route.

The first half of this year saw IOM track 238,219 movements along this dangerous route. Ethiopian nationals were by far the majority (95 per cent of those moving along the Eastern route), followed by Somalis (almost 5 per cent), while other nationalities observed accounted for less than 0.1 per cent.

The research is being carried out with the support of the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in the Horn of Africa, a 43-million Euro programme funded by the European Union and running until 2021.

The study's main target population are Ethiopians aged between 15 and 29 years migrating for the first time. To supplement the insights gleaned from this group, returning migrants and re-migrating migrants are also being interviewed.

The research is structured along two phases: quantitative and qualitative, chiefly to ensure a deeper understanding of the dynamics under investigation.

Another migrant, Fanah, shares a similar story as he also awaits his return to Ethiopia from Djibouti. "I migrated to have a better life. This is my third attempt," the 23-year-old says, adding: "The first time, I arrived in Saudi Arabia. I worked there for one year but was deported."

The second time he was stranded in Yemen because of the war. On his most recent attempt, he was intercepted by coastguards off the coast of Djibouti.

Still, tens of migrants from land-locked Ethiopia regularly cross into Djibouti, a hot barren country that also serves as a major transit location for migrants on the eastern reaches of Africa. They are largely young adult males and about one-fifth of them are below 18. Their destination is main-

ly Obock, now associated with such migrants seeking to cross the Gulf of Eden to reach Yemen, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, on the so-called Eastern route.

But not much else is known about them in great detail, except that their movements are motivated by a desire for a better life.

The information compiled in the quantitative phase of the research will serve to delineate a clearer picture of the decisions young Ethiopian migrants take when migrating, how they perceive their migration journeys and what expectations they hold.

It will also provide initial data on the challenges faced by this population during their migration. Once the quantitative data have been analysed, semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions will be conducted to explore the emerging themes and gather more nuanced information on migrant motivations, expectations and hopes.

Ethiopia, the second most populous country in Africa after Nigeria, accounts for the largest numbers of migrant movements in the Horn of Africa.

The research is being conducted in close coordination with relevant national and local governmental authorities. IOM expects to share some preliminary results at the beginning of next year, with a full launch of the research to stakeholders and the general public in booklet form and online around mid-2020.

Laura Nistri, head of IOM's regional data hub, says: "The Eastern migratory corridor is the most predominant in this region, mainly attracting tens of thousands of young Ethiopians seeking to improve their living conditions and economic status."

She adds: "At the same time, a significant number of them are routinely deported back to the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, risking their lives while passing across war-torn Yemen. Most others are facing challenging working conditions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia."

Backed by the EU Trust Fund, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative covers - and has been set up in close cooperation with - a total of 26 African countries.

The programme facilitates orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration management through the development of rights-based and development-focused procedures and processes on protection and sustainable reintegration.

The initiative supports evidence-based policies and programme design by strengthening migration data on migratory movements and migrants' needs and vulnerabilities. This enables migrants and potential migrants to make informed decisions about their migratory journeys, and also works to sensitise communities on migration.

A joint International Organisation for Migration dispatch filed from Nairobi and Addis Ababa.

Africa-US collaboration high on agenda at 2019 Africa Oil Week

LONDON

WITH the emergence of shale gas earlier this decade, the US shot to the top of the global oil and gas rankings. Last year, it averaged 17.87 million b/d (barrels per day), which accounts for 18 per cent of the world's production. This is up from the 15.6 million b/d in 2017.

The US administration last December launched its Prosper Africa initiative, its vision being to open markets for American businesses, grow Africa's middle class, promote youth employment opportunities, improve the business climate, and enable the US to compete with China and other nations with business interests in Africa.

The \$50 million programme will offer technical help to companies looking to enter or grow in Africa, a continent urbanising more rapidly than anywhere else on Earth. The region is projected to have 1.52 billion consumers by 2025, which comes to nearly five times the size of the US population.

A continued priority for the US Department of Energy is now looking towards Africa to develop opportunities in the exploration, production and monetisation of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

In the words of US Energy Secretary Rick Perry, "increased amounts of US LNG on the world market benefit the American economy, American workers and consumers and help make the air cleaner around the globe".

Under this new strategy the US government, including the Department of Energy, is looking to assist Africa to advance economic prosperity and en-

ergy development across the continent without saddling them with unsustainable debt or imperilling their long-term economic development or their sovereignty.

When it comes to the oil and gas sector, American corporations are already very active on the continent. Earlier this year, Texas energy firm Anadarko Petroleum gave the green light to start building a \$20 billion gas liquefaction and export terminal in Mozambique - the biggest such project ever approved in Africa.

To further this policy, US Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Steven Winberg, will join 25-plus Pan-African ministers at the November 4 to 8 Africa Oil Week summit in Cape Town.

He will use the five-day event to share US energy policy points with the continent and outline a vision for deeper US commitment to Africa in the oil, gas and power sectors.

This vision looks set to encompass increased two-way trade and investment between the US and Africa, with the US making potential capital available on joint-ventures and to part-finance LNG infrastructure for energy-lacking African countries.

"I am excited to represent the US at the upcoming Africa Oil Week Conference in Cape Town, South Africa," Winberg said.

He elaborated: "We want our friends and partners in Africa to thrive, prosper and control their own destinies. And we welcome the opportunity to share with them not only our abundant energy resources but also the knowledge and technologies that can help them develop their own resources."



Africa Oil Week summit will focus on major investment opportunities in Africa's oil and gas sector.

Winberg is scheduled to deliver a keynote address on the main stage, explaining the strategy the US department of energy has for engagement in Africa.

Prior to that, he will be taking part in a high profile 'Live CNBC Africa Broadcast: The Africa Oil Week Leaders Debate', later discussing how the US is helping drive growth in South Africa's unconventional sector.

His final appearance will on Thursday when he is expected to talk about what the US is doing to strengthen bilateral trade and investment between

the US and Africa.

Africa Oil Week is the leading oil and gas event for the continent, with over 1,800 key executives attending from around the world to broker new deals.

The global E&P (energy & power) community, which comprises governments, national and international oil companies, corporate players, independents, investors, financiers and service providers, is brought together in Cape Town each November for the event to network, discuss and share knowledge.

•Agencies

USING the pages of one of the world's most prestigious scientific journals, a group of authors have recently suggested that trophy hunting in Africa, while perhaps repugnant, is a necessary evil without which wildlife conservation efforts are doomed.

Their claims are flawed, poorly substantiated and dangerous. Most tellingly, their credibility is diminished by their association with the international hunting lobby itself.

In a letter published in *Science*, the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr Amy Dickman, a conservation biologist at the University of Oxford, four co-authors (Rosie Cooney, Paul J Johnson, Maxi Pia Louis and Dilys Roe) and 128 signatories, argue that hunting wild African animals for trophies plays an important role in their survival. They contend that restricting the export and import of hunting trophies has a detrimental effect on wildlife conservation.

The authors suggest that trophy hunting promotes wildlife biodiversity, significantly promotes the protection of habitats for wild animal populations that would otherwise be used for other purposes, such as farming, and benefits impoverished local communities financially.

They tell us that they themselves actually dislike the very concept of trophy hunting, but that Africa's conservation challenge simply cannot be solved without it. They would have us believe that there is no long-term future for Africa's wildlife without the benevolent bullets of trophy hunters.

The trouble is that the arguments presented by Dickman and her colleagues have repeatedly been debunked.

Many ecologists believe that there is little or no actual conservation value in trophy hunting and that the "sport" has detrimental effects on the genetic viability of mammal populations in the wild.

Despite many hand-waving protestations from the hunting lobby to the contrary, there are clear indications from across Africa that trophy hunting provides precious little in the way of economic support for local rural communities, especially at the household level. Instead, most of the profits end up in the pockets of domestic elites and foreign investors.

In a critique of Dickman et al's letter, economist Ross Harvey illustrates the fallacy of their contention by pointing to the example of Tanzania's Selous Game Reserve, much of which has been carved up into hunting concessions.

The result?

"The surrounding communities received hardly any benefits and ele-



Trophy hunting: A new front opens in the War of Words

phants were decimated over a five-year period between 2009 and 2014."

While a casual reading of Dickman et al's letter may have convinced many people of the veracity of its content, there are a number of troubling issues that should have them questioning the intentions of the authors.

Publishing the piece in *Science*, one of the top academic journals in the world, and having it co-signed by no fewer than 128 signatories, creates the impression that there is widespread scientific consensus on the matter. As such, the authors' discredited arguments were picked up and disseminated to a much larger audience by commercial media outlets, including the BBC.

The reality is, however, that such a consensus does not exist. In fact, a large number of conservation experts do not share Dickman et al's confidence in the benefits of trophy hunting.

This much became clear when a subsequent edition of *Science* carried no fewer than six rebuttal letters, one of which included 56 and another 71 signatories in addition to the main authors.

Their critics show that Dickman and her co-authors used evidence that was "weak" and "selective", and that they

failed to provide factual data to prove that trophy hunting is beneficial to either conservation or local communities.

In the words of the University of Queensland's Dr Mucha Mkonzo, a co-author of one of the rebuttal letters, "trophy hunting is not the long-term solution to Africa's wildlife conservation challenges".

"Responsible governance, characterised by accountability, rigorous, evidence-based policies and actions, and appreciation of wildlife value beyond the economic, is."

The timing of the publication of Dickman et al's letter should be suspicious to the astute reader as it comes at a strategically critical time for the trophy hunting industry.

Lawmakers in Europe and the US have been considering bans on the import of hunting trophies. Just four days after the controversial letter appeared in print, the so-called CECIL Act (Conserving Ecosystems by Ceasing the Importation of Large Animal Trophies Act) was introduced in the US Congress.

Named after Cecil, a much-liked

Zimbabwean male lion controversially killed by an American trophy hunter in 2015, this piece of legislation would, if enacted, restrict the importation of sport-hunted trophies into the US.

That alone establishes the CECIL Act as a major thorn in the side of the trophy hunting lobby, but what makes it even more significant is that it mandates a formal government investigation into "the effectiveness of trophy hunting in supporting international wildlife conservation efforts", a study that would expose one of the industry's most repeated arguments as a fallacy.

Supporters of trophy hunting in the US have been hard at work opposing the CECIL Act and given the timing and content of the contentious letter, it is difficult not to consider it as a part of this larger campaign.

Soon after the Dickman et al letter appeared in *Science*, it became apparent that the people who penned it may have been motivated by more than science.

Harvey notes that some of the 128 signatories "are not scientists by any stretch of the imagina-

tion – some lack credentials and some have a vested interest in the trophy hunting industry".

As it turns out, four of the five main authors have had financial links to the trophy hunting industry in the past, including support from the Dallas Safari Club and Safari Club International. These are among the world's most uncompromising and influential supporters of trophy hunting and their destructive impact on populations of African wildlife is well documented.

The editor-in-chief of *Science*, Jeremy Berg, has acknowledged that at the time the Dickman et al letter was published, the journal did not require authors to disclose any conflicts of interest. They have since done so in an addendum and the journal's policy in this regard is "under revision".

The authors' reluctance to reveal their connections to the industry lends credence to the view that their piece is little more than a marketing effort disguised as a serious scientific contribution.

In their attempts to convince readers that trophy hunting is

an unfortunate but indispensable conservation tool, they appear to wilfully ignore existing and viable alternatives, a number of examples of which are showcased by the authors of the rebuttal letters.

The reality is this: trophy hunting is an indulgence for a global minority of super-rich individuals and the only way in which it can be justified is by erecting pseudo-scientific arguments suggesting that it is somehow beneficial.

International public opinion is increasingly turning against this practice, recognising it for what it is: a cruel and unnecessary evil.

Threatened by this situation, the trophy hunting lobby and its ideological hangers-on will do whatever it can to defend the right of its members to shoot wild animals and display their stuffed carcasses.

In these Trumpian, post-truth times, this frequently means spinning lies and misrepresentations into seemingly rational and reasonable arguments. The letter by Dickman et al should be interpreted in this light.

DM

When caretakers side with child traffickers

BY MOUHAMADOU KANE

THE marabout [Quranic teacher] promised my father that he would take care of me and teach me Quran. But [when] we reached Senegal, he forced me to beg on [the] street. I must bring him \$1 every day. He beat me severely when I failed to get that amount. This is the story of a former victim of child trafficking found at the Friends of Children Association office in Gabu, east Guinea-Bissau.

Families like that of the boy found in Gabu entrust their children to Quranic teachers who are meant to instil the teachings of the Quran and Islamic values in their pupils. This has always been a socially accepted practice, but over the past decade Quranic teachers have increasingly been linked to child trafficking for forced begging.

Criminal networks exploit this practice and profit from the vulnerability of poor families to develop a parallel economy, preying on children to make money. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the forced begging of children in Senegal generates 5 billion CFA (US\$8 million) annually. The eastern regions of Gabu and Bafatá are Guinea-Bissau's main child trafficking centres.

Quranic teachers known as marabouts use different techniques to recruit new children. During religious ceremonies in Guinea-Bissau, they bring two or three students from Senegal, whom they prepare well to recite Quranic verses. Once the children perform successfully in front of the audience, the marabouts offer parents free quality Islamic education for their children in Senegal. The parents generally accept without question.

Parents also often consider the departure of their children from the family home a blessing. They have fewer mouths to feed and believe their children will return having memorised the Quran.

Some marabouts send their older students to villages to recruit for them. Like the marabouts, these intermediaries use false promises to convince the children to follow them to Senegal.

A 14-year-old trafficking victim from Guinea-Bissau found in a reception centre for vulnerable children in Dakar told the ENACT organised crime programme: "The young marabout came to our house and showed me a picture of a pretty house. Then he told me if I agree to go with him to Senegal, it is in this beautiful villa that I will live and learn the Quran."

In the past, traffickers used official routes to transport their victims to Senegal. But since the tightening of controls on both sides of the border in 2016, strategies have changed to circumvent the plans of the Guinea-Bissau and Senegalese authorities. Given the porosity of the border and criminal networks' knowledge of the area, traffickers use secondary routes to bring their victims into Senegal. The most common routes are the Bafata-Cambadjou-Salikégné and the Gabu-Pirada Sare Bakar axes.

ENACT discovered that some child traffickers, despite increased surveillance at the borders, still manage to smuggle their victims into Senegal via official routes. Some Senegalese border security officials are lenient towards Guinea-Bissau children as most don't possess national identification documents.

When traffickers reach the border, they present the victims as their own



Under the pretext of free religious education, thousands of children become slaves on Senegal's streets. File photo

children. A border police official told ENACT that "since they don't have any identification documents, it's difficult to verify the veracity [of] their declaration. We therefore let them go, in order to abide by the [Economic Community of West African States] freedom-of-movement rule."

Women also play a prominent role in child trafficking, ENACT found. To minimise the detection and interception risks at the border, criminals entrust their wives with transporting the victims to Senegal. Criminal networks also reportedly engage women travelling in the same vehicle with them to help them smuggle their victims.

A 13-year-old boy who was trafficked told ENACT: "When we arrived a few kilometres before the border with Senegal, the marabout asked some ladies travelling with us to take us with them and

to introduce us as their own sons, which they accepted."

When victims enter Senegal's southern region of Kolda, some are initiated into the practice of begging and are taught wolof - the national language of Senegal. Other children are transported directly to big cities. Dakar, Saint-Louis, Mbour and Thies appear to be their main destinations, where they stay in abandoned or unfinished houses.

Trafficked children live in deep emotional misery and are often subjected to sexual abuse by bigger students or to physical abuse when they don't deliver their assigned daily amount.

It's estimated that a child trafficker in Dakar can make up to 1 500 000 CFA (US\$2 524) from his victims every month, while in Saint-Louis in the north, criminals are said to earn 375 000 CFA (US\$631) monthly. This money is

laundered through for example real estate, illegal immigration, the cashew nut business, the charcoal industry and the transport sector.

In response to the crime, both Senegal and Guinea-Bissau ratified the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols to prevent, suppress and punish human trafficking, especially women and children, in 2003 and 2007 respectively.

They also adopted article 5 of the protocol into their national laws to criminalise child trafficking.

But enforcing laws against child trafficking in both countries remains a major challenge. According to a Tambacounda court judge, this is mainly due to a lack of specialisation of law enforcement staff, and the interference of religious and community leaders

in political affairs.

To overcome these challenges, Senegal and Guinea-Bissau should urgently establish formal bilateral cooperation on the matter, and their respective police agencies should exchange information. Both governments need to provide law enforcement staff and border officials with adequate training in detecting and reporting trafficking.

Religious leaders also need to play a role, by informing the population through their preaching, either in mosques or on radio. In Senegal and Guinea-Bissau, religious leaders are considered religious authorities and are usually very influential. Their involvement could help open the eyes of the population.

Mouhamadou Kane, Researcher, ENACT project, ISS Dakar

Alex Mwandenga: Making a living through selling roasted potatoes, bananas, cassava on streets

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

A 41-year-old Alex Mwandenga of Iringa municipality has been living through selling roasted potatoes, bananas and cassava on the streets.

A father of three has been doing the activity for the past ten years, when he was selling roasted maize.

"I have been doing this for almost ten years. The monies I get helps me to pay house rent, purchase food and meet my children's school requirements", says Mwandenga who operates from Miyomboni Street in Iringa town.

Before engaging in the business, Mwandenga was earning a living by carrying luggage and people's stuff at the main market in Iringa region. He said after doing the job for years, he resolved to start selling roasted maize, bananas and cassava.

"It is through this business I managed to educate my children. My 19-year-old daughter has completed Form Six and will be joining university later this year. My second daughter will be sitting for Form Four national examinations next month", he said.

Most of the cassava according to him come from Luganga and Pawaga villages in Iringa district while bananas come from Mbeya and Songea regions. He said cassava from Luganga



village is supplied throughout the year as farmers cultivate the crop using irrigation schemes.

He thanked President John Magufuli for coming up with the petty traders special identity cards (IDs) since traders are now not subjected to the many taxes that were charged by regional authorities.

In December last year, President Magufuli handed over 670,000 special IDs to all regional commissioners to be distributed to petty traders across the country. President Magufuli ordered each of the ID be sold at 20,000/- to petty traders whose businesses capital was less than 4m/-.

He challenged young people not to be too selective on choosing jobs since it is the responsibility of every individual to prepare his or her future life.

"I get a lot of customers because I prepare my products in a clean environment. I use proper garbage collection facilities to keep food remains as well as regular cleaning of business area to avoid flies", he said.

He said that municipal officials uses the set by-laws to charge some fees to traders which include the fees for using public space, waste management and food inspections.

The government is committed to the development of small-scale busi-

nesses through the Small Industrial Development Organization (SIDO), which provides grants to traders.

Street food vending in Tanzania is dominated by women, accounting to between 80 and 90 percent of all the vendors.



It is through this business I managed to educate my children. My 19-year-old daughter has completed Form Six and will be joining university later this year. My second daughter will be sitting for Form Four national examinations next month

Bank expands physical and digital footprint across Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has announced that it has expanded its presence in the country by adding 3 new collection centres in Arusha, Mbeya and Mwanza in efforts to provide their customers the convenience and flexibility to transact.

At a time when industry players are closing branches, Stanbic is focused on expanding and upgrading the bank's traditional and digital branches in order to cater to their increasingly technologically savvy and connected customers across the country.

Apart from the newly erected service centers that are aimed at serving traders, the bank has also deployed a number of cash deposit machines in Dar es Salaam and up country, allowing bulk cash deposits even when banking hours are over.

The bank is also embarking on a digital transformation journey that will ensure its clients get the best of both worlds.

Speaking on the bank's expansion, the head of personal market, Mussa Kitoi said: "As the banking sector landscape changes, it is imperative that we continue making choices that allow us to offer outstanding and innovative services to our valued customers both on the ground and online. We are responding to our customers' requests and are now streamlining our efforts to serve Tanzanians more effectively through technology and enhanced products. We are truly excited to expand our financial services and to bring modern banking facilities closer to our clients' doorsteps."

These new developments are an increase of 33 per cent of Stanbic bank Tanzania footprint in the country. The bank has also invested in its digital platforms that simplifies access to all banking services and provides convenience for SMEs allowing them to run their business with ease. Stanbic will increase its branch network by establishing a presence in Dodoma early next year followed by Tanga.



As the banking sector landscape changes, it is imperative that we continue making choices that allow us to offer outstanding and innovative services to our valued customers both on the ground and online. We are responding to our customers' requests and are now streamlining our efforts to serve Tanzanians more effectively through technology and enhanced products. We are truly excited to expand our financial services and to bring modern banking facilities closer to

Forum to highlight Endowment Fund, its relevance to Tanzania's natural resources

By Correspondent Ezekiel Kamwaga

FOR the past 20 years, Tanzania economic growth has been at an average of six percent per annum - which is impressive for a developing country. One of the bedrock of this economic performance has been the extractive sector.

According to government data, for the last ten years, the mining revenues have always been at

around one trillion shillings per annum making one of the major contributor to our country's GDP.

Despite the success, there have always been opinions that the country could benefit more from its resources than it was in the past and now. That's why for the two decades new laws and regulations have been put in place to make sure that any lacuna in the country's legislative framework is sort out for the benefit of many.

Extractive sector is finite which means if you can't benefit when the resources are abundant, you can't recover the loss when you have nothing to offer on the table. The best time to gain is when you have resources yet to be extracted.

Since the turn of this decade, a lot of discussions have been going on how the funds generated from the extractive sector have been used. The danger of corruption and mismanagement

of public funds are always lurking with regards to this sector.

To ensure that future generations also benefits from our extractive riches, there was a suggestion in the past to create a special fund where the country will save money for future generations. Actually, a law was made to make sure that the Endowment Fund is created for that matter. The problem is, since the law was made, nothing seems to move with regards to the matter.

At this moment in time, nobody is asking questions about the fund.

Without the fund, there is real danger that country's generation will squander all the money and left future generations with some unwanted leftovers.

Next month, between November 6 and 7, in the country's capital Dodoma, a number of Civil Society Organizations under the coordination of HakiRasilimali will meet under Extractive Sector Forum to discuss

pertinent issues in the sector now and I hope the Endowment Fund fate will be discussed and deliberated upon. It is important to discuss about these fiscal issues because there is a lot to be talked about. Looking at figures from Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Tanzania Extractive Industries' Transparent Initiative (TEITI) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) they always differ, hence it is important such figures to be streamlined.

At the extractive sector forum in Dodoma, there're is much hope that the issues of proper revenue management and the investment for future generations will be extensively discussed. There are some African countries who have already established Endowment Funds in their respective countries and their knowledge and experience shared during the HakiRasilimali's coordinated event in Dodoma will be crucial and on time.



Arusha city director Dr Maulid Madeni comments yesterday on the demonstration staged by Olasiti residents demanding compensation to pave the way for the construction of a bus stand. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

\$85 million initiative to scale up agroforestry in Africa announced

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A coalition of NGOs has announced "the biggest land restoration project ever seen," starting with an \$85 million project to scale up agroforestry in Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

Agroforestry is the practice of growing trees, shrubs, herbs, and vegetables together in a group mimicking a forest, and is credited as a way to sequester climate-warming carbon while feeding people and providing habitat for biodiversity.

"This may be the largest individual investment ever made in agroforestry," one expert told Mongabay of the project.

The Global EverGreening Alliance has a goal of capturing 20 billion tons of CO2 annually by 2050, and this first project is said to cover an area about the size of the U.S. state of New Jersey.

Amid a deluge of news during the U.N. Climate Summit last month, one major announcement went largely uncovered, yet is among the most important initiatives aimed at reducing the effects of climate change revealed during the events in New York City.

A group of NGOs announced there that they have joined forces in what they're calling "the biggest land restoration project ever seen." They reported securing funding from G9 Ark to implement the initial phase of their first initia-

tive, an \$85 million project dubbed the Grand African Savannah Green Up.

The Green Up project is envisioned as a massive scaling-up of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) - the encouragement of regeneration of trees and shrubs that sprout from stumps, roots and seeds found in degraded soils, such as those currently under agricultural production - and other complementary practices across a swath of Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

Once established in farm fields, these woody plants improve soil fertility and moisture for crops planted in combination with them in a system known as agroforestry, which also sequesters carbon from the atmosphere while providing habitat for a diversity of creatures. FMNR made headlines several years ago when 5 million hectares (12 million acres) of Niger were reported to have been re-greened via the practice.

The coalition, which calls itself the Global EverGreening Alliance, has a goal of capturing 20 billion tons of CO2 annually by 2050, a figure they say would offset the anticipated fossil fuel emissions during this period while cooling the atmosphere via projects across Africa, Latin America, and Southeast and South Asia. The coalition is made up of NGOs such as World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, World Agroforestry, CARE International, Justdiggit, World Resources Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Concern Worldwide, and others.

Calling the Climate Week launch event at the Global Landscapes Forum a success and climate change an existential crisis, alliance chairman Dennis Garrity (who is also a distinguished senior research fellow with World Agroforestry and drylands ambassador for the U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification) told Mongabay by email that there will be six key areas of activity.

According to a draft alliance white paper reviewed by Mongabay, these activities include tripling the current rate of carbon accumulation on degraded farmlands by increasing tree cover through FMNR and agroforestry; increasing soil carbon through conservation farming practices on at least 500 million hectares (1.24 billion acres) of agricultural land; scaling up the use of leguminous shrubs that can fix nitrogen on farmlands; restoring tree cover on 575 million hectares (1.42 billion acres) of degraded forests and in urban environments; suppression of fire and regenerating a "healthy grass-tree balance" on 650 million hectares (1.61 billion acres) of degraded pasturelands; and deployment of carbon capture and storage from "evergreen energy generation."

Reached by Mongabay for comment about the alliance's first initiative, agroforestry author and expert Eric Toensmeier said, "This may be the largest individual investment ever made in agroforestry. The area that will be restored, 2 million hectares [5 million acres] by 2025, is almost the size of New Jersey."

Refugees, migrants 'feel compelled' to stow away on lorries

By Talitha Dubow and Katie Kuschminder

IT is still unclear what circumstances led to the deaths of 39 people who were found in the refrigerated trailer in a lorry park outside London.

It is not known how these 31 men and eight women, some of whom are thought to be Vietnamese nationals, ended up in the trailer, where they thought they were going, who put them there, and to what extent they went voluntarily or were forced.

And why would migrants, refugees or other stowaways make the decision to travel like freight, and do they know the risks?

A number of migrants have died trying to enter the UK since the country began recording statistics in 2014. Fifty-four Chinese nationals were found dead in 2000, having suffocated in a lorry trailer.

The UN estimates that around 500 have died trying to enter European countries since 2014, this excluding the estimated 18,500 that have died crossing the Mediterranean.

Suffocating or freezing to death in a sealed lorry, which can be chilled up to -25 degrees, is just one of the risks that refugees and other migrants face on their journeys towards countries where they hope to find safety, security and dignity. And yet they continue to make these journeys, often well aware of the risks they entail.

Our research focuses on the decision-making of refugees and other migrants engaged in these fraught international journeys, which often take them through several different countries and dangerous border crossings.

For example, we recently interviewed Syrian and Afghan refugees and migrants who had survived long and arduous journeys along the Balkans route from Turkey into the European Union.

Hiding in lorries is a key strategy used to cross borders along the Balkans Route, which is used by refugees and other migrants who move onwards from Turkey, travelling through Greece, Bulgaria, Albania and North Macedonia, through Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, to entry to the EU via Hungary or Croatia.

Lorries provide cover from border guards and are frequently used to evade the authorities.

Some of those making the journey organise travel in lorries themselves: there was a young Afghan man who knew where he and his travelling companions could most safely stow away underneath the truck because he had been a truck driver himself in Afghanistan. For him, it was an informed decision.

But others rely on smugglers who place refugees and other migrants in lorries for parts of the journey. Some of our interviewees neither understood nor consented to the conditions in which their smugglers then forced them to travel.

This was the case for one Syrian man who explained that the smuggler had put so many people in the lorry in which they were travelling from Turkey to Greece that he lost consciousness.

His story: "It was like this small space in which there were 20 people, so there was no space to breathe. So it was our good luck that the police caught us because it was possible that we would die before reaching Greece."

Smugglers frequently pack lorries as full as possible. After all, smuggling is a business, and having more passengers means more dollars.

Knowing the risks, accepting the risks

Most commonly, migrants and other refugees are acutely aware of the risks they will face in their journeys. They do not know what exactly will happen to them, and can only hope for the best.

One Syrian man who travelled in 2015 told us: "You go to die, you know? This journey, everyone calls this journey the journey of death. So everyone knows that, and when I was in Turkey I knew it and I knew it would be difficult, it would be dangerous, maybe I would die, but yeah... Sometimes life does not give you a lot of choices, so that's the only choice I had when I was in Turkey, so I told myself 'I'll just make it'."

There are risks at every stage of the journey. Refugees and migrants drown at sea, dehydrate during desert or sea crossings, fall victim to kidnapping and extortion, torture and rape, and are beaten, shot and killed by criminals or border officials. How they move in each stage of the journey becomes a trade-off involving risk, chance encounters, and often sheer luck.

When faced with the next dangerous border crossing, they do not consider stopping or going back because, as another Syrian refugee told us, "if you make the first step, you can't go back".

Having spent so much money, time and energy, and having already been through so much, refugees and other migrants cannot imagine giving up mid way, all their efforts coming to nothing. So they attempt what they hope to be the most safe and reliable routes and modes of transport. This often depends on what they can afford to pay smugglers.

The options for getting to Europe are growing increasingly dangerous, largely to the aggressive border controls used to keep refugees and other migrants out. Since the height of the "migrant crisis" in 2015, borders along the route have been dramatically transformed.

Turkey has tried to close off its border with Syria by building border walls, defences and surveillance infrastructure. Syrian respondents who fled Syria between 2015 and last year told us that they were shot at while trying to cross into Turkey, and had to cross in the dark in order not to be killed.

In the Western Balkans, more walls and fences have gone up, with Hungary effectively sealing off its border with Serbia, letting only two asylum seekers through each day. In Bulgaria and Croatia, border officials use brutal violence to push back refugees and migrants who walk across their borders.

Talitha Dubow is a researcher with the Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology at the United Nations University - UNU-MERIT, while Katie Kuschminder is an assistant professor at the same institute.



Bodies found in lorry container at the Waterglade Industrial Park in Grays, Essex



FINCA
Microfinance Bank

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant to regulation 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosure) Regulations, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)	
	CURRENT QUARTER 30.09.2019	PREVIOUS QUARTER 30.06.2019
A. ASSETS		
1 Cash	2,173	1,978
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	10,046	5,484
3 Investment in Government Securities	-	-
4 Balances with Other Banks and financial institutions	11,618	9,992
5 Cheques and Items for Clearing	-	-
6 Interbranch float items	-	-
7 Bills Negotiated	-	-
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loan Receivables	-	-
10 Investments in Other securities	-	-
11 Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of allowances for Probable losses)	52,808	53,006
12 Other Assets	11,410	10,880
13 Equity Investments	-	-
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	3,858	4,231
16 TOTAL ASSETS	91,912	85,571
B. LIABILITIES		
17 Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	8,164	4,646
18 Customer Deposits	27,257	25,364
19 Cash letters of credit	-	-
20 Special Deposits	-	-
21 Payments orders / transfers payable	-	-
22 Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	-	-
23 Accrued taxes and expenses payable	483	406
24 Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25 Interbranch float items	-	-
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	1,621	1,607
27 Other Liabilities	4,011	4,154
28 Borrowings	30,647	28,845
29 TOTAL LIABILITIES	72,183	65,021
30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 MINUS 29)	19,730	20,549
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
31 Paid up Share Capital	31,574	31,574
32 Capital Reserves	-	-
33 Retained Earnings	(10,333)	(11,843)
34 Profit/ (Loss) Account	(1,745)	(926)
35 Other Capital Accounts/Capital Advance	234	-
36 Minority Interest	-	-
37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	19,730	20,549
38 Contingent Liabilities	-	-
39 Non-Performing Loans and Advances	3,787	5,068
40 Allowances for Probable Losses	2,891	4,306
41 Other Non-Performing assets	-	-
D. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		
(I) Shareholders Funds to Total Assets	22%	23%
(II) Non Performing loans to Total Gross Loans	6.95%	8.24%
(III) Gross loans and advances to total deposits	157%	191%
(IV) Loans and Advances to Total Assets	57%	62%
(V) Earning Assets to Total Assets	70%	74%
(VI) Deposits Growth	18%	3%
(VII) Assets Growth	7%	-10%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND LOSS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)			
	Current Quarter 30.09.2019	Comparative Quarter 30.9.2018	Current Year Cumulative 30.09.2019	Comparative Year Cumulative 30.09.2018
1 Interest Income	6,126	7,115	18,768	21,821
2 Interest Expense	(1,513)	(1,735)	(4,021)	(5,815)
3 Net Interest Income (1 Minus 2)	4,613	5,380	14,748	16,006
4 Bad debts written off	-	-	-	-
5 Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	(1,007)	(233)	(2,840)	(1,812)
6 Non-Interest Income	1,529	312	4,187	978
6.1 Foreign exchange profit/(loss)	(28)	(58)	(98)	(98)
6.2 Fees and Commissions	742	31	2,153	94
6.3 Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other Operating Income	815	339	1,882	982
7 Non-Interest Expense	(5,955)	(6,802)	(18,044)	(19,919)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(2,858)	(3,173)	(8,699)	(9,329)
7.2 Fees and Commission	(187)	(329)	(786)	(1,032)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(2,909)	(3,300)	(8,609)	(9,558)
8 Operating Income/(Loss) before tax	(819)	(1,343)	(4,746)	(4,746)
9 Income Tax Provision	-	403	254	1,498
10 Net income (loss) after income tax	(819)	(940)	(1,745)	(3,248)
11 Other Comprehensive income/(Loss) for the year	-	-	-	-
12 Total Comprehensive income/(Loss) for the year	(819)	(940)	(1,745)	(3,248)
13 Number of Employees	420	511	420	511
14 Basic Earning Per Share	(26)	(40)	(55)	(138)
15 Number of Branches	23	24	23	24
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(I) Return on average total assets	-0.92%	-0.99%	-1.97%	-0.99%
(II) Return on Average shareholders' funds	-2.60%	-4.03%	-5.53%	-13.93%
(III) Non interest expense to gross income	77.78%	91.58%	78.82%	87.37%
(IV) Net Interest margin to average earning assets	-1.29%	-1.30%	-2.74%	-4.46%

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements (if there were changes during the quarter, the changes be explained as per IAS 34 & IAS 8)

Name and Title	Signature	Date
Edward Talawa (Chief Executive Officer)	(Signed)	31st October 2019
Deusedith Edward (Head of Finance)	(Signed)	31st October 2019
Peter Kaisi (Internal Auditor Manager)	(Signed)	31st October 2019

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Name	Signature	Date
1. Mike Gama Lobo Chairman	(Signed)	31st October 2019
2. Monica Moses Member	(Signed)	31st October 2019

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER/YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)			
	CURRENT QUARTER 30.09.2019	PREVIOUS QUARTER 30.06.2019	CUMULATIVE CURRENT YEAR 30.09.2019	CUMULATIVE PREVIOUS YEAR 30.09.2018
1 Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net income/(Loss)	(819)	(722)	(1,745)	(3,248)
Adjustment for:				
-Impairment/Amortization	432	430	1,297	1,070
-Net change in loans and advances	198	4,796	3,984	9,616
-Gain/Loss on sale of assets	-	(4)	(4)	-
-Net change in Deposits	5,412	810	341	(5,959)
-Net change in Short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Other Liabilities	(52)	(1,513)	(2,496)	(1,417)
-Net change in Other Assets	(530)	392	(390)	(1,715)
-Tax paid	-	(871)	-	(971)
-Others (Specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	4,640	4,150	986	(2,623)
11 Cash flow from investing activities:				
Dividend Received	-	-	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(59)	(219)	(320)	(870)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	4	4	-
Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Others (Equity investments)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(59)	(215)	(316)	(870)
111 Cash flow from financing activities:				
Repayment of long-term debt	(1,003)	(10,838)	(18,057)	(20,894)
Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	-	562
Payment of cash dividends	-	-	-	19,104
Net change in other borrowings	2,805	2,856	13,766	19,104
Others (Specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	1,802	(7,982)	(4,291)	(1,028)
IV Cash and Cash Equivalents:				
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	6,383	(4,047)	(3,621)	(4,521)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the Quarter/year	17,453	27,500	27,457	29,282
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the Quarter/year	23,836	23,453	23,836	24,761

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	Share Capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others	Total
Current Year (2019)							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	31,574	-	(13,208)	1,586	522	-	21,475
Profit for the year	-	-	(1,745)	-	-	-	(1,745)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	1,586	(1,586)	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	288	-	288
Others	-	-	-	-	-	(285)	(285)
Balance as at the end of the current period	31,574	-	(12,078)	-	-	234	19,730
Previous Year (2018)							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	23,000	-	(2,784)	780	590	-	21,616
IFSI's impact net of tax	-	-	809	-	-	-	809
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	(9,495)	-	-	-	(9,495)
Dividends Paid	8,544	-	-	-	-	-	8,544
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	806	-	806
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	68	-	68
Others	-	-	-	-	-	(66)	(66)
Balance as at the end of the previous period	31,574	-	(13,208)	1,586	522	-	21,475

MINIMUM DISCLOSURES OF BANK CHARGES AND TARRIFS

Number	Item/Transaction	Charge/Fee
1 Savings Account (TZs)		
	Mkwanja (TZs)	
(a) Required minimum opening balance		0
(b) Required minimum operating balance		0
(c) Monthly Services Fees		1,500
(d) Interim Statement per page		0
(e) Monthly Services Fees		0
(f) Withdrawal charges over the counter (DSM Branches only)		1,000
(g) Interest payable		0
Hakika (TZs)		
(a) Required minimum opening balance		0
(b) Monthly Services Fees		0
(c) Interim Statement per page		0
(d) Interest payable		2%
(e) Balance enquiry		0
(f) Withdrawal charges over the counter (DSM Branches only)		1,000
2 Mobile banking Charges (TZs)		
(a) Balance enquiry		100
(b) Minimum Statement		100
(c) Full Statement request		0
(d) Finca Mobile (In Finca Account)		400
(e) Finca Account to Finca Account Transfer		100
(f) Finca Mobile (In and Out Finca Account)-Finca Account to wallet		1,000
3 Loans (TZs)		
(a) Interest		4.8%
(b) Loan Processing Fees		4%
Business Loan - Medium		
(a) Interest		3.8%
(b) Loan Processing Fees		4%
Business Loan - Large		
(a) Interest		3.0%
(b) Loan Processing Fees		3%
Group Lending		
(a) Interest		6.3%
(b) Loan Processing Fees		2%
Social Financial Group		
(a) Interest		2.9%
(b) Loan Processing Fees		1.0%
4 Transfer and Agent Services		
Outward Tix Charges		10,000
Inward Tix Charges		Free
Agent Banking withdrawal fee		
Withdrawal Charges		Charges (VAT inclusive)
Amount		Charges
1,000 - 19,999		1,180
20,000 - 49,999		1

CRDB BANK EYES INVESTING IN GOVT'S MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AS GROWTH RISES

By Property Watch Reporter

BUOYED by its rediscovering of sustained growth with net profit increasing by 76 percent during the third quarter of this year, CRDB Bank is now targeting to invest in major government-run infrastructure projects.

Announcing the 92.16bn/- net profit earned during the year ending September 2019, CRDB Bank Plc's Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela said the extraordinary growth comes about because his management has focused on financing contract bidding and guarantee for contractors and suppliers of major infrastructure projects.

"Performance guarantee and bid bonds have become very products for contractors and suppliers of major government's infrastructure projects," Nsekela who took over in October last year as the bank's CEO said.

When he took over, CRDB had taken a hit in profits from 30.8bn/- in 2017 to 52.25bn/- last year before the latest profit spiralling to 92.16bn/- . "Our sustained growth has been championed by a committed staff, lowering of running costs and recovering of bad loans which had eaten into the bank's profits," Nsekela who is arguably one of the market's youngest CEOs manning a mega bank, stated.

He said CRDB has played a role both in financing the ongoing state mega infrastructure projects in Standard Gauge Railway and Rufiji Hydro Electric Power Project (Nyerere HEP) in addition to bankrolling small and medium size enterprises.

The CRDB chief further stated that his management will continue focusing on trade financing because it is an area of rapid growth as demand for the product in the market is on growth path thanks to President John Magufuli's administration's focus on infrastructure development.

"We are convinced that this area of trade financing is of significance and will continue to invest heavily in this segment," Nsekela added while emphasising that another area of focus remains financing SMEs.

Earlier this year, CRDB paired with United Bank for Africa to give a guarantee of US\$730 million to the over 2,000 megawatts Rufiji hydro Power Project being undertaken by Egyptian Arab Contractors Limited and El Sewady Electric Company Elsewady Electric with state power giant, Tanesco



An illustration of the proposed Rufiji Hydro Power Project, also known as Nyerere HEP.

as client.

Among the highlights of the period include: the bank's balance sheet which grew by 5 percent to 6.2trn/- from 5.9trn/- reported during the period last year; loan portfolio slightly grew by 2.5 percent to 3.25trn/- while deposits increased by 7 percent to 4.8trn/- . "Net interest income increased by 22 percent year on year to reach 389.66bn/- from 319.09bn/- reported in

September 2018," Nsekela added. The Tier 1 commercial bank continued to command a 22 percent market share of industry deposits owing to its robust network of 240

branches, 551 ATMs, over 2,400 Point of Sales (POS) terminals and 11,612 wakalas who increased by a whopping 7,260 year on year.

"Our focus on operational efficiency and sales optimi-

zation is paying off. We have embarked on the digitalization journey while adhering to good governance, reduce operational costs, and improve our service delivery. As you can see, our earnings

from credit books, trade finance, and foreign currency dealings have significantly increased, showing our commitment to serving each segment in the market," the youthful CRDB boss added.

Kagame: Smart cities to drive Africa's urbanisation

KIGALI

The concept of Smart Cities will play a critical role in driving Africa's urban revolution and urbanisation, President Paul Kagame has said.

Kagame was speaking in Doha, Qatar at the Smart City Expo organised to showcase the latest smart technologies and innovations advancing the urban future. Kagame said that, with the African continent undergoing urbanisation, smart cities technologies can play a definitive role in developing cities that have a higher level of productivity.

"Africa is fortunate to be undergoing its urban revolution at this particular time, when smart cities technologies are evolving and maturing," Kagame said. The President said that, with urbanisation key to shaping investment, growth and human development, African countries cannot afford to leave its trends to chance hence adopting technologies.

"This wave of urbanisation is also occurring elsewhere in Africa. It represents a historic window of opportunity for investment, growth and human development. It also means that we have the opportunity to plan now

and do things right. We cannot afford to leave urbanization to chance or go back and fix mistakes later, after costs and damages have already been incurred. This is where technology has a huge role to play," Kagame said.

The rate of urbanisation has been found to have a direct impact on societies' development. Africa's low rate of urbanisation has often been cited as among the reasons for the low levels of development. "Urbanisation creates the conditions for more complex economies, powered by innovation and services. In short, urbanisation is a key step in any society's

pathway to prosperity. It is, therefore, no accident that Africa still has some of the world's lowest rates of urbanisation,"

"This is among the factors, that have kept Africa from advancing as quickly as it should have, given our inherent advantages. However, the human geography of Africa is in a state of rapid change. The rate of growth of Africa's cities is on average the highest in the world," Kagame said.

Rwanda's urbanisation rate is around 6 per cent a year, compared to the global average of around 2 per cent. Kagame, however, said that for

the technology and smart cities to have an impact on urbanisation and development, there has to be a deliberate effort to improve people's welfare.

"Smart cities are about people not computers. The mission is not to invest in technology for its own sake, but to do so strategically, to make life measurably better for the people who live in our cities," he said. The changes and transformation are dependent on data collected from citizens hence the need to establish trust for stakeholders to remain open to the benefits of the approach.



President Paul Kagame

Substandard cement products threatening SA's built environment

By Property Watch Reporter

COMMERCIALIZATION of the country's livestock industry will make significant strides when a US\$10 million (over 23bn/-) meat processing factory located at Soga in Kibaha district becomes operational early next year.

Export Processing Zones Authority's Director of Investment Promotion, James Maziku said in Dar es Salaam this week that the plant will have capacity to slaughter and process 1,000 herds of cattle and 4,500 goats and sheep per day.

"The project which is expected to create over 500 direct jobs will strategically help the livestock sector graduate and unlock the challenges of commercialising it," said Maziku, adding that construction work of the factory has reached 99 percent with trials of machines scheduled to start

before end of this year.

He said the EPZA licensed factory will be the second largest in East Africa trailing an Ethiopian meat processor which has capacity of 3,000 herds and 6,000 sheep and goats daily at full capacity. "This plant produces 300 tonnes of meat every day," Maziku added.

Despite accounting for 11 percent of Africa's livestock population, the sector contributes only about 7.4 percent to the country's gross domestic product with a mild annual growth rate of 2.6 percent.

"The meat processing factory will reduce and ultimately end smuggling of livestock to the neighbouring countries for pressing and exporting to foreign markets," the EPZA Director added.

Tanzania has one of the largest livestock populations in Africa with

13.5 million herds of cattle, 5.5 million goats, 3.6 million sheep, 0.4 million pigs and 23.2 million chickens, according to statistics by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

As the meat factory targets 100 percent export markets of European Union and United Arab Emirates, the country will also compete with Botswana which is Africa's most advanced commercialized livestock market.

Maziku said the establishment of the TanChoice meat processing plant will create a new middle class Cluster of business dealing with fattening of cattle, goats and sheep for supplying to the factory.

"The investor of the meat processing plant cannot do everything and thus the local entrepreneurs should grab this opportunity to establish fattening businesses of cattle, goats and sheep



Livestock and Fisheries minister, Luhaga Mpina (2nd L) listens to an official with SAAFI meat processing factory in the Rukwa Region.

needed by the factory," he added.

The by-products of the animals which include livers, heads, sweetbreads (thymus and pancreas), fries (testicles),

kidneys, oxtails, tripe (stomach of cattle) and tongue will be sold in the local market while the rest will be exported to China.

SIDO MULLS 1BN/- SHEDS FOR SMES IN KIGOMA, MTWARA, RUVUMA REGIONS

By Beatrice Philemon

FOUR Industrial Sheds worth 1bn/- will be constructed by Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) in Kigoma, Ruvuma and Mtwara regions to accommodate Small and Medium size Enterprises before end this year.

SIDO's Director General Professor Sylvester Mpanduji said in Dar es Salaam this week that as the country marks four year of major developments under President John Magufuli's leadership, SIDO has played a key role in establishing small industries.

"We have already received funds from the government last June to undertake the project in the three regions," Prof Mpanduji said while unveiling that the contractor for the project is Suma JKT and that construction work will take between four to five months starting November this year.

"Once construction work is finalized, entrepreneurs will get technical assistance from SIDO like access to technology, financial services and working premises in accordance with their businesses," the SIDO Director General noted.

Since 2015, SIDO has managed to build 12 industrial estates in Manyara, Dodoma, Mtwara and Geita regions in line with President John Magufuli's industrialization agenda.

According to the SIDO DG, industrial estates are places where the required facilities and factory accommodation are provided by the government to the entrepreneurs to conduct their businesses.

Highlighting on Industrial shed in Mtwara region, Prof Mpanduji said so far entrepreneurs engaged in cashew nut processing have begun to use the facilities with a plant which has a processing capacity of two metric tons of kernels per day. The plant employs 220 people of which 98 percent are women.



SIDO offices in Manyara Region

In Manyara, four industries that manufacture packaging materials, wine making and bakery, sunflower processing and solar pumps

are already operating with hundreds of jobs created. In Dodoma, SIDO is in the process of recruiting SMEs to use the facility while in Geita a similar development is underway.

"So far we have already received many applications from SMEs which want to use this facilities while in Chato district we have received applications from SMEs who want

to establish industries engaging in paddy processing and sunflower processing," he added while noting that the facility has capacity to accommodate 200 SMEs.

Moi varsity sacco tower put on sale

NAIROBI

MOI University workers could as early as Wednesday lose their prized nine-floor investment, Musco Towers hosting a town campus, after it was placed on sale by liquidators.

In a press advertisement Antique Auctions said it had received instructions to dispose of Musco Towers owned by Moi University Savings and Credit Society (Musco) that is now under liquidation. "Duly instructed by our chargees, on October 31, we shall sell by public auction the nine-storeyed block located within a prime location in Eldoret town along Elgeyo Road opposite Sirikwa Hotel," said the advert.

Musco's ability to meet its financial obligations suffered a major setback June last year when it was ordered closed by then Commissioner of Co-operatives Mary Mungai following failure to abide by co-operative society regulations. In a gazette notice Ms Mungai said: "I appoint Hesbon Kiura, principal co-operative officer of Nairobi and Joel Kipsanai, senior co-operative auditor of Iken, Marakwet County, as joint liquidators.

"They are authorised to take into their custody all the properties of the said society, including such books and documents as are deemed necessary for completion of the liquidation," she said. Musco's fate was sealed at the end of last year when its deposit-taking licence was withdrawn by Saccos Regulatory Authority (Sasra) for failure to keep its books in order.

Liquidator's powers

According to the auction notice, Musco Towers which sits on a 0.114-acre plot has two basement floors, seven fully-let shops on its ground floor



Diplomats, CEOs of major Austrian businesses and government representatives gathered at Ramada Resort by Wyndham in Dar es Salaam last week to celebrate the country's national day and the opening of an honorary consulate of Austria in Tanzania. The event was hosted by the country's ambassadorial representative from Nairobi, Michael Kassa (3rd L) who is Deputy Head of Mission at the embassy, Edith Predorf (C) who is Commercial Counsellor at Austrian Chamber of Trade and Logistics Africa, and Thomas Kopp of Intercont Logistics Africa. Left is Dieter Prachner, the newly appointed Honorary Consul of Austria to Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

including an ATM lobby and 14 offices in its mezzanine-floor occupied by rent-paying tenants.

The notice says first to sixth floors are

fully let to house University of Eldoret Town campus, with the seventh hosting nine privately rented-out offices. Eighth floor hosts five privately let-out offices and a restaur-

ant. With the revocation of licences, the society's officials were ousted giving the liquidators powers to dispose of the properties if necessary to pay off mounting debts.

Nairobi tenants migrate to suburbs as rents increase

NAIROBI

MANY Nairobi residents are ditching rented homes in city estates in favour of cheaper ones in the suburbs as the cost of living soars. Realtor HassConsult said Tuesday that asking rents in the city have surged nearly threefold from 2007, pushing many to far-flung areas.

They have relocated to satellite towns like Ngong, Kitengela, Rongai, Ruai and Ruiru, which have also not been spared rising rents due to the influx of new customers. "Asking rents for a modern apartment here may cost as little as Sh23,400 and this bodes well for many tenants who are now preferring affordable units as they take caution to save in the wake of job losses across all sectors," Hass Consult head of development, consulting and research Sakina Hassanali said during the release of first quarter residential and land price indices.

She said the city residents would rather dig deeper into their pockets for transport and spend more time in longer commutes but get the cheaper homes. "As the cost of living soars, the lower middle class is opting to pay slightly more in transport but less in rents." Several companies have announced thousands of job cuts in recent months.

The report says apartments in Thika recorded the highest annual growth in rents at 13.3 percent while Tigon had the highest quarterly rate increase at 3.5 percent. Kenya's housing deficit is estimated at two million units, according to official estimates, though current production is only adding around 50,000 per year.

According to the World Bank besides addressing the housing gap, the government should provide incentives to developers to create affordable housing as stipulated in the Constitution of Kenya and the National Development Plan, Vision 2030 Strategy.

Helios Towers London Stock Exchange IPO raises \$318m

LONDON

HELIOS Towers' IPO paves the way for expanding and upgrading its services in Africa where demand is growing rapidly.

Helios Towers Plc, a leading independent telecommunications tower infrastructure company in Africa, raised \$318 million in its October 14 initial public offering (IPO) on the London Stock Exchange (LSE). Approximately 25% of the company was floated.

The share was priced at US\$1.48 each, giving it an equity value of US\$1.5 billion and making it one of the largest IPOs by

market capitalization to happen in London this year behind Airtel Africa PLC, Network International Holdings PLC, and Trainline PLC.

The cash is expected to be used to help build and buy new sites as well as potentially enter three new African markets according to Helios Towers CEO Kash Pandya. Helios Towers initially planned to raise \$125 million through the issuance of new shares, in addition to the sale of existing shares by shareholders among them the International Finance Corporation and tel-

ecom firms Millicom and Bharti Airtel. Other shareholders of the company include Helios Investment Partners, Quantum Strategic Partners, Albright Capital Management LLC and, RIT Capital Partners Plc.

Pandya remarked that the IPO "marked the start of the next exciting chapter in Helios Towers' story... I hope this signifies our commitment to spreading mobile infrastructure across Sub-Saharan Africa whilst also highlighting the compelling investment opportunity throughout the continent."

Established in 2009, the com-

pany pioneered the sale-lease-back model in Africa by buying towers held by single operators and providing services by utilizing the tower infrastructure to the seller and other operators. This allows wireless operators to outsource non-core tower-related activities, enabling them to instead focus their capital and managerial resources on providing higher quality services more cost-effectively.

Helios Towers has more than 6,800 mobile telecommunications towers spread across five African countries (South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo,

Ghana, Republic of Congo and Tanzania) which it rents to mobile phone providers such as Vodacom, MTN and Airtel. It plans to use some of the IPO proceeds to keep pace with fast-growing demand for mobile data in Africa, expand into new markets, build more towers and roll out fourth-generation (4G) mobile services.

In the financial year ending December 2018, the company made \$356 million in revenues, an increase of 3% compared to US\$345 million in 2017. For the six months ended June 2019, Helios reported adjusted earnings

before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization totaling US\$399 million.

Merill Lynch International, Jefferies International Ltd and Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd acted as joint global-coordinators and joint bookrunners, while EFG Hermes UAE Ltd and Renaissance Securities Cyprus Ltd acted as joint book runners for the IPO. FTI Consulting acted as its financial PR.

Gokul Mani, Head of Primary Markets-Middle East, Africa & India, LSE-said the LSE "continues to be a strong partner to companies across the Middle

East and Africa. Four of the five largest IPOs from the region this year have listed on our market. London's capital markets offer deep liquid pools of capital, connecting issuers from the Middle East and Africa with long-term international investors, supporting dynamic companies, infrastructure development, and economic growth in the region."

In total, 124 companies from the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region are listed in London and have risen over \$35 billion in equity issues. There are also 242 active MEA bond issuers who raised nearly \$143 billion.

TECHNOLOGY

AUSTRALIA'S PROPERTY MARKET BOOMS AGAIN, SWELLING ALREADY WORRISOME PERSONAL DEBT



Residential houses on a beach front in Sydney

SYDNEY

THREE interest rate cuts that have taken mortgage rates to a record low and a loosening of lending curbs have sent buyers flocking back to the housing market. At current rates of growth, Sydney home prices could recoup two years of losses and be back at record highs as soon as May.

The sudden turnaround is raising fears of a reinflated property bubble and risks swelling an already worrisome pile of household debt. It's also further concentrating banks' reliance on mortgages for earnings growth and entrenching inequality by making it harder for first-time buyers to get a foot on the property ladder.

"It's a pretty risky point in time," said Richard Holden, professor of economics at the University of New South Wales. "We had a price correction on the back of a big credit crunch and there was a real question about whether it was going to get out of control. We seem to have averted disaster, which is good news, and now it seems like we've decided to test it again."

In just four months, house prices in the nation's two largest cities have executed a swift U-turn. Newspapers are again filled with reports of hotly contested bidding wars driving home prices hundreds of thousands of dollars above their reserve.

In August, for example, an auction for a four-bedroom house in the

Sydney suburb of Ryde attracted about 100 people. Spirited bidding pushed offers A\$226,000 above the reserve price, before it finally sold for almost A\$1.5 million – a buzz last seen during the boom years.

"A lot more people now are getting concerned that things are going to go up in the next six to 12 months so they're trying to buy now," said real estate agent Phil Allison, who handled the sale in the summer. As recently as the beginning of the year, it was difficult to elicit a single bid at an auction for a house just around the corner, he said.

One factor encouraging property investors back was the surprise re-election of Scott Morrison's government in May, which killed off the opposition Labour party's plans to wind back tax breaks for landlords. While the property market's resurgence could provide a short-term boom to the slowing economy, the longer-term legacy could be bloated debt that permanently reduces the economy's potential.

As borrowers put more of their income towards servicing their mortgages, they are left with less to spend on everything from cars to appliances to clothes, robbing the economy of a key driver of growth. Consumer confidence has slumped to a four-year low even as rate cuts and tax rebates boost household finances.

While traditionally a buoyant housing market is good news for retailers, the RBA's move to slash rates to a record low has shaken consumer sentiment by signalling the economy is in trouble. A profit warning from furniture outlet Nick Scali earlier this month rippled through the market, sending bigger retailers like Harvey Norman Holdings and JB Hi-Fi tumbling.

"Sentiment is still shaky," says Eleanor Creagh, market strategist at Saxo Capital Markets in Sydney. "Surveys and economic data continue to confirm that over-leveraged consumers who have whittled away their savings and are devoid of any material wage growth are choosing to de-leverage rather than increase spending."

Historically, homebuyers could rely on annual wages growth of 3 per cent to 4.5 per cent to reduce the proportion of their salary going to pay their mortgage. Now, with

wage growth stuck below 2.5 per cent, that's no longer happening for people who have bought more recently, compounding the drag on consumer spending.

For the banks, a return to house-price growth is usually good news. People borrow more to buy in a rising market, while existing owners may be encouraged to borrow against the increased value of their home to fund renovations.

Longer-term, though, that could fuel mortgage stress. While less than 1 per cent of mortgages are in arrears, according to the Reserve Bank, the number has risen steadily in recent years. The big four banks, which control almost 80 per cent of the A\$1.7 trillion mortgage market, are also under political pressure to pass on the RBA cuts in full and lend more to pump up the economy, stoking concern lending standards could decline.

That's despite the banks still recovering from a bruising misconduct inquiry, where they were lashed for lax lending standards. Nonetheless, competition is again hotting up. Westpac Banking is reducing down payment requirements for investors taking out interest-only loans, while Australia & New Zealand Banking Group is trying to grab a bigger slice of the landlord market.

While the property downturn gave first-home buyers a chance to get into the market, that opportunity could already be evaporating. During previous upswings, first-time buyers were gradually squeezed out as home prices rose.

A return to boom-time prices would again slam the door shut on younger buyers, further entrenching generational inequality in Australia. "The reprieve we've had over the last few years could well prove short-lived," said Brendan Coates, programme director at the Grattan Institute. "The biggest impact of rising house prices is to redistribute wealth from those that don't own housing to those that do."



Duo Tower in Singapore.

Duo tower deal in Singapore part of growing trend toward JV acquisitions

SINGAPORE

ASIA Pacific investors racked up US\$13 billion of joint venture transactions in the first half of this year, below the US\$21 billion recorded in the first half of 2018, which was swelled by the record-breaking US\$5.1 billion sale of The Center in Hong Kong.

The increase in JV deals comes as global investors seek to increase their exposure while spreading risk, says Tim Graham, Executive Director and Head of Capital Strategies for JLL Asia Pacific. "We are seeing an increased appetite for JV deals as investors are looking for more creative strategies to access investment opportunities in a crowded market. JVs also reduce concentration risk for investors."

"Asian investment managers are looking to diversify their capital and realise gains from substantial assets, while retaining a stake and management fee income. These assets are hard to replicate, so owners often do not wish to sell out," says Graham.

"From the investor point of view the substantial lot sizes in core Asian cities mean they often prefer buying a minority stake in order to diversify risk in their portfolio."

Singapore, China becomes centres for JV deals

Around US\$8 billion of those deals took place in China, where international investors are playing a larger role, due to the relaxation of rules regarding foreign

capital and domestic companies requiring more funding. Most overseas investors prefer to form a JV with an asset manager, either Chinese or international.

In July this year, German insurance company Allianz entered into a JV with Gaw Capital Partners to acquire the Duo Tower and Duo Galleria in Singapore a joint venture between Malaysia's strategic investment fund, Khazanah Nasional Berhad, and Temasek Holdings – represented by JLL – for S\$1.6 billion (US\$1.2 billion). Gaw is understood to be acting for a sovereign wealth fund in the transaction.

At the end of last year, Allianz bought a 20 per cent stake in Ocean Financial Centre in Singapore from Keppel REIT for S\$537.3 million (US\$392.1 million). In August, UK developer and investment manager Chelsfield teamed up with Malaysian developer Ampcorp Properties, Hong Kong investment manager Pamfleet and Hong Kong billionaire Adrian Fu in order to acquire interests in four Shanghai office towers for RMB1.5 billion.

The office towers at LifeHub@Daning, sold by units of Sino Ocean Group, will be owned by a 50:50 JV between Pamfleet's latest fund and a consortium formed by the other three investors. Ampcorp has previously co-invested with Chelsfield in the Shanghai office sector. "We expect to see continued interest in joint ventures from both investors and investment managers, particularly in developed markets where competition for assets is strong and lot sizes are higher," says Graham.

House buying in Riyadh and Jeddah ramps up in third quarter

RIYADH

The number of residential transactions in Riyadh and Jeddah rose substantially during the third quarter of 2019, driven by improving consumer sentiment, attractive valuations and the development of several large-scale housing schemes, according to a new report from Knight Frank. Efforts to expand the mortgage market also had a positive impact.

Residential transactions in Riyadh rose 122 per cent year-on-year in the third quarter whereas in Jeddah, transactions rose 82 per cent. The value of transactions also rose in both major cities, with Riyadh recording 12.92 billion Saudi riyals (Dh12.65bn) in transactions during the third quarter, up 139 per cent year-on-year. Transactions in Jeddah were up 60 per cent to 4.27bn riyals, the report said.

"We expect the volume of transac-

tions to maintain a positive momentum over the next 12 months, underpinned by the Sakani affordable housing programme and the regulatory efforts to expand the mortgage market," Knight Frank said in the report.

Sakani is a government programme aimed at providing affordable homes for Saudis via subsidised land plots and access to cheap home loans. Residential supply in Riyadh increased to 1.24 million housing units, with 8,000 new units added in the third quarter, Knight Frank said. The consultancy expects 70,000 more units to be handed over to the market between 2019 and 2021.

In Jeddah, residential supply reached 835,000 housing units, with about 1,800 added to the market during the third quarter. About 25,000 units are expected to be handed over between 2019 and 2021 to the Jeddah market.

China apartment rental platforms file for US listings as losses mount

3rd lead

BEIJING

A pair of loss-making mainland China apartment rental operators have filed for initial public offerings in the US within days of each other as pressure mounts on their balance sheets.

Beijing-based Danke is seeking to raise up to \$100 million by listing on the New York Stock Exchange, while Morgan Stanley-backed Qingke, which operates Qingke Apartments, is aiming to raise \$93.6 million through a Nasdaq IPO.

Danke's move to list comes seven months after closing a \$500 million funding round co-led by private equity titan Tiger Global Management and Jack Ma-controlled asset management firm Ant Financial. Qingke raised \$100 million last year in a series C round led by Morgan

Stanley Private Equity Asia and Singapore private equity firm Crescent Point.

Venture cash fuels expansion The Form F-1 registration prospectus for Danke, which was lodged on 28 October by parent company Phoenix Tree Holdings, does not provide an expected price range, indicating that the \$100 million amount might be a placeholder amount. The underwriters for the NYSE offering are Citigroup, JP Morgan and Credit Suisse.

The housing rental platform, which slices up buildings into dorm-like apartments that it markets to young professionals, intends to use the funds from the proposed IPO to scale up its operations and upgrade its existing stock.

Danke CEO Gao Jing is seeking to raise some much-needed cash. In just four years since it opened for business, Danke has built up



a portfolio of 400,000 rooms under management with listings in 13 mainland cities including Beijing, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Tianjin, Wuhan.

Building out that portfolio

resulted in a net loss of nearly RMB 1.4 billion (\$191.6 million) last year, a four-fold increase on the RMB 272 million net loss recorded in 2017. The company's financial hole has been opening

up still more quickly in 2019 with losses for the first three quarters of the year totalling RMB 2.5 billion – already some 44 per cent more than its 2018 full-year total.

Losses mount for Qingke

Qingke has similarly bled cash as it competes with Danke and a host of other mainland rental housing operators. Since starting substantial operations in 2012, the Shanghai-based firm has grown its network from 40 rental units to 91,234 homes across six cities in China as of 31 December 2018, according to the company's prospectus.

The venture capital-backed firm incurred net losses of RMB 500 million last year, more than double its 2017 shortfall of RMB 245 million. For the first six months of 2019, Qingke booked RMB 373.2 million in red ink – already 34 per cent more than it lost during the full year of 2018.

Through its holding company Q&K, Qingke is offering 5.2 million American Depositary Shares (ADS) which it each represent 30 of its Class A shares, according to the prospectus. The ADS are being offered at

an indicative price of from \$17 to \$19 per share, with Morgan Stanley and CICC serving as joint underwriters for the share sale. At the \$18 mid-point of the indicative price range, Qingke would stand to bring in \$93.6 million for the share of its ADS. Principal existing shareholders include California-based internet payment company Bill.com, Inc, and Atlanta-headquartered private equity firm Crescent Capital Investments.

Qingke argues that China's rental apartment market remains underserved, with rapid urbanization, rising housing prices, the sharing economy, as well as supportive government policies driving growing demand. According to data cited by the company, the Chinese long-term apartment rental market, which grew to RMB 1.5 trillion in 2018, is expected to reach RMB 3 trillion in 2024.

US releases Baghdadi raid video, warns of likely retribution attack

WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon on Wednesday released its first images from last week's commando raid in Syria that led to the death of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and warned the militant group may attempt to stage a "retribution attack."

The declassified, grainy, black-and-white aerial videos from Saturday's raid showed U.S. special operations forces closing in on the compound and U.S. aircraft firing on militants nearby.

The most dramatic video showed a massive, black plume of smoke rising from the ground after U.S. military bombs leveled Baghdadi's compound. "It looks pretty much like a parking lot, with large potholes," said Marine General Kenneth McKenzie, the commander of U.S. Central Command, which oversees American forces in the Middle East.

McKenzie, briefing Pentagon reporters, said the idea of destroying the compound was at least in part "to ensure that it would not be a shrine or

otherwise memorable in any way.

"It's just another piece of ground," he said.

Baghdadi, an Iraqi jihadist who rose from obscurity to declare himself "caliph" of all Muslims as the leader of Islamic State, died by detonating a suicide vest as he fled into a dead-end tunnel as elite U.S. special forces closed in.

McKenzie said he brought two young children into the tunnel with him - not three, as had been the U.S. government estimate. Both children were believed to be under the age of 12 and both were killed, he said.

He portrayed Baghdadi as isolated at his Syrian compound, just four miles from the Turkish border, saying fighters from other militant groups nearby probably did not even know he was there. McKenzie suggested it was unlikely that Baghdadi used the Internet or had digital connections to the outside world.

"I think you'd find (he was using) probably a messenger system that allows you to put something on a floppy or on a bit of electronics and have



Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

someone physically move it somewhere," he said. McKenzie said Islamic State would likely try to stage some kind of retaliatory attack.

"We suspect they will try some form of retribution attack. And we are postured and prepared for that," he said.

WHIMPERING AND CRYING?

McKenzie did not back up or knock down Trump's dramatic account of Baghdadi's final moments, which the president delivered during a televised address to the nation on Sunday. Trump said Baghdadi "died a coward - crying, whimpering, screaming."

Asked about Trump's account, McKenzie said: "About Baghdadi's last moments, I can tell you this: He crawled into a hole with two small children and blew himself up as his people stayed on the ground."

"So you can deduce what kind of person he is based on that activity... I'm not able to confirm anything else about his last seconds. I just can't confirm that one way or another."

On Monday, Army General Mark Milley, chair-

man of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also declined to confirm Trump's account, saying he presumed Trump got that information from his direct conversations with members of the elite unit that conducted the operation. Milley had not yet spoken with them, he said.

McKenzie suggested the U.S. military had secured a large amount of intelligence about Islamic State's activities during the raid.

"While the assault force was securing the remains, they also secured whatever documentation and electronics we could find, which was substantial," McKenzie said, declining to provide further details.

McKenzie said Turkey's incursion into Syria this month, and the U.S. pullback from the border, was not a factor in deciding the timing of the raid. Instead, McKenzie pointed to a host of other factors, including the amount of moonlight.

"We struck because the time is about right to do it then, given the totality of the intelligence and the other factors that would affect the raid force going into and coming out," McKenzie said.

Agencies

North Korea launches two possible 'ballistic missiles' into sea, Japan says

SEOUL

NORTH Korea fired two projectiles, which Japanese authorities said appeared to be ballistic missiles, into the sea between the Korean peninsula and Japan yesterday, according to the Japanese coast guard and South Korea's military.

The first of two "unidentified projectiles" was fired yesterday at 4:35 p.m. local time (0735 GMT) from South Phyongan Province, in the center of the country, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said in a series of statements. A second projectile was detected at 4:38 p.m. (0738 GMT).

The projectiles traveled an estimated 370 kilometers (230 miles) and reached an altitude of 90 kilometers (56 miles), the JCS said,

calling them "short range".

Japanese authorities said they had landed outside Japan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which extends 200 nautical miles (370 kilometers) from land.

"Objects that appeared to be ballistic missiles were launched from North Korea," Japan's defense ministry said in a statement. "They did not land within our territory."

The American air base at Misawa, 700 miles (1,127 km) north of Tokyo, posted a "real world missile alert" and urged personnel to seek shelter, before later issuing an "all clear".

The afternoon launch timing was a departure from this year's string of tests, which usually took place around dawn.

It also occurred on the day that



South Korean President Moon Jae-in attended the funeral of his mother, who died on Tuesday.

In a message delivered via the border village of Panmunjom late on Wednesday, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un had expressed "deep condolences" and "consolation" over Moon's loss, Moon's office said yesterday.

On Wednesday, South Korea's Yonhap news agency cited an unnamed military source who said that movements of transporter erector launchers (TEL), used to fire missiles, had been detected in North Korea.

South Korea's National Security Council held an emergency meeting after the launch on Thursday, and expressed its concern about what it called "short-range projectiles."

"Our military is maintaining a readiness posture while tracking and monitoring related developments in preparation for another launch," the JCS said in a statement after the launches on Thursday.

The JCS called on North Korea to stop the launches because they were "unhelpful" for reducing ten-

sions on the peninsula.

Kim Dong-yup, a former navy officer who teaches at Seoul's Kyungnam University, said the launches could be a so-called "running test fire" of a recently developed multiple-rocket system, with the aim of fine-tuning the system for full production.

RIISING TENSIONS

Relations between the two Koreas have cooled since a flurry of personal meetings between Moon and Kim last year, and denuclearization negotiations between North Korea and the United States appear stalled.

On Sunday, North Korea said there had been no progress in North Korea-United States relations.

Agencies

Russia unaware of serious clashes between Turkish, Syrian military, Lavrov says

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has no credible information about any direct serious clashes between the Turkish and Syrian military in the zone of implementing the Russian-Turkish memorandum, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told reporters yesterday.

"Any minor hiccups are inevitable when major deals are being implemented 'on the ground.' I have not heard that any direct serious clashes between the Syrian and Turkish military have been confirmed in any area where the October 22 Russian-Turkish memorandum is being fulfilled," Lav-

rov (pictured) said.

Meanwhile, Russia's special presidential representative for the Syrian settlement, Alexander Lavrentyev, told TASS that Russia welcomes the situation in northeastern Syria and notes the fulfillment of the October 22 agreements with Turkey.

"All is well," he said when asked about Russia's opinion of the situation in northeastern Syria. "All agreements contained in the October 22 memorandum are being kept. We hope that it will be calm there and the border will be sealed tightly."

In comment on Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's



statement on a possible extension of a safe zone in northern Syria, Lavrov stressed that the Turkish leader had not declared this categorically. "As far as I understand, he stated that he expected the October 22 deal to be implemented."

After the 150-hour deadline expired for the Kurdish units to withdraw 30 km from the Syrian-

Turkish border, the Russian Center for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides reported that this condition had been fulfilled.

"We proceed from this. My understanding is that our Turkish colleagues did not make any other statements. The issues are being solved rather effectively "on the ground," Lavrov claimed, noting that the Russian military maintained contact with the Syrian and Turkish colleagues.

On October 22, Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan signed a memorandum in Sochi on joint actions aimed at resolving the crisis in northeast-

ern Syria.

The document stipulated that Russian military police and Syrian troops should be deployed to the areas near the Turkish operation's zone.

Kurdish units were given 150 hours to withdraw from the 30-kilometer zone along the Turkish border, after which the Russian and Turkish military servicemen were due to begin conducting joint patrols.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu announced on Tuesday that Kurdish forces had completed their pullout from the safe area in northeastern Syria under the Sochi agreement. Agencies

South Sudan president says peace implementation progressing well

JUBA



SOUTH Sudan's President Salva Kiir said on Wednesday the ongoing peace implementation process was encouraging amid speedy progress in screening and cantonment of both government and opposition forces.

"So far both the Joint Military Ceasefire Commission (JMCC) and the Joint Transitional Security Committee (JTSC) have all reported very encouraging results in the cantonment of the opposition forces, and in the barracking of the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF)," Kiir told a police conference in Juba.

He said some of these unified forces will be jointly trained to form part of the National Security Services (NSS) including the VIP protection unit for South Sudan. This came after the ceasefire monitoring body (CTSAM-VM) on Tuesday disclosed that opposition forces assembled in various cantonment sites were abandoning them due to shortage of food and medicine, which may derail efforts to form the unified army of 83,000 force.

"The coming in of the opposition forces shows that the agreement is progressing well and that we consider whoever that was fighting against us brother and sister and we have to work together for the improvement of the lives of our people," said Kiir.

The government and main opposition group the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in opposition (SPLM-IO) led by Riek Machar are in disagreement over forming the transitional unity government on the Nov.12 deadline.

SPLM-IO demands all the outstanding issues like screening, registration and cantonment of all forces including determining the number of states and boundaries be completed before the much-awaited unity government is formed.

"The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), AU and United Nations Security Council (UNSC) all expect the (unity) government to be formed as agreed on the Nov.12," said Kiir.

The warring parties failed to form the transitional unity government in May and both agreed to a six-month extension and are left with only less than 12 days to form the unity government.

"Rebuilding peace in our country and regaining trust among our people after this bitter war is going to be a huge challenge to all of us and our success is going to depend on how we conduct ourselves in our various duties," added Kiir.

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, the regional body that mediated the revitalized peace deal signed in September 2018 in Ethiopia, recently said the warring parties failed to form the unified force by the Sept. 30 deadline.

South Sudan descended into conflict in December 2013 after Kiir sacked his deputy Machar, leading to fighting between soldiers loyal to respective leaders.

The conflict killed tens of thousands and displaced millions both internally and externally. A peace deal signed in 2015 collapsed after the outbreak of renewed violence in July 2016, forcing Machar to flee the capital.

Under the 2018 peace deal, Machar will take up one of the four vice presidency positions in the transitional government. Xinhua

Japan's Abe dealt major blow as 2nd cabinet member in less than week quits over scandal

TOKYO

JAPAN'S Justice Minister Katsuyuki Kawai resigned yesterday over allegations that his wife violated the election law, with the abrupt departure creating another setback for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe who has now lost two cabinet members in less than a week.

Kawai, 56, stepping down came amid allegations made by the Shukan Bunshun weekly magazine that his wife, Anri Kawai, 46, who was elected to the upper house in July, made payments to staff members that were over the legal limit.

She is suspected of paying staff members a daily allowance that exceeds the amount permitted under the law, the Shukan Bunshun weekly magazine reported in its online version Wednesday.

It said she paid 13 female campaign announcers double the amount permitted under the law, with the amount thought to be 30,000 yen (276 U.S. dollars) per day.

The excessive payment could be interpreted as Anri Kawai bribing the campaign announcers, with her husband ostensibly complicit as he was in charge of her election campaign.

Kawai himself is also alleged by the magazine to have sent gifts such as potatoes and corn to voters in his constituency, according to the magazine. Xinhua

China plays an indispensable part in global development

CHINA'S economy enjoys a bright prospect, as the operation is stable, the market is full of vigor, the government policies are pragmatic and effective, the industrial chain is being upgraded and the capability of technological innovation is rising. CEOs and economists expressed their confidence in the Chinese economy in interviews with People's Daily.

While the global development is fraught with uncertainties, the Chinese economy has on the whole maintained stability while making steady progress despite downward pressure, able to remain medium-to-high speed of growth.

According to the 2019 Global Competitiveness Report by the World Economic Forum (WEF), China's position in the ranking was unchanged from last year, but its overall score increased by 1.3 points.

The Chinese economy has pro-

gressed by leaps and bounds in the past 70 years. There is no other country that could have made such great achievements within 70 years, said Boris Titov, Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights of Russia, adding that China has maintained medium-to-high economic growth in the long run and the Chinese people have gained a stronger sense of happiness.

As China's digital economy is developing rapidly and mobile payment and e-commerce become increasingly popular, Russia is more than willing to cooperate with China and learn from its experience in such fields, Titov pointed out.

Andrija Karafilipovi, Secretary General of the Union of Friendship Societies of Croatia and President of Croatia-Chi-

na Friendship Association, first visited China in the 1970s. For over 40 years, he has frequently traveled between the two countries and witnessed China's development step by step.

It is obvious that the Republic of China has made remarkable achievements since it was founded in 1949, especially in the past 10 years, said Karafilipovi.

He stated that China has reached the world's top level in terms of its economic scale and infrastructure construction with a historical transition from quantity-oriented to quality-oriented development, gradually satisfying the material, spiritual and cultural needs of the Chinese people.

China has made remarkable achievements in infrastructure construction, transport infrastructure in particular,

said Sharipov, head of the Department of International Manufacturing Business at the State University of Management, Moscow.

Sharipov pointed out that both China's high-speed railway length and expressway length rank first in the world and seven out of the world's ten ports with top cargo throughput and container throughput, respectively, are located in China.

Sharipov often cites such examples about China in his classes and believes that China's achievements are really admirable. China has shifted its focus to improving the quality of economic growth, according to a report released by global credit rating appraiser Moody's in July.

With a large and dynamic market, strong leadership of the Chinese gov-

ernment, growing import demands, a complete industrial system, mounting technological innovation, rapidly extending infrastructure and transportation networks, and the supply-side structural reform boosted by new development concepts, China possesses strong ability to resist economic headwinds, infusing confidence into foreign companies and investors.

Jeremy Stevens, a South African economist, believes that China's economic growth and import demands have stimulated the weakening global economic activities.

It is necessary to view China's economic prospects from a long-term perspective, said Felix Valdivieso, chair of the China research center, IE university of Spain.

He stressed that against the backdrop of the increasing overall uncertainties of the world economy, China's economic data prominently stand out, showing strong resilience.

Audi would never continue with its success if it couldn't expand its business in China, said Alexander Seitz, board member of automobile manufacturer Audi AG, who had once worked for a long time in China.

Seitz expressed his gratitude to China's opening up. Without the Chinese market, it is hard to imagine what Audi would have ended up like under the pressure of the international financial crisis back then, he said, adding that China is still the largest contributor to Audi's global market growth.

People's Daily

'6 days + 365 days' One-stop Trading Service Platforms to extend the influence of the CIIE

"SIX days are just too short for us," said many exhibitors at the end of the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) held last November.

Through the platform of the CIIE, many foreign exhibitors could build up a general picture of the Chinese market and its consumers, thus pinpointing the needs of Chinese consumers and exploring the business opportunities in the Chinese market.

To further turn the exhibits at the expo into commodities and develop the 6-day event into an all-year-round campaign, Shanghai has established "6 days + 365 days" One-stop Trading Service Platforms.

These permanent trading platforms could be divided into four sub-types: comprehensive services platform, cross-border e-commerce platform, professional trading platform and national commodities center.

After the first import expo, the first batch of trading platforms brought in more than 20,000 products from nearly 800 exhibitors, with a value of over 9 billion yuan, and import-

ed about 75.2 billion yuan worth of goods, an increase of 108 percent year on year.

Many "star exhibits" at the expo such as the Spanish ham, Australian wine, Japanese rice have entered the Hongqiao Import Commodity Exhibition and Trading Center in Shanghai in the form of bonded direct sales.

The center serves as one of the permanent trading platforms where bonded exhibition, transaction, logistics and storage services are all available.

As a major platform that demonstrates and expands the spillover effects of the CIIE, it is positioned as a distribution center of imported goods that connects the Yangtze River Delta, serves the whole nation, and even radiates the Asia-Pacific region.

Starting operation since May this year, the center has attracted more than 400 brands and 2,500 commodities from 26 countries, exploring the new models of bonded exhibition and post-exhibition trading.



Aerial photo taken on May 28, 2019 shows Shanghai Yangshan Deep Water Port.

On Sept. 25, a Type B bonded logistics center at the Shanghai Hongqiao Central Business District started operation, which can carry out bonded exhibition, transactions and cross-border e-commerce business.

Since imported commodities are directly shipped from merchants to the bonded platform, the operating costs of logistics and other procedures are reduced, said Cai Jun,

general manager of the Hongqiao Import Commodity Exhibition and Trading Center, adding that many of the imported products are now sold at their respective overseas prices.

Greenland Global Commodity Trading Hub, another permanent exhibition and trade platform, is located next to the venue of the first CIIE. So far, it has received more than 350,000 visitors and held over 50

trade and business activities.

It has welcomed more than 700 professional buyers from home and abroad and helped 150 merchants find downstream channels.

To facilitate the second CIIE, another 18 platforms were licensed as permanent trading ones on Oct. 22, including the Hongqiao Free Trade City. Besides continuing with the supporting services from the first expo, Shanghai has taken four new measures to improve the import expo this year, including setting up a special customs office at the expo venue, introducing big data to manage the event, simplifying the registration of food enterprises, and shortening the approval time.

The city has also used big data to facilitate online handling of cross-border trade formalities such as exhibition declaration and information comparison. In addition, the Shanghai Customs has set up 125 service windows and special channels for the expo to provide 24-hour services for the exhibitors.

People's Daily



Nigeria will never forget Russia's assistance during civil war, says president

PRETORIA

NIGERIAN President Muhammadu Buhari has highlighted the importance of relations with Russia stressing that Nigeria will never forget Moscow's assistance to its central government during the civil war in that African country.

"Those who focus on the progress of developing countries would see what Russia right from its days as the Soviet Union had done for us," he said at a panel discussion of the Future Investment Initiative conference in Riyadh.

"We will never forget that we went over our civil war with the help of Russia and since then, politically and economically, the Russians are helping Nigeria in so many ways."

The Nigerian president described Russia as a responsible partner in Nigeria's development, pointing to Moscow's assistance in all priority areas, including security, economy and the fight against corruption.

The Nigerian Civil War was fought from the summer of 1967 to January 1970 between the government and the secessionist state of Biafra.

During the hostilities, the central government regained control of the rebellious provinces. It is estimated that up to 3 million people died during the war.

Agencies

Huawei ready to boost digital transformation in African countries - CEO

CAIRO

REN Zhengfei, CEO and founder of China's tech giant Huawei, said his company is ready to boost digital transformation in African countries to help their sustainable economic development.

"Huawei could deal with all the countries desiring to benefit from the world experience in digital transformation and developing the digital waves in their interests," Ren (pictured) said in an

interview with Egypt's state-run Ahram newspaper published on Wednesday.

The governments of African countries should consider the information technology and communication as a national strategy that awaits coordination of plans and application of system, Ren explained.

According to the Huawei CEO, the African countries need to focus on investing in the infrastructure especially in the optic fiber industries. Ren hailed the digital trans-



formation in Egypt, saying he was impressed by its new policies toward development during his visit to the country.

In the light of the ongoing construction of a new administrative capital in Egypt, Ren said turning digital will have a great impact on the country's 2030 strategic development plan launched in 2016.

"The digital transformation of the economy and of industries is of great importance to Egypt where the IT and communication sector will play a

vital role in empowering various industries, which calls for strong investment in the infrastructure sector," he noted.

The Huawei founder also pointed to the importance of building the youth capabilities in the IT and communication sector to create a national talent reserve for the IT industry.

Huawei is already working on 6G, and investing in young people is the best approach to this work, Ren noted.

Xinhua

Impeachment investigators ask Bolton to testify, key resolution advanced ahead of full House vote

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WASHINGTON

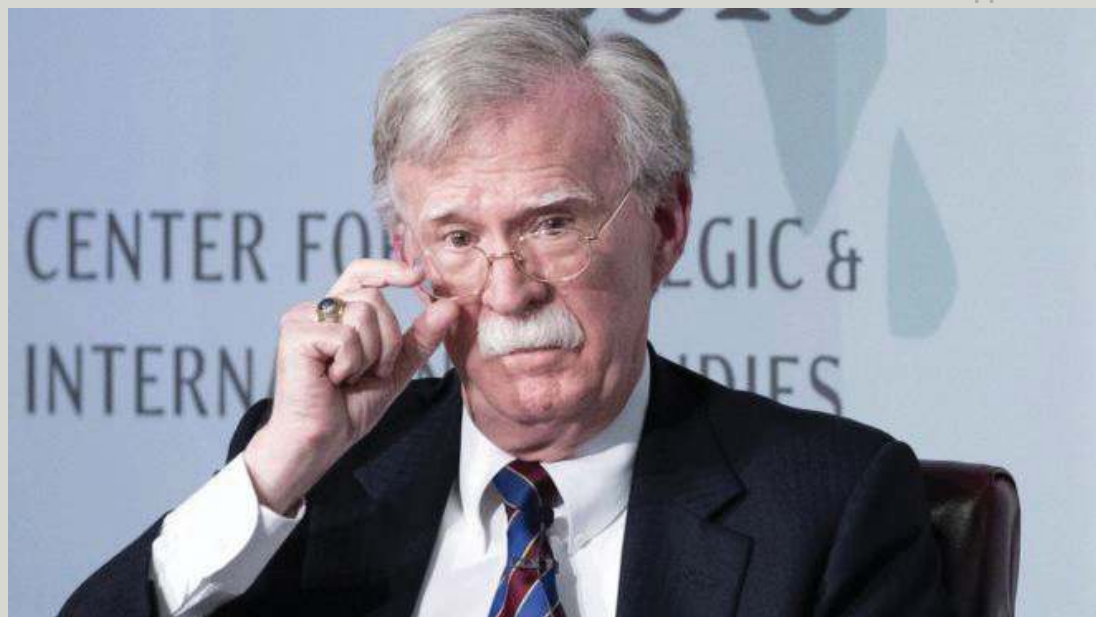
HOUSE Democrats have asked U.S. President Donald Trump's former national security advisor John Bolton to testify in their impeachment probe on Nov. 7, media outlets reported on Wednesday.

Bolton's lawyer, Charles Cooper, told NBC News that his client is "not willing to appear voluntarily." "I stand ready at all times to accept service of a subpoena on his behalf," Cooper added.

The impeachment inquiry into Trump was initiated last month by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi after an anonymous whistleblower raised concerns about the Trump administration's interactions with Ukraine, including a July 25 phone call between Trump and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky.

Trump was alleged to have abused power by using military aid to pressure Zelensky into investigating former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, the leading 2020 Democratic presidential candidate, so as to help his re-election campaign. The White House also allegedly tried to cover it up.

Trump has denied any wrongdoing. The White House has dismissed the allegations and made clear that it will not provide documents or witnesses to House investigators because it considered the impeachment inquiry unfair



and illegitimate.

The White House's former top Europe expert, Fiona Hill, reportedly testified to impeachment investigators earlier this month that Bolton felt disturbed by the administration's efforts to get Ukraine to investigate Biden.

Hill also reportedly testified that Bolton, who left the Trump administration last month, had called Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani a "hand grenade."

Giuliani was said to have been a central figure in those alleged efforts.

House Foreign Affairs Chairman Eliot Engel, a New York Democrat, said Wednesday that the committees have not yet issued a

subpoena for Bolton to testify, but if the former national security advisor does not appear voluntarily, it's "something that we would consider."

The House Rules Committee advanced a resolution Wednesday night aimed at establishing procedures for the impeachment inquiry ahead of Thursday's expected vote on the House floor.

The resolution, unveiled earlier this week, lays out procedures for public impeachment hearings, the release of deposition transcripts and outlines the Judiciary Committee's role in considering potential articles of impeachment.

It will be the first full House

vote on the impeachment inquiry since Pelosi's initiation of it.

"This resolution does nothing to change the fundamental fact that House Democrats refuse to provide basic due process rights to the Administration," White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham said on Tuesday.

Two State Department officials on Ukraine testified in separate closed-door hearings before the House Intelligence, Oversight and Foreign Affairs committees on Wednesday.

Timothy Morrison, the top Russia and Europe adviser of Trump's National Security Council, who's scheduled to testify on Thursday, is reportedly leaving his job soon.

Global body seeks to remove agricultural barriers to spur exports

NAIROBI

AN international food certification body said on Wednesday it plans to remove barriers that deny farmers from exporting their farm produce to the international market.

Good Agricultural Practices (Global GAP) said in Nairobi that it's currently developing standards to remove the barriers in the export of foodstuffs.

"Through our uniform certification, farmers will be able to sell their produce globally," Flavio Alzueta, vice president, chief marketing officer of Global GAP, told a food safety conference in Nairobi.

Alzueta noted that small and medium-scale farm food producers who need to access and maintain the export market must comply with GAP requirements.

The official said that producers of fresh fruits and vegetables such as avocado, herbs, macadamia, grains, tubers, coffee and tea in the eastern African region will be the highest beneficiaries.

"You only have to put in place safety, quality and traceability of your produce to claim a market share in the lucrative international markets as required by GAP," he said.

More than 500 stakeholders in the crops sector dealing with production and export of fruits, vegetables, herbs, nuts and related sub-sectors are attending the conference.

Hamadi Boga, principal secre-



tary, State Department for Crops Development and Agricultural Research in the ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries said Kenya is due to officially launch a food safety agency to address the growing consumer demands on food safety.

"The agency will ensure that farmers adhere to GAP to enable us maintain the share in the global market," he said. Boga noted that the global agreements on the export of farm produce in regard to food safety and quality standards will be complied with as a prerequisite for access to not only international markets but also region and domestic markets that are increasingly focusing on exerting safety standards.

The official noted that henceforth Kenya will focus beyond public health on both export and domestic market. "We are developing programs on capacity building to ensure that farmers are able to meet the global requirements in regard to growing quality and safe food.

Apollo Owuor, chairman of Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK), told the conference that Kenya is still on the list of countries listed by the European Union (EU) for exporting fresh produce that has traces of pesticides and other banned chemicals.

Owuor said that 5 percent of the fresh produce being exported to Europe from Kenya are subjected to further test at the point of entry.

In the last decade, local fresh producers have been facing challenges accessing EU as the produce due to presence of high levels of pesticides such as dimethoate and other organophosphate chemicals that are blamed for the rise in cancer cases in Europe and Africa.

"It has not been easy to adhere to the GAPs mostly issued by the EU governments but we are working with all industry stakeholders towards reduction of incidences," Owuor added.

Xinhua

Li Keqiang trip eyes closer neighborhood, better trade ties

BEIJING

CHINESE Premier Li Keqiang will today embark on a five-day trip to Uzbekistan and Thailand for multilateral meetings and official visits, a key diplomatic move of China to build stronger ties and forge ahead with its neighbors for long-term stability and common development.

Besides visits to Tashkent and Bangkok, Li is scheduled to attend the 18th meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), as well as the 22nd China-ASEAN (10+1) leaders' meeting, the 22nd

ASEAN-China, Japan and South Korea (10+3) leaders' meeting, and the 14th East Asia Summit (EAS).

The trip is widely seen as a fresh effort to better align China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with other national and regional development plans to enhance cooperation and work with its partners to defend multilateralism and promote free trade.

As neighborhood diplomacy serves as a key pillar of China's foreign policy, Li's trip will further cement political trust and grow ties between China and its neighbors, so as to build

a closer and mutually beneficial community with shared prosperity.

Alignment of development strategies

Both the SCO and ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) are important platforms in the cooperation within the framework of the BRI, a vision initiated by China in 2013 to enhance regional connectivity and boost common prosperity by creating a network linking Asia with Europe, Africa and beyond. Meanwhile, Uzbekistan and Thailand, as traditional friends of China, also play vital roles in regional integration.



Six years on, the initiative has been widely recognized by and gained positive responses from SCO and ASEAN members. With concerted efforts, cooperation under the initiative has been fruitful.

According to China's Ministry of Commerce, two-way trade between China and other

SCO members -- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan -- went up to 255 billion U.S. dollars in 2018 with a 17.2 percent year-on-year increase. China has invested over 87 billion dollars to those countries by April this year.

For China-ASEAN ties, the 10-nation organization became China's second-largest trading partner in the first half of 2019 with a total volume of 288 billion dollars. It demonstrated the increasing will of both sides to work together to expand cooperation and broaden partnerships.

People-to-people exchanges between the two sides also blossomed. As major tourist destinations for each other, there are around 4,000 flights traveling between China and ASEAN countries every week.

After years of joint efforts, cooperation under the BRI is now on the path of advancing high-quality development, said Deng Hao, a senior researcher of the Department for European-Central Asian Studies in China Institute of International Studies (CIIS).

Deng noted that better alignments between BRI and other development strategies, such as

Kazakhstan's "Bright Road" new economic policy and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025, will greatly foster high-quality growth in various areas and lift cooperation to new heights.

More open economy
As the world is facing increasing uncertainties and the global economic recovery remains weak, China and its partners' choice to champion multilateralism and open markets wider is the right way to encounter protectionist measures that have threatened sustainable growth.

Xinhua



FILE PHOTO: Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. leaves after his arraignment in New York State Supreme Court in the Manhattan borough of New York, U.S., October 15, 2019. REUTERS

Actor Cuba Gooding Jr charged with unlawfully touching third woman - lawyer

NEW YORK

ACTOR Cuba Gooding Jr, already facing a criminal case over accusations he touched a woman's breasts in a bar and pinched another's buttocks in a nightclub, has been charged in connection with a third woman, his lawyer said on Wednesday.

Gooding is expected to appear in court Thursday and plead not guilty to the charges, according to his lawyer, Mark Heller.

The charges are not yet public, and a spokeswoman for Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance declined to provide details. Heller said the charges stemming from the third accuser were "similar" to those involving the other two women, and that all are misdemeanors.

"Each accuser is totally fraudulent," Heller said, adding that there was video of all three alleged incidents exonerating his client.

Gooding, 51, won a best supporting actor Oscar in 1997 for the film "Jerry Maguire" and is known for roles in movies including "A Few Good Men" and "The Butler" and in

the television miniseries "The People v. O.J. Simpson."

He was previously charged with one count of forcible touching and one count of sexual abuse in connection with each of the first two accusers. He pleaded not guilty on Oct. 15.

Prosecutors said at the time that they hoped to establish a pattern of behavior at Gooding's trial using testimony from 12 additional women who have said they were subjected to unwanted touching and advances by the actor in bars and clubs.

It was not clear whether the accuser behind the new charges is one of the 12.

Gooding, who is divorced, is one of dozens of men in politics, entertainment, sports and the business world who have been accused of sexual misconduct since allegations against movie producer Harvey Weinstein triggered the #MeToo movement.

Weinstein is scheduled to stand trial in New York in January on charges of rape and assault involving two women. He has denied any non-consensual sex.

REUTERS

Movie 'Harriet' tells a different story about US slavery

NEW YORK

WHEN director Kasi Lemmons started work on the first major movie about Harriet Tubman, the 19th century slave turned hero of the Underground Railway, she decided to focus less on the brutality of slavery and more on human stories.

"I really felt that I wanted to speak about a different kind of violence, which was family separation, which I hadn't seen as much of but is very much the Harriet Tubman story and what she was motivated by," said Lemmons. Lemmons co-wrote the screenplay for "Harriet," which opens in U.S. movie theaters on Friday.

"This image of her sisters being taken away, her brother having to leave his wife right after childbirth, her sister saying, 'no, I can't leave my children.' The choices that people had to make and the fact that she was motivated to go back to rescue her family," Lemmons added.

Tubman was born into slavery in the early 1800s in Maryland. As a young adult, she escaped slavery by running nearly 100 miles through forests and fields. She then risked her life several times to return to Maryland and lead dozens of slaves to freedom via the Underground Railroad.

The petite, 5 foot-tall (1.5 meter) Tubman is played by Cynthia Erivo, a London-born actress with Nigerian parents who won a Tony award in 2016 for her lead role in the Broadway revival of the musical "The Color Purple."

The casting of a British actress to play a woman seen as an African-American icon has caused controversy in the United States, but Lemmons said she thought Tubman's story "was big enough to share."

Lemmons said she was struck by Erivo's "physical stature and her athleticism and her singing voice and those cheekbones. ... I felt like, 'Oh, I'm looking at somebody who really, really could make me believe it.' And I really think that that's what it's about. I think the most service that I can do to this character is to bring, help bring this perfectly realistic performance."

Erivo said she worked hard to capture Tubman's physicality.

"It was really about finding the map of her face," she said. "So we would look at pictures, discuss, you know, her downturned mouth, her eyes, how she would hold them, her body, where the tension was, try to find her voice. Because I knew I didn't want her to sound like me."

REUTERS



Kasi Lemmons

Curry breaks left hand in another embarrassing Warriors loss

SAN FRANCISCO

IN what has already been a rough start to the season for the Warriors, now Stephen Curry is down. A two-time MVP, Golden State's longest-tenured player and its oldest at age 31. The heart and soul of his team.

Curry broke his left hand and became the latest injured Warriors player when he fell hard in the third quarter of another embarrassing defeat by Golden State, 121-110 to the Phoenix Suns on Wednesday night. A CT scan will determine whether Curry needs surgery, the Warriors said.

"I just feel bad for him," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "When these guys who are the faces of the league go down it's not good for the league, but especially someone like Steph, who's done so much to raise the level of excitement here in the Bay Area and throughout the league."

Curry drove to his left defended by Kelly Oubre Jr. and with big man Aron Baynes standing solidly in the paint. Curry leapt with the ball then came down head first landing awkwardly on his hands to brace himself from the court, with Baynes crashing onto Curry's left hand. Curry grimaced in pain grabbing at his fingers then walked to the locker room with 8:31 left in the third quarter.

"Aron Baynes came up after the game and just wanted to know how Steph was doing," coach Steve Kerr said. "You could tell he felt really bad. It's just a random basketball play, so stuff happens."

Baynes had 24 points, 12 rebounds seven assists and three blocked shots. Devin Booker scored 31 points as the Suns jumped out to a huge lead they never relinquished. The Warriors have lost badly in their first two home games, at sparkling new Chase Center.

The ailing, undermanned Warriors welcomed back two players but still fell behind 39-11 shooting 4 for 17 as the Suns made 14 of their first 23



Houston Rockets forward PJ Tucker (17) goes to the basket against Washington Wizards forward Rui Hachimura (8) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, in Washington. Rockets won 159-158. (AP Photo)

shots and 8 of 12 3-pointers.

Curry had nine points on 3-for-11 shooting before getting hurt.

Losing Curry for an extended period would be a huge blow for a young Warriors team.

"Of course it hurts knowing that Steph Curry's down," said rookie Eric Paschall, who made his first career start and scored a team-high 20 points. "... That's a very, very valuable piece of our team but I feel like we're going to stay positive."

Golden State is struggling to start the season with Kevin Durant's departure to Brooklyn and Klay Thompson out for perhaps the entire season recovering from July 2 surgery to repair a torn ACL in his left knee.

This was another rough one after an embarrassing season opener in

the first game at Chase Center, a 141-122 loss to the Clippers last Thursday that saw some fans leaving after the third quarter.

Golden State returned home with a 1-2 record and amid a stretch with five games over seven days and two back-to-backs.

The Warriors trailed 72-46 at halftime Wednesday after falling behind 70-37 at the break in Oklahoma City on Sunday.

Golden State center Willie Cauley-Stein, who missed all of training camp with a sprain in his left foot, had 12 points and five rebounds in his Golden State debut. He checked in for the first time at the 8:23 mark of the first quarter.

The Warriors held LGBTQ Night with a panel following the game featuring Golden State COO Rick

Welts - the first openly gay NBA executive - WNBA and Olympic champion Sue Bird of the Seattle Storm and her partner, Megan Rapinoe, of the World Cup-winning U.S. women's soccer team.

Kerr tried to connect with Rapinoe over the summer to have her speak to the World Cup basketball team he coached that went to China. It didn't work out but he hoped to get a few minutes with her Wednesday.

"She's such an incredible athlete and advocate and Sue has been one of the best women's players in the game for a long time," Kerr said. "I know Rick is close with both of them so it's important I think, especially on a night like tonight where we're celebrating the idea of being accepting of everyone, it's great to have them here." AP

Linda Hamilton makes return count in new 'Terminator' film

LOS ANGELES

FOR the new "Terminator" film, it was seemingly easy to bring back Arnold Schwarzenegger as the human-looking cyborg assassin because of his devotion to the franchise. But having Linda Hamilton return as Sarah Connor was a tougher decision considering she'd already turned down a chance to reprise her iconic role.

It took Hamilton six weeks to decide whether she wanted to portray Connor, the waitress-turned-warrior who along with Schwarzenegger made the first two "Terminator" movies among the best action films ever made.

Her hesitation stemmed from the fear that a return as Connor in "Terminator: Dark Fate" might not live up to the hype of the earlier films.

"I was terrified," she recalled. "I really didn't want to disappoint Sarah Connor. That's where I go when I'm terrified. You usually regret what you didn't do. So I thought, 'If I'm this terrified, then maybe that's the reason to do it.'"

Another convincing factor for Hamilton's return was James Cameron, who directed the first two films and would serve as a producer on "Dark Fate," which arrives in theaters Friday. She passed on the opportunity to appear in 2003's "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines" believing she had "completed the character's story" and because of Cameron's absence, calling him the "magic ingredient."

Hamilton was concerned with "Dark Fate" messing with the legacy of the uber-popular "Terminator 2: Judgment Day." But she said Cameron's emails from three years ago detailing the pros and cons of her playing Connor and his enthusiasm about the project helped put her at ease.

The new film ignores three of the franchise's previous movies including



This Oct. 26, 2019 photo shows actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, left, and actress Linda Hamilton posing for a portrait to promote the film, "Terminator: Dark Fate" at the Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills in Los Angeles. (AP)

2015's "Terminator: Genisys," which fizzled with domestic audiences but had a strong turnout overseas. "Dark Fate" picks up soon after the events of "T2."

This time, Connor and an augmented soldier named Grace, played by Mackenzie Davis, must protect a young Mexican girl Dani (Natalia Reyes) who is being hunted by a newly modified liquid Terminator from the future.

Hamilton says Connor still has a vengeful heart against Terminators, yet grudgingly reunites with Schwarzenegger, a time-traveling killing-machine who's developed a conscience. Connor's character is also not a fan of humans because "humankind builds machines that

create their own death," the actress said.

"Sarah has nothing else left, but vengeance," Hamilton said. "She's a woman without a country. She has no mission, no son; broken, dark, black heart."

Schwarzenegger said the 63-year-old Hamilton brought some "freshness" back into the franchise.

"I thought that she set the bar really high again, just like she did in 1991," Schwarzenegger said of Hamilton, who trained for a year to get in fighting shape. "Especially as a woman in her 60s now. There's no action lady out there that I know of who's in her 60s doing what she does. Only Cameron really has the (courage) to do something like that. But he always

feels quite comfortable with those kinds of ideas, especially women action heroes."

Hamilton praised Schwarzenegger for his work as well as her female co-stars, Davis and Reyes. But sometimes, she said it was a struggle to find the voice of their female characters with an all-male screenwriter team.

Hamilton said initially the writers had a hard time writing "organic" dialogue between her and Davis' character. She called the process a fail at first and sometimes declined to recite certain lines, until everyone got on the same page.

The results have been met with mixed reviews, with some criticizing the dialogue between female characters.

"They really had trouble getting the script together," she said. "There were so many writers. They were four months late delivering it to me, because they didn't want me to read the first pass. In the end, I think they really did a bang up job. But it was really changing throughout, even as we were shooting. That was wacky to me, because I never really had to work that way and try to fill in the blanks when you don't quite know where you've been or where you're going or when you're going to learn that. Acting is a linear job. You want to know precisely where I just come from, where I'm going and I fill in those moments with as much authenticity as I can. There were some issues with the script, but ultimately I think we got it worked out."

Hamilton believes her input helped serve the film, her character and others well.

"In the end, I know her best," she said. "That is the advantage of having played someone over a 35-year period. Otherwise, in all my other work, I would let the greater minds have their way. But not this time."

AP

Barcelona offered to restructure salaries to pay for Neymar return

BARCELONA

BARCELONA were so keen to bring Neymar back from Paris St Germain that the players were ready to accept delays to salary payments in order for the club to afford the Brazilian, defender Gerard Pique has revealed.

Barca spent the bulk of the last transfer window trying to lure Neymar back from PSG, two years after he left the Catalans for a world record transfer fee of 222 million euros (\$248 million).

But the two clubs failed to reach an agreement before September's transfer deadline.

The Catalans, who had already signed French forward Antoine Griezmann for 120 million euros and Frenkie de Jong for 75 million, were constrained in their pursuit for Neymar by UEFA's Financial Fair Play regulations.

The rules, designed to prevent the sport's richest owners from crushing their rivals, oblige clubs to be trans-

parent about revenues and broadly balance them against expenditure. They also include a limit on the losses clubs can incur.

"We told (club president Josep Maria) Bartomeu that if it was necessary to delay payments in our contracts to meet Financial Fair Play regulations and sign Neymar we would do it," Pique told Spanish radio station Cadena Ser on Thursday.

"We were ready to adjust our contracts. We weren't going to contribute money, but we were going to make things easier by allowing some payments to be made in the second or third year instead of the first."

The Brazilian sat out the start of the season while he waited for the transfer saga to end but returned to the team in September, scoring four goals in five Ligue 1 appearances.

He is currently sidelined with a groin injury sustained on international duty with Brazil. (\$1 = 0.8957 euros)

REUTERS

Cameroon footballing legend Eto'o rules out career in politics

PARIS

SAMUEL Eto'o is up there with George Weah as an African great on the football field, but he says he has no plans to follow the Liberian into politics "for the moment".

"Everyone wants me to go into politics, but there won't be 10 million Weahs," Eto'o said in an exclusive interview with AFP.

Weah, the only African player to win the Ballon d'Or, became president of Liberia in January 2018.

"Everyone is born with their own star. Everyone at some point gets involved in politics at their own level, but, for the moment, it doesn't interest me."

The 38-year-old Cameroon legend recently brought the curtain down on a glittering playing career during which he won the UEFA Champions League twice with Barcelona and once more with Inter Milan.

An idol in his homeland, Eto'o gave his backing to Paul Biya - who has ruled the country for 37 years - before his re-election in 2018.

Biya is 86 and is dealing with a

major crisis in Cameroon as a two-year secession drive by anglophone separatists has claimed thousands of lives.

Main opposition leader Maurice Kamto walked free from jail earlier this month after a military court ordered his release at Biya's behest.

Of his supposed political ambitions, Eto'o added: "A lot of people might be saying that it's an idea I have, but I say to them it doesn't exist in my mind at the moment."

"But every citizen has the right. If you want to stand, nobody is going to stop you. But in our country it is as though it is something reserved for certain people. Personally it is not an objective."

The two-time Africa Cup of Nations winner says he wants to move into coaching, although he has also taken a role with the Confederation of African Football.

"My role is to lobby the different federations to convince them to adhere to the work being done by president (Ahmad) Ahmad," he said.

AFP

Ancelotti blasts 'attack on my professionalism' in red card rage

MILAN

NAPOLI coach Carlo Ancelotti and his assistant were sent off in a fiery end to an entertaining 2-2 draw against Atalanta in Serie A on Wednesday.

Josip Ilicic struck a disputed 86th-minute equaliser that was upheld following a lengthy VAR review, as Napoli appealed for a penalty.

Napoli forward Fernando Llorente tumbled to the ground after jostling with Simon Kjær in the Atalanta area before the visitors countered and scored through Ilicic.

A five-minute interruption followed before the referee awarded the goal without reviewing the incident on the touchline monitor.

Images suggested Llorente committed the initial foul but Ancelotti and his assistant coach were shown red cards for protesting the decision.

"I consider what happened an attack on my professionalism, my players and my club," Ancelotti said.

Napoli president Aurelio De Laurentis was livid with the controversial finish to the game.

"If there is VAR it's pointless creating eight minutes of additional time because all that happens is pushing and shouting," he told Sky Sport Italia.

"And what is this buffoonery from the referee who kicks out a gentleman like Ancelotti?"

"We're fed up. Without us the referees would be peeling potatoes. We're tired of paying for this standard of officiating."

Nikola Maksimovic had headed in a Jose Callejon cross to give Napoli the lead on 16 minutes at the San Paolo, but Remo Freuler levelled just before half-time when his shot squirmed through goalkeeper Alex Meret.

Polish striker Arkadiusz Milik hit the post and crossbar before putting Napoli back on top on 71 minutes when he raced onto a Fabian Ruiz pass and rounded Pierluigi Gollini.

However, Ilicic levelled and nearly grabbed a winner in stoppage time as Atalanta stayed third, four points behind Inter Milan who beat Brescia 2-1 on Tuesday.

AFP

Anfield thriller shows that Liverpool, Arsenal are on different paths

LIVERPOOL, England

DURING Unai Emery's first interview as Arsenal manager in May 2018, he condensed his philosophy into one memorable soundbite: "I prefer to win 5-4 than win 1-0."

At a glacial Anfield on Wednesday, there was a 23-minute period against a Liverpool side, with an average age of 23 years, 122 days, in which that ideology was reflected on the scoreboard.

Joe Willock picked up the ball, drove forward and whipped a venomous, right-footed strike into the top-left corner to make it five goals to Arsenal and four to the hosts.

Then the major flaw in that methodology was underlined when Liverpool debutant Neco Williams lofted a cross in to Divock Origi with the clock reading 94 minutes.

The Belgian pulled away from his marker to volley on the turn and into the corner to send the game to penalties.

Gunners midfielder Dani Ceballos saw his spot kick saved by 20-year-old goalkeeper Caoimhin Kelleher, and in a matter of minutes, Arsenal went from winning 5-4 in regular time to losing 5-4 in the shootout. The result, even given the crazy, barely believable nature of the game, will not have done an already unpopular Emery many favours.

With an already packed schedule to contend with, the Carabao Cup is nowhere near the top of Liverpool's priorities, which was reflected by their squad that was more akin to an Academy team sheet.

The XI contained five players aged 20 and under - including 16-year-old Harvey Elliott - with goalkeeper Adrian the only senior player on a substitute bench of kids.

Arsenal had the stronger, more experienced matchday 18 on paper and more riding on reaching the quarterfinals of the competition.

The north Londoners had worked a 4-2 advantage by 54 minutes, courtesy of some fine work by the forgotten Mesut Ozil, and they should have squeezed any resistance out of Liverpool's shadow side.

Instead, they showed zero grip of game management nor signs of being streetwise, encouraging the likes of Rhian Brewster, Elliott and Origi to keep huffing and puffing to blow their fragile defence down.

Distributed via ippmedia

Liverpool reach League Cup quarters after 10-goal thriller against Arsenal

LONDON

LIVERPOOL reached the League Cup quarter-finals in thrilling style as their incredible 5-5 draw against Arsenal was followed by a 5-4 penalty shootout triumph, while Manchester United won 2-1 at Chelsea on Wednesday.

Both Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp and Arsenal boss Unai Emery made 11 changes for the fourth round tie, but the understudies served up one of the most entertaining games of the season at Anfield as the Gunners squandered multiple leads.

In the shoot-out, Dani Ceballos' penalty was saved by 20-year-old Irish keeper Caoimhin Kelleher before Liverpool-born 18-year-old Curtis Jones converted the winning kick.

Liverpool have won the League Cup a record eight times and they remain on course to lift the trophy for the first time since 2012.

"We were too open at times. We can talk about tactics but who cares on a night like this? I hoped for the boys they would have a game to remember," Klopp said.

"It's like a dream for them to play for the first time at Anfield. All our goals were wonderful."

After Granit Khaka's astonishing outburst at Arsenal fans during Sunday's traumatic Premier League draw with Crystal Palace, this was another body blow for Arsenal, who lost despite leading 3-1, 4-2 and then 5-4 with seconds to go.

"A crazy match. At the end we were winning until the last action. Penalties are 50-50 and we lost. We are sad but we deserve more," Emery said.

With an average age of 23 years and 122 days, it was Liverpool's youngest starting eleven in any competition since January 2017 as teenagers Neco Williams, Harvey Elliott, Rhian Brewster and Sepp Van Den Berg all featured.

Liverpool's rookies went ahead after just six minutes as Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain sent over a low cross and Arsenal defender Shkodran Mustafi, sliding in to clear, accidentally deflected it onto his knee and into the back of his own net.

Arsenal drew level in the 19th minute via an assist from the rarely used Mesut Ozil, who was making his only his third appearance of the season and his first since September 24.

Ozil picked out Bukayo Saka in space and when his shot was saved, the unmarked Lucas Torreira slotted home.

Emery's team took the lead in the 26th minute through Gabriel Martinelli.

Martinelli struck again 10 minutes later with his seventh goal in seven appearances this season.

James Milner reduced Liverpool's deficit with a 43rd minute penalty, before Ainsley Maitland-Niles got Arsenal's fourth goal in the 54th minute.

Oxlade-Chamberlain got one back for Liverpool with a thunderous long-range drive four minutes later.

And Divock Origi equalised with an even better strike in the 62nd minute as the Belgian spun sharply before blasting into the top corner from the edge



Liverpool's Curtis Jones scores their winning penalty during the shootout against Arsenal. (Agencies)

They obliged. It took just four minutes for former Arsenal midfielder-turned-Kop-idol Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain to unsettle Arsenal with a 25-yard beauty.

After another four minutes, Origi's glorious turn and finish had matters level at 4-4.

When Willock buried his breathtaking hit in the 70th minute, Arsenal still showed no inclination to suck the spectacle out of the game and make the result safe.

The match, despite its nonsensical nature, rubber-stamped what we already know about Liverpool and Arsenal at present.

"We always keep on going. That's our mentality," Origi said of his side, who keep finding ways to win - even if their schedule would've benefited from exiting the Carabao Cup.

Arsenal, conversely, wilt: They have conceded nine goals in their past three matches in all competitions.

And so it was more than just a missed penalty that separated these teams in the chaos at Anfield.

"I was absolutely convinced we could give them a proper game, so that's why we decided for that lineup," Klopp said in a salute to how good he thinks his young players are, but it also seemed like analysis of how soft Arsenal can be.

"I enjoyed pretty much each second of the game, to be honest. I don't know when I last had so much fun in a football game."

"I saw so many really good performances. I was so happy and pleased for the kid. Obviously, they will remember their first night at Anfield for the rest of their lives,

and in the end they made it a proper, special football night."

Emery echoed Klopp's sentiments about entertainment that was "amazing for the supporters," adding, "We were very close to the win and they equalised late, and penalties are 50/50. We are disappointed in the end, defensively, because we conceded five goals, but there were a lot of positives for us to use for the future."

One of those was Arsenal's impressive 18-year-old forward, Gabriel Martinelli, who scored twice on the night.

The Gunners are stocked with players with very high ceilings - Matteo Guendouzi and Willock are two more examples - but there are questions around whether Emery is the right man to both advance their development and meet the ambitions of



Manchester United's Marcus Rashford scores their second goal against Chelsea during their Carabao Cup - Fourth Round match at Stamford Bridge in London, Britain on Wednesday. Man United won 2-1. (Agencies)

of the area.

But Willock restored Arsenal's lead in the 70th minute with another contender for goal of the night, the midfielder sprinting away before unleashing a 25-yard rocket.

It was only the second time Liverpool have conceded five goals in a home match in the last 66 years.

Remarkably, Origi acrobatically volleyed Liverpool's equaliser in stoppage-time, setting the stage for their shoot-out success.

At Stamford Bridge, Ole Gunnar Solsk-

jaer was rewarded for naming a strong team as United beat Chelsea to continue their recent revival.

Solskjaer made just four changes, while Chelsea boss Frank Lampard made six and it was five-time League Cup winners United who came out on top as they enjoyed a third successive victory.

After Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial both missed penalties in United's win at Norwich on Sunday, Solskjaer's team went in front thanks to a successful spot-

kick in the 26th minute at the Bridge.

Daniel James was fouled by Marcos Alonso and Rashford stepped up to send Willy Caballero the wrong way from the spot for his sixth goal of the season.

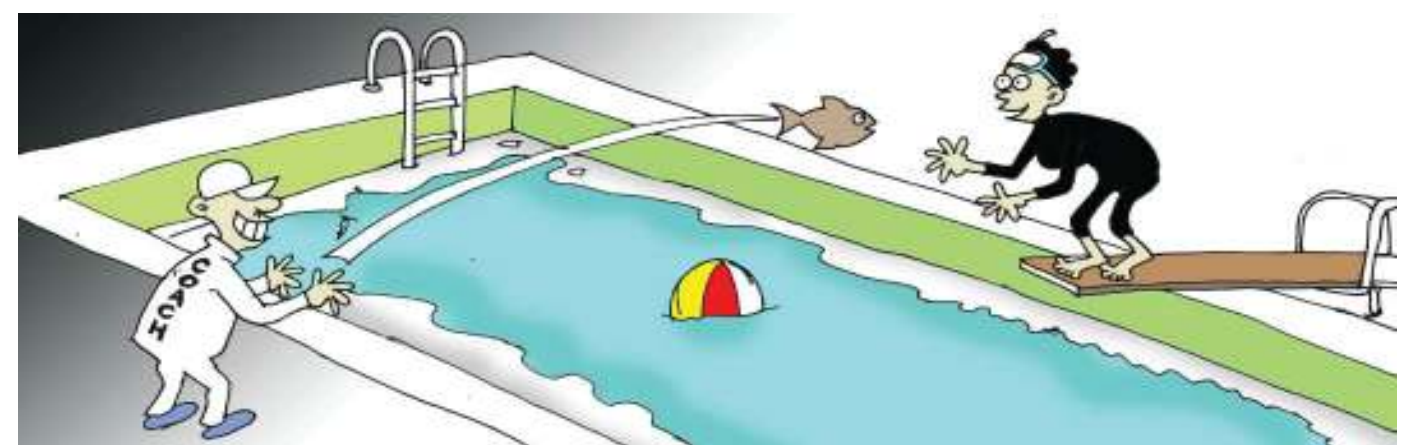
Michy Batshuayi equalised from long-range in the 61st minute, but Rashford's superb 30-yard free-kick won it for United in the 73rd minute.

Aston Villa moved into the last eight with a 2-1 win over local rivals Wolves.

AFP



Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Liverpool reach League Cup quarters
after 10-goal thriller against Arsenal

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Dar es Salaam junior football players put their skills to show during a special game, organized by an academy based in the city, at the Uhuru Stadium mid this week. The academy held the event to select players that will seek opportunity for professional stint in Europe. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Dar golfers in tussle for car prize in Rotary tournament

By Correspondent Mohamed Ugasa

FOR the first time in history, Rotary Club of Bahari Dar es Salaam has placed RAV 4 car in tussle for any amateur golfer who will be the first to hit a hole-in-one during its annual charity golf scheduled for Saturday at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club course.

Par three 10th is where the car donated by Minet Insurance will be available for the rare feat of the day.

Rotary Club of Bahari president, Rotarian Hitesh Tanna, has confirmed availability of the car as a special motivation for the 18-hole stable ford day long tourney aimed at raising 40m/- to cater for charity.

The car becomes a special motivation in the tourney expected to attract over 100 golfers of all ages. The winner will take the car for keeps and, in case no one wins, then the sponsor will retain it.

Never before had the Dar es Salaam-based Rotarian club placed such a breathtaking and mouth-watering take away prize up for grabs throughout its eight past editions.

"This should provide additional excitement and competition amongst our golf community," Rotarian Tanna noted.

Kinondoni District's Mtakuja Beach Secondary School stands as beneficiary of the charity proceeds aimed at transforming the teaching and learning environment.

The school serves almost 1300 pupils and is housed in a campus in the Kunduchi Beach front area.

The Rotary Club of Bahari, in partnership with the business community, Rotary Foundation and the school will be investing in rehabilitating the water and sanitation systems in the school, so as to bring clean water, sanitation and hygiene services directly to the children, thereby reducing their exposure to waterborne diseases.

Creating healthier water systems in schools creates a positive cycle by significantly improving school enrollment, attendance and improved academic performance.

Children who attend school and learn positive health behaviours like washing hands, will take these behaviours home to their families. The project will also assist the school to rehabilitate the class rooms and the furniture and also provide assistance to the school in accessing a reliable printing service.

Rotary Club president Tanna said the objective of the project is to form an effective partnership between the school management, the parent community and the Rotary Club of Bahari to transform the learning environment and put in place processes to ensure that the improvements are sustainable thereby resulting in lower school drop-out rates, decrease in diseases outbreak and an overall improvement in educational achievement.

President Tanna believes that by engaging and working together, Mtakuja Beach Secondary School can become amongst the leading one in the region and a model for effective partnership with community.

Over 300m/- has been raised in the past eight editions of the charity tournament that contributed towards various club service projects, making a significant difference in the community especially providing support to the underprivileged.

Tanna said in 2018 proceeds from golf tournament funds raised were used to provide artificial limbs to over 200 people and the year before the club donated 43m/- towards supporting The Gift of Life to heal little hearts.

The Save A Child's Heart Foundation and The Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute at Muhimbili National Hospital that jointly organised teams of medical professionals who volunteered their time and expertise to perform life-saving heart surgeries at The Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute. They also trained local surgeons and nurses on how to deal with the complex cases and on intensive post-surgery care.

Previously, the Rotary Club of Bahari supported projects that aimed at improving literacy, sports and creativity, building of school libraries and equipping the libraries with textbooks and youth economic empowerment.

Uluguru Girls clobber Nyanza Girls in TCA Women Premier League

By Guardian Reporter

ULUGURU Girls cruised to 206-run drubbing of Mwanza's Nyanza Girls in this year's TCA Women Premier League's clash which was played at Sokoine University Agriculture (SUA) venue in Morogoro early this week.

Uluguru Girls made the most of their innings, once they were presented with the chance to start batting, as they recorded 257 runs, losing six wickets in 40 overs.

Skipper Fatuma Omary made her experience count, as she recorded 111 runs for the Morogoro squad.

Adelphina Jeremiah also put scintillating displays at the crease, posting 72 runs.

Mwanaidi Ammy and Martha Callist chipped in with 25 runs and 13 runs respectively.

Nyanza Girls' Mariam Juma had an impressive bowling spell, posting three wickets and conceding 44 runs in e overs.

In response, Nyanza Girls found the going tough, as they were skittled for 51 runs.

None of the Mwanza squad's batters posted double digit figures, with Umyy Mkina and Mariam Mwesiga executing several knocks and scoring eight runs and six runs respectively.

Nyanza Girls, mostly consisting of inexperienced performers, quickly lost steam in the innings, letting their tenacious opponents wrap up the victory early on.

Adelphine and Sonia Chachala mercilessly punished Nyanza Girls' batters, in which Adelphine took four wickets, conceded eight runs in eight overs.

Chachala ended her spell with three wickets, leaking five runs in four overs.

Zambia aim to finish incredible 2019 on another high

KITWE

HOSTS Zambia head into the 2019 COSAFA Men's Under-20 Championship having had an unbelievable year in regional tournaments in both the male and female categories.

Lusaka will stage the coveted finals between December 4-14, and Zambia will be among the favourites to lift the trophy, which has been won for the last two years by South Africa.

Should they do so it will be the continuation of an incredible six months for the country in COSAFA competitions, which has so far seen them pick up two gold medals, two silvers and bronze medal.

Here is a low-down of their 2019 in the various regional competitions.

The Zambia senior men's side retained the COSAFA Cup title for the first time since 2013 with a 1-0 victory over Botswana in the final in Durban. They were full value for their tournament success.

Zambia could not quite do the 'Double' by claiming the women's senior challenge as well but came unstuck against powerhouse South Africa in the final to go home with the silver medal.



Yanga midfielder, Mapinduzi Balama (2nd R), challenges Egypt's Pyramids FC midfielder, Mohamed Fathi, in the first leg of the 2019/20 CAF Confederation Cup's play offs played in Mwanza recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Yanga eager to stun Pyramids FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S soccer big guns, Yanga, jettied off to Egypt yesterday to face Pyramids FC in the return leg of the 2019/20 CAF Confederation Cup play offs, which will take place on Sunday.

In a telephone interview held yesterday, Hassan Bumbuli, Yanga's information officer, said a contingent of 20 players left the country yesterday and they are ready for the return leg.

He said an advanced party of two officials, namely vice-chairman Fredrick Mwakalebela and executive committee member Ally Salum, arrived in Egypt on Wednesday.

"The team is departing the country today (yesterday) for the return leg, it is made up of 20 players and seven technical committee members and two officials," he said.

"All of the players are fit and ready for the encounter, I'm sure of good results in Egypt," he said.

Yanga lost 2-1 to Pyramids in the first leg of the play offs, which was played at CCM Kumbumba Stadium in Mwanza.

Aggregate winners of the play offs will qualify for the group stage of the CAF Confederation Cup.

For Yanga to qualify for group stage, they must win by either two goals or more without conceding a goal.

Yanga's head coach, Mwynyi Zahera, is reported to have said his side has good players who can win any match.

He however, admitted that beating Pyramids at their backyard is a tall order for his squad.

"They are a good side with good players, but equally we (Yanga) also have good play-

ers who can win at any venue and as a coach I'm confident that we can win at their backyard," he said.

In eight previous encounters against Egyptian clubs, Yanga have never emerged aggregate winners.

Yanga have lost five times to Egyptian giants Al Ahly, twice to their Cairo rivals, Zamalek, and once to Ismaily.

Yanga's recent defeat to an Egypt outfit was in the 2016 CAF Champions League, when Ahly scored a 96th minute goal to win 2-1 on the night, and advanced to the group stage with 3-2 aggregate victory.

Pyramids, coached by Frenchman Sebastien Desabre, consist of good players who can dictate results of the match anytime.

Desabre has a good experience of East African football having coached Uganda senior national team 'Cranes'.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK HOME I HAVE FORGOTTEN MY EARRINGS

IT'S 10 KM AWAY FROM HOME



EATV

TODAY @ 18:00

THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
12:00 Mpya
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 Bonga Hits
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Bonga Hits

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eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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