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TANZANIA

FRIDAY 31 MAY, 2019

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MPs' committee demands Muscat embassy funds release soon

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security has called on the government to disburse 322.3m/- for the building of the Tanzanian Embassy in Muscat, Oman hopefully by 15th June 2019.

"The committee appeals to the government to release the money meant for early stages of the construction of the embassy office and residence for the ambassador," said Cosatu Chumi (Mafinga Urban, CCM) who tabled the committee recommendations.

He said a total of 10.4bn/- of the development budget was allocated for the building of embassy office in Muscat, renovation of the Khartoum embassy and ambassador's residence, along with expansion of infrastructure at the Tanzania Centre for Foreign Relations.

"The committee feels that failure to release the funds for the development projects negatively affect such key strategic projects to the nation, especially the Tanzanian Embassy in Oman," he said.

Chumi noted that through Standing Orders 98(3), the committee submitted to

Double tragedy: Cholera kills three in Dar as dengue bites



The Speaker of the National Assembly, Job Ndogai exchanges greetings with CRDB Bank plc Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela at an iftar hosted by CRDB Bank to customers and stakeholders in Dodoma on Wednesday. Left is CRDB Bank Board Chairman Ally Laay and right is the Clerk of the National Assembly, Steven Kagaigai. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

"Health inspection officers have already been deployed in various parts of the city to enforce cleanliness and hygiene regulations," Dr Ndogile noted

By Guardian Reporter

THREE people have been confirmed dead and 40 hospitalized in the current cholera outbreak in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam which is still battling dengue fever.

The Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children has set up three camps at the city's Temeke, Amana and Mwananyamala hospitals to deal with the outbreak.

Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Dr Yudas Ndogile told this paper yesterday that most cases are in Temeke district, followed by Ilala district.

He named the more affected suburbs as Buza, Keko, Mtoni Kijichi, Tandika, Chamazi, Kivule and Azimio Street in Temeke district. Others are Mchikichini, Kigogo, Kariakoo, Vingunguti and Ilala in Ilala district.



The committee feels that failure to release the funds for the development projects negatively affect such key strategic projects to the nation, especially the Tanzanian Embassy in Oman

the government a statement, stating the importance of completing the Omani project and that the government agreed to release funds for the project before the end of the financial year.

Following the challenge in releasing development funds, the committee was interested in knowing the ministry's preparedness in developing embassy plots outside the country when budgeted funds are not released, he stated.

The ministry explained that it has prepared a strategic plan for construction, purchase and renovation of embassy offices and residences for ambassadors to be implemented in 15 years from 2018/2019 to 2031/32, he further noted.

Tabling opposition views on the budget estimates, Salome Makamba (Special Seats, Chadema) noted that increased cases of abduction and killings of people, among others taint the country's image in the

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Diaspora remittances rise steadily - minister

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

REMITTANCE from Tanzanians in the Diaspora has increased steadily as those who invested in the housing sector through the National Housing Corporation bought houses worth 2.53bn/- from July 2018 to March 2019.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi stated in the National Assembly yesterday that between January and December 2018 the CRDB



Tabling the 2019/20 ministerial estimates, the minister stated that the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) collected \$ 18,000 from 60 Tanzanians in the Diaspora

Bank obtained remittance totaling 2.8billion/- while Stanbic Bank received \$ 921,627.16, Euro 7,050, 7,800 pounds and Swiss Francs 1,050.

Tabling the 2019/20 ministerial estimates, the minister stated that the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) collected \$ 18,000 from 60 Tanzanians in the Diaspora.

"The increased remittances are due to engagement of the government with those in the Diaspora to participate in nation building

TURN TO PAGE 2

TPDC: We shall drill a well in fiscal 2019/20

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) has said that in the next financial year (2019/20) it expects to have its own petroleum well that will facilitate the availability of the product.

TPDC plans to start participating fully in the oil and gas sector as the government seeks to optimize its position in the industry, the corporate entity affirmed yesterday.

The state-run agency seeks to take part in all stages -- exploration, development and production -- instead of the current situation where it only participates as a stakeholder in projects of foreign companies.

The Acting Executive Director for TPDC, Kapuulya Musomba (pictured) made the remarks yesterday when he was addressing journalists here ahead of the commemoration of 50 years of the corporation, which Prime

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President John Magufuli bids farewell to his host President of Zimbabwe Dr. Emmerson Mnangagwa at Robert Mugabe International Airport in Harare yesterday. President Magufuli also attended the swearing in ceremony of the South African President Cyril Ramaphosa. Photo: State House

UN launches initiative to promote metropolitan development in cities

NAIROBI

THE UN-Habitat yesterday launched an initiative dubbed MetroHUB that seeks to promote development of metropolitan areas with more than two cities.

Remy Sietchping, Chief of the regional and metropolitan planning unit at UN-Habitat, said that the aim of the tool is to enhance the capacity of metropolitan and regional authorities to better manage new urbanization challenges.

"The MetroHUB methodology embraces a three prong approach on improving the governance, planning and finance capabilities of metropolitan areas," Sietchping said during the first UN Habitat Assembly underway in Nairobi.

The Initiative has already been piloted in Uganda and Colombia.

Sietchping said that the way urban areas grow has changed drastically in recent years because as cities expand across their administrative boundaries into their peri-urban cities they tend to link up to surrounding cities and spread out until they form metropolitan agglomerations.

Through adoption of the New Urban Agenda, Member States of the UN committed to support the strengthening of the capacity of sub-

national and local government to undertake their functions.

Sietchping said that the metroHUB also contains the innovative tool of the Pyramid of Metropolitan Management.

"The tool demonstrates how 12 metropolitan management issues can effectively be addressed to support and monitor the goal to leave no one and no place behind," he added.

According to the UN-Habitat official, the initiative also identifies the fundamental issues faced by metropolitan areas and the pathways to simultaneously unleash, integrate and articulate the dimension of policies, governance, planning and financing.

Sietchping added that the pyramid of the metropolitan management will be the basis to assess metropolitan areas in five continents and to draft a global state of metropolis.



The MetroHUB methodology embraces a three prong approach on improving the governance, planning and finance capabilities of metropolitan areas

Committee demands Muscat embassy funds release soon

FROM PAGE 1

international community.

She argued that when some international development partners try to talk about such matters, the government always views them as enemies. "To date the EU which for a long time has been a close partner does not have an ambassador in the country and it has stated the will to review its relationship with Tanzania," she remarked.

She read out EU assertions which stated that Tanzanian authorities have consistently increased their pressure on the EU Ambassador. "This led to his forced departure and recall for consultation," the EU had affirmed.

"This unprecedented attitude is not in line with the long established tradition of bilateral dialogue and consultation between the two parties which the EU deeply regrets," she said, citing remarks from the EU.

TPDC: We shall drill a well in fiscal 2019/20

FROM PAGE 1

Minister Kassim Majaliwa is expected to grace in Dar es Salaam today.

He said the corporation wants to have its own well since those it is involved with at present were set up in collaboration with private companies.

"We have seen that there is need for us to have our own well and we are

hoping that we will have more of this in the coming year," he said.

"We also see that our colleagues are importing petroleum but now we want to engage in the business which means we will have the chance to import petroleum goods as well," he said.

He said the corporation was proud to have done various things including the discovery of natural gas reserves at

Songosongo in Lindi region, noting that the critical task was to construct the pipeline from Mtwara to Dar es Salaam.

"TPDC's full participation in the exploration, development and production is a bold decision. It will optimize government participation in the industry. So, soon you will see it doing the job being done by other big companies in the industry," he

declared.

Even as the 50-year-old corporation remains confident in its future involvement in the distribution of oil and gas and related services, some economists are worried by the government decision to allow TPDC to engage in all stages including risky exploration activity, observers noted.

Diaspora remittances rise steadily - minister

FROM PAGE 1

activities," the minister explained.

The ministry in collaboration with the Tanzania Diaspora Council (TDC Global) and the Swedish Sub-Saharan Africa Chamber of Commerce (SSACC) organized a conference that enlightened the Diaspora community on available investment opportunities, he said.

He asked the legislature to approve Sh 166.9bn for the 2019/20 fiscal year whereby Sh 162.9bn is for recurrent needs and Sh 4.0bn is for development expenditure.

Speaking on the state of politics in Africa, he said in March 2019 xenophobia erupted in South Africa but maintained that no Tanzanian was injured in the fracas that targeted foreigners in major South African cities.

He thanked the South African government for actions taken to stop attacks on foreigners. "Through our envoy in South Africa, the government will continue with efforts to ensure Tanzanians in the country are safe and urge any of them who experiences violence to report to the embassy immediately," he declared.

Prof Kabudi also affirmed that the government is closely monitoring developments in the United Kingdom

(UK) following the confusion on the activities," the minister explained.

On the conflict between Israel and Palestine, he said Tanzania supports the African Union (AU) position on the matter and will continue urging the warring parties to respect the recommended agreements.

He said Tanzania believes that the long lasting solution in the conflict is to have two countries living peacefully as free Palestine and peaceful Israel.

As part of ongoing enhancement of ties with Israel, the latter has offered 100 training positions for young Tanzanians to study modern agriculture for 11 months from September 2019, he said.

Israel has made great advances in agriculture, especially modern agriculture, thus it has offered an opportunity for Tanzanians to learn from them, he told MPs.

Apart from studying modern agriculture, the batch of young Tanzanians will be handed subsistence allowances and other funds to start agro-based projects upon their return, he said.

The process to get the group of young people for the studies is underway, the minister added.



Teachers from Fachakademien University, Germany in a souvenir photograph after arriving at Tarangire Pre and Primary English Medium School in Babati, Manyara region on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadei

CAPE TOWN

S. Africa bans imports of live animals from Lesotho following the anthrax outbreak

SOUTH Africa yesterday announced a ban on imports of live animals from Lesotho following an anthrax outbreak in the neighboring kingdom.

The ban also targets products of animals susceptible to anthrax, including wool, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forest (DAFF) said.

This came after the Veterinary Authority of Lesotho reported three

anthrax outbreaks to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

The first outbreak started on May 12 this year and a total of 24 cattle were reported to have died of anthrax.

The OIE is in contact with the Veterinary Authority of Lesotho to

ensure safe trade while the anthrax outbreaks are ongoing, according to the DAFF.

The DAFF urged livestock owners to vaccinate their livestock against anthrax once every 12 months with a registered vaccine and report any

sudden deaths of livestock with blood oozing from carcass openings to their responsible veterinarians or animal health technicians for investigation.

Customers should only purchase livestock that look healthy from a trustworthy source and make sure that

the meat they buy originates from an abattoir that is legally registered, the DAFF said.

Anthrax is a serious infectious disease of humans and warm-blooded animals and is caused by the bacterium bacillus anthracis. Animals become

infected by eating or licking material that is contaminated with spores or breathing in the spores.

Humans most commonly contract the disease through contact with anthrax infected animals or animal products such as meat.



Tuberculosis officer in Kahama town council via SHDEPHA+ Annasia Mringo delivers her presentation on the symptoms of TB to journalists in Shinyanga on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

PM calls for accuracy in weighing scales

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed Weights and Measures Agency (WMA) to ensure that weighing scales used for buying cotton are accurate to safeguard the interests of the farmers. The Premier issued the directives in Mwanza yesterday during the meeting that involved different players in agricultural sector such as representatives of cooperative unions, members of Tanzania Cotton Association (TCA), government leaders and executives. Majaliwa said that sometime weighing scales used for buying cotton their readings differ from one place to another a sign showing that they are being tempered to exploit farmers therefore WMA should work accordingly to make sure that anomalies cannot continue. He noted that it is time now for the officers of WMA plan for frequent checks in the Agricultural Marketing cooperative Societies (AMCOS) to see as to whether the weighing scales are not tempered with for development of the crop that earns the nation foreign currency. He pointed out that if accuracy in the weighing scales is not well managed, there is a possibility for farmers to be exploited a situation that can slow down development of the crop in the country. There should be win-win situation between farmers and buyers in the sense that if there are no farmers there can also be buyers as the two parties depend on each other in business, he noted. The overall objective of the meeting among other things was to get the statement of government on the final

crop's indicative price for this season of 2019/2020.

In April this year government, buyers as well as other crop's stakeholders agreed that indicative price for this year's crop season be 1,200/- per kg but then buyers were reluctant to buy the harvest on the grounds that price was high and therefore could run loss.

The PM asked buyers to continue buying cotton at the indicative price of 1,200/- per kg agreed before so that farmers can also benefit adequately and also being one of the ways to develop the crop christened as white gold.

On his part, speaking on behalf of the crop's buyers, Christopher Gachuma said it was true that they calculated the indicative price to be 1,200/- per kg but shortly were changes in price in the world market and therefore buyers wanted the starting price be 1000/- to avoid running loss.

However, we thank for the government that up to now has dealt with the matter accordingly to ensure that buyers can buy the crop at 1,200 per kg without running loss, he noted.

He advised the buyers to accept directives by the government to buy the crop at 1,200/= per kg as the organ is working hard to support them in business to make sure that crop is going on well for national development.

So far, he challenged authorities responsible for issuing licenses and permits to make sure that they issue applicants with the documents as early as possible to enable them buy cotton without trouble.

He noted that extension officers should work hard to ensure that farmers cannot harvest at least 1000 kg per hectare unlike now when they just end up with 200 or 300 kgs, a situation that they do not use their expertise to help farmers to develop.

United States disburses grants worth \$750,000 to create jobs for rural youth

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States Government disbursed grants worth a total of \$750,000 to nine institutions that support job creation, entrepreneurship, leadership, and healthy living among youth. The grants are supported by the 'Feed the Future Tanzania'.

Advancing Youth activity, funded by the United States Government

through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and is expected to create 950 jobs for youth in 700 new or improved youth-led enterprises across the regions of Iringa, Mbeya, and Zanzibar.

The Mission director for USAID, Andrew Karas, and Suleiman Jafo, the Minister for the President's Office Regional Administration and Local

Government (PO-RALG), presented the grants to the local institutions.

During his remarks, Karas noted: "Investing in youth leadership in Tanzania is a priority for USAID and the Government of Tanzania. Tanzania is a young country, and its population is expected to double in the next 25 to 30 years. Deliberate efforts are needed by the government, private sector, and communities to ensure that the energy,

talents, and optimism of today's youth, as well as the next generation, make Tanzania a place of promise and prosperity for all."

The Advancing Youth activity encourages rural youth to engage in Tanzania's agriculture sector and supports increased economic opportunities for young people aged 15-35 while promoting leadership and healthy lifestyles.

Through its grants program, Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth transforms challenges into opportunities for rural youth to drive and advance Tanzania's economic growth.

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

FARMERS across the nation have even more reasons to smile on their way to the bank this year, because the Private Agricultural Sector Support, targets to dish out 210 billion/- in their support.

The Managing Director for the Private Agricultural Sector Support Trust, Nicomed Bohay, said that PASS has realised that the more than 800,000 young people who enter into the job market in the country, annually is adequate manpower to be harnessed to boost modern farming activities and that his Trust was prepared to fund this development.

Bohay was speaking during the occasion to sign agreement with the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) through which PASS can guarantee local farmers and peasants to secure loans from the financial institution.

The PASS executive pointed out that Tanzania, with a population of over 50 million residents and annual increase of nearly 2 million people, the country itself is a ready market of agricultural produce as all these mouths need to be fed.

The National Bank of Commerce's Managing Director Theobald Sabi, lauded PASS initiative, assuring that NBC will ensure that the move to support farmers and boost commercial oriented agricultural activities in the country were in line with the bank's policies and operations.

At least 235,253 families will benefit either directly or indirectly from the jobs which will be created through PASS model of loans guarantee worth "The studies have shown that every year, we have over 800,000 youths joining the labour market

800,000 youth to be employed from 210bn/- farm initiative support

in Tanzania, yet there are no jobs to accommodate these numbers. At PASS, we believe that through mentorship and coaching in agri-business entrepreneurship, we can help many youths to start own enterprises" Said Bohay. A total of 929,172 agricultural entrepreneurs have benefited from PASS guaranteed loans amounting to 712 billion/- between the years 2000 to 2018. In the year 2018 alone, PASS

benefited a total of 196,873 agribusinesses through loans guarantee as well as business development services in 26 regions spread across Tanzania.

In the year 2018 alone, PASS created at least 387,804 employment opportunities in various sectors. These include livestock, crop production, crop processing, processing, crop trading, mechanization, irrigation infrastructure,

transportation of agricultural commodities, bee keeping, fish farming as well as inputs trading.

In addition to the NBC whose MoU was signed in Arusha yesterday at least 15 more banks are collaborating with PASS through its noble course of supporting investments in the agricultural sector, as process of signing up more commercial banks, are going on.



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OSHA calls for protective gear at the work places

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

EMPLOYERS in the construction industry have been urged to ensure that their workers are supplied with safety gears to protect them from different hazards at work places.

There is a lot of hazards at construction sites as a result the use of protective gear is very important when workers work with maximum safety.

That call was made here yesterday by the Acting Manager of Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) in the Lake Zone, Mjawa Mohamed when he was speaking to journalists.

The law need employers in the sector of construction to ensure that workers wear protective gears while at work for safety purposes but there is a time some of them do not adhere to the conditions and therefore endanger safety of their workers, he noted.

He explained that employers should

have voluntary compliance with the law to push forward development of construction sector in the country that is one of the sources of employment.

It is important to do risk assessment to identify hazards available at work places and use that document as guideline to curb the problems before they can bring harm or loss of properties, he stated.

According to him, when an accident occurs at a work place, the management should notify OSHA of the matter for accident investigations to be established to know the root cause of the problem so that it not occur again.

"If you control accidents you promote productivity and reputation of a company. Frequent accidents tend to tarnish the image of the company and curtail its development, he said.

He urged employers to contribute to the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) for their workers in case of accidents.



Basket entrepreneurs hunt for customers aimed at replacing the plastic bags as captured at Mbezi Mwisho in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

OVER 9,000 youth from 380 groups from the southern highland regions have benefited from an entrepreneurship training which had helped them out of poverty trap.

The youth from Iringa, Njombe Songwe and Mbeya regions have also benefited from savings and agricultural business trainings which had enabled them to be self-dependent economically.

The agriculture manager for Heifer

9,000 from the southern highland regions benefited from entrepreneurship training

International, an NGO leading in efforts to eradicate poverty at the same time conserving the environment Frimina Kavishe explained the benefits the to the youth.

Frimina said they aim at reaching out to youths aged between 15-16 because

it is one of the groups that had been forgotten.

"The project has been established by MasterCard and is aimed at improving lives of the youth in Tanzania and Uganda as well as creating opportunities for 25,000 youths by the

end of the project in 2025.

He added that the project has four strategies including giving the skills so that they can employ themselves through faring as well as link them with financial institutions to ensure access of capital.

Tanzania's youth unemployment rate remains a big challenge to growth and the government must address it.

Among ways recommended include connecting them to the banking sector for them to access credit and engage in agricultural production.

The situation is characterized by features like imbalance between supply and demand in the labour market and increasing of urban employment pressures with outflow of rural surplus labour to non-agricultural sectors.

Most youth have no skills employable. Skills requirement in the labour market not compatible with skills supply as a result, we have a mismatch of skills.

In Tanzania, the unemployment rate measures the number of people actively looking for jobs as a percentage of the labour force.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Dr. Hellen Igobeko Lugina

Helen, though it is eight years today since God called you, the memories are still strong as the One pm Shining light. Your unconditional love truly brightened our. lives just like the meaning of your name.

Every day in some small way, memories of you come our way

Living without you is the hardest part of all but with the peaceful memories you left us, you will walk with us forever

Each one of us still remembers your infectious laugh, it keeps us going when the going gets tough

Nothing can ever take away, the love you gave us and the family bond you built for us

You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure by your family and friends

NACOPHA working on strategies to address challenges facing people living with HIV/Aids

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Council of People Living with HIV (NACOPHA) is working on strategies to address challenges facing people living with HIV/Aids in the country in their endeavours to access medication and also stigmatisation.

Speaking at the launch of the new board, chairperson of NACOPHA, Leticia Mourice, said yesterday that the new plan was vital to bring about positive changes among NACOPHA members and the general public as well.

"The move will economically empower NACOPHA members to engage in income generating activities," said, adding that a lot more ought to be done to for the groups of the people to access social

services.

The 30-members board of NACOPHA will serve for a three-year term. It is tasked to advise the Council in issues pertaining to the people living with HIV in the country.

According to Mourice, the strategic plan would ensure availability of ideal and friendly health services for all groups of people living with HIV.

"There has been poor participation of men and youth largely girls who are living with HIV to receive medication," she observed.

Mourice explained further that the strategic plan would complement the government's efforts to attain an ambitious testing and treatment targets to end AIDS

epidemic namely 90-90-90 targets.

Launched by UNAIDS and partners in 2014, the ambitious targets aim at diagnosing 90 per cent of all HIV positive persons, providing Antiretroviral therapy (ART) for 90 per cent of diagnosed and achieving viral suppression for 90 per cent of those treated by 2020.

On his part, Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS) Executive Director, Dr Leonard Maboko, who graced the board inauguration event, said pledged great support ensure NACOPHA attains its goals.

"I will continue to accord you maximum cooperation to ensure your goals are achieved. I pledge great coordination and cooperation with all partners to ensure achievement in the 90-90-

90 targets," said the TACAIDS's executive director.

Dr Maboko directed the newly appointed Board of NACOPHA to protect and advocate for interests of NACOPHA members and that the Board is tasked to enable NACOPHA makes great contribution in ward against HIV and AIDS war.

Outgoing board chairperson of NACOPHA, Justine Mwinuka, expressed gratitude to the government and partners for great support to NACOPHA, noting that the government through TACAIDS had ensured people living with HIV get access to health services and timely medication.

"We are satisfied with efforts done by TACAIDS in ensuring people living with HIV get timely medication," he said.

LITA to open incubation centres

By Guardian Correspondent,

Dodoma

TANZANIA Livestock Training Agency (LITA) is set to launch incubation programme as part of strategy to capacitate young

livestock graduates towards self employment.

The timely initiatives, which also targets to create expanded employment opportunities among local youth, will see establishment of at least five incubation centers at LITA's

campuses in the coming fiscal year.

An occupational incubator is an organization/place which accelerates and systematizes the process of creating successful enterprise by providing them with a comprehensive

and integrated range of support, including space, business support services, clustering and networking opportunities to address their needs and develop their business ideas.

Speaking during the maiden Technological Education and Training Exhibition organized by the National Council for Technical Education in capital city, Acting Director -Production for LITA, Balija Luyombya, said as a pilot project, the programme will start by absorbing 100 livestock graduates.

"We have decided to establish the incubation centers after conducting a special survey which established that from 2011 to 2017, out of 4000 livestock graduates in the country, it was only 1.6 percent that managed to employ themselves in different livestock projects," he expressed.

He said therefore, in efforts to overcome a grim statist in the livestock sector, LITA through its campuses will extend the formal entrepreneurship courses

by linking the graduates with the incubation centres as comprehensive entrepreneurship practical training and give more exposure to make them successful entrepreneurs.

In implementing the envisaged program, he inform, the state-owned agency will be selecting best livestock graduates at it campuses and then put them in the incubation centers for at least 18 months.

"At the centres, the incubates will be equipped with employability skills as an additional 'softer' skills as part to compliment their academic achievement towards self-employment, including practical experience," he added.

He however, added, LITA incubation process will be linked into three stages, namely, pre-incubation stage, incubation and post-incubation stages.

"Upon completion of incubation program, it's our expectations that the incubatee is graduate with accumulated entrepreneurship competencies.

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Maji ya kuaminika kila siku



USAID Mission director, Andy Karas addresses 'Feed the Future' meeting in Mbeya on Wednesday. Photo: Courtesy of US embassy

Farmers count losses as birds destroy acres of cereal crops in Singida

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

SMALLHOLDER farmers in Singida District Council are counting losses following destruction of 824 acres of cereal crops by Quelea birds.

An estimated of more than 18,000 red-billed Quelea stormed 14 villages between April and May in the district destroying rice and sorghum.

The affected villages include Makuro, Mwalala, Mkenge, Ngamu, Kisisi, Mwasauya, Mdilu, Msanga, Merya, Itaja, Sagara, Ngimu, Sughana, Mgori, Pohama, Endeshi and Mwaisui.

In his report agricultural officer in the district, Abeli Mngale said that the birds stormed the area following prolonged drought that hit the area last year.

Mngale said that earlier reports show that the 5,000 destructive birds stormed Makuro village and later 2,000 birds attacked Sughana village and 10,000 birds were reported to have stormed Mwalala and Mwaghimbi.

He said that 1,000 birds also were reported to have stormed Gairo village and affected sorghum and millet.

Mngale explained that an individual

bird can eat up to 10 gram of seed in a day and with 18,000 birds it means they have eaten thousands of tonnes.

Quelea, a red-billed small bird, is one of the most dangerous agricultural pests threatening food security in Africa, despite efforts exerted by the continent's countries to get rid of the risk of birds in general.

Scientists estimate the number of quelea, originating from Africa, at around 100 million, with an average daily grain consumption of 10 grams each, thus a flock of two million quelea birds can devour 20 tonnes of grain in one day.

FAO estimates the agricultural loss resulting from quelea birds at over 50 million dollars annually.

Quelea birds are found in several African countries all the way from South Africa to North Africa including Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mauritania as well as the African coast.

FAO estimates the agricultural loss resulting from quelea birds at over 50 million dollars annually

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

Taffa calls upon prime minister to intervene in their dispute with WMA over new levies

THE Tanzania Freight Forwarders Association at Namanga, Longido District has appealed to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to intervene in a wrangle between them and the Weight and Measures Agency which now demand them to pay new levies for every product rather than paying for the whole consignment as it was in the past.

At the same time, Taffa said it will no longer work with the agency until it

shows them the new law which guarantees them to pay the new levies without any notice.

Taffa issued the statement yesterday at a meeting led by their chairman Ismail Lukas which was held yesterday at Namanga in the region.

The agents said until now they have been using the law which was enacted in 2016 which directed them to pay 0.2 percent of the total value of the product where the minimum fee was 100,000/- for the whole consignment.

He said what they are protesting is the decision by WMA to tax 100000/- per every item instead of every consignment as indicated in the law.

"We request the Prime Minister to come to Namanga and talk to us on the wrangle because as things now are we

may lose various businessmen because no one is ready to pay such taxes," he said.

One of the businessmen at Namanga Wilson Mkanza said they are not ready to do any further business without directives and clarification on the new

law.

Another Taffa member Janeth Mero from Beam Tanzania Limited said the new criteria to pay fees for every item creates a room for corruption saying there is need for negotiations so that the old systems continues.

The Director of Technical services from WMA headquarters in Dar es Salaam said she had listened to the grievances and that they will be worked on adding that the old system will continue to work for now.



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INVITATION FOR BIDS

PROCUREMENT TITLE: SUPPLY AND SETUP OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AGRICULTURE FOOD AUTHORITY (AFA).

REFERENCE NUMBER: PRQ20180823

Agriculture Food Authority (AFA) with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) wishes to engage a reputable firm/consortium to supply and set up their ICT infrastructure.

Terms of reference for this consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at

<https://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>.

All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submission of this tender is on **Thursday, 27 June 2019**.

Interested and qualified firms/consortiums must submit their bids through TMEA's mail box using the email address, procurement@trademarka.com, clearly indicating the tender number and description.

All attachments must be 5 MBs or less.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.

215254701



ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) PROGRAM IN UGANDA

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180921

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

Terms of reference for this assignment and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>.

All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

The closing date for submissions is **21 June 2019**

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

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

215254701

By Guardian Reporter

THE Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS) Trust has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Bank of Commerce (NBC), that will see agribusiness entrepreneurs benefit from loans under the PASS guarantee scheme.

During the signing of the MOU that took place in Arusha, PASS also presented a cheque of USD 1,000,000 to kick-start the new partnership and announced that they were ready to engage with agribusiness entrepreneurs immediately.

"These are good opportunities for entrepreneurs all over the country. I urge

PASS signs working agreement with NBC, gives 2.3bn/- as guarantee to loans

you to grab these opportunities and expand your businesses," said Nicomed Bohay, PASS Managing Director.

Bohay said the partnership will go a long way in improving people's livelihoods as well as creating jobs to thousands of youths who enter the job market every year.

"We have 800,000 youths who graduate and enter the job market

every year, these opportunities are aimed at creating jobs for them," added Bohay.

NBC Managing Director Theobald Sabi congratulated PASS for its work in guaranteeing small holder farmers through loans, as well as its efforts in provision of business development services adding that the newly found PASS-NBC partnership will enable beneficiaries

to contribute significantly to the country's economic growth.

"This is a good avenue for stakeholders in the farming and agribusiness value chain to benefit. I urge them to look out for these opportunities. We have opened our doors for them to benefit" Said Sabi.

Bohay pointed out that the USD 1,000,000 deposited with NBC bank was equivalent to Tshs. 2.3 Billion

and is expected to guarantee loans of up to 13 billion shillings.

PASS, he said, continues to significantly contribute towards the changing narrative of Tanzania's agricultural finance landscape, by assisting agricultural entrepreneurs to feasibly and profitably borrow from commercial financial institutions, for purposes of improving their Agri businesses.

Tushikamane
Katika
Elimu



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DAR ES SALAAM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Registration Numbers S. 2544 and DS/02/7/037

VACANCIES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2019/20

Due to restructuring and expansion of the school, we need the following staff starting August 2019:

PRIMARY:

- Mathematics/Science Upper Primary

SECONDARY:

- History
- Geography
- Business Studies

ALL TEACHERS APPLYING FOR POSITIONS AT DIS should have

- At least five years teaching experience.
- Experience of Cambridge International Examinations.
- Evidence of students' achievement
- Computer skills are essential

A degree in the subject applied for is necessary.

Please deliver your applications to the school office in Mikocheni. The applications should be addressed to Mrs Catherine Shindika, Vice Principal.
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY, 14th June 2019

E mail: dar.independent.school@gmail.com
Tel: 022 2781515 MOBILE 0772111228



NBC Ltd managing director, Theobald Sabi (L), receives a dummy cheque of USD 1,000,000 from and Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS) managing director, Nicomed Bohay (R), as NBC credit guarantee during the signing ceremony of five years partnership agreement to support the agribusiness value chain in Tanzania. Second (L) is NBC director of SMEs and business banking, Elvis Ndunguru and PASS chief operations officer, Anna Shenalingwa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



AUCTIONEERS AND COURT BROKERS COMPANY LIMITED

Head office Location: Kinondoni Mwanamboka
Contact: Mobile phone
0715884162/0754884162/0787884477
Email: inguku47@gmail.com

Our motto:
Quality Services
With
Integrity

TANGAZO LA MNADA WA HADHARA

Kwa idhini ina mamlaka tuliyopewa na AZANIA BANK LIMITED Tawi la Masdo tutaiza kwa mnada wa hadhara dhamana za wadauiwa sugu kama ifuatavyo. NB: Minada yote ni ikuanzia saa 4:00 Asubuhi na kuendelea.

Na	JINA LA MDAIWA	MALI INAYOUZWA	MAHALI ILIPO MALI INAYOUZWA	SIKU NA TAREHE
1	GEORGE MAKUWA LIWOLWEKI	NYUMBA Na. 0933, ILIYOPO KIWANJA Na. 574	MTAA WA MINDU -UPANGA	JUMAMOSI 15/06/2019
2	MUTLUHAN CONSTRUCTION INDUST	KIWANJA Na.149	KIPAWA ENEO LA VIWANDA DSM	JUMAMOSI 15/06/2019
3	ABEID MTEZO	KIWANJA Na.1052	GONGOLAMBOTO DSM	JUMAMOSI 15/06/2019
4	PRIDE INSURANCE BROKER LTD	KIWANJA Na.ILA/ILL/SSH25/1	ILALA SHARIFU SHAMBA DSM	JUMAPILI 16/06/2019
5	MASUFINS GENERAL COMPANY LTD	KIWANJA Na.765 KITALU "D"	SINZA DSM	JUMAPILI 16/06/2019
6	MASUFINS GENERAL COMPANY LTD	RL Na.TMK028821	TEMEKE DSM	JUMAPILI 16/06/2019
7	ERNEST ALLY MTOKOMA	KIWANJA Na. 1224, KITALU "B"	KINYEREZI DSM	JUMANNE 18/06/2019
8	AIKAEL RWEWETA SWAI	KIWANJA Na.219, KITALU "D"	TEGETA DSM	JUMATANO 19/06/2019
9	SAFELINE BUILDERS LTD	KIWANJA Na. 738, KITALU "A"	KIJITONYAMA DSM	JUMATANO 19/06/2019
10	FATIMA ESTHER- DORA IDRISU	KIWANJA Na.436, KITALU "J"	MBEAZI BEACH DSM	IJUMAA 21/06/2019
11	EMMANUEL GABRIEL CHONGOLO	KIWANJA Na. 1, KITALU "B"	MADALE DSM	IJUMAA 21/06/2019
12	NLT CONSTRUCTION CO.LTD	KIWANJA Na. KND/NGB/KGM1/82,	NDUGUMBI KAGERA MIKOROSHINI DSM	JUMAMOSI 22/06/2019
13	MOGI BERNARD MWANTUKE	KIWANJA Na.13.KITALU "9"	KIBADA DSM	JUMAPILI 23/06/2019
14	BLUWAT TANZANIA LIMITED	KIWANJA Na.90.KITALU "D"	KIMBUJI KUJAKA DSM	JUMAPILI 23/06/2019
15	MOUNT ALARAT GIRLS SCHOOL	KIWANJA Na. 9,	MISWE, MLANDIZI KIBAHA	JUMANNE 25/06/2019
16	JOHN DICKENS MWANJABALA	KIWANJA Na.747, KITALU "H"	HAI KILIMANJARO	IJUMAA 28/06/2019
17	ELEGANT BUILDING SUPPLIES	SHAMBA Na.181/182	MOSHI TOWN SHIP	IJUMAA 28/06/2019
18	ELEGANT BUILDING SUPPLIES	KIWANJA Na.503, KITALU "B" NA KIWANJA Na. 351	NJIRO ARUSHA	JUMAMOSI 29/06/2019
19	MALULU NTEBA	KIWANJA Na. 98, KITALU "R"	MBULU - KAHAMA	JUMANNE 02/07/2019
20	BENJAMIN MAYUNGA NONI	KIWANJA Na. 18, KITALU "K"	IFAKARA VIWANDANI-KILOMBERO MOROGORO	JUMAMOSI 06/07/2019

Mashartya Mnada

- Dhamana zitauzwa kama zilivyo.
- Mteja atakayeshinda atatakiwa kulipa 25% siku ya mnadana 75% amalizie ndani ya siku 14.
- Endapo mteja atashindwa kumaliza 75% ndani ya siku 14 kiasi kilichotolewa awali hakitarudishwa na mnada utarudiwa tena.
- Gharama za kubadilisha hati miliki (transfer of ownership) pamoja na gharama nyinginezi za mnunuzi.

Wote mnakaribishwa

KWA MAELEZO ZAIDI WASILIANA NA:-

Mkurugenzi mtendaji
Mark Auctioneers &
Court Brokers Co. Ltd
P.O.BOX 72252
Dar Es Salaam.
Simu: 0754 884162/ 0678 020889/
0787 295747/ 0623 126191

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P.O.BOX 9271
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Tel: +255 22 2122346/2113295
Fax: +255 22 2412202

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION (CSSC)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CSSC is an Ecumenical body that was established in 1992 jointly by the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) and the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC). Mandated to coordinate and facilitate the delivery of social services which are aimed at improving and expanding provision of the health and education services CSSC in collaboration with Pharmacy Council and development partners is implementing MAP Project that intends to Sustainable strengthening of the health care in Tanzania through an improvement of the non-academic pharmaceutical training and an inter-institutional coordination of actors. The Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) through MAP Project has set aside funds for its operations during the year 2019. It is planned that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payments under the contract for the supply of apparatus, equipment, devices and books for CUHAS Pharmacy Laboratory.

The Christian Social Services Commission now invites sealed bids with quotations in Tanzanian Shillings as follows:
List of apparatus and Equipment for CUHAS Pharmacy Laboratory

NO	DESCRIPTION	Quantity
1	Mechanical Balance (Double pan)	25
2	Analytical balance	2
3	Water bath	3
4	Pharmaceutical calculations - Author Wallboard Kalala(PhD)	50
5	Distiller	1
6	Tableting machine	1
7	Tanzania Pharmaceutical Handbook	10
8	Microscope (Olympus CX31)	2
9	Mortar and pestle- porcelain (Rough surfaced 200mL-1000mL capacity)	30
10	Mortar and pestle- melamine (Smooth surfaced 200mL-1000mL capacity)	30
11	Mortar and pestle- glass (smooth surfaced 200mL-1000mL capacity)	30
12	Metal spatula	50
13	Plastic spatula	50
14	Thermometers up to 150cc - 3000c	50
15	Digital balance	5
16	Evaporating dish	50
17	Counting tray	50
18	Stirring rod (glass)	50
19	Stirring rod (plastic)	50
20	Sucking tube (Bulb) / pipette filler	50
21	Sieves	50
22	Tableting friability test machine	1
23	Tablet hardness tester machine	1
24	Fume chamber	1

1 Interested eligible tenderers may obtain further information from the CSSC office at the address given below from 09.00 am to 04.00 pm Monday to Friday except public holidays.

2. Each tenderer is required to provide the following information:

- Firm's profile
- Past experience
- CVs of key staff
- Evidence of being legally authorized to provide the services being tendered for.

All bids must be delivered by hand and put in the Tender Box at the CSSC Conference Room so as to reach the Executive Director of CSSC before the deadline for submission of bids. Telegraphic, Telex, Email and late received bids will not be accepted.

3. The Deadline for submission of bids is on 10th June 2019 at 12.00 noon hrs local time.

Bids will be opened in public at 13:00 hours, on 10th June in the CSSC Conference Room in the presence of bidders or their representatives who may wish to attend.

4. Bids not received and opened in public at the bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

5. The CSSC Tender Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

6. Tender in plain SEALED envelopes and marked: "TENDER NO. 02/2019/ot No. 002 should be addressed to:

Postal Address:

The Executive Director
Christian Social Services Commission
P. O. BOX 9433
Dar es Salaam

Physical Address:

Executive Director
Christian Social Services Commission
4 Ali Hassan Mwinyi Rd.
Upanga East, Dar es Salaam



Estim construction company workers at work along the Morogoro Road section of Kimara to Kibaha six lanes dual carriageway phase one including construction of Kibamba, Kiluvya and Mpiji bridges as captured by our photographer at Mbezi Mwisho area in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: John Badi

TAFAYOCO set to provide civic education ahead of 2020 general elections

By Guardian Reporter

AN non-governmental organisation—Tanzania Feminists and Youth's Change Organisation (TAFAYOCO) is next week expected to start providing civic education ahead of local government and 2020 general elections.

Tafeyoco Executive Director Elvice Makumbo made the remarks in an interview with this paper at Mikochei saying the exercise will continue until 2020.

"We are among 24 civil society organisations which have been accredited by the National Electoral Commission to provide civic education for the next general election," he said.

According to him the exercise will begin with Kinondoni District in Dar es Salaam and will continue to other places to ensure they reach out to all other regions in Tanzania mainland.

"Education is key to every Tanzanian

especially children and women who are most of the time the voters, so we are preparing for the exercise, calling upon them to cooperate," he said.

He said the organisation will continue to register 300 youths who will be given seminars and later they will start providing civic education to various places countrywide.

He added that apart from being educators, they are observers through NEC and that they have been participating in the exercise to ensure elections are fair and free.

"Tanzanians need civic education to understand their rights, we call upon them to come out in large numbers when the exercise begins," he added.

"We are among 24 civil society organisations which have been accredited by the National Electoral Commission to provide civic education for the next general election"

NAIROBI

World Bank approves \$750 million for Kenya's agriculture

THE World Bank Board of Directors today approved a \$750 million International Development Association (IDA) credit to support the Government of Kenya's reforms to enhance inclusive growth, accelerate poverty reduction and achieve its Vision 2030 objective of becoming a middle-income industrialized country. The operation lends support to the government's "Big Four" agenda which prioritizes agriculture, affordable housing, universal health coverage, and manufacturing.

In agriculture, the Kenya Inclusive Growth and Fiscal Management Development Policy Financing facility will support critical reforms that will enhance competition and market

transparency, reduce corruption opportunities, and help Kenyan farmers to achieve higher productivity and to increase their incomes. Reforms supported by the facility include better targeting of subsidies for agricultural inputs to reach the intended beneficiaries (using e-vouchers and biometric digital identification); reducing inefficiencies and leakages in the procurement and marketing of fertilizer; and establishing a warehouse receipt system and a commodities exchange to help farmers get easier access to credit and to reduce post-harvest losses.

By supporting the advancement of digitization through the creation of the

national digital ID and pushing for access of internet services to all Kenyans, the facility will enhance service delivery by the government to its citizens, and reduce the need for face-to-face interactions and corruption opportunities.

In housing, the operation will remove major regulatory constraints that developers face, help them lower construction costs, and thereby increase the supply of less-expensive housing units. The reforms supported by the operation will unlock the availability of longer term home loans and catalyze the development of the housing finance market in Kenya, which is

expected to triple the proportion of households in Kenya who have access to a mortgage.

The operation will also provide support to the government's medium-term fiscal consolidation plan by supporting measures to improve revenue mobilization, public expenditure and the prudent management of Kenya's debt. It also supports reforms to enhance private sector's participation in the inclusive growth process.

"Measures supported by this operation are expected to benefit ordinary Kenyans through better targeting of agricultural subsidies to reach low income farmers, prosecuting those

who engage in fraudulent procurement practices, increasing availability of affordable housing, and improving revenue mobilization. This operation creates a foundation for essential reforms for fighting corruption, liberalizing markets, and enhancing inclusive growth," said Felipe Jaramillo, World Bank Country Director for Kenya.

Kenya has been one of the fastest growing economies in sub-Saharan Africa over the past decade. For this growth to be sustained into the future and help reduce poverty, critical reforms are required.

"The policy and institutional reforms supported by this operation will help

improve the standard of living of ordinary Kenyans. Additionally, the policy reforms will contribute to improving good governance by the reinforcement of accountability and enforcement mechanisms through the use of digital technologies," says Allen Dennis, World Bank Task Team Leader.

The operation is aligned with the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity. This operation also complements other interventions supported by the World Bank and other development partners in support of the government's inclusive growth agenda.

AfDB pursuing robust policy in climate change mitigation

PRETORIA

THE African Development Bank and the Zero Emissions Omissions Coalition, an advocacy group dedicated to mobilising support for climate change, have met to discuss the Bank's role in leading clean energy production on the continent and greater transparency on its investments.

The coalition, consisting of non-governmental bodies and volunteers organised under the African Climate Reality Project, delivered an open letter to the Bank's Pretoria office on 24 May, as part of an Africa Day-fossil-free future campaign.

Welcoming the group, Maria Mulindi, Bank's Director of Special Duties in the President's Office - Engagement with Civil Society and Community Based Organizations for East and Southern Africa, said meetings with advocacy groups were an integral part of the Bank's interaction with civil society, whom they view as key partners.

"The letter received is one of the listening and interaction tools for the Bank to engage with civil society - as key stakeholders committed to the creation of an inclusive and sustainable future," Mulindi said.

The group recognized the Bank's commitments to addressing climate change and called on the institution to continue efforts to increase access to information to the general public and transparency on other platforms.

"The Bank Group has made significant strides in the areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation and will continue to lead in the accountability and transparency as is evidenced in the Aid Transparency Index," Mulindi said.

The Bank is pursuing a

robust policy of supporting clean energy portfolios in Africa. It has an internal greenhouse gas accounting tool that provides the estimated cost of emissions saved or avoided, and a Climate Change Action Plan (2016 - 2020), which provides guidance on the implementation of climate action across all operational areas.

The letter urged the Bank to pursue its efforts in transparency concerning the disclosure of possible and

impending investments and to shift its portfolios to 100% renewable projects and sustainable, low-emission agriculture and infrastructure.

"This sends a strong signal to investors and policymakers to act through finance and policy to decouple growth and development from emissions," the letter said.

Through partner engagements, publications on its website and those of co-financiers and host govern-

ments, the Bank strives to provide information about all aspects of its projects, it said in an official response.

The response cited the Bank's New Deal on Energy Strategy, a partnership-driven effort that aims to achieve universal access to energy in Africa by 2025, using renewables, and the Africa Climate-Smart Agriculture Strategy (2018-2025) to scale up climate-smart activities throughout the continent.



BRAINTREE TANZANIA LTD
P.O BOX 79651
DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA

Vacancy: CTM Webstore Sales Consultant

Job Title:

CTM Webstore Sales Consultant

About the position:

The CTM Webstore is looking for an experienced sales consultant in the Online Store and related Omni channel environment.

You will be office based but will be required to visit clients either at their offices or at their residents and sites from time to time.

You will assist potential customers to purchase flooring, bathroom, Kitchen and related products for new builds and renovations. You will be responsible for following up and closing leads via telephone and email. You will need to provide clients with excellent service and go the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction and brand building.

Online Sales consultants must have a flair for design and be able to work on large domestic projects where plans of buildings will be measured and quantities of products calculated during the quoting and invoicing process.

Your role will involve the ability to effectively aggregate stock and ensure orders are delivered accurately and timeously.

This position will be based in Dar es Salaam at the Kawe CTM store on Mwai Kibaki Road and reports to the Webstore Store Manager.

Remuneration:

Remuneration will be based on experience and will be market related.

Key Responsibility Areas:

Sales

1. Canvass and convert warm leads – both telephonically and via email.
2. Assist inbound callers with product & design

advice with the objective of getting them to purchase.

3. Ability to meet set monthly sales targets consistently.

Customer service excellence

1. Provide customers with an exceptional shopping experience.
2. Minimization and resolution of any customer complaints.

Competencies:

- You should have good experience in retail sales in the flooring, bathroom and home furnishing industry
- Fast learner in a rapidly changing environment
 - Sales and customer service driven
 - Excellent written and spoken communication skills
 - Attention to Detail
 - Time Management
 - Planning & Organizing
 - Adaptability / Flexibility
 - Task Oriented
 - Accountability & Dependability
 - Sound Arithmetic skills
 - A flair for Design and Creativity
 - Excellent interpersonal skills
 - Ability to multitask and meet deadlines
 - Responsible and accountable
 - Results driven

Support offered

Extensive on the job training. You will be expected to work independently and drive sales with the backup support of the Webstore Manager.

Application Process

- Should you be up for the challenge and have the necessary skills make a success of this opportunity then send a covering letter and CV to Joseph Nsendo (webstore@ctm.co.tz)
- **Closing date: 15th June 2019**

215245307



USAID | TANZANIA
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI)

Request for Proposal

For Construction of 4 Gravity and Pumping Water Supply Schemes under Iringa Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (IRUWASA)

Winrock International is a sub-contractor to Tetra Tech the prime implementing partner for the USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI) pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with USAID Contract No AID-OAA-I-14-00068/AID-621-TO-16-00003.

WARIDI is a USAID funded five-year activity which seeks to achieve improvements in health, water resources management, agriculture, climate change adaptation and the environment in Tanzania. WARIDI promotes state-of-the-art approaches in cross-sectoral, integrated management of water-related resources and services

Through this RFP, USAID/WARIDI requests for quotations from qualified locally registered contractors (Registration by Contractor's Registration Board is a must) to bid for the Construction of the following Gravity and pumping Water Supply Schemes;

WARIDI-0024-2019-KALENGA TOSAMAGANGA

WARIDI-0025-2019-MAWELEWELE, Itamba (Hoho) and Mgela (Kiwere)

WARIDI-0026-2019-MSEKE

WARIDI-0027-2019-KIGUNGANE (ULONGE) AND LUNDAMATWE

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained via email from **Procurement Officer, Winrock International, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania**, email: waridi.procurement@winrock.org no later than **Friday June 7, 2019**. Any questions should be sent by **June 7, 2019 at 5.00pm East Africa Time**; and will be responded to in one all-inclusive written document provided to all bidders via email on **Monday June 10, 2019**.

Quotations must be received no later than **12:00 Noon East African Time on Friday, June 21, 2019**. Late submissions will not be accepted. All quotations are to be submitted following the guidelines listed in the bidding documents. Telephone requests will not be honored.

Bids shall be opened in public, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend, at **Winrock International offices, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania, at 2.00 pm, on Friday, June 21, 2019**.

Winrock International

215245401

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

FRIDAY 31 MAY 2019

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Drinking milk is healthy for humans

MILK is a nutrient-rich, white liquid food produced by the mammary glands of mammals. It is the primary source of nutrition for infant mammals including humans who are breastfed before they are able to digest other types of food. Early-lactation milk contains colostrum, which carries the mother's antibodies to its young and can reduce the risk of many diseases. It contains many other nutrients including protein and lactose. Interspecies consumption of milk is not uncommon, particularly among humans, many of whom consume the milk of other mammals.

As an agricultural product, milk, also called dairy milk, is extracted from farm animals during or soon after pregnancy. Dairy farms produced about 730 million tonnes of milk in 2011, from 260 million dairy cows. India is the world's largest producer of milk, and is the leading exporter of skimmed milk powder, yet it exports few other milk products. The ever increasing rise in domestic demand for dairy products and a large demand-supply gap could lead to India being a net importer of dairy products in the future. The United States, India, China and Brazil are the world's largest exporters of milk and milk products. China and Russia were the world's largest importers of milk and milk products until 2016 when both countries became self-sufficient, contributing to a worldwide glut of milk.

Throughout the world, more than six billion people consume milk and milk products. Over 750 million people live in dairy farming households.[1]

Authorities in Kisarawe district have embarked on a new campaign aimed at increasing milk consumption per person in the district.

Acting District Livestock and Fisheries Officer, Janeth Shariff said recently when speaking at the function to mark this year's Milk Week, which at national level will be held in Arusha between May 28 and June 1.

She said that the campaign is part of the district's move to imbibe a milk

drinking culture among people in the district.

About 300 pupils from Kibasila, Chanzige A and Chanzige B primary schools in the town and few members of the public were given each at least a half litre of milk to drink free of charge.

The officer said on average people in the district drink 15 litres per person per year, the rate which is against the World Health Organisation (WHO) directives that every person should drink 200 litres of processed milk per year.

The district has 100,000 herds of cattle and 4,500 out of them were dairy cattle while the district milk production was 1,900,306 litres per year equivalent to average of 5,278.63 per day showing that drinking milk per person was 15 litres per year which was less than WHO's recommendations of 200 litre.

Drinking processed milk has many health and economic benefits including strengthening bones especially to children and expected mothers.

Milk has high amount of minerals including calcium that helps to make the skin to be smooth. Milk production should increase individual revenue at households up to the national level by providing employment to the public.

However, the sector has several challenges including few breeds that could produce high amount of milk due to the environment and climate in the region.

The district livestock department ought to meet the challenges by increasing experts to enable the district to increase milk production, so far the district had three of them. "We're also working on improving breeds to increase production and mobilizing pastoralists to form cooperative societies that would be stronger enough to introduce milk collection centres, as we're heading towards establishing milk processing factory," she said.

Kisarawe District Administrative Officer, Mwanana Msumi commended the district council for organizing the event, describing it as key in transforming the milk industry in the area.

Parents play an important role in shaping one's life

GLOBAL Day of Parents is a United Nations (UN) observance that is celebrated on June 1 each year to honour parents and their commitment to children worldwide. Parents play an important part in shaping one's life. A parent is a caregiver of the offspring in their own species. In humans, a parent is the caretaker of a child (where "child" refers to offspring, not necessarily age). A biological parent is a person whose gamete resulted in a child, a male through the sperm, and a female through the ovum. Biological parents are first-degree relatives and have 50 per cent genetic meet. A female can also become a parent through surrogacy. Some parents may be adoptive parents, who nurture and raise an offspring, but are not biologically related to the child. Orphans without adoptive parents can be raised by their grandparents or other family members.

A parent can also be elaborated as an ancestor removed one generation. With recent medical advances, it is possible to have more than two biological parents. Examples of third biological parents include instances involving surrogacy or a third person who has provided DNA samples during an assisted reproductive procedure that has altered the recipients' genetic material.

The most common types of parents are mothers, fathers, step-parents, and grandparents. A mother is, a woman in relation to a child or children to whom she has given birth. The extent to which it is socially acceptable for a parent to be involved in their offspring's life varies from culture to culture, however one that exhibits too little involvement is sometimes said to exhibit child neglect, while one that is too involved is sometimes said to be overprotective, cossetting, nosey, or intrusive.

An individual's biological parents are the persons from whom the individual inherits his or her genes. The term is generally only used if there is a need to distinguish an individual's parents from their biological parents. For example, an individual whose father has remarried may call the father's new wife their stepmother and continue to refer to their mother normally, though someone who has had little or no contact with their biological mother may address their foster parent as their mother, and their biological mother as such, or perhaps by her first name.

A mother is a female who has a maternal connection with another individual, whether arising from conception, by giving birth to, or raising the individual in the role of a parent. More than one female may have such connections with an individual. Because of the complexity and differences of a mother's social, cultural, and religious definitions and roles, it is challenging to define a mother to suit a universally accepted definition. The utilization of a surrogate mother may result in explication of there being two biological mothers.

A father is a male parent of any type of offspring. It may be the person who shares in the raising of a child or who has provided the biological material, the sperm, which results in the birth of the child.

Grandparents are the parents of a person's own parent, whether that be a father or a mother. Every sexually reproducing creature who is not a genetic chimera has a maximum of four genetic grandparents, eight genetic great-grandparents, sixteen genetic great-great-grandparents and so on. Rarely, such as in the case of sibling or half-sibling incest, these numbers are lower.

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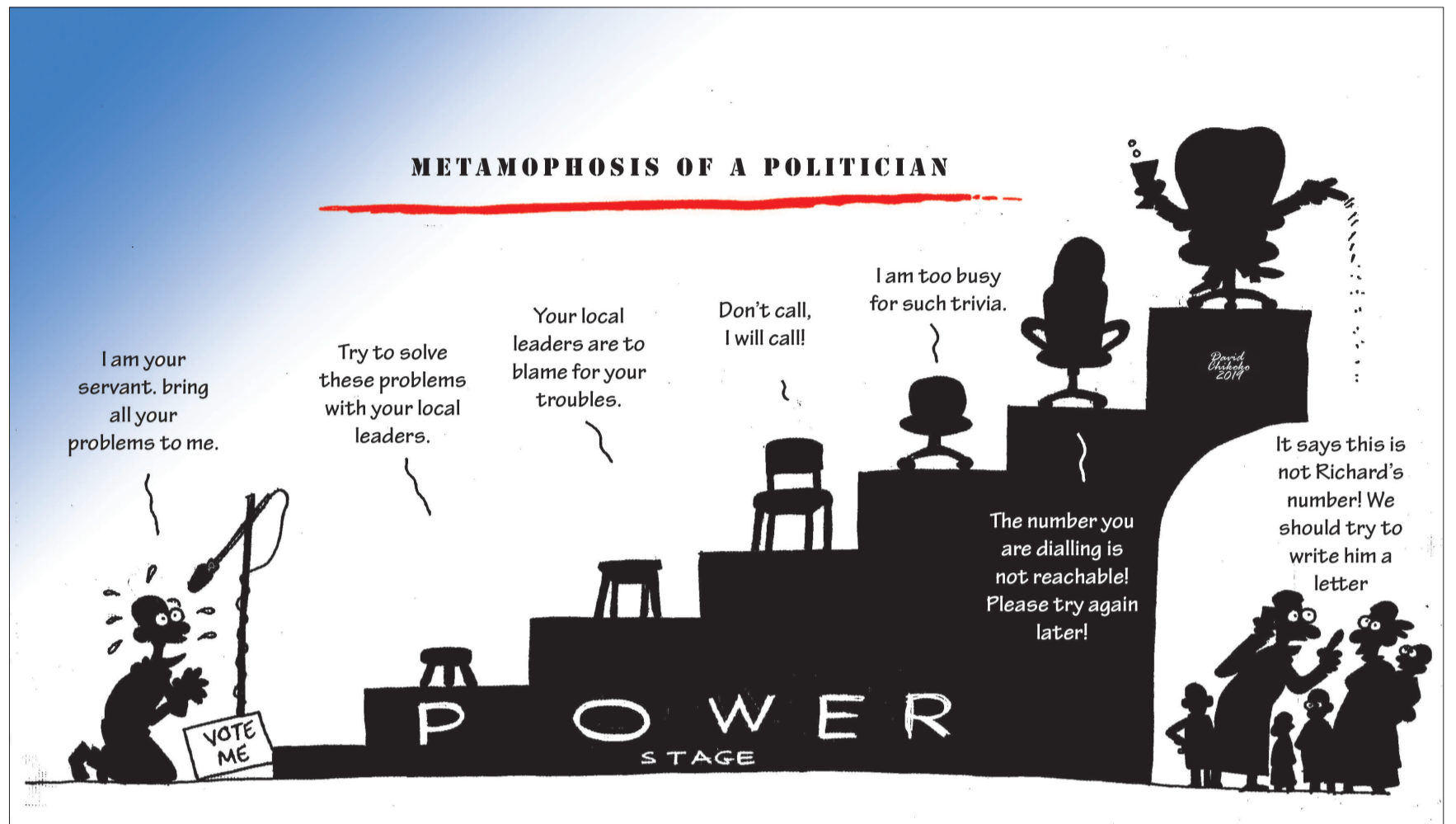
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Ebola patients are human beings not biosecurity threats

By Valérie Gruhn

IN February, I worked as a nurse with Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Katwa, North Kivu - a town in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the epicenter of the current Ebola outbreak - until attacks on two of our treatment centers forced us to evacuate.

February 15-19, 2019

Me and some colleagues arrived in Beni, in the most affected province. We joined a long line of other passengers, all waiting to wash our hands with chlorinated water to disinfect and get our temperatures checked to verify we weren't sick.

The two-hour drive to our final destination, Katwa, took us on rusty colored roads on a mountain that gave us a view of Virunga rainforest, one of the most beautiful countries I'd ever seen. Hidden away, between large tree trunks, flashes of orange started appearing through the thick morning fog: it was the Ebola Treatment Center (ETC). It was the size of a football field, and within was a complex maze which separated the low-risk zones from the high-risk zones, where people who exhibit Ebola-like symptoms waited, with a passage in between for families to visit their loved ones at a safe distance.

I didn't know what to picture when I thought of an Ebola patient. I had never seen this disease before. One woman was a "positive case" - someone who tested positive for Ebola. She was very weak and complained of abdominal pain and chills. There were no hemorrhagic symptoms. She looked exactly like so many sick patients I'd taken care of back home.

February 20, 2019

I donned the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), layers of equipment we wore in high-risk zones to minimize our exposure, and grabbed an umbrella to protect my goggles from fogging from the rain before I entered her room. The clinical status of the woman I saw the day before dramatically declined in just a few hours. I felt myself moving in slow motion because of the weight of the suit and was struck by my reflection in the window. I felt guilty that I was dressed the way that I was, and that the last person she would see was a random stranger wearing what looked like a yellow spacesuit. I felt like I was treating a disease, a biosecurity threat, less a person who was a mother, a daughter, and a human being.

She died several hours later.

February 21, 2019

Adama* is a precious seven-year-old girl; she was my favorite patient. Her



parents were unable to go into her room, so Ebola survivors who couldn't contract the disease again cared for her. She smiled at me as I walked over to her window.

I put my hand against the plexiglas separating us and she put her small hand against her side of the glass to touch mine. That's the closest contact I could have with her from our separate sides if I wanted her to see that I was smiling back at her.

February 22, 2019

In December, DRC's Independent National Electoral Commission excluded Ebola-affected regions from voting in the presidential election to prevent the outbreak from spreading.

As more money and international responders poured in, rumors started developing and circulating: "The response is benefiting outsiders," "Ebola is a political ploy."

People were suspicious about the motives of organizations. People wanted answers: "Where were you all when our families were being massacred over the years and when our children were dying of other diseases?"

February 23, 2019

A man we were monitoring for several days was fighting to survive. I watched as his brother and father waved at him from several meters away, behind the fence. Was this really their last goodbye? A distant wave instead of a last hug and kiss. I walked

away to hide my own tears.

February 24, 2019

The activity of the hospital drastically decreased over the week. People preferred to die at home than be forced to treatment centers where they say "people walk in alive but come out dead."

A young woman was brought in dead. This created a lot of tension with the family and community because they had to wait to bury her. Outside, a crowd of people began lining our center. A little further, kneeled on the floor in the field was that woman's family member screaming and crying from the pain of not only losing her but also every bit of control she would have had over her burial in a normal situation.

February 25 - 28, 2019

I woke up to the news that our treatment center was attacked. Unable to withstand the blaze of the fire, parts of the hospital laid on the ground in ashes. Everyone was safe, except the brother of my patient from a couple days before who was found dead nearby. A second, more violent attack occurred two days later on our nearby center in Butembo.

As we evacuated, I looked back one last time at the city that did everything in its power to protect itself from the response.

Conclusion

Behind every Ebola "case" were real people that were afraid-afraid to have their limited belongings burned to prevent the disease from spreading, afraid they wouldn't be able to celebrate the lives of their loved ones when burying them, afraid they would be taken against their will into a treatment center.

We focused on only the ones who got infected and their families that we referred to as contacts. However, we missed everyone else who lived in fear of becoming the next case. We spoke of survivors as those who survived the violence of their past and the new hostility we created.

The messages diffused lacked hope and the response lacked humanity. We failed to act on their needs and suffering, and therefore, we failed to gain their trust.

The heavy, strictly enforced intervention generated fear and resentment among the population. Hence, they fought what they considered to be a greater threat than Ebola: the international response.

It will not be possible to end this outbreak without building the trust of those affected. We have to listen to the needs of communities, see them as people, give them choices when it comes to managing their health, and involve them in every aspect of the Ebola response.

*Name has been changed to protect her privacy.

Government advised to collaborate with stakeholders to ensure it produces good Biennial Review Report of African Union heads

Recently, Non State Actors (NSA's) from Tanzania, Nigeria, Ghana, Zambia, Malawi, Cameroon, Liberia, Kenya, and others held the Biennial Review (BR) Toolkit meeting in Addis Abba, Ethiopia. The meeting which was held in collaboration with CNC, ACTION AID, OXFAM and TRUST AFRICA sought to enhance understanding and firm up justification for the NSA Value-Addition BR Toolkit, to orientate the Non-State Actors and smallholder farmers in the use of the value-addition BR toolkit (VABKIT), to test the application of the toolkit amongst the NSA and Women Smallholder farmers, and to revise the toolkit based on the experiences and feedback derived during the meeting and to prepare a roadmap for effective engagement of smallholder farmers and NSA's in the second biennial review process. Our Correspondent Gerald Kitabu interviewed some participants to get their views. Excerpts:



A cross section of Non State Actors (NSA's) following up the proceedings of the Biennial Review (BR) Toolkit meeting in Addis Abba, Ethiopia recently. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

For the two days in the capital city of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Non State Actors (NSA's) spent two days seriously working on how to complement the existing biennial review as a way of bringing in the opportunity for small holder producers especially women and young people to raise their voices in terms of how they assess the services by the public sector.

The issues around the discussions were very clear that the issues around public investment in agriculture sector could not be ever-emphasized in particular case they were talking about 10 percent budget allocation but then the quality of 10 percent in terms of irrigation facilities, access to inputs in particular seed, fertilizer and agro-chemicals.

According to the Executive Director for the Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) Audax Rukonge, during the training the participants also discussed who get what share in the public budget money. The issue of equity resource allocation came in very strongly. At the same time, the biennial annual review tool or indicators also discussed issues related to intra-regional trade.

The participants went deeper to understanding who gets what share of the market value, they analyzed the difference between the farm gate price and the whole sale price as a way of actually assessing whether farmers real benefits based on their investments as private entities of small scale level. Similarly, the issue of access to land was also discussed, that is access to land, control of land as well as ownership.

"These are very pertinent issues especially within the

continent and Tanzania in particular where we are promoting land adjudication process that is the land legal process in terms of administration and access to land especially for the widow. This is to ensure the owners of the land have the title deeds as one of the legal document that allow them to use, dispose and use otherwise the owned land," said Rukonge.

But the challenge we observe is the access to land especially the widow, isolated communities, women and young people. We have also the question of alarming population growth in our countries and with understanding that the land size is static and shrinking because the same land is being given for new urban centres, for road construction, for house human settlement which means at the end of the day the land available for agricultural activities is actually shrinking, he added. So, actually the question is who is getting land and who is being deprived of land. It was very clear that women, widows and young people are actually vulnerable when it comes to land access, ownership and control. For Tanzania, as NSA's, had three key messages to take home, one was the need to underscore the importance of NSA's dash board tool, as a tool that complement the country biennial review processes and this is what they decided as delegation from Tanzania.

"We need now to convene as soon as possible to have a one to one discussion with the CAADP focal person from the public sector to let them know that in the biennial process there is this other initiative which actually ended up complementing the information with some qualitative data which at the moment are not

addressed by the current tool provided by the African Union," said Rukonge.

Secondly, we need to increase our own awareness through training in particular other NSA's member including the media houses, the think tanks, the academia, researchers, the private sector, the famers umbrella, CSO's local and international. These are very important stakeholders when it comes to bringing alternative views on how to move forward.

Thirdly, on applying the tool, through the training and by convening we shall be identifying the key geographical areas to focus and the key interventions. We may be focusing on access to irrigation water, maybe, we shall focus to access to subsidized inputs, or accessing financing and in particular how the bank of Tanzania is facilitating the smallholder producer access the credits, the quality of the credits and the business, I think we shall be able to bit the deadline which is planned in the end of July, he explained.

For his part, Andrew Mbega from Action Aid international Global Secretariat called for the government to provide roadmap on the biennial review processes in terms of collecting data to ensure that the data have been incorporated into the report for the biennial report which will be released in 2020.

"What we are saying is that the government should ensure that it also provides platforms for Non State Actors to be participating in the whole process to ensure that our country produce a good report for the biennial report in 2020. We are expecting that this time around, the government will do better in several areas that were committed in the Malabo declaration in terms of increase allocation of the budget in the agricultural sector," he stressed.

There must be deliberate efforts to end hunger in Tanzania and African in general and also to reduce poverty and boost agriculture trade between Africa and helping smallholder farmers by providing them agro-

extension services they require so that they can produce enough food.

Facilitating smallholder farmers building good infrastructures and access to markets so that women who constitute big number of small holder farmers can move their produce or food from the remote areas to market centres. Improving value chain addition is also important so that the farmers can sell semi processed products rather than selling unprocessed products. So, we are expecting that this time the government will do well and the report will be good, he added.

The biennial review report for the 2020 will be tabled to the African Union Heads of States in January 2020 because currently there is a process going on until June where countries will collect data but also compile data and send it to the regional block such as EAC, ECOWAS, from there these regional economic blocks will take it to the African Union for compilation. So, it is expected that by November this year, the African Union will be able to receive the report from the regional bodies and compile for tabling to the Heads of States in 2020.

According to Dr. Chris Muyunda, the heads of States had agreed on the seven commitments but from the seven commitments, professionals assisting the African Union developed 47 indicators. So, for the countries who reported in the first biennial review who are going to report again in the second biennial review they have to know that the indicators have increased from 44 to 47. They have increased because under trade, under the area of trade there have been three new indicators to deal with food safety, the food that we produce must be safe for all buyers in all markets, domestic, regional and international markets. So, it is very important for all countries to prepare that the number of indicators has now increased in this new biennial review. Governments must also know that the stakeholders, consultants and other

officials who are preparing the biennial review that will go to the Heads of States in January 2020 have started their work and will finish their work somewhere around this June 30 this year. So, the process has now started, it is very important for the countries to prepare because they will be visited by these people who are collecting data on everything around the seven commitments. These commitments are still the same but the indicators have been increased to make sure that we are capturing everything. The countries have to be clear about the indicators they should look at what is called the guidelines for the biennial review in order to understand the indicators because sometimes our countries just don't understand these guidelines so they can prepare themselves. They may have the data and so on but they are not prepared so they should go through the guidelines, there is a templates and so on, these people are going to use for collecting data so the countries are not caught unaware, so, I feel for them and I would like them to do well and it is very important for the governments to involve everyone in responding to the questions of these consultants coming to collect data. This time, there is a new change also that the government should be aware of. The data will be simply be collected from the country and sent to a central computerized place, data will be processed and the performance of the country will come out. The score will be calculated, there is a computerized program of doing that. That is a new addition to the biannual review for 2019. I would urge all countries that we communicate with all countries for them to be prepared the process has been started. The government's officer have been trained, so the government CAADP focal point should be prepared, the government officer for monitoring and evaluation of the Ministry of agriculture

should be prepared, the statistical officer who monitors the indicators on agriculture development should be prepared. These people are coming we want to make sure that we have got the best data, appropriate sources, we don't want any cooked data, we want appropriate data for the country. So, at the country level can be advised after the studies have been finished in terms of want need to be done for the country to move forward for more positively and for more impact on the ground. Most of the countries through the CAADP focal point have a road map when different stakeholders will be coming to their countries, the main stakeholders obviously is the group that is collecting data, what we know now is that the process is underway.

According to Jorum Wimmo from Action Aid, this particular process we need to fast underscore the inclusiveness of the current biennial process that the government is carrying out at the country level taking into account the previous gaps and challenges which delayed the process. Now the government has started this process as earlier as possible and the good thing they have started to engage different stakeholders including different institutions at local and national level. "We are real optimistic with this process but the government need to seriously make sure that there is availability of data which were actually some of the challenges we faced last time," he stressed. Without consistent and smart data from different government organs, it will affect the whole country performance reporting template. Therefore, it is good if the government could meet, mobilize different institutions at different levels and collect these data and make sure that they collaborate with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Prime Minister's Office, local government authority and other research institutions.

If you go through the tablet it is only data from the Ministry of agriculture which is needed, it also requires data from other institutions. But another important aspect is the agriculture sector review it contributes a lot to this process and in our context, this process has not happened for more than two years. The template requires the government to make sure that we convene a particular meeting with different stakeholders to discuss the state of agriculture in the country. Therefore, it is important. The CSO's have tried to push this for the Ministry of agriculture to make sure that officials convene this meeting before they submit the report to the regional economic blocks. In our timeline, the report after the validation will go to the permanent secretary for approval and then before June or July it has to be submitted to the EAC.

"In fact the timeline is limited, we enough time for the preparations so that we can submit a good report. The report need to be reviewed, edited,

clarifications, and so forth. But if the government collaborates with the CSO's and convene the agriculture sector review, it will help to provide quality information and validation," he added.

Another aspect want to speak about is the accountability taking into consideration that that the role of NSA's now to feed in the country's performance reporting tablet it real add value, it brings a sense of accountability because if you assess the provision of inputs in general to the community, we need to go beyond data and see how agriculture is impacting small holder farmers, how is it impacting the community especially women and the young people. We need to generate stories through that process so we need to see the impact of the investment that is directed to agriculture. How does this process reflect to the needs and priorities of the farmers in the country? We need to acknowledge the contribution of these small holder farmers to the country's economy because they are key if the country want to move to middle income countries, he said.

Contacted for comments, the Ministry of agriculture said that Tanzania has been implementing the commitment set in Malabo declaration through Tanzania Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (TAFSIP) and other National initiatives such as the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), Marketing Infrastructure, Value Addition and Rural Finance Programme (MIVARF: 2011 - 2018)

The current ASDP II is compliant with recommendation set in Malabo Declaration and TAFSIP priorities and it has four main components namely, sustainable Water and Land Use Management; enhanced Agricultural Productivity and Profitability, commercialisation and Value Addition; and sector Enablers, Coordination and Monitoring and evaluation.

According to the Ministry, Tanzania was one of 47 Member States that reported in the first Biennial Agricultural Review its progress on implementation of Malabo declaration. According to 2017 benchmark, Tanzania scored 3.1 while the required minimum overall score was 3.94 out of 10 for a Member States to be on track for implementing commitments of the Malabo Declaration by 2025. Tanzania is one of 27 Member States reported to be out of-track. There were many challenges during the reporting process which includes the quality of data used, timeframe etc. Tanzania has already started to mobilize technical and financial investments both public and private in order to reach CAADP-Malabo Commitments by 2025. The upcoming Biennial Agricultural Review report will be in January 2020 and Tanzania has already started the preparations on reporting its CAADP-Malabo Commitments

By Darius Mukiza

The recent Daily Maverick article on human rights violations in Tanzania is nothing more than a 'Broadway gossip story' and an attempt to destroy the image of the East African country.

Many Tanzanian experts, like me, are deservedly quiet, watching how the country is progressing in terms of realising its cherished dream. But recent articles that are calculated at destroying Tanzania's image are disquieting. Thus this comeback.

One such latest example is Daily Maverick's article entitled Human rights continue to worsen in Tanzania as Magufuli cracks down on critics.

The erroneous, incompetent, non-factual article was written by Tanzanian opposition MP Tundu Lissu, who is undergoing medical treatment in Belgium.

Lissu's article has raised anomalous issues about Tanzania which only justifies one end: the editors of Daily Maverick and the writer are either sponsored to tarnish the name of Tanzania in the global arena or represent yet another perpetuation of what US linguist Noam Chomsky called "manufacturing of consent".

It is surprising that the famed online newsletter Daily Maverick is publishing a poem-like feature analysis which lacks and misses the reality and facts about Tanzania.

This article shows how both Daily Maverick editors and the writer didn't bother to find out the truth about Tanzania to balance their one-sided Broadway gossip. Let me join this discussion. The once-peaceful Tanzania In tarnishing and forcing their narrative to third world audiences, Chomsky reveals, Western media employs what is called framing. The term refers to a careful selection of certain words to communicate the author's/editor's personal bias. The framing of the article starts with a misleading inference, namely "human rights continue to worsen in Tanzania..." This means Tanzania is not peaceful. This is not true because both the newspaper's editors and the writer, although a Tanzanian, are ignorant of what is happening and where this prosperous nation comes from. Additionally, they failed to consult and interpret data from other researchers coming from their own vicinity.

Contrary to the message being "manufactured" in the article casting Tanzania as a once-peaceful but currently violent one, the 2018 Global Peace Index Report (GPI), released recently by The Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP) in the United States, has ranked Tanzania the 51st-most-peaceful country among 163 independent countries ahead of several giants, thus UK (57), France (61), China (112), USA (121), to mention a few.

The report also ranks Tanzania the ninth in Africa and as the most-peaceful independent country in East Africa.

The GPI used 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from highly respected sources and measured the state of peace using three thematic domains: the level of Societal Safety and Security; the extent of Ongoing Domestic and International Conflict; and the Degree of Militarisation.

The 2018 GPI also included the analysis of trends in

In defence of President John Magufuli: Tanzania is a beacon of democracy



President John Magufuli delivers his speech during the official commissioning ceremony of the Nairobi Southern Bypass road in Kenya, 01 November 2016.

Positive Peace namely: the attitudes, institutions, and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies that made Tanzania scoop more marks than many countries in the world.

2. Is Tanzania detaining journalists, bloggers, artists and other citizens? This is another level of "manufacturing consent". As far as I'm aware, currently there is/are neither a journalist(s)/citizen(s) in detention in Tanzania for his/her work, nor for any other common felony. This is in contrast to what is actually happening in the UK and in the US.

Moreover, Tanzania is not detaining and torturing its citizens, as claimed by the writer. The writer's claim is based on the just-ended saga of Mdude Nyagali, the activist and member of the opposition party (Chadema) who was snatched from his office in May 2019. Reports indicate that Mdude was tortured and later abandoned by unknown people in the forest.

From day one, the police force in Tanzania distanced itself from Mdude's saga. The police force contends that this was a crime that may happen also in other countries. According to the police force, the investigation is under way to identify the criminals and arrest them. Moreover, Mdude's saga should not be generalised as happenings in the country. By doing so, we shall be committing the fallacy of generalisation. That, notwithstanding, the author seems to bring into sequence the recent questioning of two visiting Committee to Protect Journalists activists who manipulated immigration procedures in Tanzania and got into the hands of law enforcers. The two media-workers-cum-activists, Kenyan Muthoki Momo and South African Angela Quintal, falsified their intention of visiting Tanzania as "holiday visitors" only to be caught working in Tanzania, and is a case no one can relate with press freedom as the author suggests. It's a clear case of violation of the law. Rule of law principles suggest that the legal rules ought to be executed without any bias like one's citizenship or profession. 3. Is Tanzania democratic? The writer of the article writes as if Tanzania under Chama cha Mapinduzi (the ruling party, CCM) had never become democratic. This is a massively inconclusive assertion not worthy of a future veteran lawyer, activist, member of the parliament and politician like Lissu. Since independence to date, Tanzania is actively expanding its democracy and unwavering commitment to and

respect of human rights by, among others, instilling constitutionalism, creating institutions, allowing multi-party democracy and acceding and subscribing to international as well as regional human rights instruments. It should be noted that since 1992, Tanzania remains among the few countries in Africa that embraces and continues to enjoy peaceful multi-party democracy. The fact that MP Lissu himself is a Member of Parliament in Tanzania from an opposition camp, speaks loudly to how far the country is democratic. As a young nation mitigating between building a united nation and economically-stable society, like many other countries on earth, Tanzania may have some challenges to its democracy, but not to the extent suggested by Daily Maverick. The reality is that Tanzania is a more democratic country than many countries in the world.

4. The LGBT issue The writer was heard through different international media talks and interviews supporting the recognition of the LGBT in the country. Exhibiting a lack of cultural relativism, the author might be blaming Tanzanian on the issue of homosexuals. It should be made clear that same-sex relationships are a crime in Tanzania and in many countries. This makes the behaviour to be regarded as a moral decay in Tanzania. No one has the right to force his/her own belief onto another.

That's why, despite a personal loose statement of the Regional Commissioner, whose stance was denounced by the central government, there is no mass or public harassment of homosexuals in Tanzania, other than those caught in the pants committing the immoral act.

5. Harassment of opposition members in Tanzania The writer goes on to allege that opposition politicians are harassed because of criticising President Magufuli. This is not true, as many opposition members, including the writer himself, are currently in the parliament in Dodoma criticising the works of the government. Moreover, the writer who was hit 16 times in September 2017 by unknown gunmen, contends to tell the world that he was shot by government agents. According to reports from the police and which are available in public domains, the incident was very unfortunate and can happen in any country. Such events are very rare in peaceful countries like Tanzania. However, it should be noted that on the same fateful day, a retired high-ranking army officer was also attacked by unknown gunmen and sustained injuries. That is why on the same day, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, John Magufuli, issued a statement condemning the crime and ordered a thorough investigation. Moreover, the Vice President, former President and other senior government leaders visited Hon Lissu in hospital, some in Dodoma and others in Nairobi.

Investigators have since the incident stated that in such events, apart from the forensic investigation, key witnesses are crucially important for effective

investigations, leading to successful prosecution. The law enforcers have been imploring the cooperation of the MP and his driver, who escaped unhurt, to volunteer an account of eye witnessing the crime, but in vain. Investigators in Tanzania are still keen and waiting for the MP and his driver, the only two impeccable eye-witnesses, to change their startling reluctance and cooperate. 6. Who is President Magufuli? To understand and appreciate what is happening in Tanzania, the author and everybody who wants to objectively analyse Magufuli is supposed to ask: who is President Magufuli and what is his quest and bequest? I can introduce him as a democratically-elected Tanzanian president who is highly respected among his people and in regional politics for his non-sense type of leadership as well as performance in delivering his promises. President Magufuli has already received many awards because of his strong leadership. These are his top achievements that the lawyer, activist, MP and analyst missed: 7. The War against Corruption Since assuming power in 2015, President Magufuli has been sweeping away the country's reputation for endemic corruption and poor public services. For example, he fired many senior executives and half of his cabinet ministers either for embezzlement or inaction. In Tanzania today, any public officials knows it: if you are corrupt, you are in trouble. And it's already paying off: Transparency International has ranked Tanzania the second country in East Africa after Rwanda in the war against corruption. The 2018 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) report released recently put Tanzania at an average score of 36 points behind Rwanda which has scored 56 points. The 2017 AfroBarometer research network shows that over 70% of Tanzanians believe corruption had decreased "somewhat" or "a lot" in the previous year. This is in stark contrast to the results of a similar survey in 2014, when only 13% reported they believed corruption had decreased in the previous year.

8. Tanzania's right to benefit from natural resources Understandably, together with the impact of his great work on corruption sharks, this is another reason for targeted international media propaganda against Magufuli. The protection of natural resources, mainly in the extractive industry, has been another area of achievements. He has confronted mining giants like Acacia, Barrick Gold, Geita Gold Mine and Tanzanite One to renegotiate their contracts

to make Tanzania earn more. All have bowed to his pressure, albeit under protest. Three laws have been enacted to enforce a sterner administration of the mining sector and results are positively yielding. For example, the revenue from the mining sector has risen to TZS300-billion during the financial year 2017/2018 from below TZS194-billion previously. 9. Cost cutting The reduction of foreign trips by government officials and scaling down of public workshops has been another achievement. For example, in the 2014/15 fiscal year the government spent TZS216-billion on foreign travel, while in the last three years under Magufuli only TZS25-billion has been used for the same. The increase of the government revenues from an annual average of TZS950-billion to TZS1.3-trillion has been another achievement. This has been a milestone on reducing donor funds in financing development projects.

10. Major construction work Magufuli continues to focus on infrastructure in the country. For example, recently, the President laid the foundation stone for the construction of a 19.2km eight-lane duo linking the country's commercial capital Dar es Salaam and Coast region. Another is the signing of the \$3-billion landmark deal with an Egyptian company for the construction of the Rufiji Hydropower Plant that will be Africa's fourth largest dam. The project will generate 2,115 megawatts, which is more than all electricity generated from all other sources in Tanzania. Thirdly, he is embarking on Africa's biggest Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project, fetching another \$3.5m from the government Treasury. The SGR will use electric-powered trains that will be ready by December 2019 for the first journey from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro, and in two years the SGR will connect the east coast Indian Ocean cities with the current political capital, Dodoma. Those are not the end of the list of Magufuli's scorecard-in the past three years. Magufuli has also revamped the national carrier by purchasing six new planes which are all operating within and outside the country. Among these are two Airbus 220-300 jets and a US-manufactured Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Two more are expected this year. It was no surprise last December when he was declared a winner of the London-based African Leadership Magazine's African Person of the Year: Political Leadership award. Contrary to the consent being "manufactured" by western media and allies, this is the Magufuli - "The Bulldozer" - that I know. As a patriot, I appreciate his unwavering efforts to transform his people

I call upon my fellows in academic rooms, and politicians in Tanzania and Africa at large to research and communicate objective data to defend our own development path rather than letting pass the imaginary analysis like the one published in Daily Maverick.

Let us be part of telling of our own narrative.

Darius Mukiza, PhD, is a lecturer in mass communications at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

Wight, measures key in achieving industrialisation agenda

By Guardian Reporter

BEING an executive agency, responsible for fair trade transactions through certification of weights and measures, Weights and Measures Agency (WMA), has unveiled measures towards making Tanzania achieve industrialization agenda and middle-income nation by 2025.

Director of Technical Services Division at the WMA, Stella Kaywa says the country can easily achieve its industrialization agenda if it manages to build a society of entrepreneurs that realize the importance of Weight and Measures as a key component towards achieving an industrial economy.

She says the role played by Weight and Measures in building a strong industrial economy cannot be underestimated.

Kaywa cites an example of various sectors such as agriculture where she says failure to enforce the use of laws and regulations governing weight and measures is depriving farmers of their right to profit from their agricultural produce.

"We know that an industrialized economy is based on production of raw materials therefore if all the products that are manufactured are not properly weighed and measured they cannot compete on the international market," she says.

WMA which has existed for decades is mandated to ensure the legal provisions - set out in the law on measurements and weights - are adhered to.

However, available studies show that WMA does not have the capacity to make sure that the law is adhered to due to financial and working constraints.

Her remarks came at the time when the agency marked the World Metrology Day on May 20, themed: "The International System of Units - Fundamentally better."

The World Metrology Day is an annual celebration of the signature of the Metre Convention on 20 May 1875 by representatives of seventeen



nations. The Convention set the framework for global collaboration in the science of measurement and in its industrial, commercial and societal applications.

Before the World Metrology Day climax, WMA inspected 108,000 water meters for standards since March this year when the Verification centre started operating at Misugusugu in the Coast Region.

The centre has the capacity of verifying 60 tankers per day and is used by Burundi, Rwanda, and DR Congo.

In the past, the inspection was being conducted by water authorities, but from last year the government facilitated the centre and started doing that task.

She adds that the agency currently has 10,000 meters by Dar es Salaam

Water and Sewerage Corporation (Dawasa) which are expected to be inspected via computer.

"There are various water projects that the government is carrying out and there is need to ensure that the meters are inspected," she says.

"We have a mandate to ensure that the country realize its dream of industrialising the nation," says Kaywa, describing the agency as an executive agency aimed at protecting consumers through legal metrological control in Tanzania Mainland. It also manages to build a society that realizes the importance of measures and weights as key component towards achieving an industrial economy.

"Our role is ensure that that consumer are protected and we're working in different sectors such as

trade, agriculture, transport, water, minerals, oil and manufacturing, which are key in scaling up industrialization agenda," she says.

"An industrialized economy is based on protection of raw materials therefore if all manufactured products are not properly weighed and measure, they cannot compete in international market," Kaywa says.

Peter Chuwa, WMA port manager (oil measure section) says the agency verifies oil volume, fuel flow meter, larger fuel tanks that are used to store imported fuel and verifying oil tankers.

"In order for the government to collect the required taxes, there must be accurate measures used in oil business and we've stringent laws for those tempering with measures on ill motives," he said.

He underscores the need for measurements' fairness in trade to maintain goods' standards at the time when the country is heading to industrialization.

According to Chuwa, the agency is solely dedicated to protecting consumers, businesses and manufacturers from unfair practices through the application of accurate weights and measures.

"That's why we're encouraging the public to ensure fairness between the trader and consumer. This will make the country realize its goal," he says.

"For the government to get right taxes, it also needs right measurements. And, at this department we need to have correct measurements, which are used in measuring petroleum products," he says, adding that the law is very clear for anyone tempering with measurements.

Chuwa further said his department deals with imported fuel through different ships and one of their tasks is to ensure that all the petroleum products are correctly measured.

He also said: "We are encouraging people to ensure that laws governing weights and measures are adhered in the entire value chain of fuel—from the port, wholesale to the end users."

WMA has other support weighing centres at Mbeya, Mtwara, Tanga, Kigoma, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Iringa which is open for public use to ensure they use quality weighed products.

WMA Public Relations Manager, Irene John has advised members of the public to report any problems to WMA's offices located across the country.

Ilala Regional Metrology officer, Malaki Nyangasi calls on traders to use proper measurement instruments in an effort to protect consumer's rights in trade, safety, health and environment.

Nyangasi said: "It is your duty to inspect the measurement you want to buy. Make sure they have all the relevant information and the agency's stickers so that customers' are not cheated in anyway."

He said that it's important for traders to ensure that their measurement units

are accurate and are being inspected by WMA officers and stamped.

"Its stamp must be on the left hand side of the weighing scale, and on its right hand side of the machine should show year when it was inspected," Nyangasi said.

For weighing scales that use stones, the official said that the measurements are on the bottom of the stone, calling customers to observe the measurements used by traders whenever they see being cheated.

He said that false measurements bring negative impact to economy at national and individual levels, "therefore we have to take it seriously."

"If you're intended to get one kilo of meat, you end up getting 800grams, this affect his/her economy and this is termed as theft. And if a customer discovers that is being deceived he/she should report the matter to the agency and the law will take its course on the trader who involved in such fraudulent," the official said.

Since 1999 and in pursuance to the Executive Agencies Act Number 30 of 1997, the WMA replaced the former Directorate of Weights and Measures under the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The move was part of the Civil Service Reform Programme (CSRPF) to increase efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery.

WMA is solely dedicated to protecting consumers, businesses and manufacturers from unfair practices through the application of accurate weights and measures. It endeavours to ensure optimum use of resources and fair trade interactions between investors, producers, transporters and consumers with an emphasis on consumer protection.

WMA activities centre on three major functions such as providing certification of weights and measures instruments, increasing consumer awareness in matters relating to weights and measures and to transform the weights and measures body into an efficient, effective and well managed agency.

Political will key to addressing youth unemployment in Africa

By Jean d'Amour Mbonynshuti

AFRICAN leaders should demonstrate the highest level of political will to ensure that the issue of unemployment among the youth is addressed.

The call was made Tuesday at the seventh annual security symposium at Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) Command and Staff College in Musanze District.

The symposium discussed various topics that included global power dynamics, the need to grow Africa's defence capabilities and youth unemployment on the continent.

Other topics include strategies to deal with cyber terrorism, enhancing continental self-reliance through intra-continental trade and the importance of good governance in achieving socio-economic transformation.

The panel that tackled youth unemployment was held under the theme: "Youth Bulge and Unemployment in Africa: a Threat to Security and Development".

The panel was made up of Amb. Abdoulaye Diop, Chief of Staff of the Chairperson, African Union Commission; Rosemary Mbabazi, the Minister for the Youth and Usta Kaitesi, chief executive (Ag), Rwanda Governance Board.

According to experts, the African continent has a big number of youth and that can be a threat to security and development if they are not equipped with quality education that would enable them to create jobs.

Mbabazi said that the number of African youth continues to grow and many of them unemployed, due to limited resources calling for the need for political will to look for alternative ways to address unemployment issue.

Quoting SDG figures of 2017, the minister said the average age in Africa is 19 years and African population is expected to be 28 billion by 2050.

They will constitute the 50 per cent of the population of the entire world.

"Unemployment is a global issue, it is not an African issue, it is not a Rwandan issue alone, this is because the population is growing and the resources are limited, so that means that we have to find other mechanisms of ensuring that we have opportunities out of this scarcity of resources," she said.

She said that African youth are more educated today than ever before, which means they have more opportunities than previous generations but need support to be competent enough.

The minister, however, said that most still have a challenge of access to loans from banks due to lack of collateral.

Mbabazi noted that the youth have a skills gap and countries should work on how to equip them with the necessary skills.

"The youth are like blank papers; what are you going to write on them? If you want them to create jobs, are they facilitated? The youth on the continent do not have collateral to get loans in banks and their dreams are not being realised but rather end up drowning in the seas looking for greener pastures," she added.



Works deputy minister Elias Kwandikwa (R) inspects the construction of the National Electoral Commission buildings under taken by Tanzania Building Agency in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph.

Tanzanian scientist proposes innovations to address health problems

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

Dr Askwar Hilonga hopes to be a millionaire - with the millions of lives across Africa that his innovation can help improve.

Locals in Arusha, northern Tanzania, have noticed something unusual this year: no cholera outbreak during what is usually the cholera season. Could a new low-cost water purification system, piloted in water stations across the city, may have something to do

with it?

Dr Hilonga does not claim this, as he understands rigorous testing is still needed. He nevertheless hopes his invention will help reduce waterborne diseases.

After obtaining a doctorate in chemical engineering, he studied public health in the hope of finding new ways to protect people from preventable diseases. "After graduating, I asked myself what my degrees meant for my community. I was not going to be satisfied with

patents and papers that would just sit gathering dust on the shelf. So I decided to only do research that would result in innovative solutions for improving the lives of my community."

When engineering and health expertise meet

Growing up in rural Tanzania, Dr Hilonga suffered from waterborne diseases throughout his childhood. He used his scientific expertise in nanotechnology and his local knowledge to develop a filter based

on nanomaterials. It was meant to help those for whom safe drinking water was still a luxury, like it was for his family during his childhood.

"There was a problem, and there was technology. I told myself, let me look for a solution by combining the two, to find the solution," he says. "Engineers do not understand health," he smiles, "neither do doctors and health practitioners understand technologies. I wanted to show the natural bond between the two."

Local solutions for local problems

Hilonga worked with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Science and Technology to roll out his innovative water purification system.

He cherishes the support he was given by the Government, the health authorities, the media, and local communities. Everyone was proud of the young Tanzanian scientist for addressing a major public health problem.

Sorghum farming helping the fight against illicit brews

By Eric Kiniti

AGRICULTURE is a major source of employment in Kenya and the largest contributor to the country's GDP, accounting 35.6 per cent of GDP in 2016 according to data by the World Bank.

Most importantly, it is the source of livelihood for most of the rural population and the key to food security and reduction of poverty.

Farmers are not only playing a crucial role in building the economy, they are also key in the fight against illicit brewing by providing raw materials for products that Kenyans and the rest of the world love.

For months on end, a farmer in Nyanza or Eastern Kenya toils and dedicates their time to produce the best quality of sorghum that is a critical raw material in the production of beer.

Today, 80 percent of raw material used at Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL) is locally sourced, a milestone that has been achieved through strategic partner-

ships in the value chain.

This has created employment for over 30,000 farmers, and continuously generates business value by supporting over 80,000 businesses.

A few years back, illicit brews was one of the major challenges facing the country, with thousands of youths opting for drinks such as chang'aa, which were cheap but often posed serious dangers to their health.

The products, contaminated with methanol and other concoctions, eventually caused blindness and resulted in death. This led to the introduction of Senator Keg in the Kenyan market which is now providing a safe, affordable beer that is in the center of the fight against illegal brews. The ongoing formalisation process to enable licensing of outlets that previously sold illegal alcohol, making their exclusive Senator Keg outlets, will also ensure that consumer get high-quality beer in hygienic conditions at affordable prices. You may be interested in

Sports as den of 'corruption' in Nigeria

By Gwon Akpodonor

In October 2016, former Super Eagles attacker, Daniel "The Bull" Amokachi opened a can of worms when he alleged that the nation's sports had become a den of corruption. He spoke when he led a coalition of civil society organisations (csos) operating under the aegis of National Support Groups for Good Governance (NASUGG) to the gate of the National Assembly in Abuja.

Then, Amokachi's major concern was the plight of the Nigerian youth, who, he alleged, were forced to pay as much as N250,000 each to get into the national U-17 team (Golden Eaglets).

"Corruption has invaded sports so deeply that even at FIFA headquarters in Zurich, we saw how the world stood up and said, 'Enough is enough.' We saw how the president, Sepp Blatter was not spared. He was removed from office because integrity matters when it comes to the constitution."

"President Muhammadu Buhari doesn't take nonsense when it comes to fighting corruption. I have said I will support the movement, because in my field, which is sports, corruption is now the order of the day. Amokachi continued: "For instance, in Nigerian football today, the youths, when invited to the national team, a coach will ask them to bring N250,000 each to get into the U-17 team when he already has the talent. If a person has talent, he should be allowed to showcase what he has in the interest of the nation."

Amokachi, a member of the Super Eagles team that won the African Cup of Nations title at Tunisia '94, as well as Olympic gold medal at Atlanta '96, also bared his mind on high level corruption ravaging the nation's

football league: "A small team cannot win the Nigerian league because all the people in Nigerian football are corrupt."

For the past one month, the world's attention has been on Nigerian sports, precisely athletics, with the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) at logger-heads with its Nigerian affiliate, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN) over the delay by Nigeria in refunding an excess of \$135,000 erroneously paid to the country two years ago.

The IAAF in 2017 mistakenly sent \$150,000 to the AFN instead of the annual \$15,000 it usually gives to its affiliates. On discovering the error, the world athletics body wrote to the AFN demanding the return of \$135,000, which is the excess amount.

However, after two years, the AFN has not refunded the money, prompting the IAAF to issue a deadline on May 13, threatening to sanction the country after two weeks if the money was not refunded. The deadline given by the IAAF is expected to expire by 12.00 noon today.

There have been counter-allegations by Nigerian sports officials since IAAF issued its deadline on May 13. Sports Minister, Solomon Dalung, who is at the center of it all, questioned the claims made by IAAF at the weekend during the 2019 Okpeke Road Race in Edo State. He claimed that Nigeria did nothing wrong and accused the IAAF of trying to blackmail Nigeria.

He said: "I think Nigeria has been unfairly treated because the issue has been painted and promoted as if there was any wrongdoing on the part of Nigeria. 'Certainly not, grants were released to Nigeria on May 17, 2017. IAAF on the 19th confirmed the transaction; those



Among NFF top officials charged for alleged fraud... 2nd Vice President Shehu Dikko, President Amaju Pinnick (middle) and 1st Vice President Seyi Akinwunmi

from IAAF after two months turned round and cried foul that it was a mistake."

When asked what Nigeria would do to avoid the possible ban as threatened by the IAAF, the sports minister said: "Ban us for what? What has Nigeria done? What is the crime? Did we steal money from them? Did we ask them to transfer money to us?"

"They transferred money to us; they confirmed the transaction to us, then after two months, they woke up from slumber. Is IAAF telling us they are as much disorganised as that? Where is Nigeria wrong? IAAF cannot wake up and just realise that they have something to hold on to. We are not even convinced that there is any mistake, the money was sent for the golden relays, and it was done. Are they saying there were no golden relays?"

"I think those promoting this are trying to cry blue murder; I think they are just enemies of this country and we should ask questions," Dalung stated.

However, many Nigerians see the issue differently. Former Nigerian jumper, hurdler

and sprinter, Seigha Porbeni sees the statement credited to Dalung at the weekend as uncalled for.

"Nigeria is too big a nation to be thrown into this mess," Porbeni told The Guardian yesterday. "As far as I am concerned, what the sports minister and the president of AFN has just done regarding the IAAF money is to prove to the entire world that Nigeria can not be a trustworthy nation. It is very unfortunate."

Porbeni, a former Director of Sports in Delta State added: "IAAF mistakenly sent money to you in May 2017, and throughout that year, you didn't do anything about it. Even when the IAAF president came to Asaba in 2018 and appealed to you to refund the excess, you gave them your words that you will pay 50 percent soon; how come you are turning around to say all these?"

"This is high level of corruption, and I think President Muhammadu Buhari should act fast before the name of Nigeria is dragged into the mud," Porbeni stated. Some other Nige-

rians, who are displeased with the comments made by the sports minister, have berated him, saying that the man has no shame. "Why put the nation through such a shame simply because of \$150,000? This is quite funny," the Proprietor of Cable Football Academy, Edwin Onowotafe queried yesterday. A board member of the AFN, Brown Ebebele had told The Guardian shortly after a meeting with Sports Minister last Tuesday in Abuja that the meeting gave them a clearer picture of what transpired on the IAAF money.

"The meeting with the sports minister actually gave us a clearer picture on what happened to the IAAF money," Ebebele said. "Before now, the impression some of us had was that it was the sports ministry that spent the money. But on Tuesday, the minister told us that he actually approved N39 million for Ibrahim Gusau (AFN President) to be refunded to IAAF after his meeting with them (IAAF officials) during Asaba 2018 Africa Senior Athletics Championship.

"The minister stated that he

made it clear to Gusau that the money he approved was for the IAAF, but not for purchase of kits as we are being made to understand. I am very sure that it was after Gusau and Sunday Adeleye (Technical Director of AFN) collected the N39 million that this issue of purchasing kits for the athletes came up. Even at that, no other board member of the AFN was aware of such approval," Ebebele stated.

But the AFN Technical Director, Adeleye has a different story. He explained to The Guardian that the issue of how the IAAF money was spent was never discussed at the meeting with the sports minister.

"We actually asked for money to purchase kits for Team Nigeria about eight days to Asaba 2018 Championship. Don't forget that the IAAF money transaction was done in 2017. So, how come the money was still there in 2018?"

"When it was obvious that our athletes would face an international embarrassment due to lack of kits, we approached the Permanent Secretary for money. He said we

should put our request in writing, which we did. Then, the AFN Secretary General Amaechi Akawo was already in Asaba working with the LOC for the championship.

"But when the file got to the table of Tayo Oreweme (Director, Federation of Elite Athletes Department (FEAD) in the Sports ministry), she insisted that such requests should be made by the AFN secretary. So Akawo had to come down to Abuja to apply for the money. I was in Europe for the kits, and that was what saved us from international embarrassment," Adeleye stated.

Perhaps, what might take the attention of many Nigerians from the issue of IAAF 'missing' \$135,000 may play out this morning in Abuja, as a total of 29 witnesses are said to have lined up to testify in two separate cases instituted against five top officials of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) over alleged misappropriation of about N4billion belonging to the football body.

In a 17-count charge, marked, FHC/ABJ/CR/93/2019, filed before the Federal High Court in Abuja, NFF President Amaju Pinnick, Secretary General, Sunusi Mohammed, 1st Vice President Seyi Akinwunmi, 2nd Vice-President Shehu Dikko and Executive member Yusuf Fresh are also accused of "moving dishonestly and intentionally the sum of about N4billion" belonging to the NFF without the consent of the NFF.

Also included in the charges filed against the NFF officials by the Special Presidential Investigation Panel for the Recovery of Public Property (SPIP), led by Okoi Obono-Obia is the failure by the NFF top shots to declare their assets.

The five NFF officials are also facing charges by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

Tanzanian scientist proposes innovations to address health problems

By correspondent James Komayo

Dr Askwar Hilonga hopes to be a millionaire - with the millions of lives across Africa that his innovation can help improve.

Locals in Arusha, northern Tanzania, have noticed something unusual this year: no cholera outbreak during what is usually the cholera season.

Could a new low-cost water purification system, piloted in water stations across the city, may have something to do with it?

Dr Hilonga does not claim this, as he understands rigorous testing is still needed. He nevertheless hopes his invention will help reduce waterborne diseases.

After obtaining a doctorate in chemical engineering, he studied public health in the hope of finding new ways to protect people from preventable diseases. "After graduating, I asked myself what my degrees meant for my community."

I was not going to be satisfied with patents and papers that would just sit gathering dust on the shelf. So I decided to only do research that would result in innovative solutions for improving the lives of my community."

When engineering and health expertise meet

Growing up in rural Tanzania, Dr Hilonga suffered from waterborne diseases throughout his childhood. He used his scientific expertise in nanotechnology and his local knowledge to develop a filter based on nanomaterials.

It was meant to help those for whom safe drinking water was still a luxury, like it was for his family during his childhood.

"There was a problem, and there



Dr Askwar Hilonga, innovator of the low-cost water purification system, piloted in Arusha, Tanzania

was technology. I told myself, let me look for a solution by combining the two, to find the solution," he says. "Engineers do not understand health," he smiles, "neither do doctors and health practitioners understand technologies. I wanted to show the natural bond between the two."

Local solutions for local problems

Hilonga worked with the Ministry of Health, Commu-

nity Development, Gender, Elderly and children and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to roll out his innovative water purification system.

He cherishes the support he was given by the Government, the health authorities, the media, and local communities. Everyone was proud of the young Tanzanian scientist for addressing a major public health problem.

He says the real challenge

for any water-purification system is acceptance and regular use by the community. Many were initially suspicious about a technology developed by 'one of theirs'.

But Dr Hilonga was able to convince local people to start using the filtration system because he understood the issues they faced.

Empowering local women - the biggest reward

Dr Hilonga says women have been instrumental to in-

roducing water filtration as part of daily life in rural Tanzania. Most of the water stations where the new system is being tested are managed by women.

"I would not have made it, if it were not for the local women who got on board and made it possible."

His goal is to encourage water purification good practices across Tanzania and other African countries where rural populations suffer from waterborne diseases.

He says his dream is to become a millionaire, counting the millions of lives to be improved with access to safe clean drinking water.

Hilonga's contribution to expanding access to safe water, and thereby reducing the risk of waterborne diseases among rural communities is being recognized at the 72nd World Health Assembly this year, where he will receive the 2019 United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize.

He has previously received the President of Tanzania's National Health Innovation Award (2016) and the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation (2015), conferred by the British Royal Academy of Engineering

Tumaini Kaaya, a resident of Arusha is now earning her income from a Nanofilter - a water purification project innovated by Dr Hilonga.

"I had no job; no hope!

Thanks to Nanofilter - an innovation system aimed at increasing the access to clean and safe water to under-served community in Arusha region for employing me as an Operator", she said.

It is the filters which can filtrate make water free from bacteria, micro-organisms, and Viruses hence making the drinking water safe for the domestic usage

The project jointly funded by UKAID through Human Development Innovation Fund (HDIF), The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST), Gongali Model, A-Z Textile Mills, and the government (Arusha water department and regional Medical and Health offices (RMO/RHO office).

"The project has created job opportunity to more ninety ladies ageing 18 - 30 years who work at the water stations as Operators. All these ladies were not employed before," she said.

"Those employed are water stations are now able to support their families, send their children to school, and act as financial pillars for their families - and those who are married their husbands are so proud of them," she added.

Kaaya pointed out that the project gives the ladies great respect in the community because they act as "health educators" and "life savers".

Presently, each water station provides clean and safe water to about 100 people daily.

It is a new invention from Tanzania; a low-cost water purification system that increases access to safe and clean water and reduces water-borne diseases.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO): a total of 844 million people lack clean and safe water and at least 2 billion people use a drinking water source contaminated with faeces; resulting into 502,000 diarrheal deaths each year.

According to the data, this results to death of one child after every 20 seconds.

In Tanzania alone, 7,000 children die every year due waterborne diseases.

On top of that, filters currently available in the market (eg. hollow fiber membrane filters) are not customized (they solve only specific problem such as removal of bacteria), most of them are sophisticated - parts cannot be replaced easily because they are imported from outside Tanzania and so expensive.

Therefore, Nanofilter is sold directly to households and institutions; but for many who cannot afford to buy the whole filter they can purchase water at any of the water stations where water is sold at a price that is five times cheaper than the market price.

By Property Watch Reporter

TANCOAL SALUTES JPM FOR BARRING COAL IMPORTS, VOWS TO POWER INDUSTRIALISATION DRIVE

PRESIDENT John Magufuli's decision to bar importation of coal from South Africa has seen Tancoala Energy Limited increase production to meet demand of local manufacturers mostly cement industries hence contributing to rapid industrialization the 5th Phase Government.

In a presentation at a mining industry conference and exhibition held in Dodoma last week, the company's CEO, James Shedd said President Magufuli's order in 2015 also helped save the country from using foreign currency unnecessarily.

"Tancoala is grateful for the decision of the President which has seen the company growing since then and supporting more industries in the country and beyond," Shedd said noting almost all local cement manufacturers are now using local coal as energy source.

"The President's decision has led to an increase in the number of industries which are now purchasing coal since 2015 because since then, the number of new customers have emerged in both, Tanzanian market and external market, especially in Uganda and Rwanda," Shedd revealed.

He named cement companies which are the main customers for Tancoala Coal as Tanga Cement, Lake Cement, Mbeya Cement and Dangote Cement. He further named other main customers of his company's coal as ceramics manufacturer known as Keda Tanzania Limited, gypsum products makers, Knauf Tanzania Limited and soft drinks manufacturers Sayona Drinks Limited among others.

"Coal is used in the customer's kilns for heating purposes in the manufacturing process of the relevant products," he added noting that the company delivers the commodity to clients at its Kitai sales point in Mbinga district, a 50 kilometres



Tancoala men at work at Ngaka coal mines.

distance from Mbalawala coal mines also in the same district.

The company sales 75 percent of its coal to the domestic market while 25 percent of its coal is exported to clients in

East Africa region mostly to cement and ceramics manufacturers and thus earning the country hard currency.

"Tancoala supplies coal to cement companies which is used

to manufacture cement which is in turn used for construction of other industries and big infrastructure projects in the country which all bolster industrialization," the Tancoala

CEO noted naming Standard Gauge Railway, Stigler's Gorge Project, among others.

As a result of its coal supplies to the domestic market which provides a source of

cheap reliable means of energy for the local manufacturers, Tancoala's role makes potential industrial investors like Keda Tanzania and Hingya Cement put their money locally hence

supporting the government's industrialization agenda.

As a result of the company's growth in coal volumes being sold, revenue being paid to Treasury has also increased since 2016 giving an example of almost 11.8bn/- paid in royalty and taxes in the past 10 months between July 2018 and April 2019.

The company has also created massive employment with a total of 419 Tanzanians employed directly by Tancoala, its contractors and suppliers. "Out of the 191 Tancoala employees, 189 are Tanzanians with only two expatriates" the Tancoala CEO added.

In complying with the 2010 Mining Act, that requires every mining company to have in place a corporate social responsibility plan which is to be discussed and approved by the relevant local government authorities, Tancoala submitted its CSR to Mbinga District Council which was approved and covered six months ending on the December 2019.

It will be followed by an annual CSR plan covering the period between July 2019 to June 2020. In addition, Tancoala supports the Mbalawala Women Organization which provides support services to the mine and other Tancoala contractors.

"Tancoala's idea was to empower the women around the mine, first by training them in various activities and also to enable them economically which gives them a voice for themselves and their families," the CEO stated.

"The women provide services to the Tancoala mine and to the company's contractors and suppliers at the sales point which includes meals, laundry, gardening, to name but a few. They are also involved in farming activities and play a big part in trees nursery which is meant for rehabilitation of the mined areas and also planted at various areas to improve the environment" Shedd added.

Dar's BRT projects to spur growth of construction sector - mace report

By Property Watch Reporter

THE country's construction industry is set to grow by 77 percent this year from a 9 percent reduction registered last year thanks to Dar es Salaam's Bus Rapid Transit projects awarded to Japanese and Chinese companies.

In its 2019 market view half year report for Sub-Saharan Africa, construction conglomerate, MMQSMace Consultancy (PTY) Limited said Tanzania remains one of the fastest growing construction markets in East Africa despite facing numerous challenges.

"Ongoing Chinese investment in large infrastructure schemes is a primary driver. Most recently, the Dar Rapid Transit agency awarded the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation

a US\$160m contract to build the second phase of a rapid transit bus project in Dar es Salaam," the report stated while referring to Mbagala to Gerezani BRT project. Another Japanese funded US\$70m BRT project is being constructed by Japanese contractor, Nippon/Dai Contractors.

"Chinese investment is fueling bullish growth in industry activity and the volume of projects in the pipeline suggests this trend is likely to continue. The unpredictable political environment will weigh on industry growth and policies will continue to inhibit foreign direct investment in the region," Mace's report stated.

It further noted that in 2018, gross domestic product grew by an estimated 5.8 percent and that the pace of

expansion is forecast to strengthen to 6.6 percent this year while noting that other indicators of activity paint a less positive picture citing recent tax revenues which fell short of expectations while credit growth stagnated.

In its recent review, the IMF identified several risks to this outlook. Notably, it raised concern about the nation's ability to attract the level of private sector investment required to deliver the government's development plan and highlighted the acute need for tax reform, Mace stated.

Doing business in Tanzania is relatively more difficult than in some of its neighbours, according to the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business ranking. This is largely due to the time and costs associated with importing

and exporting materials. In 144th place, Tanzania ranked behind Rwanda (29th place), Kenya (61st place) and Uganda (127th place).

The report further stated that against a relatively healthy economic backdrop, construction activity is forecast to grow across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), at an average rate of over 6 percent per annum over the next two years, according to BMI, although significant downside risks exist.

"Ethiopia, one of the region's largest markets, is leading the charge. Here, construction activity is forecast to achieve double-digit growth through to 2020. Construction activity in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda is also forecast to expand over the medium-term and, amid a return to economic growth, prospects for construction in South Africa may improve," the report added.

This relatively bullish overall outlook relies on timely delivery of large infrastructure projects in the pipeline, but the ability and inclination to increase sovereign debt may impact on delivery. Over the past 12 months, high levels of sovereign indebtedness have weighed on credit ratings and planned public sector investment in countries with high exposure to debt denominated in foreign currency could be especially vulnerable if domestic currency were to weaken, the Mace report warned.

"2018 was a turbulent year for global commodities markets. Production disruption, together with an escalation in trade tension between major economies contributed to an acceleration in construction materials price inflation across the region. Currency fluctuation also played a role - especially in South Africa where the rand depreciated against the US dollar by over 10 percent during 2018. A slowdown in the pace of global growth and rising stock level will help to ease pressure on prices but, at over 5 percent the overall rate of inflation is still expected to be relatively high," the report pointed out.

Billionaire Agarwal warns Zambia it's scaring mine investors

LUSAKA

Anil Agarwal, the Indian billionaire owner of Vedanta Resources, said mining companies are likely to stop operating in Zambia as a result of a state-owned firm seeking to liquidate his copper-mining business there.

Agarwal's warning, published in a government newspaper on Wednesday as a "personal message" to citizens of Africa's second-biggest copper producer, comes as his company is trying to meet with President Edgar Lungu over state-owned ZCCM Investments' move this month to wind up Konkola Copper Mines.

"The current position can only hurt the country's hard-earned democracy and investor-friendly status," Agarwal said. "I see a lot of mining companies looking to exit Zambia, despite there being huge potential to develop downstream industries."

Fixed-income investors have already fled the country's bonds. Yields on Zambia's \$1 billion in notes due 2024 surged to a record 20.8 percent on Wednesday. That's higher than any country besides Venezuela, which is in default. If Agarwal's warning proves right, an

already struggling economy would suffer further from a decline in production of copper, which accounts for more than 70 percent of export earnings.

ZCCM-IH, which owns 20.6 percent of Vedanta's KCM, on May 20 won a provisional order to liquidate the company - three days after Lungu had warned Vedanta of "divorce" as he claimed the company had lied to the country about planned expansions and cheated on tax payments. The government said it moved to wind up the company to prevent its collapse and to protect jobs. Vedanta is seeking to formally challenge the court decision and the matter will be heard on June 4.

Taxes owed While acknowledging that the government owes Vedanta 1.9 billion (\$142.8 million) kwacha in value-added tax refunds, the company owes the nation 3.01 billion kwacha in taxes, information minister Dora Siliya told reporters Wednesday in Lusaka, the capital. Vedanta is "trying to hold us ransom," she said in response to claims the government is spooking investors.

"Even now there are many companies, people have flown into the country because they see the opportunity," she said, referring to KCM. "We just want the best partner for the people of Zambia."

Vedanta's dealings with the southern African nation have been strained since at least 2013, when the government cancelled its then chief executive's work permit after KCM announced plans to fire 2,000 workers. The company has hardly posted profits since Vedanta bought it 15 years ago, and there are frequent allegations mining companies including KCM don't pay enough tax, claims Vedanta has denied.



Dar es Salaam rapid transit has proven to be popular in the commercial capital with new project going on between Mwenje and Morocco; Mbagala and Gerezani which will spur growth in construction industry. File photo.



Konkola Copper Mines main entrance in Zambia.

CASHEW NUTS EXPORTS INTERRUPTION IMPACTS ON MTWARA PORT PERFORMANCE

By Francis Kajubi

THE controversy surrounding cashew nuts buying season last year has negatively impacted on Mtwara Port's performance, Bank of Tanzania has said in its latest Consolidated Zonal Economic Performance report.

The BoT report said declining cashew nuts volumes which are mainly exported through Mtwara Port led to falling cargo volumes by 90.9 percent in the fourth quarter of 2018.

The report which was released this week said cargo volumes handled by Mtwara Port dwindled to 21.3 thousand tons by last December compared to 233.5 thousand tons handled during the corresponding period in 2017.

"Such decline emerged as there was no cashewnut exports handled at the port during the period under review," stated the BoT report.

The report however said cargo volumes handled by Dar es Salaam and Tanga ports increased by 4.7 percent and 21.3 percent to over 3.9m tons from over 3.7m tons and 248,000 tons from 205,000 tons respectively.

The Central Bank attributed the increase to the ongoing modernization and harmonization of operations at Dar es Salaam and Tanga ports.

"The Dar es Salaam Port accounted for 93.6 percent of the total cargo handled, followed by Tanga Port



A bird's eye view of Mtwara Port.

at 5.9 percent and Mtwara was the least with 0.5 percent of the cargo handled during the review period," the Consolidated Zonal Economic Performance report added.

The report also covered key sectors of mining with the value of minerals extracted in the same quarter amounting to 1.06trn/-, equivalent to 1.7 per cent increase from the 1.04trn/- recorded in the

corresponding quarter in 2017.

This outturn was explained by increase in production of gold in the Central, Lake and Southern Highland zones but also gemstones in Central zone and diamond in Lake Zone.

The Lake Zone dominated in mining activities, accounting for 88.6 percent of the value of minerals extracted during the quarter thanks to the existence of large-scale gold

mining companies.

On the manufacturing part, the report stated that the value of manufactured goods grew by 33.5 percent to 2.54trn/- from 1.9trn/- recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2017.

The Central Bank said that the increase was mainly associated with expanding domestic and foreign markets for industrial products

particularly steel and ceramics.

South Eastern zone recorded the highest growth of 46 percent, while Southern Highlands recorded the lowest growth of 5.8 percent. Dar es Salaam Zone continued to dominate the sector, accounting for 56.3 percent of total value of manufactured goods during the quarter, followed by Northern Zone at 14.9 percent.

After M&A spree, Sibanye is now the world's No 1 platinum miner

JOHANNESBURG

Six years after being carved out of a handful of unwanted gold operations, Sibanye Gold has become the world's biggest platinum miner.

Building on operations spun out of Gold Fields, Sibanye became the No 1 miner in South Africa's waning gold industry. Now, with the acquisition of Lonmin, chief executive officer Neal Froneman has completed Sibanye's transformation to a giant of the nation's key platinum sector.

The deal, approved by shareholders on Tuesday, creates a company that will eclipse Anglo American Platinum as the world's biggest platinum miner and will rank second to Russia's MMC Norilsk Nickel PJSC for palladium output. Moreover, the Lonmin assets may be worth triple what Froneman paid for them, according to Africa's largest bank.

"This makes Sibanye an integrated platinum producer at a bargain price," said Bernard Swanepoel, a former chief of Harmony who now sits on the board of Impala Platinum. Sibanye shares were 5% higher as of 4:07 pm in Johannesburg, after climbing 10% on Tuesday. Lonmin was up 8.3% in London.

The Lonmin deal also gives Sibanye political clout in South Africa's mining industry, employing more than 90 000 workers and owning metal processing facilities for the first time. That heft could be important as platinum miners start negotiations with labour unions on a three-year wage agreement.

Tough decisions Still, Froneman faces some tough decisions. Before the acquisition was completed, Lonmin said 12 600 jobs were at risk, with moves already under way to cut 4 100 positions. Sibanye will review all those operations, and the CEO said the company may even consider expanding output.

"This is a culmination of a long-term strategy," Froneman said in an interview on Tuesday before the result of the Lonmin shareholder vote was announced. "It positions us in the PGMs sector where we believe in the long term future."

Desert dreams: Poor prospects for Egypt's brand new capital

ACCRA

It is an extraordinary initiative, but not a new one. Successive regimes since the 1970s have been obsessed by the most salient geographical fact of Egypt, which is that almost every soul who lives there does so on around 4% of its territory, either in the Delta or along the narrow strip of the Nile Valley.

This geographical fact collides with an equally salient demographic one, namely, Egypt's high fertility rate, which increases the population by more than two million every year.

That's why rulers since Nasser have gazed out over the vast, scorched hinterland and dreamt of escape. At huge cost, governments have built dozens of new cities and towns there, but none have worked in terms of becoming economically self-sustaining alternative population centres.

That Egypt is trying again with an even bigger and glitzier scheme can be explained by the meeting of these old preoccupations with the Arab Spring in 2011, which forged an urgent bond between Egypt's military establishment and the Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Shaken by the 25 January revolution in 2011, but precariously back in power two and a half years later, Egypt's generals looked to their Gulf backers for cash and ideas to enthrone a traumatised population and restore an aura of legitimacy.

The result was a reworked narrative of desert settlement, spun afresh with a Gulf faith in the power of global capital to seed high-tech business worlds in the sand, leap-frogging clean over stubborn old social, economic and geographic constraints.

To understand the future prospects of the new capital, it is worth reviewing Egypt's previous attempts at desert settlement, and why they failed.

A good guide is provided by the Cairo-based American economist and urban planner, David Sims, whose book on the topic (Egypt's Desert Dreams: Development or Disaster?) appeared with eerie timeliness in the same month President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi unveiled the new capital at a stage-managed investors conference at Sharm el Sheikh in March 2015.

Sims' forensic study examined around 20 new desert cities launched from the time of Anwar Sadat in 1976, including bold early experiments such as Tenth of Ramadan, Sadat City, Sixth of October, Fifteenth of May, and others, which were intended to have a combined population of more than 20 million.



Nova Property Group's main office in Johannesburg.

Standard Bank has closed Nova's bank accounts

JOHANNESBURG

Standard Bank closed the bank accounts of the Nova Property Group, the rescue vehicle of the failed Sharemax investment scheme, late last year.

Moneyweb has seen the minutes of a Nova board meeting held in November last year. It was disclosed that two Standard Bank representatives visited Nova in July and informed it that the bank was "no longer interested in doing business with NPG [Nova Property Group] and all NPG accounts will be closed on 3 September 2018."

The deadline was later extended to mid-December. It is not clear why Standard Bank, which has been Nova's bank for many years, decided to terminate the relationship.

It is also apparent from the minutes that Nova commenced with the drafting of legal papers to stop the termination of the relationship. "Nova is presently preparing an urgent application to court, if Nova so decides, to stop the bank from closing Nova accounts and that they have no legal basis to do so, or to get a declarator to give Nova 24 months to migrate Nova's circa 160 bank accounts to another bank," the minutes read.

The minutes also state that Nova was already investigating the option to move the accounts to Absa. Moneyweb has learnt that the group managed to migrate its accounts to Absa before the closure of the Standard Bank accounts.

Ross Linstrom, spokesperson for Standard Bank, did not

confirm or deny the closure of Nova's accounts. In an emailed statement, he said: "Standard Bank declines to comment based on client confidentiality be it current or previous clients."

This is not the first incident of banks not wanting to do business with the Nova Group. In 2014 Absa and Grindrod Bank refused to provide funding to Nova, citing potential reputational risk. At the time, Nova lashed out at media coverage and blamed the creation of the perceived reputational risk on continued negative reporting.

No response from Nova board Moneyweb emailed questions related to the closure of the bank accounts and other developments to Dominique Haese and Connie Myburgh, Nova's CEO and executive chairman, as well

as to the company's non-executive directors: advocate Jan Smit, Nigel Adriaanse, Jane Phiri and Lazarus Mbethe last week.

Haese and Myburgh did not respond, while Smit acknowledged receipt of the questions on behalf of the non-executive directors but declined to respond, citing Nova's policy of refusing to engage with Moneyweb.

Moneyweb also sent questions to the two court-appointed receivers of the Section 311 Scheme of Arrangement. They are attorney Hans Klopper of auditing group BDO and Myburgh. The receivers are tasked to ensure that the 19 000 debenture holders are repaid their original Sharemax investments in terms of the scheme.

Myburgh did not respond to these questions. Klopper ac-

knowledgeed receipt of the questions but declined to provide answers. He wrote: "As previously stated, due to the nature of business at BDO, it is irregular to, nor do we, discuss any of our matters."

Resignation of Charles Rembe Moneyweb can also confirm the resignation of Charles Rembe from the Nova board. Rembe was the chairman of the audit committee. He confirmed his resignation to Moneyweb but declined to provide reasons for it.

Rembe's resignation occurred during the audit process of Nova's 2019 financial statements. Nova's financial year ended on February 28, 2019, and the audit process should be well on its way, but Moneyweb was unable to establish whether there is any link between the two events.

CONSTRUCTION

DUBAI

ENBD REIT POSTS \$270M NET ASSET VALUE AND PROPOSES DIVIDEND

ENBD Reit, the Sharia-compliant real estate investment trust managed by Emirates NBD Asset Management, said its net asset value for the year ending March 31 declined to \$270 million though revenue increased.

Net asset value was down 10 per cent from the same month in 2018, according to the previous year's results carried on the company's website. However, rental income bucked trends across the UAE real estate sector improving by more than \$5m year-on-year, a company official said in a statement on Wednesday.

"While local real estate market headwinds have put pressure on property valuations, our performance indicates that the portfolio's rental income is resilient," said Anthony Taylor, head of real estate at Emirates NBD Asset Management.

"This is borne out by the fact that the total property portfolio value has reduced by only 2.8 per cent [year-on-year] - outperforming market trends across real estate asset classes - with average occupancy robust at 86 per cent and rental income improving by more than \$5m year-on-year."

ENBD's total portfolio value fell 2.8 per cent to \$450m in the period. Total loans this year stood at \$180m, at a loan to value ratio of 40 per cent, and average portfolio occupancy stood at 86 per cent.

The Nasdaq Dubai-listed Reit said in February it plans to expand its remit outside Dubai, targeting Abu Dhabi and the northern emirates, and investments specifically in the industrial and healthcare sectors.

"The diversity that we have established in the portfolio has been instrumental for mitigating valuation risk, which is why we are



ENBD Reit, which invests in real estate across the UAE, reported steady average occupancy rates and net asset value of \$270m in March.

seeking further growth in our holdings, in particular for alternative assets secured with long-term lease agreements," Mr Taylor said on Wednesday.

ENBD Reit's board of directors proposed a final dividend of \$5.4m, or 0.0215 per share -

equivalent to 2 per cent of net asset value and 3.81 per cent of the share price. This is subject to approval by shareholders at the annual general meeting on June 24.

The proposed dividend is equivalent to the net rental income generated by ENBD Reit's

portfolio, "despite movements in valuation experienced during the period", the company said.

The total dividend payable to shareholders for the year ended March 31 is \$12.3m, equivalent to 4.54 per cent of the share price.

An interim dividend of \$6.9m (\$0.0270 per share) was paid to shareholders for the six months ended September 30, 2018. Reit intends to continue paying dividends on a semi-annual basis, the statement said.

JustCo expands into Seoul, Sydney and Melbourne

SINGAPORE

As Asia's shared office industry moves into a new phase in 2019, Singapore-based JustCo has added centres in three Asian capitals to its portfolio since January, with more new locations on the way within the next two months.

In April, the company opened new centres in Singapore, Jakarta and Seoul - its first location in South Korea - with company founder and CEO Kong Wan Sing telling Mingtiandi that JustCo will expand into Sydney and Melbourne this May 2019.

Even with this rapid pace of development, the company, which has received financial backing from Singapore's GIC sovereign wealth fund, as well as from listed developers Frasers Property and Sansiri, is keeping its centres full. "JustCo has average occupancy of 90 per cent across its centres," JustCo's Kong said, "thanks in part to increasing demand from Fortune 500 companies and other large corporations."

Opening in Seoul and expanding its footprint across Asia

Having expanded into Bangkok in 2018, JustCo made its South Korea debut in early April with a 2,100 square metre (22,600 square foot) centre at the Ferrum Tower in Seoul's Myeongdong area. JustCo's Kong Wan Sing is expanding the company's partnerships with developers in the region.

"Our designers wanted to build a centre which allowed teams to work together across the space,



Inside JustCo's shared office in Singapore.

so our project management team created an internal stairway between the two floors of the centre. This is an expensive bit of construction, but we believe the pay off in an open area where members' movements are not restricted, and they can easily access our event space, breakout areas and meeting rooms, while never being far away from their private suites or hot-desking area for getting some serious work done provides benefit to their businesses,"

Kong said.

In addition to the necessary, millennial-friendly games corner, the centre also provides enclosed phone booths for making private calls and a mother's room to make it easier for everyone to keep their work-life balance.

The company, which Kong founded eight years ago, says it has at least one more Seoul centre on the way in the coming months. In April, JustCo also opened in Jakarta's Sequis Tower while adding its

fifteenth Singapore location at 20 Collyer Quay in the city's financial district.

Partnerships help drive expansion

One of the key reasons to JustCo's rapid expansion in the past year has been its ability to forge strategic partnerships with developers as more building owners and operators look for ways to better unlock the value of their existing assets through flexible working strategies.

"At 20 Collyer Quay, our brief

from the building's owner, GuocoLand, was to create something more than just a traditional workspace," Kong explained. "The goal was to enhance the efficiency of space usage by introducing a unique tenant mix and a multi-faceted co-working community within the building. This new centre looks to attract new types of tenants - especially tech firms and high-end creatives that want good space in a great location, but don't need a whole floor - while also

introducing a facility that would add utility for existing occupiers."

Tenants throughout the 24-storey building at 20 Collyer Quay are allowed to access shared assets at JustCo, such as meeting rooms, event space, lounge and café. This offers tenants of the same building opportunities to network, and enjoy an agile and unique working environment while creating extra value in one of Asia's most expensive office markets.

Saudi property firm Raza eyes IPO or stake sale as part of growth strategy

RIYADH

Raza, the real estate management and development arm of Saudi Arabia's Public Pension Agency, may seek to go public or pursue a private stake sale as part of plans to become an independent entity in the medium term - subject to achieving minimum 5 per cent annual revenue growth in the years to 2024, its chief executive said.

"The idea is that Raza doesn't just have to be a company doing business for the PPA," Waleed Al Eisa told The National in an interview. "From day one, the ambition has been that, after some time, the company could do an initial public offering, or sell part of its business, if the environment is right."

Such an event is a longer-term goal that would require Raza to meet its target of doubling its assets under management from the current 13 billion Saudi riyals (Dh12.73bn), and achieving a minimum of 5 to 10 per cent annual revenue growth over the years by 2024, Mr Aleisa added.

Raza is the real estate management arm of Al Ra'idah Investment Company (RIC), which was established by royal decree in 2007 under the Public Pension Agency of Saudi Arabia. Originally Al Ra'idah, Raza was re-branded and renamed this month, with a fresh objective to become the kingdom's biggest community landlord by 2020.

It manages approximately two million square metres of office, mixed-use and community real estate across Riyadh, Jeddah and Dammam, and its portfolio comprises 4,500 residential units, around 500,000 sqm of office space and 50,000 sqm of retail - some of which was built or acquired by the PPA before Al Ra'idah was created.

Projects under development are the Digital City mixed-use scheme in Riyadh, the second phase of which is due to complete by the end of this year, comprising 2,250 residential units, according to Mr Aleisa. Raza is also building the second phase of the Jeddah Obhur mixed-use community, comprising 2,550 homes scheduled for handover this year.

London home sellers offer ever-growing discounts

LONDON London homebuyers are getting the biggest discounts in at least six years, according to data from Zoopla.

The average reduction on a home in 13 inner London boroughs jumped to 7.6 per cent in the first quarter, up from 7 per cent a year earlier, the property-search website said in a report

Wednesday. The residential real estate market in the UK capital has been stung in recent years by the introduction of new taxes and the uncertainty surrounding Brexit.

"The London housing market is going through a repricing process after a prolonged period of rapid price gains," said Richard Donnell, Zoopla's research

director. "The repricing still has a way to run, but the downward pressure on prices is starting to moderate."

While the average discount continues to rise, there are signs in some areas that the price cuts are starting to ease. In April, more than half of the London neighborhoods tracked by Zoopla saw a decrease in the

percentage of listings with a reduced asking price, compared with a year earlier.

In Kensington and Chelsea, for example, the share of properties offered at a discount was little changed last month from a year earlier. That compares with a more than 5 per cent increase from April 2017 to 2018.

WORLD

Kill off specter of no-deal Brexit, UK's Hammond warns next PM

LONDON

BRITAIN'S finance minister yesterday warned those in his party vying for Prime Minister Theresa May's job that a no-deal Brexit would imperil the economy and urged candidates to tone down irresponsible spending pledges.

May's departure deepens the Brexit crisis as a new leader, who should be in place by the end of July, is likely to want a more decisive split, raising the chances of a confrontation with the EU and potentially a snap parliamentary election.

Boris Johnson, the bookmakers' favourite to get May's job in July, has said the United Kingdom should leave the EU on Oct 31 with or without a deal.

"We need to get the specter of a no-deal exit off the table," Finance Minister Philip Hammond told the BBC. "Leaving with no deal would be a very bad outcome for the economy."

Underlining his point, Hammond indicated he could be prepared to vote to collapse his party's government if he felt it was heading in the wrong direction.

"I'm not sure that people necessarily have understood what a risk we would be taking, not only with our economy but also with the future of our precious United Kingdom if we left with no deal," he said.

The United Kingdom was supposed to have left the EU on March 29 but its politicians are still arguing over how, when or even whether the country will leave the club it joined in 1973.

That political failure caused car production to collapse last month as factories shut down in expectation of a Brexit that never came, according to data published on Thursday.

No deal means there would be no transition so the exit would be abrupt. Bank of England Governor Mark Car-

ney said leaving the EU with no transition could be akin to the 1970s oil shock.

May's government has repeatedly warned of the disruption a no-deal Brexit would unleash on everything from pet tourism to the import of crucial medicines and supply chains that criss-cross Europe and beyond.

Brexit supporters admit there may be some short-term disruption but that in the long-term the United Kingdom would thrive outside what they cast as an undemocratic and excessively bureaucratic project dominated by Germany.

LEADERSHIP AMBITION

Eleven Conservative lawmakers have declared they are running for May's job.

When asked if he could be a candidate to succeed May, Hammond admitted his Brexit views had made him unpopular with some sections of the party, but did not rule out entering the contest to argue his case.

"I hope this contest does not degenerate into a competition to see who can make the biggest

spending or tax cutting pledges, he said. "The Conservative Party has a very strong reputation, well deserved, for being fiscally responsible."

May's successor will be bound by most of the constraints that saw her fail three times to get parliamentary backing for an exit deal, leaving open the option of a national election or a second referendum to resolve the country's future.

The opposition Labour Party is also divided over what happens next. Leader Jeremy Corbyn said on Wednesday any new referendum could not be a simple re-run of the 2016 Remain or Leave vote.

Hammond said that if a future government that was seeking to leave without a deal faced a confidence vote in parliament, he would vote in what he felt was the national interest.

"I've been in parliament for 22 years and I have never once voted against the Conservative whip so it's not something I would do lightly or enthusiastically. But I am very clear that the national interest trumps the party interest," Hammond said.

Agencies



Britain's Finance Minister Philip Hammond

Egypt's coordination with Libya brings key anti-terror gains

CAIRO

IN the early hours of Wednesday, almost all Egyptian TV channels were airing the landing of one of Egypt's most wanted terrorists, handcuffed and blindfolded, at Cairo airport after being extradited from Libya.

The extradition of Hisham al-Ashmawi, an Egyptian former military officer who turned militant with links to al-Qaida, is one of the gains achieved by Egypt during its anti-terror war that started following the military ouster of former President Mohamed Morsi in early July 2013.

"Ashmawi's handover is very important to Egypt, as he is expected to reveal information to the Egyptian security forces about the operations he carried out in the country," said Tarek Fahmy, a political science professor at Cairo University.

Ashmawi, head of al-Qaida-linked Ansar al-Islam group, is a big catch for Egypt, as the 41-year-old man was sentenced to death in absentia over involvement in terror operations and ambushes that killed dozens of Egyptian policemen, soldiers and Copts over the past few years.

He is also believed to be behind an assassination attempt in 2013 that targeted an Egyptian former interior minister.

"Ashmawi's extradition will lead to stronger relation between Egypt and Khalifa Haftar, the commander of Libyan National Army (LNA)," the professor told Xinhua.

Ashmawi was captured by Haftar's troops in October last year.

Egypt's political leadership led by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi is a supporter of Haftar's LNA, which has for two months been launching military operations to take the Libyan capital Tripoli, which was held by the internationally-recognized Government of National Accord.

Haftar visited Egypt twice this year in less than a month, on April 14 and May 9.

During his last visit to Cairo, Sisi expressed "Egypt's support for the efforts of fighting terrorism and extremist groups and militias to achieve security and stability in Libya."

He also stressed support for "the role of the Libyan military institution to restore the elements of legitimacy and pave the way for reaching political solutions."

Fahmy said that Ashmawi's handover by Libya asserts Egypt's strong presence in the Libyan scene.

"It reflects the depth of the Egyptian relations with the LNA led by Haftar and their continuous coordination in fighting terrorism," he told Xinhua.

Amid growing ties between the Egyptian and the Libyan armies, Haftar secures Egypt's support at the regional and international levels and Egypt enjoys better security conditions on its western borders with Libya, where most militants infiltrated to the Egyptian Western Desert to carry out terrorist attacks.

"The extradition of Ashmawi came in the light of the strong and distinguished relations between Egypt and Haftar, who visited Egypt more than once and whose policy to free Libya of terrorists is supported by Egypt," said Egyptian security expert and former military general Gamal Mazloum.

"The Libyan move will deter terrorists abroad and make them think that they could end up like this," he told Xinhua.

Egypt has been fighting a wave of terrorist activities that killed hundreds of policemen, soldiers and civilians since the army removed Morsi in 2013 in response to mass protests against his one-year controversial rule and his currently outlawed Muslim Brotherhood group, which is considered by the current Egyptian leadership as the "source of all terrorism."

On the other hand, Libya has been engaged in a civil war since the 2011 ouster and death of former leader Muammar Gaddafi, which eventually divided the country into two governments, a UN-backed one in Tripoli and a parliament-backed, military-oriented one in Tobruk.

Kamal Amer, head of the Defense and National Security Committee in the Egyptian parliament, described Ashmawi as "a treasure" for the Egyptian security apparatuses due to the classified information he has about terrorist organizations.

"Ashmawi is one of the most dangerous leading terrorists and his extradition to Egypt is a painful blow to terrorist organizations as he will have to disclose confidential information about terrorist cells in Egypt," the Egyptian senior lawmaker said in a recent statement. Xinhua



It reflects the depth of the Egyptian relations with the LNA led by Haftar and their continuous coordination in fighting terrorism

Israel faces new elections after parliament dissolves

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL embarked yesterday on an unprecedented snap election campaign – the second this year – after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to form a governing coalition and instead dramatically dissolved parliament.

In what seemed an improbable scenario just days ago, Israel's newly elected Knesset dissolved itself in an early morning 74-45 vote and set a new election date for Sept 17.

The parliament's disbanding comes just a month after it was sworn in and sets the stage for a second election in the same year – a first in Israeli history.

The developments were a shocking setback for Netanyahu (pictured), who had appeared to secure a comfortable win in last month's election. But he was unable to build a parliamentary majority because his traditional ally, Avigdor Lieberman, refused to bring his Yisrael Beiteinu faction into the coalition.

Netanyahu, who has led Israel for the past decade, now faces

another challenge to his lengthy rule. It comes as he prepares for a pre-indictment hearing before criminal charges are expected to be filed against him in a series of corruption cases.

Assuming they would sweep into power again, Netanyahu's allies in the ruling Likud Party had already begun drafting a contentious bill aimed at granting him immunity from the various corruption charges awaiting him. He was also looking to push legislation limiting the power of Israel's Supreme Court and paving his path to several more years in office.

But it was a separate issue that sparked the extraordinary crisis, and for the first time ever thrust Israel into a repeat election before a new government was even formed.

Lieberman – a veteran nationalist yet secular politician – demanded that current legislation mandating that young ultra-Orthodox men be drafted into the military run its course.

Years of exemptions for ultra-Orthodox men have gener-



ated widespread resentment among the rest of Jewish Israelis who serve. The ultra-Orthodox, backed by Netanyahu, refused to bend and the showdown quickly devolved into a full-blown crisis that imploded the perspective government.

"The public chose me, and Lieberman, unfortunately, deceived his voters. From the beginning he had no intention to do what he said," Netanyahu said after the vote, accusing Lieberman of aligning with "the left."

"He made one demand after another and every time his demand was met, he raised another one," Netanyahu also said, adding that

Lieberman "clearly wanted to topple the government for his own personal reasons."

Lieberman, a former top aide to Netanyahu who for two decades has alternated between a close alliance and bitter rivalry with his former boss, retorted that the new election was indeed unfortunate but a result of Netanyahu's caving in to the ultra-Orthodox.

"This is a complete surrender of Likud to the ultra-Orthodox," he said.

Though a staunch hard-liner who has drawn accusations of racism, Lieberman also champions a secular agenda aimed toward his core political base of immigrants from the former Soviet Union. He has pledged to confront efforts of ultra-Orthodox parties to impose their lifestyle on the country's secular majority, earning him some centrist support as well.

In contrast to Netanyahu's deal-making pragmatism, Lieberman has earned a reputation as a maverick willing to break from his traditional ideological bloc – and this time he dug in.

The new election gives the anti-

Netanyahu forces in Israel, led by Blue and White leader Benny Gantz, another shot at toppling the longtime leader. It also complicates Netanyahu's efforts to pass the proposed bills to protect himself from prosecution.

Even if Netanyahu wins the election, it is unlikely he will be able to form a government and lock down the required political support for an immunity deal before an expected indictment. That would force him to stand trial, and in turn put heavy pressure on him to step aside. No one in Likud has yet challenged him publicly.

The political uncertainty could also spell trouble for the White House's Mideast peace efforts. The U.S. has scheduled a conference next month in Bahrain to unveil what it says is the first phase of its peace plan, an initiative aimed at drawing investment into the Palestinian territories.

The Trump administration had vowed to unveil its plan after the Israeli election and it's unclear how the current political shakeup will affect that rollout.

Agencies

US threatens sanctions against European allies for trade with Iran - report

WASHINGTON

THE United States has sent a warning to its European allies that they might face sanctions if the financial vehicle they set up for sustaining trade with Iran goes into effect, U.S. media reported on Wednesday.

Britain, France, and Germany announced in January the creation of

INSTEX (Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges), which is a new mechanism for facilitating trade with Iran in order to preserve the Iran nuclear deal.

In her letter to INSTEX President Per Fischer on May 7, U.S. Under Secretary of Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, Sigal Mandelker, suggested that INSTEX, as well as anyone associated with

it, could be barred from the U.S. financial system if it goes into effect, according to Bloomberg that obtained the letter.

"I urge you to carefully consider the potential sanctions exposure of INSTEX," Mandelker wrote in the letter. "Engaging in activities that run afoul of U.S. sanctions can result in severe consequences, including a loss of access to the U.S.

financial system."

An anonymous U.S. official, who is familiar with the matter, revealed that the letter was intended to serve as a warning that Washington would punish anyone associated with INSTEX if they were working to set up a program to help Iran evade U.S. sanctions, the report said. The European Union's top diplomat Federica Mogherini said ear-

lier this month that she discussed with foreign ministers of France, Germany and Britain the ways to sidestep U.S. sanctions and facilitate trade with Iran.

"We discussed the ways in which we can further advance, for instance, on the operationalization of INSTEX to have transactions in the hopefully next few weeks," Mogherini said. Xinhua

Nigerians call for new solutions to old challenges as Buhari takes oath for 2nd term

ABUJA

NIGERIAN President Muhammadu Buhari on Wednesday took the oath of office at a low-key ceremony for a second consecutive term, and experts are calling for concrete and concerted efforts from the leadership to bring the most populous African nation to the "next level" of development and prosperity.

The country's prospects remain bright, given its huge reserves of human capital and natural resources, but there are old challenges in need of new and practical solutions, experts have said. Charles Onunajiu, a political analyst, urged the new government to take measures that can pro-

duce sustainable results.

"We have to find a way of engaging serious policy outcomes. We do hope that this new government can muster the insight to build that kind of framework that can deliver sustainable results in the long run," Onunajiu said.

Finding a way of appropriating Nigeria's intellectual capital, which is not in short supply, and putting them to use, pulling people out of poverty, taking measures to arrest some of the excessive social misadventures, rein in the political class and their greed, among others, are some of the ways of putting the country and its citizens on the next level, according to Onunajiu.

"To do all these, we need a new way of

thinking, a new way of doing things and a new way of addressing problems. If this is done, then we can begin to see prospective areas of improvement," he said.

To most of the citizens, an improved economy, broadly-developed social intervention programs, enhanced security, and infrastructural development are some of the areas that can take the country to the next level.

Olusola Oke, a lawyer, said the first four years of President Buhari in the saddle have been eventful, tough and delivered landmarks for the nation.

There were high and low moments, too, Oke noted. "What is evident is that the issue of our economy, special intervention

programs and budgetary discipline amidst complex security challenges have enjoyed some attention."

According to the legal luminary, the next four years are expected to mark the beginning of a more concerted effort of the government in the area of the desired growth of the economy at large. "It will take time but we shall certainly get there," he said. In 2016, Nigeria slipped into recession a year after Buhari took office in May 2015 and exited recession at it returned to growth in 2017.

In March, 2017, the government introduced the Economy Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), a national plan aimed at diversifying the economy as well as laying

the foundation for sustainable economic development.

Solomon Dalung, a former sports minister, told Xinhua he expects to see an improvement in the economy in no distant time. This, aided by massive infrastructural development across the country, is an integral part of the government's blueprint to take the country to a new level of prosperity, he noted. "There is going to be so much happening in the economy."

There is going to be so much happening in infrastructural development, too. And then, there is going to be so much happening in security because the president believes that securing Nigeria is his primary responsibility," Dalung said.

So far, the military under Buhari's command has clearly made the Boko Haram terror group less effective than they were four years ago when he became president and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

However, banditry and kidnapping for ransom across Nigeria, including the capital Abuja, are on the rise recently. Deadly attacks by herdsmen have also become a cause for worry lately.

Michael Ogbonnaya, a businessman, said the government must renew its efforts at tackling insecurity in parts of the country. "I know the government is working to ensure that Nigerians move freely without fear." Xinhua



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa gestures moment before announcing the composition of the national executive at the Union Buildings on Wednesday in Pretoria, South Africa. (AFP)

S.Africa's Ramaphosa retains Mboweni, Gordhan in cabinet

PRETORIA/JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa on Wednesday retained Tito Mboweni as finance minister in a new, leaner cabinet, following on from a pre-election pledge to reform and revive an ailing economy and attract foreign investors.

Ramaphosa, who was sworn in as South Africa's president on Saturday for his first full five-year term, trimmed the cabinet from 36 ministers to 28.

That will serve as an early barometer of his ability to push through change more efficiently, having struggled to implement tough reforms since he succeeded scandal-plagued Jacob Zuma last year.

"All South Africans are acutely aware of the great economic difficulties our country has been experiencing and the constraints this has placed on public finances," he said in a televised national address.

"It is therefore imperative that in all areas and spheres of government, we place priority on revitalizing our economy while exercising the greatest care in the use of public funds."

Analysts described Ramaphosa's cabinet picks as a market-friendly outcome that maintains important allies in key ministries while sidelining some top officials in the ruling African National Congress accused of corruption and mismanagement.

"In all, the cabinet appointments announced tonight speak of a new confidence in the Ramaphosa administration," said Razia Khan, chief Africa economist at Standard Chartered Bank.

"Should this momentum and seemingly new-found confidence be built on with the pursuit of further structural reform, then markets would be correct to react positively."

Some analysts, however, expressed concern over the number of deputy ministers, which remained at above 30.

"Trimming the size of cabinet by the size he did is a strong message, but creating so many deputy ministries is a problem. So no, it's not enough yet," said Ralph Matheka, an independent political analyst.

The immediate task of the new cabinet will be to help Ramaphosa revive Africa's most industrialized economy and preserve its last investment-grade credit rating.

Ramaphosa's long to-do list also includes generating jobs, acting against entrenched corruption in and outside the ANC, resolving policy uncertainty in the mining sector and speeding up reforms of power utility Eskom and other state-owned entities.

FAMILIAR FACES

Markets are likely to welcome the reappointment of Mboweni, a former central bank governor who is well respected by investors. He was first appointed to the finance ministry in October and has spoken out about trimming government spending and selling some state companies that are acting as a drain on public finances.

Ramaphosa's decision not to reappoint some senior ANC figures who have been tainted by scandal is also expected to win praise from investors. They include the former minister for women, Bathabile Dlamini, who serves as president of the ANC women's league and is considered a staunch ally of Zuma. She has denied any wrongdoing.

But investors will scrutinize Ramaphosa's decision to retain David Mabuza as deputy president. Last week, Mabuza had requested a delay in his swearing-in to parliament to clear his name before an ANC integrity commission, following allegations of impropriety during his decade-long premiership of the mineral-rich eastern Mpumalanga province. He too has denied all wrongdoing.

Mabuza was finally sworn in on Tuesday after he was cleared by the ANC of bringing the party into disrepute, weakening the rand.

The currency extended its losses early on Wednesday, in part reflecting worries that Mabuza could taint Ramaphosa's reform agenda, but recovered in late trade after the cabinet announcement.

Ramaphosa kept on Pravin Gordhan as public enterprises minister. The ministry oversees state-owned companies including Eskom. The management of Eskom's restructuring is key to reviving the economy after power cuts in the past year undermined broader efforts to kick-start growth.

His appointment is, however, likely to face criticism from opposition parties after the country's anti-graft watchdog found Gordhan acted improperly in granting an early pension payout to a revenue service executive when he was finance minister. Gordhan is challenging the findings in court.

The president also appointed Gwede Mantashe as mining and energy minister after combining the two ministries. Mantashe previously headed the mining ministry. Naledi Pandor, previously higher education minister, was appointed as foreign affairs minister.

Half of the new cabinet are women, making South Africa one of three African countries with Rwanda and Ethiopia to achieve gender parity among ministers, according to UN Women.

Agencies

ROK fires diplomat leaking Moon-Trump phone talks

SEOUL

THE Republic of Korea (ROK)'s foreign ministry yesterday fired a diplomat who leaked the classified content of phone conversations between ROK President Moon Jae-in and US President Donald Trump earlier this month.

The ministry's disciplinary committee meeting was held earlier in the day, deciding to fire the diplomat at the ROK embassy in Washington, according to local media reports.

The diplomat leaked the detail



US President Donald Trump (left) and the Republic of Korea's President Moon Jae-in

of the confidential Moon-Trump phone conversation to Khang Hyo-shang, a lawmaker of the main con-

servative opposition Liberty Korea Party.

Khang disclosed the detailed description of the conversation, classified as a level-3 secret, at a press conference.

President Moon bluntly criticized the lawmaker and the opposition party for using the diplomatic secret as a source of political fights during the cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Trump would visit Seoul late June on his trip to Asia to attend the Group of 20 (G20) summit in Osaka, Japan, according to the ROK presidential Blue House. **Agencies**



UK PM hopeful Johnson to face court over Brexit 'lies'

LONDON

BORIS Johnson, front-runner in the race to replace Theresa May as Britain's next prime minister, heard Wednesday he is to face a court hearing on claims he lied during the campaign in the run up to the 2016 Brexit referendum.

The papers presented to the court in London claim that Johnson repeatedly lied and misled the British public as to the cost of EU membership, expressly stating, endorsing or inferring that it was 350 million British pounds (441.9 million U.S. dollars) a week.

"The application is a (political) stunt. Its true purpose is not that it should succeed, but that it should be made at all. And made with as much public fanfare as the prosecution can engender," said Johnson's submission.

If convicted of charges of misconduct in public office, the former foreign secretary could be sent to prison.

District Judge Margot Coleman at Westminster Magistrates' Court in London announced Wednesday that a summons is to be issued against Johnson to appear before the court on a date yet to be announced.

If the Magistrates' Court at a preliminary hearing decides there is a case to answer, it will be referred to the higher Crown Court.

The case against Johnson has been brought by private prosecutor Marcus Ball -- a rare occurrence in British law.

Ball's lawyers presented papers to the court claiming Johnson had deliberately misled the public during the Brexit referendum campaign in 2016 and then repeated the statement during the 2017 snap general election called by Theresa May.

Johnson's supporters have described the case as a political stunt and an attack on free speech in Britain.

The judge said in her findings that the allegations made against Johnson are "unproven accusations," adding that "I do not make any findings of fact." **Agencies**

Mueller's final statement could bring Democrats closer to impeachment

WASHINGTON

IN his final statement on the report that has sparked controversy for two years, U.S. Special Counsel Robert Mueller Wednesday signaled the possibility that President Donald Trump committed a crime, but stopped short of saying it definitively.

If we had "confidence that the president clearly did not commit a crime, we would have said so," Mueller said at a press conference. Mueller added that he found "insufficient evidence to charge a broader conspiracy" on whether there was interference in the election, and announced that he would step down.

Mueller's statements seemed to indicate he suspected wrongdoing but could not prove it, prompting some key Democrats to ratchet up calls to impeach Trump.

"The next step is for the House Judiciary Committee to open an impeachment inquiry to formally begin consideration of whether or not articles of impeachment should be filed," said David Cicilline, a member of the Judiciary panel. "The opening of this inquiry will allow the committee to collect evidence, compel the attendance of witnesses, and decide how to proceed."

The Mueller investigation -- which sought to find evidence that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia to clinch the 2016 elections -- took nearly two years and was concluded several months ago without finding a smoking gun.

Democrats, however, are still convinced that Trump committed a crime, and continue to investigate. House Judiciary Chairman Jerrold Nadler said the Muller report "found substantial evidence that Russia attacked our political system and that the president sought to obstruct Mueller's investigation over and over again."

"He said that the 'Constitution points to Congress to take action to hold the president accountable,'" signaling that Democrats may consider impeachment, although falling short of actually calling



US Special Counsel Robert Mueller speaks at the US Department of Justice in Washington, on Wednesday. (AP)

for such proceedings to begin.

"Given that Special Counsel Mueller was unable to pursue criminal charges against the president, it falls to Congress to respond to the crimes, lies and other wrongdoing of President Trump -- and we will do so," Nadler added.

In response, White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders told reporters Wednesday that Team Trump is "always prepared" for an impeachment fight, "but I don't think the American people deserve that." "Every single minute that Congress spends on that, we're not spending on infrastructure," or myriad other domestic and international issues that demand White House attention, she said.

"Every single thing that they are doing is taking away from things that could help the American people," she added.

Though calls for impeachment are heightened, analysts said an impeachment could well galvanize Trump's base and tamp up support for him like never before, and could thus cause the impeachment to backfire.

"I think Democrats will be cautious about impeachment because they know

it will mobilize the Republican base and help Trump in the 2020 elections," Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Darrell West told Xinhua.

Trump's supporters view the Mueller report as a political witch hunt, and identify Trump as an anti-establishment figure who is fighting for them while Washington elites try to derail him. Christopher Galdieri, assistant professor at Saint Anselm College, told Xinhua it's clear that Mueller believes Trump "committed acts that obstructed justice." "But Mueller feels bound by the (U.S. Department of Justice) policy that a sitting president cannot be indicted," Galdieri said.

Republican Strategist and TV news personality Ford O'Connell told Xinhua: "We didn't hear anything that wasn't in the report and contrary to the fanfare in the media, Mueller didn't say Trump was guilty of anything." "In our legal system you are innocent until proven guilty," he added, noting that hard proof and facts are required in the U.S. rule-of-law system. "What he's done here is to throw Democrats a political bone," O'Connell said of Mueller. **Xinhua**

China says US to blame for rising trade tensions

BEIJING

THE US government is the one to blame for its self-contradictory actions that have led to escalating trade frictions with China, the Ministry of Commerce said yesterday.

The US government has been sending self-contradictory signals by saying that the two countries will soon reach an agreement and then saying that it is not ready, said Gao Feng, the ministry's spokesman.

US President Donald Trump said on Monday in Japan that Washington isn't ready to strike a trade deal with China, but he's leaving open the possibility that the two nations could reach an agreement someday.

Gao said it is hard not to cast doubts on the sincerity of the US.

He added that the escalation of the trade dispute has seriously undermined the basis for further talks and



the US is the one to blame.

"Cooperation has principles, and the bottom line needs to be drawn during negotiations," he said. "China will not compromise on major issues."

All foreign companies' legitimate rights will be protected by the Chinese government, the spokesman said.

In response to a question about whether China would take certain actions against Apple Inc after the US government restricted Huawei's busi-

ness operations, which has harmed the interests of companies and financial markets on both sides, Gao said the legitimate rights and interests of all foreign enterprises in China will be protected by the Chinese government.

China will stand firmly on further opening-up and reform, as well as creating a stable, predictable and fair commercial environment for all businesses operating in China, he said.

When asked if China will stop exporting rare earth materials to the

US, Gao said China has been the world's largest supplier of rare earth materials and has always been keen to meet the demand of its trade partners on this material to promote the rare earth industry.

But he said China will not allow any countries to use rare earth materials to make products that will suppress China's development.

The Trump administration has raised tariffs on Chinese goods and restricted Huawei's business operation in the US.

"While satisfying domestic demand, China is always willing to fulfill other countries' rightful needs for rare earth materials," he said. "But if any country plans to use the rare earth materials that China exports to make products that will suppress China's development, it is not acceptable." **Xinhua**

Africa free trade deal brings more opportunities for cooperation with China - ambassador

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement which was expected to take effect from yesterday will help forge closer economic and trade ties with China, said Chinese ambassador to the African Union (AU).

China welcomes progress in building the free trade area, support Africa to advance interconnectivity and is ready to work with Africa to promote the free

trade regime, said Liu Yuxi, head of the Chinese Mission to the AU.

"Unimpeded trade and facilities connectivity are the core content of the joint construction of the Belt and Road by China and Africa," Liu said, adding that "the two sides are expected to build closer economic and trade ties by developing the free trade area and promoting the Belt and Road cooperation."

China has been Africa's biggest trading partner for 10 consecutive years, with an accumulated

investment of over 110 billion U.S. dollars in the continent.

Positive results have been achieved in the joint construction of the Belt and Road in recent years. China has signed memorandums of understanding with 39 African countries and the AU Commission. Cooperation with China has substantially advanced Africa's economic and social development.

The Belt and Road Initiative, proposed by China in 2013, refers to the Silk Road Economic Belt

and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road which are designed to build a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe, Africa and beyond.

The AfCFTA Agreement was approved by 22 countries last month, meeting the minimum threshold for it to take effect and is set to enter into force on May 30.

It has laid the foundation for what could be the world's largest free trade zone by the number of participating countries, cover-

ing more than 1.2 billion people with a combined gross domestic product of 2.5 trillion dollars.

"It is a milestone in Africa which has in recent years been upholding the banner of unity and promoting economic integration," Liu said.

The agreement is expected to promote the free flow of commodities, services, capital and people, by lowering tariffs and trade barriers, which is of great significance for Africa's economic transition and enhancing its

status in global trade and value chain. Given the rising sentiment of anti-globalization, protectionism and unilateralism, the AfCFTA will boost global trade facilitation and liberalization, and inject new impetus to promoting an open world economy, the ambassador said.

He highlighted Chinese companies' contribution to the development of China-Africa relations, saying the AfCFTA will inject new vitality into upgrading bilateral cooperation and im-

proving its quality and efficiency. China and Africa are implementing the outcomes of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Belt and Road cooperation, Liu said, adding that China is willing to share development opportunities with Africa and help Africa accelerate industrialization, urbanization and agriculture modernization, in order to achieve win-win results and common development. **Xinhua**

The Guardian

SPORT



Roger Federer

Federer feels the love in Paris

PARIS

IF Roger Federer wondered how much he means to the French Open he got his answer after a clinically efficient, yet still eye-catching, second-round win over German Oscar Otte on Wednesday.

After closing out his 6-4 6-3 6-4 victory with a signature stroke of magic, a silky backhand drop volley played on the walk from mid-court, the Court Philippe Chatrier crowd rose as one.

After a warm handshake with 144th-ranked Otte, who played admirably in the biggest match of his career, Federer milked the applause as the fans broke out into a chant of "Roger, Roger".

Later, pandemonium broke out in the concourse outside the media centre as the 20-times Grand Slam champion, who skipped the last three editions of the claycourt showpiece, headed for his post-match duties through hordes of fans.

"It makes me happy because I see that people are crazy about tennis. They have a lot of desire to see me play, to see me win, to see me several times more," the 37-year-old told reporters.

"It gives me a lot of energy. When you have that atmosphere, you feel that people are excited to see you, to follow you, they chant your name, and it was not even a five-set match, it was a match with Otte, 144 in the world. It's very rare."

Federer claimed his one and only French Open title 10 years ago. When injury prevented him playing in 2016, then he opted to skip the claycourt swing altogether in 2017 and 2018 to avoid injuries, it seemed his competitive days in Paris were over.

Whatever the future holds, however, his return is clearly not just for sentimental reasons.

The third seed has won all six sets he has played so far this week and looks imperious. Anyone assuming the fortnight will culminate with a battle between Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic might have jumped the gun.

WORST-CASE SCENARIO

"I must say I feel really good considering I haven't played here in that long," Federer said.

"Especially if I think back a few weeks and months ago before Madrid, didn't know how successful I was going to play or how I was going to feel on the clay.

"Honestly I was looking at a worst-case scenario, losing first round in Madrid and then somehow having a tough draw here as well and not getting past the first-round hurdle."

One reporter remarked that Federer's kit, pale brown shorts and light cream shirt with a brown stripe, made him look like a delivery driver for a well-known courier company.

It is not as exotic as many of the kits on display this week, but then Federer can make anything look good.

"It was more trying to go back in time a little bit to the '70s, you know, and haven't worn brown ever and cream," he said.

"Maybe more vintage looking."

Federer keeps rolling back the clock on court and his display on Wednesday was sublime.

Otte, a lucky loser from the qualifying draw playing only his third Grand Slam main-draw match, was the perfect prop.

With his aggressive strokes he offered enough threat to keep things interesting and admirably stuck with Federer.

He could never really lay a glove on the Swiss master though and Federer timed his changes of gear to perfection.

Neither player had seen a break point through the first nine games but Federer pressed hard with his opponent serving at 4-5 and converted his first set point.

It was a similar story in the second set. Federer breaking in the eighth game with a volley before holding for a two-set lead. When Otte served at 4-4 in the third set you knew what was coming and so it proved as Federer set up a clash Norway's 63rd-ranked Casper Ruud.

REUTERS

DC's go-go sound becomes anti-gentrification battle cry

WASHINGTON

IT'S the soundtrack of "Chocolate City," the non-federal Washington that has traditionally been a tent pole of black America.

Go-go music, a distinctive D.C.-specific offshoot of funk, has endured for decades through cultural shifts, fluctuations in popularity and law enforcement purges.

Now go-go has taken on a new mantle: battle hymn for the fight against a gentrification wave that's reshaping the city.

"It's a very deep cultural thing," said Justin "Yaddiya" Johnson, an activist and creator of the #Don'tMuteDC campaign. "When you think about go-go, you should think about D.C. culture. It should be the symbol of our culture."

Many longtime Washingtonians fear that culture is being steadily eroded as the city becomes whiter and richer. A recent controversy over an innocuous noise complaint placed go-go at the center of a perfect storm of gentrification symbolism.

The owner of a popular mobile phone store in the historically black Shaw neighborhood was told to turn off the go-go that he had been playing through sidewalk speakers for more than 20 years. He claims the complaint came from a resident of the gleaming new mixed-used apartment building erected on the next block.

The reaction was fierce. Seemingly overnight, a protest movement and petition drive sprung up and members of the D.C. Council started weighing in. Within days, the decision was reversed.

The mini-controversy was over almost before it started. But it obviously touched a nerve.

"I think that was messed up. Go-go is DC. Go-go is our history," said community activist Tiffany Richardson, one of the thousands of fans who turned out on a Tuesday night this month for an outdoor concert/protest featuring go-go mainstays Backyard Band. "They're not going to stop go-go."

The concert, mischievously named "Moechella," was organized by Johnson under the #Don'tMuteDC banner. And since it was a protest, he didn't need to secure a permit, so police obligingly blocked off several city blocks. The location – the corner of 14th and U streets – was no accident. That intersection was once one of the hearts of black D.C.; now it's within two blocks of a Trader Joe's and a lululemon.

To the uninitiated, go-go music seems indistinguishable from funk. What sets it apart are a specific conga-driven syncopation, known as the pocket beat, and a culture of call-and-response that turns the crowd into part of the



In this image provided by Akil Ransome, Moechella music rally at the corner of 14th and U street NW in Washington, Tuesday, May 7, 2019. Go-go music, a distinctive Washington DC-specific offshoot of funk, has endured for decades through cultural shifts, fluctuations in popularity and law enforcement purges. Now go-go has taken on a new mantle: battle hymn for the fight against a gentrification wave that's reshaping the city. (AP)

show. Go-go bands feature multiple percussionists and often multiple vocalists – with one usually designated as "lead talker."

"It's the drumming it's the rhythm pattern. It's the feel of the rhythm," said Liza Figueroa Kravinsky, founder of the band Go-Go Symphony. "In go-go, the fans know who the conga player is more than the guitar player."

The late Chuck Brown is generally considered the godfather of the sound, starting in the early 1970s. And bands like Rare Essence and Trouble Funk have all flirted with mainstream success, but there has never been a full-scale breakout star. Probably the most famous go-go song is "Da Butt" by Experience Unlimited, which was showcased in the Spike Lee film "School Daze."

While the music retains a local fanbase, musicians and devotees say the scene is still recovering from the effects of the crack epidemic, which ravaged Washington and turned go-go shows into magnets for violence. Eventually police began shutting down famous clubs like the Ibox in 1990s and forcing the shows out of the city.

Anwan "Big G" Glover, lead talker of Backyard Band, still recalls the time with bitterness. Authorities blamed the music for drawing violence when he says go-go was simply the ambient soundtrack of a city in crisis.

"Those rave parties in the suburbs with these rich kids – if anything happened there, they could just cover it up. That was the difference," he said.

The purge was especially damaging because go-go is all about live performances. Glover and others say there's a missing generation of fans who weren't exposed to live go-go in their youth.

"The reason a lot of kids don't know about go-go is that it's been erased," said Angela Byrd, founder of "Made in the DMV" incubator for local artists and activists. She was speaking at a recent #Don'tMuteDC conference. "I feel like go-go was pushed out, but it's coming back."

This official mistrust has continued. As recently as 2010 the alternative weekly City Paper published the Metropolitan Police Department's bi-weekly internal "go-go report" tracking all the shows in the area.

Glover says the attitudes of the police have eased a bit in recent years and Backyard Band and others now play regular shows around the district. But there's still a shortage of the all-ages shows that used to be the main gateway for young new fans. That age gap was evident during one of Backyard Band's recent shows at a bowling alley in Chinatown. The concert drew a healthy crowd of about 150 people – many of whom were obvious hardcore fans who knew every song by heart. But almost everybody seemed

to be at least 35 years old.

Now the renewed attention comes at a time when go-go may organically be approaching one of its periodic flirtations with mainstream popularity.

Glover has gained personal fame for a memorable recurring role as Slim Charles on the popular TV show "The Wire." Artists as diverse as Snoop Dog and Dave Grohl from Foo Fighters have paid public tribute to the genre. Rare Essence and Backyard Band have both performed at the South by Southwest music festival and Backyard Band recently scored an improbable hit with a go-go cover of Adele's "Hello." Wale, the most famous Washington rapper, pays regular homage to go-go and recorded a song with TCB, purveyors of a neo-go-go sound called bounce-beat.

But local musicians still feel authorities have kept the culture at arms-length. They want to see the District government embrace go-go the way Chicago has done with blues and New Orleans with jazz. They want a go-go museum, a hall of fame and go-go landmark-themed tours.

Glover says District politicians tend to rediscover their affection for go-go during election season.

"They love us at campaign rally time," he laughed. "They know that's the only way to bring people out."

AP

What's in a name? You say French Open; I say Roland Garros

PARIS

SERENA Williams and Roger Federer would love to win the French Open again, of course. They'd also be thrilled to win Roland Garros. And they might not know it, but they are doing their best to triumph at what used to officially be the Championnats Internationaux de France, too.

What's in a name? Things get complicated when it comes to deciding what to call the clay-court Grand Slam tournament being contested now on the southwestern edge of Paris.

English-speakers tend to say "French Open," even though that's not used by the event itself. Most of the rest of the world refers to "Roland Garros," the tournament facility named after a World War I fighter pilot.

Williams, an American with an apartment in Paris, and Federer, who is Swiss, are comfortable speaking English and French, so they say both versions. But what hardly ever is uttered – by Williams, Federer or anyone else – is

the event's original name, which translates to "International Championships of France."

That French phrase is etched on the silver trophies that will be handed to the singles champions on June 8-9. A green board showing a bracket with each day's results in white chalk says "Internationaux de France 2019."

Based on interviews with several players and coaches, though, nobody seems to know that name.

"Yo," said Denis Shapovalov, a Canadian ranked in the top 25, "I've never even heard that."

Maybe that's why the French Tennis Federation, which operates the tournament, wants the world to use "Roland Garros" – or, more precisely, "Roland-Garros," owing to the country's style of hyphenating places named after people. It asked media outlets, including The Associated Press, to use "Roland-Garros," rather than "French Open."

It's "Roland Garros" that's stamped on the tennis balls and court walls. It's festooned on hats,



FILE - In this May 23, 2019, file photo, the names "Roland Garros" and the original tournament name "Internationaux de France" can be seen during the draw of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris. English-speakers tend to go with "French Open," even though that's not used by the event itself. Most of the rest of the world says "Roland Garros," which is the facility that hosts the tournament and is named in memory of a World War I fighter pilot. But what hardly ever is uttered is the original name of the tournament "Internationaux de France," which translates to "International Championships of France." (AP Photo)

shirts and other items sold in merchandise boutiques.

The term "French Open" derives from when Grand Slam tennis tournaments became "open" to professionals in 1968 – as in "U.S. Open" or "Australian Open" – but it is not found on-site in Paris. Oddly enough, the English version of the tournament's online store does hawk what it calls a "vial of French Open clay" for \$22 or 20 euros (the French version calls it "terre battue Roland-Garros").

"The organizers clearly want everyone to refer to the tournament as 'Roland-Garros,'" federation spokesman Nicolas Beaudelin said, "because this is ... where the tournament is played."

Think of it as akin to referring to the Masters golf tournament as "Augusta National."

Most sporting events go by one name. The Super Bowl is the Super Bowl. The World Series is, well, the World Series. The NBA Finals are just that. Same for the Final Four. There

are exceptions, to be sure, but not many. The folks who run Wimbledon ("The Championships") and golf's British Open ("The Open Championship") have a hard time getting the globe to adopt their preferred monikers.

Tennis is an international sport: 42 countries were represented in the 2019 men's draw in Paris, 35 in the women's. English is generally the lingua franca on tour, but the lone Grand Slam tournament held where that's not the primary language is proud of the distinction.

Chair umpires call out scores in French, for example. "Deuce" at the other majors becomes "Egalité" in Paris. The score "Forty-Three" becomes "Quarante-Trente." And so on.

This is, after all, a land where the incursion of English into daily life bothers some and, over the years, the government has moved to ban foreign words from official documents, advertising and

elsewhere.

Players know there is no easier way to endear oneself to the spectators than to sprinkle post-match interview responses with the occasional French word. Indeed, it's become de rigueur for champions – from Jim Courier to Rafael Nadal, from Novak Djokovic to Federer and Williams – to deliver victory speeches in what the hosts like to call "la langue de Molière," referring to the 17th century writer.

Still, there doesn't seem to be any getting around what Tommy Paul, an American who won the 2015 junior title, observed: "When you watch it on TV in the States, it's always 'French Open.'"

After 2016 Olympic gold medalist Monica Puig, who represents Puerto Rico, reached the second round this week, she referenced "Roland Garros" during a session with Spanish-speaking reporters, then switched to "French Open" while being interviewed in English.

Emery wants Arsenal to trust process after loss

BAKU

ARSENAL manager Unai Emery expressed disappointment in the team's 4-1 loss to Chelsea in the Europa League final but asked fans to continue to trust the process.

After a goalless first half, Arsenal saw their Champions League dream evaporate in the first 20 minutes of the second half, as goals from Olivier Giroud, Pedro and a send-off penalty from Eden Hazard saw Chelsea run out to a 3-0 lead.

Alex Iwobi pulled one back with a brilliant volley into the top-right corner but Hazard answered just three minutes later to make it 4-1 and squash any comeback hopes in Baku.

"The first half we were in the match with possibilities. We didn't concede too many chances to them, with one good save from Petr Cech," Emery said. "We wanted to carry on our game plan and take our chances when they came. But they scored the first goal. The first goal was very important in this match because, afterwards, we needed to play with calm but we made some mistakes.

"They have very good players to make use of these mistakes, and efficiently score. After the second goal, it was even more difficult."

Arsenal have lost their last four major European finals, with their sole continental win (excluding Super Cups) coming 25 years ago -- a 1994 European Cup Winners' Cup win over Parma.

"We knew it would be difficult, and we are in our process. I want to say to all the supporters, we are in this process," Emery said. "Really the first target has not been

achieved this year, but I think we are closer: firstly in the Premier League, and secondly in this competition, playing this final. Next year is a big challenge to take one more step in our way, in our will with young players."

For Emery, his first year in charge of Arsenal ends without any silverware and no hopes of Champions League football. The Spaniard won three straight Europa League titles while in charge of Sevilla.

"Next year is a big challenge to take one more step in our way, in our will with young players. We are disappointed today but, in general, I think we made a new step improving and being competitive. We'll need to make one more step next year."

Emery admitted the loss and absence of Champions League play could affect the team's transfer strategy, but wouldn't specify on any potential signings or exits.

"We need to analyse, speak with the club, speak with the players, and do one step more in our way. But our idea is to continue carrying on improving with the young players who arrived last year. Maybe some players need to leave, to take a new way. But it's not the moment to speak about that."

Among those players departing Arsenal this summer include Aaron Ramsey and Danny Welbeck. Mesut Ozil could also be on the move after an uneven year at the Emirates.

Cech, who has been linked to a return to Chelsea as sporting director, said: "Until the 30th of June I am still an Arsenal player and I won't decide on anything."

Sarri says he is a lucky man to be at Chelsea

BAKU

CHELSEA coach Maurizio Sarri, fresh from winning the first major title of his managerial career with a 4-1 win over Arsenal in the Europa League final, said he was happy in his role, despite persistent speculation he is close to a return to Italy.

"You know very well that I love the Premier League, the level of the competition," Sarri told reporters.

"I am lucky because I am in Chelsea, one of the best clubs in the Premier League, one of the best championships in the world," he said.

"So in the moment I am happy but of course I want to know if the club is happy, if we can improve."

Sarri had secured Chelsea's place in next year's Champions League with a third-place finish in the Premier League before he led the Londoners to their third European title since 2012 in the Olympic Stadium in Baku.

But many fans made it clear they did not like the Italian's style after a run of poor performances in his first season at the helm, leading to reports the former Napoli manager was considering a return to Serie A. Sarri, 60, said he would speak to

top officials at Chelsea - who have made a habit of hiring and firing managers in quick succession - in the coming days.

Soccer Football - Europa League Final - Chelsea v Arsenal - Baku Olympic Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan - May 29, 2019 Chelsea manager Maurizio Sarri reacts REUTERS/Lee Smith

"We need to know what the club can do for me. What I can do better for the club," he said. "In a couple of days we will decide. But I have a contract so at the moment we are talking about nothing."

Sarri also said he had urged his players to be bolder at halftime in the Europa League final, with the score at 0-0, after failing to make much of a dent in Arsenal in the first 45 minutes.

"At the end of the first half I asked my players to play with more courage," he said.

"We could risk to lose but I wanted a team with more courage for moving the ball better and I think that the players did it very well in the second half."

REUTERS

Real usurp Man Utd as world's most valuable club

LONDON

REAL Madrid unseated Manchester United as the world's most valuable football club, according to the annual list published by business magazine Forbes on Wednesday.

Real Madrid, who in 2018 won the Champions League for a third consecutive year, were valued at \$4.24 billion, up nine percent from a year ago, Forbes said.

Barcelona were second on the list with a value of \$4 billion while Manchester United, who held top spot in each of the last two years, were third with a value of \$3.8 billion.

Bayern Munich (\$3 billion) and Manchester City (\$2.69 billion) rounded out the top five.

The 20 most valuable football clubs this year are worth an average of \$1.75 billion, up 34 percent from last year, a jump Forbes attributes to sponsors paying more money to attach themselves to these teams.

"Soccer team values are increasing because companies continue to increase the amount of money they pay teams for shirt

and kit rights, and sponsorships," said Michael Ozanian, assistant managing editor at Forbes.

"Soccer is the most popular team sport in the world and soccer players are running billboards for brands."

Another report released on Thursday said that the "big five" European leagues enjoyed record revenues in the 2017-18 season as a result of new broadcasting deals in Germany and growth in UEFA distributions to English clubs.

The combined revenue of the five major leagues -- in England, Spain, Germany, Italy and France -- was €15.6 billion (\$17.40 billion), representing a six percent increase from the previous season.

Deloitte's 28th Annual Review of Football Finance said the European football market is now worth a record €28.4 billion, which was also driven by last year's World Cup in Russia.

"European club football is in the strongest financial position that we've ever seen," said Dan Jones, partner and head of the Sports Business Group at Deloitte.

(AGENCIES)

Chelsea's season a success... so why doesn't it feel like one?

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

UNDER normal circumstances, the winning of a European final would bring uncomplicated joy. There are plenty of grey areas in football, all manner of things that you can't be sure of. But lifting a European trophy should in theory only bring positive emotions.

Chelsea will celebrate tonight, but what will they be thinking tomorrow?

This has been a truly strange season at Stamford Bridge. The bare facts don't suggest anything other than success: They finished third in the Premier League, only behind the best team of this generation and the team that only lost to them by a point; they reached the Carabao Cup final and only lost on penalties; and now they have won the Europa League, thrashing Arsenal 4-1 in Baku with a terrific second-half display.

All of that should mean a wave of positivity washing over the whole club, a season of undeniable success and optimism for the future. But in reality, things at Chelsea have never been more uncertain.

This is a team that is about to lose its best player after Eden Hazard confirmed, minutes after the final whistle, that this game was almost certainly goodbye, as negotiations for his move to Real Madrid now start in earnest. It's a club that might be about to lose its manager, with Maurizio Sarri, not exactly the most popular coach of all time, potentially on his way back to Italy. It's a club on the cusp of a transfer embargo, with holes to fill but no way of filling them.

Far from this being the start of even more success, it feels like Chelsea have climbed to the top of the ladder only to immediately land on a snake and slide back to the bottom again. This has been a season of triumph, but the weirdest triumph imaginable.

And this final was probably the



Chelsea's Gary Cahill, Cesar Azpilicueta and team mates celebrate winning the Europa League trophy at Baku Olympic Stadium, in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Wednesday. Photo: Reuters

most fitting way for a campaign this odd to end. Everything, from the massive gap between the pitch and the stands to the three-quarter-full stadium to the leisurely pace of the game before the break, made this feel more like a preseason friendly.

The first half was so boring that the "highlights" package at the break featured the managers shaking hands. About 10 minutes into the second half, a banner was unfurled in the stands with a message to UEFA written in big letters. Would this be the big protest against the staging of the final in a remote and geopolitically charged location? No, the banner read: "We are part of football. Thanks to UEFA for the final." Curiouser and curiouser.

At the end, UEFA bragged that the official attendance of 51,370 was the "third highest ever" for a Europa League final. A slightly less impressive way of putting it would be to point out that some 12,000 more people watched the last time Arsenal played in this stadium, against Qarabag in the group stages.

Arsenal won 3-0 that night, but

on this occasion, they might as well have taken the lead from many of their supporters and not turned up. They were poor in the first half and desperate in the second, putting up only the most token defence to Chelsea's attacks and spurning the few chances they created.

This was a game crucial to the Gunners' immediate future, a club in serious need of a rebuild who now don't have Champions League potential signings. Afterward, Unai Emery claimed this season has been a step in the right direction, but if so, it was an incredibly small one.

As for Sarri, he would have been forgiven for greeting the victory with two middle fingers, raised high in the air. After a season in which he has been hugely criticised, fairly and unfairly, he was probably entitled to take a few swings back. And in a manner of speaking, he did.

In his postmatch news conference, he was invited a number of times to promise his future to Chelsea but chose not to.

"The season finished one hour

(AGENCIES)

Chelsea face up to prospect of life without Hazard

BAKU

IT took about half an hour for Eden Hazard to find his rhythm in the Europa League final but once he started, Arsenal - like so many opponents of Chelsea over the last seven years - found him impossible to stop.

After a shaky start by the Blues, the Belgian flicked a pass that bemused Arsenal's defence and left Chelsea's wing back Emerson in enough space to force a first save of the game from Petr Cech in the 34th minute.

Five minutes later, an incisive ball from Hazard fed Jorginho who cued up Olivier Giroud, only to be denied by another fine Cech save.

Hazard, and Chelsea, had seized the momentum of the match which until that point had seemed it might go Arsenal's way.

After the break, the winger was simply unstoppable, launching into surging runs, scoring twice - one of which was from the penalty spot - and creating Pedro's goal which put Chelsea 2-0 up and on their way to the 4-1 victory.

Now Chelsea fans are worrying about who could replace Hazard who has scored 85 Premier League goals for the club since moving to London from Lille in 2012.

He said after the final whistle in Baku's Olympic Stadium that he expected to complete his move to Real Madrid soon.

Chelsea coach Maurizio Sarri said managing such a talent was not always easy.

"As you know Hazard is a wonderful player, but you have to spend two, three months to understand him as a man," the Italian said. "But when you are able to understand him as a man, he is a wonderful man."

Before the final, Sarri said Hazard did wonderful things on the pitch, but clearly got bored in training sessions because he found everything too easy.

One previous Chelsea coach who was less patient was Jose Mourinho. He often criticized Hazard's defensive work-rate as he tried to push him to be a complete player.

Under Sarri, Hazard has had more freedom to focus his energies in the top half of the field.



Eden Hazard celebrates winning the Europa League trophy at Baku Olympic Stadium, in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Wednesday. (Agencies)

This season he was Chelsea's top scorer with 16 league goals. His 15 assists was the highest in the Premier League.

Chelsea do not lack for other talented wingers.

Spain's Pedro and Willian of Brazil have shown their worth over several seasons at Stamford Bridge.

But both have now passed 30 and their form dropped off this season, which, combined with Chelsea's approaching transfer ban, means a lot will be riding on American striker Christian Pulisic after his pending move from Borussia Dortmund.

Of course, Hazard may yet remain in west London.

Speculation about a move to Real Madrid has bubbled up in previous

years only for the Belgian to start a new season with the Londoners.

But this time, the move seems highly likely as Hazard himself confirmed in the small hours of Thursday as his teammates celebrated their Europa League victory around him.

"My dream was to play in the Premier League and I did it for seven years," he said.

"Maybe I think it is time to say goodbye."

Meanwhile, Chelsea defender David Luiz said Callum Hudson-Odoi can fill the void a potential Eden Hazard departure could leave at Stamford Bridge, while praising manager Maurizio Sarri after the club's Europa League triumph.

Chelsea stormed to a 4-1 success in

ago," he said. "Tomorrow, I will begin to speak to my club. We need to speak, of course. We need to know what the club can do for me, what I can do better for the club. I think that also the club needs to speak with me."

And when asked if he thought he deserved to stay, he said: "I think so, but it's only my opinion. My opinion is not enough."

In a way, this was classic Chelsea, and indeed a perfect summary of this season that Sarri was still dabbing his forehead with a towel -- mopping up sweat, or celebratory champagne, perhaps -- as he sent not particularly subtle messages to his employers.

It is slightly difficult to figure out what will happen from here. The club could decide Sarri is simply too unpopular, that they need someone else to guide them through a tricky transitional season. They could decide that changing managers is adding another layer of turmoil that they don't need.

As for Sarri, he undoubtedly is in a better negotiating position if he wishes to make any big demands and stay. Equally, he could decide that the job is more trouble than it is worth and walk away.

This is a club who have now won 16 trophies, three of them in Europe, in the 16 years since Roman Abramovich -- who was present in Baku, after a season in which he has scarcely been seen at Stamford Bridge -- bought the club. And in most of that time, they have been in some form of flux -- stability regarded as unnecessary, chaos more their thing. If uncertainty is what they desire, they're about to get a whole load of it.

On this night, Chelsea are a success, European trophy winners after a truly odd season. Tomorrow? Who knows? But you suspect they wouldn't want it any other way.

(AGENCIES)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Chelsea's season a success... so why doesn't it feel like one?

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TONIGHT @ 21:00

FRIDAY

10:59 Jikoni Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Radio:PlanetBongo Live
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Friday Night Live

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL) is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! Its a party on TV.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Pakistan need quick fixes to break 10-match rut

LONDON

WEST Indies and Pakistan aren't exactly favourites for the grand finale on July 14, but are two teams that have World Cup in their blood for different reasons.

For West Indies, the World Cup is their reference point to glory. It took them three editions and eight years before the trophy left their grasp. They last laid their hands on the trophy 40 years ago, and have been like wanderers since. With a squad that is near full-strength and some magic in their ranks, they may feel destiny has the Promised Land in reach once more.

But for mild Harare rain that left West Indies on the right side of DLS calculations last March, they would've been by a Caribbean beach, perhaps watching Scotland take the field against Pakistan. There's a lot that has happened since, and the current outfit looks a much different side to the one that played the qualifiers.

The squad seems to have unity and togetherness, something they haven't been famed for, and a much-settled, respected captain in Jason Holder. The side's balance was evident in their crushing defeat of New Zealand in Tuesday's warm-up, a destructive batting display laying down a marker of sorts.

Pakistan have a strange relationship with the World Cup, particularly since 1992, where an odds-defying win crafted the team's reputation and gave them their brand of unpredictability. They come into the tournament having lost 10 ODIs on the bounce, in addition to a warm-up loss against Afghanistan - and a record against the top five that reads three wins in 23 since their famous Champions Trophy in 2017.

The fast bowling, Pakistan's stock trade, has seen one after another lose form and effectiveness, with Mohammad Amir, once the prince of this generation, the heir apparent to Wasim Akram, only barely squeezing into the final 15. Hasan Ali is the obvious leader of the attack, though a bowling average of nearly 60 since the Asia Cup last year is worrying, and Shaheen Afridi is the only one to keep both average and economy rate respectable over this period.

The batting looks to have caught up somewhat to modern standards, with Pakistan becoming the first team to reach three consecutive ODI totals of 340 earlier this month against England (though they lost all three matches). In any case, they must be wary of a West Indies side that pummeled New Zealand's bowling attack for 421, and the batting is a department Pakistan are not about to outgun West Indies in any time soon.

The odds may not be in Pakistan's favour, but that was the case in 2017, too, when, having barely qualified for the Champions Trophy, they caught fire and singed England and India in the semis and final, laughing the face of logic. The squad that defied those odds carried 11 of the players that return to England with that trophy tucked under their arms, and will wonder why they should be rated any inferior to the teams they left in their wake just two years ago.

AGENCIES

TAVA steps up volleyball promotion



Mwanza volleyball coach, Honorati Mayunga, instructs junior volleyball player during a recent session at the Mirongo venue in the region. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MWAREVA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

CHIEF instructor for the ongoing FIVB Level One international coaching course, which is taking place in Coast Region, is set to arrive on Monday.

Chairman of Tanzania Volleyball Association (TAVA) Coaches Commission, Dismas Dick, said the instructor, Tonny West-

man from Sweden, is expected in Dar es Salaam on Monday.

Dick said the two-week course

which is being held in Kibaha, Coast Region, and has been organized by the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC).

International Olympic Committee (IOC), through its solidarity fund, is funding the course, which will help to improve the game in all parts of the country.

"Currently the course is going on very smoothly with local instructors as we are waiting for the chief instructor Tonny Westman to come on Monday," he noted.

"I'm sure he will come and equip us with new methods of the game."

Dick hailed TOC for the course, saying without efforts by the local committee it would not have been possible for the national volleyball governing body to organize such an event.

He said he and fellow volleyball coaches cherish their working relationship with TOC.

"On behalf of local volleyball coaches, I thank Tanzania Olympics Committee (TOC) for this course, it has come at a good time given the country's volleyball coaches need to be educated on new changes of the game," he said.

The course has attracted 30 coaches from all over the country and one of the expectations are that, in the end, coaches will impart the knowledge gained to others who did not attend so that the game can improve.

Iringa school excels in sports bonanza

By Friday Simbaya, Iringa

MAKADUPA Primary School of Iringa District in Iringa has emerged as overall winner of a sports bonanza organized by SOS Children's Village Tanzania for the first time through education project.

The SOS Children's Village helps children to recognize and express their individual abilities, interests and talents by seeing to it that children receive the education they need to become successful members of the society.

The bonanza, which took place at Klerruu Teachers College grounds in Iringa Town yesterday, saw more than seven schools compete in football, netball, athletics, chicken chasing, tug-of-war, sack race and running whilst holding an egg in a spoon, leaving most of the fans excited.

According to the bonanza coordinator, Francis Mwakitiga, who doubles as SOS Acting Program Coordinator, the event aimed at bringing together pupils from different primary schools based in Iringa District.

He said playing sports and games helps kids in strengthening the immune system, maintaining physical coordination, enhancing body strength and keep the mind peaceful and sharp.

Mwakitiga noted that taking part in sports is important for children as it reduces stress and enhances their mood, adding that the project has three main objectives.

They include improving learning environment, to ensure that the most vulnerable children access to quality education, as well as to sensitize the community on child rights, education and protection.

He said that the program is being implemented in Iringa District



Pupils from one of Dar es Salaam primary schools celebrate after winning a football match of the regional primary schools games held recently.

is taking place in seven primary schools of Nyangoro and Malengamakali wards.

The schools are Mawindi, Chamdindi, Ikengeza, Igruba, Makadupa and Isaka.

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is an independent child based non-governmental and social development organization registered in Tanzania with affiliation to SOS Children's Village International.

Iringa District Education Officer (DEO), Peter Fussi, thanked the SOS Children's Village for hosting sports bonanza for primary pupils because, to pupils, the event is great adventure.

He said that children not only have the right to education but also have the right to play, bringing children

from rural primary schools to meet with their counterparts in urban areas is great motivation to the former.

Fussi said that taking part in sports is important for children as it reduces stress and builds healthy bodies and improves cooperation skills.

He urged teachers to be innovative enough and promote sports and games in their respective schools despite having challenges in acquisition of sports gears and playgrounds.

"There are some sports that don't need lots of money to host, they are chicken chasing, tug-of-war, sack race and running whilst holding an egg in a spoon and so on," he noted.

"Teachers can encourage

the pupils to play such games hence to nurture the talents."

Some of teachers, who talked to this paper during the event, said their respective schools are finding it difficult to get modern sports gears and train in better playgrounds.

They said the children are creative in their interaction with outdoor playgrounds and enjoy playing outside but lack such infrastructures.

Ikengeza Primary School's physical education teacher, Irene Yosia, said children learn through playing and they are also curious and explore things, so lack of playgrounds is hindering sports promotion in schools.

"Teachers can encourage

Comoro stun Mauritius to sail through to COSAFA Cup last eight

DURBAN

COMOROS have made history with a first ever qualification for the COSAFA Cup quarterfinals following a 2-1 victory over Mauritius at the King Zwelithini Stadium on Wednesday.

The victory leaves Comoros top of Group A with four points, followed by Eswatini (two) and Mauritius (one).

The match was billed as a winner-takes-all contest, and the Comoros can now celebrate a quarterfinal against defending champions Zimbabwe on Saturday, where they will hope to spring a major surprise.

Youssef Ibrohim and Soulaïmana Ibouniyamine netted for the Comoros, while Ashley Nazira was on target for Mauritius, and in doing so moved to the top of the COSAFA Cup scorers' charts with his third of the campaign.

There were few chances in the opening 45 minutes as both teams battled to create clear-cut chances and were reduced to shooting from distance.

Hachim El Haddad flashed a 25-yard shot just wide of goal for Comoros, but the best two chances of the half fell at the other end to Mauritius forward Jean Nabab.

First he found a few yards of space on the right of the box but saw his effort saved by Comoros goalkeeper Fahadi Mohamed, and then hit a shot on the turn that was plucked out of the air by the glove man.

That left the teams goalless at the break, but Comoros found the opener just minutes into the second half and it came via an excellent strike.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

