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## Coronavirus: Global experts confer as cases now top 68,000

BEIJING

INTERNATIONAL experts have begun meeting with their counterparts in China over the coronavirus epidemic, whose future path remains unpredictable, the World Health Organization (WHO) says.

The number of new cases from the coronavirus epidemic dropped for a third consecutive day, but global concern remains high about its spread, emphasized by a U.S. announcement that more than three dozen Americans from a cruise ship quarantined in Japan are infected.

The virus first emerged in China's central Hubei province in December, and this weekend claimed its first reported death outside Asia, in France.

**International experts participating in the @WHO-led joint mission have arrived in Beijing and have had their first meeting with Chinese counterparts today**

The death toll jumped to 1,665 in Mainland China after an additional 142 people lost their lives. More than 68,000 people have now been infected – but the number of new cases of the COVID-19 strain continued to decline.

"International experts participating in the @WHO-led joint mission have arrived in Beijing and have had their first meeting with Chinese counterparts today," WHO chief executive Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on twitter.

"We look forward to this vitally important collaboration contributing to global knowledge about the #COVID19 outbreak."

In hardest-hit Hubei, the number of new cases slowed for a third consecutive day and, at 139, the number of deaths was level with Saturday's toll.

New cases in other parts of the country have dropped for 12 straight days.

Mi Feng, National Health Commission spokesman, said on Sunday that the figures were a sign that China was controlling the outbreak.

"The effects of the epidemic's prevention and

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# MUHAS coordinates UK-Africa child blood cancer test project



President John Magufuli is joined by former presidents Ali Hassan Mwinyi, Benjamin Mkapa and Jakaya Kikwete as well as Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi as he cuts a ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday to inaugurate the Third Phase of the Productive Social Safety Net programme, which is implemented by the Tanzania Social Action (TASAF). TASAF, for its part, is a programme established by the government to help reduce income poverty in the country. Photo: State House

## JPM: Remove ghost poor in revamped safety net plans

By Getrude Mbago

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has directed local government authorities to team up in executing the second-phase of the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) programme and control enrollment of ghost beneficiaries, which remain a thorn in fighting extreme poverty.

Implemented by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), the four-year programme is expected to spend a total of 2.032trn/- to reach a total of seven million poor people on both sides of the Zanzibar Channel.

Launching the programme in Dar es



**The four-year programme is expected to spend 2.032trn/- to reach about seven million poor people across Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar**

Salaam yesterday, Dr Magufuli said the verification exercise conducted from November 2015 to 2017 found a total of

73,561 ghost and illegible households being enrolled in the programme.

"There were people who are not poor including leaders enrolled in the programme. This should be addressed in the next phase," he cautioned.

He also directed Dar es Salaam regional Commissioner Paul Makonda to return monies he took from TASAF funds to travel to Dodoma a few years back.

Earlier in his remarks, RC Makonda publicly announced himself to be among TASAF beneficiaries.

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## Mvomero team to talk to the minister over rogue elephants

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AUTHORITIES in Mvomero District, Morogoro Region, have formed a team that will meet Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla (pictured) following repeated elephant attacks.

The big animals are said to storm into villages destroying people's properties and crops.

District Executive Director Florent Kyombo



told journalists of complaints from villagers on frequent attack by elephants, posing a security threat to villagers especially when farming.

Increased elephant attacks stem from rising numbers of elephants at the Mikumi National Park which borders Mvomero district. The ongoing rains were flooding wild areas, pushing the jumbos to shift to

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**Anna Schuh**, professor of haematology from the University of Oxford who leads the research, said that the team hopes to bring next-generation genetic sequencing technology and artificial intelligence tools to assist with mobile digital pathology to Tanzania and Uganda

By Henry Mwangonde

**T**ANZANIAN scientists in collaboration with their counterparts from Uganda and Oxford University in the United Kingdom have launched a research program to enhance child blood cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Child blood cancer is a deadly disease, chiefly the Epstein-Barr Virus-related lymphomas (EBV lymphoma) which kills thou-



**The UK has injected 13.5bn/- into the project which will run for four years**

sands of children in sub-Saharan Africa annually.

The UK has injected 13.5bn/- into the project which will run for four years. During implementation, scientists will test new technologies for early diagnosis of infection related lymphomas in children.

Speaking at the launching ceremony yesterday, Dr Clara Chamba, a principal investigator for the project at MUHAS said when someone has a cancerous tumor, tiny bits of it break off and go into the patient's blood.

"We know that DNA that comes from cancerous cells has unique changes that in theory could be picked up by a sensitive genetic test. We need to get the tiny fragments of DNA that might be from a tumor, genetically sequence them to be used for diagnosis," she said.

Although it is difficult, researchers believe they can succeed and MUHAS become the first place in the world to diagnose blood cancer through the new technology, she stated.

Anna Schuh, professor of haematology from the University of Oxford who leads the research, said that the team hopes to "bring next-generation genetic sequencing technology and artificial intelligence tools to assist with mobile digital pathology to Tanzania and Uganda."

"This new technology can make rapid improvements in medical diagnostics. Success-

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## University coordinates UK-Africa child blood cancer test project

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ful implementation of the project will enable the tests be used for other cancer types and applied across sub-Saharan Africa," she said.

Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) Director for Medical Services, Dr Hedwiga Swai said in a speech that critical shortage of pathologists is one reason for delayed diagnosis in patients with cancer including children with lymphoma.

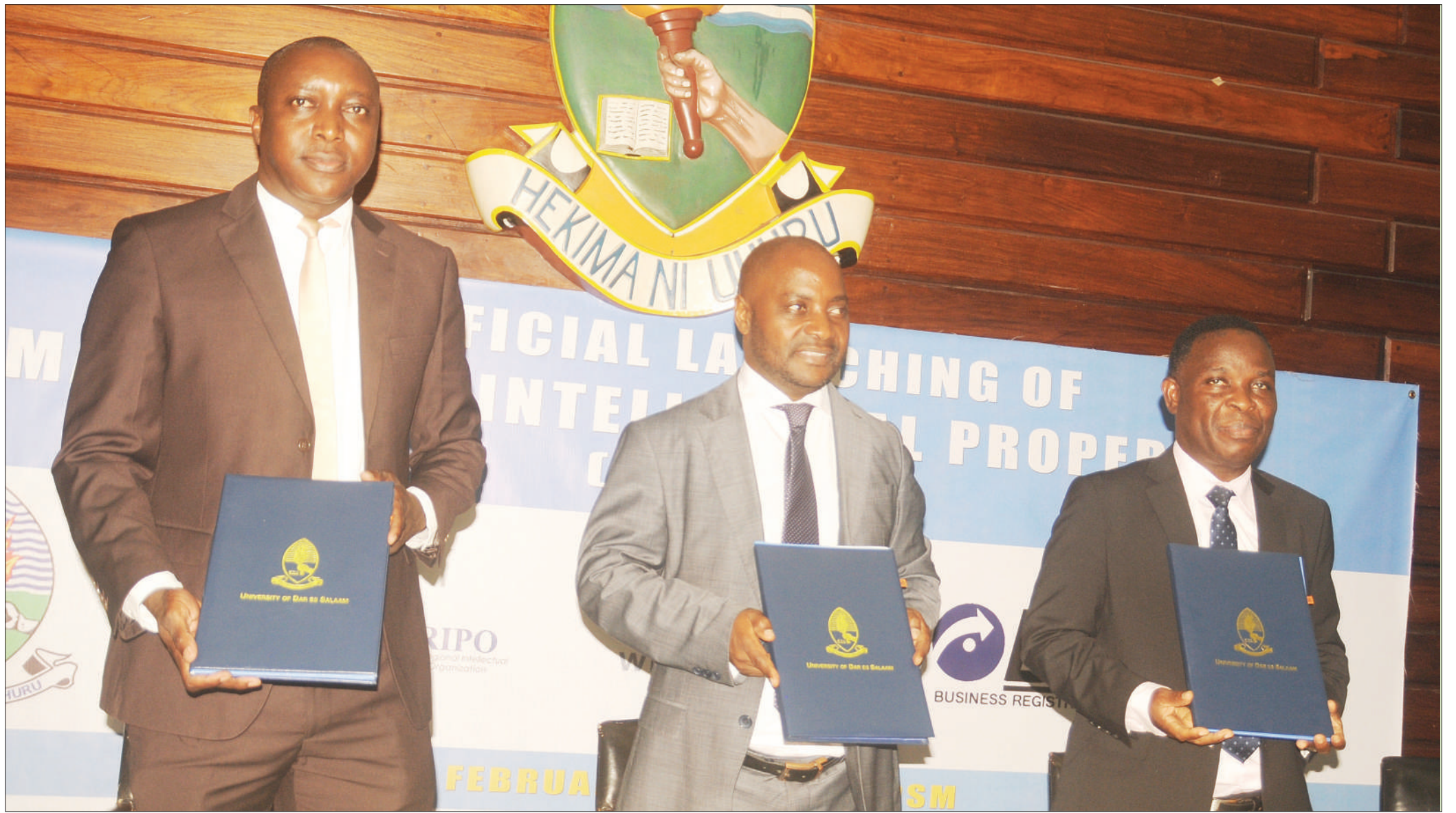
She said the project is expected to provide a possible solution for early diagnosis of cancer in children and consequently increase their chances of survival.

Medical teams participating in the project are based at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH), the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) and St Mary's Hospital in Lacor, Uganda. DNA sequencing will be led by the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

This week study team members are meeting for a workshop with a team from the University of Oxford and other international experts to learn best practice pathology techniques and latest DNA sequencing methods and technologies.

Upon completion, the project is expected to diminish the pain that children patients endure during surgeries which involve needle cell removal of cancer tumors, a process that is long and requires advanced training to conduct.

The team believes that by sharing best practices and bringing the latest advances in genetic testing to East Africa, it is possible to set up affordable, effective cancer diagnostics, which rely on simple blood tests.



University of Dar es Salaam vice chancellor Prof William Anagisy (R), Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) CEO Godfrey Nyaisa (L) and Africa Intellectual Property Organisation director general Fernando dos Santos display copies of documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after signing a collaboration agreement at the launch of a Master's Degree in Intellectual Property programme at the university. Photo: John Badi

## Mvomero team to talk to the minister over rogue elephants

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drier places. "Elephants are invading villages in search of more comfortable places given frequent floods. At times they storm into villages seeking better pasture areas," the DED noted, saying the more affected wards are Doma, Lubungo, Melela, Mangae, Msongezi and Dakawa.

He said so far around 2,000 acres

of crops have been damaged in the various wards.

District officials were liaising with the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to remove jumbos still lingering in the wards. The district finance committee and councilors had also been informed, he remarked.

He lauded the government's move

to assure proper compensation for the damage caused by the wild animals, highlighting that the government paid 63m/- to relatives of those killed by elephants last year.

Mangae ward councilor Adam Msimbe said despite efforts by TAWA and TANAPA to facilitate patrols throughout the day, the animals still invade villagers' houses.

"The animals are too many for

game rangers to control," he said.

Lubungo ward councilor Hamidu Zuberi said that elephants have destroyed crops in all the five wards in the district. Previously the jumbos were crossing the villages to the Wami - Mbiki game reserve, but they are now staying within village perimeters, he pointed out.

"We request the conservation authorities and the ministry to

allocate more rangers to this area. We have a few wardens who cannot manage to patrol all the villages," he emphasized.

Last December 30 the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) announced a plan to address the deadly human-wildlife conflicts for communities living near conservation areas.



Commissioner for Human Rights and Good Governance official Omary Limu (L, foreground) briefs Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania, Mette N. Dissing-Spandet, who toured the commission's reference library in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Mbaraka Kambona

## Coronavirus: Global experts confer as cases now top 68,000

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control in various parts of the country can already be seen," he told reporters.

On a visit to Pakistan, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres expressed confidence that the "gigantic effort" by China "will allow for the progressive reduction of the disease."

But Tedros warned it was "impossible to predict which direction this epidemic will take."

"We ask all governments, companies and news organizations to work with us to sound the appropriate level of alarm without fanning the flames of hysteria," he said at the Munich Security Conference.

The UN health body has asked China for more details on how diagnoses are being made.

The scale of the epidemic ballooned on Thursday after authorities in Hubei changed their criteria for counting cases, retroactively adding 14,000 cases in a single day.

Chinese authorities have placed

about 56 million people in Hubei and its capital Wuhan under quarantine, virtually sealing off the province from the rest of the country in an unprecedented effort to contain the virus. Even as China insisted the epidemic was under control, Hubei authorities announced on Sunday a tightening of movement across the province.

This includes broad instructions that residential compounds and villages be "sealed off" from unnecessary visitors, with tenants' outings "strictly managed," as well as recommending bulk purchases of daily necessities.

All nonessential public spaces will also be closed.

Local authorities elsewhere in China have also introduced measures to try and stop the virus spreading.

Beijing's municipal government has enacted a rule requiring people coming to the capital to self-quarantine for 14 days, official media affirmed.

Outside Mainland China, an

80-year-old Chinese tourist in France was the fourth person to die from the new coronavirus. Other deaths have occurred in the Philippines, Hong Kong and Japan.

The biggest cluster outside China is on a quarantined cruise ship in Yokohama, with 355 infections confirmed.

A top U.S. health official on Sunday said 40 Americans in the ship have become infected and would be treated in Japan. Other Americans left the Diamond Princess into the early hours of Monday for chartered jumbo jets that would fly them home – and into further quarantine.

Malaysia on Sunday said it would not allow any cruise ships departing or transiting Chinese ports to enter the country, following the discovery of a US citizen with the coronavirus.

The virus spread last month as millions traveled across China for the Lunar New Year holiday, which was extended to try and prevent more infections.

People have slowly started to re-

turn to work in the past two weeks, though many are doing their jobs from home and schools remain closed.

With the government facing criticism over its handling of the crisis, Chinese President Xi Jinping said the government must "increase use of the police force and strengthen the visible use of police" during the crisis.

A number of local officials have been sacked for their role in mishandling the outbreak.

On Sunday, a host of new reprimands were made against officials in the virus-hit region, including one who "cut corners and worked around the centralized quarantine order," Hubei authorities said.

"When a crisis like this happens, it becomes politically important – it's about China's international image, it's about the Party's legitimacy," said Zhou Xun, a historian of modern China at the University of Essex.

China's health system is "overloaded, inefficient, expensive and chaotic," the UK-based don declared.

## JPM: Remove ghost poor in revamped safety net plans

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"I heard Makonda saying that he is one of the beneficiaries. If this is true, I want him to return all the monies immediately. Authorities should check whether he took the funds so that he reimburses them," the president intoned.

He commended former presidents Ali Hassan Mwinyi, Benjamin Mkapa and Jakaya Kikwete for initiating various projects aimed at fighting and reducing poverty.

Data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) indicate that basic needs poverty dropped to 26.4 percent in 2017/18 from 39 percent in 1990/91.

"Food poverty is among the major challenge in the world. As per the World Bank, a total of 736 million people are living in extreme poverty globally, and these are the ones living below poverty line. 55 percent of all poor people are living in the African continent which translates that in every three people in Africa, one is poor. It is estimated that if serious measures will not be taken, 90 percent of all poor people will be living Africa by 2030," Dr Magufuli elaborated.

In efforts to fight poverty in the country, the government has been implementing a number of projects including TASAF.

PSSN II will spend 60 percent of its total budget (1.22trn/-) to implement 30,000 development projects in the health, education, water and other

infrastructures. This way it will generate job places for 1.2m people including those from poor households. The remaining 40 percent will be directed to conditional cash transfer, the president explained.

He commended donors and development partners for their continued support in implementing the programme.

George Mkuchika, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance), said that implementation of PSSN II will cover poor households in 185 districts. Whereas the previous phase covered 70 percent of villages, the current phase will incorporate the remaining 30 percent, he stated.

It will also focus more in providing poor households with prerequisite entrepreneurship skills and income-earning opportunities to enable them establish small-scale income earning projects for poverty alleviation, he said.

Zanzibar Second Vice President, Ambassador Seif Ali Iddi said the implementation of the programme in the Isles has shown remarkable success and demonstrated to be the most innovative way of reaching and assisting the poor.

The programme has transformed the lives of a large number of poor households in the Isles, he said.

"Through TASAF III, enrolment of students in primary and secondary schools has increased.

There was also improved food security and nutrition at household level due to cash transfer and increased saving behavior among beneficiaries."

TASAF Executive Director Ladislaus Mwangi acknowledged that there were some households which were improperly enrolled in the programme.

To rectify the situation, TASAF has come up with new technology to register beneficiaries biometrically. "We have strengthened control systems to ensure proper identification of poor people and households. We have purchased more than 800 tablets which will simplify the identification and registration exercise across the country," he said.

Households that live in extreme poverty have gone down by two percentage points during the past eight years, NBS surveys indicate.

NBS Director General Dr Albina Chuwa said basic needs poverty relating to lacking minimum resources needed for physical wellbeing, declined to 26.4 per cent of the population in 2018.

Basic needs poverty was quoted at 34.4 per cent in 2006 and then dropped to 28.2 per cent in 2012.

The rate, puts Tanzania at a better place compared to most of its African peers, the director noted.

In Kenya and South Africa for instance the population living in absolute poverty stood at 36.3 per cent and 55.5 per cent respectively in 2015, she added.





South Korean IT and Science volunteer teachers have an audience with government officials in Arusha yesterday shortly after reporting for duty in the region. They will be posted to various schools. Photo: Correspondent Asraj Mvungi

## 'One Stop' mineral processing and export zone launched in Mirerani

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Mirerani

FINALLY, the previously proposed, 'one stop' mineral processing, measuring, valuing and export center has been officially launched at Mirerani Mining Hills of Simanjiro, in Manyara Region.

Minister of Minerals, Dotto Biteko has just inaugurated the facility, which essentially complements the 24 kilometres' long perimeter wall fencing surrounding the Tanzanite quarries of Mirerani and which was erected by the National Service (JKT) under the orders of President John Magufuli.

Lieutenant Colonel Sauli Chiwanga who supervised the construction of the center, explained that the project cost over 1.4bn/- and took 14 months to accomplish.

"The building measures 717 square

meters, has 22 rooms split into various departments including the Police, Immigration, Camera Surveillance Unit, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Banking facilities and the official trading hub," he said.

Mineral minister, Dotto Biteko said the surveillance system which has been installed around the fence is computer operated and capable of identifying faces of all people, triggering alarms upon detecting listed criminals, wanted persons and other forbidden characters.

The Mirerani perimeter wall is now also installed with special security flood lights system that can transform any dark night into well-lit environment for added security.

Describing the feat as major stride towards improved mineral trading in the Northern Zone, minister Biteko

pointed out that when the wall was erected revenues from Tanzanite gemstones climbed up to over 445m/- per month.

Meandering at nearly 25 kilometres long, the 'Great Mirerani Wall' is probably the longest fort ever built in the country, if not in the entire East African region, with the works being undertaken by the army through the National Service (JKT) wing.

Shortly after the walls were inaugurated two years ago, the Manyara region authorities started issuing Identity Cards for people who work in the mines and so far, 6000 miners had been issued with such IDs.

The government had also directed all quarry owners and mining operators to issue their workers with permanent employment contracts to safeguard their interests, including

salaries, security cover and health needs.

Notorious smuggling of Tanzanite gemstones is what prompted the government to erect a wall surrounding the mineral extracting zone in Mirerani.

Recent reports indicate that Tanzanite gemstones worth nearly 700 billion/- are smuggled out of the country annually through illegal means with the lot ending up in the neighbouring country of Kenya and to as far as India and South-Africa.

While Kenya handles Tanzanite minerals valued at US \$ 100 million annually and India documents blue gemstones worth US \$ 300 million, it is surprising that Tanzania, the source of the blue gemstones, records US \$ 38 Million worth of Tanzanite business per-annum.

## JPM performance record impresses private sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Songwe

THE Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) has described President John Magufuli's four years performance record as exemplary and achieved to change the mindset of executives and officials in public sector in readiness towards building medium size and industrial base economy by 2025.

Speaking shortly after inauguration of Songwe Investment Forum and its Investment Guide Book on Sunday, the TPSF outgoing Executive Director, Godfrey Simbeye said the private sector has confidence in President Magufuli's leadership style.

"We (private sector) are confident in his leadership style which has helped to shape the work performance of the entire public sector. The mindset of public executives toward private sector has abruptly changed and now we are on same page," Simbeye said.

He said President Magufuli's commitment to see the private sector grow and make a significant contribution on the economy has now been translated into action where more measures have been taken to create conducive business environment.

According to TPSF boss, the private sector can stand tall congratulating the fifth phase government for being firm in transforming the economy. Some of stern measures taken have yielded positive results in economic growth.

"We have been working very closely with the public sector and its tone when discussing serious issues on economy has also changed. We meet, discuss and reach consensus," Simbeye explained, encouraging investors to exploit business and investment opportunities available in Songwe Region.

He said the head of state fought fiercely against corruption and bureaucracy which were frustrating growth and development of the coun-

try's economy. He said the war against the said vices needed everyone's support.

He also did not hesitate to commend the Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office tasked for Investment Portfolio, Angellah Kairuki for working closely with the private sector, saying that she was always behind the sector's growth.

"We are proud of her commitment to private sector and since she was appointed to that post, Minister Kairuki has been meeting representatives of investors/traders and listen their challenges and look for permanent solutions," he said.

Earlier, in her speech to inaugurate the Songwe Investment Forum, Minister Kairuki said the private sector played a key role in preparation of the forum and called on local investors to venture into investment and business opportunities in the region.

Kairuki who represented Premier Majaliwa described the forum as stimulus towards attracting more investors to go and invest into different sectors of economy in Songwe Region.

"This Investment Guide for Songwe Region which I have launched it today (Sunday) should be used to promote investment opportunities in the region and those regions yet to prepare their investment guideline books borrow a leaf from Songwe as directed by Prime Minister Majaliwa," she said.

She said the government would continue to create conducive environment that will stimulate business growth and attract more capital inflow in Tanzania for the betterment of the country and its entire people.

"The Investment Act of 1996 will soon be reviewed to protect and attract more investments which are of paramount significance in transforming the country's economic growth and development," Minister Kairuki said.



Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the positions below.

1. **Position Title:** Carpenter  
**Vacancy Number:** DaresSalaam-2020-009
2. **Position Title:** Chauffeur  
**Vacancy Number:** DaresSalaam-2020-010
3. **Position Title:** Warehouse Worker  
**Vacancy Number:** DaresSalaam-2020-013

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required is available at:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Applicants **MUST** follow instructions in the notice on the website:

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application. Previous applicants do not need to reapply.

Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted only via email.

**CLOSING DATE:** March 03, 2020

215630801



Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the positions below.

- Position Title:** PHS – Monitoring and Evaluation - WRAIR  
**Vacancy Number:** DaresSalaam-2020-011

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required is available at:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Applicants **MUST** follow instructions in the notice on the website:

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

Previous applicants do not need to reapply.

Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted only via email.

**CLOSING DATE:** March 03, 2020

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## German city to give support in solid waste plant management

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE government of Germany through the country's city of Tübingen says it will invest in Tanzania by 80 per cent in big projects for solid waste management in Moshi municipality starting April this year.

Tübingen, that is now twin city for Moshi Municipality from the two's economic relationship they started plans to implement the project at a cost of more than 1.8bn/-.

Moshi Municipal Mayor Raymond Mboya said the project will increase the municipality's capacity to collect and dispose of the waste from 160 to 230 tons per day.

He said the waste processing plant will be a twin plant for making agricultural fertilizer as well.

"Germany through the city of Tübingen has established ties with Moshi municipality and has agreed to build a fertilizer factory by using solid waste

produced from factories and homes. Construction work has started and is expected to be completed in April this year," he said.

Moya said the plant is being built at Mtakujja village in Hai District adding the Municipal Council has bought 40 acres of land where a modern waste dump will also be built as well as a gas plant to produce electricity.

He said the Council has contributed 400m/- and the city of Tübingen has agreed to provide plant and machinery and cost of transport to Tanzania, pay workers' salaries for the period of one year and give training to the wananchi and primary school students on the benefits of the plant.

He said the municipality plans to increase its refuse collection fleet and other plants at a cost of 750m/- and the German government has agreed to support the project for 80 percent while the municipality will contribute 20 percent.



**Germany through the city of Tübingen has established ties with Moshi municipality and has agreed to build a fertilizer factory by using solid waste produced from factories and homes. Construction work has started and is expected to be completed in April this year**



China Railway Construction Engineering Group's director of projects, David Zhou (C), briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the resumption of the construction of the 1.2-km road section between Nyerere Bridge and Ferry-Kibada in compliance with President John Magufuli's recent directive to that effect. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Contractor heeds presidential directive, resumes work on Nyerere Bridge

By Guardian Reporter

THE contractor charged with the construction of a 1.2 kilometer road section between the Nyerere Bridge and Ferry-Kibada has complied with President John Magufuli's directive to resume outstanding works with immediate effect.

China Railway Construction Engineering Group (CRCEG) resumed work on the road yesterday, hardly a week after the presidential ultimatum to the parties in the contract, to resolve a contractual disputes that had ensued and complete the road project.

Speaking at a function to inaugurate Kigamboni district offices, President Magufuli expressed discontent with the delay of the project due to cost implications.

In a press statement issued yesterday RCEG said: "We wish to express our sincere appreciation and our commitment in fully support the spirit of 'Hapa Kazi Tu' and 'Law Abidance' reinforced by President John Magufuli to complete the project with first class quality and reasonable cost without delay."

The contractor stated that the project was delayed partly because of late possession of the site

due to pending compensation for the existing houses, graveyard and structures that were located within the right of way. The compensation was completed towards the end of May 2018.

Delay by the employer, NSSF, to re-appoint a new project manager has been given as another reason for the delay in resumption of the construction work. Whereas the previous project managers suspended their supervision services on 1 May 2019, the new manager was appointed only last week.

"It's only on 14 February 2020 that the employer informed the contractor of the decision to ap-

point Tanroad as the new project manager who commences work on 17 February 2020," said the CRCEG statement.

Other reasons given for the delay included late payment to the contractor "in an unreasonably long time which made the contractor's cash flow jammed" and delayed approvals for the cost of relocation and protection of infrastructures for service utilities that were located within the right of way, including TAZAMA Oil pipeline, HASS oil pipeline, MOIL oil pipelines and TIPER Water Supply pipeline.

Delayed approval for the cost

of relocation of Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) power lines was cited as another reason for the delay of the project.

In the meantime, CRCEG has stated that one of the reasons for cost increment of the works was the fact that the road standard applied is the Express Way Standard "which is the highest in Tanzania."

Cost also increased because there were several areas that were affected by oil residue, thus compelling huge and deep excavation to replace all the oil contaminated soil.

CRCEG further stated that road passes through swampy areas, necessitating excavation and removal of soil materials at swampy areas and replacing the same with rockfill, as part of mechanical stabilization.

There was also additional cost of relocation and protection of infrastructures for service utilities that were located within the right of way, which are all approved by the employer.

The contractor also accused the employer of delaying the payments, something which "unnecessarily" attracted the interest.

There was also excavation to

remove unsuitable organic soil material and replace it with inorganic soil, as well as additional works and re-measurement of the true and real quantity on site, that is outlets structure for storm water drainages that were originally omitted in the Bill of Quantities.

The project was suspended in 31 December 2018 following an instruction issued by the project manager, pending resolution of some issues including approvals of additional work items by the employer. "The pending approvals have not been issued to date," according to the contractor.



GF Vehicle Assemblies Ltd director Imran Karmali (R) briefs Industry and Trade minister Innocent Bashungwa (L) on the operations of the company, which the minister visited at Kibaha in Coast Region yesterday. Looking on (2nd-L) is National Development Corporation director general Prof Damiani Gabagambi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Dar's US embassy awards certificates to 47 students

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam has awarded certificates to 47 students from Tanga and Unguja after their successful completion of a two-year English 'Access' micro-scholarship programme.

The number involved 25 candidates from Tanga region-13 female and 12 male and 22 candidates from Unguja - Zanzibar-12 female and 10 male.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony, regional English Language officer, George Chinnery commended the Access Programme students for their dedication.

"Access programmes offer far more than just an opportunity to learn English, as you have all become leaders and models for your community. Through volunteer projects, you have taken the same enthusiasm that has built your success in the classroom, and you have applied it in your daily lives, in your homes, and in your communities," he said.

"These students successfully completed their two-year biweekly after-school English classes, focusing on English language, community development, and civic engagement."

He said that the U.S. Embassy supports four additional Access classes throughout Tanzania -in Mbeya, Lindi, Mwanza, and Pemba. In early April 2020, the Embassy will open additional classes in Tanga, Unguja, and Mwanza.

Access programmes offer far more than just an opportunity to learn English, as you have all become leaders and models for your community Chinnery said that the Access Programme provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants the English skills that can lead to better jobs and educational prospects.

"Participants also gain the ability to compete for, and participate in, future exchanges and study in the United States. Since its inception in 2004, more than 400 students in Tanzania and 150,000 students in over 85 countries have participated in the program," he noted.

During the ceremony, students presented class projects in English highlighting the community service work they conducted during the course of the programme.

## Government to spend 25bn/- repairing damaged roads

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

MORE than 25bn/- will be spent in repairing roads that were damaged by heavy rains that started towards the end of 2019.

Deputy Minister for works Elias Kwandikwa revealed this during his ongoing visit in Shinyanga Region to inspect the effects of the rains towards road infrastruc-

tures. Kwandikwa was inspecting the 148km Kahama - Mwananga road on which parts of the road has been affected by water spilling from Lake Victoria.

"This is a short road connecting Kahama and Mwanza via Solwa and only 2.3km stretch has been damaged hence severing transport communication for the resi-

dents of the two areas," he said. He said the government recognises the importance of the road hence already evaluation work has been done and funds are being sought to construct the road at tarmac level.

He called upon transporters using the road to use the Kahama-Isaka-Tinde-Mwanza tarmac road, and added that as of now the gov-

ernment's strategy is to make a close follow up of trouble spots on various roads to see what can be done so as to rescue the wananchi from their road transport woes.

The Ag TANROADS manager for road repairs for Shinyanga Region Eng Frednand Mdoe explained that the big challenge they face is to restore the communication along the road and they have al-

ready started placing aggregate on the flooded areas to make it passable.

"This is Lake Victoria's spill hence the floodwater is immense and submerged the road and its ebbing rate has been small but we are envisaging a permanent solution on the road - building bridges in the coming financial year," said Mdoe.



## Government to establish communication and operation centres for disaster management

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE government plans to establish communications and operation centres for emergencies and rescue particularly in regard to disasters at sea as efforts towards the implementation of what had been agreed to by Southern African Development Community (SADC) members.

The Zanzibar Minister of State in the Second Vice President Office Mohamed Aboud Mohamed revealed this yesterday at the first meeting of the committee on ministers tasked on the issues of disasters management in SADC countries that started yesterday here in Zanzibar.

Tanzania is host for the four-day meeting with a slogan: "Sectoral Participation in the Reduction of Impacts of Disasters and the Best Way to build Control in the SADC Region."

Mohamed said the meeting is being held due to its importance among ministers from SADC countries charged with disasters management whose aim is to discuss and put in

place joint strategies on how best to manage incidents of disasters in the region - including hurricanes, floods, drought, and accidents at sea that have been affecting lives of the people and their property.

"We all witnessed the effect of last year's tropical cyclone Idai and Kenneth in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe that killed thousands of people and displacement of thousands others and which called for USD 10 billion in assistance in effort to return the situation to normal," he said.

He said the meeting comes at the time when many member countries in the region have been affected by natural disasters from time to time.

Mohamed said in building nations that can withstand the impacts of disasters SADC has succeeded in strengthening early emergency measures that answers to climate information, organizing annual meetings for member countries as well as preparing emergency plans and training in search and rescue operations in regard to disasters at sea.

He said SADC has implemented an assessment programme on food security among 14 countries impacted by climate related disasters and has put in place strategic plans to respond to the impacts of the disasters.

He said between 2017 and 2018 nearly seven million people were affected by disasters, the figure being small compared to 17 million who were affected in the period 2015-16.

He said Tanzania has finalized the preparation of all important documents on the issue of responding to disasters including the National Disasters Management Act (No. 7 of 2015) and its Zanzibar edition - Act No 1 of 2015, Disaster Management policy.

He added: "This SADC meeting aims in correcting the existing efforts in disaster management by enabling member countries to prepare strategies in responding to disasters. Also these strategies will help towards the reduction of the severity of the disasters and strengthen the ability of affected member countries to manage disasters."



NMB Bank Plc's southern zone manager, Janeth Shango (2nd-L), presents a donation of 134 desks worth 10m/- yesterday to Mbinga district commissioner Cosmas Nsenye for use by Mbambi and Makita secondary schools in Ruvuma Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tarura condemns vandalism on roads across Mwanza city

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) has cautioned the public against vandalising road infrastructure describing it as an economic sabotage and should not be allowed to wipe out the gains already made.

TARURA manager in Ilemela Municipal Council Eng Clement Kihinga sounded the warning here yesterday, saying the government is spending a lot of money on road infrastructure and those engaged in the vice will face the law.

He said road features such as sign posts are meant to enhance road safety and should not be vandalized, adding that the agency has embarked on sensitization of the public on the importance of road features.

Eng Kihinga called on the public to protect the road infrastructures in their areas because they are the one who uses the roads therefore it is good for them to be part of making sure that the roads continue to be in good condition.

According to Kihinga, at present the Ilemela Municipal Council has improved road communication, a move that eased transport; hence boost economic activities in the area. So far, construction of three roads has been completed. Those roads including the 9.3 km Sabasaba-Kiseke and Buswelu about, 1km Mjimwema-Big Bite which link the City of Mwanza and Ilemela Municipality with Mwaloni and Kirumba international fish markets.

He further said the newly built Sabasaba-Kiseke - Buswelu road has facilitated transport where a person can use a single route to the Ilemela municipality and "the situation that saves time and this is contrary to the past where people were forced to board two buses to reach the municipality".

Kihinga added: "TARURA will continue to build many more roads and bridges that link the municipality with other parts of the city."

## Zanzibar government out to build more schools to ease congestion in classrooms

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

The Zanzibar government has said it will build more schools at Wingwi in Pemba and Mwanakwerekwe in Unguja following the increase of school going children in the areas creating congestion in classrooms.

The Zanzibar Minister for Education Riziki Pembe Juma revealed this yesterday when answering a question in the House of Representatives asked by Konde Representative Omar Seif Abeid.

The representative asked for the procedure to be used on the issue for children to enroll in schools in the regions they reside so that students in their regions get chance to study in their regions' schools.

Pembe said when stu-

dents pass their examinations from those areas will be given priority to study in the schools in their own regions.

He said science creativity centres will have their own leaders and will be used by students from schools in the vicinity.

He explained that the schools will offer opportunities for students from any area to enroll so long as they passed their exams.

He further said the government has removed contributions for all primary and secondary schools so that they get education without discrimination.

He said the issue of giving assistance for schools development will be under the jurisdiction of the government hence subsidies will continue to be given.



**Science creativity centres will have their own leaders and will be used by students from schools in the vicinity**

## Dodoma RC: Grab investment opportunities in country's capital

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

DODOMA regional commissioner Dr Binilith Mahenge has urged investors to grab investment opportunities within Dodoma City so as to build a national capital with excellence in all sectors.

Dr Mahenge gave the call at the weekend at a meeting that assessed projects implemented by Dodoma City Council.

He said the time is ripe now for investors to identify and grab opportunities because the nation's capital

needs to be built by incorporating the private sector.

He said: "Dodoma has many strategic projects at final stages of implementation to start operating - the central market, bus station, Chinangali Gardens and Nala freight centre for lorries as well many other projects, and due to the fact that Dodoma is the nation's capital the government is to construct an airport and a sports stadium."

"Since we have projects that are within international standards our

social services such as health, education and others should also be to those standards to cater for foreigners," he added.

He advised city fathers to ensure they put in place proper plans that would enable the wananchi to go about their activities with ease including car parking.

"For example if you go around the city starting from 7th Street and proceed to areas allocated for car parking for customers you will find that the parking area is entirely used by shop owners," he said.

### The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar



#### GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The United Republic of Tanzania has received a loan from the ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA ("BADEA") to finance the Construction and Equipping of Secondary Schools In Zanzibar and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The proposed project aims at contributing to Zanzibar's achievement of the objectives of sustainable development in the field of education. The project also aims to help ensure that students in underserved areas have access to these schools. The project will support educational facilities, which will include civil works and their ancillaries for the construction and equipping of three secondary schools which includes the construction and equipping of three teachers' housing buildings, Construction and equipping of student housing buildings (2 for males students & 2 for females students) and construction and equipping of two cafeteria and kitchen buildings.

One of the school is located in the urban/West Unguja Region in Mfenesini Village. The second school is located in the North Unguja Region in Gamba Village. The third school is located in North Pemba Region in Kifundi Village.

The Project consists of the following main components:

A-Civil Works and their Ancillaries, including:

- Construction of three school buildings with a total area of 8250 square meters,
- Construction of three teacher housing buildings with a total area of 2661 square meters,
- Construction of student housing buildings (2 for males students & 2 for females students) with a total area of 3280 square meters,
- Construction of two cafeteria and kitchen buildings with a total area of 1184 square meters,
- External works, electricity, water, sanitation, security, safety and environmental protection.

B- Supply of furniture & equipment for the schools, teachers' housings, students' housings, cafeterias and kitchens in addition to the supply of 3 school buses.

C-Supply of (2) pick-up vehicles (4WD), two computers and accessories, one photocopier

D-Consultancy services, including preparation of detailed designs and tender documents, assisting the executing agency in issuing tenders, evaluating bids, awarding contracts and supervising the execution of works, including preparing the mid-term review report and the complete report of the project. The Eligible consultant should be Arab, African or Arab-African firms.

Procurement of goods and services shall be obtained through selection of a firm of qualified Arab, African firms, or Arab - African joint venture firms, and it will be in accordance with the BADEA and Rules of Procedure for the Procurement of Goods and Works (First Edition, 2001).

Interested eligible bidders, suppliers, service providers and consultant who wish to be included in the mailing list to receive an invitation to bid Expressed Interest or those requiring additional information should contact as shown in the address below from 7.30 am to 3.30 p.m Monday to Friday inclusive except Public Holidays.

Further to this publication of the General Procurement Notice (GPN), the subsequent announcement of Specific Procurement Notices (SPNs) will be advertised in Local, International Newspapers and MoEZ Website ([www.moez.go.tz](http://www.moez.go.tz)).

Principal Secretary,  
Ministry of Education and Vocational Training  
P.O.Box 394 Airport Road Mazizini-Zanzibar

Telephone: +255 (0) 24 2238210/2234356

E-mail address: [pmu@moez.go.tz](mailto:pmu@moez.go.tz) ,  
[info@moez.go.tz](mailto:info@moez.go.tz)





Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment) Angellah Kairuki (C) presents a certificate to CRDB Bank Plc senior manager Nuru Kiteti (L) and southern highlands zonal manager Denis Mwoleka (R) in recognition of the bank's support to the investment forum held in Songwe Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Revenue collections see Ikungi officials rewarded

By Guardian Correspondent, Ikungi

IKUNGI District Council in Singida Region has invented a procedure of giving bonuses to Ward functionaries who excel in their performance by being in top three in internal revenue collection.

Speaking at the council meeting at the weekend, the Council's Executive Director Justice Kijazi said the procedure will contribute in the increase of efforts to improve revenue collection.

Ward officials who emerged in three top positions and who received bonuses (in brackets) as rewards were: Salida Shinu (250,000/-), from Iglansoni Ward, Abubakari Maganga (200,000/-), from Iyumbu Ward and Joseph Mmewa (150,000/-).

He said through the procedure he believes ward officers will increase efforts in revenue collection as well as invest in new revenue sources.

The council chairman Ali Mwanga congratulated the ward

officials who were rewarded and called on them to put more efforts to spur competition with those who have not made to the top three.

He also congratulated the executive director and his team of experts and appealed to them to continue supervising funds issued by the central government for development projects particularly those for water, health and education. He also urged the experts not to be satisfied with the congratulations which were also

given by the Prime Minister Kasim Majaliwa during his visit to the district last October in which he said Ikungi District Council had a robust financial management system that was leading in the region.

During Financial Year 2019/2020, Ikungi was issued with 25.4bn/- budget and in the coming FY 2020/2021, it has approved 36.8bn/- budget to implement various development projects and for recurrent expenditure.

## World Bank and IMF grant Somalia some debt relief

By Special Correspondent

IN 1996 the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other multilateral, bilateral and commercial creditors began the Heavily Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Initiative.

The structured programme was designed to ensure that the poorest countries in the world are not overwhelmed by unmanageable or unsustainable debt burdens. It reduces the debt of countries meeting strict criteria.

Two days ago, the Executive Boards of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank met, on February 12 and 13, respectively, to consider Somalia's eligibility for debt relief under the Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative.

The Executive Boards commended the authorities' sustained commitment to economic and institutional

reforms under challenging circumstances and agreed that Somalia is eligible for assistance under the Enhanced HIPC Initiative based on a preliminary assessment. This assessment is an important step towards forgiveness of most of Somalia's debt, which measured US\$5.3 billion at the end of 2018.

Following the IMF Executive Board discussion on Somalia on February 12, 2020, Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director and Acting Chair, said:

"Today's agreement by the IMF Executive Board that Somalia can be eligible for debt relief under the Enhanced HIPC Initiative marks a historic moment. It provides a clear recognition of Somalia's sustained commitment to key economic and financial reforms under consecutive staff-monitored programs with the IMF. Helping Somalia achieve debt relief and unlock access to the needed resources to increase growth and reduce poverty is

a key priority for the IMF. I am very grateful to our members for all their support in this endeavor."

According to the World Bank Executive Board discussion on February 13, 2020, David Malpass, World Bank Group President, that this was an important step towards Somalia resuming financing from international financial institutions, including IDA, our fund for the poorest countries.

"I congratulate Somalia for embracing important reforms that can do much to encourage sustainable poverty reduction, and I thank our international partners who have worked with us to bring Somalia to this important stage. We are glad to have worked closely with the Federal Government of Somalia in assisting their progress over the past few years and look forward to opportunities for greater World Bank Group support for the Somali people." He said.

## TTCL launches communication towers campaign for rural areas

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

DEPUTY Minister for Works, Transport and Communications Atashasta Ndiye has unveiled a campaign to launch Tanzania Telecommunications Company Limited (TTCL) towers that will bring communication service closer to residents surrounding large urban centres, villages which had no such service previously.

Speaking during the launch held at Sabgasanga village in Morogoro Region, the Deputy Minister said the government has resolved to bring mobile communication closer to the wananchi so that they can fully participate in economic activities.

He also explained on the completion of Phases I and II of 7,560km National Communication

Grid that has enabled to provide communication service to the wananchi fast and at lower cost. Speaking at the event TTCL director General Waziri Kindamba said the tower that was unveiled cost 261m/- and assured the wananchi over the implementation of other projects in villages and other unattractive areas for business so that they become so attractive, and also called upon the wananchi to protect the communication infrastructures.

TTCL has been working together with Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) in ensuring communication services are available to Tanzanians as well as enabling our defense and security forces to have reliable mobile communication and Internet services.

## Use 'Radio Garden' platform to increase visibility globally, community radios told

By Guardian Reporter

COMMUNITY radio owners should use 'Radio Garden'—a radio casting platform on the web, which allows users to listen and explore various radio broadcasts available worldwide to increase visibility and coverage, the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) Vice-Chancellor, Prof Elifas Bisanda has suggested.

The platform allows listeners to explore worldwide broadcasts and hear various identities across the globe.

Prof Bisanda made the call when speaking at the national commemoration of this year's World Radio Day, themed: Radio and Diversity.

Organised by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in collaboration with Tanzania Development Information Organisation (TADIO) and other stakeholders, the event brought on board different media players across the country.

From its very beginning, radio signals have

crossed borders. Radio makers and listeners have imagined both connecting with distant cultures, as well as re-connecting with people from 'home' from thousands of miles away—or using local community radio to make and enrich new homes."

Prof Bisanda said: "The new platform increases visibility and geographical coverage of the radio station—an important aspect when it comes to marketing and attracting advertisers." It is an innovative venture that helps to popularize the radio station, hence make radio survive in the competitive market.

To me, I see this as one way of sailing through this competitive market, as radio garden allows anyone to tune your radio station anywhere in the world. "This gives confidence to your customers that their products can be heard all over the world," he said, calling for Tanzanian radio stations to get into the modern world if they are to increase their market horizons.

"If you look at the world map, there are very few radios in Africa which are on the radio garden as compared to other parts of the world; hence there is a need to work on the area for our radio stations to get popularity and visibility," he suggested.

Radio Garden is a non-profit Dutch radio and digital research project developed from 2013 to 2016, by the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision (under the supervision of Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg's Goal Föllmer), by the Transnational Radio Knowledge Platform and five other European universities.

### FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST UENDELEZAJI MISITU TANZANIA

#### INVITATION TO TENDER:

#### STUDY TO VALIDATE THE DRIVERS OF ADOPTION OF IMPROVED TREE PLANTING MATERIALS (IPM)

The Forestry Development Trust (FDT) is an independent institution established in 2013 by the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. The Trust aims to transform the commercial forestry sector in Tanzania by facilitating changes at the sector level that will enhance and build competitiveness, inclusiveness and resilience, the trust aimed at working with central and local government, local and international partners and all levels of commercial forestry tree growers. To achieve its goal the trust focuses on specific areas in working with both private and public stakeholders. One of these areas is increased use of IPM.

Sales data are increasingly showing downward trend as opposed to adoption study reports. This downward trend of uptake of IPM has been attributed to several perceived reasons which need to be verified and establish their weights so as to improve and strengthen the intervention strategy for increased adoption.

##### Consultants required skills and experience

The consultant is required to demonstrate strong credentials in the following areas:

- Detailed understanding of the private commercial forest context of the southern highlands of Tanzania especially medium and small-scale tree growers.
- Detailed understanding in commercial forest silvicultural practices
- Demonstrated competency on behavioural change
- Experience in stakeholder's consultation in the context of market systems development.

##### Proposals content and Submission

All proposals should include the following

- An expression of interest letter which indicates applicants' availability, capacity and suitability for the assignment.
- Details of the composition of the team, CV's, experience and relevance of each proposed team member for the assignment.
- Clear methodology on how the study will be conducted
- Provide summary of indicative budget for the assignment
- At-least two reference letters from reputable organizations stating how your organization has the capacity and experience on the assignment based on prior working relationship.
- A sample of report from the previous completed assignment will an added advantage

Proposals will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Proven track record and experience of the institution in undertaking similar consulting assignments.
- Composition and qualification of the team members
- Financial feasibility based on the proposed budget submitted
- Completeness of the proposal documents as required especially with reference letters and previous sample report.

Please visit <http://forestry-trust.org/jobs-and-tenders/> for more information and to read the full terms of reference.

Proposals must be submitted by **25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020** to [shukrani.biseko@forestry-trust.org](mailto:shukrani.biseko@forestry-trust.org) and [Baraka.Ntiruhungwa@forestry-trust.org](mailto:Baraka.Ntiruhungwa@forestry-trust.org), Queries can also be directed to aforementioned addresses.

### FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST UENDELEZAJI MISITU TANZANIA

#### INVITATION TO TENDER:

#### CAPACITY BUILDING CONSULTANCY ON BUSINESS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR START-UPS

The Forestry Development Trust (FDT) is an independent institution established in 2013 by the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT). The Forestry Development Trust works to improve the livelihoods of small and medium tree farmers through support to the commercial forestry sector in Tanzania.

FDT is currently seeking consultant(s) to design a Business Skills Development training model, deliver the training and provide mentorship to FDT supported Service providers (start-ups). The training is aiming at identifying areas of weakness and challenges among the start-ups and determine solutions for business growth, positioning and sustainability. FDT aims to ensure that, there is access to quality and reliable support services to strengthen the competitiveness, resilience and inclusivity of the Forestry Sector in Tanzania.

##### Consultant(s) will be sought with the following expertise:

- Knowledge and experience of developing Business Skills for start-up
- Experience in delivering successful training and mentorship for business start-ups
- Specific experience in Tanzanian or East African forestry/Agriculture is desirable

##### Proposals content and Submission

All proposals should include the following

- An expression of interest letter which indicates applicants' availability, capacity and suitability for the assignment.
- Details of the composition of the team, CV's, experience and relevance of each proposed team member for the assignment.
- Provide summary of indicative budget for the assignment

Please visit <http://forestry-trust.org/jobs-and-tenders/> for more information and to read the full terms of reference.

Proposals must be submitted by **25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020** to [baraka.ntiruhungwa@forestry-trust.org](mailto:baraka.ntiruhungwa@forestry-trust.org) and [emmanuel.sangalaji@forestry-trust.org](mailto:emmanuel.sangalaji@forestry-trust.org). Queries can also be directed to aforementioned addresses.



# BRELA embarks on promotion of intellectual property rights

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

BUSINESS Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) has promised to continue promoting intellectual property rights (IPR) in the country but not limited on the increase of granting of patents and utility models.

According to the agency, more efforts have to be done to encourage stakeholders to make sure the number of patent applications is increased from the current 30 applications per year.

This was said yesterday by BRELA Chief Executive Officer, Godfrey Nyaisa during official launching of Masters of Intellectual Property (MIP) at the University of Dar es Salaam.

The university has introduced MIP studies in collaboration with BRELA, The Africa Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) and World Intellectual Property (WIPO).

Nyaisa said in the next financial year the agency plans to conduct massive seminars, workshop and outreach programmes through sensitisation to

research, development institutions and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). "MIP will act as an eye opener to start a new chapter for more involvement on protection and promotion of IPR to our stakeholders especially from the College of Science and Technology," he said.

"As we are all aware that the fifth government targets making Tanzania an industrialised nation, IPR has a major role to play in assuring that our products and services are well branded and crossing our boundaries to access international market," he said.

UDSM Vice Chancellor, Prof William Anangisy said introduction of the programme is in line with the university's vision where the college embarks on strengthening its post-graduates programmes with specific emphasis on regional and international dimensions

"As you may be aware the university has already committed significant financial and human resources in support of the MIP. We have renovated students learning facilities and ac-

commodation at the Mikocheni campus where we will host the MIP programme," he said.

Prof Anangisy said UDSM is fully aware of the importance of intellectual property rights in the context of the contemporary global social and economic dynamics.

"We cannot afford to ignore the importance of intellectual property rights in our domestic policies and laws. The commencement of MIP programme at UDSM could not have been timelier," he noted.

He said for so many years UDSM has been in support of IPR initiatives both domestically and regionally adding at local level the university was the first higher learning institution to adopt the institution intellectual property policy in 2008. He added that on regional frontiers between 2006 and 2009, the university hosted a regional intellectual property coordination office under the auspices of the association known as universities sciences humanities and engineering partnership in Africa (USHEPIA).



Siha district commissioner Onesmo Buswelu (L, with spade) pictured yesterday participating preparatory work expected to lead to the construction of improved pit latrines for teachers at Namwai School. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

## Lindi flood victims benefit from aid worth 30 million/-

By Correspondent James Kandoya

OVERSEAS Chinese Service Centre in the country has donated over 30m/- worth of items to support people affected by the flood in Lindi Region causing fatalities and major damage.

It is a non-governmental, nonprofit organisation run by Tanzanian compatriots, based on the Chinese community facing all overseas Chinese, participating in parties, and operating in accordance with the law.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the organisation's director Alston Yi said that the donation was part of the good friendship to support their Tanzanian friends.

He named the items donated as maize flours 2350 kilogrammes, 5000 pieces of clothes, books 1280, 3600 pairs of shoes and 640 pieces of blankets.

"Soon after the flood affected the residents in Lindi, south east of the country. We asked our fellows Chinese to donate whatever they have for our friends and today we are here to hand over their material assistances," he said.

"We hope this donation will be of great importance to them since the floods left most of them displaced and indeed need our support," he added.

For his part, the Disaster Preparedness Manager from Tanzania Red Cross (TRC) Jonston Weston said the donation received will to great extent help those displaced after flood havocked their houses.

He said some of the residents have been affected directly or indirectly by the floods and therefore need special attention noting foods, clothes, classrooms were highly needed.

"The flood left our people displaced. Therefore humanitarian support is needed to return them to normal life including provision of medicine to prevent them from cholera and malaria," he said.

He applauded the organisation for their support to the Tanzanian people affected by the flash floods in Lindi region, southern east of the country.

He however called on the general public to make follows ups on the weather forecast information to prevent them from unnecessary disaster that might happen due to ongoing downpour.

In his tour conducted on February 07, this year, the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed authorities in Lindi region to make sure that people residing in lowland areas who were relocated to safer places do not go back to their previous settlement

## Govt calls on development partners to share ideas on combating locusts

By Correspondent James Kandoya

Kandoya

THE government has called upon development partners in the country to share their experiences with the government on how to fight against red locusts now wreaking havoc in neighbouring Kenya.

The Deputy Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe made the call recently in Dodoma when reacting to the topics and arguments at the Annual Agricultural Policy conference (AAPC).

This year theme was "Public and Private Sector Investment for Agricultural Transformation in Tanzania" and had involved over 150 participants from the academia, research institutions, policy makers, advocacy groups and development practitioners in the country.

Bashe said although the government had already hired two planes that will be used in spraying pesticides to kill red locust in case they enter the country the lesson learned from other countries was also very important to us.

"Currently, there is no attack of red locust so far in the country but, we are in threat because our neighbouring country is already in the problem. Your shared experiences can add value to our performance to avoid repeating the same mistakes," he said.

"We don't want to make mistakes that is why i have requested our development partners to share the experience from affected countries and how they succeeded in tackling the locusts," he added.

Furthermore, the information from their experience will help us as the country to strengthen monitoring of the symptoms or any alerts of the locust early and take action early. Elaborating more, the deputy minister said the government is currently conducting awareness to increase the public knowledge so that once the locusts cross the borders they will react and inform the responsible authorities to intervene.

About one month ago, the minister for Agriculture, Japhaet Hasunga, said the government had enough stock of pesticides to tackle locust invasion should the pests that are currently wreaking havoc in neighbouring Kenya cross into the country.

His statement came a few days after the swarms of locusts invaded Turkana County, destroying several hectares of vegetation and food crops, worsening the threat of acute hunger in a region that already suffers re-current drought. He said already a team of experts from his ministry is standby to ensure once it happen, it will be tackled to prevent its people from food scarcity and pastures.



### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT – VARIOUS POSITIONS

The Ariel Glaser Paediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative (AGPAHI) is a non-governmental organisation that plays a pivotal role in complementing the Government of Tanzania's efforts towards the attainment of its development goals. AGPAHI strives to provide quality and integrated HIV/AIDS health services to children and families. AGPAHI supports the provision of high-quality HIV and other health services and ensures that efforts are well-integrated into existing regional and district health systems.

AGPAHI is looking for a motivated, result driven, qualified and competent candidate to fill the following positions:

**JOB TITLE:** Senior Grants Officer  
**LOCATION:** Dar-es-salaam  
**REPORTS TO:** Grants Manager

#### Job Summary

The Senior Grants Officer, under the supervision of the Grants Manager will be responsible in managing sub-award for the Organization.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS:

##### Auditing:

- Developing compliance review plans for Sub-awardees with grant officers and ensure it properly implemented.
- Ensure Grant Officer(s) have conducted Compliance reviews for all Sub grantees as per the standard operational procedures (SOP).
- Advise Grants Manager on the need for developing new SOP as the need arise.
- Conduct Compliance reviews as per assigned Sub grantees
- Ensure all outstanding compliance review findings are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.
- Assess Sub Awardees' risk and assist in developing risk responses plan.

##### Monthly Financial Reports:

- Ensure each Sub Awardees has available funds, within the limitations of their agreement, at all times.
- Review and submit all monthly financial reports for each sub awardees on a monthly basis and in a timely manner.
- Monitors sub recipients' expenditures against approved budget and program objectives
- Ensure records in monthly financial reports and cash books submitted by sub-awardees reconcile with financial records maintained by an organization.
- Monitor Sub-Awardees expenditures against work plan on monthly basis and develop corrective actions against over or under spending.

##### Sub – Agreement:

- Ensure each Sub-Awardees has an active contract at all times.
- Ensure Sub-Awardees adhere to contractual and donor regulations at all times.
- Assist Grants Manager in Pre-Award assessment process and ensures organizations have the capacity to appropriately manage a Sub-Award.
- Oversees the negotiation of sub-agreement's terms and conditions and prepares final sub-agreement documentations.
- Monitors sub-recipients performance to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of award.
- Provides on-going assistance to sub-recipients to administer their sub agreements compliant with all terms and conditions.
- Manages the sub-agreement close out process.
- Work closely with contractual, financial and technical staff and provides guidance as necessary on sub-agreements' requirements.
- Assist Grants Manager in ensuring amendments are developed and processed in a timely manner.
- Address problems or concerns with management of Sub-Awards in a timely and effective manner.

##### Training:

- Providing training on Award Management to Sub-Awardees
- Assist Grants Manager in orient regional staffs on Award management
- Provide training to Grants officer(s)

##### Other Duties:

- Assess Award and Compliance policies and procedures on an on-going basis to identify and propose new policies or changes as needed.
- Monitoring the implementation of existing Sub-Award and Compliance policies to ensure they are being properly adhered to.
- Provide ad hoc reports to Grants Manager regarding Sub-Award and Compliance activities in a timely and accurate manner.
- Any other relevant duties as assigned by the Grants Manager and the Regional Program Manager.

##### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Business or other related field required. Masters preferred.
- Minimum of three years' experience in Federal funded awards, administration and management and worked with NGO.
- Experience in the development or implementation of sub-agreements/grants and compliance training.

#### Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Prior experience in business management or financial administration in Federal-funded programs.
- Has a consistent track record of high performance
- Skills necessary to formulate a risk assessment of individual sub-recipients and sub-grant portfolios. Ability to design and implement.
- Excellent communications skills (oral and written), including editing and proofreading.
- Proficient computer/software skills, including command of Word and Excel.
- Excellent organizational skills, ability to work independently, assess priorities and manage a variety of activities with attention to detail.
- Ability to interact professionally with staff, applicants, and sub recipients.
- Ability to identify and develop key partnerships and cultivate good relationships with other governmental and non-governmental entities.

**JOB TITLE:** Senior Finance Officer  
**LOCATION:** Dar-es-salaam  
**REPORTS TO:** Finance Manager

#### JOB SUMMARY

The purpose of this job is to carry out financial operations in the assigned area to facilitate core operations in line with organizational goals and objectives.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement the financial work plans in regional offices in accordance with AGPAHI's policies and donor regulations;
- Assist the Finance Manager in developing and monitoring the office's annual and semi-annual budget to facilitate operations;
- Carry out routine administration of the SAGE Accounting system by posting transaction details, analyzing posted data and generating ad-hoc reports so as to inform financial decision-making;
- Collate, review and submit staff time sheets in a timely manner for payroll processing;
- Process staff advances upon request to ensure accountability and liquidation in line with set policies and procedures;
- Process account receivables and payables in a timely manner to ensure that debtors and creditors are billed and paid respectively in accordance with terms set;
- Conduct banking processes including monitoring bank and cash levels, assisting in bank relations and correspondences and banking of cash returns within 48 hours to ensure safe custody of cash in line with AGPAHI policies and procedures;
- Review all financial documents to ensure their accuracy, completeness, and compliance with applicable policies before disbursement of funds to the vendors.
- Prepare and document payment vouchers against received invoices to ensure accurate mounts are paid out;
- Verify and code expense reports before entry into the SAGE system as a record of expenses;
- Manage cash flows for designated regional office to ensure the availability and adequacy of cash to facilitate operations;
- Prepare adjusting journal entries as needed for all adjustments to transactions to ensure accuracy and completeness of adjusted financial transactions;
- Consolidate and provide financial statements, analyses and forecasts from regional units to inform effective decision making;
- Assist in the preparation of year end statutory financial statements and working papers within agreed timelines to inform on the status of financial operations;
- Assist in the preparation and submission of monthly and ad-hoc reports to inform decision making at the management level; and
- Assist in audit processes by availing required data and providing responses to auditors to ensure audits proceed as planned.

#### Education and Experience:-

- Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting or any related field,
- At least 8 years relevant work experience
- CPA holder is preferred
- Knowledge and experience in organizational effectiveness and operations management
- Strong leadership, analytical, and organizational skills
- Knowledge of USG regulations is an added advantage
- Knowledge of project management principles and practices

#### HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and CV (not exceeding four pages) and names and contact information of three referees before close of business on **Friday 28th February, 2020** to the Human Resources and Administration Manager, Ariel Glaser Pediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative, by e-mail to [recruitment@agpahi.or.tz](mailto:recruitment@agpahi.or.tz)

Please mention the title of the position in your email subject and do not attach any document other than the CV and cover letter. Submission can also be dropped physically or by post in the address below:

Ariel Glaser Pediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative  
Plot 372, House No. 7 Chole Road (Near Coco Beach)  
P.O. Box 38252 Dar es Salaam

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



# The Guardian

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TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2020

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Funds to fight climate change in Africa grossly inadequate

CLIMATE change occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades, and maybe for millions of years. The climate system comprises five interacting parts, the atmosphere (air), hydrosphere (water), cryosphere (ice and permafrost), biosphere (living things), and lithosphere (earth's crust and upper mantle).

The climate system receives nearly all of its energy from the sun, with a relatively tiny amount from earth's interior. The climate system also gives off energy to outer space.

Tanzania has called on developed nations to honour their promise for funding to mitigate effects of climate change in Africa.

Speaking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during the 33rd African Union (AU) Ordinary Conference for Heads of State and Government recently, the Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan also urged African countries to have alternate sources of finance in fighting the effects of climate change.

At the Paris Conference in 2015 where the agreement was negotiated, the developed countries reaffirmed the commitment to mobilize USD100 billion a year in climate finance by 2020, and agreed to continue mobilizing finance at the level of USD100 billion a year until 2025.

African countries that contribute less to greenhouse gas emissions are suffering from the consequences of climate change while the promise of funding for mitigation by big polluters was not forthcoming.

Effects of climate change in a large

measure pull back development efforts in African countries due to destruction of infrastructures caused by hurricanes, floods or drought, hence she supports the idea of establishing a special fund and other alternate sources in fighting climate change effects

Developed countries that also emit more greenhouse gases pledged in what is known as Paris Agreement to avail more funding to mitigate the effects of climate change especially in developing countries.

The Paris Agreement is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), dealing with greenhouse-gas-emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance, signed in 2016.

The agreement's language was negotiated by representatives of 196 state parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC in Le Bourget, near Paris, France, and adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015 and as of November 2019, all UNFCCC members had signed the agreement, 188 had become party to it, and the only significant emitters which are not parties are Iran and Turkey.

The agreement's long-term temperature goal is to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels; and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C, recognizing that this would substantially reduce the risks and impacts of climate change. It also aims to increase the ability of parties to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

## Agriculture: Extension system remains critical tool in Tanzania

UNDER Tanzania's current agriculture development-led industrialisation strategy, the extension system remains a critical tool. This will be realised through facilitating the adoption and utilisation of yield- and quality-increasing agricultural technologies.

Rural extension is now a common activity in most countries of the world including Tanzania, and it is a basic element in programmes and projects formulated to bring about change in rural areas. Extension services are similarly a common feature of the administrative structure of rural areas and these services have the responsibility, in partnership with the farmers, of directing programmes and projects for change.

Since research-based agricultural extension services were begun to be provided to the surrounding farming communities by universities, the country has implemented several agricultural extension systems at different times aimed at supporting rural communities. Under Tanzania's current agriculture development-led industrialisation strategy, the extension system remains a critical tool.

The government firmly believes that an effective and efficient extension system plays an important role to transform smallholder subsistence agriculture to commercial agricultural production system. This will be realized through facilitating the adoption and utilization of yield- and quality-increasing agricultural technologies.

In fact, the extension system in Tanzania has great potential to help farmers throughout the country.

Extension is a term which is open to a wide variety of interpretations. Each extension agent probably has his own understanding of what extension is.

In other words, there is no single definition of extension which is universally accepted or which is applicable to all situations.

Furthermore, extension is a dynamic concept in the sense that the interpretation of it is always changing. Extension, therefore, is not a term which can be pre-

cisely defined, but one which describes a continual and changing process in rural areas.

Although farmers already have a lot of knowledge about their environment and their farming system, extension can bring them other knowledge and information which they do not have. For example, knowledge about the cause of the damage to a particular crop, the general principles of pest control, or the ways in which manure and compost are broken down to provide plant nutrients are all areas of knowledge that the agent can usefully bring to farmers.

The application of such knowledge often means that the farmer has to acquire new skills of various kinds: for example, technical skills to operate unfamiliar equipment, organizational skills to manage a group project, the skill to assess the economic aspects of technical advice given, or farm management skills for keeping records and allocating the use of farm resources and equipment.

The transfer of knowledge and skills to farmers and their families is an important extension activity and the extension agent must prepare himself thoroughly. He must find out which skills or areas of knowledge are lacking among the farmers in his area, and then arrange suitable learning experiences through which the farmers can acquire them.

Extension also provides advice and information to assist farmers in making decisions and generally enable them to take action. This can be information about prices and markets, for example, or about the availability of credit and inputs.

The technical advice will probably apply more directly to the production activities of the family farm and to the action needed to improve or sustain this production.

Much of this technical advice will be based upon the findings of agricultural research. In many instances, however, farmers are also sources of valuable advice and information for other farmers, and agents should always try to establish a farmer-to-farmer link.

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## Why Gambia needs to re-brand its tourism sector

By Makutu Manneh

GAMBIA needs to re-evaluate its business model to establish who its competitors are and the competitive edge they have on the smiling coast in order to position itself in the global tourism market.

The basis for competitiveness usually revolves around accessibility of a destination, value for money, infrastructure, environmental friendliness as well as working with communities for activities to take place.

Oumie Ceesay assistant Manager of Discovery Tours believes The Gambia is a small country that is endowed with potentials and does not need to develop new policies and strategies, but should rather work to operationalizing its current tourism policy.

Ceesay, who was speaking at the TAF conference held on 7th January 2020 at the Coral hotel said: "I always say we only need small gradual steps in order to have a progressive shift to more productive destination."

In order to have this progressive shift, destination Gambia has to start with a complete reorganization of its tourism sector.

She adds: "We wouldn't just need to focus on what action we need to take in order to transform the destination Gambia, but rather how do we implement reforms that would actually filter down an influential tourism sector. Because as a nation, I think there is a lot that we need to clean up in order to move forward."

Tourism contribution to The Gambia's GDP is significant. It is believed that the decision by the Barrow administration to declare the Gambia a visa free zone for travelers from EU, Commonwealth and Africa will help in increasing the number of arrivals. Gambia last year recorded two hundred thousand visitors, which is significant, but the former British colony could increase the number of arrivals visiting the country.

The recent collapse of Thomas Cook has compelled the authorities to waive landing fees for airlines and tour operators. This was also a good initiative, but there are lot more challenging logistics for airlines and tour operators arriving in the Gambia. Operators grappled with the payment of other taxes. There



are some airlines or tour operators who go to other destinations to refuel before coming into The Gambia and that shows how significantly more expensive the Gambia is compared to other destinations in the region. This explains the reasons why some tour operators prefer sending more tourists to other destinations.

The Smiling Coast of West Africa needs to expend its market in order to attract tourists from the African continent.

"This will bring a lot of revenue into the country. These are tourists who spend in all the sectors of our economy and that is what needs to be encouraged," she said.

"We need to be more consistent and prioritize our focus."

The collapse of Thomas Cook came as a surprise to stakeholders in the tourism sector as it was not anticipated by anyone. However, the question many people were asking was, were the actions of the government enough in trying to attract new operators and in trying to also change the country's tourism product.

The beaches and culture used to be the Gambia's number one selling point, but that needs to change.

Stakeholders believe The Gambia can never remove itself from the mass tourism industry, but it can try to focus on high spending tourists that come to the Gambia. This, however, needs framing what the country is trying to show-

case. The Gambia is endowed with a rich culture and sandy beaches, and it needs to make good use of them to maximize gains.

The Gambia is a country in West Africa and is the smallest country on the continent of Africa. It has a short North Atlantic Ocean coastline in the west and is surrounded by Senegal so that it is almost an enclave. The country occupies the navigable length of the Gambia River valley and surrounding hills.

The Gambia knows 2 distinct seasons: A rainy season (June to November) and a dry season (November to May).

The rainy season is marked by high air humidity, (sometimes oppressive) heat and occasional rainfall, mostly occurring in the evening or at night. The rainfall during the rainy season can be quite heavy. As a result of this, some dirtroads may become inaccessible. During the rainy season the natural beauty of The Gambia is amplified by the lush and colourful vegetation that swallows the landscape due to the rainfall.

The dry season is one of The Gambia's main attractions, luring in many tourists who enjoy a sunny winter holiday destination.

As the pleasant dry heat is accompanied by a near-constant fresh sea breeze in the coastal areas, it makes for a perfect sunny climate. Temperatures can fall up to about 18° degrees in the evening and at nighttime, thus ensuring comfortable nights during the

entire dry season.

As The Gambia is fairly close to the Equator, The sun is very strong and can therefore cause quick and severe skinburn as well as heatstroke. Be sure to apply sunscreen during the daytime and try to stay hydrated at all times.

Flood plain of the Gambia river flanked by some low hills – the highest point is just 53m above sea level.

The Gambia gained its independence from the UK on 18th February 1965. A constitution was written on 24 April 1970, before being suspended in July 1994 and subsequently rewritten and approved by national referendum on 8 August 1996. It was re-established in January 1997.

The Gambia formed a short-lived federation of the Senegambia with Senegal between 1982 and 1989. In 1991 the two nations signed a friendship and cooperation treaty. A military coup in 1994 overthrew the president and banned political activity, but a new 1996 constitution and presidential elections, followed by parliamentary balloting in 1997, completed a nominal return to civilian rule. The Gambia undertook another round of presidential and legislative elections in late 2001 and early 2002.

A constitutional crisis in the Gambia started after the presidential elections on 1 December 2016, and ended with the outgoing president Yahya Jammeh being forced to step down in favour of his elected successor Adama Barrow on 21 January 2017, after resistance.

Although long-serving incumbent President Yahya Jammeh initially accepted the surprising victory of Adama Barrow, he rejected the election results eight days later. Jammeh called for the election to be annulled and appealed to the Supreme Court.

Troops were subsequently deployed in the capital Banjul and Serekunda.

After ECOWAS delegates failed to persuade Jammeh to step down, a coalition of military forces from Senegal, Nigeria, and Ghana invaded the Gambia on 19 January 2017 to compel him to relinquish power. Two days later, Jammeh surrendered presidential duties in favour of Barrow and left the country to exile in Equatorial Guinea.

The Gambia celebrates its independence day on 18 February.

There is also the Muslim festival of Eid which is celebrated by virtually all Gambians and is a 2 to 3 day event where up to 250,000 animals are slaughtered to provide food for the feast. It is also a time when Gambians, especially female, dress in their finest regalia and buy new dresses at up to 3000 dalasi.



# TARI embarks on plan to extend cashew farming to all potential growing areas in Tanzania

By Gerald Kitabu

**T**ANZANIA Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) has put in place plans and strategies to increase production of cashew from the current 300,000 metric tonnes to more than 1,000,000 metric tonnes in five years period to ensure significant contribution of the crop to the economy and industrial drive.

The plan involves not only intensifying production per unit area but also expanding production to other parts of the country so that the crop can also contribute to individual income, household income and raise revenues of the district councils.

Through TARI - Naliende, many technologies have been developed to increase cashew production and productivity in Tanzania. More than 54 cashew varieties have been released to farmers which are high yielding, good nut size, good percentage out turn and resistant to insect pest and disease. The released cashew planting materials are now planted in many regions in Tanzania. This is a good indicator to shift cashew production from 315,000 metric tonnes to more than 1,000,000 metric tonnes by 2025.

This was said by Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Director General Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo during a tour of Mbarali district in Mbeya region recently to sensitize and promote the crop and its useful technologies.

During the tour of Mbarali district, TARI provided 300kgs of improved seeds to Mbarali district council for the farmers. According to TARI, if the improved seeds will be sowed and well managed, will produce 42,000 seedlings that are enough to cover 1,556 acres.

"If crop management adhered to, these 42,000 seedlings can produce up to 10 tonnes of cashew nuts in a period of two to three years," he explained.

Cashew was traditionally cultivated in South-Eastern part of Tanzania but to date, more than 20 regions are potential for growing cashew. The planting materials used to date are those from Tanzania Agricultural Research



Institute (TARI) which are high yielding, good nut size and resistant to insect pest and disease.

"We have decided that the Cashew as a commercial crop should be introduced in every region so that it can positively contribute to individual and household income as well as industrial drive," said Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo.

TARI Naliende Acting Centre Director Dr. Fortunus Kapinga assured Mbarali district commissioner that the climate of the district is very suitable for growing cashew nuts because the crop do not need much work and requires only minimal care to grow.

The crop need defined dry and wet seasons. During rainy season, Cashew nuts normally become vegetative and when the rains stop, the crop enters

**TARI director general Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo (C) hands over 300kgs of improved seeds of cashew to Mbarali district Commissioner Reuben Mfune (2nd L shaking hands). Others are Mbarali district executive director Kivuma Mangi (2nd R) and TARI-centre directors Dr Tulole Bucheyeki (1st R) and Dr Fortunus Kapinga (1st L). Photo by Correspondent Gerald Kitabu**

productive stage. So, having seen these conducive climatic and oil requirement of Cashew nuts in other regions such as Mbeya, Songwe, Tabora, Singida, Kigoma, Katavi, we said there is no need to limit ourselves in some few regions but rather we should extend production and dissemination to other regions," he said.

A survey conducted by TARI in some regions in Tanzania revealed that there are some cashew nuts grown in some regions but they are not management. If they were managed well, they would have performed better in terms of production just like Mtwara and Lindi regions.

Commenting on classes and grades, Dr Kapinga dismissed claims that the cashew nuts have classes or grades saying it depends on crop management. The crops that are well managed will have better grade than those that are not well managed.

"The notion that a certain region produces better cashew nuts and another produces poor cashew nuts is wrong, it depends on the crop management," he said.

Receiving the improved seeds, Mbarali District Commissioner, Reuben Mfune commended TARI for giving priority to the farmers of the district adding that the people of Mbarali have received

the improved seeds with great excitement.

"When I reported in Mbarali for work in 2016 I visited some villages and noticed that the farmers had grown the cashew nuts and they were in good health. I decided to grow them as well. Recently many farmers have started growing the crop and it is doing better," he said.

Cashew also known as Anacardium occidentale L. is an important export crop in terms of foreign exchange earnings and the source of income in Tanzania. It is the leading source of income for over 500,000 households in South-Eastern part of Tanzania. The most important products de-

rived from the cashew are cashew nuts which are then processed to get kernel. The cashew apples are important in making juices, jam, alcoholic, pickles and ethanol. To date cashew is a leading export crop in Tanzania.

The contribution of TARI in the crop production.

TARI-Naliende has the national mandate to coordinate and conduct research on cashew crop. The centre has developed many cashew technologies on breeding, agronomy, crop protection, biotechnology and vegetative propagation. To date, the centre has managed to release more than fifty four new cashew varieties to be planted by farmers. The released materials are of high yielding, good nut size, good percentage out turn and resistant to insect pests and diseases. TARI has managed to deliver the new modern technologies to cashew stakeholders and farmers in order to increase production and productivity to the country.

Many challenges facing cashew production through TARI have been solved for examples the technology to control insect pest and diseases in cashew has been developed. These diseases named above can be controlled using cultural methods, planting cashew resistant materials and spraying of fungicides and insecticides.

TARI expects that in few years to come, Tanzania will be the leading country in Africa in cashew production. It is expected that more than 150 tonnes of cashew seed will be planted in new cashew plantation every year. Another strategy is to make sure that all insect pests and diseases are controlled on time in order to attain the maximum production of the crop.

"I recommend that all potential cashew growing areas in Tanzania should take up this crop seriously and plant. The crop is important for poverty reduction and for realizing the President's vision of industrialisation," said Dr Mkamilo.

# Politicians continue to bicker while Zimbabweans are starving

BY RINGISAI CHIKOHOMERO

**Z**IMBABWE is teetering on the edge of a large-scale humanitarian crisis and South Africa and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) cannot afford to ignore it. Half the population (7.7 million) is at risk of starvation, making this the country's worst food insecurity in a decade.

Maize meal is disappearing from shop shelves and the country is setting up a maize meal committee to preside over the procurement and distribution of the staple. Establishing committees has been the Zimbabwe government's strategy when it is left without answers. Too often, such committees and commissions of inquiry merely lead to more opportunities for patronage - for example the Motlanthe Commission.

While Zimbabwe, like most parts of Southern Africa, has experienced recurrent drought in the past three seasons, its crisis goes beyond the vagaries of weather and climate change. A drought doesn't necessarily translate into food insecurity. Zimbabwe's crisis is largely due to policy and infrastructure failure. The country has less than a month's supply of grain in the national reserves. How did Zimbabwe get to this point?

Corruption, policy distortions, inconsistencies and outright elitist and partisan policies have been the bane of the agricultural sector and are indicative of how the country has been managed. Investment in agriculture has been low since the advent of fast-track land reform. Both the current and previous administrations failed to provide security for land tenure or make the guaranteeing of property rights a priority.

Although the number of farmers has risen, grain production has plunged to its lowest in years

The government issued 99-year leases for all land appropriated under fast-track land reform. The lease is neither transferrable nor bankable. The lease can be revoked at will by the state. Recent cases of threats to withdraw 99-year leases to people who have fallen

out with the establishment serve only to scare away would-be investors. This has made agricultural land a dead asset.

Chasing away white commercial farmers during land reform has seen an increase in the use of land as a tool for electioneering. While a considerable number of landless peasants benefited from the process, land was also parcelled out as an instrument of patronage.

Almost every senior civil servant, military top brass and ruling party functionary has become a farmer. These 'cellphone farmers' (who direct farm operations remotely via cellphones) have access to government inputs including fuel, which they trade instead of using it for farming.

In addition, many taxpayer-funded agriculture support schemes have been churned out, including the infamous command agriculture which saw the treasury part with US\$3 billion. The government has failed to account for these schemes.

A month after scrapping maize subsidies, the government was forced to reverse its decision

It was also recently revealed that part of the command agriculture money was used to procure top-of-the-range vehicles for 'monitoring' the scheme. Notwithstanding the increase in the number of farmers and the money invested, grain production has plunged, and the country cannot feed itself. Grain production is at its lowest for years.

The government in the past year has issued contradictory policies and public pronouncements in relation to grain. Maize has for decades been subsidised, with grain millers procuring maize for a song at the Grain Marketing Board (GMB). The GMB has the monopoly over grain and by law all farmers must sell their produce to it.

The maize producer price has been capped way below what would make economic sense for a smallholder farmer. At present a ton of maize is pegged at Z\$1 400 which would translate to just below US\$80. The producer prices and GBM monopoly have become a disin-



**Drought doesn't necessarily translate to food insecurity – poor governance and failing infrastructure do. File photo**

centive for grain farmers. Grain production has become less viable as a business, hence production levels remain suppressed, affecting the country's grain reserves.

During his 2020 budget speech Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube announced the scrapping of maize subsidies among a host of other measures to reduce government's unsustainable expenditure budget. One month later the government was forced to reverse its decision as maize prices spiked beyond the reach of many.

No one is getting maize at the gazetted price and the commodity has become scarce

The continued subsidies have created an opportunity for arbitrage for a few

select companies. The gazetted retail price for a 10kg bag of maize meal in Zimbabwe is currently pegged at Z\$70. This is below the market price of Z\$90 and less than half of the going price on the black market.

Seven companies have been granted access to government-subsidised grain at less than half the price of importation and market price. Because the system is created to be porous, the same companies with access to subsidised grain allegedly engage in inside marketing and the product finds its way onto the black market. Ultimately no one is getting maize at the gazetted price and the commodity has become scarce.

Zimbabwe has been a victim of successive droughts, but poor policies with

anti-market economics, abuse of state resources and corruption have affected the country's capacity to prepare and stock up reserves for the drought seasons.

In the absence of political conflict and violence, the humanitarian crisis is escaping the radar of regional leaders' attention. Given the scale of the disaster, South Africa and SADC cannot afford to ignore it. Already millions of Zimbabweans are in South Africa as economic migrants. With the crisis looming there, millions more hungry Zimbabweans are bound to join them.

Since the last South Africa-Zimbabwe Bi-National Commission, South Africa's government hasn't been visible regarding the unfolding events in Zimbabwe.

President Cyril Ramaphosa's government should use the 2020 Bi-National Commission to be upfront with Emmeron Mnangagwa's administration regarding the link between food insecurity and macro-political and economic instability.

As South Africa and regional leaders continue to pamper the Mnangagwa administration instead of nudging it towards reforms, Zimbabwe moves closer to a fully-fledged humanitarian emergency with ripple effects across the region. A collaborative approach is urgently needed as the implications run across SADC.

**Ringisai Chikohomero, Researcher, Peace Operations and Peace Building Programme, Pretoria**



# Was the tussle for AfCFTA secretary-general an omen?

BY PETER FABRICIUS

**T**HE selection of the first secretary-general of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) turned into a competition between the continent's two economic giants, South Africa and Nigeria, at the African Union (AU) summit in Addis Ababa this week.

It was a reminder that these two are likely to clash much more in the future - and that free trade under the deal, kicking in on 1 July, will probably be highly political. By the time it got to the summit, the selection process should have been automatic, at least from a South African perspective.

A selection panel of trade ministers had whittled down the original list of 121 candidates to three: South Africa's Wamkele Mene, Nigeria's Cecilia Akin-Adesimoye and the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Faustin Luanga. The panel had ranked Mene first, Luanga second and Akin-Adesimoye third, insiders said.

But Nigeria refused to withdraw its candidate, sparking a fierce contest that ran from the AU's Executive Council of ministers through both days of the heads of state meeting. It eventually ended in seven rounds of voting - very rare in the AU which prefers to decide by consensus - which Mene won comfortably.

Nigeria last August banned the import of all goods from countries with which it shares a land border.

Nigeria's determination to get this job struck the South African government, at least, as overly political, and a trifle anomalous, given Nigeria's lukewarm attitude to the AfCFTA. Abuja took long to sign on to the deal and still hasn't ratified it.

Then in August last year, Nigeria banned the import of all goods from countries with which it shares a land border, effectively banning all trade (import and export) with its neighbours. This also wasn't in keeping with the spirit of free trade.

The impression is that Nigeria is anxious about free competition, particularly from South Africa, which dominates African trade, accounting for some 34% of all intra-African exports (compared to Nigeria's 9%).



Mene has a mountain to climb in the coming months. He and his new permanent secretariat should begin work by 31 March in Accra. South Africa will host a special AU summit on the AfCFTA on 30 May when all the necessary instruments for trade in goods and services to start on 1 July must be signed. That's a tight deadline. Trade ministers must negotiate such matters as rules of origin and national schedules of tariff concessions.

At the summit Ramaphosa - while ostensibly expressing the concerns of Africa as a whole - implicitly revealed South Africa's concerns. 'We must all ensure that the AfCFTA does not become a conduit for products with minimal African value addition to enter and penetrate our local markets under the guise of continental integration. There must be a reasonable standard set for what constitutes a product that is Proudly Made in Africa.'

There's an important difference between intra-African trade and trade with the rest of the world.

Trudi Hartzenberg, head of the

**Economic giants South Africa and Nigeria will likely be the main antagonists when free trade starts in July. File photo**

Trade Law Centre, explained that Ramaphosa was expressing a concern that cheap imports from global sources (China is of course the usual suspect) could enter a specific country and then, after adding a few buttons to a shirt for example, could be exported duty-free to other African countries masquerading as African products.

South Africa, as the continent's undisputed industrial giant, doesn't have to worry too much about imports from other African countries. But it is concerned that if the 'rules of origin' of the AfCFTA are so lenient as to permit the kinds of 'screwdriver operations' Hartzenberg describes, South Africa could be flooded with cheap, pseudo-African imports. It insists that products must contain at least 41% of African inputs to qualify as African.

Ramaphosa also told the summit: 'We have to level the playing field for African businesses, so

they are able to operate in a large-scale market unfettered by regulatory fragmentation. This is an integral part of rebalancing global trade relations.'

Hartzenberg said Ramaphosa seemed to be referring to the fact that China, for example, provides significant support and subsidies to its producers, which gives them an unfair advantage. Overall, Ramaphosa said, 'The era of economic colonialism and imperialism, under which Africa is a pit stop in the global assembly line, has passed.'

But are these grand ambitions for the AfCFTA realistic? Is Africa investing too much hope in it, setting itself up for disappointment? The biggest dream, as Ramaphosa has said elsewhere, is that the AfCFTA will 'reignite industrialisation' in Africa. Conventional opinion on the continent is that Africa's industry and manufacturing were destroyed by Washington Consensus econom-

ics, including structural adjustment programmes of the IMF and World Bank.

**Trade within Africa is significantly below the averages in other regions**

Yet, on the face of it, the belief that the AfCFTA will revive industries seems to be rooted in the same economic philosophy. Since the Lomé Convention, the underlying notion has been that if you remove most restrictions on entry into the European Union or United States markets for African exports, this will encourage foreign manufacturers to establish their factories in Africa to take advantage of this expanded access to lucrative Western markets.

But the strategy hasn't 'reignited industrialisation'. Why should the AfCFTA, another free trade deal, be any different? The problem has surely always been on the supply side. Africa has lacked the capacity to manufac-

ture products that the rest of the world, including Africa, really wants.

However Jakkie Cilliers, Head of African Futures and Innovation at the Institute for Security Studies, points to an important difference between Africa's trade with the rest of the continent and with the rest of the world. 'Similar to other regions, intra-African trade has relatively higher industrial content than does African countries' trade with the rest of the world, which speaks to the importance of growing regional trade.

'Currently intra-regional trade in Africa is significantly below the averages in other regions and variously estimated at between 16% and 18% of total trade. On average, a regional trade agreement such as the AfCFTA results in a substantial increase in manufacturing exports between members. This could in itself boost industrialisation. And it would be especially true for South Africa, for which the African hinterland is already a major export market.'

Carlos Lopes, former head of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and now teaching at the University of Cape Town, said in 2018 that agro-processing could be the key to unlocking this problem. Small African businesses could take advantage of the AfCFTA's tariff protection from big external producers to develop businesses like packing pineapples and exporting them inside Africa.

Hartzenberg agrees, saying since very few African countries have diversified industrial capacity, 'initially it may be that agro-processed products will be where we see an increase in trade.' And this could be a stepping stone to more sophisticated production.

Clearly the AfCFTA is a big thing and could be a major game changer. But it may be a good idea to avoid raising expectations too high about it stimulating an African economic renaissance.

**Agencies**

# Amplifying voices of climate activists of colour

ILLINOIS, United States

**R**ECENTLY, the Associated Press cropped out Ugandan climate change activist Vanessa Nakate from a photo at the World Economic Forum. The remaining activists in the photo, including Greta Thunberg, were all white.

While the AP cited picture composition as the reason for the edit and later apologized for their actions, it still happened. The editing out of Nakate - who said it felt like her story had been erased - calls for a deeper reflection on the issue of diversity, inclusion, and the lack of representation of people of color and other marginalized groups in key global conversations.

In fact, people of color should be the ones we hear from the most when it comes to issues like climate change. According to climate research and many reports, including the recently released IPCC report, the outcomes of climate change disproportionately affects people living in developing countries.

Highlighting activists of color is good for everyone. Convincingly, a growing body of evidence shows that when minorities and underrepresented voices are included, and their voices and actions displayed, including in science, everyone benefits.

For example, in March of 2019, flooding events in Malawi and Mozambique brought about by climate change affected and disrupted the lives of nearly 843,000 people. In addition, in the same year, drought, floods, and conflicts brought about by the changing climate, contributed to soaring levels of hunger in the horn of Africa.

According to Save the Children, nearly 13 million people were affected by hunger with children making half the number.

Instead, climate activists and voices from these communities must be centered in global conversations if we are to sustainably mitigate climate change. They bring in firsthand experi-

ence which can greatly inform climate change conversations, science, action, and policy.

As an African climate change activist who has greatly benefited from media visibility, I strongly feel we must highlight activists of color in the media - it matters who is featured there. Undoubtedly, Thunberg is a passionate, fearless and determined activist and she deserves to be celebrated.

But we should also hear about the actions of young people like Kaluki Paul Mutuku from Kenya, who has been engaged in conservation work and activism, Leah Namugerwa, a climate activist from Uganda, also engaged with Friday climate strikes and Ridhima Pandey, a climate activist from India.

Failing to showcase and highlight the contributions, ideas, and actions of these activists from developing countries hurts us all. It actively crops these voices out and reduces the chances that their worthy ideas will help shape policies and the world.

Often those ideas are ingenious, born of necessity and creativity. This is something I saw firsthand while growing up in rural Kenya in a town with no electricity or Internet. People in these regions innovate every day, but their ideas and ways of addressing challenges are rarely featured - and not on a global scale. This should change.

Further, rendering these activists invisible potentially denies them the chance of catching the eye of and benefiting from funding agencies that can finance their ideas and amplify their contributions. It perpetuates the problem by allowing groups with more visibility and funding in the first place to continue to grow through support.

Highlighting activists of color is good for everyone. Convincingly, a growing body of evidence shows that when minorities and underrepresented voices are included, and their voices and actions displayed, including in science, everyone benefits.

It makes our world stronger. It also



**Ranton Anjain, 17, from the Marshall Islands, speaks at a press conference announcing a collective action being taken on behalf of young people facing the impacts of the climate crisis. File photo**

sends a message to other activists and aspiring young people that they, too, can be the voice on issues of our day.

In contrast, by failing to recognize all activists, we perpetuate the narrative that only certain people can achieve greatness. Only certain people can be activists. Yet, this is not true. Even with the lack of representation, we have ex-

amples of people of color who have broken glass ceilings.

The Late Nobel Prize winner, Wangari Maathai, for example, was an environmental activist whose work continues to inspire many people-young and old. Imagine how much more persons of color may be able to achieve if they have more recognition and sup-

port.

In the end, we all must make an effort to ensure that diversity and inclusion happens. Small actions like calling out these injustices as they happen would go a long way. If you see something - say something.

We cannot stand by the perimeter and expect a just and equal world to

happen. Evermore, we must continue to be creative and find other avenues to highlight activists of color and those from marginalized groups. We all have a stake in mitigating climate change.

**Agencies**



# ATB supports diversification of tourist products in Africa

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE African Tourism Board (ATB) is looking to cooperate with African countries to develop beach tourism, marine tourist resources and sports tourism which are best tourist products in Africa in need for local and international marketing and promotional strategies.

Beach and marine resources tourism along the Eastern Coast of the Indian Ocean are potential

tourist products in Africa in need for development and exposure to international tourists, ATB Chairman Cuthbert Ncube said.

Ncube said, after a day-long visit of Sinda Marine Island off the Indian Ocean coast in Dar es Salaam, that marine tourist parks in East Africa could attract big numbers of international-class tourists.

The ATB Chairman, who was on a six-day working tour in Tanzania, said that Africa needs to diversify its tourist attractions available in the continent other than wildlife

resources - the leading tourist attraction in the continent.

"Let us expose our islands in this continent to local, regional and international tourists," Ncube said this week after a visit to Sinda island last Sunday.

During his day-long tourist excursion on the island, Mr. Ncube met and held discussions with Tanzanian deputy ministers for Natural Resources and Tourism Mr. Constantine Kanyasu, Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Dr. Damas Ndumbaro and

Livestock and Fisheries Mr. Abdallah Ulega.

Tanzania has seven protected Marine Parks, best for beach tourism, mostly swimming, scuba diving, underwater sports and marine life excursions.

Ulega said that Marine Parks in Tanzania were not well marketed to attract big numbers of tourists.

For his part, Ncube advised the Tanzanian government and other stakeholders to take quick initiatives that would help to develop, then market and promote marine

tourism through joint partnership with ATB.

He said that Africa needs diversified tourism with a focus to marine or beach resources, sports and cultural tourism, all of which are intact and untouched.

Southern beaches on the Indian Ocean coast in Tanzania are rated as the "New Tourist Corridor". Kigamboni suburb in the area is now an upcoming tourist and luxury satellite city in Dar es Salaam.

Known as the "South Beach Zone," Kigamboni city hosts a

number of high-class tourist accommodation and recreational facilities in its long beach stretch south of Dar es Salaam Central Business District (CBD).

South Beach Zone in Tanzania is counted to be attractive destination for beach holidaymakers from all corners of the world.

Ncube said during his working tour in Tanzania that ATB is now working hard to identify, develop and then expose the African tourist products at the international travel markets as to attract more

visitors to visit this continent.

Ncube, who was the Guest of Honor at the domestic exhibition conference in Tanzania last week, said that Africa needs to build a strong tourism base in areas of culture, wildlife and other heritages available in this continent.

Both the ATB Chairman and the ATB Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Doris Woerfel were in East Africa for official working tour in which they made interactions with participants and stakeholders at the UWANDAE Expo 2020 domestic

## Bank launches 'Chanja Kijanja' campaign to reward its Mastercard cardholders

By Guardian Reporter

EXIM Bank Tanzania has launched a promotional campaign to reward its Mastercard cardholders.

The launch of the new campaign dubbed: 'Chanja Kijanja na Exim Bank Mastercard' goes hand in hand with the bank's drive to provide unmatched convenience to its customers whilst also giving special benefits in line with their lifestyles.

According to Exim Bank head of retail banking, Andrew Lyimo, the campaign aim at encouraging Exim Bank customers to use the bank's cards in online purchases or making payments through payment point devices (POS) in a number of shops and other locations across the country.

"At Exim Bank, our cardholders enjoy utmost convenience across our network when it comes to making purchases or payments across accepting platforms including dining, shopping, international purchases and online bookings, traveling, hotels, and touris-

tic activities," he mentioned.

"And now, on top of customers enjoying the utmost convenience that comes with our cards, they will now stand a chance to win big through this campaign. There will be weekly, monthly and grand prizes and all our customers have to do is make purchases or payments through their Exim Bank Mastercard cards as many times as possible. Each transaction adds on one's chances to win."

During the campaign, 10 weekly winners will be rewarded with shopping vouchers worth 50,000/-; 5 monthly winners will be rewarded with smartphones.

And as for the grand prizes, our customers with their plus one, will win an all-expenses-paid trip (Visa Cost, Plane Ticket, Match and Spending Money). The first winner will fly to Dubai, the second winner to Cape Town and the third to the Zanzibar islands.

The campaign will run between from February until end of April 2020 and is open to all Exim Bank Master-

Card cardholders, including all new customers who have applied or will apply for new cards during the period of the campaign, according to Lyimo.

Stanley Kafu, Head of Marketing and Communications at Exim Bank Tanzania, expressed his delight at launching the campaign saying: "We're thrilled to introduce the Chanja Kijanja campaign. Enhancing our customers' banking experience and making their spending even more rewarding, is the center of our working philosophy at Exim Bank.

Exim Bank will continue to provide exclusive offers and unique prizes to its customers, as a token of appreciation for their loyalty and trust." He added

"We are excited to tap into Exim Bank cardholders' passions and offer the chance to win a truly priceless experience. Using Exim Bank Mastercard is a fast, convenient and secure way to make everyday purchases... you just Chanja Kijanja na Exim Bank Mastercard." he said.



## Iringa scribes organise debate to observe global day for women and girls in science

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

THE Iringa press club in collaboration with women journalists in the region has organized a debate as part of activities to commemorate the international day for women and girls in science.

Statistics show that only 30 percent of female students chose to study science, technology, engineering and mathemat-

ics (STEM) at higher education level in the 2019 academic year.

Speaking at the discussion yesterday, Iringa Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS), Happiness Seneda said the number of girls opting for science subjects at primary and secondary schools is encouraging, but it decreases at higher levels of education.

Seneda gave an example of Iringa region whereby in 2019 the number of girls registered for

the Form Four national examinations were more than boys, but yet a good number of girls could not perform well compared to just a few boys who failed the exams.

A total of 7,398 girls and 6,165 boys were registered for the Form Four national examinations in Iringa region last year, according to Seneda.

She said, of the number, 177 girls did not sit for the exams compared to only 72 boys who

could not do the national examinations. Head of Tanzania Communications Authority (TCRA) in Southern Highlands Regions, Eng John Asajile commended IPC for organizing the event that goes hand in hand with commemorations of Safer Internet Day.

Eng Asajile said the debate was timely because girls are the main victims of cyber bullying hence the need to guide them on better use of the internet. He

said the event was an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss challenges and opportunities available online.

He however called upon students to make good use of the internet for sustainable development. "It is great to have a day dedicated to building a more secure internet for everyone. Safer Internet Day was celebrated on Tuesday, 11th February 2020 when stakeholders joined forces across the globe to work together for a better internet".

IPC Executive Secretary, Tukuswiga Mwaishumbe inspired girls to go for science subjects forsaking the myth that science lessons are difficult or meant for boys. She advised girls to use social network platforms for educational purposes, adding that women and girls should not use the internet to post immoral and degrading images.

"You should not spend a lot of time tracking celebrity's in-

formation online, you must use the internet to benefit yourselves and the community", Mwaishumbe noted.

The international day for women and girls in science was initiated by the United Nations in 2015 and is celebrated on every February 11th. It aims to create awareness for women and girls who have been left behind in participation in science and technology despite their potential.



Solar power plays a key role in scaling up education for students who are off-grid. Photo File

## Form IV best performing students in Arusha to get free solar power gadgets

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

BEST performing students in this year's Form Four National examinations will be awarded with solar power gadgets in a move aimed at scaling up education in Arusha Region.

This follows the pledge made by a solar power firm - Zola Electric Tanzania over the weekend here during the launch of the firm's offices in Arusha region.

Managing director of East Africa ZOLA Tanzania, Yusuph Majir Nassor said the award to the Form Four students with best pass rate in this year's national examinations is geared towards eradicating examinations failure as well as complementing government's efforts to scale up education in the region.

Nassor said that the government was working hard to improve teaching and learning environment and "what we're doing is complement the government's endeavors."

"We believe education is the only inheritance someone can give to his/her children. That's why we feel honored to give solar power accessories to anyone who will do better in the forthcoming Form Four national examinations.

He said best students will be given solar power accessories, which include light, fan, and computer and other gadgets that will help beneficiaries to further their education.

Apart from education, the solar power firm vowed to continue supporting other sectors in the country such as health.

Longido District Commissioner, Frank Mwaishumbe commended the

Zola Electric for the support to education in the region and the country.

"This support will help to transform education as it will make students study hard, hence scale up performance in the region," the DC said.

DC Mwaishumbe was optimistic that the region will perform better rather than last year, when the region ranked number three in the Form Four National Examinations.

"As government, we commend Zola for employing more Tanzanian youth."

ZOLA Official Brand Ambassador, Idris Sultan vowed to continue promoting the solar power firm so that more Tanzanians particularly those in peripheral regions who are off national grid use solar power.

"There are more people who unaware of solar power and its effectiveness. I'll promote this idea everywhere I go. It is also important for people to have Zola solar power even if you are connected to the power from the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO)," he said.

Zola Electric is previously known as Off-Grid Electric is the world's first Solar-as-a-Service company to offer pay-as-you-go solar home systems, which made basic electricity services accessible to the poorest for as little as \$0.19 a day.

It combines Silicon Valley technology with local expertise to offer African homes and businesses a 24/7 solar solution to an unreliable or nonexistent grid.

According to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), approximately one in five people around the world lack access to reliable energy and electricity.



# Paraguay can be a 'beacon state' for forest management

ASUNCION, Paraguay

IMAGINE a forest that covered half of your entire country. A biodiverse forest which supports thousands of species from giant anteaters to armadillos to jaguars. A forest that is home to one of the world's last uncontacted tribes.<sup>1</sup>

That forest is in fact a reality in Paraguay, a South American country of seven million people, landlocked between Argentina, Brazil and Bolivia. It is home to much of the Gran Chaco forest that is considered the second largest forested landscape in South America – second only to the Amazon rainforest.

And like other countries which are home to the great forests of South America, Paraguay too battled raging wildfires in 2019.

But Paraguay's portion of the Chaco forest is battling an even more existential challenge. This unique ecosystem, characterised by scrub forests, grassy plains, lagoons, marshes and jungles, is under threat from agricultural expansion, driven by cattle and soy production.<sup>2</sup>

The region has one of the highest rates of deforestation in the world. As NASA satellites have highlighted between 1987 and 2012, the forests in Paraguay lost nearly 44,000 square kilometres through conversion to farmland or grazing land. That's an area roughly the size of Honduras.<sup>3</sup>

The scale of that destruction is both frightening and untenable.

Paraguay needed to support to reduce deforestation. And partly as a consequence of that destruction, the country was not able to fully realise



the massive potential of its forests to support climate change mitigation.

Thus, Paraguay engaged in REDD+, a voluntary process under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which encourages developing countries to contribute to climate change mitigation efforts by reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from deforestation and forest degradation. The process also helps to increase the removal of GHGs from

the earth's atmosphere through the conservation, management, and expansion of forests.

Since 2011, partners from across the UN System have collaborated closely to support Paraguay's national REDD+ process through a range of tailor-made initiatives.

They include the UN-REDD Programme (2011-2016) where the Food and Agriculture Or-

ganization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provided support to Paraguay to submit its first Forest Reference Emission Level of deforestation (FREL).

This collaboration also resulted in a new National Forest Monitoring System for the country which allows for the report-

ing of forest carbon – reliable data on forest area and changes to forest area.<sup>4</sup>

Following this, and thanks to support from the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility since 2016, Paraguay advanced the elements of the UNFCCC Warsaw Framework for REDD+ – institutional prerequisites that make a country's emission reductions in the forest sector eligible to exchange for results-based payments.

UN agencies are now jointly collaborating to advise Paraguay on accessing and managing result-based payments from a range of public and private sources thus ensuring robust fiduciary management and compliance with UNFCCC social and environment safeguards.

The first example of this collaboration is Paraguay's proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) pilot programme for REDD+ result-based payments, which was approved at the GCF board meeting in November 2019.

UNEP will play the role of Accredited Entity for this US \$72 million proposal and implementation will be undertaken by the three UN-REDD partner agencies: UNDP, FAO and UNEP. UNDP will build upon the support provided for the development of Paraguay's National Strategy on Forest for Sustainable Growth and will assist in the implementation of the Strategy's policies and measures, informed by UNDP's experience on the ground.

FAO will support improvement

of the national forest monitoring system. It will also assist in the application of rigorous methodologies to assess, quantify, monitor, report and verify emission reductions at the national-level.

UNEP will support the definition of incentives to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. It will also boost social and environmental safeguards; and engage in communications and awareness-raising efforts.

Working together for nearly a decade, UN agencies have demonstrated the power of working as one to open the door for Paraguay to access significant international resources to implement its National Strategy on Forest for Sustainable Growth and achieve the mitigation goals set out in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) – or its "promise" towards the Paris Agreement.

The results of these wide-ranging partnerships are producing dividends. In 2019, Paraguay reported 26.7 MtCO<sub>2</sub> of emission reductions – or a reduction of nearly 50 per cent for the forest sector.

We hope that Paraguay can serve as a "beacon state" to trust countries around the world into further positive action to when it comes to the management of its forests as a nature-based solution to climate change – while also helping them to propel forward a range of related Sustainable Development Goals.

Agencies

# Rationality will overwhelm panic in battle against coronavirus

“THIS is the time for facts, not fear. This is the time for science, not rumors. This is the time for solidarity, not stigma.” WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus recently send a strong appeal to the world.

Obviously, to respect the authoritative suggestions from the WHO and take measures recommended by the organization to avoid the impacts on regular international exchanges of personnel and practical cooperation in each field is what countries should do in the face of the current epidemic.

Whether countries can evaluate the severity of the epidemic in a just and rational manner, and inform the public about the low mortality rate and the fact that the cured cases have outnumbered the deaths to avoid secondary crisis has become a standard that measures wisdom, rationality and humanity. It's foreseeable that it will be much easier for the world to get through the current difficulty as long

as this standard is met by all countries. However, some countries ignored the WHO recommendation that there was "no reason for measures that unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade." Their overreaction and measures have caused trouble for normal international travel. Such "exaggerated" measures have triggered panic and are indulging the emergence of hostility, vicious remarks and evil-doings. This has no doubt signaled an alarm.

Countries are cautioned against actions that promote stigma or discrimination, in line with the principles of Article 3 of the International Health Regulation (IHR). However, some western media, with ulterior motives, called the virus a "yellow peril made in China", publicly labeling the Chinese and even Asians. As a result, some people in western countries even committed violent crimes targeting Asians. Such ridiculous remarks and practices will do nothing to help the world combat the

coronavirus, but only instigate racism and create panic.

Without doubt, the mainstream public opinion in the international society still stands with justice and righteousness. Any prejudice or discriminatory action against China is now condemned by the power of justice, as the practices and achievements made by the Chinese people to race against time and combat the epidemic are touching the world. Many foreigners have denounced the discriminatory remarks, saying such remarks are stupid and intolerable. With "ImNotVirus" hashtags, they posted messages on social media saying that the epidemic is not an excuse for exclusiveness and the crisis shall not overwhelm humanity.

Prime Minister of Singapore Lee Hsien Loong criticized such remarks, saying "that is foolish and illogical," and the virus does not check people's passports before it goes into their bodies. He stressed that the situation is a public health emergency and not an issue



of race or nationality, and is a problem that all countries must work together to solve.

Leaders from Germany, Canada and the Philippines also made voices to stop discrimination. Michael Levitt, winner of Nobel prize in Chemistry and a scholar of virus research pointed out that western media broadcast what is happening in China from a selfishly focused perspective: how to limit the outbreak of illness outside the country's borders. How narrow and sad that they never give China a voice or send words of encouragement and solidarity, he said.

Panic shall never worse the epidemic, and solidarity to protect lives shall never be obstructed. It tells from the human history of battles against viruses, especially today's world where globalization is developing in a profound manner that the experiences in and

lessons learned from the epidemics of influenza A/H1N1, MERS, Ebola and Zika all proved that the impacts of public health issues are beyond borders. "We are all in this together, and we can only stop it together," said Tedros in a statement.

Addressing the challenges facing the world from the novel coronavirus outbreak, UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged "a strong feeling of international solidarity." The spirit of solidarity and cooperation showcased by China in the battle against the epidemic has won wide respect and support from the international society. China has quickly spotted, isolated and sequenced the virus, and shared the information with the world, as well as taken a slew of measures that have much higher standards than the requirement in the IHR. These forceful measures are hailed as a good

example for epidemic response.

The Chinese people, particularly in Wuhan and other affected cities in Hubei Province, are currently bearing the burden, said Michael Schumann, chairman of the German Federal Association for Economic Development and Foreign Trade. They are protecting the world from an even faster spread through their willingness to make sacrifices and their commitments, Schumann added, noting that the world will lose more if it cannot maintain humanity in front of such challenge.

The epidemic is ruthless, but humans aren't. To have rationality control panic, to have sympathy, understanding and support overwhelm prejudices, narrowmindedness and anxiety, and to show solidarity to cope with the global public health challenge will lead to the final victory over the epidemic.

People's Daily

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =051=

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

5 letter word: ROE, ILL, ERE, SHY, TYE  
 4 letter word: HUNT, ELSE, ERGO, REEF, ROME, OPEN LOPE, POOR  
 5 letter word: AWARE, SHEEN, SLEEP, ASPEN, MARCH  
 6 letter word: UNDONE, ANSWER, GIGGLE  
 7 letter word: ENGLISH  
 8 letter word: ISLANDER, NORTHERN, S PELLING, ARTIFACT  
 9 letter word: ENCOURAGE, GUARDIANS, CHALLENGE

WORD FIT CROSSWORD

Clues: Across  
 1 To stay in the same place (6)  
 7 Programmes and other broadcasts (8)  
 8 Old car in bad condition (6)  
 9 Distant (4)  
 12 Male adult (3)  
 13 Demote a person (8)  
 15 A word that ends in '-ing' (6)  
 16 Fastened (6)  
 17 Flowers worn around the neck (3)  
 18 Chew (3) 20 Length of time (4)  
 22 People who are opposed to things (5) 23 Not easy to get (6)  
 24 cut a picture (4) 25 60 minutes  
 26 To exploit (3)

Down:  
 1 Speak angrily to someone (6)  
 2 A person who supports a system of having a king (10)  
 3 Principle (5)  
 4 Native of Norway (9)  
 5 Formally praise someone (7)  
 6 Bone (5)  
 10 A person who acts for another (5)  
 11 Work area (4)  
 14 The day of the week after monday (7)  
 16 Wild animal (5)  
 17 To be unwilling to do something (5)  
 19 Bags (5)  
 21 Platform (4) 20 Nervous (3)

Comments: 0789 4773 09





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## Minister Kairuki urges investors to choose Songwe, tap SADC market



Minister of State Angellah Kairuki (CL) receives a brochure from NMB Bank's head of government business, Vicky Bishubo, after opening the Songwe Investment Forum. Photo courtesy of NMB.

By Smart Money Reporter, Songwe

INVESTORS who want to reap maximum returns must choose Songwe region because it is strategically located to tap Southern African Development Community market.

The Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office (investment), Angellah Kairuki, said when addressing an investment forum in Songwe this week that the region is endowed with vast untapped agriculture, mining and other potentials which need value

addition by industries.

Kairuki said investments in agro-processing and primary industry which add value to commodities such as minerals have a big chance of succeeding in Songwe which borders Zambia, DR Congo and Malawi.

"I know that Songwe has a myriad of resources available for investment but also strongly believe that agriculture has the most potential here hence a good area to invest," she said while adding that agro-produce has a readily available market in SADC where most countries are prone to

adverse weather conditions.

She also urged financial institutions which include banks to boost their presence in the region so that investors and the public can easily access services and products need by investors and consumers who are key players in growth.

"SADC has 16 countries which can be easily access from Songwe," she added noting that the bloc has also got huge demand for commodities such as minerals. In a welcoming speech to the minister, Songwe Regional Commissioner, retired Brigadier

General Nicodemus Mwangela said the investment forum has been organised to mobilise private investment needed to tap the regional natural resources potential.

"We welcome investors from all over the world to come and join us in exploiting our vast resource potential for mutual benefit," said Mwangela.

Speaking at the same event, NMB Bank Plc's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi said the bank has so far issued credit worth over 22bn/- to the region with coffee and maize farming being the biggest beneficiaries.

Mponzi said this year, the bank has seen an increase in account opening by farmers following government's directives that all payments to the group should be done through banks as a means of advancing financial inclusion.

"We are opening these accounts free of charge so that we encourage the farmers to join the formal banking system in line with government directives," he said adding that the bank has also issued loans to entrepreneurs and small businesses with low interest rates.

## 'African immigrants in the US are better educated than the average American'

NEW YORK

There is a huge gap between the level of education of immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa in the United States and in Europe, the Pew Research Center said in a study released on Tuesday.

In Italy only 10% of such immigrants 25 or older have some college education. In France that number is 30%, and in the UK it is a little under half. But in the USA, 69% of those originally from sub-Saharan Africa has at least some college education.

Such immigrants are also more likely to be employed in the US than in Europe - and they are almost as likely to be employed as those born in America. According to the Pew study, 92.9% of sub-Saharan immigrants in the US who are 15 or older are employed. That is slightly higher than in the UK (91.5%), much higher than Italy (80.3%), and just a hair below the 94% of those born in the US.

Pew says that nearly half the sub-Saharan immigrants to the US in recent years entered that country as family members of either US citizens or permanent residents, in a form of the "chain migration" decried by US President Donald Trump.

There is no data to show how educated that group of family-immigrants are - but reason to suppose they aren't exactly a drain on the system. "About half of all immigrants from both North and sub-Saharan Africa who were active in the labour force and had obtained legal permanent residence reported working in a professional or managerial occupation," Pew reported.

"Often such occupations require a relatively high level of education." Neither the study nor the underlying data provide statistics for specific sub-Saharan countries such as South Africa.

It is possible, Pew says, that migrants to the US obtained their qualifications once they were in that country and did not necessarily arrive educated. Nonetheless, the stark differences between education levels in the US and European countries suggest that policy - the kind of policy Trump wants to change - makes a difference in the kind of immigrants a country attracts.

## NIT's 3.7bn/- aviation building nears completion



NIT's rector, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa, briefs members of the institute's government council after inspecting the construction of a two-story aviation building in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo courtesy of NIT.

By Smart Money Reporter

CONSTRUCTION work an aviation building at National Institute of Transport is in its final stages at a cost of 3.7bn/-.

The two floors building has 10 classrooms with a capacity of taking 50 students each class, five aviation related laboratories and a world class conference room which can accommodate 100 people.

Speaking during a inspection of construction work by members of NIT's governing council last week, NIT Rector, Professor Zacharia Mganilwa said construction work is over 90 percent complete.

"The aim of the aviation building is to make sure that the institute has a state of the art training facility that meets TCAA and ICAO requirements in order to offer world class aviation courses, and we have done our best," Prof Mganilwa said.

He told the NIT governing council members that construction work of the building started in 2016/17 financial year at an estimated cost of 2.26bn/- which increased because of an added construction of escaping stairs together with glass work to house a min-aviation museum

which were not included in the initial budget resulting into an bill of 1.45bn/-.

"This project is part of plans to establish NIT's centre of excellence in aviation and transport operations which includes construction of various infrastructure in Da es Salaam and Kilimanjaro regions (KIA), the purchasing of training equipment for pilots, aircraft engineers, and cabin crew students," he added.

The NIT Rector further said the institute has already started to implement some projects in order to become the centre of excellence in Africa as planned.

Prof Mganilwa said NIT recognizes the need to enhance technical and managerial capacity to man the transport sector as well as to cope with changes in the aviation industry.

"NIT as a higher learning institution is taking deliberate measures to ensure availability and sustainability of local technical and managerial capacity through developing and reviewing training programmes that meet the needs of the transport sector," he added.

On his part, NIT governing

council Chairman Prof Blasius Nyichomba said the institute thanks the government for approving various projects aimed at expanding capacity of the NIT to become a world class facility.

Prof Nyichomba the NIT will continue designing various courses to support the transport sector with a broader national interest currently when the government is investing heavily in aviation and modern transport infrastructure projects.

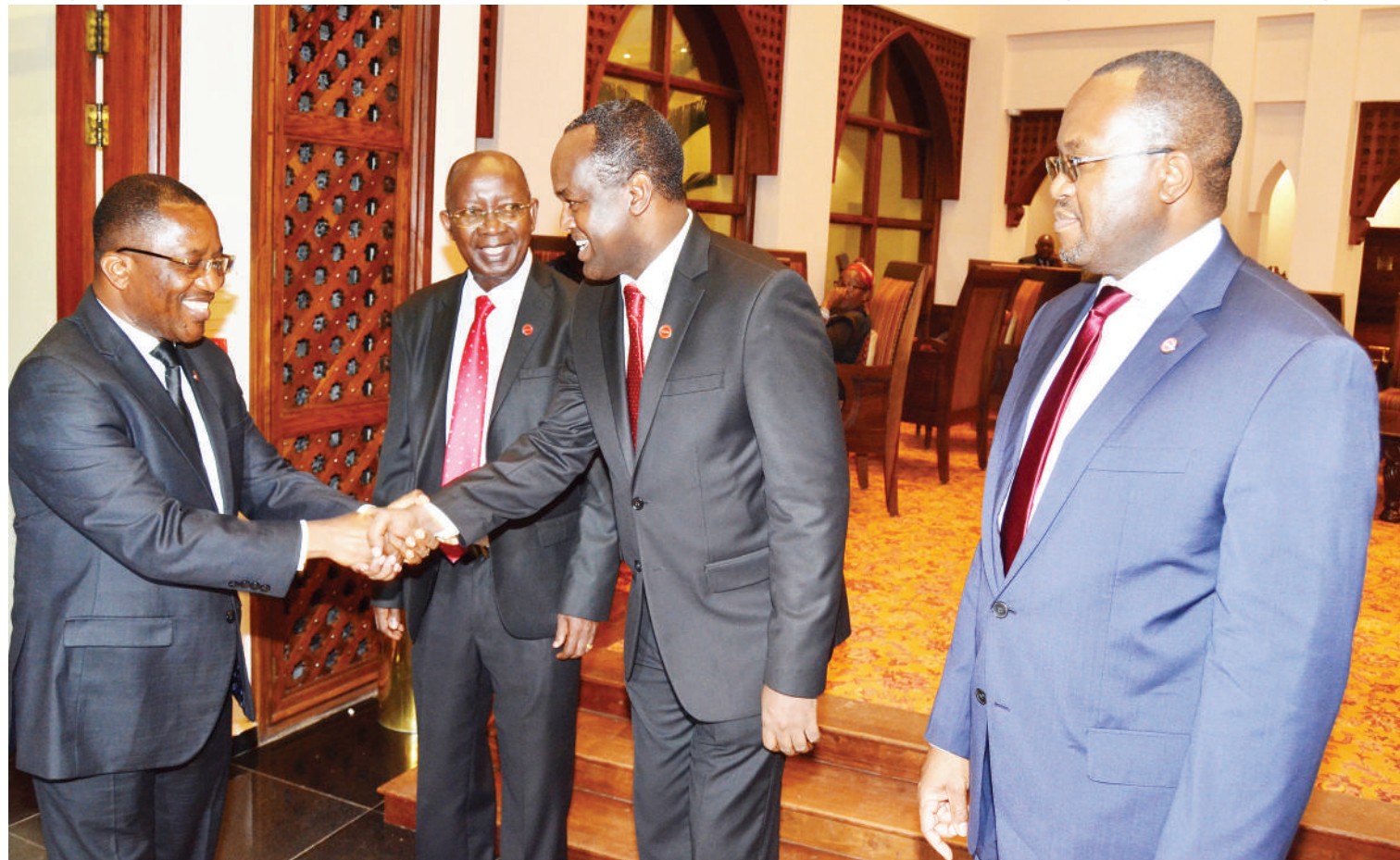
"We need to feed the growing demand of local and international aviation needs but also SGR railways currently under construction," he noted.

Recently Minister for Works, Transport and Communications, Engineer Isack Kamwele urged NIT governing council and management to back state efforts to modernise the transport and logistics industry.

"Your appointment is truly a sign that President John Pombe Magufuli has great confidence in your performance," Eng Kamwele said while urging them to deliver and meet the public's expectations.



## Absa Bank Tanzania decides to bankroll agriculture after corporate image change



Bank of Tanzania deputy governor Dr Bernard Kibesse (L) is welcomed by Absa Bank Tanzania managing director, Abdi Mohamed during a Valentine day customers' gala held in Dar es Salaam last week. Second left is Absa Tanzania board chairman, Simon Mponji and Absa regional managing director, Saviour Chibiya. Photo courtesy of Absa

By Smart Money Reporter

As it finally changes its key corporate image ingredients with the rebranding of all offices and branches in the domestic market, Absa Tanzania Limited has pledged to commit significant financing to agriculture.

At a Valentine day gala for its customers to mark the auspicious occasion last week, Absa Tanzania Board Chairman, Simon Mponji said the post-rebranding event was aimed at enriching public trust, tapping the spirit of the festive mood to consolidate its goodwill to bolster finance for the agri-

culture sector.

"Absa is wholly committed to ensure national goals are realized," said Mponji while responding to the event's chief guest, Bank of Tanzania's Deputy Governor, Dr Bernard Kibesse who requested the lender to, "Put in place an inclusive system that will incorporate farmers into the formal banking system."

Dr Kibesse who played a pivotal role in steering home Absa's rebranding, said as Tanzania taxis towards becoming a middle-income and semi industrialized economy, the bank's support to agriculture is crucial because the sector feeds into industrialization through pro-

duction of raw materials.

"It is about time that Absa accorded this issue special consideration and come up with proper ways that will ensure farmers have access to loans; on our part we shall always be ready to give a helping hand over whenever needed," he said.

The Deputy Governor added, "Absa customers should rest assured that the changes have been executed in tandem with the law, and that their interests have been taken care of, for it is the noble task of Bank of Tanzania to safeguard interests of Tanzanians."

Absa Tanzania has attracted public confidence as its manage-

ment worked closely with BoT in the rebranding process which was the first-ever and most transparent to have happened in the banking industry recently.

"We promise and extend our commitment to the market and to our customers that we shall continue to be significant stakeholders in the development of Tanzania's economy," said Absa Tanzania's Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed.

He said the bank which was formerly Barclays Bank Tanzania is here to stay and that financing agriculture is not an option but a reality as it directly contributes to industrialisation.

## EPZA mobilises private investors to go for Songwe Region as destination



Songwe Regional Administrative Secretary, David Kafullia.

By Smart Money Reporter

PRIVATE investors have been invited to exploit Songwe region's vast natural resources potential by establishing industries that will contribute towards rapid economic growth.

Export and Processing Zones Authority (EPZA)'s Senior Investment Promotion and Facilitation Officer, Nakadongo Fares, said the authority is ready to provide necessary support to investors to achieve their investment in industries.

"EPZA has been working with

Songwe regional authority to put a friendly investment environment to attract industrial investors to the region which has huge untapped potentials," Fares said, adding that Songwe assures good rate of returns.

"As one stop shop centre for all prospective investors, EPZA provides

all the needed facilitations to make Songwe region the most preferred investment destination for local and global industrial investors realise their goals," she added.

The EPZA official further noted that putting in place an attractive investment climate is of paramount

## New online cargo clearance fees 'hurting Kenyan goods'

NAIROBI

Local industrialists have flagged the new Kenya TradeNet System fees among top hurdles that stand in the way of the government's effort to boost employment and exports via the manufacturing sector.

The system, which serves as a national electronic single window for lodging international trade documents, has been free from 2012 when it was launched up to last week when the Kenya Trade Agency (Kentrade) introduced user charges.

Importers are now required to pay Sh5,000 annual fee besides value added tax (VAT). The user must also pay Sh750 for a unique consignment reference number plus VAT and an arrival notification fee per vessel of Sh7,500, plus VAT.

"Introducing charges on importers using the platform only serves to increase input costs that will be passed on to consumers via price increments," said Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) chief executive Phyllis Wakiaga.

"These charges only serve to make goods uncompetitive in a regional mar-

ket shared with competitors in Uganda and Tanzania whose governments do not charge for use of single window systems." In an earlier interview, Kentrade CEO Amos Wangora was full of praise for the system, which has eliminated need to seek clearance from State agencies.

According to Mr Wangora, the economy was able to save Sh2.5 billion in its first five years of roll-out alone. "The system has simplified trade procedures and processes, resulting in substantial cost savings," he said. In a memorandum to the Trade ministry, however, KAM has termed as "unnecessary" the user fees.

"Most manufacturers importing raw materials absorb numerous charges that make them start production with an unnecessary 13 percent cost disadvantage compared to our neighbouring countries within the EAC," said Ms Wakiaga.

Meanwhile, KAM wants agencies that have ignored the presidential Buy-Kenya-Build-Kenya decree "severely punished", adding that regulations should be created to force public servants to rely on locally made goods and services.



## Airtel Malawi IPO oversubscribed by 34%

LILONGWE

Airtel Malawi has announced that its Initial Public Offering (IPO) has been oversubscribed by 34% and the overallotment allocated to prospective shareholders.

Airtel Malawi Managing Director Charles Kamoto said the oversubscription is testament to the fact that Malawians believe in the future prospects of the company and want to participate in- and benefit from the growth of the business.

"On my part, I am pleased at the interest that we have received from far and wide, which will not only enable us to be compliant with the Communications Act of 2016 with respect to ownership, but also ensure that, with the requisite minimum numbers achieved, we will be able to list at the 15th counter on the Malawi Stock Exchange," said Kamoto.

The Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) had previously recommended that shares be allocated to Malawians first, followed by companies owned by Malawians and then to pension funds.

In the IPO, 2,200,000,000 shares were on offer to the public through an offer for sale of 1,650,000 (15%) and an

overallotment of 550,000. While a total of 2,200,000,000 shares with an issue price of MWK12.69 per share were on offer, the total number of shares applied for amounted to 2,207,272,446, resulting in the oversubscription.

MACRA also directed that subject to its approval, any outstanding shares thereafter were to be allocated to foreigners. "Malawian individuals, companies and pension funds were able to absorb the entire shares on offer and meeting the localisation requirement," the statement said.

It further said all shareholders will receive emails or SMSs confirming the shares that they have been allotted and that the shares will be registered in the Central Securities Depository on 24 February 2020 by the Transfer Secretaries, Standard Bank Plc.

It says the balance of the applications, which comprises incomplete applicants and foreign applicants, amounting to MWK92.29-million will be refunded beginning 17 February 2020. Airtel Malawi said adding a counter on the Malawi Stock Exchange will provide additional opportunities for investments and enhance the liquidity of the exchange.

CURRENT NEWS

importance because investors across the world are likely to choose the region as their place to do business at low cost and maximise profit.

Songwe Regional Administrative Secretary David Kafullia told the investors' forum that they have plenty of opportunities to exploit in Songwe with an assured market of not only the close to 60 million Tanzanians but also more than 400 million people in Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

"We invite investors to capitalise on immense

opportunities in Songwe region that will support President John Magufuli's agenda as SADC chairman in building a strong industrial economy," Kafullia said.

He noted that African Development Bank has said if African countries want to initiate intra regional trade as well as with the global market, they must invest in transport and logistics infrastructure. "There is a huge gap in what is invested in transport infrastructure and what is supposed to be invested in infrastructure development," he stated.

He pointed out that investment in transport

infrastructures will unlock immense business potentials of doing intra trade for investors to trade in the SADC region. "Songwe region is ready to receive investors from different parts of the world to invest in various investment potentials," he added.

Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Investment, Angellah Kairuki who graced the event said port expansion in Lake Tanganyika is aimed at making investors in Songwe and other regions harness market potentials in the DRC and neighbouring countries.



# Woman entrepreneur dreaming of starting grain milling factory through CRDB loans



Diana Kimaro at her Mbezi Louis construction materials shop in Dar es Salaam. Photo courtesy of CRDB Bank Plc.

By Smart Money Reporter

At just 32 years old, Diana Kimaro is already a successful businesswoman with four construction material shops to her name in Dar es Salaam thanks to loans that she routinely got from CRDB Bank Plc since 2012.

Kimaro is now thinking big, and thus working towards establishing a grain milling company and an ultra-modern kindergarten school in Dar es Salaam. She says the sky is her limit as she plans to exploit to the maximum CRDB's WAFI loans targeting women entrepreneurs.

"Once you display trustworthiness in repaying loans on schedule, CRDB Bank is a friend of women entrepreneurs because it indeed listens and serves. God willing in the next two years I plan to apply for another loan to invest in the grain milling company and also establish a modern kindergarten school that will grow into primary and secondary schools," she said confidently.

Kimaro who is managing director of Dide Enterprises based at Mbezi Louis in the commercial capital, appreciates the role which the bank has played in here entrepreneurship journey and still hopes that CRDB's credit officers and managers will keep her going.

Coming from a humble beginning, the charming but hardworking Kimaro has grown from being a tap water ven-

dor using a motor vehicle in 2007 supplying Mbezi Juu neighbourhood which was by then facing acute water shortage.

In 2012 when CRDB opened its Mbezi Louis branch, she opened a current account and started depositing daily proceeds of water vending business which allowed her to make payment by cheque to her business partners.

"In addition to opening my business' account, I also opened a Malkia personal account which targets women entrepreneurs through which I kept making regular deposits with an ambition to grow it and use to invest in another business," she said while extending an innocent smile at one of her shops.

Because of her steady business acumen and disciplined management, the bank's managers developed confidence in her personally and the business that she was running hence in 2012 she apply and successfully got a 50m/- loan to expand and diversify her water vending business.

"My business was the only collateral which impressed CRDB credit officers who recommended me to get the loan," she noted saying after successfully repaying it, she is now confident of walking into any CRDB branch and get the loan at will.

"With regular borrowing and repayment to CRDB, I have been able to ex-

pand and diversify my business into the construction materials shops from water vending," Kimaro pointed out while pointing out that she is on target to clear her outstanding debt before going for a killer amount that she intends to invest in the grain milling factory and modern kindergarten school.

Apart from her three shops in Dar es Salaam, she also has three semi-trailer trucks to her name but also a branch of the construction material shops at Kibaha in Coast region.

Apart from her hardworking and business oriented talent, Kimaro has also benefitted from training and mentorship from CRDB experts and her peers. Her word of advice to fellow entrepreneurs is, "Work hard and be disciplined financial to grow your businesses through loan acquisition because only then can one expand and make more profit."

According to bank records, CRDB has been one of the leading local banks in facilitating growth of women's businesses through its Malkia Account and WAFI loans which incorporate basic business management training courses. As of December 2019, the country's largest lender had given out 88.7bn/- in loans to over 10,000 women country-wide who include industrious Diana Kimaro.



Natural gas flaring at Permian Basin in Texas.

## Solar and wind power can't compete with gas this cheap

NEW YORK

This will almost certainly be a record-breaking year for the advance of solar and wind power across the US. The additions that are in progress or planned are significant enough to boost hopes for emissions-free electrical grids within a generation—if natural gas doesn't get in the way.

It just may. Gas is such a bargain that it's being viewed less as a bridge fossil fuel, driving the world away from dirtier coal toward a clean-energy future, and more as a hurdle that could slow the trip down. Some forecasters say prices will stay low for years, making it tough for states, cities and utilities to achieve their goals of being zero-carbon in power production by 2050 or earlier.

"The fact that there's an abundance of it makes the move to complete decarbonisation much harder," says Ravina Advani, head of energy, natural resources and renewables at BNP Paribas SA. Gas is a tough competitor. "It's reliable and it's cheap."

The flood of inexpensive gas does have a big environmental upside because it's putting increased pressure on struggling coal plants that contribute significantly to global warming. But it's also squeezing margins for nuclear reactors, which are the US's biggest source of carbon-free power. And it's driving utilities to lay down infrastructure that could ensure gas remains central to the power mix for decades.

Solar and wind are certainly winning in many markets on price alone. Without cheap gas, though, the renewables build-out would be faster, says Cody Moore, head of gas and power trading at Mercuria Energy America LLC. "Absolutely, 100%."

Just look at the largest grid in the US, which stretches from Washington to Chicago and serves more than 65 million people: It has been boosting the amount of power generated with gas and drawing in renewables at a slower rate.

That grid happens to crisscross a section of the US that's home to some of the world's most abundant natural gas reserves. A drilling boom there and in the Permian Basin in Texas and New Mexico is a reason why the US benchmark price for gas is less than \$2 per million British thermal units.

That's the least for this time of year since the late 1990s. In Asia, prices fell to a record low of less than \$3 this month amid a global supply glut and as the coronavirus began slowing demand from China. In Europe, the benchmark Dutch price hit a decade low.

"That's not good for the new-energy market," says Jonathan Bell, a business development manager at the risk assessment and quality assurance company DNV GL. "It puts a lot of pressure on renewable energy."

Rising exports of liquefied natural gas from the US Gulf Coast to Siberia will probably keep prices down and expand developing economies' reliance on the fuel. The International Energy Agency expects global gas consumption to climb through 2040.

"We're using solar and wind more than ever, but until we're very purposeful about trying to subtract some fuels that we're using, history shows us that market forces alone won't successfully push fossil fuels out of the energy mix," says Noah Kaufman, a research scholar at Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy.

None of this is to say that renewable investments in the US

haven't been on a tear. They went up 28% last year to a record \$55.8 billion, according to BloombergNEF. Between now and 2050, renewable power will be the fastest-growing source of electricity, accounting for 38% of generation, according to the US Energy Information Administration.

That, of course, isn't the percentage envisioned by the likes of the state of California, the city of Pittsburgh and the Minneapolis-based utility Xcel Energy Inc., which are among the governments and power providers that have target dates between 2030 and 2050 for cleaning carbon emissions out of their grids.

Whatever the price, natural gas will have to continue to fill the gap for some time because renewable generators need the strength of wind or sun to do their jobs. The battery power-storage technologies that could cut every grid's ties to fossil fuels are only slowly being added to systems.

Without them, "we cannot go 100% renewable," says Tom Rumsey, a senior vice president at Competitive Power Ventures, which builds both gas-fired and renewable plants. "There are these moonshot goals, which drive policy behaviour. But the reality is, how do you maintain grid reliability without a breakthrough in storage? You are going to need fossil fuels."

There's widespread agreement among forecasters, policymakers and increasingly business leaders that solar and wind will win out in the end. Ultimately, "gas plants will meet the same reality as coal," says Jules Korthenhorst, chief executive officer of the Rocky Mountain Institute, a nonprofit focused on delivering a low-carbon future. "It's just a question of when." Gas prices may define the answer.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

## TECC's Via Pathways to Work programme targeting industrialisation launched



Tanzania Entrepreneurship Competitiveness Centre's publicity and awareness manager, Abdul Juma, has an audience with some of youth taking part in the 'Via Jiandae Ajira' entrepreneurship training program during its launch in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo courtesy of TECC.

By Smart Money Reporter

AN entrepreneurship training program targeting youth empowerment so that they can play a leading role in the country's industrialization agenda has been launched in Dar es Salaam.

Dubbed Via Pathways to Work program or popularly known as 'Via Jiandae Ajira', it is the eighth edition and is organised by Tanzania Entrepreneurship Competitiveness Centre (TECC) and involves youth from selected regions including Coast, Dar es Salaam and Morogoro.

TECC's Publicity and Awareness Manager, Abdul Juma said the eighth Via Pathways to Work program is part of its efforts to build the capacity of Tanzanian youth and give them skills and knowledge to start their own businesses.

"This is a continuation of the training program provided by TECC through Via Pathways to Work program and we are focusing on building the capacity of youth to become entrepreneurs who will contribute to economic growth through industrialization," Juma said when he launched the 8th edition in Dar es Salaam.

He noted that the training program is also focusing on equipping youth with various skills such as basic of managing and establishing small industries which will foster social economic development while creating jobs.

TECC is implementing the Via Pathways to Work program in collaboration with International Youths Foundation (IYF), The MasterCard Foundation, National Economic Empowerments Council (NEEC), Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) and Local Government Authorities. The 8th edition of the program will involve about 200 youths aged between 18 and 24.

The TECC Manager further noted that the 'Via Jiandae Ajira' training program will be held in 12 days spread within six weeks and will involve theory and practice including mentorship by accomplished business personalities. The youths are also introduced to financial institution managers in order to get loans to sustainably grow their businesses.

Speaking at the same event, a youth development officer for Temeke Municipality, Anna Maricca urged the selected youths to seriously focus on the training in order to overcome

challenges that they face as entrepreneurs owning small businesses.

"We want youths who can pull up their socks and work hard to seize existing opportunities available at municipal councils and district councils to start their own businesses and help tame poverty," Maricca said.

She noted that under government requirements, district councils are supposed to allocate some funds out of their collections to provide concessional loans to youths from different backgrounds so that they can establish businesses.

Maricca's observation was backed by her Ilala Municipal peer, Sapiencia Masaga who explained that in order to qualify for the loans, youths need to demonstrate their capacity to run a business successfully so that they can repay the loan which is a revolving fund.

"you must be serious and deliver so that others can also get credit for the same funds which are limited," Masaga advised.

One of the program's beneficiaries, Sinwa Obadi from Kitunda in Dar es Salaam said since graduating, he is a successful poultry businesswoman employing herself plus several others both directly and indirectly.



## WORLD

## Wang says US posing threat via suppression

IT is the United States that poses threats to China through repeated suppression, accusation and smearing, and not the other way around, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in an exclusive interview with Reuters on Friday.

Wang cited cases such as the US Congress reviewing and adopting bills that interfere in China's internal affairs, US naval ships and airplanes flexing muscles at China's doorstep and the US suppressing Chinese companies and said the issue is how to address the US threat to China.

In the far-ranging interview in Berlin, Wang said that countries with different social systems will not pose

a threat to each other as long as they adhere to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, in particular the principle of non-interference in internal affairs, and respect each other's sovereignty.

Asked whether the novel coronavirus pneumonia epidemic would influence the recently signed China-US phase one trade deal, Wang said China is ready to implement the deal, and he urged the US to fulfill its commitment.

The epidemic will affect China's economy temporarily, but afterward, the Chinese economy will rebound and the Chinese market will continue to expand, he said.



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi speaks in an interview with Reuters in Berlin, Germany, Feb 14, 2020. (XINHUA)

There will be better conditions to implement the consensus in the deal as China deepens reforms and expands opening-up in accordance with its own timetable and road map, he said.

However, Wang added, the US curbs on movement of people between the two countries will objectively bring some difficulties in implementing the agreement.

Wang said he hopes the US will respect the World Health Organization's recommendation and avoids unnecessary travel and trade restrictions.

Regarding US accusations against Chinese telecommunications company Huawei, Wang said they are neither reasonable nor moral.

The US cannot accept other countries' companies displaying economic and technological talent because it doesn't want to see other countries and their businesses develop and flourish, Wang said.

Fu Ying, vice-chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of China's 13th National People's Congress, dismissed US accusations that Huawei poses a threat to global political stability at the Munich Security Conference on Friday.

Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi said at the conference that China is seeking to export digital autocracy through Huawei.

While introducing technologies from Western countries, China has maintained its political system and it is not threatened by these technologies, Fu said, asking Pelosi, "Do you really think the democratic system is so fragile it could be threatened by this single high-tech company, Huawei?"

The US has heavily lobbied other countries to follow suit and boycott the Chinese company. German lawmakers remain divided on the Huawei question, and the United Kingdom ruled last month that Huawei may continue to operate in a restricted capacity.

There is no doubt that all countries should safeguard the security of their own telecommunications infrastructure, and also companies from all countries should be offered a level playing field and non-discriminatory business environment, Wang said in a Q&A session after his speech at the security conference.

Agencies

## UK Brexit negotiator to set out goals after French warnings

By Bloomberg

DAVID Frost, the UK's chief Brexit negotiator, will set out Britain's goals for talks over its future relationship with the European Union in a speech in Brussels on Monday as the two sides prepare to thrash out an agreement before the end of the year.

Amid warnings from French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian of a fierce clash over future trade terms, Prime Minister Boris Johnson's office said the UK isn't seeking special treatment, but wants a deal similar to those agreed by the EU with other countries.

After an analysis of the demands in the bloc's draft negotiation mandate, Johnson's team said it's unreasonable the UK is currently being

offered more stringent terms on state aid, tax and standards than the EU has agreed in deals with Korea, Japan and Canada.

In those three cases, the EU lifted almost all tariffs, but didn't force any of them to abide by its state-aid regulations or to follow any future changes to its rule-book. France is pushing strongly for the EU to make the latter demand, known as dynamic alignment, part of any deal with its neighbor.

"We are going to rip each other apart," Le Drian said at the Munich Security Conference on Sunday. "But that is part of negotiations, everyone will defend their own interests."

Le Drian said that while he wants the talks completed as soon as possible, there are "some serious is-



sues," including fishing, where the two sides are at odds.

Environment Secretary George Eustice, whose remit covers fishing, said on Monday that while Le Drian had used "colorful language," he's confident the UK can strike a deal with the EU.

"We're very clear that we will choose autonomy over regulatory alignment, that we won't be in the single market, that we won't be in

the customs union," Eustice told Sky News. "There's clarity about our objectives now, clarity about the type of relationship we want and there's no reason at all why we can't put together a sensible agreement with the EU."

Eustice also said that the UK is "striving" to get a partnership agreement on fishing in place by July. "But if it's not in place, we will be an independent coastal state negotiating in the normal way, just like Norway does at the end of the year." The UK's negotiating "Task Force," led by Frost, held meetings last week to finalize its position and is preparing to argue that Britain already has higher standards than the EU on workers' rights, environmental protection and subsidies, so the alignment demanded by the

bloc doesn't make sense, the prime minister's office said.

Frost's lecture will be the first of a series of public interventions on the UK's position because he sees secrecy as a key factor in Theresa May's failure to reach an acceptable agreement with Brussels, the Sunday Times reported, without saying where it got the information.

After leaving the EU on Jan 31, Britain entered an 11-month transition period, during which time the country will still be subject to the bloc's rules, even if it has no say in setting them. Johnson has until the end of this year to reach a comprehensive trade agreement with the bloc. If he fails, Britain will crash out and default to trading on World Trade Organization rules.

Agencies

## Operation Rubicon exposes US old trick of thief crying 'Stop thief'

BRUSSELS

WHILE Washington continues to spin certain Chinese tech companies as data thieves with no solid evidence, new leaks detailing how U.S. intelligence, via rigged Swiss products, secretly intercepted classified government communications for decades have unmasked the real thief.

According to the classified documents obtained by U.S. and German media, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), along with former West German intelligence which later exited the partnership, fronted a Swiss firm in secret to sell

encryption devices to more than 120 countries, and by rigging the machines, the spy agencies were able to easily break the codes that unwitting customers used to send encrypted messages.

For decades, and well into the 21st century, Rubicon, as the CIA operation became known, ran so wide and deep that The Washington Post said it "ranks among the most audacious in CIA history." At some times, even the Germans "were taken aback by the Americans' willingness to spy on all but their closest allies." The Washington Post revealed. In a ruthless way, Washington harvested money and



Edward Snowden

secrets, at the expense of credibility and trust.

A nation sets up covert vulnerabilities or lets them loose in communications equipment it makes or controls, enabling espionage into

clandestine and sensitive messages it covets. Does this sound familiar? It has been the main point Washington holds to shut out telecoms devices made by some Chinese tech companies from as many places around the world as possible.

The leak caught Washington's global lobby off guard. While persuading even its closest allies in Europe to shut out Chinese tech companies from their 5G networks, Washington has seen the ruin of its own making.

Insidious as Operation Rubicon was, its revelation was not that surprising. As The Washington Post noted, "its reach and duration help

to explain how the United States developed an insatiable appetite for global surveillance that was exposed in 2013 by Edward Snowden."

Though it is unknown whether the U.S. government is running other eavesdropping programs, suspicion is rising.

The latest incident only makes Washington's smear campaign against Chinese tech companies like a thief crying "Stop thief."

Next time Washington considers lecturing others on eavesdropping and being a threat to national security, it had better evaluate its own records first.

Agencies

## Second makeshift hospital in epicentre Wuhan delivered, put into operation

CHINA'S second makeshift hospital to battle against the novel coronavirus in epicenter Wuhan on Feb. 6 completed acceptance testing by the city's urban construction department and health commission after 10 days of construction.

The first batch of medical teams have entered the hospital, received the first batch of patients of the novel coronavirus pneumonia on Feb. 8.

The decision to build the hospital, located on the bank of Huangjia Lake in the Jiangxia district, was made by Wuhan immediately after the first makeshift hospital Huoshenshan broke ground on Jan. 25, the first day of the Chinese New Year. The Leishenshan Hospital was requested to be built in half a month.

In face of the rapid spreading of the novel coronavirus, the hospital expanded its total designed construction area three times from 50,000 square meters to 75,000 square meters and finally 80,000 square meters. Its designed capacity was also expanded from 1,300 beds to nearly 1,600 beds. The size of Leishenshan is twice as that of Huoshenshan.

The Leishenshan Hospital uses modular design based on layout of field hospital, and includes three major areas: one for treatment, one for medical workers' logistical support, and one for auxiliary treatment.

CNBC covered the whole construction process of the Leishenshan Hospital in articles, pictures and videos, saying the construction of the new

facilities echoes the rapid completion of Beijing's Xiaotangshan hospital in 2003 built to treat patients affected with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

During an interview of Philippine newspaper Watchmen Daily Journal, an 84-year-old historian said she admired the Chinese government for their "efficiency and effectiveness in responding to the need of its people," noting that such speed was just like magic.

CNN noted that the "cohorting," or zoning of the patients in the Leishenshan Hospital is very important, citing Emergency medicine physician Dr. Solomon Kuah who helped the International Rescue Committee coordinate the construction of emer-

gency hospitals during a 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Such design can effectively make up for the deficiency of the hospital, and it's necessary to divide patients of differing levels of contagiousness.

Both the lockdown of Wuhan and the Chinese New Year made it extremely difficult to seek materials and labors for the construction of the hospital.

However, the employees of the Wuhan branches of the China State Construction Engineering, China State Railway Investment Construction Group, China Construction Science and Industry Corporation, China Construction Industrial & Energy Engineering Group, and China Construction Third Engineering Bu-

reau showed great enthusiasm for contributing their power, applying to go to the "frontline".

The number of constructors at the site kept growing, from hundreds to thousands. As of Feb. 4, there were over 1,000 managers and nearly 8,000 workers working at site day and night, and more than 1,400 large machineries and transportation vehicles were running busily.

A total of 3,000 container houses, as well as 3,300 sets of mechanical and electrical installation tools have been shipped to the construction sites.

"What makes the construction speed is the innovation of China's construction technology," said Wu Hongtao, secretary of the Party com-

mittee of China Construction Third Engineering Bureau First Engineering Co., Ltd., who directed the construction at site.

He introduced that both Leishenshan and Huoshenshan Hospitals adopted cutting-edge construction technologies, and used as many assembly parts as possible to reduce field workload and save time. Besides, the construction and integral hoisting were carried out in an alternative manner, which maximized the efficiency.

As a result, the Leishenshan Hospital was finally completed in just 10 days, and will make full contribution to the battle against the novel coronavirus.

People's Daily

THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19  
Prevention and control efforts have paid off

BY 17 Feb., in mainland China, altogether 70,548 confirmed cases have been reported, among which 10,844 cured and discharged from hospital, 1,770 died, and 57,934 still under treatment.

There are altogether 7,264 suspected cases pending test results in mainland China as of 17 Feb. In Hong Kong,

Macao and Taiwan, 57, 10 and 20 confirmed cases have been reported respectively by 17 Feb., with one fatality in Hong Kong and one fatality in Taiwan.

According to the National Health Commission of China, the prevention and control efforts have paid off. Outside Hubei province, the number of confirmed cases dropped to 115 on 16 Feb., marking a 13-day decline; the proportion of severe and critical cases among all confirmed cases has decreased significantly, falling from a peak of 15.9% on 27 Jan. to 7.2% on 15 Feb.; the case fatality rate is just 0.49%.

In Hubei, center of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, from 13 Feb., the provincial government has included the clinically diagnosed cases into the confirmed cases, which drove the surge in the number of new confirmed cases on 12 Feb. to 14,840. Among them, 13,332 are clinically diagnosed cases.

Since then, the number of daily new confirmed cases have been declining for three consecutive days, with 1,843 on 15 Feb. In Wuhan, the epicentre, the proportion of severe cases among the confirmed cases fell from a peak of 32.4% on 28 Jan. to 21.6% on 15 Feb. In other parts of Hubei province, the proportion dropped from a peak of 18.4% on 27 Jan. to 11.1% on 15 Feb.

According to Hubei Provincial Government, the epidemic control in Hubei has come to the most demanding stage, and the situation remains serious. The Provincial Government adopts stricter measures, including temporary traffic control and closure of all nonessential public places, to contain the spread of the virus.

## 'Westlessness' discussions at MSC highlight need for multilateralism

MUNICH

MORE than 500 high-level international decision-makers gathered over the weekend in Munich to discuss the world's current crises and future security challenges at the annual Munich Security Conference (MSC).

This year's agenda was centered on the theme "Westlessness", referring to the loss of the common standing of what it means to be part of the West, according to a security report published ahead of the conference.

As many participants pointed out, the so-called "Westlessness" is essentially a lack of collective action to address the most urgent threats to international security as nations dwell on narrowly-defined national interests and retreat from dialogue and cooperation. The MSC discussions highlight the fact that multilateralism is not out-of-date and even more needed at a time when the international community face many common security challenges.

## 'SOUL-SEARCHING' OF THE WEST

The majority of speakers at this year's conference sounded the alarm for the current global security environment. In his opening remarks, MSC chairman Wolfgang Ischinger expressed his disappointment at the lack of collective action to address the most violent crises and most dangerous threats to international peace and security.

"It's not enough for the most powerful people in the world to shrug your shoulders and say that this is the way things are," Ischinger said, adding that "the present state of global insecurity is absolutely unacceptable."

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who delivered an opening speech this year, said that the withdrawal to concentrate on a narrowly-defined national interest prevents the nations from taking joint action and coming up with convincing answers to the issues and problems that no one can solve alone.

"The idea of international community is not outmoded," Steinmeier said, adding that "withdrawing into our national shells leads us into a dead end, into a dark age."

Like many European leaders, Steinmeier reflects on the lack of unified action on the European level to address common challenges. "Each of the major players is pursuing its own advantage even at the expense of Europe's unity."

Echoing Steinmeier, French President Emmanuel Macron, who attended the conference for the first time, called for "a European strategy", hoping to see "a Europe that can protect the basis of its sovereignty, a Europe that has more vitality, and a Europe that is enthusiastic about its future."

Macron said in a dialogue with Ischinger that Europe needs to develop their own European policy, instead of a transatlantic policy, when it comes to relations with neighbors such as the Middle East, Russia and Africa.

Xinhua





It takes only 10 days to complete the construction of the Huoshenshan Hospital, a makeshift hospital in Wuhan to battle against the novel coronavirus outbreak. (Xinhua)

## China's quick response to epidemic signifies Chinese speed, strength

LEISHENSHAN Hospital, the second makeshift hospital built in Wuhan, central China's Hubei province to battle against the novel coronavirus, started to be delivered gradually from Feb. 6, marking another piece of thriving news in the combat against the virus.

After being put into operation, the hospital is able to offer 1,600 beds and accommodate over 2,000 medical staff. The record speed of the completion of the Leishenshan Hospital, as well as the other makeshift hospital Huoshenshan, astonished the world.

As millions of people tuned into livestreams of the construction, nearly 10,000 of constructors were working hard day and night to race against the spreading epidemic. They light the hope of life.

China's execution has received high appraisal from the international community. Users of social media platforms commented that China is the only country in the world that can finish such a huge task as its institutional advantages allow it to concentrate resources to accomplish large undertakings.

The epidemic is a major test for national governance system and capability. The construction of the two hospitals is just an epitome of China's efforts to combat the virus in the recent days.

From the quick sequencing of the virus to sharing it with the world, and to implementing the largest lockdown of city to stop the spreading of the virus, the Chinese government has taken unprecedented and rare measures of epidemic prevention and control, many of which have much higher standards than the requirements in the International Health Regulation.

It reflects the high responsibility of the government over the life and health of the people.

China's powerful organizing capability has won wide respect and trust from the world. The international community commended that such cohesion is admirable and demonstrates remarkable unity of the country.

Why can China respond so fast and why does the country have endless power? These are two questions that confused many.

The answer lies in the advantages of China's institutional system which represents the will of the people, guarantees the interests of the people and spurs the innovation of the people.

When the government and people think the same way, they are undefeatable. The power of unity is especially essential at the critical moment when

the country is combating the novel coronavirus and saving the lives of the patients.

China has an institutional system and social environment that are able to concentrate national strength, and allocate human, financial and material resources to the prevention and control of the epidemic in a collective and effective manner.

Under the unified command, coordination and dispatching of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the country has the confidence to get through the difficulty, and is sticking together to prevent and control the epidemic with scientific and targeted measures, releasing infinite power of unity.

Because of this, the international community firmly believes that China can give full play to its unique institutional advantages to overcome the epidemic.

Ernesto Carrasco, president of the Ecuadorian Medical Federation, noted that the necessary and timely actions taken by China to cope with the epidemic, as well as the leadership it showcased as a major country are worth learning from for the world.

This is destined to be a remarkable page in human history. The national efforts to offer assistance in the battle against the novel coronavirus further demonstrated the indestructible and indomitable spirit of the Chinese people.

During the Chinese New Year holiday when families across the country should have reunited, thousands of medical workers rushed to the epicenter Hubei; mask producers returned to work; constructors worked day and night; and transportation department did all they could to contain the spreading of the virus.

By the joint efforts of the 1.4 billion Chinese people, and the institutional advantages and strength of China's national governance system, China has explored a new model to cope with public health emergency.

The world hailed that there's no other country that is able to react so efficiently, and the country's resolution can defeat all difficulties every time encountering a challenge.

China's institutional advantages shine at such critical moment. The country will surely win the battle against the epidemic as it is guaranteed by the huge advantages of the socialism with Chinese characteristics and supported by the international society.

People's Daily



**China has an institutional system and social environment that are able to concentrate national strength, and allocate human, financial and material resources to the prevention and control of the epidemic in a collective and effective manner**

## Lavrov says he discussed arms control issues with Pompeo in Munich

MUNICH

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has said that, at a brief meeting with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference, the parties discussed a whole range of issues related to strategic dialogue and arms control.

"We discussed a number of issues related to the whole array of problems that are on the agenda of our dialogue, including strategic ones," he said. "Those questions that are within the purview of the five UN Security Council permanent members and the ones,



which concern arms control, were discussed. We agreed to continue a specific

professional dialogue on them."

Russia's top diplomat also pointed to signs indicating that the US is moving towards a more constructive approach to strategic stability issues.

A brief meeting between Lavrov and Pompeo took place in Munich on February 14. The US Department of State refused to disclose the details of the conversation.

Agencies



## Netanyahu says Israeli planes have started overflying Sudan

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI commercial planes have started overflying Sudan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday, casting the new air corridor as the result of a breakthrough meeting with the African Muslim country's de-facto leader this month.

Khartoum said on Feb 5 it had given Israeli planes initial approval to fly over its territory, two days after Sudan's military head of state, Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, met Netanyahu in Uganda.

"Now we're discussing rapid normalization. The first Israeli airplane passed yesterday over the skies of Sudan," Netanyahu said in a speech to US Jewish leaders, saying the route cut some three hours off flights from Israel to South America.

Sudan, mindful of pro-Palestinian sensitivities, has stopped short of saying it is normalizing ties with Israel.

Israel previously considered Sudan a security threat because it suspected Iran used Sudan as a conduit for overland smuggling of munitions to the Gaza Strip. In 2009, regional sources said, Israeli aircraft bombed an arms convoy in Sudan.

The corridor described by Netanyahu would also take planes over Egypt, which made peace with Israel in 1979, and Chad, which in 2018 restored long-severed relations with Israel.

Normalizing relations with Sudan, where Arab states gathered in 1967 to issue what became known as the "Three No's" - no recognition of Israel, no peace with Israel and no negotiations with Israel - would allow Netanyahu to burnish his diplomatic credentials a month before Israel's March 2 election.

Since their meeting, the air corridor is the most prominent development that has been discussed publicly by both sides.

Israeli commentators have speculated that the new contacts with Khartoum could allow for the repatriation of illegal Sudanese migrants in Israel, and that Israel could in turn lobby the United States to improve Sudan's standing in Washington.

Agencies

## US-Kenya trade talks seen a risk for Africa regional pact

By Bloomberg

A POSSIBLE US-Kenya free-trade agreement could undermine an existing continent-wide commerce pact and limit Africa's power to negotiate with the US.

Washington announced on Feb 7 that it intended to start trade negotiations with Kenya. President Donald Trump's administration doesn't favor renewing the Africa Growth Opportunity Act, a trade deal under which 39 sub-Saharan African countries have duty-free access to the US for about 6,500 products including textiles and manufactured items.

"Kenya should not provide cracks in the armor of those who have pushed for further collective engagement," according to Mukhisa Kituyi, secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Erastus Mwencha, former head of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa.

"There is strength in numbers," they said in a joint statement.

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta said on Feb 5 in Washington that he is still committed to regional blocs. However, he said Kenya can also be a "pacesetter" for a bilateral deal with the US that would replace the multilateral arrangement due to expire in 2025.

A free-trade accord would enable products from the world's biggest economy to enter Kenya more easily and could hamper the East African nation's efforts to boost its own manufacturing and farming, Kituyi and Mwencha said.

The US would also pressure Kenya to show more zeal in reforming its labor laws and enforcing rules on intellectual property, they said.

Former US President Bill Clinton first signed the AGOA into law in 2000, and former President Barack Obama extended it for 10 years in 2015.

Kituyi and Mwencha said that whenever a phase of the AGOA program was



Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

about to expire over the past two decades, benefiting countries successfully lobbied US administrations and lawmakers to extend it.

"Kenya should follow the tested route of collective negotiation," they said.

The African Continental Free Trade Area is set to be the world's biggest bloc by membership, and Kenya was among the earliest nations to ratify it. Growth of intra-Africa trade is in line with Kenya's aspiration to become a regional business hub.

"To negotiate a unilateral FTA flies in the face of this perception," Kituyi and Mwencha said.

African heads of state agreed in July 2018 that no country should negotiate a bilateral free-trade agreement with a third party once the continental bloc comes into force. In the sub-regional bloc of the East African Community, Kenya shares a common customs territory with other members, making

negotiating unilateral FTAs almost impossible.

With the AGOA, the US became Kenya's third-largest export market after the European Union and neighboring Uganda, accounting for about US\$400 million or 10 percent of the country's total exports, according to Kituyi and Mwencha. President Kenyatta said his administration is ready to act to secure a deal before the AGOA expires.

Trump has scrutinized trade relationships with the European Union, the UK and Africa after securing Senate approval of his US-Mexico-Canada agreement.

The US has a free-trade agreement in Africa with Morocco and has been seeking a sub-Saharan country with which to develop a trade deal that could be the model for others in the region.

Kenya should "ask why others are not taking the bait," Kituyi and Mwencha said.

Agencies

## Militant group: US-Taliban deal to be signed end of Feb

By Bloomberg

THE US and Taliban will sign a peace deal at the end of February, more than a year after negotiations started, paving the way for broader talks between the Afghan government and the militant group on the country's post-war future.

The peace agreement will be signed during a ceremony in Doha, Qatar, where the Taliban has a political office, according to the group's spokesman Zabihullah Mujahed, as well as deputy head of its political office Abdul Salam Hanafi. Mujahed was reached via Whatsapp on Monday.

The treaty to end America's longest war follows an agreement with the Taliban on Friday for them to reduce hostilities for a seven-day period. One of the conditions for a broader peace



deal, that would allow the US to start withdrawing troops, has been for the partial cease-fire to hold.

"Afghanistan's neighbors, members of the UN's Security Council, Islamic nations, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and other nations involved in Afghan peace issue will be invited to participate as witnesses," Hanafi said in an interview with the Nunn.Asia

website.

"Recently, we had very good meetings with the Americans. For now our negotiations have ended," he added. Nunn.Asia is a pro-Taliban Pashto-language news website.

President Ashraf Ghani's administration and the US will release 5,000 Taliban prisoners in exchange for 1,000 Afghans imprisoned by the mili-

tant group, Hanafi said.

Intra-Afghan talks will take place only after the peace deal is in place and the release of the Taliban prisoners, he added.

The militants had ruled Afghanistan until a US-led coalition ousted the group in 2001. Despite the Americans spending an estimated US\$900 billion on the Afghan conflict since then, the Taliban are now at their strongest since being ousted from power. The group controls or contests about half the country and regularly stages attacks in Kabul.

A US delegation led by envoy Zalmay Khalilzad has been negotiating with the Taliban since late 2018. In September, US President Donald Trump abruptly called off the talks in response to a suicide bombing in Kabul that killed an American soldier.

Agencies

## Macron picks minister to lead Paris mayor battle after scandal

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron picked his widely respected health minister on Sunday to reinvigorate a campaign to win over Paris City Hall that fell apart when his previous candidate pulled out over a sexting scandal.

Less than a month before mayoral elections in which opinion polls expect Macron's party to fare poorly, Macron is keen to turn his fortunes around in the

capital, where voters have given him good scores in the past.

His new candidate, Health Minister Agnes Buzyn, a doctor who has been leading France's response to the coronavirus, told reporters she was throwing herself into the race to win.

She will pick up the baton from Benjamin Griveaux, one of the "Macron boys" who helped propel the former investment banker into power in 2017. Griveaux, who

is married, was forced to give up after sexual images he sent to a woman were published online.

Russian dissident artist Pyotr Pavlensky, who has lived in exile in France since 2017, said he published a video of a man masturbating, that he says was Griveaux, to expose the "hypocrisy". Griveaux has not disputed that he sent the messages and the video.

Pavlensky and his girlfriend, who French media said was the

recipient of Griveaux's texts, were arrested on Saturday and were held for questioning on Sunday over possible charges of privacy violation, the prosecutor's office said.

The Russian artist is best known for works of performance art including nailing his scrotum to the ground in Moscow's Red Square and setting fire to doors at the headquarters of Russia's state security agency and the Bank of

France. French politicians from all camps denounced the leak of private material, which many said constituted an unacceptable Americanisation of politics in France, where politicians' private lives have long been considered off limits.

But for Macron, the episode marks a new low in his effort to give the three-and-a-half year old En Marche (On the Move) party he created from scratch a sustain-

able local base.

Party officials have admitted they expected a drubbing in the March 15-22 elections. "It will go badly for En Marche, because that's the election in which the political program is the least important," a senior figure in the party told Reuters.

The party has suffered from defections in parliament and has also failed to maintain discipline, with several lawmakers decid-

ing to launch independent bids against the candidate chosen by the party's decision-making committee.

In Paris, Macron's new candidate will compete with a flamboyant mathematician, Cedric Villani, who was elected to parliament under Macron's banner in 2017 but was kicked out of the party last month after he refused to rally behind Macron's official choice.

Agencies



## Kawhi Leonard wins first Kobe Bryant All-Star MVP award



Kawhi Leonard of the Los Angeles Clippers holds up his NBA All-Star Game Kobe Bryant MVP Award after the NBA All-Star basketball game Sunday, Feb. 16, 2020, in Chicago. (AP Photo)

CHICAGO

KAWHI Leonard made it look effortless, nailing one 3-pointer after another and nearly matching an All-Star Game record.

The tough part came afterward. Finding the right words to express how he felt after becoming the first Kobe Bryant MVP award winner wasn't so easy.

Leonard scored 30 points and hit eight 3-pointers to lead Team LeBron to a 157-155 victory over Team Giannis on Sunday night.

He was presented the MVP trophy that the league renamed after Bryant on Saturday, three weeks after the Lakers great and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna were among the nine people killed when their helicopter crashed near Los Angeles.

"It's very special," Leonard said. "Like I said, I had a relationship with him. Words can't explain how happy I am for it. Able to put that trophy in my room, in my trophy room, and just be able to see Kobe's name on there, it just means a lot to me. He's a big inspiration in my life. He did a lot for me."

Bryant had a huge presence over the first All-Star festivities in Chicago since 1988, when Michael Jordan delighted the home crowd by beating Dominique Wilkins in a classic slam dunk contest and scoring 40 points to take MVP honors in the game.

There were all sorts of tributes to Bryant, his daughter and late NBA Commissioner Emeritus David Stern. But once the game started, it didn't take long for Leonard to make his presence felt.

The Los Angeles Clippers star has two NBA finals MVP trophies after helping San Antonio and Toronto win championships.

He was picked for his fourth All-Star team and put on quite a display from the perimeter, knocking down 8 of 14 3-pointers.

Had he made one more, he would have matched Paul George's All-Star record set in 2016. And he appeared to be well on his way

to breaking it after a scorching start.

Leonard hit one just seconds into the game. He made all four 3s in the first quarter – the only shots he took while scoring 12 points.

Leonard was 7 of 10 in the first half, only to cool off a bit after that. He missed a step-back 3 that could have won it with his team up 154-153, but was the runaway winner for the game's MVP honors with seven votes. LeBron James got three and Chicago product Anthony Davis and Chris Paul received one apiece.

All that's missing for Leonard now is the league's regular season MVP award.

"My mindset is always just to try to make my team the best team at the end of the regular season," Leonard said. "And if I'm fortunate enough to win a regular season MVP, then I'll be happy with it. I always just want to win championships. I'm not really concerned with the personal goal. So I always want to play to win championships."

Leonard could have signed with the Lakers and teamed with LeBron James and Anthony Davis with Frank Vogel coaching them after leading Toronto to the championship last season. Instead, it was a one-night-only affair, with Vogel on the sideline for Team LeBron.

The Clippers are third in the Western Conference behind the Lakers and Denver, five games off the lead. They could cross paths in the playoffs with the team that shares their arena. But for one night, anyway, Leonard enjoyed being on the same side.

"It was fun," he said. "I played with 'Bron and A.D. last year, and I think the year before that or so. But it's always fun just to get around guys that are very competitive, see what they do on an everyday basis."

"Just talking, just being their teammate. We go at each other all year round. And just like I said, it's great to be able to pick their brain and just be around them and joke and laugh."

## Optimism in the air as Tikolo takes charge

BY CORRESPONDENT LLOYD ELIPOKA

IT is an unimpeachable fact that in the world of East African cricket, they do not come any bigger than the Kenyan great Steven Tikolo.

Indeed, Tikolo's stellar reputation in the 'gentlemanly game' is one that was meritoriously earned by dint of innate talent, admirable professionalism and an outstanding work ethic which saw him rise from obscurity to the pinnacle of East African cricket.

It should also be recalled that Tikolo was in the vanguard of that unforgettable class of the Kenyan national cricket team of 2003, which astoundingly became the first-ever African team to advance to the semi-finals of the Cricket World Cup that year.

However, at this point Dear Reader, before we continue with our weekly reflections on matters sports it might be especially helpful to zero-in on the exact reason for why this writer has been waxing lyrically about Steve Tikolo thus far.

Well, a few days ago, tongues were sent a-wagging after the Tanzanian Cricket Association (TCA) named Steve Tikolo as the new head coach of the men's national cricket team.

And Tikolo has precious little time to get really acquainted with the domestic cricket patch as the Kenyan cricketing great will have to hit the ground running.

Indeed, almost instantaneously, Tikolo has been tasked to ensure that the national men's cricket team is thoroughly prepared for the Africa Twenty20 championship, which commences mid-next month in Nairobi.



New senior national cricket team's coach, Steve Tikolo.

And as if that were not enough on his plate, Tikolo has also been charged with sufficiently preparing the national U-19 men's cricket team for the continental U-19 cricket championship, which will soon begin in earnest in neighboring Uganda.

Regarding the appointment of Steve Tikolo as our new national cricket team's head coach, one has simply got to concede that it was a bold and impressive move on the part of the TCA.

Indeed, for a considerable amount of time, now, cricket enthusiasts, stakeholders, and sports journalists have long known that the 'gentlemanly

game' has NOT been in rude health.

In the meantime, while we have been experiencing travails where cricket development is concerned, other countries, African included have grasped the nettle and are achieving progress apace in their strivings to gain a greater degree of excellence in this enchanting but admittedly complicated sport.

Some of these fellow African countries include Nigeria, whose meteoric ascent in the world of cricket has been nothing short of remarkable and Rwanda, who continue to register steady improvement enviably in all facets of the

sport. Much further afield, the erstwhile minnows of international cricket, Bangladesh served fair notice of the giant strides which they have taken as well as their ambitions when they overcame mighty India in order to win the U-19 Cricket World Cup lately.

Thus, it would appear that other countries are rapidly forging ahead in the sport of cricket.

Hope springs eternal, then, that under the stewardship of our new master tactician Steve Tikolo that we as a country will be able to register significant improvement in the sport as well.

## Last shot wins: Team LeBron wins All-Star Game 157-155

CHICAGO

PLAYERS were taking charges, bodies were hitting the floor, calls and non-calls were being screamed about on both ends. The fourth quarter of the NBA All-Star Game was as intense as the final moments of a playoff game, the biggest stars in the league holding absolutely nothing back.

And in the end, Anthony Davis was a hometown hero by making a free throw.

Kobe Bryant – ever the competitor – would have simply loved the way this night went.

"That was pretty damn fun," a sweat-soaked, exhausted LeBron James said at the end.

Davis made a game-ending free throw to give Team LeBron a 157-155 win over Team Giannis in the revamped NBA All-Star Game on Sunday night, the format overhauled to put in elements for charity and ensure that someone was going to hit a shot to end the game.

That someone was Davis, the Chicago native who missed the first free throw and made the second to end the NBA's midseason showcase that went down as the closest All-Star Game since the Eastern Conference topped the Western Conference 141-139 in 2010.

Kawhi Leonard, the game's MVP and the first recipient of the trophy now named for Bryant, scored 30 points for Team LeBron, while James – his team's captain – and Chris Paul each scored 23, and Davis finished with 20.

"This one's for him," Leonard said, speaking of Bryant afterward.

Giannis Antetokounmpo, who captained his team, led his squad with 25 points, Kemba Walker had 23 for Team Giannis, Joel Embiid scored 22 and Rudy Gobert added 21.

"I think it was really interesting," said Team Giannis coach Nick Nurse of the NBA champion Toronto Raptors. "It was really fun, each and every quarter, from a coaching standpoint."

The finish was frantic, and then some. James tried a layup that would have put his team one point away – it was blocked by Antetokounmpo, called a goaltend at first but ruled a clean block after review. Team LeBron controlled the resulting jump ball and James tried a 40-footer to end it but missed.

James Harden then had a chance to win it for Team LeBron, and his 3-pointer went in – but it was waved off by Kyle Lowry taking a charge against the NBA's scoring leader. James got a dunk not long afterward to make it 156-153, and Embiid made two free throws to cut Team LeBron's lead to one.



Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks looks to pass during the second half of the NBA All-Star basketball game Sunday, Feb. 16, 2020, in Chicago. (AP Photo)

With that, it was next-basket-time.

"Really cool," Nurse said.

Davis was fouled on the next trip, got the free throw to win it, and that was that.

"I told my team I was going to miss the first one to put a little more pressure on myself here at home," Davis said.

James' team wore blue jerseys, all with the No. 2 for Gianna Bryant. Antetokounmpo's team wore red, every player wearing No. 24 on the back for Kobe Bryant. And on their right shoulders was a black circular patch with nine stars, one for each victim of the helicopter crash that took the lives of Bryant, his daughter and their seven friends on Jan. 26.

"His presence was felt," James said.

And with the new rules, the teams went at it in the fourth: Antetokounmpo got out to block a shot by James, Lowry took a charge from his former

Toronto teammate in Leonard, elbows got up in collisions for rebound positioning, Paul was screaming encouragement to Team LeBron teammates in a time-out – all adding up to an intensity hardly ever seen in All-Star Games.

"To me, probably the best All-Star game ever," Embiid said. "Guys competed, it came down to basically the last shot, but I don't think you should be able to win on a free throw. But overall it was a lot of fun."

It was the first All-Star Game with a new format: The teams played a mini-game in each of the first three quarters, the scores starting at 0-0 in each of those periods and the winning team in each one earning \$100,000 for their Chicago-area children's charity.

James' team won the first quarter 53-41, Antetokounmpo's team won the second quarter 51-30.

The third quarter had down-to-the-wire, big-money drama

with \$100,000 on the line. But the teams finished the quarter tied 41-41, putting \$300,000 – the undecided \$100,000 from the third and \$200,000 more for the win – at stake in the final period.

The cumulative score at that point was Team Giannis 133, Team LeBron 124 going into the untimed fourth quarter – with another new twist. The NBA decided, as part of the series of Bryant tributes, that the winner of the All-Star Game would be the team that added 24 points, a nod to his jersey number, to whatever the leading total score was after three quarters.

That meant the target score was set: 157. The game clock was off. The shot clock stayed on. The stage for drama was perfectly set, and the All-Star Game – oft-maligned in recent years for a lack of competitiveness – was entertaining again.

AP





## Arsenal are finally putting Arteta's ideas into practice

LONDON

WHEN the great history of Mikel Arteta's time at Arsenal is written, there will be many more convincing performances than Sunday's 4-0 win over Newcastle. At least, Gooners around the world will hope so.

The score line didn't reflect the overall flow of the game, as Arsenal racked up a couple of bonus goals at the end as Newcastle gave up on the concept of defending and waved their opponents through. But viewed another way, Sunday's thumping victory might be looked back on as the game when things started to click, that the work Arteta has been doing with this Arsenal squad has translated into something tangible. Maybe, just maybe, the theory is beginning to become practice.

Before this fixture, Arteta had taken charge of seven Premier League games, winning only once. In most of those games there were small signs of what Arteta is trying to do, glimpses of progress with ultimately little to show for it. For all the reports about a squad re-energised behind the scenes, it was easy to simply write this all off as improvements on paper, not on grass. Speaking to Sky Sports this week, Arteta seemed aware of the problem. "It's down to us to accelerate the process as much as possible, without killing the process, but by winning as many games as we can," he said.

Will Sunday's win accelerate the process? There were certainly enough signs to suggest so. Their second goal, in particular -- swept home by Nicolas Pepe after brilliant work by Bukayo Saka on the left -- felt like exactly the sort of goal Arteta's Arsenal have been working toward: rapid and decisive. Pepe also added a pair of assists, the translation of his clear promise into something more commensurate to his hefty price tag edging closer.

"Hopefully," said Arteta after the game, when asked whether Pepe's performance was a sign that things have clicked with the winger. "We just need consistency from him, which from talented wide players in this league is not easy to get, because the most difficult thing to do is to create. "There are certain things Nico needs to maintain, game by game, but he knows that. The way he applied himself defensively -- things he wasn't doing in the past -- he was top-drawer. When he does that, the rewards in the other box come. He made the difference today."

Dani Ceballos' performance in the heart of midfield was another plus, particularly in the second half, the Spaniard shifting the ball with purpose from the heart of midfield and being heavily involved in two of the goals. Ceballos' Arsenal career has been a curious one thus far, but against Newcastle, we saw the player Arsenal thought they were getting.

"I thought Dani was ideal for this game in this position today," said Arteta.

The third goal arguably brought the most cheer. The move leading to it consisted of 35 passes, with every Arsenal player involved at some point. That kind of stat can be somewhat meaningless at times, but in Arsenal's case, it points to the

sort of control Arteta is looking for. "When everybody is involved and participating towards a goal, it's very pleasing for me," said Arteta.

As always with Arsenal, the necessary caveats should be applied. For much of the first half, they struggled to control the game, not doing a huge amount with the 63% possession they had: technically dominant, but in a pretty passive way. A better team would have scored at least twice before the break and once after it. Allan Saint-Maximin caused chaos in that "he doesn't know what he's doing, so defenders definitely don't know what he's doing" way, while Joellinton and Miguel Almiron passed up opportunities that absolutely should have been taken.

"We found it difficult in the first 20 to 30 minutes," said Arteta. "[Newcastle] are really compact, and when that happens, you can get a bit frustrated. I didn't like [the first 30 minutes], but after that, we started to control situations much better, get into the final third much more continuously, and in the second half, we attacked much better, which allowed us to control the game."

Arsenal also still require a more stable central defence than David Luiz and Shkodran Mustafi. Though this was their second consecutive clean sheet, the first time they've managed it since last March, both of those games (Sunday and against Burnley last time out) had more to do with the wayward finishing of the opposition than their rock-solid defensive shape.

In the end, though, the positive signs will outshine the negatives. The last two goals, which you could argue Arsenal didn't really deserve and were fortunate in their own ways, were important too. Mesut Ozil's jabbed finish, squirming as it did through the uncertain hands of Martin Dubravka, was his first goal of any description since April: Arteta has showed renewed faith in the mercurial German, and just like the win rewarding their general improvement, this provided some tangible justification for his decisions.

Alexandre Lacazette's goal was a slight mishit but, again, could be significant. The Frenchman started the game on the bench with Eddie Nketiah playing as centre-forward, which Arteta portrayed post-match as simply a reward for the youngster's performances in training. Yet, it was also interpreted as a giddy-up for Lacazette, who hadn't scored in his previous nine games. The glee with which his teammates piled on Lacazette after the goal suggested it was a popular one within the dressing room.

It's always easy to apply excessive significance to one result, and in particular with Arsenal, you're always well-advised to err on the side of caution when it comes to predicting good times returning for good. After all, they had a run under Unai Emery last season that suggested the path back to glory was being trod, and look how that turned out.

That said, Sunday's emphatic win might prove to be a crucial win in the development of Arteta's Arsenal. It's always handy not to get too carried away, but for this one, getting just a little bit carried away is justifiable.

(Agencies)

## Analysis: Man City stained by scandal, mired in uncertainty

LONDON

MANCHESTER City is now a tainted champion.

A club transformed by lavish investment in part to promote the emirate of Abu Dhabi on the world stage is damaged by deceptions in the pursuit of glory on the soccer field.

Cut through all the raging against the footballing prosecutors by City, UEFA showed there is a price to pay for misleading the governing body of European soccer.

If you don't play by the rules, you don't get to play in the Champions League. For two seasons in City's case. It doesn't matter if Pep Guardiola is the coach or you have some of the world's most expensive players in the team.

Banishing such a wealthy, powerful club from its elite competition was a test of resolve.

Not for the leadership of UEFA but the independent investigatory and adjudicatory bodies, with the final verdict decided by a panel headed by a European Court of Justice judge.

When City complained on Friday night that "this is a case initiated by UEFA, prosecuted by UEFA and judged by UEFA," it was a statement seemingly as misleading as some of its financial reporting.

City appeared to hope the public and UEFA would never discover it was allegedly funneling money around Abu Dhabi to fund sponsorships that helped to ensure it complied with Champions League spending rules.

Already there were questions about the club's reliance to raise revenue on sponsorships from Abu Dhabi when it has been owned since 2008 by Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, a deputy prime minister of the United Arab Emirates and a member of Abu Dhabi's royal family.

The alleged scheming was only discovered thanks to leaked internal



Manchester City's Sergio Aguero reacts after Crystal Palace's Cenk Tosun scoring his side's opening goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Crystal Palace at Etihad stadium in Manchester, England, Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020. (AP Photo)

correspondence that City believes should be inadmissible because it is "hacked or stolen" materials. The club has never disputed the authenticity of the documentation gained by German publication Der Spiegel and published in 2018. Nor has it publicly challenged Financial Fair Play rules.

In fact, City accepted the need to be monitored by rules restricting losses and the ability of owners to pump money into clubs for spending on players when it first reached a settlement in 2014 to avoid a Champions League ban.

It is the 2012-16 financial submission from City that became subject to UEFA scrutiny again when the trove of leaks was published appearing to show how the true source of income was being allegedly covered up. Even though Etihad Airways was paying for naming rights and jersey sponsorship, the company appeared to receive most of it back from City's Abu Dhabi holding company.

According to UEFA City overstated sponsorship revenue and break-even

information in documentation. With City planning to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport against the Champions League ban and 30 million euro fine, more extensive details from the case should become public.

City is not a club that likes to be challenged, favoring annual in-house gentler "interviews" with its chairman rather than open news briefings.

When it comes to legal cases, spending on a strong squad is the answer just like on the field. Legal representatives from three different firms were deployed by City at CAS in a hearing last year attempting to get the case thrown out. UEFA was outnumbered 8-2 by City lawyers.

It was the type of defeat City has not become accustomed to in the Sheikh Mansour era.

It was a team that for years wearily watched neighbor Manchester United dominate the Premier League, partly while playing in the third tier before beginning the ascent back to the Premier League in 1999. Abu Dhabi wealth ensured City could

compete with United to spend on players in a manner unimaginable before 2008.

When City beat United to the Premier League title in the closing minutes of the 2011-12 season it ended a 44-year title drought. The Premier League trophy has been collected three times more since then and it's currently in City's possession after edging Liverpool by a single point last season.

City will soon be surrendering the silverware to Liverpool due to its 25-point deficit in the league rather than any investigations. The Premier League, though, continues to look into the financial dealings unearthed in the leaks.

The one trophy that has eluded City is the one -- as it stands -- it won't get to compete for again after this season until 2022-23.

And what prospect of Guardiola sticking around for the entire period in European exile, with his City contract in its final 18 months already?

Guardiola has been the public face from City defending the club's conduct, but he is far removed from the financial decision.

The loss of Champions League television and prize money alone -- almost 100 million euros last season -- will prove costly to City's domestic mission to provide a greater challenge to Liverpool next season.

Factor in too that City will still have to comply with FFP rules if it qualifies for Europe again in 2022. So, once again, regardless of the owner's wealth, lavish spending on players will be not feasible.

And just like in the early years of Sheikh Mansour's ownership, City will have to convince players to join and settle for not playing in the Champions League.

City's place in the game and world sport is diminished again. The vehicle to promote the Abu Dhabi brand is now associated by many with rule-bending rather than just excellence in sport.

## Dortmund teen Haaland goes head-to-head with PSG star Mbappe

DORTMUND, GERMANY

AT just 21, Kylian Mbappe is already a World Cup winner while at only 19, Erling Braut Haaland has emerged as a rising fast-star this season.

As Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi approach the end of their careers, could Mbappe and Haaland be the next duo to dominate football?

AFP Sport looks at the star forwards who meet when Haaland's Borussia Dortmund host Mbappe's Paris Saint-Germain in Tuesday's Champions League last 16, first leg, tie.

Erling Braut Haaland  
Haaland had barely arrived last month in Dortmund when the records started tumbling.

He justified the 20 million euros (\$22 million) Dortmund paid Salzburg by becoming the first player to score a hat-trick on his Bundesliga debut.

Having scored 28 goals in 22 games for Salzburg, including eight in this season's Champions League group stage, Haaland picked up in Germany where he left off in Austria.

He made his debut coming off the bench with his new team 3-1 down at Augsburg in mid January. His clinical finishing produced three goals in 20 minutes to seal a 5-3 victory.

The teenager was praised by Dortmund's sporting director Michael Zorc, yet calmly replied: "You signed me to score goals".

Another two followed in a 5-1 rout of Cologne, then Haaland grabbed two more goals when Union Berlin were crushed 5-0.

He claimed his eighth goal in four games in Dortmund's German Cup defeat at Werder Bremen.

The Norwegian teen netted again in Friday's 4-0 thumping of Eintracht Frankfurt to extend his own record to nine goals in six games for Dortmund.

His attitude also impresses his new team-mates.

"When a young player has been so hyped, with everyone saying how good he is, then he can be a difficult person," said goalkeeper Roman Buerki.

"But he is a really cool guy, very professional.

"I'm one of the first at training - but he's always there earlier."

Haaland sees Mbappe as a role



Erling Braut Haaland

Kylian Mbappe

model.

"When I was in Salzburg, I started scoring goals, but I look at Kylian Mbappe banging in Ligue 1 goals, so you can always reach a higher level," Haaland told Bundesliga.com.

Kylian Mbappe  
For a player who turned 21 in December, Mbappe's achievement's are astonishing.

The World Cup winner is also France's reigning player of the year and has won three Ligue 1 titles with two different clubs.

Mbappe recently reached a century of club goals, and his 19 in the Champions League is a record for a player before his 21st birthday.

The second youngest player to score in a World Cup final after

Pele, Mbappe hit double figures for Champions League goals before he had even turned 19.

By that time he had already become the second most expensive player in football history when PSG signed him from Monaco for a total reported fee of 180 million euros (\$215 million).

Mbappe has been

to Dortmund's Signal Iduna Park before. He scored twice when Monaco drew 3-3 there in the 2017 Champions League quarter-finals, a match postponed by 24 hours after a bomb attack on the Dortmund team bus.

He scored another in the return leg as Monaco advanced to the last four.

At that time, he was the teenage sensation.

Now, he is a World Cup winner and is PSG's top scorer this season with 24 goals.

Maybe he is beginning to develop a star's ego. He showed his dismay at coach Thomas Tuchel when substituted in a recent 5-0 win over Montpellier.

"If a player goes off and is angry with the coach, it's a fault on his part," said PSG sporting director Leonardo, also a World Cup winner as a player.

"But to then say he is a spoilt child, I don't accept that, because he is an adorable person, very committed too, a fantastic player."

However, after three successive years of failing to win a Champions League knockout tie, PSG want a return on their investment in Neymar and Mbappe where it matters - in Europe.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Analysis: Man City stained by scandal, mired in uncertainty**

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Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) Managing Director, Philip Redman, runs past a Kili Canvas to demonstrate the way athletes that will participate in the 2020 Kilimanjaro Marathon, will take pictures once they pass the canvas. The event, which geared towards motivating Tanzanians to take pictures at the canvas, took place at Coco Beach in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT.

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**NIRVANA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 MPYA  
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)  
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi  
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 5SPORTS (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)

**Nirvana** explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

**eastafrika RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Vandenbroeck laments Samora Stadium quality

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

SIMBA Sports Club head coach, Sven Vandenbroeck, has said his team could have scored more goals in a Vodacom Premier League clash with Lipuli FC, which took place at Samora Stadium in Iringa, but they failed because of the venue's poor condition.

Speaking to The Guardian after the final whistle, the coach said that due to slippery condition at Samora Stadium, his players failed to take advantage of the limited opportunities they had to score many goals.

"Our players slipped all the time due to the slippery condition, they did not have football boots made for the condition, we failed to utilize the few chances we got," he noted.

Vandenbroeck added that his team was adequately prepared to deal with their opponents Lipuli FC but unfortunately the weather and poor field condition could not carry the visitors.

He promised that in future matches they would do better.

The hosts failed to make full use of the Samora Stadium, given they succumbed to 1-0 loss to Simba.

Lipuli FC currently face several challenges including absence of head coach and lack of cash for paying players.

The team is lately under the tutelage of assistant coach, Julio Eliaza,

Simba's skipper John Bocco netted the only goal of the clash on the 22nd minute.

Lipuli FC had few fans in the stadium, whereas Simba enjoyed support from plenty of fans who flocked the venue.

Simba SC launched attacks on several occasions but Lipuli FC's defense marshaled by defender Peter Mwangosi put spirited displays and kept the former in check.

The hosts keeper Deogratias Munishi was also in good form given he executed good saves to frustrate Simba players including Meddie Kagere, Francis Kahata and Clatus Chama.

Simba are still leading the rest of the pack in the top flight with 56 points.

They were coming from a 3-0 victory over Mtibwa Sugar in a league clash played at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro three days back.

Lipuli FC are lately placed 10th in the Vodacom Premier League's standing, having played a total of 22 matches.

## Kagera Sugar in high spirit ahead of Simba SC clash

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadana

KAGERA Sugar head coach, Mecky Mexime, has said his charges are ready for today's Vodacom Premier League match against Simba SC which will take place at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Mexime said this afternoon game will not be easy but they are well prepared for it.

The coach said although playing away from home ground is always difficult for all teams, his team's aim is to collect the maximum points.

"It will not be an easy game, but we have come here to collect three points, I'm sure 90 minutes of the match will decide which side gets the desired results," he disclosed.

"Playing away is always difficult but we have won many games away from our home and it's our belief that we can do the same in tomorrow (today) game," he said.

The Kagera-based side who are coming from a 2-0 win against Mbao FC, are placed fifth with 37 points from 22 games.

The last time Kagera Sugar took on Simba in the Vodacom Premier League at Kaitaba Stadium, Simba won 3-0.

Simba scored through Meddie Kagere, who netted two goals, and Mohammed Hussein.

In today game, Kagera will depend on their experienced players including skipper Juma Nyoso, Yusufu Mhili, Kelvin Sabato and Awesu Ally.

The four players had a good time in their team's 3-0 win against Yanga at the National Stadium early this month and Mexime believes they can do the same this time.

"The morale and the spirit among my players is very high, yes Simba are good but we have posted victory over them on many occasions and remember it was at the same venue where we beat Yanga," he said.

On his remarks, Simba SC head coach Sven Vandenbroeck whose side is coming from 1-0 win against Lipuli FC said his aim is to collect three points in today's clash.

He said his charges are aware of the importance of the three points.

"Our aim is to collect maximum points, as you know at this stage of the league each game is very difficult but we are prepared to face them," he said.

Simba are coming back to the National Stadium after one week of playing away.

The league leaders' previous clash, which took place at the venue, ended with the team conceding 1-0 loss to JKT Tanzania.

The league leaders have 56 points from 22 games and in today game they are likely to depend on the services of Meddie Kagere, Hassan Dilunga, John Bocco, Clatus Chama, Paschal Wawa, and Jonas Mkunde, among others.

In other Premier League clash, slated for the same day, third-placed Yanga will be away in Moshi playing against Polisi Tanzania.

Yanga, who are coming from a goal-

less draw with Prisons, will in today's game depend on, among others, Bernard Morrison, Mapinduzi Balama, David Moringa and Haruna Niyonzi-ma.

The Jangwani-based side have collected 39 points from 20 games while the hosts have 33 points from 22 games and are currently placed eighth.

The last time Yanga played Polisi Tanzania, the game ended with the two teams locked to a 3-3 draw.

Yanga's David Moringa netted a brace and Mrisho Ngassa scored the other, while Polisi Tanzania forward Ditram Nchimbi scored a hat-trick.

Nchimbi is now playing for Yanga. The speedy forward's hat trick was the first in the 2019/2020 season.

Yanga's head coach Luc Eymael is reported to have said he is looking forward to collecting three points.

He said he has instructed his players to work hard during the game.

"We had two consecutive draws in the Premier League, that is not acceptable, I have told my players to work hard so as we can get three points and I'm sure of that," he said.

Polisi Tanzania who are coming from a 3-2 win over KMC FC said they are ready for today's game.

The team's head coach, Malale Hamsini, said his charges are looking forward to the game.

"Yanga are a good side with many good players, but I have told my players they should not be intimidated by opponents' names, they should stick to our game plan," he said.



Kagera Sugar Football Club players pray shortly before a kick off of their recent clash in the Vodacom Premier League, which took place in Kagera. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KAGERA SUGAR

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



## Kili 5km race registration still in progress

By Guardian Reporter

DESPITE closure of registration of entries for 42km and 21km races in the forthcoming Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, the organizers have announced that registration for the 5km Fun Run is still on.

Entries for the 5km Fun Run, as disclosed by organizers, will be sold at number collection points on cash basis up to February 29, 2020.

In their statement the organizers stressed that the closure of registration for the 42km and 21km races came in the wake of a deadline of February 16, 2020 or when the entries were filled.

That was announced three months ago when the registration exercise was announced and entries were opened and, by the past weekend, the entries had already been reached as participants had plenty of time to register.

The Local Race Director, John Bayo, said registration for the 5km Fun Run was still on and this will be done manually at the number collection points in Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Moshi on cash basis and on a first come first served basis.

In Dar es Salaam, the exercise will take place at Mlimani City from February 22-23, the exercise will later on move to Kibo Palace Hotel in Arusha from February 25-26.

The exercise will lastly be held at Moshi's Keys Hotel from February 27-28.

He called on participants for the short race to register on time as this too has a limit of 4500 participants, hence once capacity is reached no more participants will be registered.

"We have set the limits to avoid incidents such as stampedes as the roads are too narrow and some participants might end up falling in gutters along the roads if there is overcrowding," he said.

He said that it takes at least 30 minutes for the last person to cross the starting line of the Tigo 21km which has 5500 participants hence increasing this would be disastrous.

According to Bayo, the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon is an International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) accredited event hence all the necessary precautions have to be taken to ensure official IAAF regulations of a safe carrying capacity are adhered to.

"The 42km race has a maximum capacity of 800 runners while 21km race has a capacity of 5500. Exceeding this could have serious repercussions on the race including stampedes and administering of essential requirements like water and soft drinks during the races, as well as medical services," read Bayo's statement in part.

He said it was not their wish to lock people out of the race but the organizers were considering important safety issues, which is key in such an event which involves a lot of participants.

"The deadline was announced early in advance and we expected all participants to register early enough to avoid last minute rush," he said.

Official sponsors for this year's event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, TIGO, Grand Malt, Kilimanjaro Water, TPC Limited, Simba Cement, Unilever, Barclays Bank (now Absa Bank Tanzania Limited).

The event's official suppliers are Kibo Palace Hotel, Keys Hotel, GardaWold Security, Precision Air, CMC Automobiles.

The race will be held on at the Moshi Co-operatives University on Sunday, March 1 and will play host to a IAAF route measured 42km Marathon, a 21km Half Marathon and a 5km Fun run.