



People Daily

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Corona grounds courts as public service suffers

VIRUS IMPACT AT A GLANCE



MICHAEL JOSEPH

● Tariffs reduced by telcos to encourage cashless transactions as advised by President Uhuru Kenyatta on Sunday.



AMINA MOHAMMED

● National library services and archives offices to remain closed for the next 30 days, sports centres also to remain shut.



FARIDA KARONEY

● Lands registries countrywide to be closed as ministry assess impact of the virus, announces CS Farida Karoney.



CYRUS OGUNA

● Testing services extended to the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) centres in Busia, Kisumu, Kericho and Kilifi.



WYCLIFFE OPARANYA

● Kakamega County shuts public morgues, bans funeral disco and public gatherings.



ALEXANDER MUTESHI

● Immigration services scaled down and will only handle emergency cases.



TWALIB MBARAK

● Scales down operations for the next 14 days and suspends services at all Huduma Centres.



Hawkers at the Mama Ngina-Moi Avenue junction in Nairobi, sell face masks to pedestrians. Hawkers made brisk business as masks were selling for between Sh100 and Sh150. PD/KENNA CLAUDE

Paralysis: Thousands of litigants stranded, major state functions crippled, boarding schools start closing as impact of virus begins to be felt across the country **PGS 2-13**

COVID-19 Hot Lines

> 0800721316
> 0729471414
> 0732353535
> 719

Business Hub PG 15

Keroche wins round two in Sh9 billion tax row with KRA

POINTERS



NEWS BEAT PAGE 14

When rogue police, judges collude to frustrate justice



WORLD PAGE 18

Biden pledges to pick woman VP if he wins Democratic race

WEATHER TODAY

Nairobi	25°	Nyeri	24°
Mombasa	32°	Kitui	27°
Kisumu	29°	Wajir	38°

Partial lockdown as public offices scale down operations

From courts to Immigration, government departments announce massive reduction of services offered to tame spread of novel coronavirus

by People Daily Team
@PeopleDailyKe

The country yesterday experienced a major reduction of official activities as public institutions scaled down their operations in a bid to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

The scaling down followed President Uhuru Kenyatta's Sunday directive as the country fights to tame the spread of the deadly virus after two more cases were confirmed.

And last evening, Government spokesman Colonel (Rtd) Cyrus Oguna announced that at least 20 Kenyans have been admitted to hospital with suspected symptoms of the virus.

Three of the patients are awaiting test results while 14 have been isolated before being tested. Two patients have so far been discharged testing negative for the virus, Oguna said.

"Apart from the three confirmed cases, the country has not reported any further case. Out of the three cases, two are import cases while one is a local one that was in contact with the first case," Oguna said.

As part of the measures to contain the spread of the virus, Oguna said health facilities in 35 counties have been elevated to a status that they are fully prepared to deal with the virus.

Operations in courts across the country remained largely paralysed following Chief Justice David Maraga's directive suspending judicial proceedings countrywide. The directive took effect yesterday when courts remained closed, with the public not being allowed into the compounds.

Serious cases

Cases involving traffic offences, fraud, theft, assault, corruption, creating disturbance and incitement to violence were handled at respective police stations. The more serious cases of murder, manslaughter, attempted murder, robbery with violence and sexual offences were placed before duty judges and magistrates for mention.

"It is not one of the best situations we have found ourselves in, though we have to adhere to the directive. Otherwise nothing is moving and several cases have not been heard," Law Society of Kenya (LSK) president Nelson Havi said.

At the Milimani Law Courts in Nairobi, hundreds of people who had jammed the place for cases listed for hearing and men-



People stranded at the Immigration Department in Nairobi in after agency suspended some of its services, yesterday. PD/TIMOTHY NJENGA

HAVI



Apart from the three confirmed cases, the country has not reported any further case

tions at 8am were stranded at the main entrance. They protested Maraga's decision to suspend operations "without issuing specific directions". (See story page 4)

Elsewhere, Kenyans generally avoided government offices, with departmental heads announcing suspension of services for two weeks while the private sector grappled with ways to cope with the disruption.

A spot-check on various government offices, notably the Directorate of Immigration Services, Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) and Huduma Centre found many of the offices unusually deserted.

The normally crowded streets of Nairobi, Mombasa, Eldoret, Nakuru and Kisumu were largely empty after many people kept away for fear of contracting the virus, or were grappling with the sudden closure of schools.

Immigration Department Director General Alexander Muteshi told *People Daily* they had suspended most of their operations, adding that issuance of passports and immigration controls were no longer

GLOBAL NUMBERS

● **Coronavirus infections outside China pass 87,000; case numbers in China stand at 80,860.**

● **Tanzania on Monday became the latest East Africa country to confirm its first case of coronavirus, as neighbouring countries shuttered borders and schools as fears of contagion rose.**

● **Somalia also recorded its first case, according to the country's health minister, Fowsiya Abukar.**

● **Ghana banned public gatherings including conferences, funerals, political rallies and religious activities.**

● **In South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa said the country would close its borders to all foreigners from countries highly impacted.**

necessary after the President banned non-essential foreign travel. "Our services are out of offer for the next 30 days," he said.

Lands and Physical Planning Cabinet Secretary Farida Karoney ordered the closure of all land registries for 28 days beginning this morning.

"Any emergencies will be handled by our customer care desks. The closure will allow for further consultation and design of appropriate measures to protect staff and members of the public," Karoney said on her Twitter account.

At the same time, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) announced the scaling down of its activities and operations for the next 14 days.

The EACC chief executive Twalib Mbarak said the anti-graft agency had suspended all its services at Huduma Centres across the country.

The situation was replicated in many government offices where services were scaled down by about 50 per cent, with only those employees providing essential services being retained.

On Sunday, President Kenyatta while outlining measures to be taken after announcing that the country had confirmed two more corona cases to bring the number to three, urged government departments, businesses and companies to allow some employees to work from home.

"Where possible, government offices, businesses and companies are encouraged to allow employees to work from home, with the exception of employees working in critical or essential services," the President stated.

He also encouraged Kenyans to embrace cashless transactions such as mobile money transfer and credit cards to avoid contamination.

Cashless transfers

Yesterday, telecommunications operators heeded the President's call and lowered mobile money transaction fees in a bid to encourage uptake of cashless transfers.

"Safaricom PLC would like to thank the Central Bank of Kenya Governor Dr Patrick Njoroge for hosting a meeting with Safaricom and other industry players to discuss the evolving situation around the Covid-19 pandemic," said Safaricom CEO Michael Joseph and announced an increase of daily M-Pesa transactions limit.

Sports Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed directed the Kenya National Library Services and all public libraries, National Museums, Kenya National Archives and Documentation Service, Kenya Cultural Centre and the Kenya Academy of Sports to be closed to the public for 30 days.

"All public sporting facilities will also remain closed to the public, for the next 30 days," the CS said.

County assemblies also suspended sittings with the County Assemblies Forum directing staff to work from home, except for crucial matters and the service department.

"All County Assemblies across the country suspend House sittings as well as the sittings of their committees and other operations from tomorrow, Tuesday, March 17, 2020 for the next 15 days in a bid to arrest the spread of the virus," the forum said in a statement.

In western Kenya, the Kakamega County government ordered the closure of public mortuaries as a measure of reducing the risk of coronavirus transmission.

Governor Wycliffe Oparanya asked locals to collect kin's bodies from Kakamega County mortuaries for immediate burial.



Energy minister presser on blackouts disrupted by blackout

India's minister for energy was left with egg on the face after a power outage disrupted his press conference. Ironically, the minister was reassuring the country that everything was in perfect shape after complaints of frequent outages. The media interaction had been organised after a public outcry, and Energy minister Priyvrat Singh was in the middle of bragging about the government's achievements in the power sector when a sudden blackout left him red-faced and journalists burst into laughter. The presser was delayed until power supply was restored.

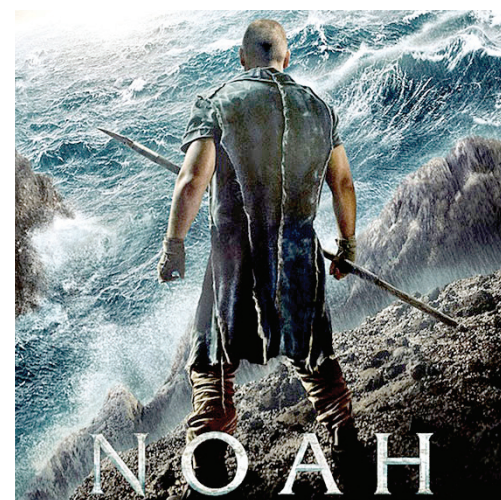


Coronavirus meeting called off due to coronavirus

In an uncanny twist of irony, The USA's Council on Foreign Relations has canceled a roundtable called "Doing Business Under Coronavirus" scheduled this week in New York, US, due to the fears of the spread of the infection. CFR has also canceled other in-person conferences scheduled from March 11 to April 3, including roundtables in New York and Washington and national events around the US. The CFR's confabs are joining a long list of cancelled or postponed events, including an away Harambee Stars qualifying match against Comoros.

The world is full of irony

Of real-life events that unfold like a scene out of a humorous movie



Canadian mice start electrical fire that kills 100 cats

In an ironic event that may be called the mice revenge, mice were held responsible for starting a fire that killed nearly 100 cats at an animal shelter near the Canadian city of Toronto. The fire at the humane society shelter in Oshawa also killed three dogs. An initial report from the fire marshal says mice chewing through electrical wires in the ceiling were likely to have sparked the blaze. The fire caused a damage of an equivalent of \$25 million according to Ontario Fire Marshals.



Screening of Noah movie cancelled over flooding

A screening of the film *Noah*, which is a depiction of a Biblical story where a massive flood wipes out generations, was cancelled due to flooding in a cinema. In a case of 'epic' case of bizarre irony, cinemagoers in Exeter, England were turned away from the first viewing of the biblical movie after an ice machine went haywire and flooded the entire theatre hall. It took the fire department over eight hours to secure the hall.



MPs pass law to drink raw milk but fall sick after drinking it to celebrate

West Virginia lawmakers passed a bill allowing people to drink raw milk in 2016—then became sick after consuming some. Charleston officials drank the raw milk to celebrate a law that loosened restrictions on the product. After drinking, all of them complained of abdominal discomfort.

Inmate arrested for refusing to leave jail



Most people can't wait to leave jail, but one northern Arizona, US, inmate was in 2012 charged with trespassing after refusing to leave the Coconino County lockup. Martin Batieni Kombate, 44, had been jailed and was scheduled for release in 2012, on his own cognisance on the charge according to Coconino County Sheriff's Office. But when detention officers from the sheriff's office showed up to escort him out, Kombate said he wasn't leaving. Detention officers reportedly told Kombate he was being released and needed to leave but he resisted their attempts four more times. After a scuffle, he was rearrested and charged with trespassing.

CORONA CRISIS

Parliament Speaker to give direction on House recess today

Members of the National Assembly are today expected to move a motion to adjourn House sittings indefinitely in response to the coronavirus crisis.

Makueni MP Daniel Maanzo yesterday said MPs will seek guidance from the Speaker on the matter.

"This thing is serious and we need to take measures to protect ourselves from the virus. Personally I will not be coming to the House tomorrow," Maanzo said.

Some MPs, who did not want

to be named, also said they would keep away from parliamentary proceedings until the situation normalises.

The legislators said plenary sessions were like social gatherings with high chances of one being infected.

The County Assemblies Forum has also directed all county assemblies to suspend sittings and operations from today for the next 15 days in order to check the spread of Covid-19. In a statement sent to newsrooms, CAF said only crucial matters and service depart-



ments will continue to operate.

"We encourage assemblies to allow their staff to work from home and ensure that daily tasks on their desks/docks are completed without delay," said CAF chairman Ndwaga Waho.

— Mercy Mwai and Hillary Mageka

Oparanya closes mortuaries and bans funeral gatherings

The Kakamega county government yesterday ordered the closure of all public mortuaries and banned funeral ceremonies and funeral discos, as part of measures to contain Covid-19 spread.

Open-air markets were also banned and boda boda operators advised against crowding at parking bays.

Governor Wycliffe Oparanya asked residents to collect bodies of their relatives from Kakamega County mortuaries for immediate burial.

He said bars and restaurants in the county will continue to operate but the 11pm closing time must be strictly observed.

Speaking when he toured Kakamega County Teaching and Referral hospital yesterday to inspect a coronavirus isolation ward, the governor said he will meet

religious leaders to discuss how they will operate following the government's call to avoid mass gatherings, especially churches, funeral gatherings and weddings.

The Kakamega Hospice Centre, which provides palliative care for cancer patients, has been converted into a Covid-19 isolation and treatment ward with three beds.

Kakamega Senator Cleophas Malala, who accompanied Oparanya, asked urged the national government to allocate funds to the counties to effect containment measures.

The governor said his administration had a set aside Sh10 million towards mitigation measures against the pandemic.

— Douglas Dindi

Court operations grind to a halt as Maraga directive takes effect

Hundreds of people with cases were turned away at court premises yesterday following Chief Justice decision to suspend hearings

by PD Team
@PeopleDailyKe

Services at law courts across the country were yesterday paralysed following Chief Justice David Maraga's suspension of the hearing of civil cases as a measure to tame the spread of coronavirus.

In Nairobi's Milimani courts, the entrance of the premises was closed and hundreds of members of the public who by 8am had arrived for the hearing or mention of their cases were turned away.

Some protested Maraga's decision to suspend the hearing of their cases, saying they had not been given specific directions.

They raised fears that warrants of arrest against them could be issued for failing to appear in court as scheduled.

But Milimani Chief Magistrate Francis Andayi allayed their fears, explaining that accused persons facing criminal charges would not be arrested for failure to appear in court.

"We would like to inform all the accused persons facing criminal charges that court activities have been suspended for a month until April 15," said Andayi.

Zephaniah Omwamba, an auctioneer who had come to court to seek break-in orders, said he was turned away.

A pilot charged in connection with the Sh39 billion arms scandal involving former Sports Rashid Echesa was brought to court but was turned away and the police advised to give him bail.

Obado case

According to Maraga, matters involving traffic offences, fraud, theft, assault, corruption, creating disturbance and incitement to violence would be handled at the police station.



Milimani Chief Magistrate Francis Andayi gives directions about the mention and hearing dates at the courts main gate, Nairobi, after the members of the public were locked out. PD/ CHARLES MATHAI

Among the cases that were affected include the murder trial of Migori Governor Okoth Obado and two others, graft case against former Transport CS Michael Kamau and plea taking of Nakuru-based businesswoman Lucy Waihera accused of killing a Belgian woman.

Normal court operations in the entire Coast region came almost to a standstill as the judicial officials heeded Maraga's directive.

JUSTICE ON HOLD

● A man charged in connection with the Sh39 billion arms scam involving former Sports Rashid Echesa was turned away.

● Zephaniah Omwamba, an auctioneer who had come to court to seek break-in orders, said he was turned away.

● Among the cases that were affected include the murder trial of Migori Governor Okoth Obado and two others.

A memo to all officials advised that members of the public would not be allowed into the court premises except those filing urgent matters.

Urgent matters

"Our earliest statement that all staff are expected to report to work is superseded by the government directive that employees be allowed to work from home except those working in critical or essential services," the memo stated.

At the Nakuru law courts, litigants and lawyers were disappointed as proceedings were put on hold.

Those who arrived at the premises were turned away at the gates. Only urgent matters were relayed through the registry.

The courts were deserted with only the duty magistrate and judge available to handle urgent matters.

The court administration had

fixed hand sanitisers on every entrance.

Rift Valley Law Society of Kenya president Ochang' Ajigo said he was surprised with the number of litigants who milled the court entrance despite a directive barring members of the public from visiting courts.

"This is a global pandemic that has to be contained even if it means suspending activities. But I think some had to come and see for themselves if the directive was in effect," Ochang' told the media outside the court premises.

He said that though cases will be delayed, the courts have no option but heed to the directive.

"We all want an end to this mess and we hope that it will be contained and allow normal operations. At the moment, as patriots, we have to oblige with the directives," he added.

—Reporting by Nancy Gitonga, Roy Lumbe and Sophie Njoka



Haji cuts down to serious cases only

by Zaddock Angira
@PeopleDailyKe

The Office of Director of Public Prosecutions will only prosecute cases of murder, robbery with violence, terrorism and trafficking in the next two weeks.

DPP Noordin Haji (above) yesterday said the prosecution of other cases will be suspended. The decision is part of measures to contain the spread of coronavirus, following the confirmation of cases in the country.

Police stations

In a communication to the staff, Haji said new arrests will be dealt with at police stations in accordance with guidelines to be issued by the Inspector General of Police.

"Regional and county heads must be appraised by the police on the disposal of cases at the police stations and proper data must be submitted to the Deputy Director in charge on a weekly basis," he said.

All other suspects arrested will be released on cash bail, police bond or issued with Notice to Attend Court in two weeks' time. This, he added, could be extended depending on the situation.

High demand for detergents exceeds supply

Sanitisers, disinfectants out of stock in many stores following advice on hygiene measures to curb virus

by Lewis Njoka, Eric Juma, James Magayi and Viola Kosome
@PeopleDailyKe

Retailers and suppliers across the country are overwhelmed by the high demand for hand sanitisers and detergents following the official announcement that Covid-19 is now in Kenya.

A spot check by *People Daily* in Nairobi revealed that most supermarkets have run out of sanitisers despite the stocks being replenished several times in a day.

Health experts have advised people to use alcohol-based sanitisers to ward off coronavirus, resulting in high demand for the product. Those who fail to buy alcohol-based sanitisers are resorting to medicated soaps, antiseptics and ordinary hand wash leading to sharp increase in the sale of toiletries in general.

A visit to Naivas supermarket, Moi Avenue,

yesterday revealed that it was out of sanitisers and face masks, yet it had restocked in the morning.

The foodstuff section is also experiencing increased activity as people stock up fearing a complete lockdown of the city as has happened in China, Italy and other countries hard hit by the virus.

"Suppliers cannot meet our demand for sanitisers and masks meaning we are not meeting the demand of our customers either," said a staff member, who is not authorised to speak to media.

The situation is no different at Tuskys Imara, located on the Accra road-Tom Mboya Street junction.

Acute shortage

Sanitisers and disinfectants such as surgical spirit are out of stock with only a few bottles of antiseptic available.

"I came to looking for masks and disinfectants but both are out of stock," said a Nairobi shopper identified only as James.

The situation is no different in Kisumu where an acute shortage of hand sanitisers has been reported.

Luckily, almost every major institution in the lakeside city has installed hand sanitisers



REGULATE RETAILERS

Crack down:

Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK) has reiterated its resolve to crack down on retailers who will hike prices.

Price products:

"The investigations focus on the pharmaceutical sub-sector and how stakeholders price essential products..." -CAK director general, Wang'ombe Kariuki.

Health experts have advised people to use alcohol-based sanitisers to reduce risk of coronavirus infection. PD/SAMUEL KARIUKI

at their entrances.

At Tusky's Lolwe supermarket, one is met by empty shelves in the sanitisers section while Khetias, Naivas, Quick Mart and UpMart supermarkets have a notice restricting customers from picking more than three sanitisers.

In Siaya, some supermarkets and entrance to some government offices are lacking sanitiser dispensers contrary to a recent State directive.

By yesterday morning, only the entrance leading to the offices of the Governor, top health officials, and gates of Siaya Law Courts and hospitals had sanitiser dispensers and thermometer guns.

Normalcy reigns in Nakuru

by Noah Cheploen
@cheploennoah

Normal operations continued in Nakuru as dwellers and travelers shrugged off directives to stay away from crowded areas in a bid to control the spread of the dreaded Covid-19.

Apart from the courts where key services grounded almost to a halt, it was business as usual in most social places with many matatus failing to provide hand sanitisers for their passengers as ordered.

However, a spot check by *People Daily* showed that a few supermarkets had placed sanitisers at strategic positions for their customers.

Nakuru presiding judge Prof. Joel Ngugi said family and succession cases and those involving the elderly have been temporarily suspended.

At the same time, Nakuru Health Executive Kariuki Gichuki assured locals that they are ready to handle any emergency.

The official further called for calm, saying a Dutch national who was picked from a local hotel on Sunday had not shown signs of the disease. He said the 27-year-old was put in isolation because he came from a country with one of the highest cases of coronavirus.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



SECOND COUNTY ASSEMBLY – (FOURTH SESSION)

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA STANDING ORDERS

CALENDAR OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA (2020)

It is notified for general information, that pursuant to Standing Order 29 of the County Assembly Standing Orders, by a resolution passed on Tuesday, 3rd March, 2020, the County Assembly approved its calendar (Regular sessions) for the Fourth Session, 2020 as set out in the Schedule;

PERIOD	SCHEDULE	DAYS
Fourth Session: First part		
A: Sitting days Wednesday, 12 th February - Thursday, 2 nd April, 2020		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
B: Short Recess Friday, 3 rd April - Monday 13 th April, 2020		
C: Sitting days Tuesday, 14 th April - Thursday, 21 st May, 2020		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
D: Short recess Friday, 22 nd May - Monday, 8 th June, 2020		
Fourth Session: Second Part		
A: Sitting days Tuesday, 9 th June - Thursday, 9 th July, 2020		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
B: Short Recess Friday, 10 th July - Monday, 20 th July, 2020		
C: Sitting days Tuesday, 21 st July - Thursday, 27 th August, 2020		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
D: Short recess Friday, 28 th August - Monday, 14 th September, 2020		
Fourth session: Third part		
A: Sitting days Tuesday, 15 th September - Thursday, 15 th October, 2020		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
B: Short Recess Friday, 16 th October - Monday, 26 th October, 2020		
C: Sitting days Tuesday, 27 th October - Thursday, 3 rd December, 2020		
D: Long recess Friday, 4 th December - Monday, 8 th February, 2021		Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)

J.M. MUTUIRI
CLERK OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Mount Kenya University




OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

Following the Presidential directive in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, to suspend face-to-face learning in all institutions, the University Senate in a special meeting held on 16th March, 2020 has made the following resolutions:

1. That the University has extended the online learning platform to the regular students (day, evening and weekend) to facilitate the learning process to complete the remaining part of the Semester / Trimester. When the University operations resume, students will be expected to sit for the January - April 2019/2020 Semester / Trimester examinations.
2. That Open, Distance and Electronic Learning (ODEL) and Distance, Institution-Based and Electronic Learning (DIBEL) students will continue with their learning uninterrupted.
3. That online learning will be supplemented through televised lectures in collaboration with 
4. That through the Memorandum of Understanding between Mount Kenya University and Telkom Kenya, students will further be supported to access online learning resources.
5. That students who are writing their theses and research projects will continue uninterrupted with the support of their supervisors.

This is, therefore, to inform University stakeholders that the University has suspended the face-to-face learning with effect from **Monday 16th March, 2020**. Students are requested to clear from the University premises by close of business on **Tuesday 17th March, 2020** until further notice.

All the University stakeholders are urged to adhere to the World Health Organization, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education Guidelines on Preventive and Containment Measures of the Coronavirus.

Further communication to University staff and students will be done through the official University communication channels.

Prof. M. Peter Wanderi, Ph.D
Ag. VICE-CHANCELLOR

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Unlocking Infinite Possibilities



Pupils from Excel Academy in Nakuru leave the institution yesterday after the government closed schools on Sunday in a bid to tame the spread of coronavirus in the country. PD/RAPHAEL MUNGE



A worker at Kisumu County Referral Hospital applies sanitiser on a woman's hand before allowing her in. PD/VIOLA KOSOME



A police officer at Mombasa's Central Police Station guards crime suspects as they wash hands before being taken into the cells. PD/NDEGWA GATHUNGU



Kenya Ferry Services personnel sprays 'MV Kilindini' with disinfectant as a measure to protect ferry users from possible coronavirus infection. PD/BONFACE MSANGI



A medical personnel screens people at Suam Border, Trans Nzoia county, during a sensitisation baraza, yesterday. PD/DAVID MUSUDI



Kinanie chief Josphat Musinga sensitises residents on Covid-19 safety at the Kinanie slums, in Athi River, Machakos county, yesterday. PD/CHRISTINE MUSA

WORLD UPDATE

- 1 **China:** Coronavirus infections outside China pass 87,000; case numbers in China stand at 80,860.
- 2 **Germany** closes the border it shares with five other countries.
- 3 **French** outbreak is "deteriorating very fast", a health chief warns.
- 4 **UK** government to hold daily televised press conferences to update the public.
- 5 **US** authorities advise against gatherings of more than 50 people.
- 6 **South Africa** closes borders to people from China, US, UK, and elsewhere.
- 7 **US** Federal Reserve chairman cuts rates and says virus is having "profound" impact.
- 8 **Indian** film industry stops shooting until end of March.



Mediamax Network reporter George Kebaso sanitises his hands at one of the several disinfection points at the office on Kijabe Street in an effort to stay safe from coronavirus. Corporates have been urged to even consider allowing staff to work from home to reduce chances of infection. PD/ALEX MBURU



Judith Omare, a police officer, sanitises a member of the public entering before Central Police Station in Nairobi, yesterday. PD/TIMOTHY NJENGA



Kiambu Governor James Nyoro helps Thika Level Five Hospital visitors sanitise their hands yesterday. He toured Thika and Kiambu hospitals to inspect efforts put in place to protect patients and visitors against coronavirus. PD/OLIVER MUSEMBI

Italy reports 368 deaths as global cases rise

Coronavirus infections outside China hit over 87,000, surpassing the 80,860 cases reported in the Asian country

■ Rome, Monday

Italy on Sunday recorded 368 new deaths from the novel coronavirus, its highest one-day increase to date, taking the total to 1,809, the most outside China, official data showed.

The development came even as the virus infections outside China hit over 87,000, surpassing the 80,860 cases reported in the Asian country where Covid-19 originated.

In Italy, the number of infections has reached 24,747, a count released to the media by Italy's civil protection service said.

The northern Lombardy region around Milan remained the European epicentre of the pandemic, officially reporting 1,218 deaths, or 67 per cent of the Italian total.

But Sunday also saw the number of deaths in the southeastern Puglia region around the city of Bari double from eight to 16. The Lazio region that includes the Italian capital Rome has officially recorded 16 deaths in all—up from 13 on Saturday—and 436 infections.

Spain had on Monday regis-

tered nearly 1,000 new infections over the past 24 hours, raising the total number of cases to 8,744, the health ministry said. Over the same period, the number of deaths rose by nine to 297, the ministry's emergencies coordinator Fernando Simon said. Madrid remains the worst-affected region, with 4,665 cases.

In order to rein in the virus, Spain has declared a state of alert, shutting all but essential services and ordering its population of 46 million people to stay at home. People are only authorised to go out to buy food or medicine, to go to work or to get medical treatment.

Economic slowdown

In the United States, night-life capitals New York and Los Angeles ordered bars and restaurants to close or go take-out only Monday as the US scrambled to contain the coronavirus pandemic and the Federal Reserve slashed rates to stem the fallout.

The fast-spreading outbreak has claimed almost 70 lives in the US, disrupting every walk of life as Americans panic-buy essentials and brace for what



DONALD TRUMP

Relax. We're doing great. It all will pass

may come.

Faced with an economic slowdown, the Fed announced emergency measures to shore up confidence and keep the financial sector running, including cutting the key interest rate to 0-0.25 per cent.

President Donald Trump, in a now-daily briefing to his virus task force, praised the Fed's "phenomenal" action and sought to strike a reassuring tone even as he pleaded with Americans to stop stripping

store shelves bare. "Relax. We're doing great. It all will pass," he said.

But Anthony Fauci, the country's leading expert on infectious diseases, was blunt in telling Americans to prepare for hard times.

"The worst is ahead for us," he told the briefing. "We have a very, very critical point now."

Schools, museums and sports arenas have already been shut in many US states. The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention recommended that gatherings of 50 people or more be cancelled or postponed, not including day-to-day education or business activities.

In the strongest measure yet on American soil, the US territory of Puerto Rico imposed a 9pm to 5am curfew, along with the closure of malls, movie theatres, gyms and bars.

As a number of states imposed shutdowns, the governor of Illinois, announced that all bars and restaurants would

close until March 30.

Germany introduced border controls with Austria, Denmark, France, Luxembourg and Switzerland in a bid to stem the coronavirus spread.

Only those with a valid reason for travel, like cross-border commuters and delivery drivers, are allowed through.

China tightened quarantine measures for international arrivals as the country worries about a rise in imported cases of the deadly coronavirus.

-Agencies



National Environment Management Authority

Popo Road, off Mombasa Road

P.O. Box 67839-00200, Nairobi, Kenya, Tel: (254 020) 6005522, 6001945, Fax: (254 020) 6008997

E-mail: dg@nema.go.ke Website: www.nema.go.ke

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL GASES PLANT ON PLOT L.R.NO.MACHAKOS/NGULUNI/4867, ALONG KANGUNDO ROAD, NGULUNI AREA, MACHAKOS COUNTY.

Pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Environmental Management and Coordination (Impact Assessment and Audit) Regulations, 2003, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received the Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The proponent, Perfect Purity Gases Company Limited is proposing to set up an industrial gases plant for ; (oxygen, nitrogen, acetylene food grade carbon dioxide and argon), two workshops, office block, power house and other associated facilities and amenities located County on a plot L.R.No. Machakos/Nguluni/4867 Kangundo Road on Nguluni Area within Machakos County.

Impacts	Proposed mitigation Measures
Excessive Noise and vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction works should be carried out during working hours, as from 8.00 am-5.00pm; Machinery and equipment should be well maintained to reduce noise; Workers should be provided with PPE's e.g. ear muffs when operating noisy machinery; Consider noise levels when purchasing machinery; Plant layout should be established taking into consideration minimal sound generation.
Dust and air emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers should be provided with PPE's e.g. nose masks and goggles during construction; Regularly sprinkling water on areas generating dust; Ensure use of best technology of gas plants; Air emissions from plant should be monitored and analysis undertaken periodically.
Drainage problems, water wastage and contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design should ensure surface flow is drained suitably into the public drains during construction; Drainage channels should be installed in all areas that generate or receive surface water e.g. car park, along the building block edges of the roofs; Ensure all float valves are set within operating ranges; Run Cooling/boiler tower at optimum concentration cycles to minimize water discharge; Utilize decanting and filtration before discharging waste water to water body; Monitor and undertake water quality tests periodically including for heavy metals, pH, temperature, to ensure effluent is of acceptable quality.
Solid and Liquid waste generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non usable solid waste materials generated during construction shall be transported to a NEMA designated dumping site; Engage a reputable, NEMA approved solid waste handler for appropriate disposal; Ensure packaging materials are thoroughly cleaned and reused; Liquid waste storage tanks should be funded to 110% capacity of tank; Different liquid wastes should be segregated, marked and recorded before appropriate disposal by NEMA approved disposer.
Occupational risks, fire safety and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The implementation of safety measures and emergency plans to contain accident risks associated with construction activities. All staff to be trained on use of any unfamiliar machinery and equipment that may pose danger to the user before they use them. Provision of PPE's including safety boots, overalls, helmets goggles, earmuffs, masks, gloves; Provide a fully equipped first aid kit; Provision of Workmen's Compensation insurance cover; Provision of sanitary facilities; Appropriate warning signage within facility; All works should be supervised by an expert including electrical, structural engineers, chemist; Protecting the site from a fire outbreak will be achieved through sound engineering, Reliable operations, trained employees, good preventive and predictive maintenance techniques and commitment to safety; The proponent and contractor should provide firefighting equipment during the construction phases; Sensitize workers on fire risks and ensure they have access to communication facilities for quick emergency response; Use fire proof materials e.g. silk paint; Provide emergency numbers at strategic points including for Police, Ambulance; Provide a secure area/room to store valuable items of workers; Ensure regular inspection and maintenance of entire plant; Provide emergency assembly point; Provide automatic fire fighting system; Provide adequate fire extinguishers; Ensure all workers are trained in basic first aid, firefighting and handling of chemicals; Ensure all lights and electrical fittings are flame proof.
High energy usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switch off all electrical appliances and lights when not in use; Provide notices and information signs on means and "needs to conserve electricity e.g. Switch Off Lights When Not In Use"; Optimize operations of electrical equipment to enhance energy conservation; Use energy saving bulbs/fluorescents for general lighting; Make use of alternative sources of energy such as solar power; Provide an emergency generator which should be installed in a sound proof area; Ensure use of best technology of gas plants to minimize energy use; Regularly service and maintain plants.
High water use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid excessive use water at site and encourage reuse and recycling Rainwater harvesting system should be provided Provide notice and information signs on means and needs to conserve water Install water saving taps that turn off automatically when water is not in use
Oil leaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve maintenance and design of compressor Oil should not enter drainage system Provide a spillage control system within workshops that is independent of drainage leading to sewer system Provide funding for each compressor and transformer Used oil to be stored in labelled drums and over a catch pot area Engage a NEMA approved oil disposer Avoid vapor emission by cooling Oil should never be mixed with other substances Provide adequate oil water separator if water soluble emulsifiers is not used
Traffic risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all vehicles supplying materials to the site are insured and road worthy Set aside parking area for delivery trucks Put up signboard informing of construction activities at entrance of proposed site Provide a security guard at entrance to control movement of traffic in and out of the compound

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at;

1. Principal Secretary, Ministry of Environment and forestry, NHIF Building, 12th floor, Ragati Road, Upper Hill, P.O. BOX 30126-00100 Nairobi
2. Director General, NEMA Popo Road, off Mombasa Road, P.O. BOX 67839-00200, Nairobi
3. County Director of Environment Machakos County

A copy of EIA report can be downloaded at www.nema.go.ke

NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral and written comments **within thirty (30) days** from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA, to assist the Authority in the decision-making process for this project. Kindly quote ref. no. **NEMA/EIA/5/2/1679**.

comments can also be e-mailed to dg@nema.go.ke

MAMO B. MAMO
AG. DIRECTOR GENERAL

This advertisement is sponsored by the proponent



Public Notice

Appointment of KRA as the principal revenue collector for Nairobi City County

Pursuant to Article 5.5 of the Deed of Transfer of functions from the Nairobi City County Government to the National Government vide gazette notice No. 1609 of 25th February, 2020 appointing Kenya Revenue Authority as the principal agent for overall revenue collection; Article 5.6 further provides for the relevant human resources for the implementation of the agreement shall be seconded from the County Government to the National Government.

In line with the above, Nairobi City County Government staff directly engaged in revenue collection activities are hereby notified to report to KRA offices in Times Tower; banking hall wing, ground floor on Wednesday, 18th March 2020 starting at 8:00am for further directions.

The said staff are required to come with the following documents;

1. Original National ID Card
2. Original letter of appointment
3. Latest Payslip (February 2020)
4. Original Staff ID Card

Note that the March 2020 payroll for the said staff will only be processed by KRA after validation and deployment.

Any other person purporting to collect revenue on behalf of Nairobi City County Government with effect from Monday 23rd March, 2020 shall be impersonating a public officer and shall be liable for prosecution in accordance with the law.

Commissioner General,
Kenya Revenue Authority

Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Devolution and the ASALS

www.kra.go.ke

Disclaimer: KRA notifies taxpayers that it will not accept responsibility for payments not received, credited and validated in the relevant KRA accounts. **Corruption Reporting:** +254 (0726) 984 668, Email: corruptionreporting@kra.go.ke. **Short Messaging Services (SMS):** Dial (*5724) or Text to 22572. Contact Centre: +254 (020) 4 999 999, +254 (0711) 099 999, Email: callcentre@kra.go.ke. **Complaints & Information Center Hotlines:** +254 (0) 20 281 7700 / 7800, +254 (0) 20 3 343 342, Email: cic@kra.go.ke [KRAKenya](https://twitter.com/KRAKenya) Kenya Revenue Authority Kenya Revenue Authority



Tulipe Ushuru, Tujitegemee!



KAJIADO

Maasai traditional events put on hold

All ongoing Maasai community cultural festivities in Kajiado have been suspended to avert any possible spread of Covid-19 in the county. The local administration led by the County Commissioner Joshua Nkanatha has ordered the activities suspended and the families, which have been living in Manyattas (huts) near the events sites for months ordered to leave. There were several cultural ceremonies underway in different parts of Kajiado including one in Sajiloni, Kajiado Central, which had brought together 129 households. Police officers are also on high alert at Namanga, Loitoktok, and Shompole border line following the President's directives yesterday on securing border points.

-Christine Musa



NYERI

Kahiga directives to avert corona spread

Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga has ordered for immediate closure of all Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centres and vocational training centres to avert the spread of coronavirus. The governor also ordered entertainment joints in the county to provide sanitisers to their clients and ensure that they do not operate past 10pm. Kahiga also suspended seminars and meetings that are not urgent for a month. Departmental heads in the county are required to liaise with the office of the county secretary to get information on staff who will be required to work from home. The county has set up a quarantine and isolation centre at Mt Kenya Sub-County Hospital located in Nyeri town.

-Seth Mwaniki

AGRICULTURE

Lobby to meet over flower sector crisis

The Agriculture Employers Association (AEA) has called for a crisis meeting following the coronavirus crisis, which has seen flights to various EU destinations cancelled. This came as farmers reported massive cancellations for orders from Kenya by supermarkets in EU, with massive job losses expected in the sector. Already, the Dutch auction which is the main market for flowers from the country was on Thursday forced to suspend its operations as flowers on offer failed to fetch any prices. AEA chief executive Wesley Siele said the sector was currently facing the darkest period in years with workers' future in jeopardy.

-Kirera Mwiti

Don't carry students with other passengers, PSVs operators told

CS says boarding schools' management should make plans with NTSA on how learners will get home

by Eric Wainaina
@PeopleDailyKe

Matatu operators who will ferry students to their respective homes after the closure of schools have been asked not to mix them with other passengers as part of preventive measures against coronavirus.

Education Cabinet secretary George Magoha yesterday said boarding schools' management, which have until tomorrow to shut down operations, should make arrangements with the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) on how the students will be dropped off at their respective homes.

The closure of schools follows President Uhuru Kenyatta's directive meant to minimise the risk of spread of the deadly virus.

"The vehicles must not carry any other passengers en route," reads a circular by the CS sent to regional and county education officials, National Parents Association, Private Schools Association and the International Schools Associations.

The vehicles, which Magoha said must be sanitised before being boarded, should take the learners to their respective homes



Students board a vehicle at Nairobi Railway Station terminus yesterday after the government closed all schools on Sunday. PD/KENNA CLAUDE

or nearest designated drop off points which must be within proximate distance to their homes where parents should be notified to pick them up.

Keep record

Parents who could pick up their children from school privately were encouraged to do so.

There was confusion at Starehe Boys Centre after the administration barred parents without private cars from picking up their children.

Parents protested the move as most of them have no vehicles. Eight per cent of the students are sponsored.

But the school administration remained adamant insisting they will use school buses to drop off the students at their nearest home towns.

According to the guidelines issued by Magoha, school managements were also advised to instruct learners on how to stay safe on transit, and this includes keeping a "conscious record" on the people they interact with on their way home.

MEASURES TAKEN

● On Sunday evening, President Uhuru Kenyatta announced a raft of measures to combat the virus, including the closure of all learning institutions.

● Uhuru said closure of schools would begin yesterday starting with day primary and secondary schools. Universities will close by Friday.

Nurses at Mbagathi Hospital protest lack of protective gear as outbreak fears rise

by Eric Wainaina
@PeopleDailyKe

Services at Mbagathi Hospital were yesterday paralysed after nurses staged a go-slow over lack of protective gear to handle suspected coronavirus cases.

The nurses also decried insufficient training on how to handle the suspected cases.

Mbagathi Hospital is hosting the 120-bed capacity isolation wing for coronavirus patients where at least 22 people have been put under quarantine for coming into contact with the confirmed patients.

The Kenya National Union of Nurses secretary general Seth Panyako threatened to rally the union members to flee hostile workstations.

"According to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2017, health workers have a right to flee from a work place they feel is hostile or unsafe for them to work," he said.

Panyako claimed he has been receiving distress calls and messages from officials across the country decrying lack of proper and recommended health protective gears.

The preparedness the government is talking about is miserable, this is public relation from the state. Some nurses do not have gloves, masks and those who have them are general ones. He said the government has failed to concentrate its effort at points of entry which will be



Nurses at Mbagathi Hospital stage a go-slow yesterday over lack of protective gear needed in attending Covid-19 patients. PD/ALEX MBURU

the most ideal way to deal with the disease.

"I urge all nurses and other health workers if they feel their workstations are high risk like Mombasa, Nairobi Kisumu they should down their tools," he said.

Meanwhile, the Kenya Medical and Practitioners Pharmacists and Dentists Union has volunteered to mobilise thousands of unemployed medical professionals to help in fighting Covid-19.

22

Number of people believed to have been in contact with the confirmed coronavirus patient quarantined at Mbagathi Hospital.

LSK wants case on China flight mentioned

by Bernice Mbugua
@BerniceMuhindi

The Law Society of Kenya (LSK), two doctors and two non-government organisations now want a case in which they sued the Health and Transport Cabinet secretaries be mentioned today on priority basis.

Chief Justice David Maraga (below) has issued a directive suspending all appeals, hearings and mentions in criminal and civil cases in all courts until further notice.

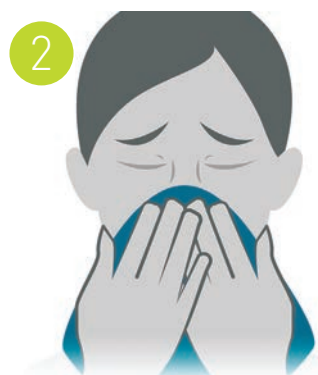
However, LSK and the other petitioners say their case, over the allowing of flights from China to land at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, should be mentioned today because it requires the Health CS to bring to court a contingency plan on prevention, surveillance and control and response system to coronavirus outbreak in Kenya.



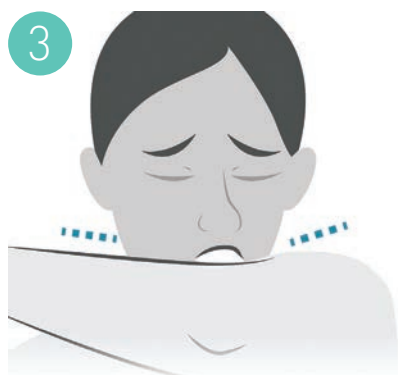
HOW CAN I TRY TO STAY WELL?



Wash hands for about 20 seconds with soap and hot water or use a sanitiser gel



Use a tissue for coughs and sneezes



If you don't have a tissue use your sleeve



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands



Avoid close contact with people who are unwell

Lessons from China on control of deadly virus

Main strategy focused on preventing the exportation of cases from Wuhan and other areas of concern

by Eric Wainaina
@PeopleDailyKe

Having let coronavirus to penetrate into the country, Kenya's focus has shifted to cure and prevention of the acute flu.

The viral respiratory disease that has killed more than 5,000 people globally in the last three months.

Kenya has so far registered three confirmed cases with no single fatality. The government has already imposed far-reaching restrictions that include closure of all learning institutions and cancellation of flights from affected countries, as well as investing heavily on isolation centres to complement the National Influenza Centre Laboratory in Nairobi.

President Uhuru Kenyatta, who on Sunday confirmed the second and third cases, appears to be taking cue from his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on how to effectively control the virus and avoid the Italian experience, one of the worst afflicted countries with close to 2,000 listed deaths.

"My government has been working to monitor the spread of the virus. We have set up necessary containment and treatment protocols across the country," the President said when confirming the latest cases. Like it happened in China, which has significantly controlled the spread of the virus, Uhuru ordered the immediate suspension of learning and banned entry for people from countries with reported coronavirus cases.

"Only Kenyan citizens, and any foreigners with valid residence, permits will be allowed into Kenya provided they proceed to self-quarantine or to a government facility," directed the President.

Illegal immigration

While China, which is the origin of the deadly virus, presents good lessons for Nairobi on how to control spread, Italy is perhaps the global case study of how not to tackle the pandemic following blunders that left its citizens gravely exposed.

While China has been praised for the swift response to contain the virus, Italy has been widely criticised for lethargy as the disease spreads to other European countries. "Within Italy, the Covid-19 crisis has taken the wind out of the sails of the League party, whose nativist motto of 'Italians First' and criticism of illegal immigration are less convincing now that Italians have become international pariahs: The Prime Minister of the Czech Republic said Italy should ban all citizens from travelling abroad," said *The Atlantic* newspaper. By February 20, 2020, 75,465 Covid-19 cases had been reported in China, but the government was quick to launch a national emergency response.

"A central leadership group for epidemic response and the joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council were established. General Secretary Xi Jinping personally directed and deployed the prevention and control work and requested that the prevention and control of the Covid-19 outbreak be the top priority of

government at all levels," says a report on a joint mission by the World Health Organisation and China on the management of the virus.

The joint mission consisted of 25 national and international experts from China, Germany, Japan, Korea, Nigeria, Russia, Singapore, the US and WHO. Chinese premier Li Keqiang headed the Central Leading Group and went to Wuhan to inspect and co-ordinate the prevention and control work of relevant departments and provinces across the country.

For China, according to the report that was prepared between February 16 and 24, 2020, it had three stages on managing the ailment and the approach has been described as "perhaps the most ambitious, agile and aggressive disease containment effort in history".

During the early stage of the outbreak, according to the report, the main strategy focused on preventing the exportation of cases from Wuhan and other priority areas of Hubei Province, and preventing the importation of cases by other provinces.

The overall aim was to control the source of infection, block transmission and prevent spread. "Protocols for Covid-19 diagnosis and 15 treatment, surveillance, epidemiological investigation, management of close contacts, and laboratory testing were formulated, and relevant surveillance activities and epidemiological investigations conducted. Diagnostic testing kits were developed, and wildlife and live poultry markets were placed under strict supervision and control measures," said the report.

Health facilities

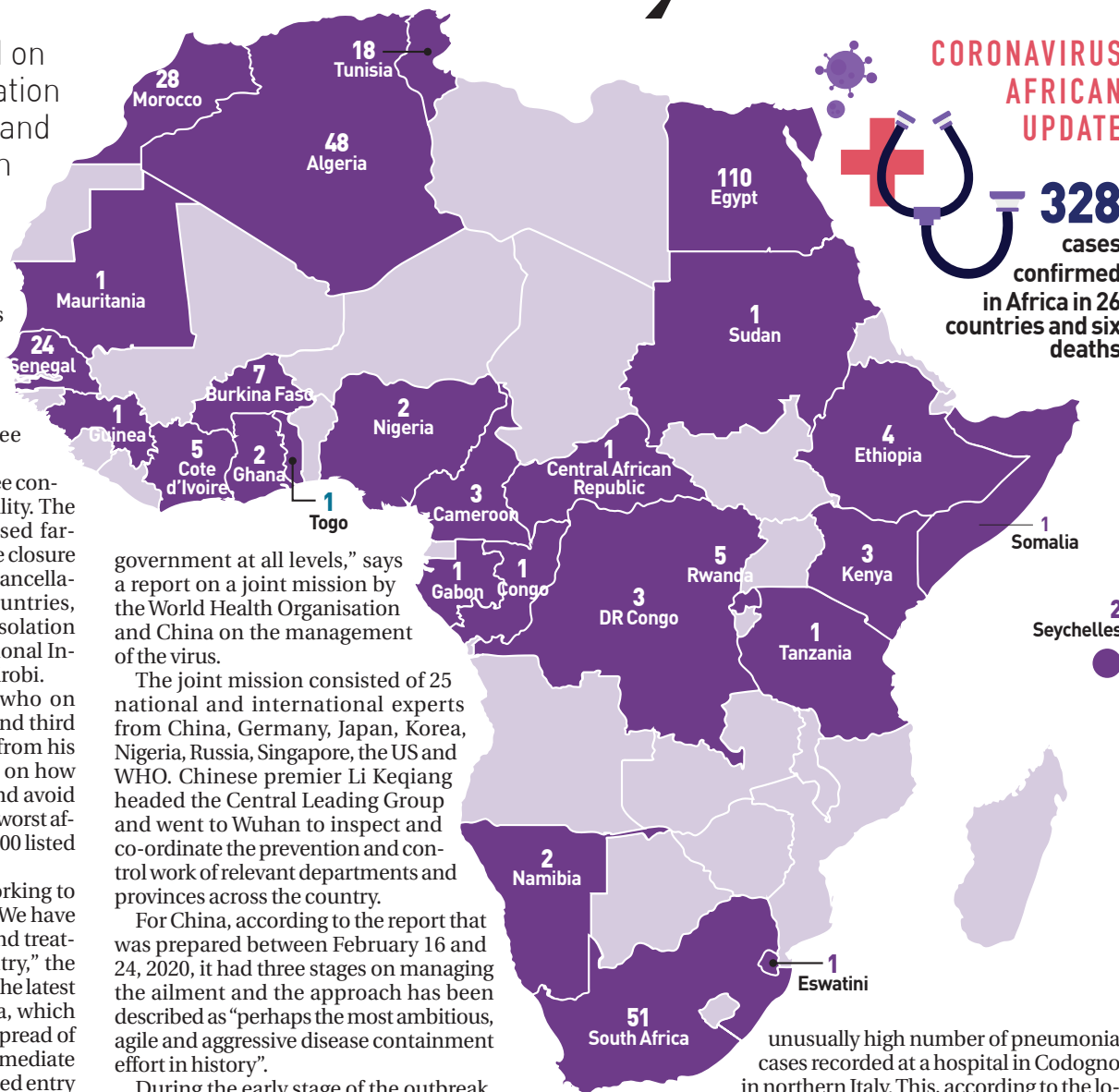
This is a complete opposite of the response in Italy, where the disease arrived on February 20, when a 38-year-old man checked into a local hospital in the town of Codogno in Lombardy and tested positive.

Some health officials in Rome have told local and international media that they believe the virus arrived in Italy long before the first case was discovered but the cases were poorly handled leading to a wide spread. "The virus had probably been circulating for quite some time. This happened right when we were having our peak of influenza and people were presenting with influenza symptoms," Flavia Riccardo, a researcher in the Department of Infectious Diseases at the Italian National Institute of Health told TIME newspaper.

Before the first case was reported, a doctor was quoted saying there was an

CORONAVIRUS AFRICAN UPDATE

328 cases confirmed in Africa in 26 countries and six deaths



unusually high number of pneumonia cases recorded at a hospital in Codogno in northern Italy. This, according to the local media, suggested it's possible patients with the virus were treated as if they had a seasonal flu and health facilities hosting these patients could have become sites for infection, helping the wide spread.

"This started unnoticed which means by the time we realised it, there were a lot of transmission chains happening," Riccardo said. In Italy, millions are locked down and about 2,000 people have died from the coronavirus, but in South Korea, which was hit by the disease at about the same time, only a few thousand are quarantined and 67 people died.

But China, despite being the origin of the disease, and with close to 100,000 cases, the government has managed to suppress the deaths and spread and presently, the government is working on normalising operations.

During the second stage of the outbreak, the report says the strategy was to reduce the intensity of the epidemic and to slow down the increase in cases. In Wuhan and other priority areas of Hubei, the focus was on actively treating patients, reducing deaths, and preventing exportations.

"Other measures implemented included the extension of the Spring Festival holiday, traffic controls, and the control of transportation capacity to reduce movement of people; mass gatherings were also cancelled," says the report.

The third stage focused on reducing clusters of cases, thoroughly controlling the epidemic, and striking a balance between epidemic prevention and control, sustainable economic and social development, the unified command, standardised guidance.

REPORT

A central leadership group for epidemic response and the joint prevention and control mechanism of the state council were established

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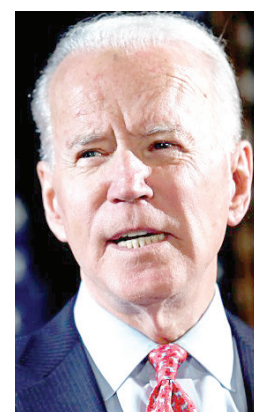
QUOTED TODAY



BETTY MAINA
We accept this as a challenge but every challenge has an opportunity. Currently we are in this situation because we are too dependent on China yet there are things we can produce locally.



STEPHEN KIAMA
This morning, we were supposed to have exams in almost all our faculties but we had no choice but comply with the Presidential directive to suspend learning.



JOE BIDEN
If I'm elected president, my administration will look like the country, and I commit that I will, in fact pick a woman to be vice president. There are a number of women who are qualified to be president tomorrow.

Take steps to cushion economy from virus

The global pandemonium caused by coronavirus has sent virtually everything and every one into a spin. From trade, politics, learning, entertainment, sports and other forms of social interaction, all are shutting down in a bid to keep the deadly respiratory infection at bay. All countries, irrespective of socio-economic status, are in a state of panic and some paralysis.

Some of the affected activities, especially trade and business will have far-reaching impact on life as it was since the outbreak of the virus. The chaos being witnessed at the stock market, which are tumbling at outrageous speeds, point to an impending global economic crisis—probably a crippling depression.

The confirmation by the government of three cases in Kenya has sent shockwaves across the country. Though the authorities have rolled out stringent measures to tame the outbreak, the fears of a crippling lockdown are real.

And even as the government works on the health side of Covid-19, it must begin to address it as a multidimensional crisis that calls for a multifaceted approach to cushion citizens and the leadership.

For instance, experts are arguing that just as has happened elsewhere, there is need to plough the cash reserves into the economy to cushion the country from the social and economic jolt of the virus. They have a point. In the US, the Federal Reserve signalled Sunday it will be slashing interest rates to zero, and buying hundreds of billions of dollars in bonds as part of a raft of measures to breathe life into an economy.

While Kenya might not have the financial muscle to make all the moves US is putting in place, the government should quickly assemble a team to assess the economic situation amid weak investor sentiment, closure of schools and travel bans on the country, businesses and individuals.

It could start talking to China, the epicentre of Covid-19 outbreak, over either rescheduling or a write-off of loans to ease the country's debt repayment obligations.

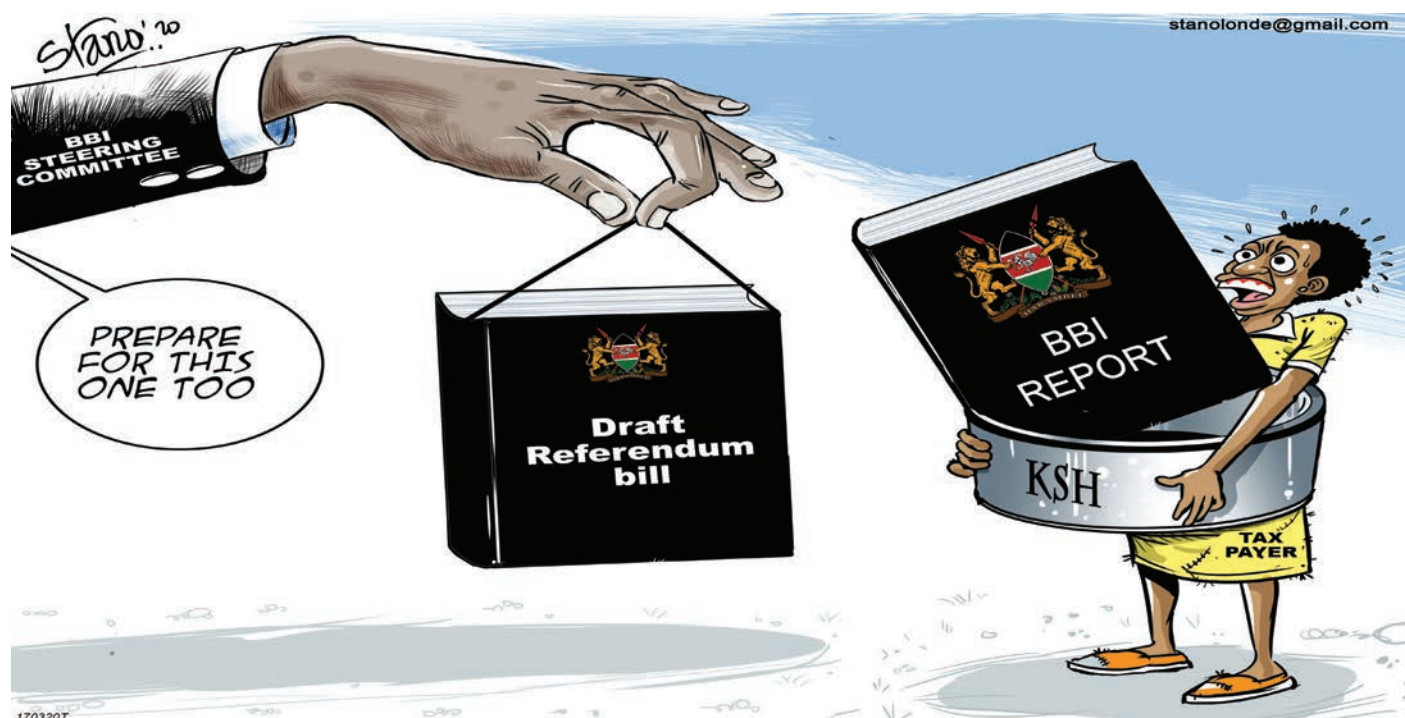
The urgency must trickle down to all sectors of the economy. For the National Treasury, ensuring there is an economic safety net in place to shield the populace from the fangs of the virus is the bare minimum.

Also urgent is food security. The government must stabilise the supply and demand to ensure both availability and affordability.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

H G WELLS

The crisis of today is the joke of tomorrow.



Corona a wake up call to healthcare systems

The Covid-19 pandemic has struck at the heart of humanity, inflicting serious health concerns while disrupting every aspect of life.

As a global community, we are facing a challenge unprecedented in our lifetime. The ramifications of the coronavirus pandemic are already being felt in the political, social and economic spheres that spare no nation powerful or poor.

Worries about the future are taking hold in our daily lives with the enduring uncertainty of the outbreak in our communities. Lives and livelihoods are being severely disrupted, travel curtailed and economies shaken.

With the whole world in a virtual lockdown, controlling the spread of the pandemic that has affected 141 countries, infected more than 156,700 and killed more than 5,800, has become the most critical agenda.

Last week, Kenya reported its first case, sparking alarm as the coronavirus spread dramatically in Europe and North America after the worst situation in China, where the outbreak was first reported.

Governments are battling to shore up their healthcare systems and initiate the right measures to manage the spread of the disease. Ominously, experts warn that in many parts of the world the effects of the virus will get worse before they get better.

Only close cooperation and expertise on a global scale will help governments, especially in Africa, strengthen systems under the Global Health Security Agenda to prepare for this kind of outbreak.



ALBERTO LENY

Now more than ever before, health is demanding passion, concern and investment

Described as the worst public health crisis in a generation, scientists are racing to learn more about coronavirus. We must build our healthcare system to take care of ourselves through political commitment, proactive action and preventive measures—preparedness and surveillance.

In September last year, world leaders, diplomats, civil society and philanthropists met at the 74th annual United Nations General Assembly to discuss the most pressing challenges facing humanity—climate change and healthcare.

More than 170 UN members analysed a bold blueprint for change which emphasised the world needs to speed up the move towards a new model of development laid out in the sustainable development goals for 2030.

The Assembly discussed universal health care (UHC) after governments approved the first international agreement that commits them to providing UHC access.

A fundamental change in approach is needed to ensure that all people can secure healthcare based on statistics indicating that

at least half of the world's population lack access to essential healthcare services.

Various challenges face the African health sector—high costs of largely imported medicines, human resources and infrastructure gaps that limit the availability of quality essential healthcare services.

Statistics from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa report "Healthcare and Economic Growth in Africa" provide quantitative evidence that life expectancy has increased, infant mortality has decreased and Africa is now healthier than it was 20 years ago.

However, the report points out troubling trends in health finance put these gains at risk. Africa has a health financing gap of \$66 billion annually.

Only three African governments have met the suggested 15 per cent allocation of GDP for health, as outlined by the 2001 Abuja Declaration. Kenya is not one of them.

Now more than ever before, health is demanding passion, concern and investment. We must not re-awaken only when confronted with outbreaks such as the AIDS emergency in the 2000s, ebola in 2014 and now coronavirus.

The world must collectively remain focused on healthcare equity in the knowledge that African nations are in the frontline defence against humanity's oldest shared worst enemies of infectious diseases.

— albertoleny@gmail.com

Covid-19: Businesses must embrace flexible work models

The global confusion and panic occasioned by the novel coronavirus outbreak is palpable. Since the initial cases were reported, originally in China, the virus—medically known as Covid-19—has morphed into a global health crisis.

With more than 15,000 people now infected and close to 5,000 deaths reported across 114 countries, the pandemic has started ravaging economies.

Sadly, bigger economies are resorting to lockdowns by banning, cancellation and suspension of major public events and gatherings to limit movement of people as precautionary measures to tame the spread of the virus. This has sparked huge stock market tumble and triggered fears that it could push the world into a financial crisis in the short term.

Countries are going into lockdown, shutting borders and limiting travel and as it has been aptly noted, coronavirus will bankrupt more people than it kills across the world. Kenya, a regional economic hub has also been began its lockdown after registering three. This places the local economy at risk.

In controlled movement, businesses are the hardest hit because most still believe in office-operation



CONRAD ONYANGO

Most companies are still...tied to the eight-to-five work schedule

model. This global health crisis now shines a spotlight on the level of their preparedness especially on risk mitigation and dynamism in work place culture.

All eyes are now on corporate and organisation leaders in leading the way to wading through this pandemic while maintain optimal output in work places. The biggest question is whether local businesses are flexible enough to maintain productivity amidst the pandemic.

Most companies are still lax on adoption of flexible working models and are tied to the eight-to-five work schedule that requires employees to stay in offices for eight hours daily.

While most employees would prefer a shift to flexible working systems, many business owners are not yet comfortable with this noble idea that can transform businesses from a "command and control" culture to an "empower and enhance" value system.

When you consult widely, you will

conclude that the issue of trust is the main barrier to adoption of this new culture. You will hear employers saying productivity will be affected negatively when you put employees under a flexible culture or better still, allow them work from home.

Lack of job-tracking technologies also emerge in the conversation; the main reasons being it is difficult to manage employees work output remotely. This again shows how most businesses are yet to adopt technologies to cope with changing dynamics in the job market.

But hell has broken loose. The coronavirus is here with us and we must deal with it the best way possible to minimise impacts as currently being experienced in Asia, Europe and United States.

With government effecting movement restriction as mitigation measures, working from home will be inevitable for many businesses and leaders will be forced to try out this often overlooked transformative flexi-culture.

We have seen multinational companies such as Facebook, Google, Twitter moving to enforce remote working policies for employees around the globe probably to tame total stall in operations and manage the risks that come with the virus. It has become a new normal.

Will this pandemic offer different perspective on flexible work models and take local business owners back to the drawing board for a work culture review? Are business owners ready to invest in relevant tools that promote seamless connectivity outside the office space?

Already there is evidence that has proven creation of flexible work-spaces and adoption of appropriate technologies will help many businesses reap benefits risk free.

A 2019 International Workspace Group global workspace survey of more than 15,000 business people across 80 nations on flexible working showed that 85 per cent of business that shifted to flexible models recorded higher productivity.

Business leaders must now re-think their perception on flexible working culture to strategically contribute in effective mitigation against Covid-19 and other emerging risks to work output.

—The writer is a data journalist

STREET TALK

Spying claims in agency chair, new CEO face-off

The chairman of a parastatal is at loggerheads with his recently recruited chief executive. Sources say the chairman, who has served for more than 15 years at the State agency under the Ministry of Tourism, is opposed to the CEO's appointment, saying he may have been "planted" to spy on him. The man, who enjoys protection from an influential government official, has locked the CEO's office and issued firm instructions that the new boss must not be allowed into the premises. When paranoia strikes...

MP broke as financier severs links with him

A Jubilee MP in the city is at a loss after his financier cut off links with him over a bungled financial transaction. The man, who has been depending on the renowned politician for handouts, is said to have swindled the latter, leading to a major fallout. The MP has since become broke and appears distraught.

Senior cop seeks help to stop his deployment

A senior police officer recently moved to the diplomatic service unit has reportedly been traversing government offices seeking for intervention by influential personalities to stop his deployment. So determined is the officer to retain his position in the police service that he has set aside millions of shillings to oil the wheels of his mission.

CAS lobbies to head lucrative parastatal

A Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) has reportedly gone on an all-out campaign to ensure he is picked to head a lucrative parastatal body that falls under his docket. He has previously served in the parastatal—or cash cow if you like—and knows the inside operations. The CAS was recently overhead telling friends how he would become an overnight millionaire if posted to the State agency.

Why journalists must promote public media literacy

Back in the day, a teacher was one of the most respected persons in society. Besides educating and instilling discipline in their learners, teachers were a source of information and news for villagers.

No one dared question the teachers' interpretation of a newspaper, because no one else could read, at least not as good as the teacher could. Such was the power of few individuals, controlling how information was consumed.

But that was then. Today, there are over 52 million internet subscriptions, in Kenya, according to the Communications Authority. These subscribers can now access a variety of information, from wide sources and with the ability to contribute to the public exchange of information. New technological advances, are disrupting the most relied upon contemporary media consumption, which has for a long time been dominated by broadcast and print media.

Before the digital disruption, Kenyans have been relying on TV, radio and newspapers as source of information, but without the understand-



ABRAHAM MARIITA

Citizens need to be able to understand why a specific message is being delivered

ing of how the content has been created, how and why the message is being transmitted, by whom, with what intent, and without even knowing how to respond to it. In essence, there is low media literacy levels in Kenya, and its effect has been manifested now more than ever.

The shrinking media and civic space, propelled by political rhetoric, aimed at discrediting media's role to inform the public about social ills such as corruption and abuse of public office, has almost succeeded because citizens are less informed on the role of the media.

When a public official dislikes a particular news item, they embark on delegitimisation of the journalists or the media house. Our media has been branded "githeri" media, with keyboard warriors enlisted to discredit the media.

In January alone, three journalists were attacked and/or faced harassment by the police while doing their work. Similar incidences have been recorded before and instead of the public coming out to castigate the attackers of media freedom, they remain silent and unperturbed. Why? Because they don't understand the role of the media.

Social media, as an avenue allowing wide access of information and ability for users to generate own content, comment and share information, has not helped improve the understanding of the role citizens play in evaluating the media. Rather, it has become a dangerous platform, channelling misinformation and disinformation to millions of users, who will fall victim and continue to misinform others.

Promoting media literacy among

the public is long overdue. Efforts by the media lobbies such as the Kenya Editors Guild, Civil Society Organisations among others, must be supported to enable citizens to be active consumers of information and to promote democratic participation.

The Media Council of Kenya should steer a media Information literacy policy that will serve to build the capacity of citizens, by giving them the skills that they would need to operate in this new space.

Citizens need to be able to analyse information and understand why a specific message is being delivered, who created it, whom is it intended for, and by doing this, citizens will be able to form their own opinion on the content.

With the ability to easily reach masses, media houses should devote it upon themselves to become teachers and promote media literacy, even while trying to meet their sales targets. This is the only way to tame misinformation and disinformation.

—The Writer is a media and communications professional

#TWEETS TO THE EDITOR



As the coronavirus reality hits home, Kenyans are panic-buying, especially hand sanitisers. #KOT are wary...

@jageyo: This craze about sanitisers will mess us up. Remember only those with alcohol content of 60% and above are effective. And there is no way of truly knowing which sanitiser is which. Yet good old

SOAP and RUNNING WATER does the job. Let's be wise. #coronaviruskenya

@DrMercyKorir: Be wary of snake oil merchants, those of rapid test kits and home made sanitisers with glycerin and spirit. Stick to what is proven to work: SOAP AND RUNNING WATER. Don't be fooled. If you follow instructions from @

MOH_Kenya and healthcare personnel, you'll pull through.

@Muhahami: A new study by the Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kemri) shows that majority of hand sanitisers in the market, expensive as they may be, are useless in killing germs.



TRUTHIS: To identify with Christ is to identify with the truth.

Parents, tutors grapple with school closures

Caught unawares, many turn to new and old ways of keeping children busy, active and able to learn

by People Daily Team
@PeopleDailyKe

The sudden closure of learning institutions following the directive by President Uhuru Kenyatta due to threat of coronavirus has left parents in limbo as they try to figure out what to do during this period.

A spot check done by *People Daily* revealed parents have opted to home school their children or turn to e-learning. Others have sought activities that reduce interaction of their children with crowds of people.

Steve Umeme, a parent based in Nairobi, says the directive has not only come as a shock to them, but also created more confusion for parents. Although he had contemplated on having his elder child enroll for computer classes during this short period, he and his wife came to a conclusion to let them stay at home as they await things to calm down.

"While I want them to occupy their free time with fun learning, the Covid-19 situation is limiting what activity and places we can do and go. I have no other option than to give them homework to keep up with their studies," he says.

Umeme thought he would take his girls for competitive swimming lessons, but the kind of environment and limitations based on Covid-19 measures got them back to the drawing board. He has now resorted to three-hour tuition sessions five days a week in the house for his 13 and nine-year-old daughters.

Different narrative

He applauds schools for ensuring they have educated students on the virus outbreak during their formal lessons, saying it has really helped in explaining to them why they will be home.

"Teachers have done well during this period because they have ensured that they train students on the importance of washing hands and this is so important

especially on fighting this virus," he adds.

But the narrative is different for Ken Ouma, who says he will take his teenage daughter for competitive swimming as he awaits the directive by the government to open schools. "Swimming pools are alkaline so this makes it impossible for viruses to survive for long, therefore I believe she will be safer there and have a very busy schedule that will not allow her to get bored or come into contact with other people," he says.

For some Mombasa parents, this directive has come with a lot of problems.

"I am not comfortable with this new directive by the government. I am not prepared with any extra learning materials. Suppose it goes until June, what happens to the fees we paid? But then again even the modes of travel back home might still expose them to the danger. I feel the school should have just buffed on hygiene measure with sanitisers, and teach them safety measures, it would be easier," says Gasper Kabata, a parent at Ngala Memorial secondary school.

The case is the same for Sophie Njoka, a PP2 Parent at Nyali Academy, who said: "I am a single mom, so I depend fully on the school for daytime care as well. I don't have a house help, and we are still going to work. I have to arrange and take my son to upcountry maybe in the next two days. At least there, I am completely sure someone will watch over him and it is safer too. Yesterday, I left him with a neighbour who probably won't be there tomorrow."

Khadija Yusuf, a parent at Sheikh Khalifa Secondary School, seems to be fully prepared: her house has been on full quarantine mode since the directive. For her, it is just a revision time and a way to keep the children safe.

"These are our kids; it is ok for them to be home and safe. In schools, especially day schools, it is a real danger because these kids are coming from different homes and places, some which don't adhere to these safety rules so the only way to protect them is to keep them behind locked doors. In my home right now they are not even allowed to go out to the shop it is a full quarantine. I have done enough shopping for this pe-



University of Nairobi VC Stephen Kiama announces the indefinite closure of the university at a press conference in Nairobi, yesterday. PD/SAMUEL KARIUKI

riod, full cleanliness from the gate. Even myself, I have to leave my clothes outside and wash with soap before going into the house. Let's just keep our children safe; we are their parents. Learning will continue when this passes," says Khadija.

Online learning and homework

On his part, Gilbert Gathu, founder of Elimulink has made sure that he creates a link between parents and teachers through an app where they can continue with the children's studies.

Although the app has been operating from last year October, he is happy more schools have decided to use it to bridge the gap with the parents during this period.

"Parents don't have to go to schools to ensure they are given homework; rather, they can just use this app and get homework with all the instructions," he says.

Other than saving time, Gathu says that it will help during this time of self-quarantine and just play a major role in helping learning activities to proceed. He highlights that parents don't need to be worried about their children learning during this digital era because there are so many alternatives that can be used to help children learning to progress.

Already schools, such as Brookhouse International School, have adopted virtual methods of learning. Makini School, too, has followed the directive and is making arrangements for distance learning, according to their Twitter accounts. For the German School, an internal memo indicated materials and tasks for students would be provided for the next 14 days. Many other schools have taken similar moves.

"The directive has come abrupt and we were not adequately prepared but that

said, it is a great measure towards putting the spread of Corona at bay. We are sending our students home with homework because that is the best we can do for now," Principal Alliance Boys, William Mwangi said.

Institutes of higher learning are also not left behind, University of Nairobi suspended learning yesterday, with Vice-chancellor Prof Stephen Kiama saying the institution calendar has been greatly affected especially for students set to sit for their final exams.

"This morning we supposed to have exams in almost all our faculties but we had no choice but to comply with Presidential directive to suspend learning at all our campuses with immediate effect," he said.

However, Kiama said E-learning would continue and advised students writing their theses to continue with their work. The university also said it will facilitate staff members working in non-critical areas to undertake duties from home and reduce their exposure and possible subsequent contraction of the virus.

In a statement to newsrooms, Mt Kenya University Acting Vice Chancellor Peter Wanderi told students to clear from university premises by close of business yesterday until further notice. He also announced resolutions to help students continue with learning, including extending online learning platform, televised lectures and distance learning.

Africa Nazarene University has also suspended on-campus classes. "After careful consideration and analysis of the situation, the university has taken a cautionary decision to suspend on-campus classes effective Monday 16, 2020," Vice Chancellor Stanley Bhebhe's statement reads.



Gasper Kabata.
PD/BONFACE
MSANGI



Steve Umeme.
COURTESY

MIXED REACTIONS

● Parents and teachers have been caught unawares with President Uhuru's directive to shut down schools.

● While many parents complain of the inconvenience of having children at home including lack of caregivers, others have already put in place measures to home school their children.

● Schools are turning to online learning and handing out homework for the duration of the shutdown.



DCI George Kinoti at a past press conference. PD/FILE

Police, DCI step up to stop corona spread

by Zaddock Angira
@PeopleDailyKe

The National Police Service has come up with a raft of measures aimed at protecting officers and prisoners from infection, and preventing spread of coronavirus. The directives will see some critical services suspended for some time.

Already, Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) has suspended issuance of Police Clearance Certificate, formerly the Certificate of Good Conduct, and the private fingerprint Forensic services for two weeks.

The DCI will screen and test staff and visitors at the headquarters, according to an official communication from DCI.

Police officers have further been directed to avoid arbitrary arrests and

unnecessary detention of suspects for minor offences such as loitering and causing disturbance following directive by Chief Justice David Maraga that no prisoners or remandees will be presented in court in the next two weeks.

"With regard to new arrests, all cases except serious ones will be dealt with at the police stations in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Inspector General of Police," CJ Maraga said.

Facilitate investigations

Police will have to grant affordable and reasonable bond terms or free police bonds to those accused of minor offences.

Arrests of suspects are to be made when investigations are complete unless

circumstances dictate arrest to facilitate investigations. Less serious cases are to be dealt with them at the police stations.

Officers are advised to strictly adhere to the directives on the Bail and Bond Charter, which requires, among others, that petty traffic offenders be put in custody or forced to pay cash bail.

A senior police officer, who talked to *People Daily* on condition of anonymity, said the service has adequate regulations to ensure that the cells are not congested.

"Some officers are either ignorant of the laws and regulations or deliberately choose to ignore them," he said.

In case of arrests, the station commander will promptly grant the suspect reasonable bail terms and if denied bail, he or she should be informed why.

Disinfect vehicles at each trip's end, CS tells operators



Transport Cabinet Secretary James Macharia (right) witnesses the disinfecting of a train coach at the Nairobi Railway Station, yesterday. PD/KENNA CLAUDE

Macharia urges public transport sector stakeholders to implement State measures to keep the deadly coronavirus at bay

by Alvin Mwangi
@PeopleDailyKe

Transport Cabinet Secretary James Macharia yesterday ordered operators of public service vehicles (PSV) to clean their tools of trade using disinfectants at the end of every trip as the government stepped up measures to mitigate against the Covid-19 spread.

He also asked the Kenya Railways Corporation personnel to fumigate their coaches.

Macharia, who issued the directives at the Nairobi Railway PSV terminus, urged the public transport sector to implement the measures to keep the deadly respiratory flu at bay.

"This is a matter we cannot take any chances on especially because it is a matter of life and death," he said.

Fumigate cars

He spoke when he launched training for PSV operators on combating Covid-19 accompanied by Public Health director Kepha Ombacho, Matatu Welfare Association chair Dickson Mbugua and Matatu Owners Association chairman Simon Kimutai.

Ombacho called for enhanced vigilance from both commuters and PSV operators.

"We need your highest cooperation because you could have

carried a passenger, who is a suspect and it would be nice if you gave us information about them for us to trace them. Fumigate your cars to minimise further risk of transmission," he urged.

Macharia stressed the importance of co-operation from a critical sector which has defied efforts to regulate. "Matatu (PSV) owners make sure you have those hand sanitisers without fail... We have also directed that railways be fumigated after dropping off the passengers," he said.

Mbugua urged the government to subsidise the cost of sanitisers for the industry while Kimutai encouraged cashless transactions to contain the spread of the virus.

"The problem here is that the sanitisers have run out of stock and we are calling on the suppliers to up their game to ensure we do not fail on this directive," said Mbugua.

A spot-check by the *People Daily* along the ever-busy Moi Avenue, Nairobi, showed most residents were cautious over the virus with most businesspeople instructing customers to use disinfectants before entering their premises.

tering their premises.

Matatu conductors, who have heeded government measures to tame the virus, were armed with sanitisers for those boarding their vehicles.

"This is not a matter we can take lightly. We are disinfecting everyone who is boarding our matatus," said Brian Ochieng, a matatu operator.

PSVs plying the Mwiki-Kasarani route were also disinfecting passengers.

Alarming, most of the vehicles plying the upcountry routes were yet to provide passengers with hand sanitisers.

Outline measures

"Most of us live upcountry and we have learned about it in the morning. We are still planning on the way forward," said John Kamau, a driver who operates along the Nairobi-Nyeri route.

Online taxi hailing apps drivers, too, were providing hand sanitisers to the passengers.

On Sunday, President Uhuru Kenyatta in his address to the nation, outlined a raft of measures to combat the spread of the killer virus. The move came as the country had three confirmed cases of Covid-19.

He ordered the closure of learning institutions, scaling down of public gatherings and provision of sanitisers, soap and water for hand washing for those visiting shopping malls and hospitals.

Globally, the pandemic has spread to 123 countries with the worldwide death toll from the virus nearing 5,800.

Among the more than 152,000 cases recorded globally are government officials and celebrities as authorities around the world grapple to contain the spread of the virus.

IN SUMMARY

● Transport CS James Macharia has stressed the importance of co-operation from the PSV sector.

● Alarming, most of the vehicles plying the upcountry routes were yet to provide passengers with hand sanitisers as of yesterday.

● Globally, the pandemic has spread to 123 countries with the worldwide death toll from the virus nearing 5,800.



This season, tupatane online!

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Tulipe Ushuru, Tujitegemee!

BRIEFLY

Sh2.1b dumpsite funding revoked

The Italian government has withdrawn Sh2.1 billion funding meant to relocate the Ngong dumpsite over the Aror and Kimwarer dams scandal. Kajiado Governor Joseph ole Lenku (*below*), who made the announcement at Ong'ata Rongai, said the relocation of the five-acre dumpsite which was scheduled to commence next month would stop until the county government sources for alternative funding. "The dumpsite relocation plans now remain suspended," he said. Lenku's administration had pledged to relocate the dumpsite within the first 100 days of his leadership. Residents of Ngong have from time to time protested the foul smell and rising crime brought about by the dumpsite.

— Christine Musa



New chicken breed to give more eggs

Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) has come up with a superior indigenous chicken breed that will have increased egg production. Speaking at Busia Agricultural Training Centre on Friday, KALRO Director of Non-ruminant Research Steven Mwangi said the demand for eggs and chicken in the country is on the rise. He added that the improved chicken breed will produce between 230 and 250 eggs per year compared to the present case where indigenous hens produce 80 to 100 eggs annually. "In order to ensure that the birds are available to farmers, KALRO has produced and distributed day-old chicks worth Sh95.1 million to farmers since 2016," Mwangi said.

—KNA

When rogue police, judicial officers collude to beat justice

Many dishonest cops are never held responsible for their crimes, leaving families crying for fairness

by Monica Kagia
@PeopleDailyKe

Cases of armed police officers entrusted with maintaining law and order engaging in wanton shooting and subsequent killing of colleagues and innocent civilians have been on the increase.

And the question on the minds of many is; can they trust the officers to keep them safe? The tragedy is that many of the rogue officers never been held responsible for their crimes leaving families of victims crying for justice.

Only a few such as Harrison Langat Kipng'etich are ever held to account for their actions. Even then, what happens in the course of the "probes" is often deliberate cover up attempts that end up in miscarriage of justice.

In Kipng'etich's case, he was accused of killing a colleague and two civilians at the then Mtwapa Police Post, now Mtwapa Police Station.

On the fateful day, March 16, 2003, he is said to have walked to his work station and indiscriminately opened fire at police and civilians who had gone to seek services at the reporting desk.

Reconstruct file

And when the burst of gunfire fell silent, the bodies of police constable Jacob Nderi, and civilians Dorine Wawira Mwaniki and Alice Gatonyi lay lifeless. The police post resembled a scene from hell; bloody with ripped off furniture, spent bullet cartridges and smell of gunpowder.

Kipng'etich was overpowered and arrested—and was later arraigned for murder. But what has remained a puzzle is how the charge was reduced to manslaughter.

The accused was released on a Sh500,000 bond and three witnesses managed to testify before the accused absconded court and the file vanished. For 12 years, the file could not be traced until in November 2015 when Kipng'etich was re-arrested and the file reconstructed.

When he appeared before the then trial magistrate Diana Mochache, all he asked for was to have his matter proceed from



Harrison Langat Kipng'etich follows court proceedings in the past. PD/ NDEGWA GATHUNGU

where they had left in 2003.

But what really happened? According to court officials familiar with the proceedings then, a prosecutor who was reportedly notorious for brokering deals on behalf of accused persons at the court, might have had a hand in helping Kipng'etich escape facing justice.

The rogue prosecutor, who was transferred to another station where he was soon sacked over misappropriation of funds in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, is said to have reduced Kipng'etich's murder charge to manslaughter.

Reduce charge

This helped the accused to escape justice after being freed on bail.

When the trial reopened, State prosecutor Erick Masila told the court that the accused's file had gone missing a few weeks after he was released on bail. He blamed the police for failing to enforce a warrant of arrest by the court leading to stalling of the case for 12 years.

The manslaughter trial was halted mid-

ISSUES RAISED

● According to the prosecution, it emerged that there was malicious play to try and bury the file in Kipng'etich's case.

● The other issue that the Kipng'etich case raises is how a file could have vanished for so long.

● "I recommended that a new file be constructed with reference from that of the court..." Senior State Counsel Alexander Muteti.

way and murder charges reinstated.

As per the law, the maximum sentence for manslaughter is between 10 to 15 years, meaning the accused would have served a lesser sentence, his heinous crime notwithstanding.

According to Senior State Counsel Alexander Muteti, the move to reduce the charge was an outright misconduct by the prosecutor who was in charge.

For a murder charge to be reduced to manslaughter, Senior State Counsel Alloys Kemo says, a plea bargain ought to have occurred.

In this case, Kemo adds that "there must be evidence to prove the plea bargainer did not intend to commit the murder in question."

However, the circumstances in the Kipng'etich case did not warrant the prosecution to proffer a lesser charge of manslaughter. The case is a classic example of just how rogue police officers and prosecutors collude to escape justice.

And for the bereaved families whose kins' lives were ruthlessly snuffed out by the officer, had to wait for 16 years for justice to be served.

In a judgment delivered by Lady Justice Dora Chepkwony on November 12, 2019, Kipng'etich was sentenced to life imprisonment after he was found culpable of murdering his colleague constable Nderi and two civilians Wawira and Gatonyi.

The case was revived after the father of one the victims wrote to the DPP to complain about the delay in determining it. After tracing of the file, Kipng'etich, who had been on the run, was arrested in Uganda and brought back to Kenya to face justice.

"It was during one of the mentions that chief magistrate Rosemary Mutoka also looked into the file and advised that the matter be reinstated to murder and the process began," said Muteti.

Sh380m livestock EPZ project on course after years of delay

Construction of the Sh380 million Bachuma Livestock Export Processing Zone in Taita Taveta county has picked up pace after years of inordinate delays.

Works began at the site near Maungu Township in 2015.

The project includes animal sheds, road works, renovations to existing houses, laboratory, borehole and quarantine fencing.

It is meant to facilitate access of livestock and livestock products to local, regional and international markets.

Coast Regional Commissioner John Elung'ata, who was on a supervision

tour of the facility on Sunday, said he was not satisfied with the project's progress.

Elung'ata, who is the chairman of the Coast Regional Development Implementation Coordination Committee, said the government was awake to the fact that the livestock sub-sector is an important source of economic growth and job creation.

The Director of Veterinary Services Dr Hesbon Awando said the project is now progressing well and is in final stage of implementation.

—KNA

Gatundu elders back unity initiative

by Clement Kamau
@PeopleDailyKe

Some elders from Gatundu South have proclaimed their support for the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) and the President, saying area MP Moses Kuria's stance on the same is personal.

Speaking on Sunday at Kirangi Village in Ndarugo ward where they were taken through the contents of BBI, they said that they will not follow anyone who is not supporting the initiative.

They added that they are behind President Uhuru Kenyatta's



bid to unite Kenyans.

"Those opposing BBI should stop lying to Kenyans that BBI is meant to create seats for some people as BBI is promoting unity of Kenyans and it is all inclusive and we support the handshake

which has seen peace in the country. The president means well for all Kenyans," said Isaac Kamau, an elder.

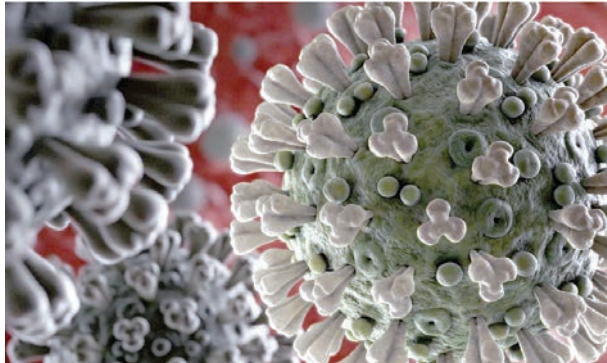
The elders said Kuria (*pictured*) is the only leader in Gatundu who is not supporting BBI.

"We want to tell Kenyans that every one has their own opinion and the MP's opinion is not that of Gatundu South residents," said John Mukui Zack, another elder.

Kuria, in response, downplayed the elders' comments, saying they should go to the people on the ground and know the true feeling on BBI.



CBK has approved increase in daily transaction limits to Sh150,000



Treasury in rush to immunise economy against pandemic

by Seth Onyango
@SethManex

Treasury is under pressure to vaccinate the economy against the effects of the coronavirus pandemic after the first case was confirmed in Kenya last week with two more reported on Sunday.

It comes as the country faces a possible lockdown after President Uhuru Kenyatta ordered closure of all schools and urged businesses to scale down operations to contain the virus.

He also suspended travel for all persons coming into Kenya from any State with confirmed coronavirus cases, consequently plunging the aviation and tourism industry into disarray.

Now, only Kenyan citizens and foreigners with valid residence permits will be allowed entry but must proceed on self quarantine or to a government designated quarantine facility.

"Where possible, government offices, businesses and companies are encouraged to allow employees to work from home, with the exception of employees working in critical or essential services," Uhuru ordered.

Internationally, more than \$5 trillion (Sh500 trillion) has been wiped off share markets globally in the wake of the virus which has spread to every continent but Antarctica.

Treasury Principal Secretary Julius Muia told Business Hub that ministry officials have met over the past two weeks to discuss pre-emptive funding to protect the economy.

"We are having consultations to agree on a budget needed to shield the economy from the virus...we are looking at every sphere of the economy," he said.

He said officials will continue to meet in the coming weeks to ponder on what can be done to protect jobs, stabilise supply chains and mobilise emergency funding to counter the virus.

Muia revealed that Treasury is looking to tap into Sh5 trillion aid package set aside by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to help fight virus.

"We have been doing teleconferencing with officials from IMF and the World Bank and we want to leverage on any source of funding," he said, adding that already the two multinational lenders are seized of Kenya's situation.

Uhuru had on Sunday encouraged the use of cashless transactions such as mobile money and credit cards as

Sh500tr

Amount wiped off share markets globally in wake of the virus which has spread to every continent except Antarctica

part of social distancing move to limit the spread of the killer virus.

"We appeal to mobile operators and banks to take into consideration the situation, and reduce the cost of transactions during this period," he urged.

At the same time, Treasury has been engaging with finance ministers and Central Bank governors from Africa to share knowledge on safeguarding the regional economy. "We are also talking to the business community such as Kepsa, Jua Kali and the Kenya Bankers Association to seek solutions on this issue...coronavirus started as health issue but now it has metamorphosed into an economic problem," said Muia.

Telcos reduce tariffs in Covid-19 mitigation deal

Service providers will not charge anything for transactions up to Sh1,000 to cushion majority of Kenyans from scourge

by Seth Onyango
@SethManex

Kenya has rolled a raft of measures to ensure the corporate sector streamlines operations to safeguard the economy against effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.

In a move meant to reduce the use of cash in the economy over the medium term, Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) yesterday met Payment Service Providers (PSPs) to facilitate increased use of mobile money transactions instead of cash.

The deal, which takes off immediately and will remain in place until June 30, means the firms will not charge for mobile money transactions up to Sh1,000 while the transaction limit will increase to Sh150,000.

"The daily limit for mobile money transactions has also increased to Sh300,000, while the monthly total limit for mobile money transactions has been eliminated," said CBK in a statement.

Emergency measures

"The current tariff for mobile money transactions for Sh70,000 will apply for transactions up to Sh150,000," said CBK.

In that period, PSPs and commercial banks will also eliminate charges for transfers between mobile money wallets and bank accounts as CBK closely monitors the implementation of these emergency measures.

Thus effective tomorrow, Safaricom and Telkom have confirmed that mobile money users will send any amount up to Sh1,000 for free over the next 90 days.

"To support this, and in particular small and micro business enterprises (SMEs), CBK has also approved the increase of

daily M-Pesa transaction limits from the current Sh70,000 to Sh150,000. Kenyans will also be able to transact up to Sh300,000 up from the current limit of Sh140,000, and hold up to Sh300,000 in their M-Pesa wallets," Safaricom said in a statement.

Telkom Kenya said that any transactions between Sh50,000 up to Sh300,000 will attract a rate of Sh100.

Latest Communications Authority telecommunication sector statistics shows that Safaricom carried out 575.7 million M-Pesa transactions, moving at least Sh1.58 trillion between July and September.

Call centre

Safaricom will also provide a call centre and integrating a toll-free line 719 which has been set up by the National Emergency Response Committee on coronavirus to support Kenyans in understanding how to prevent and manage suspected cases. We have also interconnected other networks

to ensure that their subscribers can access the call centre. Meanwhile, the business community under the umbrella of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (Kepsa) has set up a business action platform team and is developing in the next two days a business Covid-19 action platform like other countries have done.

The action platform will have a 24-hour call centre and portal to share business and workplace health-related information for all sectors and small business on the impact of the virus.

Citing stock challenges in their upstream markets, manufacturers have resorted to sourcing materials from other export markets outside China.

"Whilst 16.7 per cent of manufacturers have downsized their production capacity, 2.8 per cent have resorted to shifting some of their manufacturing processes overseas," said Kenya Association of Manufacturers chief executive Phyllis Wakiaga.

THE PARTICULARS

● The telecommunication firms will not charge for mobile money transactions up to Sh1,000.

● Telcos and banks will also eliminate charges for transfers between mobile money wallets and bank accounts

CBK governor Patrick Njoroge. CBK has reached a deal with telcos that will shore up use of mobile money PD/ALICE MBURU



Keroche blocks KRA in Sh9b tax arrears case



by Nancy Gitonga
@PeopleDailyKe

The High Court yesterday declined to overturn a decision blocking Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) from accessing Keroche Breweries accounts in Sh9 billion tax dispute.

This is after Justice David Majanja rejected the authority's application seeking to set aside the orders issued on Friday, temporary stopping KRA from accessing the brewer's accounts to collect the arrears.

Majanja also dismissed the taxman's bid to have Keroche provide security for KRA's tax demand but instead directed the tax-

man to serve Keroche with the application before mention on April 23.

"KRA's demand could destroy the brewer's business yet the company is exercising its right to appeal the two decisions by the Tax Appeals Tribunal," ruled the judge.

Majanja ordered the tribunal to withdraw its decision issued on March 9, 2020 within 48 hours and all proceedings within seven days.

Through its lawyers, the brewer argued that KRA's notices to ABSa and Equity Bank could collapse the brewer, further protesting that the Tribunal was yet to avail a copy of the judgement to enable Keroche to exercise its right to appeal.

Mobile money volumes to increase following presidential directive

TRANSACTIONS: Payments made using mobile phones will rise in the coming days after President Uhuru Kenyatta yesterday called on financial agencies to reduce transaction fees and encouraged citizens to avoid handling physical cash in the wake of Covid-19 spread.

As a result, analysts now say those agencies will ride on the anticipated high transaction volumes to increase their profit margins which declined in the first month of the year and a good number of providers could lower their operation costs in a bid to drive traffic their way.

"Many providers might actually reduce their transaction costs because volumes will without doubt increase," says Peter Macharia, a banker and a financial expert, adding that such firms will also use the opportunity to market some of the not so popular digital fund transfer products among Kenyans such as pay pal and RTGS.

The Sunday evening plea by Uhuru to financial agencies is meant to contain the virus' spread, after Kenya confirmed its first case of coronavirus on March 13 with two more cases made public on Sunday.

Digital financial providers now

look certain to benefit from the pandemic that has not only hit the local financial system hard – which saw trading at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) on Friday halt after benchmark index plunged by five per cent, but also the global markets that continue to plummet.

Physical branches

That tipping point will happen almost instantaneously, according to managing director of Gulf African Bank Abdalla Abdulkhalik, when the number of customers regularly using branches will be overtaken by those using Apps and popular

mediums like M-Pesa and mobile money for funds transfers.

"We expect to see that drift almost straightway beginning today and that goes without saying," said Abdalla, who believes the trend will continue in the conceivable future owing to the uncertainty of the deadly Covid-19.

Latest figures by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) show that the use of mobile phones in making payments declined in January on the back of low circulation of cash in the economy, the narrative is however, likely to change when CBK releases February figures. – **Steve Umidha**



BRIEFLY



Industry calls for quick tax refunds

MANUFACTURING: The Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) has identified enhanced cash-flow for manufacturers as a key priority area for establishing a competitive manufacturing-led economy for job creation and wealth creation. In a raft of proposals presented through the Manufacturing Priority Agenda (MPA) 2020, KAM also wants the Public Finance Management Act amended to establish a tax refund channel. KAM is also proposing amendment of the Miscellaneous Fees and Levies Act to allow refund of excess tax paid through the Import Declaration Form and Railway Development Levy.

– **Noel Wandera**



Works on Bachuma EPZ picks up pace

LIVESTOCK: Construction works of the Sh380 million Bachuma Livestock Export Processing Zone (EPZ) in Taita Taveta county has picked up pace after years of inordinate delays. Construction began at the site along the Mombasa-Nairobi highway near Maungu Township in 2015 but has been beset by slow work progress. Works include construction of animal sheds, road works, renovations of existing houses, laboratory, borehole and quarantine fencing. Director of veterinary services Hesbon Awando said the EPZ will be ready by May 2020 to boost livestock exports to foreign markets and thus boost revenues.

– **Harrison Kivisu**

Israel in talks with Kenya to revive stalled Galana Kulalu

Ongoing talks are geared towards development of a strategy to resuscitate the irrigation project

by **Nicholas Waitathu**
@PeopleDailyKe

Israel has renewed talks with the Kenyan government to revive the stalled one million acres Galana-Kulalu irrigation project in Tana River.

Israel deputy ambassador to Kenya Eyal David last Friday confirmed that his government has had talks with various agencies including the ministries of devolution, agriculture, water sanitation and irrigation and governors of Kilifi and Tana River counties.

"The project is important to both countries and enjoys a lot of goodwill both from the Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Uhuru Kenyatta. Both countries enjoy cordial relations. Equally, our country has invested a lot in the Kenya agricultural sector and thus we cannot allow it to stall," said Eyal.

Initiation of the talks by officials of the two governments appears to have been triggered by high level consultations between the heads of the two countries – Uhuru and Netanyahu.

Demand for food

It will be unfortunate, Eyal said, for the project to stall when demand for food continues to increase every year.

"The basis of the ongoing talks is to develop a comprehensive strategy geared towards reviving the project in addition to ensuring diplomatic ties between the two countries are enhanced," added Eyal.

The irrigation project is one of the schemes the President promised his government would undertake to boost food production to feed the increasing population.

Initiation of talks comes two months after the Ministry of Irrigation announced new plans to revive the project.

Eyal made the remarks during a breakfast organised by Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya (FPC) and Bureau Veritas at a Nairobi Hotel.

Former Water Sanitation and Irrigation Cabinet secretary Simon Chelugui when handing over the ministry to former Health Cabinet Secretary Sicily Kariuki, confirmed that the government will spend

Allocations

Sh600 million

Former Water Sanitation and Irrigation Cabinet Secretary Simon Chelugui when handing over the ministry to former health cabinet secretary Sicily Kariuki confirmed that the government will spend Sh600 million in the current financial year to revamp the irrigation scheme.

Sh7.2 billion

The project stalled in early 2019 when the Israel Company contracted by the government to construct a Sh7.2 billion Galana Kulalu 10, 000 acres model, Green Arava, abandoned it after disagreeing with the National Irrigation Board over various issues.



GENDLER

The project was the first venture funded by the Israeli government in its 70 years of its existence to fail

Sh600 million in the current financial year to revamp the irrigation scheme.

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Maize cartels

"The company is still there only that there was some bad blood between it and some Kenya government agencies. But the two governments have resolved to revive the project. We believe in the capacity of the company and we are looking into how to move the project forward," said Eyal.

The move almost prompted a diplomatic row between the two Governments with the former immediate Israel ambassador to Kenya Noah Gal Gendler confirming the project was the first venture funded by the Israeli government in its 70 years of its existence to fail.

"Galana Kulalu project was destroyed by cartels made up of maize importers and

millers. They were the reason the project was deferred from the beginning. This is the first project to fail. It was a government-to-government project," Gendler said in April last year.

The Galana-Kulalu contractor differed with the top management of the NIB over bills incurred after the 2018 long rains.

For example, following the heavy rains that pounded the country in 2018, river Galana, which is the main source of the project submerged and changed its course to a distance 200 metres away from its original path.

When the contractor was requested to restore the river to its original place, the company gave a bill of Sh700 million which the NIB declined to honour. Instead NIB hired a local contractor who spent Sh38 million to undertake the project. Chelugui proposed for the restructuring of the management of the project either by concession or privatisation.

Eyal said that in the time the contractor was on the ground, the project demonstrated success despite the hitches experienced.

Coronavirus wipes Sh28b out of bourse

Despite the loss several counters, among them Safaricom and Uchumi registered improvements compared to Friday's close

by Zachary Ochuodho
@zachuodho

There was slight improvement in share prices of some counters at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE), a day after the bourse was reported to shed Sh573 billion in paper money due to the impact of coronavirus.

Yesterday, the bourse shed about Sh27.9 billion. But while some counters improved, others continued to experience the downward trend.

Local investors took up positions accounting for 49.4 per cent of market activity.

Equity turnover stood at Sh1.5 billion compared to a previous Sh1.2 billion as market capitalisation stabilised at Sh2 trillion.

The bourse was forced to temporarily close the market for 30 minutes last Friday when nearly all the counters experienced downward trajectory wiping off more than Sh200 billion in paper cash.

However, come Monday and some counters, including Safaricom, Sanlam, Uchumi, Absa, Britam, DTB, Eveready, Home Africa, I&M Longhorn Publishers and Scan Group improved in comparison to their Friday's performance.

The development came as investment experts admitted that the virus could have between a 10 to 25 per cent impact on Kenya's gross domestic product growth this year.

Cytonn Investments research analyst Beatrice Mwangi says the 10 per cent impact is an optimistic forecast in the event the outbreak is contained, while a 25 per cent impact is in the event it is not dealt with.

Economic implication

"As such, the Coronavirus could reduce Kenya's GDP growth to a range of 4.3 per cent to 5.2 per cent in 2020 depending on the severity of the outbreak and economic implications for Kenya," she said.

Sterling Capital's John Kirimi says the sudden drop in shares by five per cent or more on Friday necessitated "halting" the market to give traders time to rethink their strategy.

He says when things go south, the market needs a circuit breaker.

The cause of the decline is the panic selling of shares by traders fearing that the worst was still ahead of them.

"It is human nature to panic. If you can remove panic from human beings, then you can avoid shutdowns in stock market midstream during trading. In other words, it will always happen when panic sets in among stock traders," he says.

The equities market was on a downward trajectory on Friday last week, with NASI, NSE 20 and NSE 25 losing traction by 14.4, 11.5 and 13.9 per cent respectively, hitting losses of 19.7, 20 and 18.6 per cent, respectively.

The loss recorded by NSE 20 breaches the threshold of a bear market, which is a condition in which securities price falls by 20 per cent or more.

NSE chief executive Geoffrey Odundo says the sell-off intensified on Friday when the market shed Sh120 billion, prompting the bourse to halt trading midway through the carnage.

NSE provisions contained in rule 9.4.1 (ii) of the NSE Equity Trading Rules says that when the NSE 20 Share Index decreases by more than five per cent at the opening session compared to its closing value or during the continuous session, compared to its opening value, the exchange may temporarily halt trading for not more than 30 minutes.

NSE, therefore, notified market participants, investors, key stakeholders and the general public that trading at the NSE was halted on Friday 13, March 2020 at 2:38 pm as per the provisions.

LOSS BY COUNTERS

● Last week on Friday when the first case of the virus was announced, Safaricom shed shares worth Sh338.5 billion, Equity Group Holdings shed Sh48.5 billion, EABL shed Sh15.8 billion and KCB lost Sh39.6 billion.

● Other counters lost Sh120 billion.



NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	WVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		AGRICULTURAL	PRICES		SHARES
17.60	9.90	Eaagads Ltd Ord 1.25		11.00	
460.00	290.00	Kakuzi Plc Ord 5.00		319.75	
100.00	57.00	Kapcharua Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	71.50	75.00	500
605.00	40500	The Limuru Tea Co. Plc Ord 20.00		440.00	
22.70	14.00	Sasini Plc Ord 1.00	15.30	16.50	6,700
178.00	110.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	112.00	112.00	1200
AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES					
27.00	20.00	Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00		24.00	
BANKING					
13.85	9.54	ABSA Bank Kenya Plc Ord 0.50	11.35	11.60	107,200
31.00	22.40	BK Group Plc Ord 0.80		22.40	
166.00	91.00	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00	93.25	93.75	17,400
55.50	32.50	Equity Group Holdings Plc Ord 0.50	39.85	41.90	821,600
7.90	3.38	HE Group Plc Ord 5.00		4.12	
126.00	42.50	I&M Holdings Plc Ord 1.00	46.40	46.30	2,300
55.50	34.50	KCB Group Plc Ord 1.00	40.25	42.65	6,452,400
6.50	3.22	National Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00		4.12	
41.00	25.05	NCBA Group Plc Ord 5.00	28.90	29.95	111,600
117.75	83.00	Stanbic Holdings Plc Ord 5.00	90.50	95.50	13,400
225.00	168.00	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00	184.25	190.00	16,500
17.00	10.05	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00	12.80	13.25	367,300
COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES					
5.10	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Plc Ord 2.50acc		0.45	
1.30	0.82	Eveready East Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	0.93	0.90	3,800
8.50	5.00	Express Kenya Plc Ord 5.00m.		5.98	
9.50	1.53	Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00	1.57	1.69	22,900
8.80	4.28	Longhorn Publishers Plc Ord 1.00ccic	4.73	4.74	50,800
1.20	0.60	Nairobi Business Ventures Ltd Ord 1.00...	0.60	0.60	1,600
71.00	26.00	Nation Media Group Plc Ord 2.50	26.50	27.15	29,700
4.70	1.72	Sameer Africa Plc Ord 5.00		2.75	
33.00	19.50	Standard Group Plc Ord 5.00	22.00	22.00	1,600
25.15	13.40	TPS Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	13.40	13.50	800
0.95	0.23	Uchumi Supermarket Plc Ord 5.00	0.28	0.27	4,100
22.00	9.90	WPP Scangroup Plc Ord 1.00	14.20	15.30	24,000
CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED					
8.35	2.40	ARM Cement Plc Ord 1.00		5.55	
145.75	50.00	Bamburi Cement Ltd Ord 5.00		50.00	
92.00	58.00	Crown Paints Kenya Plc Ord 5.00		58.00	
3.98	1.71	E.A.Cable Ltd Ord 0.50		1.71	
20.50	12.95	E.A.Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00		14.25	
ENERGY & PETROLEUM					
7.40	4.70	KenGen Co. Plc Ord 2.50	4.80	4.84	107,200
5.50	1.90	Kenya Power & Lighting Co Plc Ord 2.50	1.99	1.98	368,700
5.50	5.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 4% Pref 20.00		5.00	
6.00	6.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 7% Pref 20.00		6.00	
33.00	22.70	Total Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00		22.95	
8.70	5.00	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50		6.60	
INSURANCE					
10.50	6.50	Britannia Holdings Plc Ord 0.10	6.82	6.80	14,100
4.85	2.25	CIC Insurance Group Ltd Ord 1.00	2.33	2.33	60,400
462.00	302.00	Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	303.00	302.50	100
16.30	2.19	Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50	2.24	2.43	179,300
13.00	6.80	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord 1.00	7.50	7.64	5,900
26.00	13.95	Sanlam Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	15.30	13.95	2,600
INVESTMENT					
37.40	21.00	Centum Investment Co Plc Ord 0.50	22.00	23.00	101,400
0.77	0.36	Home Afrika Ltd Ord 1.00 m.	0.38	0.38	159,000
1500.00	1,500.00	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00acc		1,500.00	
3.39	2.00	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	2.00	2.20	3,800
4.50	1.80	Trans-Century Plc Ord	1.80	2.00	23,800
INVESTMENT SERVICES					
16.00	8.92	Nairobi Securities Exchange Plc Ord 4.00	9.14	9.90	8,300
MANUFACTURING & ALLIED					
87.00	52.25	B.O.C Kenya Plc Ord 5.00		63.00	
700.00	400.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Plc Ord 10.00	400.00	401.50	3,400
10.80	7.10	Carbacid Investments Plc Ord 1.00	7.98	7.92	2,600
230.00	162.00	East African Breweries Ltd Ord 2.00	180.50	185.00	419,700
3.15	1.24	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825...	1.37	1.37	137,900
14.00	12.50	Kenya Orchards Ltd Ord 5.00 e.		12.50	
0.70	0.25	Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 2.00		0.27	
42.00	28.75	Unga Group Ltd Ord 5.00	29.00	30.30	100
TELECOMMUNICATION					
33.50	20.10	Safaricom Plc Ord 0.05	24.45	24.35	44,232,800
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST					
11.00	6.88	STANIL/B FAHARI I-REIT Ord 20.00	8.06	8.80	9,200
EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS					
1650.00	1235.00	ABSA New Gold ETF	1565i	1565.00	

NSE ALL SHARE INDEX: DOWN 1.82 points to close at 131.84
NSE 20-SHARE INDEX: DOWN 66.82 points to close at 2057.96
NSE 25-SHARE INDEX: DOWN 84.36 points to close at 3253.25

MARKET WATCH

COMMODITY PRICES IN DIFFERENT COUNTIES (16/3/2020)

COMMODITY	Weight	Nairobi	Kitale	Isiolo	Nakuru	Mombasa
Dry Maize	90	2800	2700	1800	2800	2400
Green Maize	115	2100	3000	1500	2000	
Finger Millet	90	8600	4500	6000	5400	5000
Sorghum	90	5300	3600	3300	2700	3500
Wheat	90		4500	4000		
Beans Canadian	90	8400	8000		8000	
Beans Rosecoco	90	8800	7000	8700	8000	9000
Beans Mwittemania	90	7200	6000	6000	5400	5800
Mwezi Moja	90	5400			5000	
Dolichos (Njahi)	90	13200	10800	12000	14000	13100
Green Gram	90	11100	11700	6500	7200	
Cowpeas	90	7200		5000	8100	3500
Fresh Peas	51	3000		6120	2500	3570
Groundnuts	110	13600		10800	15000	15000
Red Irish Potatoes	50	2500		2200		4500
White Irish Potatoes	50			2400	2800	3000
Cassava - Fresh	99	2950				1700
Sweet Potatoes	98	4200			3000	6000
Cabbages	126	1400		1000		
Cooking Bananas	22	600		350	350	575
Ripe Bananas	14	600		550	750	600
Carrots	138	4200		2500	2800	3300
Tomatoes	64	6800		6000	4500	5500
Onions Dry	13	1000		1040	850	1300
Spring Onions	142	2900			3000	2500
Chillies	38	2850		3800	3000	2280
Cucumber	50	2750				1250
Capsicums	50	2500		4000	3000	1750
Brinjals	44	1540			2500	
Cauliflower	39	2950				2925
Lettuce	51	1400				2000
Passion Fruits	57	4300			4500	3135
Oranges	93	4100	4000	3500	3400	
Lemons	95	3000	2850	1800	2400	1600
Mangoes Local	126	1600		1000	3200	1700
Mangoes Ngowe	25	1100		1000		1000
Limes	13	2600				2300
Pineapples	13	960	900	1200	600	997
Pawpaw	54	2000		2400	2000	1000
Avocado	90	3200	2000	3000	3000	3500
Kales	50	1200	700	1000	500	1400
Eggs		320	300	330	280	330

COMMERCIAL BANKS' AVERAGE FOR MAJOR CURRENCIES (OPENING MARKET) - 16/3/2020

CURRENCY	MEAN	BUY	SELL
US DOLLAR	102.9000	102.8029	102.9971
SW KRONER	10.5828	10.5634	10.6022
STG POUND	128.4491	128.3100	128.5882
SINGAPORE DOLLAR	72.5542	72.4730	72.6354
SAUDI RIYAL	27.4144	27.3871	27.4417
SA RAND	6.3801	6.2884	6.3119
S FRANC	108.4071	108.2820	108.5322
NOR KRONER	10.1084	10.0973	10.1194
KES / USHS	36.1225	36.0399	36.2052
KES / TSHS	22.4101	22.3793	22.4410
KES / RWF	9.2955	9.2019	9.3891
KES / BIF	18.4355	18.3085	18.5625
JPY (100)	96.4658	96.3567	96.5748
IND RUPEE	1.3873	1.3859	1.3888
HONGKONG DOLLAR	13.2526	13.2401	13.2651
EURO	114.4903	114.3629	114.6176
DAN KRONER	15.3218	15.3058	15.3379
CHINESE YUAN	14.7002	14.6857	14.7147
CAN \$	74.2344	74.1456	74.3232
AUSTRALIAN \$	63.4121	63.3266	63.4977
AE DIRHAM	28.0145	27.9865	28.0424

Mayfair Insurance makes investment foray into DRC

by Noel Wandera
@NoelWandera5

Mayfair Insurance Company is among six insurance firms allowed by the DRC regulator, ARCA, to operate in a sector estimated to be worth \$500 million (Sh51.7 billion) a year to investors.

The insurer has presence in Zambia, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania and joins a list of other Kenyan companies to venture in the mineral rich country includ-

ing Equity and KCB.

Mayfair, associated with politician Peter Kenneth, is hoping to get a share of a market estimated to achieve annual sales of around \$80 million (Sh8.3 billion) premiums and an estimated penetration rate of less than 0.5 per cent, holding many business opportunities for investors.

Insurance code

The authorisations complies with the provisions of the new Insurance Code and the ARCA regulation, according to infor-

Sh51.7b

Value of DRC Congo's insurance sector whose penetration is still below the 05. per cent mark

The supervisory authority has also issued approvals to two insurance brokerage

mation by Atlas Magazine. They involve three non-life insurance companies and one life insurance company.

The supervisory authority has also issued approvals to two insurance brokerage firms.

DRC has a population of 85 million people.

Despite the huge trade potential, the country remains a volatile nation, fraught with internal strife and persistent outbreaks of deadly diseases such as Ebola, which has killed more than 1,200 people since 2018.



World News

BERNIE SANDERS

It's not just nominating a woman. It is making sure that we have a progressive woman.

Biden pledges to pick woman VP if he wins Democratic race

Party rivals attack Trump's response to coronavirus pandemic, say President is undermining scientists

■ **Washington, Monday**

White House hopeful Joe Biden has committed to picking a woman as his vice presidential candidate should he win the Democratic nomination, a race he currently leads against Bernie Sanders.

"If I'm elected president, my cabinet, my administration, will look like the country, and I commit that I will in fact appoint a woman to be vice president," Biden, himself a former vice president, said during a high-stake debate against his leftist rival Sanders on Sunday.

The debate took place as the nation confronts the coronavirus pandemic, with the candidates' podiums set six feet apart serving as a reminder of the global public health emergency.

"There are a number of women who are qualified to be vice president tomorrow," the moderate Biden added.

The leftist Sanders, for his part, responded by saying that "in all likelihood" he would do the same.

"To me, it's not just nominating a woman. It is making sure that we have a progressive woman and there are progressive women out there."

Two women have been chosen as running mates for major party nominees.

Democrat Walter Mondale put Geraldine Ferraro on the ticket in 1984, while Sarah Palin was Republican John McCain's pick in 2008, but both lost their elections.

It has been no secret that both Biden and Sanders were seriously considering naming a female vice presidential candidate.

Among Biden's possible choices are Senator Kamala Harris and Senator Amy



Democratic presidential hopefuls former US vice president Joe Biden and Senator Bernie Sanders greet each other with a safe elbow bump before the start of the 11th Democratic Party presidential debate in Washington, DC on Sunday.

AFP

Klobuchar, both former competitors in the battle for this year's Democratic Party nomination—or even the progressive Senator Elizabeth Warren, who was briefly a frontrunner in the race.

Prior to her position in the US Senate, the African-American Harris served as the attorney general of California, while Klobuchar is a moderate from the Midwestern state of Minnesota.

Clear lead

It was the first one-on-one showdown between the primary's two finalists. The delegate math suggests their race is approaching its end, with the former vice president building a clear lead that's expected to grow Tuesday with primaries in Arizona, Florida, Illinois and Ohio.

Biden and Sanders launched a joint attack on President Donald Trump's response to the coronavirus pandemic, accusing the

president of undermining his own scientists with misinformation.

"We have to shut this president up right now because he's undermining the doctors and the scientists who are trying to help the American people," said Sanders, referring to multiple Trump statements at odds with expert views.

The two rivals also sparred about their record, taking advantage of the first one-on-one format of the marathon campaign to engage in extended—though civil—policy clashes on everything from universal healthcare and climate change to deportations and foreign policy.

But with Biden appearing to have a good night, riding high as the frontrunner following three weeks of strong performances in multiple primaries, he made a splash by saying he will "commit" to picking a female running mate.

-AFP

GLARING BLUNDERS

● **Both candidates had a few flubs during the Sunday debate. Biden referred to the 2009 swine flu as N1HI, not H1N1.**

● **Sanders at one point repeatedly referred to coronavirus as "Ebola".**

● **There was no live audience, the candidates' podiums were spaced unusually far apart.**



Death sentence for Japanese who killed 19

■ **Yokohama, Monday**

A Japanese man has been sentenced to death for a stabbing rampage in 2016 which resulted in the death of 19 disabled people at a care home.

The convict, Satoshi Uematsu, (picture) is quoted saying that people with disabilities who were unable to communicate well had no human rights. The 30-year-old had once worked in the care facility, located near Tokyo.

The case is one of Japan's worst mass killings and has shocked people in a country where violent crime is rare.

In an earlier interview with Japan's Mainichi Shimbun newspaper, Uematsu had said there was "no point in living" for people with mental disabilities and that he "had to do it for the sake of society".

The Yokohama District Court on Monday ordered him to death by hanging. Uematsu previously said he did not plan to appeal against any verdict or sentence.

During the trial earlier this year, the former employee of the Sagami care home did not dispute that he stabbed his victims.

But his defence team pleaded not guilty, citing their client's mental state. They said he had been under the influence of drugs at the time.

-BBC

BRIEFLY



War crimes convict Lubanga freed in DRC

A Congolese former militia warlord, Thomas Lubanga has been set free after serving a landmark 14-year term for war crimes handed down by the ICC. Lubanga was greeted by about 100 supporters on his release from a jail in Kinshasa on Sunday. He served a full term. In 2006, he was the first person to be arrested under a warrant from the ICC in The Hague accused of enlisting child soldiers

-AFP



Zimbabwe's inflation soars to 540 per cent

Zimbabwe's annual inflation soared to over 500 per cent in February, the country's statistical agency said Monday, releasing its first consumer price data since June last year. The latest inflation figures are stoking fears of a return of the kind of hyperinflation that wiped out savings 10 years ago when the economy collapsed and prices of goods and services skyrocketed everyday.

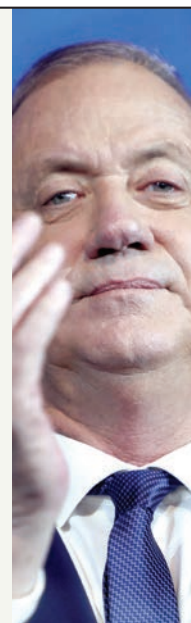
-AFP



Mumbai is India's most 'forgetful' city

Mumbai is India's most "forgetful" city, according to Uber's Lost & Found Index 2020, followed by Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) and Allahabad. This is an annual database compiled by the cab aggregator, based on what passengers in different countries leave behind in Uber's taxis. Phones top the list in India, which also includes items as unusual as artificial acrylic teeth.

-BBC



Netanyahu rival tasked to form government

■ **Jerusalem, Monday**

Israel's ex-military chief Benny Gantz was nominated Monday to try to form a government but further talks were expected with his bitter rival, premier Benjamin Netanyahu, on an emergency alliance to fight coronavirus.

Gantz, who heads the centrist Blue and White party, called for "unity" and urged Netanyahu to join him as Israel seeks to end a crippling political

stalemate after three inconclusive elections in less than a year.

"We must not have a fourth election," Gantz (pictured) said, after he was tasked to attempt to form an administration by President Reuven Rivlin.

"I'll do everything to form in as few days as possible a national, patriotic and broad government."

Netanyahu insists that voters in the March 2 election gave him a mandate to continue as PM.

-AFP

Ten...

1 Disinfectant manufacturers

Since the confirmation of the first case of coronavirus in Kenya, disinfectants and hand sanitisers have been flying off the shelf. A spot check in most supermarkets in Nairobi showed that all supermarkets had run out of hand sanitisers. Globally, consumer demand for hand sanitisers has grown by 1,400 per cent between December and January.

2 Dry foods suppliers

Sales of dried beans, canned meat and powdered milk are on the rise across the globe following the coronavirus spread. Researchers say these items are always on demand during crises because they are non-perishables and people can feed on them for months on end. Thus suppliers, distributors and retailers in the food chain are making a kill out of buyers. Kenyans are already rushing to stock up on dry cereals and flours.



Kenyan businesses likely to benefit from outbreak

Reports about the consumerist boom brought on by the novel coronavirus abound. Yes, people are stocking up on products such as hand sanitisers, face masks, dry foods and household disinfectants, but Covid-19—which has infected more than 100,000 people worldwide and poses a threat to human lives, especially in cities where outbreaks are rampant—could, despite appearances, be really bad for business. Herein is a list of some local businesses likely to benefit from the outbreak



3 Face mask makers

Public health officials are warning that restrictive trade measures tied to medical supplies could worsen the shortfall and risk making poorer nations more vulnerable to the coronavirus' spread. Masks are flying off the shelves in Kenya with suppliers making a handsome profit in the process.

4 Pharmaceutical sector

The cost of over-the-counter pain relief medication has jumped across the world as drug-makers demand price increases on the back of raw material shortages triggered by the coronavirus outbreak. Following the announcement of the first case of coronavirus in Kenya on Friday and two on Sunday, pain killers will be in high demand thereby lining the pockets of pharmaceutical players.

5 e-Commerce boom

As more and more people prefer to work

in the comfort of their homes and as people heed the advice not to congregate in overpopulated places such as malls and supermarkets, online shopping is likely to spike as it limits human contact. This will, however, test the effectiveness of delivery services and the capacity of online shops to satisfy a diverse market.

6 Industry

With oil prices tumbling due to slumping demand from China, which consumes more than 25 per cent of the world's oil production, prices of petrol are likely to come down further much to the benefit of motorists, transporters and certain industries.

7 Forex bureaus

With demand for the dollar reducing heavily, some countries, especially in the developing world including Kenya, are seeing their currency strengthening in the short term. One unfolding real-time effect is a US dollar shortage that's already manifesting on parallel forex markets with the informal dollar dealers. Kenya has recently benefited immensely from the tumbling dollar while Nigeria and South Africa are also seeing their



currencies bolden in the midst of coronavirus escalation.

8 Stock markets

The stock market lost Sh120 billion in paper cash on Friday after the first coronavirus case was reported in Kenya. However, certain players will leap big from the outbreak. There seems to be selling of stocks *en masse* before the market stabilises and this gives an opportunity for traders to make good money. Independent traders and brokers are seeing this as an opportune moment to shelve off some stocks at favourable prices. Demand and appetite for treasury bills has also gone up.

9 Telecoms sector

As people seek updates on the spread of the virus, the telecommunications sector is likely to see a spike in sales of airtime and data bundles. Whenever a crisis ensues, most people want to keep in touch with their loved ones to monitor vulnerability to scourges. Mobile service providers will see revenue from SMS, talk-time and data bundles rise as more and more people seek to connect virtually instead of physically.

10 Transport

Following a directive by President Uhuru Kenyatta on Sunday for all schools to close after the number of those infected with the outbreak rose to three, transporters are likely to see a spike in travel as children in boarding schools make their way home, thus making good money in the short term. As people move to protect themselves from the outbreak, travel to rural areas is also likely to spike. E-commerce channels will also depend on transporters to deliver essentials to customers as more people avoid malls and supermarkets.

Agri biz ▶ Smart Way to Grow Money

State to establish 1,000 Bt cotton exhibition farms

The 20-year journey for Bt cotton trials has finally come to fruition, with the first launch of a series of demonstration farms across the country

by KNA and Wahinya Henry
@PeopleDailyKe

The State plans to establish 1,000 cotton demonstration farms in 23 cotton-growing counties ahead of the commercialisation of Bt cotton. Speaking during the launch of a demonstration plot at Alupe University in Busia county last week, Agriculture Cabinet Secretary (CS), Peter Munya said the aim is to train farmers prior to commercial farming of the new Bt cotton variety.

This follows a Cabinet approval for commercial farming of Bt cotton, granted on December 19, 2019 in a plan to revitalise Kenya's cotton, textile and apparel sector. "Each demonstration farm will train at least 40 farmers to create a pool of 40,000 cotton farmers that will form part of catchment of BT cotton in readiness for commercial BT cotton farming in the country," Munya said, adding that 60 demonstration farms will be established in Busia.

The CS attributed the collapse of cotton, textiles and apparel industries in 1980s to inappropriate macro-economic policies, including importing second-hand clothes. A vibrant textile and apparels industry that had matured into a major export earner collapsed as factories such as Kicomi, Mountex and Thika Textile Mills crumbled.

Agriculture boost

Consequently, all upstream cotton industry support infrastructures such as ginneries also collapsed. Investments worth millions of shillings that had been painstakingly put into this industry were destroyed, along with many jobs lost and livelihoods.

"Towns supported by these vibrant textiles industries became ghost-towns. At its peak, KICOMI employed over 3,000 people directly in those days," said the CS.

Munya said the State is now targeting 200,000 acres under BT cotton cultivation by 2022 to create more than 2,500 jobs for along the value chain. "Farmers should take advantage of Bt Cotton, which matures faster than other varieties. It's resistant to pests such as bollworms," he said, adding that each demo farm will train 100 farmers.

The government plans to revive small-holder farmers cotton development organ-



LEFT: Bt cotton samples produced by researchers at Kalro Thika led by director and principal Bt cotton investigator Dr Charles Gaturu. ABOVE: The Thika team of researchers during a tour of a field trial farm in Mwea. PD/ WAHINYA HENRY

isations and build capacity in governance and leadership in cotton farmers' cooperatives. "We will modernise cotton ginneries, establish new ones to serve cotton cluster growing counties and enhance value addition and market acquisition to guarantee the project succeeds," he said.

Munya said farmers would be provided with inputs. He called upon county governments of respective cotton growing areas to support the project by providing complementary support services, especially extension services.

Devolution CS Eugene Wamalwa, Busia Governor Sospeter Ojaamong and his deputy Moses Mulomi and Busia Woman Representative Florence Mutua also planted the Bt cotton seeds.

Ojaamong promised to work closely with the national government to ensure the project succeeds. He appealed to the State to give the county Sh1 billion to revive the cotton industry. "We are going to support it fully by supporting farmers and their cooperative movements," he said.

The PS State Department for Cooperatives, Ali Noor, underscored the need to revitalise cooperatives for the success of the project. Plans are underway to revive 25 cotton ginneries countrywide.

Supporters of the project include development partners, the State Department of Crop Development and county govern-

Bt cotton is currently planted in 15 countries globally, covering 24 million hectares

ments. "We have already started reviving Muluand Ginnery in Samia and we are working closely with local leaders," he said.

Kenya becomes the seventh country in Africa to adopt the BT cotton variety after South Africa, Sudan, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria and Eswatini. The Cabinet approved commercial farming of Bt cotton in December after successful research and trials and has put necessary legislation for the success of revival of cotton growing.

Bt cotton is currently planted in 15 countries globally covering an area of 24 million hectares. The top three leading Bt cotton producers are India (11.6 million hectares), US (5.06 million hectares) and China (2.93 million hectares). Global experience with Bt cotton shows that the improved insect resistant varieties greatly boost cotton production by mitigating against the pests. This drastically cuts use of harmful insecticides, leading to cleaner environments and improved farmer's health. Additionally, farmers realise increased yields per unit area due to reduced production costs.

Local manufacturing

In the Government's Big Four Agenda, the manufacturing pillar has identified backward and forward linkages with the agricultural sector through agro-processing and value addition as a critical success factor. Adoption of Bt cotton has been identified as a great opportunity in reviving the cotton, textile and apparel sector.

This aligns with the ambitious plan to boost the GDP contribution of the manufacturing sector from the current 9.5 per cent to 15 per cent by the year 2022. Commercial cultivation of Bt cotton will ensure ginneries and cotton processing industries have a constant supply of raw materials.

Thousands of job opportunities will be available in cultivation, processing or trading in locally manufactured garments and clothes. Kenya's textile and apparel products have preferential market access to the United States under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) framework.

Kenya has market access agreements with the European Union while the East African region and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa) provide significant export opportunities for textile and apparels.

BRIEFLY

Sh400m boost for agribiz ventures in Western region

by Noven Owiti
@PeopleDailyKe

Agricultural enterprises in Nyanza and Western regions will benefit from a multi-million financial credit in a joint initiative meant to boost the food productivity.

The project is financed by the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) and Kenya Crops and Dairy Market Systems (KCDMS) with a view to promote viable agribusiness activities in the region.

AFC will leverage on the KCDMS grants to fund identified agricultural enterprises. About Sh400 million will be disbursed to enhance fortunes of agribiz projects in region. The three-year initiative aims at facilitating access to funding by agricultural micro, small and medium enterprises in the regions.

The programme is expected to benefit farmers in dairy, fodder, horticulture, poultry and agro-dealers in Homa Bay, Migori, Kisii, Kisumu, Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Vihiga and Siaya counties.

AFC chairman Franklin Bett said the project offers interventions by supporting the agricultural business dealers with working capital, clearing their route to expansion.

"It is a systematic way of addressing the financial challenges faced by farmers in the region," Bett said at the launch of the farming financing programme in Kisumu last week.

The AFC chairman challenged politicians to shift focus and address problems facing farmers, saying the sector was key to the country's economic growth.

KCDMS Chief of party Tom Carr said the initiative is a gateway for people in agribusiness segment to expand their enterprises and get more profits. "The objective is to help farmers double their incomes and become self-reliant," said Carr.

AFC managing director Lucas Meso said Nyanza and Western regions had enormous potential, which the project would help unlock. "AFC is ready to commit additional resources and leverage up to Sh1 billion through the framework," he added.



Kenya Crops and Dairy Market System chief of party Tom Carr and AFC boss Lucas Meso sign a deal to support agribusiness ventures at the launch of agricultural finance programme in Kisumu last week.

PD/NOVEN OWITI



Agriculture CS Peter Munya and his Devolution counterpart Eugene Wamalwa during the launch of the certified Bt cotton seed project at Alupe University, Busia county, last week. Looking on is Busia Governor Sospeter Ojaamong and Woman Rep Florence Mutua. COURTESY



Robert Kahindi Charo connects a battery to the charger at Gotani Market in Kalo- leni, Kilifi county. ABOVE: Kennedy Katana attends to a client in his barber's shop at the shopping centre. PD/LEWIS NJOKA

Kilifi small businesses, farmers reap big from power connections

The Jubilee administration has not achieved its goal of providing universal access to electricity by 2020, but the Last Mile Connectivity Project has benefitted tens of small-scale start-ups and agri ventures in Kilifi county

by Lewis Njoka
@LewisNjoka

Last mile connectivity, the government project where homes are connected to the national electricity grid under a subsidy programme, is changing lives in Kilifi county.

Thanks to the initiative, young men who had almost no access to economic opportunities for lacking education qualifications have now turned into employers.

The project, which aims to increase access to electricity in both urban and rural areas, was motivated by the realisation that people without access to electricity have difficulties achieving the same standard of living as those with access to electricity.

In addition to lighting their homes, innovative youths are using the energy to start micro and small enterprises that solve local and challenges, earning themselves a living in the process.

New businesses

Robert Kahindi Charo, 28, is thankful that the government recently connected his village, Gotani, to electricity. He operates a car battery charging business at Gotani market, Kaloleni constituency in Kilifi county.

He makes good money from the venture, charging Sh70 per battery for about 10 customers a day. Charo does not regret acquiring the machine he uses for the job, which cost him Sh35,000, because he is confident that it won't take him long to recoup the amount invested. "People who are yet to be connected to the electricity use these batteries to light their homes," says Charo.

To increase his daily income, Charo has set up a kiosk using proceeds from the battery charging business where he is selling fast-moving consumer goods. However, the new business has its own challenges just

like any other. "Sometimes we experience blackouts that last for even four days. Without electricity, I'm out of business," he said.

Prior to starting the business, he was a bodaboda (motorbike) rider, but was dissatisfied with the challenging occupation characterised by erratic earnings. The unpredictable nature of the business and bad roads saw him struggle to provide basic needs for his family, which forced him to seek a more reliable source of income.

Kennedy Katana, 26, runs a barbershop at Gotani market. He, too, is happy that he is now his own boss unlike before when he relied on paid employment for a living.

Like Charo, he ekes out a living from the newly installed electric power, having begun the *kinyozizi* business three months after the national grid reached his village.

"Before electric power was connected, we used to close shop by six O'clock in the evening due to insecurity. These days we stay open up to as late as 10 or 11 O'clock. Were there no electricity, we would have to deal with very many challenges, including rampant insecurity," said Katana.

Despite being fairly new, the barbershop affords the father of four a decent living, making between Sh500 and Sh1,000 daily. This is good money considering that the cost of living in rural Kilifi is much lower than most urban areas in the coastal region.

From the proceeds of the *kinyozizi* business, Katana has built a semi-permanent house for his family and pays school fees for his children, an enviable achievement for a man of his socio-economic background.

Despite it being menial, the job gives him a sense of accomplishment knowing that he saves local children from travelling long distances in search of a decent shave like he did when he was their age.

He pays his power bill to the landlord who then forwards it to Kenya Power since they share an electric metre, unlike his counter-

QUICK FACTS

● The first phase of the electricity connectivity programme began in October 2016. It aimed to achieve universal access to electricity in the country by 2020.

● Last September, Kenya Power launched Phase Four of the project, targeting over 280,000 customers spread across 32 counties. The phase is estimated to cost Sh13.7 billion.

part Charo, who pays the bills directly to the utility company.

Katana's gratitude for being connected to the electricity grid is replicated in Bernard Chirau Karisa, a businessman and a local leader who runs three cyber cafés at Gotani.

Modern technology

The 27-year-old accountant has taken it upon himself to introduce modern technology to his village to enable his kinsmen exploit opportunities offered by the internet.

Such investments and technologies were unheard of before the affordable power initiative reached the village. "Electricity is an enabler for development. Before local schools here were connected to electricity, their performance was poor. Connecting them to the grid gave the students more time to study, resulting in improved grades," said Karisa.

And it's not just business-savvy citizens who are benefitting from the cheap electricity project in Kaloleni and Kilifi County as a whole. Laurence Chengo Mramba from Gandini village, Kaloleni, is glad that the project has enabled him improve security for his two dairy cows, a prized possession. Before power was installed in Gandini village

in 2018, Mramba used to depend on solar power for all his lighting needs.

Unfortunately, his small panel couldn't provide enough light to keep the security light on throughout the night, exposing the cows—his source of livelihood—to the risk of theft.

With reliable electricity, he now leaves the security light on overnight as he goes to sleep, which helps keep away thieves and intruders.

Moreover, Mramba and his family no longer need to make frequent trips to the nearby Gotani market to charge their phones now that he has electric power in his house. "Even the grass thatched houses now have power," Mramba said with a smile, referring a hut within his homestead.

Like all other people connected to the grid in the village, Mramba did not pay even a cent for installation. He will pay the required amount pays in installments alongside his monthly bills.

Final phase

The project enables users to get connected to the national grid at a subsidised fee of Sh15,000 as opposed to the normal Sh35,000. Beneficiaries unable to pay connection fees upfront are allowed to pay in instalments up to three years.

The first phase of the project involved connecting households lying within a 600-metres radius from the transformers to the national grid. Subsequent phases involved installation of extra transformers and maximising the use of existing ones.

The project aimed to achieve universal access to electricity in the country by 2020. The first phase of the project began in October 2016.

In September last year, Kenya Power launched the fourth phase of the connectivity programme targeting over 280,000 customers spread across 32 counties in the country. The phase is estimated to cost Sh13.7 billion funded by development partners in conjunction with the Kenyan government. The partners include the European Union, French development bank (AFD) and the European Investment Bank.

This is the last phase in the project and includes construction of single and three phase high and low voltage lines, installation of service cables and energy metres.

While the Uhuru Kenyatta administration has not managed to achieve its earlier goal of universal access to electricity by 2020, the last mile project has managed to connect thousands of households to reliable the electricity grid.

As of June 2018, national electricity access— from both grid and off-grid solution — stood at 73 per cent, up from 29 per cent in 2013. In Kilifi county alone, over 110,000 households have been connected to the grid since the project was launched in 2015.



Laurence Chengo Mramba from Gandini village shows off lights at his home. RIGHT: An ICT tutor with a student at a new cyber café in Gotani market, Kaloleni, Kilifi county. PD/LEWIS NJOKA

Spice Flavour your day

5MINSWITH MARIE J  @Manuel_Ntoyai



MOVIE REVIEW

 @yaa_grace

SURVIVING ITALY

MARIE NJORGE aka Marie J is an Italy-based Kenyan artiste. She is among the many Kenyans in diaspora affected by the current Covid-19 lockdown. She talks to MANUEL NTOYAI on the challenge of trying to remain musically relevant in such times

Tell us a bit about yourself?

I am songwriter, musician, recording and performing artiste with a flair for Afro fusion. My passion for music started at a tender age as I interacted with music as a child with a curiosity for different rich styles in Kenya before moving to Italy at the age of 11. I attended school in Bocconi in Rome, and graduated with an Accounting and Finance major from the Sapienza University.

Italy is on a lockdown due to coronavirus. How's the situation there for Kenyans?

Personally, I was planning for a major release, but I had to postpone the plans because of the virus. I am an artiste, but I can't currently mingle and interact freely with my fans. As we see the matter right now, it is possible to believe that Kenyans are scared, but as usual Kenyans are survivors; we will surely overcome this pandemic.

When did your music journey start?

I decided to pursue music professionally in 2018, releasing my debut single titled *Io Sto Bene*, Italian for *I feel good* and worked with Kenyan director Ne-zoh Monts on its video, which was a great success. My second single *Gio-gode*, a project directed by X Antonio, enjoyed a great reception both in Kenya and Italy. My subsequent singles are *Chorea* and *Mi Nae*.

How has it been so far?

I have been consistently working on creating uniquely blended music incorporating my life experiences as well as love tales spelt in rhythm and quintessence. Angelique Kidjo from Benin and South Africa's Yvone Chaka Chaka are some of the musicians who influence my music style. Seeing the little steps of growth has been instrumental in pushing me towards becoming a better version of myself.

Why do you look at your music as a calling?

Music is spiritual as well as a gift from God. I am deeply convinced of my talent being a tool for transformation and outreach to my audiences and society. Music has the power to heal broken hearts, troubled minds and even in times of crisis, music keeps us going by giving us hope.

How about your philanthropy?

While juggling between music and accountancy, I also try to see what I can do for the society through different charity campaigns to children's homes. I am also going big on menstrual health management, especially for women from underprivileged backgrounds. It is time the society came to understand that a section of women suffers because of lack of information on such topics, which to some extent is taboo in African communities. I also aspire to establish a children's home to cater for the disenfranchised and needy.

What is your perspective on music awards?

I recently won the Best Influential Female Artiste award at the E360 Music Awards gala in Nairobi. I never saw myself as an award winner, especially since I was still young in the industry. To me, an award should be an inspiration for me to work hard, especially when you know people recognise and appreciate your talent.

Is it true that artistes in diaspora don't get enough support back home?

This is true to some extent. Many Kenyan artistes in foreign countries release good music that doesn't get support from Kenyan deejays and the media. So, they have to put in some extra work to ensure they network with other supportive groups. I urge them to look for alternative markets where they are.

What are your aspirations in music?

I have been observing the East African music industry for a few years now and it has been an interesting phase. What concerns me is that the new wave of genge-tone seems to have hit the fan. I am also looking forward to working on a number of collabos across the region and also on broadening my fan base.



Marie J



JUST MERCY

The emotive screenplay that is based on a shockingly true story featured Oscar winners Jamie Foxx and Michael B Jordan as the headline actors. Award-winning filmmaker Destin Daniel Cretton—who wrote and co-directed the movie—adapted the plot from *Just Mercy*, an award-winning non-fiction bestseller book by Bryan Stevenson. The book notably, has gone on to win the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence, an NAACP Image Award, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Nonfiction.

After graduating from Harvard, the young lawyer Bryan Stevenson (Jordan) had the option of taking on lucrative legal cases, but instead headed to Alabama to defend wrongly condemned men who were not afforded proper representation with the support of a local advocate Eva Ansley (Brie Larson).

His first tackle, that cements his journey in advocacy, is Walter McMillian (Foxx), who in 1987 was sentenced to die for the murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite evidence proving his innocence. In the events that unfold, Stevenson puts up a fight while working against a system that is predominantly biased against blacks.

The movie director hits all the right buttons and you are sure to turn away from the screen a few times as emotions run high. It takes through all the motions of hate, disgust, fear, hope and joy as the plot thickens. *Just Mercy* paints a fresh picture of what it was like then to live condemned as a black man and shows the struggles black families had to put up with. For these reasons, the picture has been rated PG-13 for thematic content, including some racial epithets. The 137-minute long flick is being distributed worldwide by Warner Bros and is now available in theaters. Rating: 8/10

Clique & Clicks ► Get Spotted

GUARDING THE FUTURE

by Timothy Njenga

'Philips mommy' recently held a sensitisation forum with expectant women on the journey of motherhood, breastfeeding and nutrition. An array of experts was present to give professional guidance, as the participants also learned from each other on the different experiences pertaining to parenthood. Officials from the National Health Insurance Fund were also present to advise on different insurance covers available for expectant and lactating mums.

PD/TIMOTHY NJENGA



Philips Africa ultrasound business manager Anari De Wet.



Mercy Wanyagi with her son Nathan Karugu and Sylvia Lenaya with her daughter Aaliyah Wachari.



It's all smiles for this expectant quartet Shirley Emitati, Maggie Aduol, Faith Karanja and Millicent Mariera.



Dr Muthoni Ntonjira, Philips head of brand, Radhika Choskey and media personality Janet Mbugua.



Savannah Healthcare's Dr Wanjiku Ndung'u.



Cosmetic gynaecologist Dr Christina Suleh.



Nutritionist Kefa Nyalumba.



Lactation specialist Shiro Shiera demonstrates good breastfeeding practices.

Pads of relief

by Gerald Ithana

The Oshwal Education Relief Fund in partnership with PadMad and Amani Kibera recently spread cheer by distributing reusable sanitary towels to hundreds of school girls in Nairobi's Kibra slums. Besides that, they also mentored young girls and boys on general hygiene matters. The initiative aims at keeping girls in school by eliminating time lost when they stay away from school due to lack of sanitary pads during their menses. PadMad Kenya founder Maddhvi Dalala was among those present.

PD/GERALD ITHANA



Bhavesh Shah from Oshwal Academy Nairobi hands over sanitary towels to school girls.



Mentor Nancy Achieng with photographer Everlyne Mashel.



Gordone Odhiambo, Avuna Obeli, Kingori Thiuri from the Amani Kibera.



Janvi Shah from Oshwal School (third right) gives pads to Kibra Girls Soccer School.



Finally, some happy faces!



PadMad Kenya founder and CEO Maddhvi Dalala.

You ▶ It's all about Life & Style

When clothes do the talking

Clothes make the man, the wise insist. However, lately what leaders should wear isn't as cut and dry as we've all been taught

by Grace Wachira
@yaa_grace

In today's media-saturated world, image is a key communication tool for prominent personalities not only in the entertainment or corporate world, but also in the political arena as they craft their personal brands. However, dressing politicians, who are some of the most heavily scrutinised public figures in the country, comes with a unique set of challenges.

"Leaders are expected to adhere to a strict dress code because they are looked up to as a point of authority. They have a moral obligation to the people they serve and as such, they are often associated with proper dressing," Nthenya Macharia an Image and Etiquette expert says.

However, this does not seem to be the case among Kenyan leaders as experts reveal. Looking at recent events, politicians including the head of state seem to be missing the mark; showing up dressed casually while the occasion demands a more refined look.

Having been in the image business for 15 years, Nthenya observes that when politicians are gunning for seats in parliament, they take matters image seriously.

"They engage the services of speech trainers, etiquette experts and image consultants to help with the campaigns all in bid to ensure they get elected, but once the dust settles, they loosen up and let a few things slip," she says.

The most recent example is on March 8th, the weekend of Beyond Zero Marathon spear-headed by the first lady Margaret Kenyatta.

While those taking part in the marathon were donned in proper sports attire such as track suits and caps complete with running kicks, President Uhuru Kenyatta wound up his stint dressed in a blue pair of jeans with black kicks, which did not say much about running. This was in sharp contrast with his security detail, who donned black and red track-suits.

Nairobi's Governor, Mike Mbuvi as usual made his fashion statement wearing a foil like gold-tinted tracksuit with matching sneakers almost overshadowing the event.

It is not the first time the Nairobi governor has been on the spot for his alternative wardrobe. Bling, studs, printed T Shirts and garish hairstyles is the image he has almost patented.

Harder for women

Recently, during the handing over of the Industrialisation ministry, the lady of the moment, Betty Maina, showed up in an orange-cheetah print *dera*, a long flowing dress made from light fabric and only worn by women around the house. It was hard to ignore her bright attire complete with a matching head wrap worn and ornamental rings. This is despite the officials who attended the event dressed in the darks and greys, obviously refelecting on the mood and seriousness of the event.

The first lady, experts explain, never disappoints with her sense of style. Her very statement wardrobe every time she makes an appearance; be it to her husband's inauguration, funerals, a marathon and even dinner, she always looks the part and in a sense has given the office of the first lady a glow up.

Former Cabinet Secretary for Defence Ambassador Rachelle Omamo was the first woman to handle the docket. Notably, she dressed the part even in her flowing African outfits.

Ambassador Omamo even donned a comba-themed Ankara dress and strut her strong in-tune fashion sense unapologetically.

And while she tailored her wardrobe with well-done dresses, she still rocked her dresses with jewellery to a minimum.

"A suit is the international language for business. This, however, only favours men. Women on the other hand have more elements beyond the standard business suit. Grooming for men also tends to be simpler and a good barber will give the man a good clean look. When it



President Uhuru Kenyatta and Nairobi Governor Mike Mbuvi Sonko. BELOW: Betty Maina dressed in an orange-cheetah print *dera* during an official event. PD/AL-ICE MBURU

comes to women's hairstyles a variety of options exist and regular changes to these may not be uncommon for them," Nthenya said.

Nthenya notes that the psychology of colour plays a key role in choices of looks for business.

"Dark hues of blue are associated with power, so leaders in power positions will have these as their favourite to-go outfits.

"Grey and Black also feature heavily in their wardrobes. In Kenya there is a lot of association of colours to brands and political parties. This may stop people wearing certain colours for fear of wrong associations.

We also draw a lot of our dress sense for different fields from the British as part of their colonial legacy. We are yet to craft our own voice when it comes to visual communication.

That said, it is very important for people in spaces of influence to take their image seriously; It gives credibility to the message being passed on and speaks volumes about the individual and their regard for their audience.

So, whether at a political rally, sporting event, evening party, red-carpet event or when handling official business, people must always put their best foot forward and honour those they seek to serve," she says.



LOVE & LAST
WITH WAIHERA OTIENO

Three things every couple needs to fight about

It is healthy for couples to fight once in a while, as long as they fight fair. Fighting fair means not fighting to destroy your sweetheart, but fighting to resolve an issue, while maintaining love and respect in the relationship.

One of the most important areas of discussion is boundaries. Discussing boundaries allows you to address relationship expectations. How will you treat each other? How much time will you spend together? How will you communicate with each other? How will you share responsibilities? If certain things are not negotiated at the beginning of the relationship, this could lead to an accumulation of unresolved conflict and resentment later on in the relationship.

Most couples fight about money. Once you start living together, your different ways of handling money can result in constant fighting. This includes attitudes and efforts towards earning money, levels of debt and spending styles. One of you may be generous with their money, while the other saves as much as they can, or prefers to invest it. Because the presence or absence of money affects the quality of your life, issues to do with money are always stressful. This means that if you don't find a strategy for handling money that works for both of you, you are likely to fight about money for a long, long time.

Another touchy subject in relationships is sex. The fighting happens after the honeymoon period. How much of it should you have? How often should you have it? Where and when should you have it? Who should initiate it? What happens when one wants it every day and the other one is happy to have it once a month? Matters of sex need honesty about one's needs and consideration of your partner.



FAMILY FABRIC WITH JOSEPH HELLON

Why civilisations that celebrate women lead

Just recently, we celebrated the International Women's Day. What a fete that has been for our mothers, sisters and daughters! Civilisations that respect and cherish women are the leading civilisations. You'll notice that any group of people that treated women as lesser beings was a backward group. It's sad that some parts of the world still think that women don't have an equal opportunity in the society as we know it. The modern world

appreciates the astronomical contributions made by women to our families and society as a whole.

Traditionally, women had very few opportunities to develop themselves and to contribute equitably to the societies they lived in. The whole idea of pregnancy was almost seen as a curse. I still get bewildered when schools discontinue pregnant girls from their education. I'm not championing irresponsible parenting, but

I'm highlighting a mindset that punishes a woman for getting pregnant outside wedlock, but excuses the man responsible for her pregnancy. I've never seen any of these institutions discontinue a man from his studies because he made a woman pregnant. The discriminatory approach to women's sexual health must be stopped if we are to be considered to be a modern and enlightened society.

In some cultures, FGM is still practised.

I've participated in functions where funds were being raised to care for girls rescued from early marriage and FGM. All people of goodwill must now make it their business protecting women and upholding their rights and choices as integral members of any modern society. I have encountered cases where certain husbands wanted to divorce their wives because they couldn't give birth to boys. This is most unfortunate, especially because

some of these husbands are educated and live in urban areas.

Further, we need not only to respect the elderly, but to pay much more attention to how we look after our senior and elderly women. We must care for them in ways that will make them a happier part of our families. Let's celebrate and care for our women every day of the year and not only during international days assigned to fete them.

Take Off ▶ Green Agenda

Affordable solar power lights up underserved communities

More secure homesteads and improved profits are some benefits Kitui locals are enjoying with harnessed sun energy

by William Murigi
@millymur1

At about 7.30pm, most shops in Ndundumini shopping centre, Zombe area of Kitui county are closing. A few minutes later, the whole shopping centre is in darkness except for one hotel. Though there is one high-mast lighting in the middle of the centre, it's not enough to light up the entire place. The hotel, located in the furthest corner, has two bulbs: one outside for security and another inside.

Esther Mwendwa, the owner, busies herself serving customers as music plays on a small radio. She says introducing solar lighting system to her business has had a huge impact. She closes the hotel at around 9.30pm unlike earlier when she would close at 7.30pm. With more working hours, she has managed to double her daily profits from Sh800 to Sh1,700.

"I got this system early February and I am already seeing a positive impact. I wish I had known of this solution before," she said.

Reliable and sustainable access to energy is vital to economic development and quality of life. A report by GOGILA, the global association for the off-grid solar energy industry, shows more than 90 per cent of households with solar home systems report an improvement in their quality of life.

Recently popular

Reuben Musembi from Ivinga Nzia, Kitui, has also benefitted from solar energy. The poultry farmer living next to a forest lost most of his chicken to wild animals late last year. "I lost three-quarters of my flock to wild animals. They would attack us every night. It was difficult to rescue them because of the darkness that made us fear for our lives. The animals were also swift," says Musembi.

However, since he bought a solar lighting system, his chicken are now safe because predators are scared by lights, which Musembi leaves on overnight. The system comes with two bulbs, a radio and a spotlight.

Through Pay as you go (PayGo), a distribution service that allows people to pay for solar power over a period of time, Musembi and others have access to lighting at affordable rates. Individuals can get a solar system with a deposit of Sh1,780 and thereafter pay Sh30 daily for a year.

This model has gained popularity in Kenya over the last few years. Last year, PayGo sales grew by 45 per cent in the first six months compared to the last half of 2018.

"The flexible payment terms is what at-

Reuben Musembi from Ivinga Nzia, in Kitui, charges his phone with a solar-powered outlet. He is a beneficiary of the Bboxx Pay-Go system. BELOW: Musembi's chicken pen. PD/ALEX MBURU

QUICK FACTS

● With the pay as you go model offered, individuals can get a solar system with a deposit of Sh1,780 and thereafter pay Sh30 daily for a year.

● Affordable solar energy is helping improve the quality of life for people in underserved communities.

● 840 million people globally do not have electricity access.

● In 2019, PayGo sales grew by 45 per cent in the first six months compared to the last half of 2018.

MUSEMBI

The flexible payment terms is what attracted me to buying solar system



tracted me to buying solar system from Bboxx. I couldn't afford to pay for the main grid connection, which is seven kilometres only from my home because they needed a lump sum, which I couldn't afford," adds Musembi.

Second to India

Few metres from Musembi's home, Josephine Katunge, a mother of four is preparing supper for her family. For more than 30 years, she kept hoping that one-day her home would get electricity connection. But after the long wait, she decided to go the solar way after seeing transformation of other villagers' lives.

"I made the decision to invest in solar in January after losing four chicken to wild animals in one night. I had seen a neighbour use solar to protect his farm. I decided to secure one system for lighting and also to boost the security of my farm," she says.

Available data shows in Kenya, almost one million off-grid solar products were sold in the first six months of 2019, making the country the second-largest standalone

solar market after India.

Globally, Off-Grid Solar (OGS) market remains substantial with 840 million people without electricity access. Because of this, it remains on a strong growth trajectory, projected to serve 823 million users with off-grid solar products by 2030.



Josephine Katunge with her daughter.

BRIEFING



Experts raise concerns over heat stress

Stress from extreme heat and humidity will annually affect 1.2 billion people by 2100, assuming current greenhouse gas emissions, according to a Rutgers study.

That's more than four times the number of people affected today, and more than 12 times the number who would have been affected without industrial era global warming. The research is published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters*.

Rising global temperatures are increasing exposure to heat stress, which harms human health, agriculture, the economy and the environment. Most climate studies on projected heat stress have focused on heat extremes but not considered the role of humidity, another key driver.

"When we look at the risks of a warmer planet, we need to pay particular attention to combined extremes of heat and humidity, which are especially dangerous to human health," said senior author Robert E. Kopp, director of the Rutgers Institute of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and a professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in the School of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

"Every bit of global warming makes hot, humid days more frequent and intense. In New York City, for example, the hottest, most humid day in a typical year already occurs about 11 times more frequently than it would have in the 19th century," said lead author Dawei Li, a former Rutgers post-doctoral associate now at the University of Massachusetts.

Heat stress is caused by the body's inability to cool down properly through sweating. Body temperature can rise rapidly, and high temperatures may damage the brain and other vital organs. Heat stress ranges from milder conditions like heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion, the most common type.

Heat stroke, the most serious heat-related illness, can kill or cause permanent disability without emergency treatment, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The study looked at how combined extremes of heat and humidity increase on a warming Earth, using 40 climate simulations to get statistics on rare events.

The paper was co-authored by Jia-can Yuan, a former Rutgers assistant research professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences who is now at Fudan University in China.

-Science Daily



5.00	Inuka
6.00	K24 This Morning
9.00	Daily Brief
12.30	Inside Business
13.00	News Cut
13.30	Sports Hub
14.00	Bongo Movie
15.00	Sweetest Love
16.00	K24 Mashinani
16.30	Jus Kidz
17.00	Beatbox
18.00	Hollywood Movie
19.00	K24 Saa Moja
19.30	Jane And Abel
20.00	A Carnival Affair
21.00	K24 Evening Edition
22.00	Tujuane X
23.00	Playlist 254 Rpt
00.00	DW Feed



5.00	Ime Ria Rucini
6.00	Rikiratha
11.00	Kurekereria Kodii
12.00	Rimwe na Kuuna
1.00	Mohoro Gitau
1.30	Thiririka Music Mix
3.45	Kameme Toonz
4.00	Ririmbuka Live
6.00	Tuika Wakwa
7.00	Kameme Maturaini
8.00	Njungwa ya Muthee Kihenjo
8.30	Gatimia Karogi
9.00	Mutamburuko Wa Mauhoro
10.00	Thenema cia Kameme
12.00	Deustche Welle Tv



12.00	Football Review- Rpt
6.00	Morning Express
08.00	Life N' Style
12.00	Documentary
4.00	Mbiu-Ya-Ktn
5.00	Baseline
6.00	Losing Heaven
7.00	KTN Leo
7.30	Just Kidding
8.00	Great Bake Off
9.00	KTN Friday Briefing
10.20	Movie

TIME OUT!



22.00pm Tujuane X

Tujuane X

::IN THEATRES NOW::

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA: 10:30, 15:10, 18:10, 20:45: BLOODSHOT 2020

ANGA IMAX CBD: 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00: BLOODSHOT 2020

ANGA SKY CINEMA: 10:00, 13:00, 13:05, 14:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00: BLOODSHOT 2020

NYALI CINEMAX MOMBASA: 11:00, 16:15, 18:40, 21:00: BLOODSHOT 2020

PRESTIGE CINEMA PRESTIGE PLAZA: 15:40, 18:20, 20:50: BLOODSHOT 2020

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA: 10:20, 13:30, 16:40, 19:45, 21:00, 22:50: BAAGHI 3 2020



SUDOKU

8		4	6	1				
1					7		6	4
	5	6			8		3	1
		1			6	2		8
3								6
9		7	2			1		
7	9		8			3	1	
4	8		1					7
				7	9	4		2

5	7	3	9	4	2	8	6	1
1	2	4	5	8	6	7	3	9
8	9	6	3	7	1	5	2	4
6	4	8	2	1	7	3	9	5
9	5	2	6	3	4	1	7	8
7	3	1	8	5	9	6	4	2
4	1	5	7	9	3	2	8	6
3	6	9	1	2	8	4	5	7
2	8	7	4	6	5	9	1	3

The aim is to fill the grid so that each row, column and every 3x3 shaded box contains only one of the digits 1-9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. It is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT! | BY TUM



5:00	BBC
5:30	Gear Up
6:00	Good Morning Kenya
9:00	Layd Back
9:30	Animation Time
10:30	Jee, huu ni ungwana?
11:00	Hypochondriach RR
12:00	Afrusion
1:00	Lunch Time News
2:00	IAAF Recorded
4:30	Big Minds Rpt
5:00	Club 1
6:30	The Great Debators
7:00	Taarifa
7:30	Grapevine
8:00	First Lady
9:00	Channel 1 News
10:00	Maisha ya mama
11:00	CCTV
11:30	Layd Back



5.00	Password Plus
6.00	Am Live
8.00	Better Living
9.00	On The Wings Of Love
10.00	Wild Skin
11.00	NTV Today
1.00	NTV At1
1.30	NTV Sasa
3.00	China Wings
3.30	Gina D's Kids Club
4.00	NTV At 4
4.15	Password
5.00	The Beat
6.00	Be Careful With My Heart
7.00	NTV Jioni
8.00	Wild Skin
9.00	NTV Tonight
10.00	Lit 360
11.00	World Cup Daily Highlights
12.00	CNN

HOROSCOPES



ARIES (MAR. 21- APRIL 20)

Your ability to do detailed work will dazzle those who are less creative. Try not to attempt to do something unless you are fully intent on following through with the plans. Stress may cause minor health ailments.

TAURUS (APR. 21- MAY 21)

Look into intellectual and physical games that will test your abilities. Do something together and you'll be surprised how sweet a deal you can make.

GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)

Take advantage of moneymaking ventures. If you're uncertain of your feelings, keep your opinions to yourself.

CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 22)

Do your own thing without drawing attention to it. Don't let an incident at work play on your mind. Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a family situation.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22)

Emotional upset at work will set you back. You can make or break your personal relationship today.

VIRGO (AUG. 23 -SEPT. 23)

Everything is moving quickly, just the way you like it. Compromising could be on the agenda today. Enjoy a quiet dinner for two and discuss some of the plans you have for the future.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 -OCT. 23)

People you live with will not be terribly happy with you regardless of what you do today. You will be entertained and intrigued by the logic foreigners possess.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

You may have a hard time relating to children today. Keep your mind on your work and stay away from situations that could ruin your reputation.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 -DEC. 21)

Don't let individuals with wild schemes talk you into a financial deal that is not likely to be successful. You will attract members of the opposite sex readily. Start sending out those resumes.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22- JAN. 20)

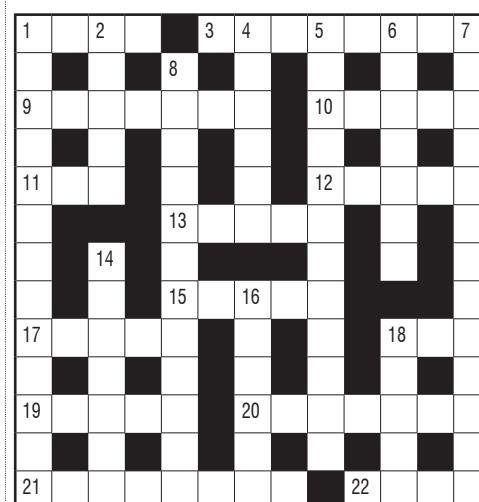
Avoid any erratic behavior or it could cause isolation at home. Strengthen your position among your peers.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 -FEB. 19)

You have the ability to motivate others. You will earn recognition for the work you are doing. If you're in the mood, go out and socialize, or get involved in sports activities.

PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

Call someone you haven't seen in a long time. New relationships could evolve through group activities.



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Cancan	2. Avalanche
5. Scheme	3. Cheerio
8. Wage	4. News
9. Windpipe	5. Sunshade
10. Diary	6. Hoped
11. Cheddar	7. Mop
14. Accommodating	12. Annoyance
16. Pebbles	13. Impelled
18. Vinyl	15. Twister
20. Whistle	17. Batik
22. Tank	19. Were
23. Smoked	21. Ham
24. Eamer	

ACROSS

- Bird of peace (4)
- Pursuit of high principles (8)
- Making melodious sounds (7)
- Destined (5)
- Strong spirit (3)
- Celestial body (5)
- Upright (5)

- Type of lizard (5)
- Plants of a region (5)
- Long and narrow inlet (3)
- Not heavy (5)
- Drinkable (7)
- Longing (8)
- Open tart (4)

DOWN

- Suspiciously (13)

- Sanke toxin (5)
- Magnitude (6)
- Loving (12)
- Narrow strip of land (7)
- Largest inland sea (13)
- School of young children (12)
- US state (7)
- Ticket (6)
- Insurgent (5)

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING

ACT NO.13 OF 2019

CHANGE OF USE

The registered owners of parcel No.s Karai/Gikambura/2683 located at Maaihi along the Southern Bypass in Kikuyu Sub County, proposes to change the use from Agricultural to Multi-dwelling residential (Apartments), subject to approval by the Kikuyu sub-county. Individuals, institutions, Members of the public etc. with any comments and or objections to the proposed should forward them within 14 days of this notice to:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER,
LAND HOUSING AND PHYSICAL PLANNING,
KIAMBU COUNTY,
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KIAMBU.

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PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT, 2019

CHANGE OF USE

The owners of PLOT NO. MAVOKO TOWN BLOCK 3/6339 located off Mutungoni Road in Kinanie area, Machakos county, proposes to change its use from Residential to Light Industrial (Go-downs), subject to approval by Machakos County Government. Individuals, Organisations etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

The CECM In-Charge of Physical and Land Use Planning,
Machakos County Government,
P.O. Box 1996-90100,
Machakos.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT

NO 13 OF 2019

CHANGE OF USE

The owner of Plot No. Kikuyu/Kikuyu Block 1/584 situated in Kidfarmaco, Kikuyu Sub-County, proposes to change its use from Agricultural to Multi-dwelling Residential (Flats), subject to approval by Kiambu County Government. Individuals, institutions, Organizations and other interested parties with any planning material comments / objections to the proposed development should forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER,
LAND HOUSING AND PHYSICAL PLANNING,
KIAMBU COUNTY GOVERNMENT,
P.O. BOX 2344-00900,
KIAMBU.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT 2019

CHANGE OF USER

The registered owners of land parcel No. Gakawa/Kahurura/Block1/Ichuga/1347 proposes to change use from agricultural to residential use (multi-dwelling units), subject to approval by the County Government of Nyeri. Any individual(s), institutions and organization with any objections or submission(s) or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

The County CECM of Physical Planning,
County Government of Nyeri,
P.O. Box 1112-10100,
Nyeri.

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BASKETBALL - PG29

Former Storms star Mumbo give prescription for ailing KBF

Sport

► The one-stop Sport shop...

Uganda postpones tourney over coronavirus fears

KAMPALA: The Federation of Uganda Football Associations (FUFA) has postponed the Tri-Nations Football tournament that was scheduled to take place from March 17-21 in Kampala Ahmed Hussein, the communications manager of the football body confirmed the development on Sunday. "We will now have the tournament from

March 24-28," said Hussein, adding that they have had to push the tournament by a week because of the current challenges of the coronavirus and also to give the other teams time to prepare. The Tri-Nations tournament to be played at the Ugandan National Stadium will attract hosts Uganda, Mali and Zambia.

-Xinhua



Shiagungu benefit from kits, balls ahead of league debut

KAKAMEGA: As they prepare for their maiden campaign in the Kakamega branch league, AC Milan Shiagungu received a major boost when they got playing kits and balls from a well-wisher. The club, received the balls and kits worth thousands of shillings from Kakamega and Nairobi-based businessman Fred Ikana at a colourful ceremony at Solyo play grounds

Shinyalu constituency on Sunday. Ikana called on the players to take football seriously as it is now one of the well-paying careers. "Keep focused and work hard. With discipline, you will go places. Football has built stars from humble backgrounds to international celebrities and you have the potential to achieve that," Ikana told the players.

-Fred Likuyani

Unheard petitions concern anti-FKF polls crusaders

NAIROBI: A section of football stakeholders have raised concern over the failure by the government and international organs to respond to their petitions to outlaw Football Kenya Federation (FKF) elections. Kenya Football Stakeholders Forum (KEFOSFO) made an impassioned appeal to Principal Secretary at the Ministry of Sports Joe Okudo and Sports

Registrar to move with speed and expedite the petitions they have repeatedly lodged to stop the exercise. The body said the petitions to the ministry on the flawed polls date back from December 2019 and are copied to Confederation of African Football (CAF) and world governing body Fifa who have equally failed to issue a response.

-Charles Thuku

Nyanza chess sensation targets national glory

by Gibo Zachary
@PeopleDailyKe

Ten-year-old chess sensational Travis Indika has his eyes on the national title at this year's Kenya National Youth and Cadets Chess Championship to be held in Mombasa, once sporting activities resume following the coronavirus shutdown.

The Class Five pupil at Set Green Hill Academy in Kisumu County, was the star during the Nyanza South Regional Chess Championship where he won gold in the Under-12 category.

Indika won five of the six rounds in the contest while drawing the other to emerge champion. "Chess is my thing and I fell in love with it even without noticing. One day, I took my mother's laptop and found the

game already installed and started playing but as a kid it was only for fun," said Indika, who would later grow fond of the game that his mother, Linet Ngare, could not detach him from the laptop.

While on a picnic, Indika and his mother bumped into Saphinnah Kenyando, a chess enthusiast, and his interest for the game grew even further.

It turned out Kenyando was not only playing the game for fun but is also an official. She is the Chess Kenya, Nyanza South coordinator.

Kenyando was impressed with Indika's love for chess and took him in, teaching him more about the game and is now reaping the fruits.

"Indika is not only a chess star, he is a great swimmer too," his mother told *People Sport*.



Sigalame weather the storm



Funyula-based school wins basketball title to crown tough week that saw their student die at Busia games over the weekend

by Yusuf Masibo and Alex Njue
@PeopleDailyKe

Sigalame High School, the 2018 national secondary school games boys' basketball runners-up, retained their Busia County title in an emphatic fashion after crushing Butula 124-32 in the final held at St Mathias Boys High School at the weekend.

Victory came amid low spirits from the institution after one of their players succumbed to his injuries following a collision in a rugby 15s match against Nambale High School at the same venue on Friday.

Eliakim Olima Oundo passed on while undergoing treatment at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret following a devastating collision that left him with head and neck injuries that caused internal bleeding and an eventual blood clot, leading to his demise.

The incident happened during Friday's third-place playoff match against Nambale.

"Nambale arrived late for the final and were dropped into the third place playoff against us. Their players demonstrated frustration and anger before and during the match following that decision. It was very unfortunate that one of our own sustained fatal head and neck injuries," said Sigalame coach Grado Mabachi.

Oblivious of what had befallen their rugby colleague, Sigalame's basketball team, popularly known as the Titans, displayed top form to beat Butula with John Maker notching 22 points.

The team had beaten Mundika 97-30, Kolanya 93-21 before hammering St Benedict's Budalangi 164-23 in the semi finals.

Sigalame principal Peter Auma said 2020 is the year they want to stamp authority in the school games by winning the national and East Africa titles.

They will, however, have to triumph at the western region event first when the games resume at Musingu High School. The games had been scheduled to take place this week but have been suspended indefinitely follow-

Sigalame and Butula Boys in action during the basketball finals at Busia County Secondary School Games at the weekend. INSET: Sigalame's Eliakim Olima Oundo who succumbed to injuries he suffered in a rugby 15s game at the venue.

PD/YUSUF MASIBO & ALEX NJUE

ing the government's directive in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Sigalame's dream of adding the rugby sevens title to their cabinet proved futile, however, as they lost to Butula Hurricanes who beat them 15-0 with tries from Most Valuable Player Gregory Oundo, Ramadhan Otieno and Sydney Musalia.

The rugby 15s crown went to Kolanya Boys who beat Butula 17-3 before claiming the hockey title after a 2-0 victory over St Mary's Mundika.

In the girls' category, Aboloi were crowned new handball champions after beating St Joseph Chakol 23-25 as Bumala AC won the basketball crown following a 74-10 win over defending champions Kolanya.

Coast Gym-khana player Kshitij Patel bowling during a past game against Jaffrey Sports Club.
PD/BARRY SILAH



Jaffreys slumps to embarrassing defeat in NCBA T20

by Barry Silah
@PeopleDailyKe

Jaffreys Sports Club were the biggest losers of the weekend after slumping to a humiliating eight wicket loss to Shree Cutchi Leva Patel Samaj in the ongoing NCBA T20 Cup on Sunday.

Jaffreys won toss, selecting to bat first in the opening innings, but were so woeful after posting only 62 all out on the board with Shree Cutchi Leva ruthless with the ball.

Ali Sagher Abdalla was top scorer for Jaffreys with 16 runs to his name while on

the opposite end, man of the match Akshay Bhandari had five wickets off seven balls. This was one of the lowest scores Jaffreys has posted in a T20 match and it just showed how Shree Cutchi Leva came in prepared with a mission to slowdown their opponents.

Shree Cutchi Leva, who lost only two batsmen in their innings, put in their bit with 63 on the board with Jagnesh Karai posting a game high 49 even though Jaffreys bowler Mujtada Walji put 2-14 to check albeit softly the steady push by Karai and Bhandari who was on 11 before being bowled out by Zayid Abbas.

Former international Maurice Odumbe trapped Shree Cutchi Leva opener Narendra Varsani's leg before wicket off the first ball.

In another contest, title-chasing Pakistani Cricket Club, who have already qualified for the knockout stage, won by 67 runs against Mombasa Sports Club B.

Pakistani, who batted first, posted an impressive 222/5 in their innings and had Barwro Malik hit a staggering 98 off 43 balls. Mombasa Sports Club B put in a strong chase in their innings but could only reach 160/6 with Milini Kampar (48 off 47) their best attacker on the crease.

Manangoi recovers from injury, dreams of Olympic medal

Nairobi, Monday
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya's middle distance star Elijah Manangoi had a 2019 to forget after injury forced him out of his 1,500m title defence in Doha.

However, the self-named 'Lion' is glad his Rongai Athletics Club team-mate, Timothy Cheruiyot, whom he led to silver at London 2017, brought the gold medal home.

The 2018 Commonwealth and African champion has returned to full fitness and raring to make up for lost time at the Tokyo Olympics.

"I was really happy because the gold didn't go to another country, it came to Kenya. It came to Rongai Athletics Club," Manangoi told Chinese television CGTN Africa on Saturday.

"The best thing is that morale is high right now at the Rongai Athletics Club, because my partner Timothy Cheruiyot went to Doha and got that gold. I was actually talking to him before and I told him that at least make me happy and bring it back home," he added.

Now injury free, Manangoi is hoping that the start of the World Athletics Diamond League in April will be a good test of his fitness.

"Go to Doha in the first open Diamond League and to test my body, whether it can react to something, so I think our position is good right now as Rongai Athletics Club," the 27 year-old stressed.

The coronavirus pandemic that has disrupted sporting activities worldwide could see the elite World Athletics circuit competition called off, although a decision is yet to be made by the global governing body that, this

week, announced the postponement of some World Athletics Series events.

That, however, has not dampened the spirits of the athlete who came to global attention when he won silver at the Beijing 2015 World Championships behind countryman Asbel Kiprop. Kiprop is currently serving a four-year ban for doping.

Manangoi's ultimate goal for the season is earning his first Olympic medal at Tokyo 2020 this summer where he is hoping to represent his nation alongside younger brother and African Games champion George Manangoi and complete a men's 1,500m medal sweep with his team-mates in Japan.

"The major factor is the Olympics this year, so that is where I am actually concentrating on. After my blow from injury now I am fine," he underscored.

-Xinhua



A past Kenya Basketball Federation Premier League tie between KCA University and Equity Bank. Inset: Sports Connect Africa Founder and CEO Cynthia Mumbo speaks to People Sport.
PD/RODGERS NDEGWA



The Mumbo prescription for ailing KBF

Former Storms star proposes clear vision for all basketball brands pegged on performance, commercialisation, governance and accountability

by Lynette Matheka
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya Basketball Federation (KBF) is set to hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April and top on its agenda will be to inject fresh blood into its leadership.

It is a sport that need some change on how its being run, as the days of Kenya being the basketball superpower in East Africa and featuring in competitions like the World Championships have been replaced by a myriad of problems on and off the court.

The once second most popular sport after football is now played in near empty gymnasiums, still semi-professional and until last year, struggled to get a footing in continental competitions leave alone regional ones.

Much of it had been blamed on the leadership of BBF where some officials have stayed in office for so long that they have forgotten their mandate.

The said officials have taken advantage of the KBF which constitution allows members to vie for a certain position for a maximum of two terms of four years each but does not say when one can exit the federation. That means you can serve as secretary general for eight years (if you win a second term), vie for the chairman's seat for another eight years, serve as treasurer for the same period and many more if you keep winning elections.

That has worked against the game as the recycled officials seem to be serving self-interests as opposed to developing the game,

MUMBO

The office also needs to earn the trust of all stakeholders, avail information and involve them, to a great extent, in drafting of the vision and strategy of growing the sport



meaning whoever comes in next month, if new, have their work cut out.

Recent exploits by the men's national team are a testament that the fans are hungry for quality matches and willing to pay for the same. If proper structures are in place, then Kenyan basketball can get out of its deathbed.

Cynthia Mumbo, the CEO of a sports consultancy company, Sports Connect (Africa) Ltd, a former player with Storms who runs Vikapu Elite basketball academy, says top of the new office's agenda should be a clear vision for all the brands that KBF handles.

"Men's national team Morans, their female counterparts Lionesses, junior (age group) national teams, league teams and KBF itself are the brands that need clear visions if we are to grow the sport beyond its current state. At the moment, the sport is yet to move from its social agenda to a commercial one despite having huge potential," says Mumbo, who has previously worked with KBF.

The visions of these brands, according to Mumbo, should be pegged on four pillars namely performance, commercialisation, governance and accountability as well as development.

"Such vision and strategy needs an understanding of where the game is both locally and globally. The office also needs to earn the trust of all stakeholders, avail information and involve them, to a great extent, in drafting of the vision and strategy of growing the sport," said Mumbo.

Manchester United's Nigerian striker Odion Ighalo reacts during a previous premier league match. PD/FILE

■ London, Monday
@PeopleDailyKe

The January transfer window brought with it hopes of a fresh start for players and clubs who had struggled to make their mark in the first half of the season. A host of high profile names completed temporary moves as they sought to impress both their parent clubs and new employers ahead of potential summer

moves. But none of them had expected a global pandemic to block their path as they dusted down their boots and prepared to inject new life into their careers.

Odion Ighalo

There's nothing worse than watching a Hollywood story unfold in front of your eyes and then being denied the ending.

Ighalo, a childhood United fan, completed a shock loan move to Old Trafford on deadline day having spent the previous two years playing his football in China.

Ighalo made it out of China and just before the country put in place a lockdown to halt the spread of coronavirus, while the striker didn't travel to United's winter training camp in Spain in case he wasn't allowed back in England.

With the coronavirus hurdle seemingly overcome, the striker has since scored four goals in eight games for his new club, including one of the goals of the season in Thursday's 5-0 win

over LASK in the first leg of their last 16 tie. His form has led to rumours United could make his move permanent in the summer, but his flying start has now been brought to an abrupt halt after Premier League games were postponed until April 3.

Danny Rose

Danny Rose smiled for the first time in months when he shook hands on a six-month loan deal at Newcastle on the final day of the January transfer window.

After starting the 2019 Champions League final, the departure of Mauricio Pochettino had seen him lose his place at Tottenham under Jose Mourinho.

With Euro 2020 on the horizon, as well as his 30th birthday, Rose decided enough was enough and instructed his agent to find him a new club.

Victor Moses

It's not often that a player bags himself a loan move to a bigger club midway through the season but that's what Victor Moses did when he secured a six-month loan move to Inter in January.

Moses had spent the first half of the season on loan from Chelsea at Fenerbahce but traded the Turkish club for a move to the title-chasing Serie A side.

The winger turned wing-back was reunited with former Blues boss Antonio Conte, under whom he'd enjoyed the best spell of his career between 2016 and 2018. The move presented a very real chance of winning silverware and earning a permanent move to the Serie A giants.

-DailyMail

Reality check

Rose, Moses, Ighalo among loanees in limbo after coronavirus pandemic halts season as stars bid to kick start campaigns and secure summer moves to new clubs

ATHLETICS PAGE 32

London Marathon postponed until October 4



Australia A-League

WELLINGTON
Davila 3'
Hooper 21'
Ball 55'

3-0

MELBOURNE
VICTORY

STANDINGS

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
1. Liverpool	29	27	1	1	66	21	82
2. Manchester City	28	18	3	7	68	31	57
3. Leicester	29	16	5	8	58	28	53
4. Chelsea	29	14	6	9	51	39	48
5. Manchester United	29	12	9	8	44	30	45
6. Wolverhampton	29	10	13	6	41	34	43
7. Sheffield United	28	11	10	7	30	25	43
8. Tottenham	29	11	8	10	47	40	41
9. Arsenal	28	9	13	6	40	36	40
10. Burnley	29	11	6	12	34	40	39
11. Crystal Palace	29	10	9	10	26	32	39
12. Everton	29	10	7	12	37	46	37
13. Newcastle	29	9	8	12	25	41	35
14. Southampton	29	10	4	15	35	52	34
15. Brighton	29	6	11	12	32	40	29
16. West Ham	29	7	6	16	35	50	27
17. Watford	29	6	9	14	27	44	27
18. Bournemouth	29	7	6	16	29	47	27
19. Aston Villa	28	7	4	17	34	56	25
20. Norwich	29	5	6	18	25	52	21

SPANISH LA LIGA

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
1. Barcelona	27	18	4	5	63	31	58
2. Real Madrid	27	16	8	3	49	19	56
3. Sevilla	27	13	8	6	39	29	47
4. Real Sociedad	27	14	4	9	45	33	46
5. Getafe	27	13	7	7	37	25	46
6. Atletico Madrid	27	11	12	4	31	21	45
7. Valencia	27	11	9	7	38	39	42
8. Villarreal	27	11	5	11	44	38	38
9. Granada	27	11	5	11	33	32	38
10. Athletic Bilbao	27	9	10	8	29	23	37
11. Osasuna	27	8	10	9	34	38	34
12. Real Betis	27	8	9	10	38	43	33
13. Levante	27	10	3	14	32	40	33
14. Alaves	27	8	8	11	29	37	32
15. Valladolid	27	6	11	10	23	33	29
16. Eibar	27	7	6	14	27	41	27
17. Celta Vigo	27	5	11	11	22	34	26
18. Real Mallorca	27	7	4	16	28	44	25
19. Leganes	27	5	8	14	21	39	23
20. Espanyol	27	4	8	15	23	46	20

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
1. Bayern Munich	25	17	4	4	73	26	55
2. Borussia Dortmund	25	15	6	4	68	33	51
3. RB Leipzig	25	14	8	3	62	26	50
4. Bor. Moencheng	25	15	4	6	49	30	49
5. Bayer Leverkusen	25	14	5	6	45	30	47
6. Schalke 04	25	9	10	6	33	36	37
7. VfL Wolfsburg	25	9	9	7	34	30	36
8. Freiburg	25	10	6	9	34	35	36
9. Hoffenheim	25	10	5	10	35	43	35
10. Cologne	25	10	2	13	39	45	32
11. Union Berlin	25	9	3	13	32	41	30
12. Eintracht Frankfurt	24	8	4	12	38	41	28
13. Hertha Berlin	25	7	7	11	32	48	28
14. Augsburg	25	7	6	12	36	52	27
15. Mainz 05	25	8	2	15	34	53	26
16. Fortuna Dusseldorf	25	5	7	13	27	50	22
17. Werder Bremen	24	4	6	14	27	55	18
18. Paderborn	25	4	4	17	30	54	16

ITALY SERIE A

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
1. Juventus	26	20	3	3	50	24	63
2. Lazio	26	19	5	2	60	23	62
3. Inter Milan	25	16	6	3	49	24	54
4. Atalanta	25	14	6	5	70	34	48
5. Roma	26	13	6	7	51	35	45
6. Napoli	26	11	6	9	41	36	39
7. AC Milan	26	10	6	10	28	34	36
8. Hellas Verona	25	9	8	8	29	26	35
9. Parma	25	10	5	10	32	31	35
10. Bologna	26	9	7	10	38	42	34
11. Sassuolo	25	9	5	11	41	39	32
12. Cagliari	25	8	8	9	41	40	32
13. Fiorentina	26	7	9	10	32	36	30
14. Udinese	26	7	7	12	21	37	28
15. Torino	25	8	3	14	28	45	27
16. Sampdoria	25	7	5	13	28	44	26
17. Genoa	26	6	7	13	31	47	25
18. Lecce	26	6	7	13	34	56	25
19. SPAL	26	5	3	18	20	44	18
20. Brescia	26	4	4	18	22	49	16

FRENCH LIGUE 1

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
1. Paris SG	27	22	2	3	75	24	68
2. Marseille	28	16	8	4	41	29	56
3. Rennes	28	15	5	8	38	24	50
4. Lille	28	15	4	9	35	27	49
5. Reims	28	10	11	7	26	21	41
6. Nice	28	11	8	9	41	38	41
7. Lyon	28	11	7	10	42	27	40
8. Montpellier	28	11	7	10	35	34	40
9. Monaco	28	11	7	10	44	44	40
10. Angers	28	11	6	11	28	33	39
11. Strasbourg	27	11	5	11	32	32	38
12. Bordeaux	28	9	10	9	40	34	37
13. Nantes	28	11	4	13	28	31	37
14. Brest	28	8	10	10	34	37	34
15. Metz	28	8	10	10	27	35	34
16. Dijon	28	7	9	12	27	37	30
17. Saint-Etienne	28	8	6	14	29	45	30
18. Nimes	28	7	6	15	29	44	27
19. Amiens	28	4	11	13	31	50	23
20. Toulouse	28	3	4	21	22	58	13

Italian FA request for postponement of Euro 2020 tourney

■ Milan, Monday
@PeopleDailyKe

The Italian Football Federation will ask UEFA to postpone Euro 2020 on Tuesday to allow time to complete the Serie A season.

Italian prime minister Giuseppe Conte announced at a press conference on Monday evening that the whole country would be on lockdown from the following morning.

UEFA has called an emergency meeting for Tuesday to discuss whether the Champions League, the Europa League and Euro 2020 can be played amid the global coronavirus pandemic.

On Sunday, Italian Football Federation (FIGC) president Gabriele Gravina told Sportsmediaset: 'We will propose that UEFA postpone the European Championship. 'We will try to get to the end of this championship (Serie A) because it is fairer and more correct after the many investments and sacrifices of our clubs.'

Seven Serie A players have now tested positive for coronavirus as the illness continues to spread throughout Italy's top flight.

Five Sampdoria players, as well as a player apiece from Juventus and Fiorentina have succumbed to the virus and must now spend time in quarantine.

Juve's Daniele Rugani was the first Serie A player to test positive and since then Omar Colley, Albin Ekdal, Antonio La Gumina, Manolo Gabbiadini, Morten Thorsby and Dusan Vlahovic have also been affected.

The severity of the outbreak in Italy saw football suspended on March 11 by the Italian government and it appears unlikely that the game will resume in the foreseeable future.

-DailyMail

Sofapaka, Rangers set to get walk overs in Cup competition

by Charles Thuku
@PeopleDailyKe

Football Kenya Federation (FKF) League and Competitions Committee is set to deliberate the Cup competition's round of 16 matches which were not played last weekend despite being on schedule.

FKF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Barry Otieno said a binding decision will be made once the committee is furnished with match reports by the commissioners.

However, the obvious is that teams which showed up for the fixtures at the venues and failed to find their opponents are entitled to walk-overs besides getting refund for trans-

port expenses and other logistics. The affected team include Wazito who were scheduled to play KCB in Nakuru, Sofapaka who were lined up for a game against Bandari in Mombasa and Posta Rangers whose opponents Gor Mahia failed to show up for their match at Nakuru's Afraha Stadium.

Otieno was non-committal on this observation, only saying a binding decision will come from the committee which cannot form a quorum at the moment due to the partial lockdown by the government following the coronavirus epidemic.

"Most of the committee members are not in Nairobi and moreover, it is not possible to expedite these cases swiftly due to the coro-

novirus," said Otieno.

On Saturday soon after their game against defending champions Bandari at Mbaraki Sports ground failed to kick off, Sofapaka president Elly Kalekwa expressed concern with the confusion of kick-off time.

"We received communication from FKF that the match would be at 4pm yet Bandari were ready for the match at 2pm and their officials blocked us from accessing the match venue as they said the stadium was not available thereafter. Whose fault was it?" posed Kalekwa.

In the meantime, the knock-out tournament lived up to its billing as tricky given the manner in which AFC Leopards made it to the last eight.



Sofapaka's Faina Jacobs (left) gestures as he complains to referee Andrew Juma during their KPL match against Bandari FC in Machakos in January. PD/ PHILLIP KAMAKYA



All eyes on Judge Ohaga

Sports Tribunal judge to deliver landmark ruling on football elections via video conference owing to threat posed by coronavirus

by People Team
@PeopleDailyKe

All eyes will today be on Sports Disputes Tribunal (SDT) chairman John Ohaga as he issues a landmark ruling on Football Kenya Federation (FKF) elections via a video conference at 2.30pm.

Ohaga told People Sport yesterday that he would give his verdict electronically mainly because of the current coronavirus threat, but did not give hints on what football fraternity should expect.

FKF went to SDT last month to seek interpretation into sections of the Sports Act as the federation boss Nick Mwendwa argued that it could have been unrealistic to have more than 6,000 clubs in the country to comply with the Act in a short time since only about 21 had so far complied

with the Act. In the process, a number of sub-branches and selected individuals asked to be enjoined in the case, with other concerns on the polls, making it a tough balancing act for Ohaga going into today's ruling.

Ohaga's options are limited, especially after he nullified initial FKF polls in December citing irregularities in the appointment of the Electoral Board members.

World football governing body Fifa expects the polls to be settled by the end of this month and may be by virtue of that, Ohaga may allow the federation to continue with the exercise as it sorts out other underlying issues, to avoid Fifa's wrath.

SDT may also decide to nullify the elections once again, given that sub branches were still overlooked in the exercise that began on Saturday with the County polls, even before today's crucial ruling was made.

A section of football leaders accused Mwendwa of convening an illegal Special General Meeting in December which incorporated a new Electoral Code and established another Electoral Board. Critics have slammed the Federation for acting in contravention of sporting ideals and took



FKF president Nick Mwendwa (right) with his lawyer Victor Omwebu at Milimani Law Courts during a past Sports Disputes Tribunal (SDT) hearing. INSET: SDT Judge John Ohaga. PD/ PHILLIP KAMAKYA

issue with the National Executive Council for locking out other participants through stringent nomination rules.

The Office of the Registrar in turn called on FKF to involve all stakeholders from the Sub-branches in the elections or otherwise the process be quashed altogether.

Sports lawyer Salim Ndeda believes that Ohaga must stick with the constitution and not be swayed by emotions or football politics.

"It is a sensitive matter but at the same time the SDT chairman has a golden opportunity to ensure that his word is directed and shielded by the law. He will obviously look at merits and demerits of the case and prod over the arguments. However importantly, he must be seen to be impartial and above board," Ndeda said.

FKF Electoral Board chairperson Kentice Tikolo said she believes today's decision will help them move forward.

"We have shifted our attention based on the FIFA deadline and so we are on course with preparations. However, we will abide by whatever decision coming from the SDT as an independent legal organ," she said.

Cameroon, Morocco to host African club finals

Johannesburg, Monday
@PeopleDailyKe

Cameroon and Morocco will host the finals of the CAF club competitions in May after the scrapping of the traditional two-leg title deciders, the organisers said Monday.

The Cameroonian port city of Douala has been chosen to stage the Champions League final on Friday May 29 at the recently built 50,000-seat Japoma Stadium.

On Sunday May 24, the Confederation Cup final will be played at the Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in Moroccan capital Rabat.

Home-and-away finals were ditched by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) last year after the second leg of the Champions League final in Tunis was abandoned.

Wydad Casablanca, who were trailing 1-0 on the night and 2-1 on aggregate, walked off after 60 minutes because a malfunctioning VAR machine could not check a disallowed equaliser.

Cairo teams Al Ahly and Zamalek and Casablanca sides Raja and Wydad have reached the two-leg Champions League semi-finals, scheduled for May 1/2 and 8/9.

Moroccan sides Hassania Agadir and Renaissance Berkane, Guinean club Horoya and Egyptian outfit Pyramids are through to the Confederation Cup semi-finals on May 3 and 10. -AFP



Mamelodi Sundowns' Lebogang Maboe (right) vies for the ball against Al-Ahly's Yasser Hanafi during their CAF Champions League Quarter-final second leg match at the Lucas Moripe Stadium in South Africa on March 7, 2020. AFP



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Tuesday, March 17, 2020

/// @PeopleDailyKe /// f People Daily

After fleeing abroad, Chinese football teams in a rush to return home again to avoid growing virus attack

SHANGHAI: Most Chinese Super League (CSL) clubs fled abroad when the deadly coronavirus hit the country but they are now rushing back again as it takes hold elsewhere. The national side is still training in Dubai where many CSL teams also went in recent weeks but

they too are now making hasty arrangements to get home as soon as possible. Wuhan Zall, from the city at the epicentre of the outbreak, had been training in Spain since late January but left at the weekend because of the worsening situation in Europe, now the focal point of

the pandemic. Wuhan will reportedly continue their chaotic pre-season preparations in Shenzhen. Wuhan itself is still in lockdown, despite virus numbers in China reducing. The CSL season was supposed to begin on February 22 but was indefinitely postponed. **-AFP**

Brazil suspends football matches over coronavirus

RIO DE JANEIRO: The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said Sunday it is suspending all matches until further notice because of the coronavirus pandemic. The CBF had initially avoided an all-out suspension, instead ordering Friday that matches be played in empty stadiums in the country's two largest cities, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. But as fears over the virus' spread continued to mount, it ultimately followed the lead of the Champions League, Premier League, Bundesliga and a long list of other sporting events worldwide that have suspended their seasons. "We know and accept the responsibility the football world has in the fight against the spread of COVID-19 in Brazil," CBF president Rogerio Caboclo said in a statement. **-AFP**

Current season must be completed, says Dyke

FOOTBALL: Former English Football Association chairman Greg Dyke said it would be nonsensical for the Premier League to abandon the current season and scratch the rankings, arguing it would lead to huge financial losses. The Premier League has been suspended until at least April 4, following an emergency meeting sparked by Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta testing positive for the virus last week. Premier League chiefs and clubs will meet to discuss the options this week. Current FA boss Greg Clarke told The Times newspaper on the weekend that he did not think the season would be completed. Dyke said scrapping the season would prove costly for the FA, thanks to unpaid broadcast fees and lawsuits from clubs, and said the Premier League could take advantage of the likely cancellation of Euro 2020 to play into August. **-AFP**



Olympic boxing qualifier goes ahead despite fears

BOXING: Olympic boxing qualifiers for fighters from Europe were taking place in London on Monday behind closed doors despite mounting concerns over coronavirus and enormous disruption across the world of sport. The Boxing Road to Tokyo event in London started on Saturday in front of paying spectators at the Copper Box Arena and is due to run until March 24. It features around 350 male and female boxers from dozens of nations and is the first opportunity for boxers from Europe to qualify for Tokyo 2020. The IOC Boxing Task Force, in a statement on Sunday, said the rest of the event, from Monday, would take behind closed doors "due to the changing situation with coronavirus and concerns for public, athlete and volunteer welfare". Shortly before that decision, the head of European boxing told the BBC he was "very concerned" that the event was taking place. European Boxing Confederation (EUBC) president Franco Falcinelli said he feared the risk of a boxer getting the virus. **-AFP**

Sports lockdown

Sports CS Amina orders the closure of all sports facilities, libraries and museums over coronavirus threat

by Charles Thuku
@PeopleSports11

In a bid to curb infection of the coronavirus pandemic, the Government has spelled out stringent measures which should be enforced in the strictest of manners.

Yesterday, Sports Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed (pictured) listed several laid down rules in a communique while calling on the authorities in various sports department to ensure that the directive by President Uhuru Kenyatta on March 15 is followed to the letter.

Amina called on all sportspersons including coaches and team's support personnel who have travelled outside the country in the past 14 days as well as Heads of Sports organisations to self-quarantine for 14 days to ensure the directive are adhered to.

She ordered for the closure of all public sporting facilities for the next 30 days, noting that contractors engaged with ongoing works at selected sports facilities will receive instructions from the Principal Secretary for Sports and

Director General.

The directive further says, the ministry will put in place protocol to regulate athletes access to training facilities as they continue to prepare for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

Elemental restricted meetings will be held on a need-to basis and previously scheduled meetings are hereby cancelled until further notice.

She said the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage and affiliate semi-autonomous government agencies will provide hand sanitisers, soap and water in their operating premises throughout a 30-day period.

Still under the precautionary measures, Amina said the Kenya National Library Services and all public libraries across the country will remain closed to the public for the same duration.

Further, the National Museums of Kenya, Kenya National Archives, Documentation Service, Kenya Cultural Centre and the Kenya Academy of Sports shall also remain closed for the public for the same duration.

SPORTS CS DIRECTIVES:

- *All sports facilities closed for 30 days
- *Athletes arriving from countries urged to take 14 days self quarantine
- *All libraries closed for 30 days
- *All museums closed for 30 days

