

Uhuru will betray you, Duale tells Raila over alliance

National Assembly Majority Leader says a 'secret card' between President Kenyatta and Deputy William Ruto could see ODM leader face 'yet another betrayal' **Page 9**



DAILY NATION

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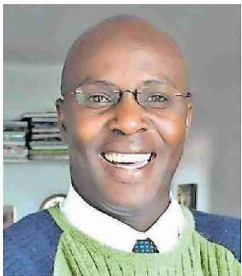
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Hospital: We did everything to save author

Page 11 Kenyatta National Hospital CEO tells Senate team that medics did what was humanly possible to save Prof Ken Walibora

The ask > We want what everyone else wants — safety and welfare, medics say

Virus fight in crisis over strike threat

As Kenyans are lining up to clap for frontline medical staff, lack of protective gear and risk allowance drives them to the point of work boycott **P. 4 & 5**

LIST OF GRIEVANCES

1 Welfare: Workers say they had asked for Sh30,000 risk allowance but only doctors were awarded the cash while the rest were left out

2 Protection: Some say they have not been issued with personal protective equipment, yet they are handling patients suspected to be infected

3 Insurance: Workers say they do not have comprehensive medical insurance despite being critical stakeholders in service delivery

4 Recognition: Healthcare givers want President Uhuru Kenyatta to acknowledge that they have a stake in the welfare package he announced



JOHN NJOROGE | NATION

Hanging on a cliff: Rains of death and havoc

A rail track in Elburgon, Nakuru County, hangs precariously after flood waters washed away the land beneath. Three people were swept away by flood waters in Bomet as heavy rains in several parts of the country continued to destroy homes, roads and bridges. **Story on P.10**



Covid-19: Kenya's most vulnerable populations

Restaurants to open under strict terms

Page 6 Owners of eateries will be required to get their staff tested for Covid-19, customers must wear masks, have temperature checked and wash hands



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Nation Media Group's Digital Copy

Pandemic > Malindi was expected to see an implosion of the virus

Why county has got it right in stopping spread of Covid-19

The number of positive cases in Kilifi has remained 11 since March 22

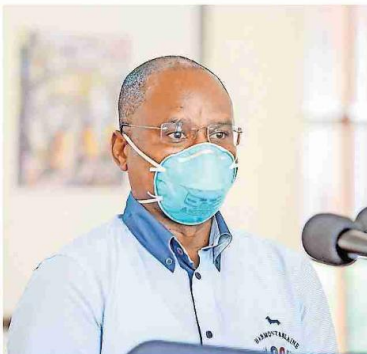
BY ALLAN OLINGO
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BY CHARLES LWANGA
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Kilifi County has managed to keep its coronavirus cases constant at 11, all thanks to quick social interventions and rapid contact tracing since the first case was reported. This is even as the neighbouring Mombasa County struggles to contain the outbreak as its numbers rise daily.

From the containment measures announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta that saw Kilifi's boundaries with Mombasa and Kwale closed, to suspension of international flights landing in Malindi, and thorough contact tracing mechanisms deployed by the county, the county seems to have got it right.

When Kilifi Deputy Governor Gideon Saburi tested positive for Covid-19 on March 22, the county's health team rushed to do contact tracing, placing more than 100 people under self-quarantine.



Kilifi Governor Amason Kingi gives a press briefing on the coronavirus situation in his county.

The contacts included county staff led by Governor Amason Kingi, police officers, officials of an NGO and villagers. "We are ahead of all the other counties when it comes to coming up come up with stringent measures to curb the spread of the virus. We decided to take this action after the county was thrown into a panic mode following the confirmation of the first Covid-19 case," Mr Kingi told the *Nation*.

He said they first identified weak links such as bars, restaurants, boda bodas, matatu markets, social gatherings, quarries, some businesses such as EPZ companies and salt firms among others and came up with directives on their operations.

"We directed boda boda and matatu operators to observe hygiene and limit the number of passengers to enable social distancing. "Later, we banned them all together and closed bars, night clubs, quarries and other non-essential businesses," he said.

Through Mr Saburi, several other people tested positive including a banker at Diamond Trust Bank, Kilifi branch.

With each positive case, the county's rapid team would cast its net wider, tracing individuals and sending them into self-isolation for 14 days.

This was also the case with staffers at the DTB Bank. "As a precaution, all em-

ployees who came into close contact with the patient were directed to self-isolate for 14 days," the bank's CEO Nasim Devji said.

Considered an Italian playground in Africa, Malindi was expected to see an implosion of the virus following the rampage it caused in Italy. But the immediate ban on flights and the repatriation of more than 70 Italian tourists in March acted as a master stroke.

With the boundary between Mtwapa and Shanzu closed, and coronavirus cases confirmed in almost all satellite estates within Mombasa, it was expected that Mtwapa would have positive cases given that it serves as a bedroom for Mombasa workers.

But the closure of the boundary and the curfew, which has seen Mtwapa's famed entertainment joints closed, has helped Kilifi to maintain the curve.

For other boundary villages, community policing has been the saviour. Ganze Deputy County Commissioner Richard Karani said the security team has laid strategies with the community to raise alert on strangers and individuals who might try to sneak in from Mombasa.

Mr Kingi said he has hired vehicles and public address systems to sensitise locals on Covid-19 in all the 35 wards. He added that he has also ordered the EPZ factory in Mtwapa to make 500,000 face masks to be distributed to locals.

The content creator who's helping inform children about virus

BY ANITA MURAGE

The fight against the "infodemic" has been gaining momentum as Kenya enters its second month in the war against Covid-19. With more time spent at home, some Kenyans can relax with their families and discover new ways to live that would effectively flatten the curve. Others have found new ways to use their social media platforms to ease growing anxiety among parents and more importantly, their children.

Children are incredibly susceptible to soaking in the anxieties of their parents and the distressing news on television, according to a report by Unicef. The agency says that children are particularly vulnerable to "feelings of anxiety, stress and sadness."

As a solution, they advocate for "child-friendly honesty" when discussing the virus with children, which involves being sensitive to the child's levels of anxiety and using terms that are age-appropriate to convey information about the disease.

Keeping them informed using media they can easily understand while involving them in the process of sharing their stories is something that Jennifer Kaberi, founder and coordinator of Facebook group 'Mtoto News', has taken seriously amid the mayhem of the coronavirus pandemic. The page, defined as a digital information and resource platform, has been in existence since 2017 and addresses issues related to children and parenting in general.

In a phone conversation with the *Nation*, Ms Kaberi said she discov-

ered a niche in crafting stories for and about children that gave them more context to the news relayed in traditional media.

"Especially with regards to the coronavirus, we sought to relate what that means to children and to involve their voices in the conversation to find out what they would expect, both from their parents as well as the government," she said.

In a bid to stay ahead of the curve, she had also prepared a series of infomercials and content to keep her audience in the loop on all matters Covid-19.

Together with a dedicated team of creative and journalists, they developed child-friendly tools to communicate information on hand-washing, symptoms of the disease and other preventive measures to be taken to curb the spread of the virus.

"We had been following updates from other countries coping with the virus already and started creating content in case it came here," she said. Some of these tools have also caught the eye of other community-based organisations across the continent, including some in Ghana, who reached out to Mtoto News looking to use their available information groups.

A new challenge came up — homeschooling. "We provided parents with links to resources like the Aga Khan Academy, among others," she says. The page also amplifies lessons provided on traditional media channels in the form of alerts to help parents plan their home timetables accordingly.



Ms Jennifer Kaberi

FILE | NATION

Briefly

OTHER PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Governor Kingi said he has hired vehicles and public address systems to sensitise locals on Covid-19 in all the 35 wards. He added that he has also ordered the EPZ factory in Mtwapa to make 500,000 face masks to be distributed to locals.

Correction

An article in the *Sunday Nation* of April 26 on a court case involving the Vihiga County government and a contractor referred incorrectly to the judge who heard it. The case was presided over by High Court Judge William Musyoka, not Court of Appeal Judge William Ouko. We apologise to the Judiciary and the two gentlemen for the mix-up.

To contact us regarding correction requests or other comments about our coverage, please e-mail: correctionsdn@ke.nationmedia.com

18 youth arrested while partying naked in city

BY MARY WAMBUI

A section of Kenyans are still disregarding government's directives on preventing the spread of Covid-19.

Latest police reports show that an illegal gathering had been convened at a private residence in Jamhuri, Nairobi, where young men and women aged between 14 and 30 were found partying while naked.

Police raided the house located within Hurliqueen Courts, Metropolitan House on Sunday evening, where the 18 youth, five of whom were female, were arrested. They were also found with a camera.

The suspects were placed in custody waiting further directions. "It was reported that there was partying in the house and when police visited the apartment, they found 18 people, all naked with a camera," stated the police report that has since gone viral.

Kilimani police division's commander r Lucas Oigara declined

to comment about the issue and whether they shall be pressing any charges against the youth.

The 18 are suspected to have been shooting pornographic material.

The incident happened barely hours after another group comprising three Kisii MCAs and one county official were arrested while drinking during the curfew hours.

The four were rounded up at a local bar, arrested and taken to the Kenya Medical Training College, Kisii campus for quarantine.

"They were found drinking by officers on patrol," said Kisii County Police Commander Jabel Munene.

President Uhuru Kenyatta has continually urged Kenyans to abide by the directives especially now that cases of local transmission have been reported in various parts of the country. "You are the doctor of your life. Please adhere to the protocols set out by the Ministry of Health to protect yourself and your loved ones," he said recently.

RAMADHAN TIMETABLE					
	Suhoor	Iftar		Suhoor	Iftar
Nairobi	5:15	6:33	Nakuru	5:18	6:37
Mombasa	5:07	6:19	Eldoret	5:20	6:41
Kisumu	5:22	6:42	Isiolo	5:11	6:32
Garissa	5:04	6:22	Nyeri	5:14	6:33
Mandera	4:50	6:18	Malindi	5:06	6:20
Wajir	5:00	6:23	Kitale	5:21	6:43
Moyale	5:01	6:29	Kakamega	5:22	6:43
Lamu	5:00	6:16	Kisii	5:23	6:42

Covid-19: Politics unusual

nation NewsPlex www.nation.co.ke/coronavirus
#NationNewsplex

United States
The pandemic has seen 18 states postpone their primaries (state preliminary elections to pick party candidates) that were to be held ahead of the November presidential elections. Democrats have proposed the option of voting via email in the presidential election, a plan opposed by Republicans. So far, Democratic Party presidential candidate Joe Biden has gone online with his campaign to oust President Donald Trump. If the US elections are postponed, it will be the first time in history.

Israel
The need to have a government to lead the country through the pandemic aided the resolution of a political crisis that followed the March 2 elections, the third in a year. Benjamin Netanyahu and Benny Gantz formed a unity government that will see Netanyahu step down. In the run-up to the deal, Netanyahu tweeted: "Benny Gantz, this time is a test of leadership and national responsibility. The citizens of Israel need a unity government that will act to save their lives and their livelihoods. This is not the time for fourth elections." Gantz also wrote on Facebook that he "intends to consider all possible ways to establish a unity government that will fight the coronavirus and other challenges".

Hungary
Parliament gave the government powers to rule by decree to the extent that is "necessary and proportional" so as to "prevent, manage, and eradicate the Covid-19". The government is, however, to report back to Parliament or Speaker and the leaders of the parliamentary groups regularly about the measures it has taken.

Ethiopia
On March 31, the election board suspended parliamentary and presidential elections planned for August. The board said the country could not go to the polls under the conditions brought about by the pandemic. However, Burundi's May 20 general election is still on.

South Korea
The government's impressive performance in controlling the spread of the virus has turned President Moon Jae-in from a man facing possible impeachment to the man people want at the top. A petition calling for his impeachment after he sent millions of face masks to China had garnered over 1.5 million signatures at the beginning of March, but South Korea is currently one of the very few countries that have managed to significantly lower the number of daily infections.

Mexico
President Andrés Manuel López Obrador was called out mid last month when he continued holding mass rallies and even shaking hands, hugging and kissing, even as his government encouraged the public to practise social distancing to contain the virus. Mexico then had dozens of coronavirus cases, which have risen to 14,677, with 1,351 deaths.

Brazil
President Jair Bolsonaro has been isolated by his government and party for his controversial stand on Covid-19. The president is not a strong believer in the dangers posed by the virus and has said as much, thus rendering ineffective containment efforts by his Health ministry. The Health minister publicly opposed his calls to loosen quarantine restrictions for Brazil's 210 million people before he was fired. The country leads South America with 63,100 cases and is ranked 11th globally.

South Africa
A usually critical opposition has joined hands with the government in the fight against Covid-19. "As the EFF, we fully support the initiative of government and we call upon all South Africans to listen to the leadership of our government and follow exactly as we are told," said the firebrand party leader Julius Malema. A month earlier, Malema and his Economic Freedom Fighters staged a demonstration in Parliament, delaying Cyril Ramaphosa's annual State of the Union address.

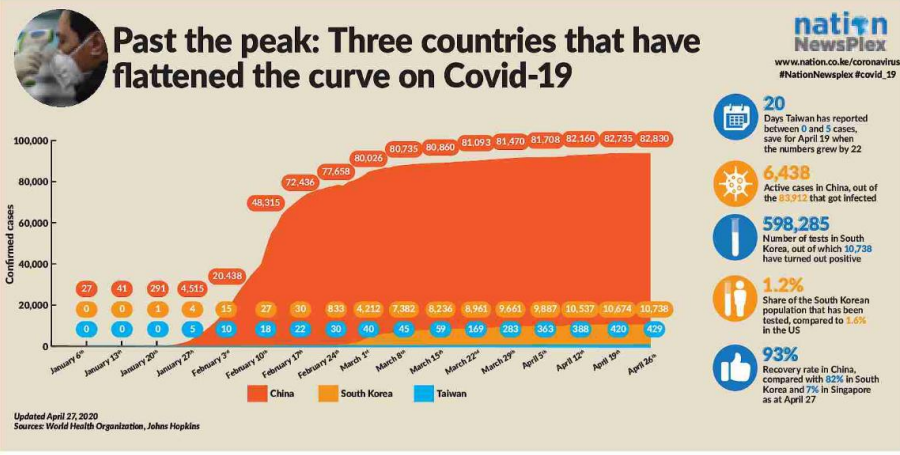
Uganda
On April 9, President Museveni received a donation of food from his fiercest political critic: People Power pressure group leader Robert Kyagulanyi, alias Bobi Wine. The president caused laughter when he thanked People Power and curiously said, "Now you see, you're joining the people."

Kenya
Handshakes have been replaced by handwashing. The threat posed by the pandemic and the attendant national response have given citizens a break from the heated referendum and 2020 succession politics, premised on the Building Bridges Initiative that followed the Handshake between President Uhuru Kenyatta and opposition chief Raila Odinga.

Over 1,400 deaths in 41 countries

Country	Confirmed	Deaths	Recovered	Ranking
South Africa	4546	87	1473	1
Egypt	4534	317	1176	2
Morocco	4115	161	669	3
Algeria	3382	425	1508	4
Cameroon	1621	56	786	5
Ghana	1550	11	155	6
Nigeria	1273	40	239	7
Côte d'Ivoire	1150	14	468	8
Djibouti	1023	2	411	9
Guinea	996	7	208	10
Tunisia	949	38	216	11
Niger	696	29	350	12
Senegal	671	9	283	13
Burkina Faso	632	42	453	14
Congo (Kinshasa)	459	28	50	15
Somalia	436	23	10	16
Mali	389	23	112	17
Kenya	363	14	114	18
Mauritius	332	9	299	19
Tanzania	299	10	48	20
Equatorial Guinea	258	1	8	21
Sudan	237	21	20	22
Congo (Brazzaville)	200	6	19	23
Gabon	191	0	92	24
Gabon	176	3	30	25
Madagascar	124	0	71	26
Ethiopia	124	3	50	26
Cabo Verde	106	1	1	29
Sierra Leone	93	4	10	31
Zambia	88	3	42	32
Uganda	79	0	46	33
Mozambique	76	0	12	34
Benin	64	1	33	35
Libya	61	2	18	36
Eswatini	59	1	10	37
Zimbabwe	51	4	5	42
Angola	26	2	6	43
Botswana	22	1	0	44
CAR	19	0	10	45
Namibia	16	0	8	46
Burundi	11	1	4	47
Seychelles	11	0	6	47
Gambia	10	1	8	49
Mauritania	7	1	6	50
Western Sahara	6	0	5	51
South Sudan	6	0	0	51
São Tomé and Príncipe	4	0	0	53
Lesotho	0	0	0	54
Comoros	0	0	0	54
Total	31,915	1,423	9,670	

Africa			Globally		
31,915	1,423	9,670	2,994,690	207,518	876,043
Confirmed cases	Deaths	Recovered	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Recovered



Explore more at: <https://www.nation.co.ke/coronavirus> COMPILED BY NEWSPLEX TEAM (as per April 27)

Nation Media Group, "Digital Copy"

Dispute > The umbrella body for all cadres of health workers is set to issue the government with a strike notice

Health workers speak out over lack of Personal Protective Equipment

I am **Phyllis**, a nurse at the Langata Health Centre in Nairobi County. I normally start my night shift at 4:30 p.m. and it goes on until 8:30 a.m.

The shift stretches into the morning because I cannot leave before submitting my report on the work activities done during the time I was on duty.

We are given one surgical mask for the entire shift that lasts around 16 hours. It gets uncomfortable and using just one mask is not practical. Although we have enough disposable gloves, there are no boots, goggles, gowns required for the full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kit.

Whenever we ask for the kits we are told we are inciting other staff members, so we have

learnt to persevere with the circumstances and pray hard that none of us gets infected.

I heard that there are only five full PPE kits for Langata sub-county, and that there is just one in our facility.

We were told that the kit can only be worn by one member of staff in case of a confirmed Covid-19 case.

I am **Javan**, a laboratory technician working at Orsi Health Centre in Kisii County.

The staff here, around 60 in total, are given just one mask each, and that is supposed to last between two to three days.

We have gloves but these are also in short supply. We do not have boots, gowns or

goggles.

We were told that there are PPE kits at the isolation unit at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital, but these can only be used when there is a confirmed Covid19 case.

The staff are not comfortable with the situation since there is the risk of contracting Covid19 from the patients without symptoms.

We have been forced to buy our own masks for use outside the facility since the county government only provides us with those we use during our working shifts.

I am **Annabel**, a clinical officer working at Mama Lucy Hospital in Nairobi County.

We normally get masks, but they are semi-

transparent and of obviously poor quality.

We get a box of gloves that is shared between clinical officers and nurses on duty.

Sometimes, a clinical officer coming on duty at 8am can wait up to two hours before getting a mask and a pair of gloves.

A few weeks ago, some of us contemplated going on strike, but the management assured us the situation would be addressed.

We are especially worried about the situation ever since we heard the reported Covid19 case at Ngara Clinic. Being a Level Five facility, Mama Lucy Hospital is much bigger than the clinic, and is therefore even more likely to play host to an asymptomatic patient in the coming days.

This possibility has got me really worried and even scared.

My name is **Elvis**, work Lukusi Dispensary in Webu, Bungoma County.

We are given one mask supposed to take us for 19 days. Disposable gloves are also no boots, gowns, goggles.

We are forced to wear a for the three days, and that exposes us to infection as when going for tea break.

In addition, the surgical the skin, and wearing them is one long, uncomfortable I have been told that the

Strike threat by health workers puts Covid-19

Health professionals say the government does not care much for their safety

BY NASIBO KABALE
knasibo@ke.nationmedia.com

A looming strike by health professionals who are asking for improved working conditions could paralyse operations in hospitals and quarantine centres at a time when the country is battling the Covid-19 pandemic.

Nurses, clinical officers, pharmaceutical technicians and other cadres of the health workforce are asking the national and county governments to enhance their safety and welfare. Their umbrella organisation, the Kenya Health Professionals Society

(KHPS), is set to issue a strike notice tomorrow as a measure of last resort to have the workers' grievances addressed.

The workers said they "want what everyone else wants" during the most pandemic of the century — safety.

When he recently announced measures to battle the pandemic, President Uhuru Kenyatta released Sh2.66 billion to the Ministry of Health, saying part of this money would go towards the welfare of health workers, including insurance, to deal with the negative impact of the disease.

Yesterday, representatives of the workers accused the government of taking their safety casually. Some 10 health workers have contracted the virus, with four still fighting for their lives.

While this is no normal environment for employees to

What's alleged

FEARS RAISED OVER PPEs

The issue of personal protective equipment has been a particularly painful one among healthcare workers. There are also reported cases of health staff in counties refusing to attend to patients suspected of having Covid-19. A nurse who works at a facility in Kongowea in Mombasa County who spoke on condition of anonymity said that they have not been issued with personal protective equipment despite admitting a patient who they suspected of being infected.

bargain over their pay and working conditions, healthcare professionals say they have been pushed to the wall.

Leaders of the Kenya National Union of Nurses (KNUN), Kenya Union of Clinical Officers (KUCO), Kenya National Union of Medical Laboratory Officers, Kenya National Union of Pharmaceutical Technologists and unions have said they will down their tools if their grievances are not addressed.

The KHPS chaired by Mohammed Duba claims that the government has sidelined health workers at a time when they are facing all the risk.

"Our spirits have been dampened and some are asking how they can work from home to avoid putting their lives at risk," said Mr Duba.

He added that members work 24 hours and some have been

infected with the virus while in the line of duty.

"We are appealing to the President to acknowledge the welfare package of which we risk being excluded from based on what we are seeing now," he said.

Mr Duba added that, while they had requested for risk allowance of Sh30,000 last week, they realised that only doctors were awarded the allowances while they were left out.

Kenya Union of Clinical Officers secretary-general George Gibore said that the government, and particularly the Health Ministry, has continued to pat itself on the back for the successful work that is being done in the fight against the virus while ignoring the plight of health workers.

"Before they bury us, we must come out and say what we have done and find out why they continue to claim success without recognising us," he said.



Acting secretary-general Chibanzi Mwachonda said they will not issue a strike notice yet, but the union has advised any doctor who does not feel safe to communicate the same to the employer and then avoid carrying out the task until the matter is addressed.

Dr Mwachonda said four doctors have contracted the virus and three have since recovered.

He added that they have implored the government to clarify on the number of protective gear that are available and how they have been distributed to the counties.

"In a time like this, we need

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3. Assistant Office Administrator	- 1 Post
4. Records Management Officer	- 1 Post
5. Driver	- 4 Posts

For more information on the particular job specifications and requirements please go to the Nation Newspaper digital link <https://cdn.nation.co.ke/pdfs/dna-1007.pdf>

How to Apply

Suitably qualified candidates should apply indicating the job title and the job advert number on the application letter and envelope, enclosing CVs with full details of education, professional qualifications, experience, email addresses, day telephone contacts and attach copies of academic and professional certificates, relevant testimonials, and National ID.

The applicants should also provide names, telephone numbers and contact addresses of a least two referees who are knowledgeable about their competence and area of specialization. The applicant should request their referees to submit their references directly to the undersigned.

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or face shields.
nd reuse the masks
t is a difficult task that
we must take them off
r lunch.
masks are irritating to
for up to eight hours
experience.
Full PPE kits are

available at the Level Five and Six facilities, but we have never seen one around here.
It makes me wonder what would happen to me if I came into contact with a Covid19 patient without symptoms. We were told by the county administration that it had made orders for new supplies of masks from the Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (Kemsas), as it is the only one mandated to provide the counties with medical supplies.
We are always seeing the top government officials announcing on television that the proper protective gear has been availed to all the counties, yet the situation here is very worrying.
**Not real names. The medical workers spoke to Aggrey Omboki*

war to the test



A nurse turns prepares equipment at the Coast General Teaching and Referral Hospital high dependency unit on April 10. Health workers have threatened to go on strike in protest over poor working conditions.

WACHIRA MWANGI | NATION

honesty. They can say this is how many N95's we have. They have not made it clear and so we do not know if there is a shortage," he said.
However, all health workers in the country, including doctors, agree that they are not being offered sufficient medical cover despite being critical to health service delivery and the implementation of Universal Health Coverage.
In an effort to find out what the government was doing to avoid the escalation of the matter, the *Nation* reached out to Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe, who said in a text message: "We are addressing all these issues."

Nakuru nurse who braved all to see patients recover from virus

BY PHYLLIS MUSASIA

When the first Covid-19 case in the country was confirmed on March 20, Ms Sarah Mosop, a senior nurse at the Nakuru Level Five Hospital, was apprehensive, knowing that the war would get tough.
Already, the situation in developed countries was dire and kept worsening by the day with healthcare workers dying alongside their patients.

"Covid-19 is not just an ordinary disease like malaria or typhoid and after following closely in the news what was happening in other countries, I knew Kenya was not going to be an island. A lot needed to be done," Ms Mosop said during an exclusive interview with the *Nation* on Thursday last week.
By the time the first case of the virus was being reported, Ms Mosop says fear of contracting the disease dominated.

Soon, patients suspected to have been infected started trickling in.
"When I was made the team leader, I braced myself for the hardest task. I accepted, because it is what I bargained for when I chose my career and I have always enjoyed taking care of the sick," she said.

The tough task began when some patients who exhibited Covid-19 symptoms were brought to the hospital and isolated under Ms Mosop's care.
"Here, everything changed



Nurses walk past the entrance of the Margaret Kenyatta Mother Baby Wing at the Nakuru Level Five Hospital. A nurse at the hospital braved stigma and other challenges to head a Covid-19 response team.

to exercise a lot of care because a small mistake could cost the lives of the patients and even the entire team.
At this point, Ms Mosop said, she decided to disclose to his family about the task that she

had been given. Her children did not take it lightly.
"Stigma crept in at home just as it had done at my workplace. My children felt that by doing the job, there was no way I could keep myself and them

safe. At some point they even asked me to stay at home, or stay away from them.
"The close friends I had started pulling back. My son ran away from home and stayed with a relative for some days," Ms Mosop added.
Despite all these, the senior nurse said she kept going strong for her two patients.
Every morning, she says, she reported to work with extreme caution before checking on the patients.

Last week, the team celebrated its first success after the two coronavirus patients under the hospital's care tested negative twice following a series of symptoms management.
"They were discharged and allowed to go back home.
"Coronavirus itself has got no specific treatment. What is managed are the symptoms exhibited by patients and all these require courage and dedication from all team members. You cannot win alone," she said.

She added that, apart from administering treatment, the team does counselling to the patients which greatly impacts their recovery.
"The symptoms are however managed through cough suppressors, Vitamic C, painkillers and a balanced diet.

When I was made the team leader, I braced myself for the hardest task. It is what I bargained for when I chose my career and I have always enjoyed taking care of the sick."
Nurse Sarah Mosop

from our usual way of handling other patients with common diseases to being extremely cautious. Our own safety became another key element of our tasks as we made sure that we accorded the patients the care that they needed in order to get better," she said.
Ms Mosop, who has a 25-year experience, said that for the first two weeks, they experienced a lot of challenges including inadequate Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs).
Stigma within and outside the hospital, she said, built up very fast.
The team — two doctors, four clinical officers, 13 nurses, two public health officers and 4 support staff — Ms Mosop said, felt exposed since there was very low supply of face masks.
On April 1, two of the patients under her care were declared positive for Covid-19 and they therefore required extreme care.
"We quickly arranged ourselves and scheduled duty shifts. Every team member had



National Employment Authority (NEA)

NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

SUBMISSION OF RETURNS ON NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

Pursuant to PartX - Employment Management, of the Employment Act, 2007:-

Section 78, An employer shall notify the termination of every employment and of each lay-off of a person in writing to the nearest employment service office within two weeks of the termination or lay-off.

This Notice is to remind all employers that the returns on termination of employment/lay-off of employees should be submitted to the National Employment Authority (NEA) through the National Employment Authority Integrated Management System (www.neaims.go.ke) upon sign up/registration. The returns can be captured directly into the system or into the excel sheet template which can be downloaded through the Help/Downloads menu upon sign up/registration and logging in to the system. Returns in hard copy form or through email will not be accepted.

The returns on termination of employment/lay-off of employees will enable the government to come up with strategies to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on the labour and employment sector.

For more information, contact us through the following:
Telephone: +254(020)7855746 / 7
Email: info@nea.go.ke / dg.nea@nea.go.ke
Website: www.nea.go.ke / www.nea.go.ke/web

Mrs. Edith Okoki
AG. DIRECTOR GENERAL

Covid-19 Owners of eateries will be required to get their staff tested

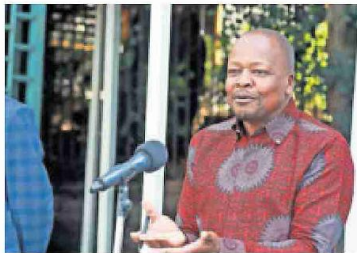
Restaurants given greenlight to reopen under strict terms

CS Kagwe rules out buffets and self-service meals, announces more anti-Covid measures

BY NASIBO KABALE
knasibo@ke.nationmedia.com

The government has allowed restaurants to open their doors even as the number of coronavirus cases rose to 365. Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe said that while Kenya looks to other countries to learn how business can reopen, the government has put measures that could keep the country safe. "We have to take our own measures, which are based on our experience and what we have seen," he said.

Mr Kagwe noted that people working during this period have been struggling to find places to eat, and recommended additional rules for restaurants that will operate to serve them. Owners of eateries will be required to get their staff tested for Covid-19. They can only open their businesses once their employees have tested negative. "Anybody walking into a res-



Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe at Afya House in Nairobi.

10,500
The cost of testing for coronavirus in a private hospital.

taurant must wash their hands first and be wearing a mask. The restaurants that are going to open will do so with people who have been tested and are Covid-19-free," he said, adding that persons who have not been tested cannot op-

erate eateries. Mr Kagwe said the owners of the restaurants ought to pay for the cost of testing their employees. While the government has been testing for free, the cost for a test in private hospitals ranges between Sh8,500 and Sh10,500. The Kenya Association of Hotelkeepers and Caterers Chief Executive Officer Mike Macharia said they are still in talks with the ministry over the testing as it might prove to be expensive. "We're also exploring options of keeping those we have tested

at the hotels because the only way to stay negative is to ensure the employees do not go to the masses," he said.

Mr Macharia noted that in regard to other measures such as sanitation and cleanliness, the hotels are ready and have come up with ways to ensure they are above board.

The CS said diners' body temperatures will also be checked and access restricted to those showing signs of fever. "Any staff member or reveler with temperature above 37.5°C shall not be allowed into the premises, and they shall immediately notify the Ministry of Health," he said in a statement. Mr Kagwe said there will also be no buffets and self-service meals.

"The tables within the dining areas must be spaced at least 1.5 metres apart and customers must also maintain social distancing," he added.

The CS said workers should also maintain social distance while in kitchens. The CS announced that three more people from Nairobi, four in Mombasa and one in Kwale tested positive. He said eight more patients have been discharged, bringing the total number of those who have recovered from Covid-19 to 114.

Virus-negative man's kin confront stigma

BY SHABAN MAKOKHA

When Stephen Haggai Opuka, the 54-year-old cleaner who contracted coronavirus while on duty at Mbagathi Hospital was recently declared free of the virus, his family back in Ebukokho village in Mumias broke into jubilation.

However, the family is now facing stigma from villagers, who have nicknamed them 'Corona'.

Mr Opuka's lastborn brother Thomas Ashiemi narrated how he was chased out of a neighbour's house, where he went to seek shelter from heavy rains.

"I was heading home from the shop when it started raining. I ran to a neighbour's home to seek shelter, but immediately I entered the house, they chased me away, saying, I was from the coronavirus family and would infect them," said Mr Ashiemi.

He was forced to walk in the rain.

Mr Opuka was discharged on April 21 after testing negative twice and is on a two-week quarantine at his Nairobi home to minimise the risk of reinfection, and also to ensure

he's completely healed before he is allowed to mix with the public.


His wife, Mrs Miriam Asiko Opuka, said her friends and neighbours from Nairobi no longer pick her calls or chat with her on social media platforms.

"We've been good friends, and shared a lot when I was in Nairobi. We've been chatting a lot on a daily basis since I came back home in February to plant maize. But they have now blacklisted me," she said.


Mrs Opuka said some of her neighbours at the Kenyatta National Hospital servants' quarter are threatening to vacate the plot for fear of meeting Mr Opuka, who is under self-quarantine in his house.

She appealed to her friends to stop running away from them, saying, the stigma is affecting them greatly. "Stigma is more dangerous than the disease itself. Our friends and neighbours should stop running away from us," she said.

According to Mrs Opuka, neighbours back home are avoiding to share vehicles with them.



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES AND IRRIGATION
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FISHERIES, AQUACULTURE AND THE BLUE ECONOMY
AQUACULTURE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (ABDP)
IFAD LOAN No: 2000002052



SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The ABDP invites applications from eligible candidates for the following consultant positions:

1. Consultant Gender, Youth and Nutrition Advisor for the Aquaculture Business Development Programme. (ABDP) Terms of Reference number: MOALF/SDFA&BE/ABDP/TOR/2019-2020/023
2. Consultant Community Development Advisor for the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) Terms of Reference Number: MOALF/SDFA&BE/ABDP/TOR/2019-2020/013.
3. Consultant Entrepreneurial Opportunities Technical Advisor for the Aquaculture Business Development Programme. (ABDP) Terms of Reference Number: MOALF/SDFA&BE/ABDP/TOR/2019-2020/024

Manner of submission
Due to the ongoing challenges in movement as a result of COVID-19 containment, applications can be sent in either of the following ways:


1. The envelope clearly marked with the Reference number be delivered to and dropped in the tender box situated at the reception area of Aquaculture business development Programme:
Programme Coordinator
Aquaculture Business Development Programme
P.O.Box 904-10100
Nyeri
2. Sent the above documents by courier to the following address:
Programme Coordinator
Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP)
Located off Kamakwa Road, opposite Nyeri Golf Club
Next to the Regional Commissioners Residence.
Telephone 0721 430 055
3. Sent the application via email to the email: procurement@abdpcu.org with the reference number as subject line. The folders shall be password protected from opening. The applicant shall send the password via email on the closing date and time.

So as to reach ABDP on or before **April 11, 2020, 11.00am EAT.**

Please note

- The advert and complete Terms of Reference can be accessed from the website of the Ministry; www.kilimo.go.ke
- Only shortlisted and successful candidates will be contacted.
- Canvassing in any form will lead to automatic disqualification.

Programme Coordinator
Aquaculture Business Development Programme



Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy
AQUACULTURE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

RECRUITMENT OF PROGRAMME COORDINATION UNIT STAFF

The State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy has developed a programme under a collaborative agreement between the Government of Kenya and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) aimed at increasing incomes, food security and nutritional status of poor rural households involved in aquaculture ventures known as The Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP).

The ABDP is national in scope and will target counties with high concentrations of aquaculture activity, high production, existing infrastructure (processing, marketing and research), adequate water resources and marketing potential. The ADBP National Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) is based in Nyeri at IFAD Building along Kamakwa Road. The PCU is responsible for day to day coordination and implementation of the Programme. The PCU has a Regional Coordination Office (RCO) based in Kisumu which coordinates implementation activities in Counties in the Western Kenya Region.

Applications are therefore invited from qualified candidates for the positions shown here below:-

S/No	Designation	No. of Posts	Advert. No.
1.	Procurement Assistant	1	ABDP/PCU/2020/02
2.	Management Information System Officer	1	ABDP/PCU/2020/01

Interested and qualified persons are requested to make their application as follows:

- Each application should have a detailed Curriculum Vitae and covering letter indicating the reference number for the position. Copies of relevant document must be attached.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries avails equal employment opportunities to all Kenyans. Women Persons living with disabilities, the marginalized and minorities who meet the requirements are encouraged to apply.

Manner of submission
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1. The envelope clearly marked with the Reference number be delivered to and dropped in the tender box situated at the reception of Aquaculture business development Programme:
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- Only shortlisted and successful candidates will be contacted.
- Canvassing in any form will lead to automatic disqualification.

For more details, download complete document on www.kilimo.go.ke



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Email: epaper@ke.nationmedia.com

Quarantine tales > That evening, only YouTube gospel music could be heard blaring through cell phones

Mass testing caught many of us unawares

We had toyed with the idea that the ministry did not have enough testing kits to waste on us and, as a result, we had gone on with life in a carefree manner

You need concrete strength to survive quarantine. But there is one question I always asked: "Just who ate that bat in China? Who?" I wondered as I lay hopeless in this poorly ventilated room.

Here I was, paying for somebody else's mistake. My sleep patterns had been distorted. On the third day at the quarantine, and as I was leaving my room, I came across this young lady. She had a rosary — perhaps her only source of inspiration at that moment. We began to talk. She told me that she had interacted with a pastor the previous day and they had agreed to plan for a prayer meeting that evening. Was I interested? She asked me. I nodded, yes.

When we finally met for the prayers, I realised that the pastor was not there. Instead, we met with another grey-haired slim man in his late fifties. He had arrived from Malawi. At this camp, I realised there were many people from Malawi. I don't know why and I wondered silently. The said meetings went on for a few days, but to be honest, we never did any study... we just opened up on our fears and it now became a venting hour. Crazy. We would narrate our quagmires. Our predicament. Our plight. Our fears.



JOYCE WANGECI

After a few days, and to our dismay and concern, we noticed some new faces. People who had been added to our camp days after flights stopped landing."

The grey-haired man, who we nicknamed Kofi Annan, had a school in Kajiado County. My other friend had some construction in Thogoto and which had been interrupted by the current crises. Venting helped. We discovered our moods and tempers were now more relaxed though uncertainty still loomed in the horizon.

Every morning, after breakfast, we looked forward to our scheduled



FILE IN NATION
City residents wait for matatus at Kencom stage as others opt to take a bodaboda to beat the curfew deadline in Nairobi yesterday.

meetings. It helped for a while. Beatrice, the Karen lady, confessed not to have ever read the Bible all her life. And this was despite growing up in Thogoto, the hub and heart of Christianity in Kenya. We all laughed over that, although we had few jokes. Easy moments would follow and we felt like one new holy family. Or was it?

Something else had happened to me. I no longer knew which date or day of the week it was. I had lost count of the hours and, perhaps, my memory. There was no TV, no daily newspaper or radio. Social media was the only connection to the healthy world — and days and dates did not matter. We had to rely entirely on hearsay... and daily updates from the Ministry of Health

via Twitter or Facebook.

One day, I looked at my suitcases, lying in my small room; my new home. I realised I'm still on safari. Majority of the people here had shopped for their families, only that the welcoming ululations and party had not happened. The unopened gifts lay intact, one week after arrival.

After a few days, and to our dismay and concern, we noticed some new faces. People who had been added to our camp days after flights stopped landing. We also had some Pakistanis and we wondered how they had landed after the directive that only Kenyans would gain entry.

And then came the D-Day. The day of Covid-19 mass testing for the whole camp. We had toyed with the

idea that the ministry did not have enough testing kits to waste on us and, as a result, we had gone on with life in a carefree manner. We were visiting each other's rooms and even playing cards!

Since we had all our temperature taken religiously every day at noon, majority assumed this would remain the ultimate test. Shock on them when on the 8th day, medics in those white hazmat suits arrived. The camp went silent. Everyone seemed uncomfortable; recollecting whether they had been careful enough; if they had experienced any sore throat; however mild; and whether any of their close contacts had coughed or sneezed at all in the last one week.

It was now time for the ultimate Covid-19 test. It was mandatory. There was no prior counselling on what to expect. I found this so unprofessional. Unethical. Wouldn't doctors explain such a sensitive procedure to "suspects" as they called us?

We lined up. The first one held the medics hands in pain and discomfort. One by one, we all went through the uncomfortable procedure. That afternoon, after the test, the mood within the camp changed drastically. Reflection, prayer and hope hovered over the camp. No one left their rooms. Although dinner was served at 5pm as usual, no one seemed interested in chitchat. That evening, only YouTube gospel music could be heard blaring through cell phones. Mine was, perhaps, the loudest. Music of hope. Encouragement. Pleading with God for 'good' results.

Tomorrow: Why waiting for Covid-19 results became a nightmare



KENYA ROADS BOARD

CANCELLATION OF TENDERS

Due to the prevailing situation in the country as a result of COVID-19 pandemic, all prospective bidders are informed that the following tenders have been cancelled.

Item	Description	Tender Number
1.	Provision of Brokerage Services for General Insurance	KRB/1023/2019-2020
2.	Provision of Brokerage Services for Medical & Related Insurance	KRB/1024/2019-2020
3.	Provision of Cleaning Services	KRB/1025/2019-2020
4.	Provision of Security Services	KRB/1026/2019-2020

Kenya Roads Board highly regrets the inconveniences caused.

Eng. Jacob Z. Ruwa, OGW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

info@krb.go.ke www.krb.go.ke 020 4980 000

ISO 9001:2015 Certified

Financing road maintenance



KENYA RURAL ROADS AUTHORITY

Opening up Rural Kenya

TENDER NOTICE – ADDENDUM NO. 3

LOW VOLUME SEAL ROADS (LVSr): PHASE 1 – BATCH 2K LOT 3B
ROADS 10,000 PROGRAMME: INVITATION TOTENDER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 10,000 KMS OF ROADS SUPPORTING PRIMARY GROWTH SECTORS
UPGRADING TO BITUMEN STANDARD AND PERFORMANCE BASED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF ROADS UNDER BATCH 2K LOT 3B

The Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KRRRA) is a state corporation established under the Kenya Roads Act 2007, with the responsibility of management, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of Rural Roads.

Following the government directives towards the management of the spread of the Corona-Virus (COVID-19), the Authority in line with directive to avoid congregation of public for a further 21 (twenty one) days has now postponed the tender submission dates for the following tenders as indicated

S/No.	RWC No.	Road Name	Previous Opening Date	Revised submission Date & Time
1.0	RWC 576	Rioitit – Eneoko – Hobo & Gotichaki – Stores Loop	28 th April, 2020	28 th May, 2020 at 11.00am
2.0	RWC 577	Kiambiriria – Kuresoi – Chepsit	28 th April, 2020	27 th May, 2020 at 11.00am
3.0	RWC 578	Kaelo – Kamukunji – Mutuati	28 th April, 2020	28 th May, 2020 at 11.00am
4.0	RWC 579	Mavakari – Kamwambia – C2 – Kanyuambora	28 th April, 2020	29 th May, 2020 at 11.00am

The revised Bid Documents can be downloaded from the Authority's Website www.kerra.go.ke free of charge and are to be read together with previous clarifications issued in Addendum Number 1.

The sealed bids MUST be submitted to the address below located on 4th floor Barabara Plaza, Block B or deposited in the Tender Box on or before the revised date of submission at 11.00 a.m. Opening of the bids will take place immediately thereafter at the Ground Floor Board Room, Barabara Plaza, Block B.

Bids not received at the submission venue by the closing time will not be accepted for opening and will be rejected and returned unopened. Bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement Unit of KRRRA at the address below during working hours from 09:00 to 18:00 hrs local time Monday to Friday.

Deputy Director, Supply Chain, Barabara Plaza, Block B, Airport South Road, P.O. Box 4651-00100, NAIROBI, KENYA.
Email Addresses: kerra@kerra.go.ke, digkerral@kerra.go.ke, procurement@kerra.go.ke
Tel: +254 (20) 8013846/2710451, Mobile: +254 724 735 568

Deputy Director, Supply Chain
FILE: DIRECTOR GENERAL
KENYA RURAL ROADS AUTHORITY

Opening Up Rural Kenya

Politics > MP also dismisses unity government plans

Now Duale alleges Uhuru-Ruto 'secret card' against Raila

Majority Leader does not know thinking of Jubilee's Kieleweke wing, charges Mbadi

BY JUSTUS OCHIENG
@justusjavan
jiochieng@ke.nationmedia.com

Temperatures over 2022 succession politics continued to rise yesterday with National Assembly Majority leader Aden Duale making claims of a "secret card" between President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy, William Ruto, that could see ODM leader Raila Odinga face yet another "harsh betrayal of his life."

But even as Mr Duale, a confidant of Dr Ruto, alleged "the shocker" against Mr Odinga, other allies of the DP reiterated their claims of yet another plot by the "dynasties" to gang up against him (Ruto) in 2022 to protect their wealth.

This came barely a day after insiders in ODM party said plans were under way for a coalition between the party, President Kenyatta's Jubilee and Gideon Moi's Kanu, among other parties.

Yesterday, Jubilee deputy secretary-general Caleb Kostany dismissed such an arrangement, noting that "only an army can wrestle Jubilee from Ruto". However, he was quick to add that they still have options of joining other parties altogether.

"There are several parties in Kenya, but there is no way someone is going to take Jubilee unless they are coming with an army."

"If they follow the law then there is nobody who is going to kick us out of Jubilee," Mr Kostany said.

But Mr Duale warned Mr Odinga of a coming political shocker and wondered why "he had not learnt from history."

"Mark my words, Jubilee will be one, Uhuru Kenyatta will back William Ruto. All these stories, my friend, for you to go to a merger, you must call a National Delegates Conference (NDC) after National Executive Council (NEC) and National Governing Council (NGC) which is yet to happen," Mr Duale said.

He also poured cold water on the possibility of formation of a Government of National Unity (GNU) after coronavirus pandemic, noting that it was unconstitutional.

Some allies of President Kenyatta, including Jubilee vice chairman David Murathe, Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru, MPs Wambugu Ngunjiri (Nyeri Town) and Joshua Kuttuny (Cherangany) had said that the president was at liberty to reorganise his government at any



National Assembly Majority Leader Aden Duale gives his views to the BBI taskforce at the KICC in Nairobi on February 25.

given time and nothing would bar him from forming a unity government.

Yesterday, Mr Duale said: "The Constitution does not allow formation of a Government of National Unity. The only time we had a GNU was when we had the National Accord in 2008. These guys must see reality."

"You think you have fixed William Ruto, you will be shocked. 'Baba' (Raila) will be shocked. There is that secret card between Uhuru and Ruto," added Mr Duale.

But ODM national chairman John Mbadi dismissed Mr Duale's claims, saying he was only privy to plans by the Tangatanga wing of Jubilee and his sentiments do not reflect President

Kenyatta's ideologies.

"There is nothing secret about politics. Politics is about what agenda will sell. In fact those who have secret cards don't say them," Mr Mbadi said.

"The moment you say you have a secret card, it ceases to be secret," the ODM chairman said.

He went on: "2022 is still far and we have enough time for campaigns, coalition building, strategies, for secret cards or no secret cards... but this is the wrong time to discuss all these things. We should be trying to address the problem before us, which is the pandemic."

Jubilee's Senate deputy whip Irungu Kang'ata said President Kenyatta was busy doing his legacy projects and building bridges among Kenyans.

"He is busy building roads. He is busy doing cash transfers to the elderly. He is busy fighting corona. As to secret cards and dynamic talk, those are issues that he cannot involve himself in. Let's wait for 2022, he will immerse himself in politics and give directions," Mr Kang'ata said.

Nandi Senator Samson Cherargei said the genesis of the problems in the country is politics of "deception and con-manship" brought about by the infamous "handshake."

"Theirs is an act of desperation of getting power. I didn't know Raila is so desperate such that he is now pushing to have a GNU. This is the *musu mkate* that we have all along been linking him with," Mr Cherargei said.

Politics

RAILA SHRUGGED OFF DYNASTY TALK

During the burial of former President Daniel arap Moi at his Kabarak home on February 12, in the presence of President Uhuru Kenyatta, DP William Ruto and Gideon Moi, ODM chief Raila Odinga dismissed claims of dynasties and said the younger Moi, just as any other Kenyan, had a right to aspire for any position in the country. He was reacting to the dynasty talk that had dominated the country's politics at the time.



AIG Kenya Insurance Company Ltd
AUDITED RESULTS
FOR THE YEAR 2019

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the year ended 31 December 2019	2019 Shs '000	2018 Shs '000
INCOME		
Gross written premiums	3,618,271	3,634,716
Outward reinsurance premiums	(2,693,826)	(2,792,737)
Net written premiums	924,445	841,979
Change in provision for unearned premiums	(2,406)	(4,695)
Net earned premiums	922,039	837,284
Investment income	421,339	339,007
Loss on disposal of investment property	-	(12,156)
Commissions receivable	1,081,638	1,090,716
Other expenses	(8,448)	(24,071)
Net income	2,421,568	2,230,774
EXPENSES		
Gross claims and policyholder benefits	970,882	2,024,862
Reinsurer's share of claims	(488,329)	(1,614,172)
Net claims and policyholder benefits	482,553	410,690
Operating and other expenses	965,719	714,320
Commissions payable	557,031	549,117
Total expenses	2,005,303	1,674,127
Profit before tax	416,265	556,647
Income tax expense	(146,544)	(178,894)
Profit after tax	269,721	377,753
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:		
Fair value (losses)/gains on available for sale investments - net of tax	(57,772)	19,983
Total comprehensive income for the year	211,949	397,736

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 31 December 2019	2019 Shs '000	2018 Shs '000
ASSETS		
Property and equipment	139,590	137,764
Intangible assets	9,282	12,300
Right-of-use assets	164,444	-
Receivables arising out of reinsurance arrangements	303,041	411,311
Receivables arising out of direct insurance arrangements	359,234	319,299
Reinsurer's share of insurance liabilities	2,325,960	2,859,070
Current income tax recoverable	71,058	-
Deferred income tax asset	77,121	50,242
Deferred acquisition costs	168,776	174,366
Other receivables and prepayments	216,483	375,884
Available for sale government securities	2,168,348	1,507,060
Held-to-maturity government securities	1,626,000	1,741,247
Deposits with financial institutions	2,057	380,786
Cash and bank balances	225,539	185,253
Total Assets	7,856,933	8,154,582
CAPITAL EMPLOYED		
Share capital	450,000	450,000
Retained earnings	1,525,364	1,410,390
Fair value reserve for available for sale investments	(40,521)	17,251
Proposed dividends	150,000	300,000
Shareholder's funds	2,084,843	2,177,641
LIABILITIES		
Insurance contract liabilities	2,242,414	2,693,404
Provision for unearned premiums	1,107,417	1,132,665
Deferred reinsurance commission	318,868	332,860
Payables arising from reinsurance arrangements	1,560,253	1,534,339
Tax payable	-	29,363
Other payables	378,833	214,310
Lease liabilities	164,285	-
Total Liabilities	5,772,090	5,976,941
Total Capital Employed and Liabilities	7,856,933	8,154,582

Key Ratios	2019	2018
Capital Adequacy Ratio	310%	266%
Gross Claims Ratio	27%	56%
Expense Ratio	42%	35%

The above statement of comprehensive income and statement of financial position are extracts of the company financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2019 which were audited by Deloitte & Touche and received an unqualified opinion. The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 14th April 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Charles Muchene
Chairman

Isaac Awuondo
Director

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www.aig.co.ke | Eden Square Complex, AIG House, Chiromo Road, P.O. Box 49460, 00100 Nairobi Kenya
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Disaster > Officials paint a bleak picture of a looming humanitarian crisis even as the rains continue unabated

Three killed in Bomet as marooned villagers appeal for urgent food aid

Entire villages have been cut off with no means of accessing food and medicine

BY NATION TEAM
newsdesk@kenationmedia.com

Three people have been killed after being swept away by raging flood waters in Bomet County. By the time of going to press yesterday, the body of a victim who drowned in Sisei River had not been recovered with divers searching for it for the third day. "The bodies of two victims who drowned in Kipsnoi River and a dam have been retrieved," said county disaster management officer Stanley Mutai. The floods have displaced at least 124 families in the last three days.

In Kakamega County, over 60 families in Mumias West have been rendered homeless. Some of them have sought refuge at Shibale Primary School. River Nzoia broke its banks on Saturday, flooding Angola, Shibale and Shitukhumi villages in Mumias Central ward.

Assess damage
Area Ward Rep Charles Odanga and sub-county administrator Protus Mwarumba led the disaster management team in a visit to the area to assess damage.

Residents said they are living in fear of contracting waterborne diseases after pit latrines collapsed. County head of disaster management Abigael Chepkorir asked those living in the flooded areas to move to higher grounds.

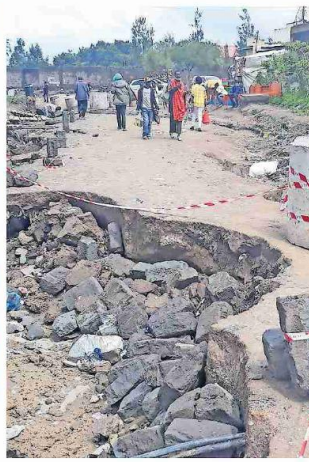
"Some families are still reluctant to move to the evacuation centre, but we shall do everything possible to move all of them," she said. Her team is drafting a report to determine the kind of assistance the affected families need, she added.

Ms Selina Indakwa, a Kenya Red Cross volunteer, said officials were assessing the damage before mobilising support.

Mr Mwarumba said he was working with the deputy county commissioner to enforce re-



Oblivious of the danger they face, pedestrians use a suspended railway track after flood waters washed away the soil and caused gully erosion in Elburgon, Nakuru County, yesterday, following a heavy down pour. Farms were destroyed and trees washed away.



Left: A man hops over a flooded road in Elburgon, Nakuru County yesterday. Right: A child plays in a muddy playground in Ganaola in Jomvu constituency, Mombasa County. The heavy rains that are pounding the country have led to loss of lives and properties.



PHOTOS | JOSEPH NJORGE & LABAN WALLOGA | NATION

location of families from the disaster zone.

"If they don't move out on their own volition, we shall force them to relocate so that we can save lives," Mr Mwarumba said.

The victims have appealed to the government to provide them with foodstuffs, blankets, clean water and medicines.

Kajiado Central and Kajiado West sub-counties have been cut off by floods with several roads rendered impassable.

Residents in Toroset village cannot access nearby Ilbisil town to buy food and other necessities after the only road was damaged and a bridge washed away. Locals accused the county

government of ignoring the crucial road.

"We're appealing to the county government to repair the road for us. We cannot access the nearby shopping centre to buy food or take patients to hospitals. We've been cut off completely," one of the residents, Mr Joshua Ngulu, said.

In Magadi, Kajiado West Sub-county, Pakase River has burst its banks, marooning entire villages. Miles away, Shompole River has flooded the area's only shopping centre.

All roads are impassable with Tata Chemicals Company temporarily closing down the road that cuts across Lake Magadi.

At a glance

AREAS THAT ARE AFFECTED

Kakamega County: over 60 families in Mumias West have been rendered homeless.

Kajiado County: Pakase River has burst its banks marooning entire villages. Miles away, Shompole River has flooded the area's only shopping centre.

Meru County: A mudslide has affected residents in Mukunga village.

Villagers have been forced to move to safer ground.

"The villagers are staring at starvation. We need relief food and medication. Transport has been disrupted and we fear for the worst if the rains continue," said Magadi MCA Joseph Masiya, even as County Commissioner Joshua Nkanatha urged people in low-lying areas to move to higher ground.

Last year more than 10 people were killed and properties destroyed by floods in the county.

In Meru County, the lives of about 10 families are at risk following a mudslide that swept away a large portion of the land next to their homes in Mukunga village.

The Saturday night incident saw several mature trees uprooted and dragged, together with huge rocks, for about 400 metres downhill, leaving a deep gully.

Hanging precariously
Igaril Chief Jacob Mainda said this was the fourth landslide in the area this year. He said four homes were just 10 metres from the gully that has now left a river flowing with muddy water that is moving at high speed.

Banana plantations were washed away together with other smaller trees and the debris deposited at the bottom of the hill.

"Some homes are hanging precariously and could come tumbling down if the rains persist. It is a bad situation because it is a shopping centre," Mr Mainda said.

Most of the roads leading to the area have also been damaged and residents are appealing for urgent aid.

Reporting by Vitalis Kimutai, Shaban Makokha, Stanley Ngoto and Charles Wanyoro

Locals fearful after rainwater leaves railway line suspended in Elburgon

BY NATION TEAM

A railway line in Elburgon has been left hanging precariously after flood waters swept away the underlying earth, leaving the metal dangerously suspended in the air.

On Sunday, the railway line was submerged in water but, yesterday, residents woke up to find the ground beneath it swept away. A resident said that although no train passes through the area anymore, the deep gulleys could cause deaths and injuries to pedestrians using the footpath. Those living downstream also risk being affected by floods and mudslides. Rift Valley Regional Coordinator George Ntembeya said the road will be closed.

In Baringo County, transport was disrupted after a landslide blocked the Sirwa-Kipngorom road.

The road that connects to the Ravine-Kabarnet road in Mogotio constituency was badly damaged after a bridge was washed away inside Kaplaimoi forest on Sunday morning. Road users urged the government to repair it speedily.

Mr Samuel Kiptim, a resident of Sirwa, said the road is of great importance, but it has been neglected for many years with little attention given to it. In Naivasha, at least five families have been relocated to a nursery school at Ndabibi following heavy flooding. A community leader, Mr Justus Ekeno, put the number of the affected persons at 40, adding, villagers in Nduro and Huruma have been hit hardest.

"A majority of those affected have nothing to eat after food stored in their granaries was destroyed," he said.

Since last year, Mr Ekeno disclosed, the area has been hit hard by floods, with river Marmaret breaking its banks.

"Flooding is a perennial problem in Ndabibi and the county government should address the problem with urgency," Mr Ekeno said. Naivasha Deputy County Commissioner Mboyo Mathiyoa said the issue was being handled by the disaster team.

"It's a problem that the county disaster team has promised to address," said the administrator. In December last year, 50 families in Huruma village were rendered homeless due to flooding. A majority of the victims have abandoned their homes and moved to safer ground as the water levels keep on rising.

Reporting by John Njoroge, Samuel Baya and Macharia Mwangi

Probe > Senators quiz hospital boss

KNH: We did everything to save Walibora

Celebrated author was marked as an 'unknown African man' on arrival

BY SAMWEL OWINO
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Kenya National Hospital (KNH) yesterday gave a blow-by-blow account of how celebrated writer Ken Walibora lost his life at the facility even as it denied negligence in attending to him.

According to Dr Kamuri, KNH in an ambulance on April 10 at exactly 9.53am and was marked as "unknown African man".

He told the committee in the Zoom meeting that immediately the author was brought into the facility, he was categorised as a critical patient and immediately taken to a seven-bed capacity resuscitation room that is within the ICU room.

"The patient was bleeding and had serious multiple injuries to the face and was attended to at 10.10am," Dr Kamuri said.

Unable to breath by himself
The CEO told the committee chaired by Senator Michael Mbiti that at 4pm, the condition of Prof Walibora changed and he was by then unable to breathe by himself.

At 8pm, Dr Kamuri said, the condition of the celebrated Kiswahili writer further deteriorated due to what he said was intra-cerebral damage that affected his breathing system, but once again the doctors managed to resuscitate him.

At 12.10am, the CEO said his condition became worse and doctors frantically tried to save his life for one hour, but they lost him at 1.10am due to severe head injury.

Dr Kamuri dismissed reports that the hospital refused to attend to the writer, saying Prof Walibora was seen by three senior doctors with different specialities.

"At KNH when a patient is brought at the emergency area, we don't care whether you have money or NHIF card or your social status. The first thing we do is to attend and stabilise you before we ask for payment because you can only pay when healthy," Dr Kamuri said.

It is only after three days that relatives of Prof Walibora came to the hospital looking for him, but they could not identify him due to the damaged face hence

his fingerprints were taken to confirm his identity.

Senators, however, questioned the management of the hospital on why it took so long for Prof Walibora to be taken to the ICU.

Dr Kamuri said the resuscitation room is equally well equipped just like the ICU hence the deceased received all the care he would have received at the main ICU area.

He said the hospital has not come out to clarify the events that led to the death because the family had requested it not to engage with the media.

"We respected the family request on patient confidentiality," Dr Kamuri said.

Going forward, Dr Kamuri said there was need to attend to patients on time, pointing out that the first four minutes of attending to an injured patient are critical.

Prof Walibora was knocked down by a matatu on Landhies Road next to the entrance to Machakos bus station on April 10. To date, the driver of the Double M bus, Mr George Mburu, has not been arrested despite police saying they were going to charge him for causing death by dangerous driving.

Detectives said Mr Mburu claimed he never saw the former journalist running across the road, and that he may have hit the bus from the side.

Police say the driver of the bus was arrested and made to record a statement after the accident. It is reported that on being hit, Prof Walibora lay bleeding on the road until a good Samaritan drove him to hospital.

The former news anchor was buried at his Huruma village home, Cherangany Constituency in Trans-Nzoia County on Wednesday last week. The ceremony was attended by only 15 people in line with the government's directives to contain the spread of coronavirus.



At KNH when a patient is brought at the emergency area, we don't care whether you have money or NHIF card or your social status," Dr Evanson Kamuri, KNH chief executive

Judges reject appeal by trader who killed lover

BY JOSEPH WANGUI

Nairobi businessman Erastus Ngura Odhiambo will now spend 20 years in prison for shooting his lover after a three-judge bench threw out his appeal and described him as a "man dangerous to the society".

According to the Court of Appeal, Mr Odhiambo even deserved a more severe sentence for the cold-blood murder of lawyer Linda Wanjiku Irungu in Buruburu six years ago.

"The appellant appears to be part of a growing number of young persons who enjoy affluence and think that human life

is of no value," said Justices William Ouko, Wanjiru Karanja and Fatuma Sichale ruled while upholding the sentence rendered by the High Court in August 2018.

During the murder incident that occurred on the night of December 11-12, 2014, Mr Odhiambo pulled the deceased out of her moving car and shot her at close range.

"As if it was not enough to kill her, the appellant continued to kick the lifeless body of the deceased, all an indication of malice aforethought. The circumstances depict a man who is dangerous to society and he ought to have received a more severe sentence," stated the judges.

However, they failed to interfere with the sentence because there was no cross-appeal by the prosecution.

After analysing the evidence, the court said it appeared that Mr Odhiambo and the deceased's relationship was beset with matrimonial disharmony as well as violence to the extent that the deceased was apprehensive of her safety.

Mr Odhiambo had faulted the trial judge for convicting him without sufficient evidence. But the appellate judges ruled that the evidence against the appellant was overwhelming and his conviction was well founded.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
	2019 KShs	2018 KShs		2019 KShs	2018 KShs
Gross written premium	2,810,253,425	2,602,359,380	CAPITAL EMPLOYED		
Net decrease in unearned premium reserves	12,355,717	31,589,230	Share capital	693,000,000	693,000,000
Gross earned premiums	2,822,609,142	2,633,948,610	Retained earnings	730,430,017	588,632,649
Less: reinsurance premium ceded	(725,737,548)	(640,612,513)	Revaluation reserve	51,465,032	(18,797,263)
Net earned premiums	2,096,871,594	1,993,336,097	Proposed dividend	85,010,310	88,004,100
Investment and other income	340,211,386	327,862,007	Shareholders' funds	1,559,905,359	1,320,839,484
Gain on revaluation of investment properties	40,000,000	30,000,000	REPRESENTED BY:		
Commissions earned	206,232,647	180,324,530	Assets		
Net income	2,683,315,627	2,531,622,634	Vehicles and equipment	69,257,088	79,476,974
Claims payable	1,718,219,803	1,700,077,821	Investment properties	410,000,000	540,000,000
Less: amounts recoverable from reinsurers	(390,597,368)	(475,760,472)	Intangible assets	39,199,334	39,199,334
Net claims payable	1,327,622,435	1,224,317,449	Deferred acquisition cost	130,791,946	126,752,444
Operating and other expenses	(650,014,880)	(643,350,965)	Kenya Motor Insurance Pool	9,074,691	11,596,648
Commissions payable	(398,595,540)	(373,248,696)	Reinsurers' share of technical provisions and reserves	427,939,228	369,088,497
Profit before tax	307,082,763	290,705,524	Other receivables and prepayments	206,204,171	30,966,715
Income tax expense	(58,963,976)	(65,826,942)	Right of use assets	173,173,887	-
Profit for the year after tax	248,118,787	224,878,582	Current tax recoverable	-	3,247,319
Other comprehensive income:			Government securities at amortised cost	569,667,662	1,376,750,506
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss			Government securities at FVOCI	91,980,670	-
Change in fair value of quoted shares	64,378,103	(19,757,223)	Corporate bonds at amortised cost	7,250,700	10,962,922
Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			Equity investments at FVOCI:		
Change in fair value of government securities (FVOCI)	8,405,991	-	- Listed securities	262,421,436	176,676,531
Deferred tax on fair value (gain)/loss	(3,251,797)	5,836,096	- Unlisted securities	834,875	824,875
Total other comprehensive income	70,262,297	(33,921,127)	Receivables arising out of reinsurance arrangements	184,122,068	245,233,004
Total comprehensive income for the year	318,381,084	210,957,455	Receivables arising out of direct insurance arrangements	555,211,786	738,478,979
attributable to shareholders of the Company			Deferred tax asset	5,900,781	-
Earnings per share	358.04	353.36	Deposits with financial institutions	238,943,231	112,780,687
Interim dividend proposed for the year	-	6,029,100	Cash and cash equivalents	108,790,361	81,847,714
Final dividend proposed for the year	85,010,310	51,975,000	TOTAL ASSETS	4,314,753,915	3,943,017,149
			Liabilities		
			Deferred tax liability	-	6,462,672
			Current tax payable	43,913,086	-
			Insurance contract liabilities	1,355,000,089	1,449,888,441
			Unearned premium reserve	942,821,362	919,037,227
			Creditors arising from reinsurance arrangements	165,023,820	159,220,657
			Lease liabilities	188,279,539	-
			Other payables	59,804,660	87,568,668
			Total liabilities	2,754,848,556	2,622,177,665
			NET ASSETS	1,559,905,359	1,320,839,484
			KEY RATIOS	2019	2018
			1) Capital Adequacy	158%	108%
			2) Claims Ratio	61%	65%
			3) Expense Ratio	37%	39%

The above are extracts from the Financial Statements which were audited by KPMG Kenya and have received an unqualified opinion. The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 March 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Mike Eldon
Chairman

Mayank Patel
Director

Asok Ghosh
Principal Officer



Our credit rating affirms our strong financial metrics and ability to settle claims promptly.

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Reforms > Beverage factories should procure transport services through agriculture authority

Tea agency dismisses new rules

KTDA terms some of the proposed rules as punitive and unlawful

BY GITONGA MARETE
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A smallholder tea farmers company has poked holes in the Tea Industry Regulations, 2020, citing some of them as unconstitutional. Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Peter Munya released the regulations last week and gave stakeholders 14 days within which to present their views. In a brief that will be presented to the ministry, Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) dismisses some of the rules, terming them unconstitutional and punitive.

Bureaucratic tendencies
KTDA says the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) has been given too much power that will result in bureaucratic tendencies, thus stifling the sector's growth. Rule 10 (7) requires a factory to have 250 hectares of planted tea before renewal of their licences—a requirement KTDA says will pose challenges to factories. The rule, KTDA said, "implies that farmers must give up land

to the factory. This is unconstitutional since it interferes with an individual's right to own property." And rule 10 (12) requires a tea manufacturer to build a factory within three years of issuance of a licence, or risk losing the permit. This, KTDA said, meant farmers will not have enough time to accumulate the needed equity to build satellite factories "and the spirit and intention of this regulation is therefore punitive." And while Mr Paul Ringera, a director at Githongo Tea Factory, found some of the rules good, he cautioned that some would work against the sector. "The ministry should exercise caution so that farmers who are being protected are not disadvantaged. For instance, the rule requiring factories to procure transport services through AFA will render our drivers jobless," he said in a telephone interview yesterday. Since the agency procures farm inputs such as fertilisers on behalf of farmers, there have been claims that KTDA manipulates prices. Regulation 10 (19) states that

before a factory is issued with a licence, it will have to satisfy AFA that it has a policy providing for competitive procurement of goods and services including but not limited to fertiliser, machinery and equipment, warehousing and transportation of tea. According to KTDA, if the rule comes into force, the management of factories will be interfered with. "AFA will have to approve procurement of fertiliser, machinery, equipment, transporting and warehousing of tea. Procurement will not be centralised and factories will have to make their arrangements for procuring farm inputs and will thus not enjoy the current economies of scale, which will be expensive," the agency notes. The far-reaching reforms seek to clip the powers of the agency, which has been blamed for dwindling farmers' earnings. KTDA has been accused of lording over the 69 tea factories it manages, going as far as appointing company secretaries for them, and manipulating election of factory directors.

At a glance

BLAMED FOR FARMER'S WOES
The reforms seek to clip the powers of the agency, which has been blamed for dwindling farmers' earnings. KTDA has been accused of lording over the 69 tea factories it manages. It has also been accused of manipulating election of factory directors.

Preferred buyers
While KTDA was directed to pay farmers 50 per cent of the value of tea delivered in factories, direct sale of tea was outlawed, with all teas required to be auctioned at the Mombasa auction managed by the East African Tea Trade Association. Through direct sales, KTDA has been accused of offering favourable prices for the commodity to preferred buyers, affecting farmers' earnings.

BRIEFLY

NAROK

Two warring clans surrender firearms

Members of Uasin Gishu and Siria clans of the Maasai community in Trans-Mara West have surrendered nine firearms and 62 rounds of ammunition. The guns are among weapons used during skirmishes between the two clans. Elders from both clans apologised for the atrocities and shame caused during the skirmishes, vowing to maintain peace. "This marks the beginning of lasting peace," an elder said.

—Ruth Mbula

SIAYA

Court orders sacked staff to be reinstated

Siaya Governor Cornel Rasanga has suffered a blow after a court ordered the reinstatement of a member of the county public service board, who was irregularly removed from office. Justice Mathew Nderi of the Employment and Labour Court in Kisumu ruled that Mr Ishmael Onyango Noo was supposed to serve for six years as a board member.

—Justus Ochieng

40 years jail for killer of Kingi guard

BY PHILIP MUYANGA

The Court of Appeal has substituted a death sentence imposed on a suspected member of the Mombasa Republican Council with a 40-year jail term. Faraji Konde was sentenced to death eight years ago for killing Kilifi Governor Amason Kingi's bodyguard. However, the Court of Appeal dismissed Konde's appeal against conviction, saying, it was devoid of merit. Appellate judges Daniel Musinga, Gatembu Kairu and Agnes Murgor noted that the trial judge at the High Court considered that his hands were tied due to the mandatory nature of death sentence for the offence of murder as it was then before the Supreme Court ruling. "Beyond seeking leniency and stating that he is a family man, the appellant does not appear to have been remorseful. Considering the cruel manner in which the deceased was killed, a severe custodial sentence is called for," the judges said.

Protracted trial

Konde was charged alongside three other accused persons with the murder of police constable Harrison Maitha Mweni. The offence was committed on October 4, 2012 at Mtomondoni open ground in Mtwapa. After a protracted trial before Mombasa High Court Judge Martin Muya, in which 21 witnesses testified, Konde was found guilty and handed the death penalty as his co-accused were acquitted. Mr Kingi, who at the time a minister for Fisheries, and Senator Stewart Madzayo, also testified. The politicians were to address a public rally at the open grounds before an attack occurred, leading to the death of the bodyguard.



TONNY OMONDI | NATION

Social distancing? Not us

A bodaboda with his passengers go about their business in Kogello, Siaya County, yesterday, disregarding the social distancing rule and order to wear masks.

Mumias receiver manager blamed

BY BENSON AMADALA AND SHABAN MAKOKHA

Two MPs have accused the receiver manager appointed by Kenya Commercial Bank to turn around the financially troubled Mumias Sugar Company of doing little to salvage the miller. This is after the receiver manager, Mr Ponnangipalli Venkata Ramana Rao, announced that the miller had been forced to stop ethanol production due to a Sh100 million bond deposit tussle with the Kenya Revenue Authority. Lugari MP Ayub Savula said he is

planning to move to court seeking to have the receiver manager stopped from operating at the factory. Mr Savula and Mumias East MP Benjamin Washiali said they are disappointed with the performance of the receiver manager since he took over the company last September. Mr Rao said he was forced to abandon ethanol production since all the money the miller was making was being spent on paying taxes. "We have hit the wall in our negotiations with KRA and there is no point in continuing with ethanol production since we are only making

losses and cannot sustain the operations," said Mr Rao. But Mr Washiali said Mr Rao should work closely with the Kakamega County government and adhere to recommendations contained in the sugar taskforce report to revive the miller. Mr Savula claimed the miller has sold ethanol worth Sh300 million in the last three months. "He needs to pay taxes to KRA as the law requires (him to do so)," the MP said. Mr Washiali said Mr Rao should not expect to receive tax remissions on sale of ethanol without following the law.

KIRINYAGA

County starts mass production of masks

Kirinyaga has started bulk production of masks at Kaitheri Wezesha Mama Apparel Factory in Kerugoya town. The factory, which has created jobs to women in the textile industry, is producing 1,000 masks daily. Governor Anne Waiguru said the masks are made in compliance with the laid down standards, which include using materials that have been certified by the Kenya Bureau of Standards. The masks will be distributed to locals.

—George Munene

THARAKA-NITHI

Concern as Sh7bn for water projects diverted



A National Assembly committee has expressed concerns that most of the ongoing water projects in the country are likely to stall following the diversion of Sh7 billion from the docket to fighting Covid-19 pandemic. Speaking in Maara, Environment and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Kareke Mbituki said out of Sh750 million meant for compensation of victims of human-wildlife conflict, Sh250 million had also been diverted to battling the pandemic.

—Alex Njeru

MOTOR VEHICLES FOR SALE

NO.	MOTOR VEHICLE REG. NO./ TENDER NO.	MODEL	YEAR	RESERVE VALUE	YARD
1	KCJ 797P	Toyota Fielder NZE1	2009	Kes 700,000.00	Auckland Storage Investment Yard - 0722519586
2	KBU 492K	Mitsubishi Lancer DBA-CS2A	2006	Kes 300,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
3	KCH 534Z	Isuzu TFR86	2016	Kes 1,429,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
4	KCL 605L	Toyota Fielder	2010	Kes 750,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
5	KCU 159L	Isuzu Dmax S/cab	2019	Kes 1,900,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
6	KCD 745S	Nissan DBF-VM20	2010	Kes 494,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
7	KBA 201N	Isuzu TFS77	2007	Kes 550,000.00	Capitol Diamond Storage - Nairobi - 0721391678
8	KCD 876Y	Isuzu Truck FVZ23 - truck	2015	Kes 4,760,000.00	Central Farmers Garage - Kitale - 0702690324
9	KCH 308N	Isuzu FSR	2015	Kes 2,860,000.00	Dubai Storage Yard - 0722377411
10	KCC 380V	Isuzu FVZ	2014	Kes 5,960,000.00	Eldoret Auction Centre And Storage Services - Eldoret - 0700106795
11	KCD 338V	Ashok Leyland Eagle	2012	Kes 900,000.00	Excellence & Integrity Auctioneers - 0722850985
12	KCT 059S	Honda Fit	2012	Kes 830,000.00	Grey Post Limited - Nairobi - 0740636718
13	KCB 549N	Toyota CBA - NC220	2007	Kes 380,000.00	Kyevaluki Yard - Nairobi - 0791780104
14	KBP 430V	Eicher Bus	2009	Kes 880,000.00	Kyevaluki Yard - Nairobi - 0791780104
15	KCH 179Z	Hino FC3JLPA-ANX	2015	Kes 2,600,000.00	Leakey's Storage Ltd - Nairobi - 0727872478
16	KCP 543V	Nissan Note	2010	Kes 430,000.00	Leakey's Storage Ltd - Nairobi - 0727872478
17	KCE 842J	Mitsubishi Canter	2014	Kes 1,900,000.00	Leakey's Storage Ltd - Nairobi - 0727872478
18	KBR 958S	Hyundai Truck	2012	Kes 750,000.00	Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd - Mombasa - 0722838210
19	KCQ 574K	Axor-prime Mover	2012	Kes 4,080,000.00	Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd - Mombasa - 0722838210
20	KAN 679G	Nissan Caravan	1991	Kes 250,000.00	Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd - Mombasa - 0722838210
21	KCG 038T	Faw Tipper	2015	Kes 2,840,000.00	Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd - Mombasa - 0722838210
22	KAX 191W	Toyota Vitz	2000	Kes 220,000.00	Purple Royal Storage & Auction Yard - 0725077948
23	KBQ 179Z	Mitsubishi FH215	2011	Kes 2,310,000.00	Purple Royal Storage & Auction Yard - 0725077948
24	KBU 660X	Mitsubishi FH215	2012	Kes 1,600,000.00	Purple Royal Storage & Auction Yard - 0725077948
25	KCM 240J	Isuzu NPR	2017	Kes 2,430,000.00	Purple Royal Storage & Auction Yard - 0725077948
26	KCE 076W	Tiida Latio SC11	2008	Kes 450,000.00	Purple Royal Storage & Auction Yard - 0725077948
27	KBM 332H	Suzuki Omni	2009	Kes 100,000.00	Sanjoma Auctioneers Storage & Auction Yard - 0722857489/0790550775
28	KAP 419Y	Toyota Starlet	1990	Kes 120,000.00	Startruck Investments - 0721310340
29	KAH 466A	Iveco 909	1996	Kes 400,000.00	Startruck Investments - 0721310340
30	KCL 099Y	Isuzu NPR66	2017	Kes 2,250,000.00	Upcountry Security Services - 0722305599
31	KCD 364Q	Isuzu FRR	2015	Kes 1,150,000.00	Wachenuya Auto Garage - 0722772996
32	KBT 756A	Isuzu TFR54	2010	Kes 140,000.00	Yamuko Storage Garage - Kisumu - 0722610322
33	KBV 704E	Leyland Ashok	2012	Kes 1,000,000.00	Yamuko Storage Garage - Kisumu - 0722610322

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Vehicles are sold 'AS IS WHERE IS' basis
- Viewing of Motor vehicles to be done before placing a bid.
- Only Offers sent on/before the specified closing date will be considered.
- Bidding to be done online only via <https://vehiclesales.co-opbank.co.ke/>
- Bids to reach us by 18th May 2020.

For more information contact us on 0711049069.



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NYAYO TEA ZONES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

TENDER NOTICE

The Nyayo Tea Zones Development Corporation (NTZDC) invites sealed bids from eligible candidates' suppliers / contractors for supply and delivery of various goods, pre-qualification for the provision of various works and services, and purchase of boarded items.

Existing Suppliers who wish to be retained in our new register must apply a fresh for consideration.

CATEGORY A: ANNUAL TENDERS - 2020-2022			
NO.	TENDER REF. NO.	TENDER DESCRIPTION	ELIGIBILITY
1	NTZDC/TN/01/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of General Stationary	Special Groups
2	NTZDC/TN/02/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Printed Stationary	Special Groups
3	NTZDC/TN/03/2020-2022	Provision of Security Services	Open
4	NTZDC/TN/04/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Motor Vehicle Tyres, Tubes & Batteries	Open
5	NTZDC/TN/05/2020-2022	Provision of General Office Cleaning	Special Groups
6	NTZDC/TN/06/2020-2022	Provision of Motor Vehicle Insurance Covers	Open
7	NTZDC/TN/07/2020-2022	Provision of Staff Medical Insurance Covers	Open
8	NTZDC/TN/08/2020-2022	Provision of Insurance Covers Risk Notes	Open
9	NTZDC/TN/09/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Primary Packaging Materials	Open
10	NTZDC/TN/10/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Paper Sacks	Open
11	NTZDC/TN/11/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Corrugated Cartons	Open
12	NTZDC/TN/12/2020-2022	Sale of Boarded Motor Vehicles and Items	Open
13	NTZDC/TN/13/2020-2022	Sale of scrap farm tools and spare parts	Open
14	NTZDC/TN/14/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Bio-fuel Briquettes	Open

CATEGORY B: PRE-QUALIFICATION OF TENDERS - 2020-2022			
NO.	TENDER REF. NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ELIGIBILITY
15.	NTZDC/TN/15/2020-2022	Provision of Below the Line (BTL) Sales and Marketing services, Activation, Merchandising, Distribution out of door POS materials	Open
16.	NTZDC/TN/16/2020-2022	Provision of Above the Line (ATL) Sales and Marketing services, such as branding, designing, media planning and management brand strategy, PR service, A & P strategy etc.	Open
17.	NTZDC/TN/17/2020-2022	Provision of Hotel/Conference facilities (Nairobi, Nakuru, Eldoret, Mombasa, Nyeri, Embu, Meru, Kericho, Kakamega, Narok).	Open
18.	NTZDC/TN/18/2020-2022	Provision of Documentary Photography, Video and audio recording	Open
19.	NTZDC/TN/19/2020-2022	Provision of Corporate Branding including editing, designing & printing	Open
20.	NTZDC/TN/20/2020-2022	Provision of Air Travel and Hotel Booking	Open
21.	NTZDC/TN/21/2020-2022	Provision of taxi and general transport hire services	Open
22.	NTZDC/TN/22/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Computers, Equipment and Accessories	Open
23.	NTZDC/TN/23/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Motor Vehicle Spare Parts	Open
24.	NTZDC/TN/24/2020-2022	Repairs and maintenance of Motor Vehicle (Nairobi Area)	Open
25.	NTZDC/TN/25/2020-2022	Regional garages (Kitale, Kakamega, Eldoret, Kericho, Bomet, Kapsabet, Nakuru, Embu, Meru, Nyeri, Muranga)	Open
26.	NTZDC/TN/26/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Farm Tools	Special Groups
27.	NTZDC/TN/27/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of Farm Inputs	Special Groups
28.	NTZDC/TN/28/2020-2022	Provision of Transport Services (Green Leaf & Made Tea)	Open
29.	NTZDC/TN/29/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of office furniture, equipment and fittings	Open
30.	NTZDC/TN/30/2020-2022	Servicing, repairs, maintenance and stamping of weighing scales	Open
31.	NTZDC/TN/31/2020-2022	Supply and Delivery of staff uniforms and personal protective equipment	Open
32.	NTZDC/TN/32/2020-2022	Supply and Application of Epoxy floor finish	Open
33.	NTZDC/TN/33/2020-2022	Provision of Clearing & Forwarding services	Open
34.	NTZDC/TN/34/2020-2022	Design, editing and publication of NTZDC Newsletter	Open
35.	NTZDC/TN/35/2020-2022	Repairs and maintenance of factory machinery	Open
36.	NTZDC/TN/36/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of factory maintenance spares & materials	Open
37.	NTZDC/TN/37/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of factory electrical spares and materials	Open
38.	NTZDC/TN/38/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of factory hardware tools and materials	Open
39.	NTZDC/TN/39/2020-2022	Supply and maintenance fire alarms and extinguishers	Open
40.	NTZDC/TN/40/2020-2022	Provision of Boiler inspection /maintenance & repairs	Open
41.	NTZDC/TN/41/2020-2022	Provision of Consultancy Services	Open
42.	NTZDC/TN/42/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of Boiler treatment chemicals	Open
43.	NTZDC/TN/43/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of factory cleaning chemicals/detergents	Open
44.	NTZDC/TN/44/2020-2022	Supply and delivery of parts and consumables for tea processing machineries	Open
45.	NTZDC/TN/45/2020-2022	Repairs, Servicing and maintenance of factory generators.	Open

Specials Groups includes Youth, Women and Persons with disabilities who have been duly registered with the National Treasury (Director of Procurement) and they must show proof of registration by providing valid certificate of Registration.

Tender and Pre-qualification documents with details of items can be downloaded for FREE from the PPIP portal www.tenders.co.ke or (www.teazones.co.ke) or May be obtained from Nyayo Tea Zones Development Corporation's Procurement Office at Nyayo House 11th Floor, upon payment of a **NON- REFUNDABLE fee of KSh1,000 (One Thousand for annual tenders only. Payment can be made in cash or Bankers Cheque payable to the Nyayo Tea Zones Development Corporation.**

NB. After the closing date, tenders will be opened as per the PPRA REF. NO. PPRA/6/S VOL.1(1), Circular NO. 02/2020 to ensure safety of all from the corona virus. Bidders are expected to forward their details and the respective tender number(s) applied for, for registration to enable the procuring entity contact them for opening after the closing date.

Tenders must be accompanied by bid security in form of a bank guarantee or as specified in the tender documents.

Applications shall be submitted in clearly marked plain sealed envelopes indicating the reference number(s) for the Annual Tenders or Pre-qualifications and be deposited in the Tender Box at Nyayo Tea Zones Office 11th floor, or be addressed to the address below on or before **12 noon on 12th May, 2020**:

**MANAGING DIRECTOR
NYAYO TEA ZONES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
P. O. BOX 48552, 00100 NAIROBI.
TEL: 315650-7, FAX NO. 216777
E-Mail: info@teazones.co.ke**

Prices quoted shall be net and inclusive of all taxes, and must be in Kenya Shilling which shall remain valid for 90 days from the closing date of the tender. Tenders shall be opened immediately in the presence of candidates or their representatives who choose to attend in the Corporation's Boardroom on 11th Floor of Nyayo House.



Tweak school calendar for classroom teaching

The government has finally clarified the school calendar. Second term begins in June, not next week as earlier planned, putting learners out of school for two and a half months. Arguably, this is a major disruption and, although schools have been closed for weeks in the past, especially during teachers' strikes, this is unprecedented. When schools were closed in mid-March, learners had not sat the end-of-term examinations and teachers had hardly covered the syllabus. What it means is that a lot of work awaits learners and teachers when schools reopen. Crucially, the closure affects Form Four and Standard Eight candidates, particularly regarding their preparation for the national exams. Ordinarily, exam classes complete the syllabus in second term and devote third term for revision. In fact, in July they sit mock exams, which is a test run for their preparedness and with the understanding that they have completed the syllabus. This is not going to be the case this time round. By the time they go back to school and pick up from where they left, second term will be over with learning content not fully mastered.

It is instructive, however, that Education Cabinet Secretary George Magoha has made a commitment that learners, especially candidates, will not be disadvantaged. Our reading of that is, the Education ministry will revise the calendar to create more time for teaching and learners to go through their coursework.

To realise that, the second term should be extended by three weeks, the August holiday shortened to just one week and third term prolonged to the end of November. Importantly, primary and secondary school exam dates should be pushed by a month, to November and December, to free more time for learning.

Everything held constant, exams should not be cancelled; they should just be postponed. However, all co-curricular activities have to be suspended for the rest of the year to focus on academics. A matter of concern that we have pronounced ourselves on here is the challenge of online teaching and learning that the ministry has been pushing through the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD). Our argument remains that the plan is novel but not feasible.

A large majority of learners cannot access the programmes through radio, television and online due to practical challenges of unavailability of the requisite infrastructure such as power and internet connectivity and also gadgets and financial resources for airtime. Worse, there is no system for supervising the learners. In view of this, the government should work towards a definite reopening of schools in June so that all learners can resume studies under the assured tutelage of their teachers.

Courts can meet challenge

We have it on good authority that the idea of working from home as a means to keep the deadly coronavirus at bay is not as easy as expected. In the Judiciary, Chief Justice David Maraga was compelled to send a stern warning to magistrates and judges taking advantage of this to shun their duties.

The CJ accused a few judicial officers of frustrating the Judiciary's effort to conduct proceedings remotely to ensure justice is done in these difficult times. Since he announced the suspension of court attendance a month ago, there has been progress in virtual proceedings. This is meant to prevent magistrates, judges, other staff, litigants and their lawyers from contracting the virus.

The consequences of the partial shutdown include worsening the perennial case backlog. Mr Maraga has, during his tenure, prioritised the clearance of the numerous pending cases. However, his legacy could end up being tainted as the judicial boss who came in breathing fire but left behind a mountain of unheard cases.

Technology is a good option but there are challenges, including ignorance, capacity and poor internet connectivity. This is why it makes sense to seek other means to complement the virtual proceedings. One is to explore the use of limited court appearances, where only the magistrate or judge, prosecutor and the litigant's or suspect's lawyer take part. That would discourage crowding in courts, in line with the social distancing rule, and enforce other safety measures, including washing hands with soap, using sanitisers and maintaining a high level of hygiene.

The government has allowed restaurants to resume operations on condition that the owners and patrons strictly adhere to the safety guidelines, particularly regarding Covid-19. There is no reason why this cannot be done in the courts as well.

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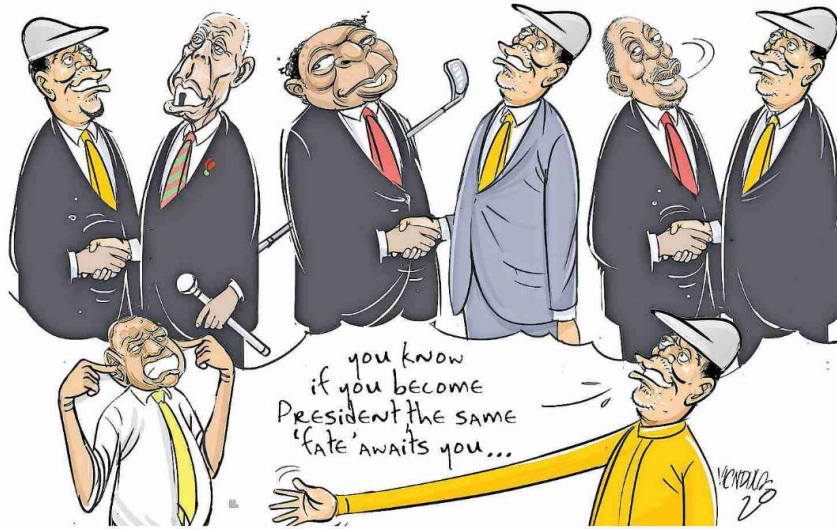
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BLOWING ONE'S TRUMPET >

Finally, we have a 'dawa', proof of where the devil came from

I'm seated out on the terrace trying to soak in the elusive rays of the sun. An alternative source of heat and light is needed on a dull cloudy day, so I figure that jump cables connected from the car battery and pinched onto my nipples should suffice to zap into smithereens any coronavirus lurking in my body.

American President Donald J. Trump, PhD (Trump University) would be looking on in approval. By my side sits a strong cocktail of Jik, Dettol and Harpic disinfectants, with a pinch of Malarquin. That should clean out any residual virus. If need be, I will go beyond oral ingestion to direct injection.

Beyond prescriptions from the 'stable genius', we have our own home-grown solution. Nairobi Governor Mike Sonko, PhD (Kenya Meth University), has determined that alcohol-based sanitisers are good for more than just cleaning hands.

That is why my Trumpet disinfectant cocktail does not come alone but is accompanied by a chaser of throat sanitiser.

Governor Sonko included Hennessy Brandy in the corona survival packs distributed to his legions but I am a firm supporter of the 'Buy Kenyan, Build Kenya' mantra; so, I opt for the finest indigenous *chang'aa* triple-distilled gin on special order from a peasant farmer on the shores of Lake Victoria who is a real entrepreneur and innovator.

What matters is not the label but the potency. I am

assured that the stuff — which has always gone by names such as 'Kill Me Quick', 'Jet Fuel' and 'Machosi ya Simba (Lion Tears)' — packs enough punch to send coronavirus fleeing for dear life.

The properly distilled stuff burns with a fine blue flame. I wonder how it would work if I took a healthy swig and then set it alight. Trumpet science dictates that the virus will be simultaneously hit by both the sanitiser effect and the heat and light impact.

Brilliant! I must recommend this to Mr Trump as his personal first line of defence, seeing as social distancing for him is impractical, given the sheer number of adoring Trumpettes demanding close ministrations.

The therapy will also guarantee wonders for his electric hairdo and bright orange tan.

Original proponent

What many don't know, by the way, is that I was the original proponent of throat sanitiser. Before Governor Sonko appropriated my idea and catapulted himself to world fame — including promotional spots by Trevor Noah and other US TV talk show hosts — I had devised the concept and freely shared it on social media platforms.

Where Sonko beat me was in picking up the idea and running with it to implementation. Some have suggested that I should sue to secure my intellectual property rights but, frankly, I'm not interested. At a time we all need to make



MACHARIA GAITO

I don't ask for anything in return but should the Nobel Prize eggheads recognise me, alongside Mr Trump, for my contribution to world health and happiness, I will not turn them down."

contributions to the global war against coronavirus, I am happy to offer the throat sanitiser regimen as my gift to the world.

I don't ask for anything in return but should the Nobel Prize eggheads recognise me, alongside Mr Trump, for my contribution to world health and happiness, I will not turn them down.

In the meantime, all of us across the globe must join hands to defeat this monster in our midst. We read over the weekend that key leaders of the Italian Mafia had been freed from jail because of the way Covid-19 is running riot within the penal system. Now we can easily put two

and two together. The Mafiosi conspired with Chinese counterparts to steal and spread coronavirus. That explains the Italian and Wuhan epicentres.

Intention was not just to spring the Godfathers out of jail but to topple President Trump and achieve world domination.

New York, the US infection hotspot, is home of the American Cosa Nostra branch. Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is of Italian stock. He is assigned to make President Trump look stupid.

More jobs to sell

He also has a history of collaboration with Microsoft tycoon Bill Gates, who runs a side hustle promoting vaccination around the world. He has more jobs to sell now, alongside antivirus kits for his computer systems.

With his Chinese friends, Mr Gates must have an interest in the new 5G mobile phone systems being deployed to spread coronavirus across the world.

He has also been a strong backer of President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary, and another former President, Barack Obama. All are responsible for creating the socialist mess President Trump is sorting out to Make America Great Again for the White Christian American.

Why didn't we join all these dots before?

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EDUCATION >

Ensure gender balance in teacher training colleges to attain equity

In the past 10 years, there has been a downward trend in enrolment of male candidates to teacher training colleges at the primary school level. I've heard from a number of principals that, in some colleges, female students comprise two-thirds to three-quarters of the total number. Should the trend continue, we will have boys in primary school almost exclusively taught by female teachers. They will have no male role models in their formative years. This state of affairs is worrying and calls for a solution by the relevant government departments.

But economic trends over the past two decades point to alternatives for the male gender that are more exciting and faster in bringing in returns. The bodaboda, construction and M-Pesa businesses stand out. Let us consider bodaboda business. Take two students who completed KCSE in 2014. Student A chooses to buy a bodaboda motorcycle in 2015. He starts his business in an urban setting. An interview I carried out indicates that student A could make Sh800 to Sh2,400 a day. With an average of Sh1,500, he would have a monthly income of Sh45,000 that is largely untaxed. This may reduce to Sh40,000 due to a

few days he may not be at work. In addition, bodaboda riders in large groups are influential. During political campaigns, they form pressure groups that cannot be ignored by aspirants. This becomes an additional source of income for them. By 2022, student A will most likely be married and his first child joining primary school. Student B completes KCSE in 2014 and joins a teachers college in September 2015. He is trained for two years, therefore graduating in late 2017 or early 2018. It takes him five years to be employed due to competition from earlier graduates.

Away from home He is eventually employed in 2022 and posted to a county far away from home, where there is a vacancy, with a consolidated emolument of less than Sh50,000 that is taxed. On reporting to duty, student B will, in a short while, teach the child of student A while just starting to think about starting a family. On the other hand, female Student C cannot think of becoming a bodaboda rider and mentally prepares to train as a teachers as one of the good options available to her. She represents the larger proportion of female KCSE holders. The inventor of Ford vehicles,



BENJAMIN SOGOMO
Hopefully, the diploma teachers would not be akin to the faster horses that Ford referred to."

Henry Ford, once commented that if he had asked customers to advise him on what to invent, they would have asked for a faster horse. The P1 certificate course has been phased out, to be replaced by a diploma. But one cannot, at this stage, be sure that the trends in economic activities in the country will not lead to a situation where the diploma teachers, upon employment, find out that their less-qualified brothers in the informal sector are doing much better than them — in a similar fashion as the present-day P1 teachers. Hopefully, the diploma

teachers would not be akin to the faster horses that Ford referred to. So, what is the way forward? Several underlying issues need to be addressed. First, as psychologists have taught us, we have to have gender balance among teachers in primary schools. This requires a deliberate policy and strategy. Secondly, the Ministry of Education and other agencies responsible for planning may need to carry out research on a continuous basis to identify other opportunities for potential teachers away from teaching. This way, male candidates can be retained in teaching. Thirdly, the Teachers Service Commission and the Salaries and Remuneration Commission would have to review the package for teachers at every level to attract and retain them. While at a management course at Hiroshima University in 2001, I found out that salaries of primary schoolteachers in Japan were almost at par with those of university professors. I was told that this was deliberate, owing to the importance the Japanese attach to their children. We need to take a leaf from such best practices. Mr Sogomo is a former Secretary of TSC. bsogomo@gmail.com.

THE CUTTING EDGE

BY THE WATCHMAN

LOCAL SOLUTION. While he agrees with President Kenyatta that Kenyans are not guinea pigs to be used in coronavirus disease vaccine trials, Jim Webb says he was even more impressed with the Head of State's confidence in the Kenyan researchers. "It is these Kenyans that should have determined the safety measures to curb the spread of the disease. Instead, we just wait to be handed prescriptions." Jim is unhappy that some these measures could make the country grind to a halt. "I'm happy that the President has allowed restaurants to resume business. If washing hands and social distancing can keep the disease at bay, why not let other small businesses operate but strictly enforce the rules?"

DELAYED PAYMENTS. Three years have come and gone, but Michael Nyoro is not about to forget the suffering of some small-scale transporters hired to ferry fertiliser from Mombasa Port to various NCPB depots and are yet to be paid. "Having done the work and the fertiliser having been sold to farmers, the transporters' woes began. Interestingly, their unpaid bills have never been disputed, but the cat and mouse game continues. Some of the transporters failed to service their loans and their trucks have been auctioned." For the details, Michael's contact is mnyoro@gmail.com.

'KENYA DARKNESS.' Kenya Power's Kakamega Town Office has signed into the 'Kenyan Cheaters Club', remarks Gerishom Majanja, adding that it now ranks up there with the politicians regarding renegeing on their promises. Gerishom lives only 4.5 kilometres from their office and has been a customer for 20 years. Two weeks ago, a tree fell on a power line in his compound and he called the emergency line. Four hours later, they had not come. He begged them to switch off the main line to prevent a fire. "Since we were out of power, I called several times and they came 30 hours later. Three days ago, a support pole fell across a nearby road, and nothing." His contact is gerimaranja@gmail.com.

SILVER LINING. A brighter side to the gloomy coronavirus epidemic, Antony Irungu notes, is that governors have been jolted from their deep slumber. "They have sprang into action, providing water, tanks, relief food and face masks to the people." Antony is, however, disappointed that they had to wait for so long and sees the possibility of their exploiting the tragedy for the 2022 elections. "Whatever the reason, they have proved that county governments can provide the much-needed services and this should be the norm even after the coronavirus epidemic is over." His contact is antolex2001@yahoo.com.



A public handwashing station in Ngando, Nairobi.

LUNAR ROAD. Nairobi resident Manu Shah wishes any of the national roads agencies could shed some light on the criteria for awarding contracts for the recarpeting of roads. The three-lane Pangani-Kariokor road in Nairobi, he recalls, was rebuilt by a Chinese firm not long ago. It has worn out fast but the new contractor, Manu claims, is using very little tar to bind the road. With the heavy rains in the past few days, about 30 per cent of the chippings have been washed away, leaving a pathetic surface. "Can the roads agency concerned explain why this is happening, at a time when the government has suspended all major contracts over the Covid-19 pandemic?" His contact is chuiamanu@jambo.co.ke.

OUT OF TUNE. Famous Kenyan band Sauti Sol's new song, *Suzanna*, also known as *Senje*, Djivetti Mulaama says, should be banned by the Kenya Film Classification Board. *Senje*, he explains, is the Luhya word for aunt, the sister of one's father. He cannot understand how she would have a romantic relationship with her nephew. "To fall in love with your aunt is unheard of and incestuous abomination that is illegal in Kenya." The popular group should be "punished for the sin", he says and calls on CEO Ezekiel Mutua to outlaw this song that "glorifies" incest. His contact is djivetti.mulaama@gmail.com.

Have an inoffensive day, won't you!

Send an e-mail to watchman@ke.nationmedia.com or write to The Watchman, POB 49010, Nairobi 00100

NEW WORLD ORDER >

Behold a new, equal world after Covid-19!

The current global situation can be viewed in two ways: Being the end of the world or bringing about a positive paradigm shift for the good of the world in ways not imagined and acknowledged yet. After the Covid-19 pandemic, the global order will never be the same again. Besides the perceived personal and psychological growth in human beings, lack of gratitude for what they considered boring and meaningless lives will never be taken for granted again. The pandemic has seen humans venture more into spaces that were not optimally used before — such as the balcony for activities like exercise, reading books, cooking and meditation. I dare say what is considered the catastrophe of the century will bring about unprecedented global balance and equality. Man has played a key role in the destruction of our habitat and ignored to look back at the repercussions of their actions. From time to time, the world experiences environmental disasters, mostly from climate change. The question is, are the disasters warnings of bigger



ZAHRA BARMAKI
What is considered the catastrophe of the century will bring about unprecedented global balance and equality."

billions of times smaller than a human, has achieved what even dictatorial regimes never did: There is a sense of balance and equality. Covid-19 has put humans in a peculiar position to not only equally strive for the same goals within the spectrum of various living conditions, but also in such realms of health, information sharing. A pandemic that was viewed as trivial at its onset has triggered an unprecedented evacuation of billions of people globally. The highly populous China experienced depopulation to the tune of millions within its streets and the core of its economic cities were forced to halt mass manufacture of products and services. **Suffered paralysis** Superpowers like the United States and the European Union have suffered one-of-its-kind paralysis in their economic systems that has threatened their citizenry with immense job losses. Europe's best hospitals were tested while people in countries such as Iran have had some of the loneliest days ever. The pandemic has shown that

the very habitat humans have constantly destroyed in pursuit of their selfish gains has turned the earth into a global lonely village, which no human would never have achieved. Yet the world has not only united against the pandemic, but become a global village with no preferential categories alluded to, neither colour, nor development strength. A worker and a company owner all suffer the same fate of unemployment and no amount of resources will reverse this condition. Today, China is helping Italy, and France is helping Iran; all are helping each other. The West-East boundaries have fallen as the world joins forces against a common enemy: Covid-19. Human beings no longer acknowledge borders, state interest, money and power. No doubt every positive event has its own difficulties, such as the human fatalities being experienced. But in due course, history will present these fatalities as peace casualties and not catastrophic ones. Ms Barmaki is an industrial designer. zbarmaki_97@yahoo.com.

To the editor

The Editor welcomes brief letters on topical issues. Write on e-mail to: mailbox@ke.nationmedia.com. You can also mail to: The Editor, Daily Nation, P.O. Box 49010, Nairobi 00100

Avert nurses' strike during the pandemic

The government should take heed of the nurses' warning to go on strike if their allowances are not increased. Paying attention to the notice and honouring the request is easier than having to deal with an increasing number of Covid-19 patients with no one to take care of them. Nurses have shown devotion and always risk their lives and those of their family members to help those infected by the virus. A strike will be a major setback.

AUDREY MAINA, Nairobi

Governors should push for partial lockdown

Inasmuch as the President has ruled out the possibility of a total lockdown, governors should push for a partial lockdown and cessation of movement in and out of every county. The Health ministry reported that the virus has moved into the counties and this would be the only way to curb further spread. The counties do not have capacity to facilitate isolation and treatment and the virus would pose a challenge if it spreads further.

PETER ONGALO, Siaya

Mind safety in camps for landslide-displaced

Following heavy rains in parts of the country, those living in low-lying areas are advised to move to higher ground for safety. However, floods and mudslides pose another threat: Covid-19 transmission. If coronavirus safety guidelines are not observed in the camps where people displaced by the natural disasters are staying, the risk of contracting and spreading the virus is high. The Health ministry should act fast and make the camps safe.

OKWANYI K. MOUREEN, Kakamega

Seal gaping loopholes in movement restriction

Security officers should take their duties more seriously to keep all citizens safe from Covid-19. There are reports of people sneaking out of quarantine and others breach travel restrictions to and from hotspots despite the many roadblocks and tight security in place. This endangers the lives of many other people. For the police to protect the people from the pandemic, they must stop taking bribes to allow breaches of directives and join the rest in battle.

WINNIE BITUTU, Nairobi

FIGHTING A PANDEMIC >

Public education, surveillance of face masks key to Covid-19 fight

For Kenya, the Covid-19 pandemic entered a watershed moment at the end of last month, when Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe announced that the positive cases had transitioned into the community transmission stage.

With that, more stringent measures against the spread of the coronavirus were prescribed on March 30. Among them was the mandatory wearing of face masks in public spaces and vehicles and on motorcycles.

No doubt, wearing masks aids in reducing exposure from infected asymptomatic people or during pre-symptomatic period. Indeed, a number of recent scientific reviews indicate that the partial protection accorded by a face mask could have a major influence on transmission in a pandemic, as with Covid-19.

Yet the use of face masks at community level begs for not just enhanced sensitisation but also strictly in keeping with public health experts' guidelines.

The effectiveness of masks in disease prevention can only be realised if the people wear them properly and consistently. Prevention also depends on not repeatedly touching the mask and all or most people wearing them.

Kenya has developed a habit of hanging the masks around their necks or putting them on the forehead. This, if not checked, could increase the risk of transmitting the virus because the wearer may touch their face more often as they wear or adjust



A man wears a Santa Claus doll as a face mask to avoid arrest in Nyeri Town on April 20, saying he could not afford Sh50 to buy a proper one.

the mask. We have also seen people who, I hope in jest, wear improvised bras and panties.

Another worrying trend that should concern us all is that the face mask could be giving the wearer a false sense of protection — as if it is the silver bullet against Covid-19. Far from it. Even with a mask, people must adhere to all the other infection prevention and control (IPC) measures such as social distancing and frequent handwashing with soap or using an alcohol based hand sanitiser. Quality is equally paramount.

It is encouraging that the Ministry of Health is closely working with that of Trade and Industrialisation to ensure the masks on sale to the public meet the minimum standards. There

is a need, however, for continued post-market surveillance against poor quality face masks.

Best practices should be followed at all times on how to wear, remove and dispose of face masks and, most importantly, observe hand hygiene after removal of face masks.

The mask should cover the mouth and nose and be securely tied at the back, leaving no space between it and the face. Single-use masks should not be reused and as they become damp. A reusable mask should be washed with soap and water and, if possible, sun-dried and ironed.

Continuous health education is, however, paramount.

Dr Esther Mutu, research scientist at Kenri. ematu@kenri.org

Like Yahya Jammeh before him, Rajoelina joins the club of theatrics

President Andre Rajoelina of Madagascar has unveiled a herbal "cure" that will take care of Covid-19. In a style similar to that of the disgraced former Gambian president Yahya Jammeh, who claimed to have discovered a cure for Aids and went on to administer it to Gambians without scientific proof, Rajoelina drank a bottle of the herbal tea in front of diplomats, journalists and his ministers, telling them it had cured two Covid-19 patients.

This being in Africa, it is not a wonder. What makes it comical is that the president of a republic who knows better what

is required to declare a substance a cure broke all the rules in the book and became a guinea pig.

The concoction is said to have been made from artemisia plant, which has been proven to treat malaria, according to Malagasy Institute of Applied Research. It is being called Covid-organics.

This is the same thing that Jammeh did and ended up misleading very many people in The Gambia on the HIV/Aids treatment.

The mere fact that a head of state can get involved in such a farce end up misleading the people he leads to ignore all

the other protective measures, leading to devastating results.

Any cure, as the World Health Organization (WHO) says, must be scientifically proven. This is what President Rajoelina should have done before going public.

It is not surprising that the people in Madagascar will fully be convinced by the antics of the DJ-turned-politician, who has not once but twice been elected president. It is no wonder then that he has removed another rabbit from his big hat of surprises.

Wonders will never end!

DAVID M. KIGO, Nairobi

SHORT TAKES

EMAILS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

QUARANTINE: Kenyans in quarantine facilities should understand that the government is not trying to punish them by putting them there but rather protecting their loved ones. A video posted on social media recently showed some people escaping from Kenya Medical Training College (KMTc) quarantine centre by jumping over the wall. That was very reckless of them as they put the lives of many people at risk. To beat the coronavirus pandemic, everybody should be disciplined and follow the safety guidelines given by medical experts.

LEAH MUTHONI, Embu

BRUTAL POLICE: Although the President apologised for the brutality of the police against fellow innocent Kenyans, again and again, we can see the officers making unnecessary use of their weapons against unarmed civilians. When will it stop and who will stop it? Many are looking forward to a comment from Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i on this. Police officers who behave this way should be punished and expelled from the service.

POUL VIG, Mombasa

PRISON: The government suspended visits to prisoners and detainees but police still take petty offenders to police cells and prison, which derails the war against the Covid-19 pandemic. That causes congestion in the facilities, which is against the government's own rule of social distancing in a bid to beat the virus. The authorities should also thoroughly screen people before taking them to prisons and unconditionally release petty offenders to decongest prisons. Free police bond can also be offered to limit congestion in the facilities.

OBILA BEATRICE, Kisumu

CANCER: The pain and deaths caused by various forms of cancer seem to have been eclipsed by the coronavirus pandemic. All the other diseases also seem to have suffered the same fate. But the reality is that cancer is still wrecking havoc across the globe. It is a top killer. However, the cure for it still looks elusive. The irony of cancer is that it's a booming international business with thousands of financial beneficiaries. So, is a cure anywhere in sight?

MWANGI KARUGA, Nairobi

AFFORDABLE FOOD: There is a time the government subsidised maize flour to the extent that the two-kilogramme packet cost Sh52 for the poor and Sh70 for the rest of the population, down from Sh140. If you do your calculations well, you'll find that the two per cent VAT reduction from 16% to 14% that President Uhuru Kenyatta ordered is virtually zero in terms of implementing Article 43(1)(c) of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to food. The tax relief only reduces a 2kg packet of unga from Sh140 by Sh2.8 to retail at Sh137.20, which most Kenyans can't afford.

JOHN KARANJA, Nairobi



YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

Comment on reports that President Kenyatta and Mr Odinga are planning a coalition government.

USHA SHAH: I'm shocked to learn about talks of a coalition government two years ahead when there are more sensitive, serious and pressing issues at present like the virus, hunger in the nation, suffering Kenyans abroad, floods and mudslides!

PHILLIP ODUK: Why now, when

Uhuru's term is not yet over?

That will only cause mayhem.

OMAR A. OMAR: Coalitions have only reflected politicians' desire to be elected and of no benefit to the mwananchi. It will burden the stretched-out economy.

NATHAN MUTHAMIA: President

Uhuru and Raila should first ensure that the agenda of uniting the country through BBI has been fulfilled.

CAREY J. NDWIGA: This is one of the facets of the political alternatives.

MUIRURI GITHAIGA: Handshake

and BBI are bearing fruits.

OYOY WYCKLIFE: Such a government would be unconstitutional in the absence of a legal backing. Instead, they should concentrate on uniting the country and deliver a credible poll in 2022.

KIONGO NGARAMA: In politics, anything goes. We have been through more intriguing times.

BENJAMIN KOBARE: Good but, even better, why not form an all-inclusive government?

LOISE NGURUMI: The peace of a nation is key, however they do it.

DEBATE QUESTION

What is your opinion on the extension of restriction of movement for 21 days over Covid-19?

Send your comments to: mailbox@ke.nationmedia.com



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DIPLOMACY>

Racism big threat to Sino-African ties

Circulation of videos and pictures on social media of Africans allegedly kicked out of their residences and hotels, as well as claims of forced Covid-19 testing and mandatory quarantine, in Guangzhou kicked off high octane diplomatic exchanges between China and various African countries.

Citizens began calling for a stop to the racist sentiments and nudged respective governments to evacuate their nationals from China. Speaker of Nigeria's House of Representatives led the pack by summoning the Chinese envoy and later posted their discussions on social media — in breach of conventional diplomatic protocol. Nairobi, Kampala and Accra all sought an explanation from Beijing.

The incident punctuated a more-than-rosy camaraderie between China and Africa with the two entities having intensified synergies in the fight against Covid-19. China was not just sharing its much-needed epidemic control experience, but also providing huge donations of life-saving equipment, testing kits, drugs and protective clothing to Africa. In Africa, coronavirus provided a rallying basis

for partnership. China was keen to return a favour that Africans had granted it when the Asian country was in the throes of the coronavirus pandemic. Most African countries did not evacuate their nationals from China. Africa also stood with Beijing in warding off racial discrimination and profiling, including in the naming of the deadly virus.

Yet, in a strange twist of fate, these pandemic-inspired hinges of Sino-African relations were coming off in Guangzhou. African governments started talking evacuation, with some analysts even predicting the end of the Sino-African honeymoon.

Belching displeasure

And as Twitter blazed with anti-China rhetoric, Chinese social media platforms were equally belching displeasure with some Africans. Pre-Guangzhou, a male African who had tested positive for the disease in the city reportedly bit a nurse in the face while attempting to escape quarantine, while a group of Covid-19-positive Africans was found to have violated quarantine regulations. Both incidences were widely shared on Chinese social media,



ADHERE CAVINCE

These broad-based anti-foreigner sentiments pose the biggest challenge to the relations between China and Africa."

putting the lives of millions of foreigners at risk.

Following a frenzied diplomatic reach and consultations, the affected African countries have since called a truce, blaming miscommunication on Covid-19 control rather than an institutionalised racism against foreigners in China. The authorities in Guangzhou have issued a raft of regulations against discriminatory restrictions.

But on social media in China and Kenya, the

people-to-people combat still rages. Many Kenyans are dissatisfied with government pronouncements on the matter, including the latest move to evacuate willing Kenyans at their own cost.

These broad-based anti-foreigner sentiments pose the biggest challenge to the relations between China and Africa. The new wave of ethnocentrism has potential to reverse the relational gains consolidated with China, which now ranks as Africa's largest trading partner, top investor and constructor and development projects financier. More than 400 Chinese enterprises in various sectors locally employ 50,000 Kenyans. Sustainable cooperation between countries can't be built solely on government-to-government relations. In this era of intense globalisation and technological infiltration, individuals, civil societies and even faith-based entities make critical agencies of cementing or eroding the building blocks of effective international relations.

Governments have greater responsibility to explain to their populations the objectives, processes and outcomes of cooperative

arrangements with other nations. Embassies should not just be comfortable spaces to hang out and take exotic tea. In Guangzhou, failure of effective communication between governments and low information flow to the public were identified as major catalysts.

Biases and prejudices are often transmitted through mainstream and social media. Fact-based, context-oriented reporting would prevent isolated incidents from morphing into trends.

Citizens should stymie expressions of hate against foreigners. As Covid-19 has taught us, humanity is heavily interlinked. Many Africans live, work or study in China. Even more Chinese have found opportunities to thrive in Africa. As the World Health Organization warns that Africa could be the next hotspot, China is a major partner of the continent in confronting Covid-19.

The well-being of Chinese in Africa is predicated on that of Africans in China. Feelings of discrimination or profiling run counter to Sino-African relations.

Mr Cavince is a PhD student of international relations. ocaadhere@gmail.com @Cavinceworld

POLICING>

Use disease to improve police image

Africans are not alarmed by the news of rogue elements in our security agencies having so far contributed to dozens of avoidable deaths in the name of helping to curb the spread of Covid-19.

A week ago, Nigerian police had clubbed, shot or tortured 18 compatriots compared to just a dozen that were attributed to the coronavirus pandemic. In Kenya, despite nationwide condemnation and a public apology and assurance by no less than the President, citizens have had to bury loved ones hastily in the name of enforcing directives.

As an agency mandated to enforce the law and protect the lives and property of fellow citizens, the police have a crucial role to play during the pandemic. We all need them now more than ever. These are trying times. Many have since lost their jobs. Most people are on forced and unpaid leave. The pandemic has only compounded the collective national trauma, hence the need for solidarity. The men and women in uniform ought to shed their old coat of cruelty. This is an opportunity to demonstrate professional ethics and prove detractors, naysayers and doubters wrong by engaging fellow citizens with respect.

We are all in this as a people, as a nation, as a continent and as the world. Teamwork is the only thing that will save and protect lives. More so, it never hurts to be decent human beings. Kindness is free; sprinkle it everywhere. LEVI C. CHEPTORA, Trans Nzia

Samaritan's Purse
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

JOB ADVERTISEMENT – PILOT MAS EA

POSITION TITLE : PILOT
LOCATION : ELDORET, KENYA

Background
Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Job Summary
Samaritan's Purse (SP) is looking for a Pilot to serve full time with its East Africa aviation team to be based in Eldoret, Kenya. We currently operate the following aircraft types from our main base in Eldoret, Kenya: Cessna Grand Caravan, King Air 200, and DC-3T. The most important qualities we are looking for is a heart to serve and the desire to support organizational values. Days often begin early and end late, uniforms get dirty loading aircraft, the landing zones and accommodations are rough, and the environment austere. What we do is humanitarian aviation.

Responsibility

- Performs pilot duties as needed or assigned;
- Be willing and comfortable working in remote environments, with little support structure, often in unstable areas or war zones;
- Represents Samaritan's Purse as a professional when dealing with donors, government officials, and others;

Qualifications

- Administrative/Management/Leadership experience highly desired;
- Preferred 2,500 flight hours (minimum of 1,500hrs), at least 1000hrs of which as PIC;
- International experience with bush flying, desirable;
- Experience with one or more SP planes (King Air 200, DC-3T, Cessna Grand Caravan) desired;
- Kenya Commercial Single Engine Land Pilot License with Instrument Rating required and willing to pursue FAA licensing;
- Willing to sign a training bond for license conversion to FAA Commercial/Instrument license, initial USA based training, and any additional FAA ratings;
- Multi Engine Land desired but not required;
- FAA SEL or MEL Commercial pilot license preferred;
- Tailwheel experience a plus;
- Fifth year college or university program certificate; or two to four years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience;
- One year of college-level Biblical studies preferred;
- Maintains a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and is a consistent witness for Jesus Christ;

Submission of Applications
Interested applicants should submit their C.V. and an application letter ONLY to hrspkenya@samaritan.org to be received from **(28th April, 2020 to 5th May, 2020)**. Certificates and testimonials need not be attached. During this period of time applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT
THE SENATE

The County Allocation of Revenue Bill (Senate Bills No. 7 of 2020)
SUBMISSIONS/ RECEIPT OF MEMORANDA

The County Allocation of Revenue Bill (Senate Bills No. 7 of 2020) was read a First Time in the Senate on 21st April, 2020 and thereafter stood committed to the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 118 and standing order 140 (5) of the Standing Orders of the Senate, the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget now invites interested members of the public to submit any representations that they may have on the County Allocation of Revenue Bill (Senate Bills No. 7 of 2020).

The representations may be made by submission of written memoranda and forwarded to the **Clerk of the Senate/ Secretary, Parliamentary Service Commission, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi**, or emailed to csenate@parliament.go.ke, to be received on or before **Thursday, 30th April, 2020 at 4:00 pm**.

The County Allocation of Revenue Bill (Senate Bills No. 7 of 2020) may be accessed on the Parliament Website at <http://www.parliament.go.ke/the-senate/house-business/bills>

**CLERK OF THE SENATE/ SECRETARY,
PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION.**

COUNTY NEWS



For comprehensive stories, go to nation.co.ke/counties

KISII'S SH170M BANANA FACTORY >
Completion of a Sh170 million banana factory has put a smile on farmers' faces. **PAGE 20**

RAINS STOP BATTLE ON LOCUSTS >
Heavy rains has put a stop to the spraying of the marauding desert locusts. **PAGE 24**

Nyeri > Closure of dumpsite has left residents with nowhere to take trash

Officials in dilemma over trash menace that just won't go away

Four administrations have failed to come up with a suitable plan to manage waste menace

BY NICHOLAS KOMU
@NiqKomu
nkomu@kenationmedia.com

Garbage. It is a mountain that administrators in Nyeri town have tried time and again to climb and failed spectacularly, each and every time.

The county produces at least 150 tonnes of garbage daily with 52 per cent of it being organic waste. In the 80s and 90s, the Asian Quarters was a posh middle-class estate where only the moneyed could afford to build homes. Now, nobody wants to live there anymore and those that still do cannot find buyers for their properties. It stinks, literally, because the county decided to turn a playground in the estate into a dumpsite.

But the National Environmental Management Authority (Nema) ordered it closed last year, leaving residents with nowhere to take their trash.

The garbage menace has now escalated from an administrative debate into a heated political row that recently threatened to turn violent.

This is because, the county government has decided to build a Sh600 million bus terminus on what was the Asian Quarters dumpsite and dump all the trash in Karatina and Othaya.

But residents there will not have it. Last week, police were forced to intervene in a violent altercation between Konyu ward rep Eric Wa Mumbi and Environment executive Beth Karimi over a decision to dump waste in Konyu.

"This is the last time you should



Residents walk past a mound of uncollected garbage in Nyeri town on January 18, 2016. Administrators have failed to solve the garbage menace in the town.

JOSEPH KANYI | NATION

Dilemma
GARBAGE GHOST HAUNTS OFFICIALS
Four successive county administrations have failed to come up with a suitable plan to manage garbage. The latest attempt to identify a site is facing heavy opposition over its proximity to River Chania. The county has identified the land in Blue Valley on the edge of Majengo slums.

come here. I want you out of this place!" Mr Wa Mumbi was captured shouting at Ms Karimi in a video that has since gone viral.

More than six months into the construction of the terminus at Asian Quarters, it has emerged that Nema had not authorised it and neither were residents involved.

The *Nation* has since learned that the Nema regional office had declined to approve the project but

the county government somehow managed to get clearance from its head office. The county had earlier identified three parcels of land in Mviyogo, Endarasha and Mweiga but the area MP and MCA protested the move.

They insisted that an environment impact assessment had to be conducted, and that they had to be consulted, before the land was used as a dumpsite.

Other MCAs complained that they were not being consulted when the county government wanted to dump waste in their wards and asked Nema and the Health department not to allow garbage to be dumped in residential areas.

"How does Nema and the Ministry of Health allow dumping of waste near residential area?" Karima ward rep Reuben Wahome posed. Nema now wants an Environment Impact Assessment carried out at the sites with regional director Nancy Muui asking the county government to build a sanitary landfill that will see the waste separated as opposed to

being piled up.

"Even if the county government acquires land, we will not allow them to dispose the waste through open dumping," she said.

"The county government should adopt the sanitary landfill method of waste disposal where the waste is separated into organic, recyclable, non-recyclable," she added.

In the County Integrated Development plan (CIDP) 2018-2022, there are proposals to put up a biogas plant at an estimated cost of Sh300 million.

Such plans have been in place since devolution in 2013 but the county has been unable to find a location to establish the facility.

Four successive county administrations have failed to come up with a suitable plan to manage garbage.

The latest attempt to identify a site is facing heavy opposition over its proximity to River Chania. The county had identified the land in Blue Valley on the edge of Majengo slums but locals are up in arms against the move, saying the dumpsite will pollute the river.



BRIEFLY

Nyamira >

KPC donates 11,000 litres of hand sanitiser to Kisii, Nyamira counties

The Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) has donated over 11,000 litres of hand sanitisers to Nyamira and Kisii counties as part of its contribution to a national effort to fight the coronavirus in rural areas. Some 3,600 litres were handed over to Nyamira Governor John Nyagarama and County Commissioner Amos Maribe in Nyamira town yesterday. Last week, the neighbouring Kisii County received 7,450 litres. Mr Nyagarama said the hand sanitisers will be distributed among the most vulnerable sections of the population, with special attention to market centres and informal settlements. Mr Maribe urged residents to strictly follow the Ministry of Health guidelines to contain spread of the disease.

— Ruth Mbulu

Uasin Gishu >

Mandago reassures locals on fears of contracting Covid-19 in hospitals

Governor Jackson Mandago has raised concerns that residents are avoiding visiting health facilities over fear of contracting Covid-19. Mr Mandago said patients including expectant mothers were shunning hospitals. "We want to assure our people that workers in our health facilities have been provided will protective gear and there is no reason to be afraid," Mr Mandago said in Eldoret yesterday. He warned those flouting government directives aimed at curbing the spread of the disease that they will be prosecuted even as he announced that 61 people have been placed under forced quarantine at Kaplelach High School for breaking curfew rules and congregating in gambling halls and illicit brew dens. Out of the 61 detainees, 27 were nabbed in Kapseret, 10 in Ainabkoi, and eight in Turbo Sub-county.

— Wycliffe Kipsang

Kajiado >

Garment maker donates free face masks to traders in Kitengela town

Export processing zone-based garment maker New Wide Garments Kenya has donated more 30,000 reusable face masks to Kitengela residents. The firm on Sunday distributed the masks to boda-boda riders, market traders and security guards. The face masks are long-lasting and can be washed like regular clothing before being re-used. The firm's manager, Mr Rudolf Isinga, said that the donations will be extended in formal settlements as part of the company's corporate social responsibility. Mr Isinga said the company with more than 6,000 workers has scaled down production but, instead of sending employees home, they have opted to make face masks with a daily output of 100,000 pieces.

— Stanley Ngoto

Kiifi >

EACC arrests county official over bribery claims

BY CHARLES LWANGA

A county official was arrested Friday over allegations of receiving a Sh24,000 bribe to clear the construction of a residential house in Migingo in Malindi.

Ethics and Anti-Corruption (EACC) detectives acting on a tip-off laid a trap for Mr Johnson Mwalimu Mwabati, an assistant control development officer for Malindi and

Magarini Sub Counties at a Majengo Mpesa shop and saloon. EACC upper coast regional boss Ignatius Wekesa said that, upon arrest, Sh24,000 in cash, a Sh122,665 banking invoice, Sh119,400 fake money, and seven ATM cards were recovered from the suspect.

Mr Wekesa said the suspect recorded a statement before being taken to Malindi Police Station where he was released on cash bail of

Sh70,000. Mr Daudi Omar Elema, had filed a complaint at the EACC Malindi offices that the suspect had demanded a bribe to issue him with a clearance letter to build a house.

On April 20, Mr Elema was arrested for illegal construction under the instruction of Mr Mwabati and taken to Malindi Police Station where he was booked and later released on Sh15,000 cash bail.

COUNTY > ROUND-UP

NYANZA

Kisii >

Banana farmers hope for better times with Sh170 million factory

Once operational, the factory will process wine, crisps, banana powder among other products

BY BENSON AYIENDA
bayienda@ke.nationmedia.com

Banana farmers in Kisii County are set to benefit from a Sh170 million processing factory that the regional government has completed building in Kisii town.

Construction of the factory that is located within the Kisii Agricultural Training Centre grounds was started last year with funding from the European Union (EU) to the tune of Sh110 million. The devolved unit contributed Sh60 million.

The development comes even as the county government is still battling criticism over the Sh150 million avocado processing factory whose construction has stalled for the last six years.

Speaking to the Nation yesterday, Agriculture executive Esman Onsarigo said the process of buying machines for the banana factory is underway.

"The structure is complete. We are in the final stages of procuring machinery but there are a few hitches caused by the Covid-19 crisis," he said.

He said the factory will become operational after installation and testing of the machinery. Once operational, the factory will process banana powder, crisps and wine, among other products.

Last year, Governor James Ongwae joined hands with Devolution Cabinet Secretary Eugene Wamalwa and European Union (EU) head of macro-economics Vincent De Boer in laying the foundation stone for the factory. Besides the construction of the plant,

the project has a component of capacity building for farmers and agricultural extension officers as well as the supply of high-quality suckers to boost production. The project targets over 11,000 farmers with the ultimate aim being training them on best practices in banana production.

The Gusii region is well known for banana production and the county government has already begun the process of registering a farmers cooperative society with an initial membership of 2,250 farmers — 50 from each of the 45 wards.

In 2014, Mr Ongwae initiated construction of an avocado factory in the same location, but the plan has since remained a pipe dream.

Some farmers who had ventured into large-scale production of the fruit when the project was first conceived in anticipation of a big payout have since abandoned farming avocado following a series of frustrations.

In a statement he issued while unveiling its construction, Mr Ongwae said avocado produced in the region annually is more than sufficient to run the factory at 80 tonnes per day. He added that plans were underway to increase production of avocado per unit area.

"I have negotiated with investors to put up industries particularly for value addition as a means of improving the earnings for local farmers and creating employment.

"Avocado is cultivated in nearly every household in the region and has contributed greatly in improving nutrition and alleviating poverty," the county boss had said at the time.

But with its progress having stalled, dejected residents are now entertaining claims that the project was merely used as a loophole to embezzle funds.



Loaders ferry bananas on a handcart in Kisii town on July 18, 2018. The county government has completed the construction of a Sh170 million banana factory.



LABAN WALLOGA | NATION

Muslim faithful buy dates

Mombasa > A dates trader at Mwembe Tayari sells the fruits to Muslim faithful who are fasting during the holy month of Ramadhan yesterday. Prices of dates have been stable with a kilo going for Sh150 and half a kilo going at Sh100.

MOUNTAIN

Meru >

Covid-19 hits revenues hard as businesses close

The county government is likely to lose more than Sh100 million in revenue this financial year due to the Covid-19 crisis. Revenue Board Manager John Ntoiti said most of the businesses have closed. Licences, parking fees and land rates are the key sources of revenue with single business permits raising Sh188 million in the last financial year. "We are currently collecting what we can. We hope that this situation eases soon," he said.

— David Muchui

Embu >

Police look for woman who ditched her baby

A woman who abandoned her newborn baby at the Embu Referral Hospital is being sought by the police. Embu West police boss Charles Kinyua said Ms Irene Wawira sneaked out of the hospital moments after delivering the baby girl. He said she will be charged with child neglect. The baby's father, Mr Joseph Muriithi, said he took his wife to the hospital on Monday and returned on Thursday only to find her missing.

— George Munene

Tharaka-Nithi >

Tycoon donates food to poor families in Chuka

Some 55 households in the Moi Girls slum in Chuka have benefited from a donation of food and other items courtesy of Tellam Group of Companies director Muthomi Micheni. Each household received maize grains and maize flour, cooking oil, cabbages and soap. Receiving the donation, Meru South Deputy County Commissioner Albanus Ndiso lauded the businessman and appealed to other Kenyans to support the needy.

— Alex Njeru

COAST

Lamu >

Carry out mass testing for Covid-19, MCAs say

County assembly members have urged the executive to roll out a mass testing exercise for Covid-19 to establish the exact number of people infected with the disease. MCAs recently approved a Sh157 million kitty to fund the war against the pandemic. Lamu is yet to record a single confirmed case. Majority Leader Abdalla Baabad said talks were ongoing with Governor Fahim Twaha with a view to ensuring that mass testing for Covid-19 is conducted in every ward.

— Kalume Kazungu

Kilifi >

County to distribute free maize and cowpea seeds

The county government is set to distribute free maize and cowpea seeds to more than 10,000 farmers in the county as the long rains season kicks in. Governor Amason Kingi said 18.4 tonnes of maize and five tonnes of cowpea seeds have been procured for distribution. Speaking while giving out relief food to 50,000 vulnerable people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, Mr Kingi said the seeds distribution programme will help address the food security issue even after the pandemic.

— Charles Lwanga

Mombasa >

Rescued children set for a 14-day health watch

Children rescued from the streets and abusive families will be placed under health observation for 14 days before being placed in orphanages, the children's department has said. An officer from the department, Mr Philip Nzenge, told the Nation that children's homes will not be allowed to take in newcomers until their health status is ascertained. He said this will ensure that the children in the orphanages and those from the streets are protected from contracting the coronavirus.

— Diana Muthue

COUNTY > ROUND-UP

WESTERN

Anxiety as county workers notified of salary delay due to new tax law

BY DERICK LUVEGA

More than 2,000 Vihiga County government workers have been notified of a possible delay of April salaries. According to acting County Secretary Philip Gavuna, the delay has been occasioned by the implementation of the reduced Pay As You Earn taxation relief announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta. The President assented to the Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020 on Saturday. The county government says it is awaiting upgrading of the payroll system as well as a directive from the national government on how the new tax structure will be implemented. The communication to county staff was made on April 23 indicated that the Integrated Payroll and Personal Database (IPPD) system was being updated. It will be the fourth time salaries for county staff are being delayed this year. Mr Gavuna said through a notice that the IPPD system, through which salaries for public servants are paid, has been suspended to give room for implementation of the tax proposals.

He was, however, quick to point out that the system has been affected countrywide amid growing anxiety among the staff. "The IPPD system has been suspended across the country due to the implementation the presidential direc-

2,000 The number of county workers who were notified of a possible delay of April salaries to give room for implementation of tax proposals.

tive to offer relief on personal tax," Mr Gavuna said. "This will allow uniform implementation of the directive. We are therefore waiting for the directive from the State Department of Public Service before we start processing salaries," he stated. Vihiga has witnessed numerous cases of workers' unrest, especially among health workers, who have downed tools several times protesting delayed salaries. Doctors have also warned that they will stage salary protests on the fifth day of every month if the devolved unit fails to pay them on time. Last Wednesday, the National Assembly passed the Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020, approving the President's proposals on taxation. The new tax law amends several statutes to cushion the economy and Kenyans against the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. They include the Income Tax Act (CAP 470), the Value Added Tax Act of 2013, the Excise Duty Act (2015), the Tax Procedures Act (2015), Miscellaneous Levies and Fees Act (2016) and the Retirement Benefits Act (1997).

RIFT VALLEY

West Pokot> Two university students killed in tractor accident

Two university students from Kapsait in West Pokot died on Sunday evening in a tractor accident. According to County Base Commander Elijah Teeka, the two were on board the tractor when the driver lost control and jumped out of the tractor, leaving it to descend on a valley. The tractor rolled several times. "The driver escaped," he said. —Oscar Kakui

West Pokot>> Lonyangapuo sued over alleged contempt of court

A resident has sued West Pokot Governor John Lonyangapuo for alleged contempt of court. According to Mr Bruno Wamukota, the governor disobeyed an order issued by an Eldoret court on April 9. The order had suspended the swearing in of Ms Irene Mbitio as acting county secretary/CEO at the public service board. The case will be heard on April 28. —Titus Ominde

Samburu> Needy households to benefit from Sh100m

The national government has released Sh100 million to cushion vulnerable families and people living with disabilities in Samburu. County Commissioner John Korir said needy households had been identified. Sh50 million will be shared among vulnerable families, Sh45 million among the elderly and Sh4 million among people with disabilities. —Geoffrey Ondieki

Nakuru>> Seven quarantined for flouting Covid-19 rules

Seven people have been sent into quarantine in Naivasha for flouting the Ministry of Health's guidelines on Covid-19. Two were arrested after police raided a liquor outlet. "The outlet's owner, a police officer, was among those arrested," said Naivasha deputy County Commissioner Mbogo Mathioya. He said the rest had sneaked into Naivasha from Nairobi. —Macharia Mwangi



Riders warned of flouting face mask rules Tharaka-Nithi> Tharaka-Nithi governor Muthomi Njuki confers with members of the county Covid-19 preparedness committee. The governor and county commissioner Beverley Opwora warned boda boda operators working without masks that they risk having their licences revoked if they do not observe the guidelines.

METROPOLITAN

Machakos> Farmers make losses as markets not within reach

Farmers in Machakos are counting losses following the cessation of movement in some parts of the country. The farmers, mostly from Mutituni, Ngelani, Kaviani, Kasinga and Lita said their market was in Nairobi. "We used to sell fruits to middlemen, who would take them to storage companies in Embakasi," said Mr Isaac Mathew from Kisekini village. He noted that the farmers have now been forced to sell the fruits in local shopping centres at throw away prices.

Nairobi> Man donates face masks, sanitiser to slum dwellers

More than 1,000 residents at Nairobi's Mukuru-Hazina slum have benefited from soaps, sanitisers, water and face masks donated by a volunteer. Mr Kings Amadi, 30, said his aim is to target 10,000 people in his masks and hand hygiene campaign. Yesterday, he took his campaign to Uthiru, Kawangware and Mukuru slums. Hazina r assistant chief Nelson Kambale lauded the initiative, urging other youth to join the government in the fight against coronavirus. —Sammy Kimatu

WESTERN

Bungoma> Rider drowns while trying to cross river

A 35-year-old boda boda rider drowned in River Namisi in Bungoma South. He plunged off a bridge into the river with his motorbike. "I was passing here in the morning when I saw the body and the motorbike floating in the river. I informed neighbours, who rushed to the scene and identified the deceased," said Mr Geoffrey Wapakala. The bridge, which is sandwiched between Siritanyi and Namisi villages, is covered by water as heavy rains continue pounding the region. —Brian Ojamaa

Bungoma>> Locals urged to observe directives on pandemic

Residents of Mt Elgon in Bungoma have been asked to strictly adhere to the directives issued by the government to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Mr Edwin Chemoywo, a politician, said the fight against the pandemic requires a lot of commitment. "We will be the losers if the disease hits our constituency. Observe social distance, wear masks, reduce unnecessary movements and wash your hands," he said after donating food to vulnerable residents in Chesito. —Brian Ojamaa

Kakamega>> One killed as villagers clash with forest guards

A man was shot dead yesterday during a confrontation with forest guards in Kakamega East. The forest guards are reported to have been on patrol in Shamiloli village at 4am when they were confronted by villagers. One person identified as Kevin Lisasya was shot dead after the guards started firing in the air during the commotion. Kakamega County Ecosystem Conservator John Ronoh said: "We are investigating the matter and e will give more details later." —Benson Amadala



Covid-19 in Kenya: How ready is the medical industry for peak demand?

This is a time for organisations that manufacture or distribute essential medical supplies to flex their muscles and deliver more

By **EVANS ONGWAE**
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Does Kenya have adequate supplies of the medical and non-medical commodities with which to fight the Covid-19 pandemic? Should it be necessary to put a big number of Covid-19 patients on ventilators, will the nation have procured enough supplies?

Reports from elsewhere in the world show that it is better to deal with the virus much earlier rather than wait until patients need oxygen, because there might not be enough ventilators.

What is the best way for the country to ride the Covid-19 crisis? To mass test? To prepare adequate ICU beds and ensure adequate supplies of medical oxygen should the scenario become grimmer? To ensure the country has enough masks for everyone who steps out into the public to wear each and every day?

Early last week, an American doctor published an informative and thought-provoking article on how the Covid-19 ends up being deadly.

The article, titled, "Infection That's Silently Killing Coronavirus Patients", details Dr Richard Levitan's 10-day experience treating Covid-19 pneumonia and the shocking findings he noted.

The emergency doctor was startled to learn that the virus was capable of reducing the oxygen in a patient's blood to critical levels without the patient feeling sick. These patients did not have breathing problems by the time they were being attended to – even though tests showed that they had below normal oxygen levels. By then, however, the lungs and other organs would have been deprived of the life-sustaining oxygen.

According to him, medics are not detecting this damage early "enough and that we could be doing more to keep patients off ventilators – and alive."

Dr Levitan suggests that individuals should seek to know their oxygen levels to ascertain whether they need further tests to confirm Covid-19 infection. They need a device known as a pulse oximeter, which, like a thermometer, is easy to use at home. In Kenya, they are available in pharmacies for between Ksh6,000 to Ksh30,000.

Patients who show dangerously low levels of oxygen have to be put on a ventilator. Yet, as the doctor notes, the disease overwhelmingly kills through the lungs.

Dr Levitan points out that many of these patients "wind up on ventilators, causing shortages of the machines."

Can Kenya cope with such a scenario? This is a time for organisations that manufacture or distribute essential medical supplies to flex their muscles and deliver much more. The war on the Covid-19 pandemic demands that the country fully exploits its capacity to deal with disease.

Kenya, with 363 reported cases as at April 27, is attacking the pandemic in many ways. Hopefully, the measures that the Government instituted, if followed by the citizenry, will lead to the defeat of the pandemic.

Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina announced early this month that the government had started manufacturing protective masks and other PPE"



Transport Cabinet Secretary (CS) James Macharia (left), Interior CS Fred Matiangi (centre) and Health CS Mutahi Kagwe at JKIA in Nairobi on April 17, 2020, when they received a consignment of medical supplies from China, flown in by Kenya Airways.

That the increase in new cases has not been dramatic and the numbers appear to be reducing to a trickle each day is encouraging. However, an issue of concern is whether the country has adequate medical and non-medical supplies to effectively treat the infection.

Yesterday, the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU) lamented over the shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline health workers. The Kenya National Union of Nurses (KNUN) had expressed similar sentiments.

PPE are protective wear and equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from infection or injury.

Early this month, Trade and Industry Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina announced that the government had started manufacturing protective masks and other PPE for prevention against Coronavirus disease. She revealed that the Kenyan textile industry had taken up the challenge and would produce as many masks and PPE as required.

She said the samples were already with the Kenya Bureau of Standards (Kebs) for testing and confirmation of compliance with Kenyan standards.

Hopefully in the next few weeks, we may have the answer as to whether the country has enough of essential medical commodities and supplies if the demand increases.

Don's view on how to further tighten the screws on Coronavirus



Dr Josphat Njuguna

By **EVANS ONGWAE**
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The national response to the Covid-19 pandemic is impressive, but more should be done to tighten screws on the virus. This is according to Dr Josphat Njuguna, a medical doctor and principal of the College of Health Sciences at Mount Kenya University.

He says whereas emphasis has been on increasing medical installations, equipment and commodities in hospitals, investing in communities will be critical in arresting the spread of the virus.

He also advises that families and communities should be well informed on what they can do to help vulnerable people such as the elderly and those with chronic diseases. They should be facilitated by keeping them safe, giving them a balanced diet and medication as necessary. He suggests that health

workers should visit them at home and provide the necessary support.

Taken for granted

Dr Njuguna argues that it is taken for granted that every Kenyan can readily afford or access items essential in the battle against Covid-19. He points out, for instance, that whereas a supply of clean water and soap are key to maintaining personal hygiene to ward off the virus, some communities, especially in informal settlements, struggle to get adequate supplies of water.

"Every community or home, where possible, should have an adequate supply of clean water and soap as well as face masks," he says.

He points out that water supply in the slums is wanting, and supports the

President on the initiative to have youth groups working to improve hygiene in the informal sectors.

Small data

Dr Njuguna says this is necessary because "from the small data of positive cases in Kenya so far, 7 out of 10 are asymptomatic but infectious. Improving our basic hygiene and 'keeping out droplets' using masks will cut down the rate of spread." He therefore lauds efforts by the Government to make masks widely available and affordable.

He adds: "For the 3 out of 10 individuals who require care in a hospital, several essential items need to be available. These are personal protective equipment (PPE) for health workers, adequate and reliable oxygen supply, ventilators,

monitors for intensive care unit (ICU) and a balanced diet."

Dr Njuguna suggests that asymptomatic Covid-19 patients in isolation facilities should be made comfortable.

"They should be provided with the basic necessities and should not necessarily be kept in a hospital," he says, adding that when an isolation facility seems like a 'prison,' people may hesitate volunteering for testing.

The United States' Centres for Disease Control has indicated that 25 percent or probably even more of those exposed to the coronavirus show no symptoms. Therefore, those who have the virus with mild or no symptoms should be tested so that they can isolate themselves and avoid spreading the virus.



MEDICAL INSTALLATIONS AND SUPPLIES

‘We are ready to supply more medical oxygen’

BOC Kenya Managing Director says the company has put in place a range of emergency scenarios to scale up availability of the product and supporting infrastructure

By EVANS ONGWAE
eongwae@ke.nationmedia.com

During these testing times of Covid-19, BOC Kenya PLC is enhancing Oxygen and infrastructure capability to respond to increased requirements that will be caused by the pandemic. It is expected that there will be correspondent awareness of the critical need to have a sustainable National Oxygen Supply Chain for Pandemics and general hypoxaemia in other medical conditions.

The firm’s Managing Director, Ms Marion Mwangi, says she is passionate about “augmenting the efforts being made to prevent needless deaths that may be caused by Covid-19.”

She says BOC’s portfolio of products and services covers the government’s Big 4 Agenda: Universal Health Coverage, Manufacturing, Food Security and Nutrition, and Affordable Housing. However, given the challenges currently posed by Covid-19, the local manufacturer has put in place a range of emergency scenarios to scale up the availability of medical oxygen in hospitals and the supporting infrastructure.

Ms Mwangi says: “A lot of things have changed with the coming of Covid-19. Healthcare may never be approached the same way again. As the largest oxygen manufacturer in the country, we have increased our reserves and filling capacity and responded to improvement and installation of gas flow infrastructure in public and private sector Covid-19 centres.”

She adds: “We have enabled our branches in Mombasa and Kisumu to enhance their preparedness for higher requirement of medical oxygen. We have also engaged the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) to help us get back our cylinders, which are critical in ramping up supply. These industry bodies continue to facilitate other solutions in line with their mandates to support our business continuity.”

The BOC MD says many hospitals are approaching them to help assess and implement gas piping because “oxygen is a major commodity in intensive care units (ICUs) where it is used for treatment. We want to increase oxygen availability in the country.”

BOC Kenya is the leading supplier of medical, industrial, process, specialty gases and gas engineering services company in East Africa.

The company, listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) since 1969, is affiliated with the world largest gases and engineering company, The Linde Group.

Its Industrial Plant situated along Kitui Road, Nairobi, produces and distributes the atmospheric gases Oxygen, Nitrogen and Argon. All these gases are manufactured in their own Air Separation Unit (ASU) serving East and Central

Africa. BOC’s product portfolio also ranges from Hydrogen, Acetylene, gas mixtures, to shielding gases for welding applications, inert gases and high purity specialty gases.

Since being established in 1940, the company has provided gases used in virtually every branch of industry, commerce, science and research. Its medical oxygen products have reliably enabled Healthcare professionals to provide optimal therapy in both private and public hospitals in Kenya.

BOC has invested heavily in the ASU, which guarantees purification of gases to the highest standards (more than 99.5%) for medical oxygen. The company has also invested in other specialised equipment and logistics and in the corresponding specialised skills development.

BOC Kenya is certified by British Standards International (BSI) with the Safety Standard OHSAS 18001:2007, and has sustained the quality standard ISO 9001:2015 and the Environment Standard ISO 14001:2015.

We have also engaged the Kenya Private Sector Alliance and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers to help us get back our cylinders, which are critical in ramping up supply.

- Ms Marion Mwangi, Managing Director, BOC Kenya

These investments demonstrate the firm’s commitment to sustain and grow manufacturing in Kenya in line with the governments’ Big 4 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). BOC’s HSE Policy “to avoid harm to people, society and the environment” and its Quality Policy “to do it right the first time and to continuously improve” have enabled it to be a reputable and sustainable business.

Ms Mwangi notes that, although the company has touched many lives, it plans to touch even more when it introduces new solutions in the medium term and long term. Last year when it celebrated 50 years of listing on the NSE, BOC set eyes on getting into new business areas.

“We want to support the safe use of LPG. Every home should have piped, metered gas, which is a safer option to the use of cylinders.”

She adds that the firm has innovations for water treatment, which include wastewater offerings for municipal, industrial and surface water, desalination and purification of water and extensive agriculture solutions to enhance the safety and quality of horticulture and floriculture. “This product service offerings will benefit Kenyans the same way its solutions for hospitals and the industrial and *Jua Kali* sectors have done,” she says.

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- HTM 02-01, HTM 202



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Crisis > The insects present a big threat to food security and livelihoods

Tough times ahead as heavy rains deal blow to war on desert locusts

Aerial and ground spraying of the pests has been stopped temporarily

BY WAWERU WAIRIMU
bwairimu@ke.nationmedia.com

The heavy rainfall reported in most parts of the country could hamper the government's effort to contain desert locusts, the Agriculture ministry has said.

Swarms of the voracious feeders are still ravaging crops and vegetation in parts of Mandera, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana-River, Garissa, Laikipia, Meru, Baringo and Turkana.

Other affected counties are Wajir, Kitui, Tharaka-Nithi, Machakos, Embu, Murang'a, Kajiado and Makueni.

And while locust control has been declared as an essential service following the coronavirus outbreak, aerial and ground spraying of the pests has been temporarily stopped to avoid wasting chemicals.

Agriculture Principal Secretary Hamadi Boga admitted that the ongoing rains are a major setback in the fight to control the pests.

With halted spraying, the insects

More info

BID TO SECURE AFFECTED AREAS

Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki, who chairs the Council of Governors Agriculture Committee, said the government needs to put extra efforts in securing the affected areas as the pests threaten food security.

"That is why we agreed that the vehicles mounted with sprayers be deployed to Northern Kenya, which is the most affected by the invasion," said Mr Njuki.



FILE | NATION
A farmer uses a panga to scare away locusts from his maize farm at Karundu village in Nyeri.

continue wreaking havoc on farms, where crops have started germinating, presenting a big threat to food security and livelihoods at a time when Kenyans are reeling from the effects of Covid-19.

"We have a robust team in all the counties and have deployed resources including NYS servicemen, who are helping in tracking. But we cannot spray during the ongoing rains as that would be wastage of the chemicals," Prof Hamadi said during an interview on NTV.

A breed of the locusts has devel-

oped some adaptations including hiding under the leaves and behaviour change such as dispersing.

Experts have warned of a second wave of locusts estimated to be 20 times bigger than the first one.

The new swarms expected to hatch in May will be descendants of the first generation that the Horn of Africa countries continue to battle with little success.

The PS noted that the government had procured 90,000 litres of pesticides and trained staff in all the counties. He added that more NYS servicemen had been

deployed to help in monitoring and spraying.

He said hatchlings of the first generation mature locusts expected in two weeks would be targeted.

Scientists estimate that the new swarms in East Africa will be 400 times bigger by June if successive generations are not eliminated.

"This comes as officials in the affected counties continue to decry challenges in collecting accurate data on the swarms due to their migration patterns and clustering change.

Kakamega >

NGO donates hygiene kits to farmers

BY SHABAN MAKOKHA

An agricultural-based NGO has donated hygienic supplies valued at Sh54 million to 450,000 farmers to support the fight against coronavirus.

The donations, which include bar soaps and sanitisers, will be channelled to the farmers through field extension officers.

One Acre Fund has also extended the repayment period of loans by farmers. It is also considering case-to-case basis in handling the repayment of the loans.

"Normally, farmers who take loans from us in terms of farm inputs repay after 10 months. But now we understand that they may not meet their targets and have thus extended the repayment period," the Fund's African Communication Associate Kelvin Owino said.

"Given the magnitude of the pandemic, efforts by the public sector alone are not sufficient. As a corporate entity, we have provided our farmers with soap to promote hand washing," added Mr Owino when he launched the distribution exercise.

He donated soaps and sanitisers to field extension officers in Shinyalu, Kakamega County and urged farmers to observe the government's health safety directives.

He said the donations will be distributed to all the counties where One Acre Fund operates.

Nakuru >

Hindu council hands out food aid to families

BY JOSEPH OPENDA

Over 2,000 families affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in Bondeni slums on the outskirts of Nakuru town have received food aid donated by members of the Hindu Council.

The Nakuru council with the assistance of local administrators and the Kenya Red Cross delivered sugar, rice, soap cooking fat, cereals, salt and green grammes valued at Sh1.5 million.

The council Chairman Shailesh Sheth said their members including the Lions club, and BAPS charity among others came together to donate the food to the families affected by the pandemic.

"As the Hindu council and the other charitable organisations, we decided to do the little that we can to support the government's efforts in protecting the vulnerable families," said Mr Sheth, who was accompanied by his Vice-Chairman Patel Ilesh.

Mr Ilesh said this would be a continuous programme, which is aimed at cushioning the vulnerable families, a majority of whom lost jobs due to the coronavirus pandemic.

According to Mr Ilesh, the council has been partnering with the county government to help in the provision of basic needs to residents.



ONDARI OGGEGA | NATION

Dairy farmers receive goats

Kisumu > Governor Anyang' Nyong'o (centre) oversees the distribution of 150 grade goats to farmers at the ASK showground in Kisumu yesterday. Household security for dairy farmers at a cost of Sh5.04 million will ensure reduced stunted growth among children under five.

Kisii >

County upgrades roads ahead of Madaraka fete

BY RUTH MBULA

Several roads including key highways within the Kisii County Municipality are undergoing major rehabilitation and maintenance.

Kisii-Kilgoris, Kisii-Kaplong, Kisii-Nyamira, Egesa-Nyatieko, Suneka-Rangwe, Nyamatara-Daraja Mbilli are among roads classified under the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA).

The tarmacking of Egesa-Nyatieko road, which is also under KeNHA, is complete.

Majority of the roads especially those in the central business district, have been in a bad shape. The county government has embarked on the rehabilitation works as it prepares to host Madaraka Day National celebrations on June 1.

President Uhuru Kenyatta is expected to lead the country in marking the 57th national Madaraka Day celebrations at Gusii stadium.

According to Governor James Ongwae, the



Governor James Ongwae

Nyamataro-Daraja Moja roads.

The road connecting Daraja Mbilli market through the National Cereals Board to Kenya power depot on Nyamatara is also being upgraded to bitumen standards.

Municipal engineer Haron Oyaro said the routine maintenance of roads under the Kenya Urban Roads Authority including the Kisii Stadium-Iterio, Barclays Bank-Kisii Hotel, Ram Hospital-Kisii police station-Hospital roundabout and HEMA Hospital-Jua Kali, is almost complete.

The Bypass from Bobaracho-Menyinkwa to Iterio-Riamasagara is being rehabilitated.

"Under the Bypass phase one, there is an impressive progress as the works along Nyanchwa section-Soko Mjinga. Tarmacking is ongoing around the stadium stretch while base works are complete along Gudka and the tarmacking is starting soon," said Mr Oyaro.

WORLD



VIRUS FUNDRAISER
Celine Dion, Justin Bieber lead celebrities in broadcast event aimed at raising money for food banks. **PAGE 28**

Covid-19 > More than 205,000 deaths confirmed across the globe — over a quarter in US

BRIEFLY

SYDNEY

TWO MILLION DOWNLOAD CORONAVIRUS TRACKER

Nearly two million Australians rushed to download a new smartphone app designed to make coronavirus contact tracing easier, the government said Monday, overlooking privacy concerns in the hope of speeding up the end of social-distancing lockdowns. Health Minister Greg Hunt hailed take-up since the app was released Sunday evening as “extraordinary”, saying 1.9 million people had downloaded the program in less than 24 hours. The nation of 25 million people has uncovered just over 6,700 instances of coronavirus, with the rate of new cases falling to 10-20 per day despite widespread testing. Australian authorities are under pressure to ease restrictions on travel and public gatherings. (AFP)

WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND ‘WINS’ BATTLE AGAINST VIRUS

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern on Monday claimed New Zealand had scored a significant victory against the spread of the coronavirus, as the country began a phased exit from lockdown. “There is no widespread, undetected community transmission in New Zealand,” Ardern declared. “We have won that battle.” After nearly five weeks at the maximum Level Four restrictions — with only essential services operating — the country will move to Level Three late on Monday. That will allow some businesses, takeaway food outlets and schools to reopen. But Ardern warned there was no certainty about when all transmission can be eliminated, allowing a return to normal life. (AFP)

PARIS

POLICE SEIZE 140,000 BLACK MARKET MASKS

French police have seized 140,000 face masks intended for the black market in a record haul since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. It is the largest seizure since the French government banned the resale of protective masks to prioritise their distribution to health workers in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. Two individuals were arrested while they were unloading boxes in Saint-Denis, just north of Paris, a police source said on Sunday. One of them said he was a business owner and had bought the masks, including 5,000 high protection FFP2 masks, in the Netherlands for a total of 80,000 euros (\$87,000). (AFP)

DHAKA

BANGLADESH GARMENT FIRMS BACK IN BUSINESS

Hundreds of Bangladesh’s garment factories defied a nationwide coronavirus lockdown to reopen on Sunday, raising fears the industry’s vulnerable and largely female workforce could be exposed to the contagion. Big-name international brands have cancelled or held up billions of dollars in orders due to the pandemic, crippling an industry that accounts for nearly all of the South Asian country’s export earnings. Factories shut their doors in late March but some suppliers said they were now being pushed by retailers to fulfill outstanding export orders. (AFP)

Back to school in Chinese cities as lockdowns start to ease worldwide

Restrictions ease as governments begin charting a path out of pandemic nightmare

BEIJING, Monday

Children in China’s two most important cities went back to school Monday after more than three months at home, as coronavirus restrictions eased and governments around the world began charting a path out of the pandemic lockdown.

Europe’s four worst-affected countries all reported marked drops in their daily death tolls, offering hope that the outbreak may have peaked in some places — at least for now.

But leaders and experts remain divided on how quickly to revive shuttered economies while maintaining a delicate balance between freedom and safety.

Italy and New York laid out partial reopening plans, with France and Spain to follow suit this week, while tens of thousands of final-year students returned to school in Shanghai and Beijing after months of closures.

“I’m glad, it’s been too long since I’ve seen my classmates,” 19-year-old Hang Huan said in Shanghai. “I’ve missed

them a lot.” Students in Beijing must have their temperatures checked at school gates and show “green” health codes on an app that calculates a person’s infection risk, according to the education ministry.

Virus numbers in China — where the disease first emerged late last year — have dwindled as the country begins to cautiously lift control measures, although fears remain of a potential resurgence and cases imported from abroad.

Primary schools in Norway also reopened on Monday, along with some businesses in Switzerland, such as hairdressers and florists.

In an Oslo suburb, Karine Rabbe brought her seven-year-old daughter Tilde to school in the rain after six weeks of online teaching.

“She was ready at six o’clock this morning, three hours early. She was so excited to go back. No alarm clock, we don’t need that,” Rabbe said. More than 205,000 coronavirus deaths have been confirmed across the globe — over a quarter in the United States.

Longest shutdown

Italy has the second-highest death toll at 26,000, followed by Spain, France and Britain, all at well over 20,000.

But on Sunday Britain’s daily tally was the lowest since March 31, while Italy and Spain’s were the lowest in a month. France’s toll was a drop of more than a third on the previous day’s figures.

Those encouraging numbers blew relief through a continent frustrated by restrictions designed to slow the spread of the disease.

“We cannot continue beyond this lockdown — we risk damaging the country’s socioeconomic fabric too much,” said Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte as he unveiled a plan to emerge from Europe’s longest shutdown, in place since early March.

People will have to wear masks in public and rigorously observe social distancing measures when the country’s current restrictions are eased on May 4.

Britain’s leader, Boris Johnson, returned to work on Monday after being hospitalised by Covid-19, one of nearly



A doctor checks the temperature of a girl upon arrival for a boxing event at the Alexis Arguello Sports Centre in Managua, Nicaragua, on April 25. LEFT: A student walks past police as she arrives at a high school in Beijing on Monday. Senior students returned to class for the first time since schools were closed in January.

three million people known to have been infected worldwide.

The pandemic has forced more than half of humanity into lockdowns, upending lives and tipping the global economy toward a recession of a severity not seen in decades. (AFP)

WASHINGTON

US RECORDS 1,330 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS: JOHNS HOPKINS

The United States recorded 1,330 more novel coronavirus deaths in the past 24 hours, according to figures reported late Sunday by the Johns Hopkins University. The country now has an overall death toll of 54,841, with 964,937 confirmed infections, according to a tally by the Baltimore-based institution at 8:30 pm (0030 GMT Monday). The United States is by far the hardest-hit country in the global pandemic, in terms of both confirmed infections and deaths. The 24-hour US death toll was 2,494 late Saturday, and 1,258 on Friday evening — the lowest in nearly three weeks — as the government struggles to quell the virus.

Trump backs US health secretary, lashes media

WASHINGTON, Monday

President Donald Trump on Sunday dismissed reports he was considering sacking health secretary Alex Azar as criticism mounts over the US response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Trump, who risks losing public support ahead of the November election due to the climbing death toll, lashed out over stories on CNN and other media outlets.

“Reports that H.H.S. Secretary Alex

Azar is going to be ‘fired’ by me are Fake News,” Trump wrote on Twitter.

“They are desperate to create the perception of chaos & havoc in the minds of the public.”

Trump renewed his attacks on Fox News, which he targets when its generally supportive broadcasting veers into criticism. “No respect for the people running @FoxNews. But Fox keeps on plugging to try and become politically correct,” he said.

“The people who are watching @



FoxNews... are angry. They want an alternative now. So do I!” He separately threatened lawsuits

over his media coverage, and asked the “Noble Committee” to rescind awards — presumed to be a reference to the Nobel Prize, which has no journalism category.

“Trump appears to have halted his daily televised briefings on the virus after suggesting that patients might be injected with disinfectant to kill an infection. He later claimed he had been speaking ‘sarcastically.’ More than 54,000 Americans have died from the novel coronavirus. (AFP)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un 'alive and well'

SEOUL, Monday

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is "alive and well," a top security adviser to the South's President Moon Jae-in said, downplaying rumours over Kim's health following his absence from a key anniversary.

Conjecture over Kim has grown since his conspicuous no-show at April 15 celebrations for the birthday of his grandfather Kim Il Sung, the North's founder — the most important day in

the country's political calendar.

"Our government position is firm," said Moon's special adviser on national security Moon Chung-in, in an interview with CNN on Sunday. "Kim Jong Un is alive and well."

The adviser said that Kim had been staying in Wonsan — a resort town in the country's east — since April 13, adding: "No suspicious movements have so far been detected."

Kim has not made a public appearance since presiding over a Workers' Party



politburo meeting on April 11, and the following day state media reported on him inspecting fighter jets at an air defence unit.

His absence unleashed a series of unconfirmed media reports over his

condition, which officials in Seoul previously poured cold water on.

"We have nothing to confirm and no special movement has been detected inside North Korea as of now," the South's presidential office said in a statement last week.

South Korea's unification minister Kim Yeon-chul reiterated Monday that remained the case, adding the "confident" conclusion was drawn from "a complex process of intelligence gathering and assessment". (AFP)

BRIEFLY

RIYADH

SAUDIS REJECT S. YEMEN SELF-RULE DECLARATION

The Saudi-led military coalition on Monday rejected Yemen separatists' declaration of self-rule over the country's south and demanded "an end to any escalatory actions". The separatists' move complicates a long and separate conflict, fought by the coalition and the internationally recognised government, against Huthi rebels who control much of the north. Yemen's separatists signed a power-sharing deal in Riyadh last November that quelled a battle — dubbed a "civil war within a civil war" — for the south that had in August seen them seize control of the second city of Aden. "We stress the need to restore conditions to their previous state in the interim capital Aden," the coalition said. (AFP)

BEIRUT

THOUSANDS PROTEST AT DIRE STATE OF ECONOMY

Demonstrators blocked roads through Lebanon late Sunday to protest the deteriorating economic situation, despite a lockdown and curfew imposed because of the coronavirus, according to the official news agency. Police quickly intervened to reopen the highways where the demonstrators burnt tyres to block roads, the ANI national news agency said. In Zafra sector, northeast of Beirut, six people were injured, Lebanese Red Cross official Rodney Eid told AFP without providing further details. An AFP photographer saw protesters setting tyres ablaze on the highway north of the capital, in the suburbs of Dbaiyeh, before the army and police moved in. (AFP)

SYDNEY

NEW ZEALAND VOLCANO VICTIMS TO Sue SHIP FIRM

Survivors of last year's New Zealand volcano eruption are planning to sue cruise ship company Royal Caribbean for failing to warn of the risks involved in touring the area, lawyers said Monday. There were 47 people, mainly Australian tourists, on White Island when it erupted on December 9 last year, killing 21 people. Many were carried off with horrific injuries, including extensive external and internal burns from the explosion that sent steam, ash and gases hurtling from the caldera. Lawyer Rita Youssef, from Sydney-based Stacks Goudkamp, said the firm was preparing to launch legal action against Royal Caribbean on behalf of survivors and families of the victims, many of whom were passengers on the cruise liner Ovation of the Seas. (AFP)

SEOUL

FORMER STRONGMAN ON TRIAL FOR DEFAMATION

Former South Korean dictator Chun Doo-hwan went on trial Monday for defaming an activist priest who documented a brutal crackdown by his troops on pro-democracy demonstrators in Gwangju. An uprising against Chun's military government four decades ago ended in a bloodbath by martial law troops that left around 200 people dead or missing. Activists say the toll may have been three times as much. Chun seized power in a military coup in 1979 and ruled South Korea with an iron fist until 1988, stepping down after mass demonstrations forced him to agree to the restoration of democracy. In 1996 he was convicted of treason and bribery and sentenced to death. But the top court commuted the penalty to life in prison and he was released the following year on a presidential pardon. (AFP)

Stronger together > Authorities warn against chloroquine use as coronavirus treatment

Canadian icons in virus fundraiser

Celine Dion, Justin Bieber and Margaret Atwood were among the Canadian celebrities who joined for a broadcast event Sunday to honour healthcare workers battling the coronavirus pandemic and raise money for food banks.

MONTREAL, Monday

The "Stronger Together/Tous Ensemble" event, which was broadcast on radio, television and streamed online, brought together Canadian personalities who sang or delivered messages of solidarity from their living rooms or — in the case of Dion — their kitchens.

The Canadian singer paid tribute to those who work in healthcare or provide essential services despite the risks of contracting Covid-19.

Her message to fellow citizens: "stay healthy and as positive as possible."

"We will get through to the other side," said award-winning novelist Atwood. "There is another side, and when we do get there we will be thinking of other and better ways to do things. I'll see you on the other side."

Testimonies and messages of solidarity alternated with songs during the 90-minute show that had no commercial interruptions.

Political personalities

Other celebrities that made an appearance included singers Michael Buble, Bryan Adams, Alessia Cara, Shania Twain, Buffy Sainte-Marie, and Drake.

Canadian-born Hollywood stars also appeared, including

Kiefer Sutherland, Mike Myers and Ryan Reynolds, as well as sports and political personalities — like former astronaut and Governor General of Canada Julie Payette.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also took part, urging Canadians to remain cautious and at home.

The event, billed as the broadest multi-platform broadcast event ever in Canada, was aimed at raising funds for the country's food banks. "Canada, you're amazing. The @foodbanksCanada website has crushed under the weight of your generosity. Remember you can still donate after the show — please keep trying!" FoodBanks Canada tweeted.

At the same time, Canadian health authorities have issued a warning against the use of antimalarial drugs chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine to treat coronavirus infections or prevent reinfections.

We are presently living some incredibly difficult moments. We have to do everything possible to stop this virus. Let us take care of each other and together I am sure we will succeed."

Celine Dion



using chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine to prevent or treat Covid-19." It said, noting they can cause "serious heart rhythm problems".

The European Medicines Agency and the US Food and Drug Administration this week issued similar warnings about the drugs, whose promise as a coronavirus treatment has been touted by US President Donald Trump.

Health Canada said chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine were approved to treat malaria and certain autoimmune diseases like lupus and rheumatoid arthritis but were known to potentially cause liver or kidney problems, low blood sugar and nervous system problems.

"The effects on heart rhythm ... in the most serious cases, may be fatal," it said.

Meanwhile, a top UN official has urged Bangladesh to let two stranded boatloads of starving Rohingya Muslims land amid mounting fears Monday over the fate of the refugees. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet warned of a "human tragedy of terrible proportions". (AFP)

PARIS

'LIVE' AND DANGEROUS, STARS ON THEIR SOFAS

Across social media, sports stars denied the chance to play in front of a crowd are increasingly going "live" in sometimes surprising ways to connect with an audience.

To the delight of fans, happy to discover some hidden facets of their idols, stars from Karim Benzema to the Brazilian legend Ronaldo and even Rafael Nadal, who initially struggled with Instagram, are dropping their habitual discretion to interact live with their millions of followers.

"As competitions are suspended, sportsmen and women are no longer necessarily supervised by the club's press officer," Boris Heleu, an expert on digital strategies in sport, told AFP.

"The athlete becomes his own media and can speak out on subjects that we didn't hear about before."

One of those who has cracked open his armour on a range of topics is the normally prickly Benzema, who posts videos on YouTube as "Nueve Live" — a play on his shirt number, and has more than 33 million Instagram followers.

Israeli strikes near Syria capital kill three civilians

DAMASCUS, Monday

Israeli air strikes near the Syrian capital early Monday killed three civilians, state media said.

"Three civilians were martyred and four others wounded, including a child, because shrapnel from Israeli missiles fell on houses" in the suburbs of Damascus, the official Sana news agency said. Syrian air defences had downed "most" of the Israeli missiles launched

from Lebanese air space shortly before dawn, Sana said in an earlier report.

Videos published on the agency's website purported to show the Israeli warheads exploding in the sky. An Israeli spokesperson declined to comment.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor, said the attack hit positions of Iranian forces and fighters from Lebanese militant group Hezbollah south of Damascus.

It said four such fighters were killed

in the strikes.

Government troops

Since the start of the Syrian conflict in 2011, Israel has carried out hundreds of strikes in the country, targeting government troops as well as allied Iranian forces and Hezbollah fighters, enemies of the Jewish state.

On April 20, Sana said Syrian air defences had downed Israeli missiles near the ancient city of Palmyra.

The Observatory, which relies on a network of sources inside Syria, said the targets were "military posts for Iranian militias in the Palmyra desert".

That raid killed three Syrian fighters and six foreigners, according to the monitor, which was not able to determine their nationalities. Israel rarely confirms its operations in Syria but says Iran's presence in support of President Bashar al-Assad is a threat and that it will continue its strikes. (AFP)

BUSINESS



HOUSING FUNDS >
Formally employed workers can now tap into their pension savings to buy their dream houses after the President signed a bill into law. **PAGE 30**

Munya import order cuts maize price 10 per

BY GERALD ANDAE

Maize prices have eased 10 per cent as speculators respond to the government directive on planned imports, forcing traders who have been hoarding to release stocks.

A 90 kilogramme bag of maize is now selling at Sh3,000 from Sh3,500 a fortnight ago when tight supply had sparked price jump.

Mr Ken Nyagah, chairman of the United Grain Millers Association, said there was an increase in supplies since the announcement on imports was made by the Ministry of Agriculture two weeks ago.

"The prices have now come down in a span of two weeks since the news that the country will allow imports broke," said Mr Nyagah.

The government has allowed millers to import two

million bags of maize to curb the deficit expected in June. The imports are expected between April 20 and May 30.

The price of maize has remained high since the beginning of the year with a 90 kilogramme bag selling at Sh3,000 at the farm gate, compared with Sh1,800 during a similar period last year.

Good prices

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Peter Munya last week urged farmers to take advantage of the good prices to release stocks before they come crashing when imports arrive.

"We want to tell those who are hoarding maize to release [stocks] now to the market before the prices start coming down," said Mr Munya.

However, a farmers' lobby denied claims of hoarding, saying the prevailing good price made it impossible for growers to take the risk.

"It doesn't make any sense that farmers would be hoarding at this time. It is a costly affair for them to do that as it costs them up to Sh60 per bag in a month to preserve, and so most of them would rather sell," said Mr Anthony Kioko, chief executive officer of Cereal Millers Growers Association.

Mr Kioko said with a bag of maize at close to Sh3,000 at farm gate, every farmer would want to release stock as soon as possible.

The State anticipates that the current stocks of maize will last until June, hence need for imports to curb possible rise in price of flour, that are at the moment retailing at Sh130 for a two kilogramme packet.

Egypt bank to fund trade on Mayfair deal

BY PATRICK ALUSHULA

Egypt's largest private lender Commercial International Bank (CIB) will focus on financing trade between Kenya and the North African country following the acquisition of a controlling stake in Mayfair Bank.

CIB chairman and managing director Hisham Ezz Al-Arab said the lender would gather market intelligence to deepen presence and support clients who operate in the country.

"In Kenya, we will offer back-to-back trade finance, facilitating Egyptian exports to (and imports from) this vital East African market, while we look forward to exploring the exciting Ethiopian market as it embarks on a period of political and economic reform," said Mr Al-Arab in the latest annual report.

CIB will inject Sh3.7 billion to firm up Mayfair operations.

Mayfair's current target has been high net worth individuals and corporates but the Egyptian lender wants to offer requisite skills, resources and infrastructure to scale up the business.

BRIEFLY

COMMERCE

StarTimes takes solar panels, TV sales online

Pay-TV operator StarTimes has ventured into online trading with a platform to sell branded television sets, solar power systems and set-top boxes. The platform, StarTimes GO will tap into the operator's PayTV clientele where products on sale will be advertised on its Rembo and Triple P channels. The firm said transactions will be settled electronically via StarTimesON App that includes a payment gateway also used to pay for its TV bouquets subscriptions via mobile money. -James Kariuki

TRANSPORT

Bolt installs barriers to control coronavirus

Estonian-based ride-hailing app Bolt has introduced new measures to curb the Covid-19 pandemic during taxi trips. The firm has launched Bolt Protect service at no extra cost, which ensures cars under this category are fitted with a protective plastic film-ensuring a barrier between the driver and passenger. "We provide our drivers with a step-by-step guide on how they can build a protective sheet, instruct them on proper ventilation and cleaning of the car," said Bolt Kenya country manager Ola Akinnusi. -Annie Njanja

Regulation > Lobby wants neighbouring state to reconsider proposal for relay trucking

Transporters protest rising cost of business on Uganda Covid-19 order

The restriction is seen as affecting already slowed down movement of essential goods across borders

BY GERALD ANDAE

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Kenyan cross border transporters are protesting a decision by the Ugandan government to lock them out of the country in a bid to curb spread of the deadly coronavirus disease.

The directive issued last week will see Kenya's truck drivers hand over their vehicles to others at the border to complete the journey, a move the transporters said would significantly increase their cost of doing business, which they warned would ultimately be passed on to consumers.

The Kenya Transporters Association wants Kampala to reconsider the directive casting doubt on the practicality of the move that Uganda has dubbed relay truck driving.

The association's chief operating officer Mercy Ireri, in a protest letter to Kampala said the move, besides adding to the cost of doing business, it will impact negatively on movement of goods.

"The trucking companies would face challenges in deploying other drivers across regional country borders," said Ms Ireri.

"This would require new drivers recruitment and training and would drastically increase the cost of transportation to the trucking companies even as the business has been affected due to reduced cargo and longer transit times," she added.

Ms Ireri said the move was also problematic in regard to insurance

compensation as any accident or theft while the goods are under the custody of drivers in Uganda would likely be challenged by the underwriters.

A spot check by the Daily Nation yesterday established that the heightened health checks by Uganda had caused heavy traffic jam on the Malaba border, a times stretching up to Bungoma town, some 35.3 kilometres.

The transporters have instead proposed their own measures that they said were more promising in combating the spread of coronavirus (Covid-19).



This would require new drivers recruitment and training and would drastically increase the cost of transportation to the trucking companies even as the business has been affected due to reduced cargo and longer transit times"

Mercy Ireri, Kenya Transporters Association chief operating officer



Among them is drivers undergoing mandatory Covid-19 test at the border and if found to be positive to be put in isolation.

A number of Kenyan truck drivers crossing to Uganda have been found to be Covid-19 positive, raising concerns over cross border transmission.

Complete lockdown

Uganda has put the entire country under a lockdown and even restricted the movement of vehicles with an exception given to cargo trucks.

The new move by the Ugandan government comes at a time when Comesa Business Council, a regional lobby, has raised concern over the impediments put in place

by some member States, which has affected the movement of goods.

"Selected Member states have put in place measures restricting the movement of goods and services, except for essential products," said the council in a statement last week.

The council said essential products have been broadly categorised as food and beverages, agriculture inputs and medical supplies.

However, there has been no clear categorisation in terms of harmonised system classifications of the essential products resulting in uncertainty for most businesses, and increased discretion for border officials, which often leads to arbitrary decision making and corruption.

A truck driver at the Kenya Ports Authority yard at the Port of Mombasa on April 15 where various measures are in place to control the spread of coronavirus disease by the essential service providers.

KEVIN GIDITI | NATION



Working together to ensure workplace safety and health

MESSAGE FROM THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Mr. Simon K. Chelugui, EGH

As a country, we are pleased to join other nations in marking the World Day for Safety and Health at Work. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has set aside this day towards the promotion of a safe and healthy workplace. This year's ILO theme, "Stop the pandemic: Safety & Health at Work can save lives", focuses on infectious diseases at work, specifically Covid-19. My ministry is partnering with the Ministry of Health, ILO and WHO in the joint campaign to stop the pandemic in workplaces and ensure a safe and secure working environments for all workers.



Our workers in the public and private sectors hold the future of our country's economy. Without sound safety and health systems in place, none of the sectors can thrive. Workers in the health sector are today exposed to the risks associated with Covid-19 if not provided with the right PPEs.

Since the first ILO Monitor, the Covid-19 pandemic has further accelerated in terms of intensity and expanded its global reach. Full or partial lockdown measures are now affecting almost 2.7 billion workers, representing about 81 percent of the world's workforce. In the current situation, businesses across a range of economic sectors are facing catastrophic losses, which threaten their operations and solvency, especially among smaller enterprises, while millions of workers are vulnerable to income loss and layoffs. The impact on income-generating activities is especially harsh for unprotected workers and the most vulnerable groups in the informal economy. Employment contraction has already begun on a large (often unprecedented) scale in many sectors. For the better management of workers' safety and injuries compensation, my ministry is finalising on the Occupational Safety and Health Bill and the Work Injury Compensation Bill for onward transition

of the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS) into an authority. The ministry has also reconstituted and gazetted new vibrant members of the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health. My ministry will ensure the completion of the construction of National Occupational Safety and Health Institute, which is currently at 85 percent. This will enhance the training of workers in the critical area of safety and health. As you may recall, the President directed that "Where possible, government offices, businesses and companies be encouraged to allow employees to work from home with the exception of employees working in critical or essential services". In order to comply with this directive, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection issued the following guidelines to workplaces (employers and employees).

- Identify critical services which must continue and take all necessary pre-

cautionary measures to safeguard from exposure.

- Assess the risk of exposure with respect to every work activity and put necessary mitigation measures.
- Allow absenteeism when a worker shows symptoms of Covid-19 or is caring for someone who has or is suspected to have the symptoms (coughing, difficulty in breathing, high fever).
- All workplaces should develop infection control plans and policies.

Let me conclude by reiterating my ministry's commitment to working hand in hand with employers and workers in ensuring a safe and healthy work environment, especially during this period. I wish you all a safe and healthy life as you continue to develop our beloved country Kenya. Stay safe. God bless you.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Patrick Keturet Ole Ntutu

Today, as we mark the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, let us remember those who continue to work in public spaces, in particular health workers, who are exposed to significant health and economic risks. Indeed, no matter where in the world or in which sector, the Covid-19 crisis is having a dramatic impact on the world's workforce. Policy responses need to focus on providing immediate relief to workers and enterprises in order to protect livelihoods and economically viable businesses, particularly in hard-hit sectors and developing countries, thus ensuring the conditions for a prompt, job-rich recovery once the pandemic is under control. This year's ILO's theme, "Stop the Pandemic: Safety & Health at Work Can Save Lives" focuses on infectious diseases at work, specifically Covid-19. This calls us to bring to the fore safety and health measures so as to secure a safe work environment. Prosperity of economic future of any country is solely reliant on its workforce. A safe and healthy workforce is key in productivity. Measures of safety and health for our workforce have to be put in place now, such as:

- Providing clean and well-maintained hand washing facilities.
- Cleaning hands at the door/entrances and schedule hand washing reminders by posters, signage, notices, emails and social media platforms.
- Offering alcohol-based hand sanitisers when regular facilities (soap and water) are not available (or to field staff and those



employees to work from home, or to work flexible hours to avoid peak public transportation times or crowding the workplace.

- Assessing the risks of business travel and ensuring no travel is conducted without an approved travel risk assessment.
- Asking employees to stay at home and go to hospital if they exhibit Covid-19 symptoms.
- Asking employees to stay at home if they have a family member in their home who has exhibited Covid-19 symptoms.

All employers and workplaces should report all suspected cases among their workforce and provide mechanisms of recording the incidences with the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services.

While we celebrate all the positive gains and strides realised towards enhancing a safe and healthy work environment, we need to put in place strategic measures to promote a culture of prevention on occupational safety and health. Many of those still working, especially health workers, are at the frontline, fighting the virus and making sure that people have their basic needs met, including workers in transport, agriculture, and essential public services. Globally, there are 136 million workers in human health and social work activities, including nurses, doctors and other health workers, workers in residential care facilities and social workers, as well as support workers, such as laundry and cleaning staff, who face serious risk of contracting Covid-19 in the workplace. Approximately 70 percent of jobs in the sector are held by women. Let us all endeavour to promote a strong safety culture, for it is our responsibility to protect the safety and health of this workers. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR LABOUR, MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Eng. Peter K. Tum, OGV

The world today appreciates challenges that have been encountered in the path of efforts to improve safety and health in workplaces. It is with this in mind that the marking of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work is important. Today, the State Department for Labour joins the rest of the international community in marking the day in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has thus come up with a theme, "Stop the Pandemic: Safety & Health at Work Can Save Lives", which focuses on infectious diseases at work specifically Covid-19. The health workers are particularly at a greater risk of contracting the disease. Every infected health worker means a further gap in the fight against the pandemic. Ensuring the safety and health of health workers is therefore a matter of high priority. The health-care



workplace is particularly vulnerable to the risk of exposure to Covid-19. According to current knowledge, the two main routes of transmission are direct interaction with patients and contact with respiratory droplets in the space closely surrounding an infected person. To date, the survival time of the virus on surfaces remains unknown. This further extends the risk of contact transmission to support personnel, such as laundry staff, cleaners and workers dealing with clinical disposal. The protection of health workers focuses on the prevention of contracting and spreading Covid-19. The transparent and timely dissemination of information on the transmission of the disease is key in this regard. The availability of personal protective equip-

ment (PPE), as well as training and education in its correct usage, is also critical. Specific infection control measures, such as visual alerts, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette, masking and separation of persons with respiratory symptoms, and droplet precautions, can help to prevent occupational respiratory infections among the health workers.

Along with supporting those in the informal economy, efforts are needed to support formal workers and enterprises to ensure that they do not fall back into informality as a result of the crisis and erode gains made in recent years. It is critical to ensure that public resources will be used to support employment and income for workers. Therefore, financial and non-financial support can be strategically provided to encourage enterprises to retain and/or create jobs. The relevant mix of economy-wide and targeted measures needs to consider national circumstances, including the structure of the economy, existing inequality trends, and labour market institutions that can best deliver policies. It is my sincere appeal to all employers and employees to cooperate with the State Department for Labour in the fight against the pandemic.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (NACOSH)

Mr. Joseph Kanguchu

The National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH) joins the rest of the world in marking the World Day for Safety and Health at Work. Drawing from a diverse membership, both in private and public institutions, NACOSH provides DOSHS with a view of the stakeholder represented and makes the administration of OSH more current



Joseph Kanguchu
Chairman, National Council for Occupational Safety and Health

and responsive to the needs of all the players in matters OSH.

The 11 members gazetted on September 20, 2019 (3 members) and January 17, 2020 (8 members) form the 4th Council. In line with this year's ILO theme, "Stop the Pandemic: Safety & Health at Work Can Save Lives", NACOSH is tasked to provide advisory to the Cabinet Secretary on the following matters:

- Policy and legislative reforms,
- Statistical analysis of occupational diseases and accidents for decision making.
- Matters that touch on quality of working life and hence ensuring a safe and healthy work environment for the workers.

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It is envisaged that the role of NACOSH is to provide strategic direction to the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services. This is especially in view of the fact that the field of OSH is wide and undergoes rapid changes in practice in tandem with the developments in industry and the workplace in general.

This strategic direction include policy as well as legislative changes, innovative ways of administering OSH, process re-engineering, leveraging on technology, resources mobilisation and access to organs of state such as the legislative assembly as well as private entities involved in OSH. Expectations from the current Council include:

- Finalisation of the legislative reforms geared to transiting the Council into a Board
 - Constant engagement with the Cabinet Secretary
 - Resource mobilisation (Human, Financial, Equipment, Technical skills)
 - Access to partnerships with organisations represented in the Council.
- As a Council, we extend our appreciation and gratitude to employers and other stakeholders who have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and health of their workers during this Covid-19 pandemic period.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SERVICES

Dr. Musa Nyandusi



ing timely and fair compensation to work related injuries.

- v. Training of workers and employers for higher levels of awareness on matters relating to OSH.

The Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services has greatly improved occupational safety and health standards in Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Manufacturing, Agriculture and Construction sectors by sensitising 1,500 MSEs on occupational safety and health in the last one year.

To ensure the safety and health of the workers 1,500 workplaces inspections have been carried out in the four sectors under the Big Four initiative (Manufacturing, Food Security, Health and Housing) for early and effective mitigation of hazardous conditions and reduction of accidents and cases of ill health.

The Directorate is alive to the ongoing challenge of the novel Coronavirus pandemic (Covid-19) and in conjunction with other government and non-state players, continues to be committed to finding practical and workable solutions geared towards not only flattening the curve of new infections but also to ensure the protection of frontline workers who continue to work through the period of containment.

To this end, the Directorate issued an advisory to all workplaces on the containment and mitigation of the spread of the Covid-19 and has found innovative mechanisms to interact with the workplaces to interrogate the compliance and the share challenges experienced with these guidelines.

Some workplaces have had some of their staff unfortunately infected, quarantined as a result of exposure, isolated as a precaution against exposure and succumbed to the infection.

There are further challenges in loss of jobs and livelihoods occasioned by the pandemic which will require new and proactive thinking for which we continue to be committed to being part of.

April 28 every year is celebrated as the World Day for Safety and Health at Work. On this day, the world commemorates workers who died as well as remember those that got injured or contracted diseases in the course of their duty.

As we mark this year's World Day for Safety and Health at Work, the ILO theme, "Stop the pandemic: Safety & Health at Work Can Save Lives", focuses on infectious diseases at work, specifically Covid-19. This theme resonates with what is happening in the workplace today.

The need for effective systems for ensuring safety and health at work has never been clearer and the need to constantly review the practices, policies as well as legislations to adapt to the changing needs at the workplace.

The Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS) is mandated under Article 41 of the Constitution of Kenya vide the Provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2007, to ensure safety, health and welfare of workers in workplaces as well as ensure compensation to employees for work related injuries and diseases vide the Work Injury Benefits Act, 2007. By executing its mandate, the Directorate plays its active role in achieving the ILO goals set in the various relevant conventions ratified and demented by Kenya. Occupational Safety and Health issues being applicable across all sectors of the economy, it is required of DOSHS to collaborate with other agencies in addressing the issues.

- DOSHS has made a number of milestones over the years. The milestones made contribute towards ensuring the health of a worker in a safe work environment. The milestones include:
- i. Workplace inspections and audits which have an eventual outcome of a safer workplace.
 - ii. Medical examinations of workers that are targeted at ensuring a healthier worker.
 - iii. Registration of workplaces that constitute the data necessary for future OSH planning.
 - iv. Management of Work Injury Benefits, which goes a long way in ensur-

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO, FKE

As we celebrate the World Day for Safety and Health at Work today, we are faced with a paradox because the world has never felt so unsafe and fearful of what the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic portends! This pandemic is an unusual occurrence, requiring unprecedented measures from all players across all sectors.

In the Kenyan context, the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) has been at the forefront in the fight against Coronavirus infection and has called on all actors to collaborate in the design and implementation of proposed intervention measures for the good of everyone. The government, social partners and enterprises all have a critical role to play.

In these tough times, FKE has been the voice of employers influencing debate and policy decisions in various ways including: being part of the labour sector Rapid Response Team, collecting and collating views and preparing employers proposals on intervention measures against Covid-19, issuance of Guidelines and protocols for use by employers in helping stop the spread of the virus in line with those issued by the Directorate of Occupational Safety & Health Services (DOSHS) and the Ministry of Health; submitting a memorandum to the Senate ad hoc committee on the proposed Pandemic Response and Management Bill, 2020 on behalf of Employers; conducting surveys to collect data on employers issues; holding weekly webinars for information sharing and discussion amongst employers.



Jacqueline Mugo, EBS, Executive Director/CEO Federation of Kenya Employers

On the global scene, the Covid-19 pandemic is causing tens of thousands of deaths and massive economic and social disruption. Although Africa has so far been spared the worst kind of impact this could drastically change if the measures announced by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and re-emphasised by governments are not adhered to.

The world of work has been profoundly affected by the global Coronavirus pandemic. Flattening the curve will call for strict observance of these protocols in all spheres of life; at personal, household, community and national levels including all workplaces. In addition to the threat to public health, the economic and social disruption threatens the long-term livelihoods and wellbeing of millions of people.

The effects of Covid-19 pandemic on employment are likely to be severe in urban areas. With urban-based sectors of the economy accounting for 64 percent of GDP in Africa, this pandemic will be devastating to most economies.

The small and medium enterprises (SMEs) account for 80 percent of employment in Africa, including Kenya. Approximately 250 million Africans in informal urban employment are at risk.

There will be a slump in productivity; reduced profits; increased costs of doing business particularly in jump-starting of economies after Covid-19; and new ways of work will also be disruptive and expensive. The future of work has now been accelerated by this pandemic.

Employers face costly lay-offs, loss of skilled staff, absenteeism and high insurance premiums. However, we can slow the pandemic by implementing sound prevention, reporting and inspection practices. The International Labour Organization (ILO) standards on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) provide essential tools for governments, employers, and workers to establish such practices and provide for safety at work.

The ILO has adopted more than 40 standards specifically dealing with occupational safety and health, as well as over 40 Codes of Practice. These ILO Codes of Practice set out practical guidelines for public authorities, employers, workers, enterprises, and specialized occupational safety and health protection bodies (such as enterprise safety committees). Various occupations have their own unique Codes of Practice which will need to be observed.

Kenya is a signatory to most of these international instruments and employers are represented by the Federation of Kenya Employers

(FKE) on the ILO Governing body among others. FKE will collaborate with other ILO constituents; the Government and the Workers to continue playing a critical role in combating the outbreak, ensuring the safety of individuals and the sustainability of businesses and jobs.

In conclusion, the Federation recommends that all workplaces should have policies in place that outline specific requirements and actions to be taken in implementation of OSH guidelines. It is also encouraged that employers develop and disseminate a policy on Covid-19 pandemic. The policy should include standard operating procedures indicating how to handle sick employees or those who may be exposed to the virus.

The Federation also has a comprehensive training programme on Safety and Health Management in the workplace, which equips employees with relevant practical skills and knowledge to embrace, implement and sustain safety. Employers should take advantage of this programme to prepare for the emerging OSH issues. Through various platforms like Zoom Webinars, the Federation is also conducting weekly discussion and information sharing forums. All employers are encouraged to subscribe and participate in these free weekly forums.

On this World Day of Safety and Health, the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) calls upon all Kenyans to come together in the fight against Covid-19:

"It is a shared responsibility and together we shall win"

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL, COTU

The Covid-19 Pandemic is unprecedented and presents the biggest global OSHA threat ever experienced.

Today, workers are confronted with the challenge to keep learning new ways to adapt to working from home as we observe social distancing and self-quarantine in response to the Covid-19 pandemic as essential staff go to work under stringent conditions and working hours.

In Kenya, everyone is speculating on how long this pandemic will control our way of life, not knowing when we shall return to our normal life, but the reality is that this crisis is permanently changing how we work.

The world of work is being profoundly affected by the global virus pandemic. In addition to the threat to public health, the economic and social disruption threatens the long-term livelihoods and wellbeing of millions of people.

The ILO and its constituents of governments, workers and employers will play a crucial role in combating the outbreak, ensuring the safety of workers and the sustain-



Francis Atwoli NOM (DZA), EBS, MBS

ability of businesses and jobs.

While self-employment does not typically react to economic downturns, it acts as a "default" option for survival or maintaining income, often in the informal economy.

Thus, informal employment tends to increase during crises. However, the current limitations on the movement of people and goods may restrict this type of coping mechanism.

The decline in economic activity and constraints on people's movements is impacting both manufac-

turing and services, as recent data shows that the total value added industrial enterprises will drastically decline and global and regional supply chains will be disrupted.

The services sector, tourism, travel and retail are especially vulnerable. An initial assessment by the World Trade and Tourism Council forecasts a decline in international arrivals of up to 25 percent in 2020, which would place millions of jobs at risk.


The Central Organisation of Trade Unions Kenya (COTU-K) has continued to issue out workers' safety measures against the Coronavirus within the guidelines of Occupational Safety and Health regulations. No doubt, workers all over the world have to change their mode of operation and work strictly from home until the situation is contained.

COTU-K has equally developed comprehensive training programmes that are geared to providing workers with the skills and knowledge on proper safety measures, and also during this pandemic, there is an emphasis on ensuring one has all the relevant personal protective

equipment when working.


To this end, we call on all workers to adhere to OSH regulations issued by the government, including Covid-19 guidelines; comply with the prescribed safety measures, taking reasonable care for the safety of other (not exposing others to occupational risks); and use safety devices and protective clothing and protective equipment correctly.

COTU-K has developed comprehensive training programmes that are geared to providing workers with the skills and knowledge on proper safety measures



COAST WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Kenya Vision 2030
FORWARDS A GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE AND PROSPEROUS NATION



Country: Kenya

Project: Construction of the Makamini Dam Phase 1

Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for Review Detailed Design Documentation and Construction Supervision of Makamini Dam Works under Design Build Model

Contract No: CWWDA/ T/C/16/2019-2020

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)

CONSULTING SERVICES
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

- The Coast Water Works Development Agency (CWWDA) has received a funds from the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Water and Sanitation & Irrigation toward the cost of the **Construction of the Makamini Dam Phase 1**, and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payments under the following Contract: **Consultancy Services for Review Detailed Design Documentation and Construction Supervision of Makamini Dam Works under Design Build Model.**
- The consulting services of this assignment ("the Services") include:
 - Review of detailed design documentation done by the Contractor (feasibility studies, preliminary designs, detailed designs, cost estimates, ESIA, RAP etc.)
 - Works supervision and coordination.
 - Supervision during defects liability/notification period (DLP/DNP) completion, testing and commissioning
- The Coast Water Works Development Agency, a state corporation under the Ministry of Water and Sanitation & Irrigation (MWS&I), now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services.
- Interested Consultancy firms must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those services, such as:
 - Presentation of the Consultancy firm: general presentation, scope of activities, financial data [sales figures, financial statements etc.] for the past three (3) years, description of human resource capacity etc.
 - Experience on similar projects during the last ten (10) years. Similar projects include preliminary designs, detailed designs, feasibility studies, safeguards documents, preparation of tender documents and works supervision for the following infrastructure (FIDIC Design Build – Yellow Book):
 - o Earthfill Dam with earthworks volume of at least 250,000m³ or reservoir capacity of at least 4 million cubic meters.
 - o Raw water pipeline and Rising Mains (at least one (1) kilometer and diameter of 300 mm or larger).
 - o Water Treatment Plant of a capacity of at least 3,000 m³/d.
 - o Water storage tank, at least 1000 m³.

For evaluation purposes, past projects combining preliminary design, safeguards documents, tender document preparation and works supervision will be an added advantage

- Experience in Sub-Saharan Africa in the water sector or for design and works supervision of main infrastructures during the last ten (10) years [references in East Africa and in Kenya will be an advantage]. The consultant shall provide detail references sheets (not more than 20 references – if more than 20 references are presented, only the 20 first references will be evaluated) and a reference list to sum up references, as per the following template:

Project name	Country	Start and End dates	Total contract amount	Company position and contract share	Technical characteristics (with regards to criteria defined previously for similar projects)	Scope of work / Activities performed

- presence of appropriate skills among staff. The Consultant will provide information for potential involvement of following staffs (not limited to):
 - Team Leader for large water infrastructure projects
 - Water Treatment Process Expert,
 - Resident Engineer,
 - Electromechanical Engineer,
 - Dam Design Engineer,
 - Geotechnical Engineer,
 - Hydrologist,
 - Contracts Specialist with experience in Yellow Book FIDIC conditions of contract,
 - Structural/Civil Engineer,
 - Inspectors of Works (Earthworks, concrete and water supply),
 - Environmental expert,
 - Social expert,
 - Engineering Surveyor,
 - Health and Safety Officer.

The consultant shall present the proposed staff list in a table as per the following template (CV are not required at this stage):

Name	Qualification	Years of experience (total / as a permanent employee of the bidder)	Proposed Position	List of main related project experience and countries (maximum 10 projects)

- Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub consultancy to enhance their qualifications. The form of association, where applicable, should be indicated in the expression of interest. Permanent office or representation of the association in Kenya would be an advantage. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act of Kenya, 2015.
- Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0745 to 1630 hours from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour (1230 to 1400 hours and public holidays).
- Among the submitted applications, the CWWDA will shortlist a maximum of Six (6) consultants, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the services shall be issued.
- Expressions of interest [two hard copies, plus electronic document on Flash disk] should be clearly marked with the following statements: **"Consultancy Services for Design Documentation Review and Construction Supervision of Makamini Dam Works under Design Build Method"** and must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by email) by **13th May 2020 at 1200 hours' local time.**

Chief Executive Officer
Coast Water Works Development Agency
Mikindani Street, Off Mburumuh Road
Email: info@cwwda.go.ke

Housing > Funds seen as less risky than mortgages

Law unlocks pension cash for home buyers

The move is expected to provide Kenyan workers with funds at very low interest

BY JAMES KARIUKI
jkariuki@ke.nationmedia.com



Housing and Urban Development Principal Secretary Charles Hinga during a media briefing earlier on March 19, in Nairobi.

Home ownership could rise considerably after President Uhuru Kenyatta signed a law that now allows Kenyans to use up to 60 per cent of their retirement savings to buy the houses.

The development, follows an amendment to Section 38 of the Retirement Benefits (RBA) Act (1997) allowing access to the benefits solely for use in buying residential houses.

Speaking in Nairobi yesterday, Housing and Urban Development Principal Secretary Charles Hinga said the President's action unlocks billions of shillings that will now be channelled towards housing developments across the country, said Kenyans will now be able to defray rental expenses by living in houses they own during their worklife, thereby enabling them to save more for their retirement.

"As we urbanise, it will be harder for young people to retire in the villages and the new development now enables them to save for buying a house in urban areas where they are used to, early in life," he said.

The PS said release of large amounts of purpose-driven funds also generates new incentives for housing developers to target groups of savers via their pension schemes with housing products leading to better organised large scale developments.

Reduced risk
"Creating this demand will help us with our initial problem of planned neighbourhoods. Having ready buyers reduces market risk as developers now know people committing to buy their properties have the money to do so," he said.

Opening of pension funds for planned neighbourhoods also reduces demand for mortgages as more people will rely on their savings to raise capital for buying houses instead of seeking bank loans for property development.

Several pension schemes have also been pushing for a change in legislation that allows pension schemes to build houses for their members under a tenant purchase scheme where loans accruing will be paid off on a rent-to-own basis.

Rent-to-own
Opening of pension funds for planned neighbourhoods also reduces demand for mortgages as more people will rely on their savings to raise capital for buying houses instead of seeking bank loans for property development.

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Sh1.3 trn

Value of pension funds currently managed by different schemes of workers, mostly in formal sector

Jambojet picks finance chief as its acting managing director

BY BONIFACE OTIENO

Jambojet has appointed its chief financial officer Karanja Ndegwa as the firm's acting managing director, replacing Mr Allan Kilavuka who left the airline early this month.

In a statement yesterday, the airline's chairman Vincent Rague said the appointment takes effect on May 1, until the board fills up the position on a permanent basis.

Mr Ndegwa takes over after Mr Kilavuka was appointed the Kenya Airways managing director and chief executive officer effective April 1.

Mr Kilavuka, he said will,

however, continue serving on the board of Jambojet as a non-executive director.

"We are grateful Mr Ndegwa has accepted to continue serving as the chief financial officer even as he takes on the new role of acting managing director. We wish to thank Mr Kilavuka for his dedication and service to Jambojet," said Mr Rague in a statement yesterday.

Mr Ndegwa has been instrumental to Jambojet growth, setting up the finance organisation during Jambojet's inception and has been involved in strategy development and implementation.

His key strengths, according to the statement are in financial planning and reporting, airline business and commercial strategy, capacity building, strategic management and revenue management.

He is a graduate of Economics and Statistics from the University of Nairobi as well as a Certified Public Accountant. He has over 20 years' experience in the aviation industry.

Before joining Jambojet in 2014, he worked at Kenya Airways in different capacities, rising to the position of manager – revenue accounting.

He served as the head of finance at Jambojet, before being appointed the chief financial officer of the airline in 2016.

His appointment comes at a time the domestic carrier has halted operations following a State directive that restricts movement to curb the spread of coronavirus.

Insurance Firm reported Sh2.6bn non-life 2019 loss

Kenya Re rating falls on poor performance

Re-insurer says downturn is partly attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic

BY BRIAN NGUGI
bnjoroge@ke.nationmedia.com

American rating agency A.M. Best has downgraded the long-term Issuer credit rating (Long-Term ICR) outlook of listed Kenya Reinsurance Corporation (Kenya Re) to negative from stable. The insurance-focused agency said the negative outlook on the long-term ICR reflects "Kenya Re's poor technical performance in recent years". It noted the performance has been demonstrated by non-life underwriting results that are

significantly weaker than its historical average and regional peers in 2018 and 2019. "While the firm's net income improved to Sh4 billion (2018: Sh2.3 billion), this was primarily driven by a one-off unrealised gain of Sh1.9 billion from an investment property write-back," said A.M. Best in a statement. Given the IMF's negative economic growth projection for Sub-Saharan Africa this year, A.M. Best added it expects conditions to be challenging. At the same time, A.M. Best affirmed the financial strength rating (FSR) of "B (Fair)" and the long-term ICR of "bb+" of Kenya Re, and maintained the outlook of the FSR as stable. The agency said the FSR ratings reflect Kenya Re's balance sheet strength, which AM Best categorised as "very strong", as

well as its adequate operating performance, neutral business profile and weak enterprise risk management. "They regraded the long-term outlook from stable to negative because of the economic downturn due to Covid-19 and the discrepancy between the 2019 loss ratio from our projection of the same," said Kenya Re CEO Jadhiah Mwarania. "They explained that revision of outlook is something they do often across the world." Kenya Re reported an unaudited non-life underwriting loss of Sh2.6 billion in 2019, significantly higher than the loss of Sh1.1 billion reported in 2018. The deterioration in performance was not anticipated by A.M. Best and was driven primarily by the company's books in the Middle East and Asia.



No-Covid-19 worries here

Workers at a crowded construction site at Bangladesh slum railway flyover on April 27. They went about their work without considering the social distance rule meant to curb spread of Covid-19.

LABAN WALLOGA | NATION

Firms can now stop pension contributions

BY JAMES KARIUKI

Cash-strapped companies can now apply for suspension or discontinuation of employer-retirement contributions to pension schemes until the coronavirus pandemic eases. The Retirement Benefits Authority (RBA) said employers in hardest hit sectors such as travel and hospitality can notify it of measures taken to contain

costs among them suspension, reduction of contribution rates or stoppage. "Pensionable employees on unpaid leave will be considered as being temporarily absent from work and the contributions of both employer and employee shall be suspended for the period they remain unpaid or the maximum period defined in the scheme rules," said RBA's

statement signed by chief executive Nzomo Mutuku. RBA said employers should exercise their right to vary the contribution rates adding that they can also suspend employee-employer contributions temporarily upon seeking approval from employees directly or by representatives confirming the action.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BOMET
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANCIES

The County Government of Bomet through the Public Service Board wishes to recruit competent and qualified persons to fill the following positions in the respective Departments as listed below:

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION, ICT AND PUBLIC SERVICE

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
1	Chief Officer, Public Service	CP5B 02	23	1
2	Sub-ward Administrators	CP5B 11	24	180

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
3	Chief Officer Finance	CP5B 02	25	1

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
4	Chief Officer Lands, Housing and Urban Planning	CP5B 02	26	1

DEPARTMENT OF ROADS, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

A. ROADS

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
5	Director Roads	CP5B 03	27	1
6	Superintending Engineer, Roads	CP5B 06	28	1
7	Superintending Engineer, Survey	CP5B 06	29	1
8	Roads Engineer	CP5B 06	30	5
9	Roads Surveyor	CP5B 08	31	1
10	Sub County Roads Inspector	CP5B 11	32	5

B. PUBLIC WORKS

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
11	Director Public Works	CP5B 03	33	1
12	Structural Engineer	CP5B 06	34	2
13	Architect	CP5B 06	35	1
14	Superintending Quantity Surveyor	CP5B 06	36	1
15	Superintending Engineer, Electrical	CP5B 06	37	1
16	Superintending Engineer, Building Services	CP5B 06	38	1
17	Quantity Surveyor	CP5B 08	39	1
18	Electrical Engineer	CP5B 06	40	1

TRANSPORT

S/NO	POSITION	JOB GROUP	V/NO	NUMBER OF VACANCIES
19	Fleet Transport Manager	CP5B 05	41	1
20	Mechanical Engineer (Automobile/Plant)	CP5B 08	42	2
21	Office Administrative Officer	CP5B 12	43	3
22	Motor Vehicle Technologists/Technicians	CP5B 14	44	4
23	Plant Technicians	CP5B 14	45	2
24	Plant Operators	CP5B 15	46	5
25	Lorry Drivers	CP5B 15	47	8
26	Artisans	CP5B 15	48	9
27	Support staff	CP5B 18	49	6

Job description and specifications can be found on the County Government website www.bomet.go.ke or Public Service Board recruitment portal, www.cpsbomet.net.

NB:

- Applications can only be submitted online on or before **19th May, 2020** through Bomet County Public Service Board recruitment portal, www.cpsbomet.net or from a link in Bomet County website, www.bomet.go.ke. **Manual applications will not be accepted.**
- Documents for purposes of complying with Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, will be required from those shortlisted.

The county government of Bomet is an equal opportunity employer; women and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

The Secretary/CEO
Public Service Board
P.O. Box 605-20400, Bomet.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KISII COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperative Development

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROJECT (NARIGP)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Name of Project: National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP)
Contract Title: Proposed Construction of Nyamache Banana Market in Nyamache, Kisii County
Loan No: P153349
RFN No: KCG/NARIGP/ONT/02/2019-2020


- The National Treasury has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP)**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Proposed Construction of Nyamache Banana Market. The Kisii County Government (KCG), now invites sealed Bids from eligible bidders for Construction of Nyamache Banana Market and improvement of market access roads.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedures using Request for Bids as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers-Procurement in Investment Projects Financing.
- Interested National eligible bidders shall download the tender document from KCG website freely: www.kisii.go.ke or government portal: <http://tenders.go.ke>. And must forward their particulars immediately for recording and further clarification and addenda to narigp@kisii.go.ke & NARIGP County Project Coordinator through email address narigpkisii@gmail.com.
- Bids must be delivered and deposited in the tender box located at Kisii agricultural Training Centre (KATC) Prefab Offices Opposite Gusii Institute and addressed to: THE COUNTY SECRETARY, KISII COUNTY GOVERNMENT, P.O BOX 4550-40200 KISII on or before 28th May, 2020 at 10.00AM. It will be necessary to attend Site Visits in Nyamache Open Air Market as we collaborate to enhance preventive measures against COVID-19, we have provided instructions on the site visit in the Bid Data Sheet of ITB 7.4.
- Late Bids will be rejected, Bids will be publicly opened immediately at 10.00AM, 28th May, 2020 in the presence of the bidders/designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend.

COUNTY SECRETARY,
KISII COUNTY GOVERNMENT
P.O BOX 4550-40200
KISII

NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE			
Last 12 Mths	Security	Prices	Shares
High	Low	Yesterday	Previous
Agricultural			
17.60	9.90	EAASIS Ord 1.25	10.00
463.00	293.00	Kakuzi Pk Ord 5.00	310.00
103.00	57.00	Kiokochari Tea Kenya Pk Ord 5.00	66.50
603.00	405.00	The Limuru Tea Co Ord 20.00	475.00
27.70	14.00	Sasini Ltd Ord 1.00	15.90
18.00	92.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Pk Ord 500	115.00
Automobiles & Accessories			
27.00	20.00	Car & General (K) Ord 5.00	23.50
Banking			
13.85	9.30	ABSA Bank Kenya Ord 0.50	10.55
9.100	22.40	BA Group Ord 0.60	22.40
856.00	76.50	Diamond Trust Bank Ord 4.00	86.25
55.50	32.15	Equity Group Holdings Ord 0.50	34.65
7.90	3.38	HF Group Pk Ord 5.00	4.00
126.00	42.30	I & M Holdings Ord 1.00	51.50
55.50	33.75	KCB Group Ord 1.00	36.95
6.50	3.22	National Bank of Kenya Ord 5.00	4.12
41.00	24.90	NCBA Group Ord 5.00	28.10
117.75	83.00	Stanbic Holdings Ord 5.00	95.00
225.00	168.00	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ord 5.00	193.50
17.00	10.05	The Co-op Bank of Kenya Ord 1.00	12.20
Commercial & Services			
5.10	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Ord 2.50	0.45
1.30	0.77	Everage EA Ord 1.00	0.86
8.50	4.95	Express Kenya Ord 5.00	5.80
9.50	1.04	Kenya Airways Ord 1.00	0.88
8.80	4.26	Lusitana Publishers Ord 1.00	4.79
1.20	0.54	Nairobi Business Ventures Ord 1.00	0.60
71.00	22.00	Nation Media Group Pk Ord 2.50	23.65
4.10	1.72	Samcor Africa Ord 5.00	2.07
33.00	19.50	Standard Group Ord 5.00	20.00
25.15	11.50	TPS Eastern Africa Ord 1.00	13.00
0.95	0.23	Uchumi Supermarket Ord 5.00	0.27
22.00	9.90	WPP ScanGroup Pk Ord 1.00	16.00
Construction & Allied			
8.35	2.40	ARM Cement Ord 1.00	5.55
145.75	45.00	Bambur Cement Ord 5.00	48.00
92.00	53.00	Crown Perite Kenya Ord 5.00	53.00
3.98	1.44	E & G Cable Ord 1.80	1.81
20.50	12.95	E.A. Portland Cement Ord 5.00	14.25
Energy & Petroleum			
74.0	40.0	KenGen Ord 2.50	4.90
5.40	1.85	KP & LC 4th Pref 2.50	2.15
6.50	5.00	KP & LC 4th Pref 20.00	5.00
6.00	6.00	KP & LC 7th Pref 20.00	6.00
33.00	22.00	Talis Kenya Ord 5.00	23.65
8.20	5.00	Imvima Ltd Ord 0.50	7.08
Insurance			
10.50	5.70	Britann Holdings Ord 0.10	6.54
4.85	2.00	CIC Insurance Group Ord 1.00	2.22
462.00	250.00	Jubilee Holdings Ord 5.00	279.50
16.30	2.10	Kenya Re Corporation Ord 2.50	2.50
13.00	6.80	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ord 1.00	8.50
26.00	15.80	Sanlam Kenya Pk Ord 5.00	15.00
Investment			
374.0	156.00	Centum Investment Co Ord 0.50	23.50
0.77	0.30	Home Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	0.38
1500	1500	Kurima Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00	1500.00
3.39	2.00	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	2.30
4.50	1.80	Trans Century Pk Ord 0.50	1.68

Investment Services			
6:00	8:24	Nairobi Securities Exchange Ord 4.00	9:12
8:12	8:58	9:12	9:40
Manufacturing & Allied			
87.00	52.25	B. O. C Kenya Ord 5.00	69.00
700.00	325.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Ord 10.00	339.75
10.80	7.10	Carbadic Investments Ord 1.00	8.50
230.00	135.00	East African Brew Ord 1.00	153.00
3.15	0.87	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ord 0.825	0.99
14.00	12.25	Kenya Ordnance Ord 5.00	12.25
0.70	0.25	Murias Sugar Co. Ord 2.00	0.27
42.00	26.10	Unepa Group Ord 5.00	29.00
Telecommunication & Technology			
33.50	20.10	Safaricom Ltd Ord 1.00	27.35
11.00	6.88	Stanlib Fidelity I - Ord 2.00 (Real Estate I. Trust)	8.00
1553.00	1235.00	Barclays New Gold ETF	1775
COMMERCIAL BANK RATES			
	Buy	Sell	Buy
ABC	buy 115.85	106.85	132.86
Alma	buy 116.28	107.05	133.52
Co-op	buy 115.92	106.90	132.92
Equity	buy 116.18	107.10	133.21
NBK	buy 115.81	106.80	132.80
KCB	buy 116.07	107.00	132.90
NCBA	buy 115.65	107.35	132.00
Stanbic	buy 116.20	107.10	133.21
GulfAfrican	buy 116.01	106.90	133.21
FCB	buy 116.26	107.10	133.50
Prime	buy 116.25	107.15	133.20
	buy 116.50	107.35	133.45
CBK RATES			
	Mean	Buy	Sell
1 US Dollar	106.9265	106.8265	107.0265
1 Sterling Pound	132.0974	131.0974	132.5074
Euro	115.3815	115.2533	115.5075
1 South African Rand	5.6598	5.6577	5.6679
Ksh/US\$	35.5385	35.4585	35.6985
Ksh/GBP	21.641	21.5741	21.7081
Ksh/Rwf	8.8205	8.8224	8.8265
Ksh/Burundi Franc	17.6394	17.6391	17.6397
1 UAE Dirham	29.1107	29.0827	29.1387
1 Canadian Dollar	76.0169	75.9304	76.0834
1 Swiss Franc	109.9554	109.8599	110.2029
100 Japanese Yen	99.5722	99.5772	99.7823
1 Swedish Kroner	10.7074	10.6882	10.7146
1 Norwegian Kroner	10.0959	10.0780	10.1136
1 Danish Krone	13.5477	13.5227	13.5727
1 Indian Rupee	1.4048	1.4033	1.4062
1 Hong Kong Dollar	13.7970	13.7841	13.8099
1 Singapore Dollar	75.5428	75.2670	75.4186
1 South Riyal	28.4979	28.4057	28.4721
1 Chinese Yuan	15.1122	15.0988	15.1276
1 Australian Dollar	69.0905	69.0206	69.1605

UNIT TRUSTS			
Money Market Funds	Daily Yield	Effective Annual Rate	
African Alliance Kenya Shilling Fund	Kenya Shilling	6.86%	7.08%
Old Mutual Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	-	-
Britann Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.74%	9.10%
STANLIB Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	5.24%	5.90%
CIC Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.34%	9.69%
CIC Wealth Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.50%	9.50%
Co-op Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.44%	8.77%
Zimbeba Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.56%	9.91%
Amansa Shilling Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.00%	8.20%
Alphafica Kaisha Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.19%	9.81%
Madison Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.37%	9.76%
NCBA Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.16%	8.47%
NCBA Dollar Investment Fund	USD	2.94%	2.97%
CEA LION Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.98%	8.31%
Sanlam Pesa Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.30%	9.74%
Cyotum Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.46%	11.04%
Cyotum High Yield Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	14.25%	14.25%
Cyotum High Yield Market Fund	USD	2.94%	2.94%
Apalio Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.31%	9.72%
Nabo Africa Money Market Fund	USD	3.54%	3.60%
Nabo Africa Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.45%	9.87%
Nabo Africa Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.82%	10.27%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	USD	2.55%	2.58%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.39%	8.78%
GenCap Heba Inara Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.76%	9.16%
Britann Bond Plus Fund	Kenya Shilling	6.30%	6.49%
Alphafica Health Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.58%	10.63%
Equity Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	4.87%	4.99%
Fixed Income Funds/Equity Funds/Balanced Funds	Buy	Sell	
African Alliance Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.69	11.31
CIC Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.68	8.81
Nabo Africa Fixed Income Fund	USD	4.50	4.59
African Alliance Kenya Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	145.32	156.66
CEA LION Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	108.39	108.39
Apalio Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	116.72	111.16
NBOA Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	131.56	135.94
NCBA Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	143.15	143.15
CIC Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.95	7.25
Old Mutual Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	-	-
STANLIB Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	133.90	133.90
Madison Equity Fund	Kenya Shilling	36.20	36.20
Nabo Africa Equity Fund	USD	72.34	71.15
CEA LION Growth Fund	Kenya Shilling	116.14	116.14
Amansa Growth Fund	Kenya Shilling	36.33	36.33
African Alliance Kenya Managed Fund	Kenya Shilling	20.18	19.01
Britann Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	155.32	160.35
CIC Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.37	8.52
Nabo Africa Balanced Fund	USD	86.10	84.14
Old Mutual Balanced Fund/Tobacco	Kenya Shilling	-	-
Madison Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	43.79	43.79
Sanlam Chama Fund	Kenya Shilling	14.43	14.88
Amansa Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	135.04	135.04
Zimbeba Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.05	7.83
STANLIB Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	114.35	114.35
Dry Associates Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	1.2224	1.2224
Equity Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	131.03	132.14
Apalio Balanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	116.44	111.96
STANLIB Bond Fund - A	Kenya Shilling	85.58	86.58
STANLIB Bond Fund - B	Kenya Shilling	87.54	87.54
CEA LION Bond Fund	Kenya Shilling	100.85	100.85
Old Mutual Bond Fund	Kenya Shilling	-	-
Sanlam Pesa Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.57	8.84
ARAB CURRENCY/S			
Bahrain Dinar			3.7708
Djibouti Franc			176.21
Oman Riyal			3.30466
Saudi Riyal			3.7513
UAE Dirham			3.6729



NAROK COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND COUNTY ASSEMBLY - FOURTH SESSION

NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC: SPECIAL SITTING OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

PURSUANT to Standing Order No. 26 (3) of the Narok County Assembly Standing Orders, I have received and acceded to a request by the Leader of the Majority Party to hold a Special Sitting of the County Assembly on 30th April, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby notified to all Members of County Assembly and the general public that **Thursday 30th April, 2020** has been appointed as a day for Special Sitting of the County Assembly for purposes of transaction of the following Business-

(a) Laying of the Narok County Budget Estimates for the 2020/2021 FY and

(b) Laying of the Narok County Supplementary Estimates II for 2019/2020 FY.

The Special Sitting shall be held at Assembly Chambers, Narok on Thursday 30th April, 2020 from 9:30 a.m.

Hon. Nkoidila Ole Lankas
Speaker,
Narok County Assembly

MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT



ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANCIES IN MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT

1) Murang'a County Public Service Board wishes to recruit competent and qualified persons to fill the following positions:

I. Medical Officers - Job Group 'M' - 5 posts

II. Senior ICU nurses - Job Group 'M' - 5 posts

III. Biomedical Engineer - Job Group 'K' - 1 post

IV. Physiotherapist - Job Group 'K' - 2 posts

V. Health Records Officers - Job Group 'M' - 5 posts

Application forms and details of the vacancies can be accessed at www.murang'a.go.ke. Applications should be submitted to the Public Service Board email: psb@murang'a.go.ke on or before close of business on **6th May 2020**

Applicants from other Counties are encouraged to apply.

- Any form of canvassing shall lead to automatic disqualification.
- Women, minorities, and persons living with disabilities are encouraged to apply.
- Shortlisted candidates will be required to produce their original identity cards, academic and professional certificates, testimonials, clearance, and other relevant documents in support of their applications.
- Only shortlisted and successful candidates will be contacted.

Murang'a County Government is an equal opportunity employer



Mavoko Water & Sewerage Company

VACANCY

OPERATIONS OFFICER

Mavoko Water & Sewerage Company Limited, is a licensed water service provider (WSP) in Machakos County whose main mandate is to provide water and sewerage services to the residents of Mavoko Sub County. We are currently seeking a mid-level Operations officer to oversee operations and maintenance of water and waste water systems. Reporting to the Technical Manager the Operations officer will ensure quality delivery of water and sewerage services.

Key Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- At least a Degree in Civil Engineering from a reputable University with at least 3 years minimum overall relevant engineering experience in the field of water and waste water which at least 2 years are at supervisory level or better.
- Ability and experience in conceptualization, design, supervision and construction of public water and waste water infrastructure.
- Excellent engineering writing, interpretation and reporting skills.
- Excellent English and Kiswahili language skills (mandatory)
- Proficient in use of computers in particular relevant AutoCAD software, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Microsoft office suite.
- Ability to work with multidisciplinary multicultural teams with minimum supervision.
- Ability to deliver work within tight deadlines and handle heavier work pressure near deadlines

How to apply

Please submit your application with a detailed CV, stating your current position, remuneration package, e-mail and telephone contacts by post or delivery to our Offices Situated along Old Mavoko Road, next to Co-operative bank Athiriver on or before 15th May 2020 addressed to:-

Managing Director,
Mavoko Water and Sewerage Co. Ltd,
P. O. Box 582 - 00204
Athiriver

For more details visit the company website www.maw-water.org

the weekly business magazine

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FREE WITH YOUR DAILY NATION.
April 28, 2020

smart company

KQ Stares at

Sh15bn

loss

National carrier has been flying from one storm into another and the Covid-19 tempest could not have come at a worse time... unless a miracle happens

Page 33-34

KQ extends begging bowl again as it bleeds Sh9.2 billion a month

At the beginning of 2019, KQ had an outstanding balance of Sh77.7 billion in debt that it was struggling to repay, and with the grounding of operations thanks to Covid-19, things can only get worse



BY PAUL WAFULA
@paulwaf
pwafula@ke.nationmedia.com

When it rains for Kenya Airways, it pours. The airline has been flying from one storm into another and the Covid-19 pandemic could not have hit at a worse time for the national carrier. The troubled airline, which will be the biggest casualty of the global lockdown in Kenya, is losing at least Sh9.2 billion (\$87 million) every month after grounding most of its fleet due to the scourge.

This has been a baptism by fire for its new chief executive officer (CEO) Allan Kilavuka, who took over the reins and was thrown in the deep end of the pool.

The CEO's first assignment has been to make an application to the government for a bailout package to help it remain a going concern and avoid bankruptcy.

Mr Kilavuka, who took an 80 per cent pay cut, told *Smart Company* that grounding all its scheduled services knocked off 98 per cent of its business.

"We're asking for emergency bailout from the government due to the crisis. We appreciate that the government has many other priorities and that is why the turnaround of this request is taking time," he said.

Mr Kilavuka noted that the aviation industry in general, and Kenya Airways in particular, is a very important catalyst to the economy. The CEO said KQ contributes an estimated 2.6 per cent of Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and that is why the National Treasury should consider its request.

"Most of our employees are at home because most of our op-

erations are suspended. With no revenue sources, our cash position is dire," Mr Kilavuka said in an emailed interview. KQ employs about 4,500 staff directly and supports another 18,000 indirectly. "Currently, we have very limited revenue sources because we have stopped passenger flights," he added.

Mr Kilavuka said the airline has initiated talks with its lenders to restructure its loans or get some repayment holiday until the crisis clears.

"Just like any other business whose main revenue generating activities have been affected by the pandemic, we are in discussion with lenders and financiers to offer payment holidays for the period of this crisis and they are listening," Mr Kilavuka said.

"These discussions are still ongoing and so far, we are receiving very positive responses from our financing partners," he added.

Debt obligations

Kenya Airways has a number of facilities with African Export-Import Bank (Afrexim) Citibank N.A. and JP Morgan N.A. for the purchase of aircraft and funding of pre-delivery deposits for planes according to its annual report. By the beginning of 2019, KQ had an outstanding balance of Sh77.7 billion in debt that it was struggling to repay. This amount has been increasing over time as it fails to meet its debt obligations.

Its loss streak has only made things worse for the airline. In the latest financial update, the airline more than doubled its half-year losses to Sh8.56 billion, sinking shareholders into a deeper negative equity position of Sh16.18 billion. With the current loss of revenue, the airline is bracing for ending the current financial year with a loss

of at least Sh15 billion, unless a miracle happens.

Its fresh bailout request comes weeks after it received a Sh5 billion loan from the Treasury, increasing its indebtedness to the government — its top shareholder.

The government owns 48.9 per cent of KQ shares. In 2017, the State converted Sh16.8 billion worth of loans it had provided to

the company into shares as part of the airline's debt restructuring. The government also holds another Sh7.7 billion worth of convertible debt.

The airline is now counting on its cargo business to keep it going. Mr Kilavuka said that although its cargo business will help to pay some administrative costs, it is not enough to sustain its business.

Two weeks ago, KQ announced that it had converted some of its wide-body passenger aircraft that are now idle to transport cargo.

Innovative initiatives

This allowed it to dispatch a cargo flight carrying 40,000 kilogrammes of fresh produce aboard Boeing 787 Dreamliner passenger aircraft to London. This was after another of its planes left for Johannesburg on Sunday the previous week with medical supplies and other items.

"This is part of the innovative initiatives we have embarked on by converting four wide-body passenger aircraft to fit to our cargo operations in order to reduce the impact of Covid-19 on operations," KQ said.

The airline referred to the flights as a step "on the recovery journey" saying, it was making good use of shortage of cargo aircraft globally by converting passenger ones to suit use.

"There is demand for cargo aircraft across the world and we will continue to play our part by keeping essential supplies moving during this time. Some of our

grounded passenger aircraft will, therefore, complement the work of the cargo freighters to facilitate this," it stated.

This comes at a time KQ is protesting the move by the government to give Ethiopian Airlines a free hand to operate cargo business in Kenya at its expense.

The loss-making KQ has said the new deal will give the rival carrier undue advantage in a period when Kenya has frozen international passenger travel in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, leaving cargo as the only revenue driver.

On April 6, the Ministry of Transport allowed Ethiopian to vary its licence for passenger planes and use six aircraft to fly cargo from Nairobi and Mombasa to overseas at a time when carriers are changing a premium for the service.

Kenya Airways is worried that Ethiopian will take a huge chunk of the business of shipping flowers, fresh fruits, vegetables such as green beans and peas as well as meat that have become increasingly scarce in Europe as the coronavirus pandemic hampers global movement of produce.

The airline says it's looking at existing cargo opportunities to mitigate its losses.

"In the short term, however, we are looking at cargo opportunities although we do not have suitable aircraft for long-haul freight. We have converted some of our wide bodies to undertake these missions," Mr Kilavuka said.

The vegetable and flower exports are in support of our producers who are estimated to employ over 15,000 workers," he added.

The airline said ensuring safety of its staff is a key consideration even with the operations.

The airline's workers have been accused of partying and breaking

Some of Kenya Airways aircraft at a parking bay at JKIA in Nairobi on April 17.

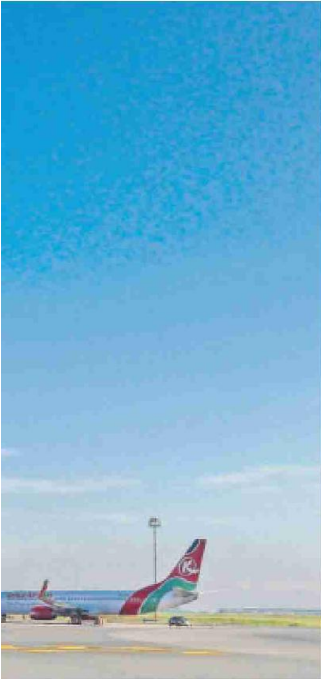
POOL

"WE APPRECIATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS MANY OTHER PRIORITIES AND THAT'S WHY THE TURNAROUND OF THIS REQUEST IS TAKING TIME"

KQ boss Allan Kilavuka



Nation Media Group's Digital Copy



quarantine requirements, which has seen it spend more than Sh80 million in quarantine accommodation fees.

Mr Kilavuka maintained that in a large majority of the jurisdictions, all over the world, flying crew are exempt from mandatory quarantine.

"However, it may make sense, and we've requested for them to quarantine for a few days to allow for observation and testing to determine if they exhibit symptoms of Covid-19," he said.

He, however, declined to give numbers of its employees who have tested positive on grounds that, that will be discrimination and in breach of the Ministry of Health guidelines.

Avoid discrimination

"The management of the Covid-19 pandemic, including providing a response to your question is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health. It is extremely important that such information flow is properly managed to avoid discrimination and the social stigma, not only of patients, but their families and communities, which include the workplace," he said.

KQ has, however, protested the Health ministry move to force its staff to remain in quarantine for more than 14 days.

"I'm not in agreement with the approach that the Ministry of Health has taken with regard to Kenya Airways," he said. "Because of the rules in place, we will have spent approximately Sh80 million to pay for all our staff who are in these facilities," he said, adding, these are funds that were meant for other uses.

In addition, he said some of the facilities are not treating its staff well and that he believes some of the mem-



Terminal 1A at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) in Nairobi. PHOTO | POOL

80

Millions of shillings that it will cost Kenya Airways to pay for staff detained over Covid-19

bers of staff there are not adequately trained and therefore not offering the necessary help and support to its teams. "My point of departure, however, is where the quarantine period has been extended for another 14 days because some people in those facilities tested positive," he said.

"I've argued that using that reason may be a never-ending cycle especially if there is another positive case. In my considered, view and particularly for my staff, let those people who have tested negative go home and self-isolate and redo the test in seven days

to confirm."

The KQ boss said his staff continue to be affected by the pandemic, most of whom are on leave or working from home. Only staff in the operations and technical departments are on site.

"Without a doubt, the most affected are our staff. Not only have they agreed to give up a large portion of the salary, they are also in the frontline of this pandemic. In addition, we lost one of our most committed and experienced pilots, Captain Daudi Kibati," Mr Kilavuka said.

"That loss was the lowest moment of my brief stint at KQ, and I think that is the case for majority of the employees," he added.

Mr Kilavuka said the airline started feeling the effect in February after it stopped flying to China, then Italy and the rest followed.

"Of course, this is a global health and economic crisis, but the airline

industry is the most affected," he said, adding that the global aviation industry is estimated to have lost Sh27.3 trillion (\$258 billion) and Africa Sh445 billion (\$41.2 billion) since January at current exchange rates of Sh106 against the dollar.

Kenya Airways says reduced operations between January through to April from forward bookings resulted in a loss in revenue of Sh7.4 billion (\$70 million).

Mr Kilavuka says this was, however, before the halting of its operations in April. "We're now looking at a loss of \$87 million (Sh9.2 billion) a month in revenues," he said.

To recover, KQ says it will not waste the crisis. "We've to look at the bright side of this crisis and the opportunity it has given us to recalibrate and reset.

Think about new models

"We're rethinking how this important and strategic national asset can re-emerge from this crisis and play its rightful role in reigniting our economy, the economies of the countries we operate in and help people and cargo get to where they need to faster, more efficiently and cost effectively," Mr Kilavuka said.

He said things are going to change after the crisis ebbs and the old ways of doing business will not work.

"The challenge is to try and define the new context and our response. Conventional thinking and models will change, and we need to think about new models, products, customers and standards. That is what we're working on," he said.

The airline is also counting on the reforms in the aviation sector that will consolidate the country's aviation assets to strengthen KQ's balance sheet.





Uplift

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5430150	Landlord	Mo
5430153	Itakua sawa	Skolastik
5430053	Gutiri Murata Ta Jesu	Ihaji
5430156	Corona	Mausu Sama Ft Marloo
5430054	Merethani Ngai Wakwa 2	Ihaji
5430105	Neema Yako	Bro Enock
5430063	Ee Bwana mtakusifu	Bikira Maria Mkingiwa
5430014	Corona virus ya ngombe	Ole Makau
5430016	Be mindful	Kingee
5430195	Restoration	Betty Precious
5430182	Hyasaye oluonga	Mary Pauline
5430213	Dawa Ya Corona	Stephen Kasolo




Coronavirus hits Kenya where it hurts the most

Kenya Revenue Authority will find it near impossible to meet its targets of collecting what the government needs to finance development

BY GRACE MUCHIRI

To achieve Vision 2030, Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) launched a series of tax reforms aimed at increasing its efficiency in raising resources the government needs to finance its programmes. However, Covid-19 will prove to be a challenge to the taxman's ambitious plans. The pandemic has taken a huge toll on various key sectors of the economy, with a direct impact on the amount of taxes expected by KRA.

Of significance is the disruption of the 21 per cent imports Kenya gets from China. This disruption in the supply chain directly affects the manufacturing sector, and by extension, the national economy.

Agricultural exports

Exports have not been spared this wrath, with consumer spending significantly reduced all over the world. This has hit the volumes of the country's horticultural and other agricultural exports.

A recent study revealed that Kenya's horticultural industry has lost close to Sh8 billion in a month as a result of the pandemic.

It is noted that when China put in place stringent measures to try and contain Covid-19, it froze vegetable and fruit orders, dealing a heavy blow to Kenya's agricultural export sector.

Europe and the Middle East also reduced their demand for agricultural products by nearly 50 per cent because of the various lockdowns and flight restrictions imposed by various countries, thus affecting the sector adversely.

Tourism has borne the brunt of devastation from the novel coronavirus, especially due to the travel restrictions that have been put in place all over the



Workers at Equator Flowers Farm in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County, sort flowers for export on March 16.

world. The sector primarily depends on visitors from developed countries, who have been badly affected by travel restrictions and lockdowns.

The travel and tourism industry accounts for roughly 1.1 million jobs in Kenya — about 8.3 per cent of employment in the country. In the third quarter of 2019, the sector contributed about 1.3 per cent to the country's GDP.

Aviation industry

The hospitality sector has not been spared either, with people instructed to avoid public gatherings in a bid to control the spread of the virus.

Some hotels have shut down completely, as they cannot sustain normal operations with the minimal bookings available. The aviation industry, which largely complements tourism, has also taken a beating, with a great reduction to its revenues.

Investors don't like uncertainties, and the coronavirus is not giving them much choice. Kenya's stock market took a

beating when Covid-19 began to spread to various parts of the world.

Investors in the stock market started selling their stocks as the virus unleashed untold uncertainties. They opted to buy fixed income securities and gold to safeguard their hard-earned cash.

However, all is not doom and gloom as China is making positive strides against Covid-19. Wuhan, which was the epicentre of the virus, is slowly returning to normality, with the lockdown partially lifted. This will definitely shine a ray of hope to the rest of the world — a sign of better days to come.

With the efforts of our government, such as the recently introduced curfew, the ban on social gatherings, and not forgetting the efforts of the medical fraternity, there is hope that Covid-19 will soon be behind us and give room for our economy to heal and thrive.

The writer is a senior tax consultant at Ernst & Young. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of EY.

Digitise pensions to save on costs, urges Octagon

BY JAMES KARIUKI

jkariuki@ke.nationmedia.com

A funds administrator has vouched for establishment of an integrated online pensions' portal saying it will boost member confidence leading to higher uptake of products across Kenya.

Speaking during its inaugural webinar Octagon Pension Services Managing Director Godwin Simba said the country could benefit from using technology riding on a cloud-based model that facilitates in-house transactions as well as linkages to external stakeholders.

"Organisations must embrace technology and have a strong research and development team that foresees adverse scenarios beforehand by analysing data, thereby helping pension scheme take proactive measures that safeguard member savings," he said.

Mr Simba said development of an application programming interface (API) will facilitate integration of various players under a one-stop shop arrangement on mobile and websites enabling various activities to be conducted in real-time such as payments and withdrawal processes as well as submission of reports as required by the regulator.

Octagon founder chief executive Fred Waswa supported establishment of an all-sector pensions platform, saying, it will enhance transparency and stakeholder engagements that are key to promoting confidence.

"Let us give Kenyans a platform they can access and track their savings. We also need to make it mandatory for Kenyans to save for their old age albeit at different levels. Even where an employer has two or three employees, they must deduct and submit part of their employee earnings to a savings scheme," he said.

The Covid-19 period

He noted increased urbanisation had eroded the traditional extended family set-up that provided support for the elderly, hence the need for every individual worker to save money for old age spending.

South Africa-based funds manager Alexander Forbes and Octagon's business partner said pension schemes should closely monitor goings-on in sponsoring companies to inform their investment actions during the Covid-19 period.

Principal consultant Bellinda Sullivan urged caution in buys or disposal of listed company stocks, saying, it could further erode their holding.

Mr Simba urged trustees to closely monitor goings-on in the market and swiftly take action to safeguard member funds from further erosion.

"While every scheme is keen to adhere to laid down four or three year strategic plans, the present times call for a review of strategy to avoid risky asset classes such as equities in favour of fixed income classes that continue to post good returns.

EVERYTHING BUSINESS >> LUCY KIRUTHU

Flexibility will help your company navigate these tough times

In mid-March, GAP clothing started manufacturing personal protective equipment (PPEs) such as masks and gowns. I'm certain that this was nowhere in their wildest dreams. This year is unlike any other we have witnessed.

Businesses across the globe have faced considerable disruption. Some have shut, others have had to rethink their operations while some are thriving. As I continue to reflect on the times we are living in, I am convinced that flexibility has never been as important as it is today.

As a business trait, being able to change with times has come in handy for many and its lack strangled others. It is likely that only those businesses that are lithe enough will successfully meander through the crisis resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. How easily has your business adapted to the current situation?

Being nimble in business means being ready

to adapt and respond swiftly to changes happening around us. In the last two months, the number of changes that businesses have had to adjust to are many.

When the President takes the podium to address us, his fellow Kenyans, we are often not sure what new directives will be given.

Business operation hours have changed, working from home has been encouraged and movement across boarders has been curtailed.

Some firms have embraced these changes and are making the best of the situation. Services that never existed before have been introduced; products that we could have otherwise imported are being produced locally. We know that being rigid is not good for business. Has your company been flexible?

Being flexible also means being on the lookout for unexpected business opportunities. For

example, a few days ago, Twiga Foods, in partnership with Jumia, launched home deliveries for fresh fruits and vegetables. Previously, the company had positioned itself as a technology outfit linking farmers and vendors, but today it is going beyond the vendor to the consumer.

A month ago, I envisaged this as an opportunity. Every business must pay attention to changing consumer behaviours and identify resulting opportunities.

Many businesses have done so already. Unfortunately, others have not adjusted to the new opportunities. What new opportunity has your business identified recently? Have you taken advantage of the opportunity?

Finally, today's flexibility is also being displayed by how employees are supporting their businesses to cope with the changes. It is not easy to work from home, but some are doing so

productively. Others are helping identify creative ways of doing business to reach out to their consumers.

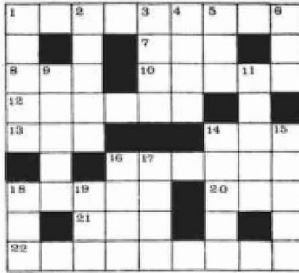
Instead of complaining about that which is not within our control, we can play our part by demonstrating greater flexibility in how we work to ensure the survival of our businesses post Covid-19. How have you helped your firm cope with the Covid-19 pandemic? What new ideas have you come up with?

An adage alludes to being flexible so that we do not get bent out of shape. The same is true of business. Every smart business must choose to be flexible. Some businesses have already started re-imagining post-Covid-19 and they are ready to keep evolving!

Dr Lucy Kiruthu is a Management Consultant and Trainer. Connect via twitter @KiruthuLucy

SIMPLE CROSSWORD

- ACROSS:**
 1. Formless, shapeless or lacking a definite shape
 7. Electrically charged atom(s)
 8. Ethnic group living in eastern Ghana
 10. Writers in verse
 12. Formed by cutting or engraving
 13. A small island in a river
 14. Shortened form of silver
 16. A goblin
 18. To misrepresent
 20. Word added after a married woman's name to introduce the maiden name
 21. An unwrought metal
 22. To adorn or ornament
- DOWN:**
 1. A feathery leafed palm whose nuts are chewed for medicinal purposes
 2. Publicly done
 3. A tube or reed as the flute, etc. producing musical sounds
 4. A fold hanging down the back of an academic gown indicating the wearer's field of specialization by its colour(s)
 5. United
 6. Informal for sister
 9. To forgo as a claim or right



- 11. Hackneyed**
14. Biblical for mountain where Moses receive the Ten Commandments
15. A blood-sucking flat worm
16. To beget
17. To strip of the rind
18. An incidental product
19. To hit a ball in a high arc

- YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION**
ACROSS:
 1. Blinking
 7. React
 8. Blanket
 10. Yet
 11. Dean
 12. Guy
 14. Stir
 16. Gen
 18. Rapture
 20. Whine
 21. Statute
- DOWN:**
 1. Baby
 2. Nest
 3. Ink
 4. Needy
 5. Gate
 6. Stun
 9. Left
 12. Avar
 13. Grant
 14. Sewn
 15. Iris
 16. Guru
 17. Neve
 19. Pea

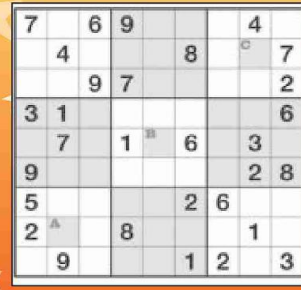
SUDOKU

Enjoy the Sudoku Game Daily

Use Numbers 1-9. Sudoku is played on a grid of 9 x 9 spaces. Don't Repeat Any Numbers. In the upper left square (circled in blue), this square already has 7 out of the 9 spaces filled in. Don't Guess. Sudoku is a game of logic and reasoning, so you shouldn't have to guess. Use Process of elimination.

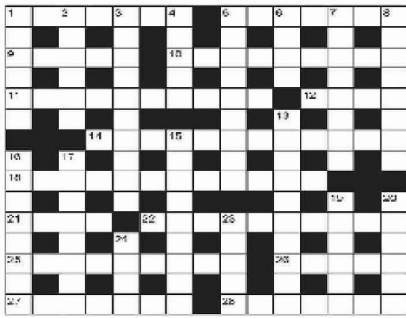
YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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



COMPLEX CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
 1 After exercises, long for fruit (7)
 5 Aloof before daughter proposed (7)
 9 Fool China and Portugal (5)
 10 Bump into wortop after being oddly absent (9)
 11 One resisted keeping biblical books, I discovered (10)
 12 Diamonds removed from ostentatious relative (4)
 14 New vessel there at sea, still (12)
 18 Worried in case icing preserves female's weight (12)
 21 If smooths over part of minor incident, on reflection (4)
 22 Doctor sits and chats - it doesn't include hospital data (10)
 25 Left a group working with editor (9)
 26 Current price? Mad (5)
 27 Radical former lover married inside plane, perhaps (7)
 28 Greatest hunger is in Paris (7)
- DOWN**
 1 Piece of cake - it's eaten outside (6)
 2 Ticked in the morning and taken advantage of (6)
 3 New shoes? Pity to support husband's belief (10)
 4 Novel left on fine mantelpiece (5)
 5 Outside clubs, the roars upset group of musicians (9)
 6 Disgusting chicken, by the sound of it? (4)
 7 Concerned with change, Edward responded (8)
 8 Gloom beginning to descend on boat by cape (8)
 13 Players striking? (10)
 15 Being sixteen, excited by church (9)
 16 Somewhat dishonest, I'm a terrible judge (8)
 17 I admit keeping negative is dumb (8)
 19 Illegally copy page 26 (6)
 20 Body of followers beginning to leave after snake's appearance (6)
 23 It describes movement, in the main (5)
 24 Border feuds grew on a regular basis (4)



- YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION**
ACROSS
 1 Fright
 4 Proper
 8 Domestic
 9 Sequin
 10 Garish
 11 Unit
 12 Hand in hand
 13 Nevertheless
 16 Group therapy
 20 Greensward
 21 Card
 22 Player
 23 Esoteric
 24 Cudgel
 25 Skinny
- DOWN**
 1 Flounder
 2 Inapt
 3 Hotshot
 5 Ragtime
 6 Purchaser
 7 Resent
 9 Contemperate
 14 Eagle eyed
 15 Sparsity
 17 Observe
 18 Haddock
 19 Frolic
 21 Clean

CODEWORD

Each number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 16 represents S so fill in S every time the figure 16 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the list of alphabetical letters as you identify them.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

P	U	G	T	I	C	A	L	O	N	E	H	R
V	Y	Q	D	W	M	B	X	K	S	Z	J	F

YOUR STARS

- AQUARIUS | JAN 21 - FEB 19**
 Your mind and heart are working in conjunction with a partner and you're apt to be especially receptive to elements of our world that fuse these two together. Make an evening out today, and be sure to treat a good friend. Have a good meal, and don't forget dessert.
- PISCES | FEB 20 - MAR 20**
 Your mind is strong and focused today. As a result, you're probably feeling especially physically robust. Sudden insights could earn you some satisfying acknowledgment, not to mention the respect of someone important to you. Your intuition level is high and apt to serve you well now.
- ARIES | MAR 21 - APR 20**
 Expect to spend much of your day alone. Aries. Information obtained from books or videos, perhaps involving history, philosophy, or religion, might

- inspire you to look deeper into a subject and turn it to your own advantage. You might decide to take a trip or return to college. There's also the chance that you could be inspired to write or otherwise express your ideas and feelings.
- TAURUS | APR 21 - MAY 20**
 Some strange dreams could stimulate your imagination and start you on new avenues of exploration. You might at some point play detective. What you seek is likely to be within your psyche. What you be surprised if you learn new things today.
- GEMINI | MAY 21 - JUNE 21**
 Reading could take up a lot of your time today, Gemini. Books on psychology or the occult sciences might seem interesting, particularly as your intuition is operating on a higher level than usual. You might not want to talk about what's coming up for you, but that's OK.

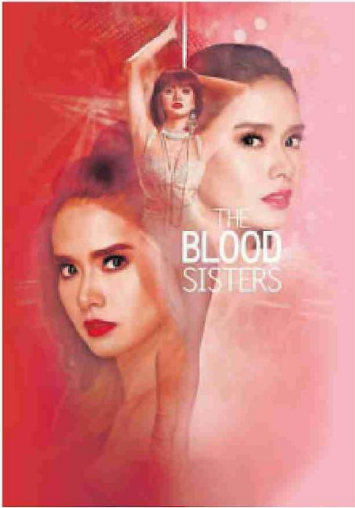
- CANCER | JUN 22 - JULY 22**
 Your mind is likely to be on your finances today, and you may be searching for previously unknown ways to advance yourself. Colleagues or friends could help steer you in the right direction. Trust your intuition, as its operating at a very high level.
- LEO | JULY 23 - AUG 22**
 Increased communication with a friend could bring you closer and enrich your relationship. Quiet time spent together today could generate a new sense of closeness. Images and ideas that come from deep within you can contribute to your creative self-expression.
- VIRGO | AUG 23 - SEP 23**
 Today you might crave solitude. Virgo, perhaps for meditation or to contemplate your current situation. You may feel you're at a crossroads and need to decide which way to go. This could involve the next

- step in your material progress or self-expression, or it might involve your spiritual path. Emotions from the past could well up, but this is a positive development. Don't fight it.
- LIBRA | SEP 24 - OCT 23**
 You might spend a lot of time in conversation with friends who share your interests. Their insights could lead to new insights on your part. Libra, and vice versa... Good news could come through the mail, email, or phone regarding goals you've been trying to reach lately.
- SCORPIO | OCT 24 - NOV 23**
 Paperwork involving finances, personal, perhaps involving your employer's funds, or both, is likely to need some intense attention during the day. This doesn't necessarily imply anything negative. In fact, just the opposite. It does mean that some careful planning or budgeting is going to be required now.

- SAGITTARIUS | NOV 23 - DEC 21**
 Today you may want to spend your free time alone, contemplating various ideas. Spiritual or metaphysical philosophies from ancient cultures or foreign lands might be more appealing than usual. Reading about them at this time could approach obsession, but this is OK.
- CAPRICORN | DEC 22 - JAN 20**
 Today, Capricorn, your mind may turn toward deep subjects. You could explore the sciences, psychology, the occult, or metaphysics. You will probably discover some new facts or ideas that could keep your mind occupied for hours.

To receive NATIONmobile horoscopes on your mobile, SMS the Star you want, eg LEO to 20667 at 5/- above normal rates.

TREAT OF THE DAY

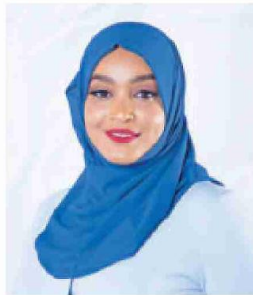


THE BLOOD SISTERS - 6:00PM

After looking back at the details of the investigation, Erika deduces that Jolo might be somewhere in Ilocos Norte with his father. With Samuel's help, Erika is able to find Jolo before a black market buyer takes him away for his kidneys. Finally reunited her son, Erika is now on the hunt for her son's kidnappers.



- 5:00am CNN
- 5:30am Password Plus
- 6:30am Your World
- 9:00am Generation 3
- 10:00am Ubongo Kids
- 10:30am Akili and Me
- 11:00am Music Mix
- 12:00pm NTV Sasa
- 1:00pm NTV at 1
- 1:30pm Health Diary - Rpt
- 2:00pm Memories Of Love
- 3:00pm The Three Sides Of Ana - Rpt
- 4:00pm NTV Alasiri
- 4:30 pm Crossover Kids
- 5:00pm The Heat
- 6:00pm The Blood Sisters
- 7:00pm NTV Jioni
- 7:30pm Live Event: World Safety Day
- 9:00pm NTV Tonight
- 10:30pm Music Mix
- 12:00am The Heat
- 1:30am CNN



NTV TONIGHT 9:00PM

Tune in for the latest news on NTV Tonight with Zainab Ismail and the rest of your favourite news anchors.



SIDE BAR 10:00PM

Join us for the interactive forum on political and economic issues tonight with Ken Mijungu.



THREE SIDES OF ANA 3:00PM

Orlando tells Ana Lucia that the day she finds out about all the lies that Santiago has told her, she will be happy to have broken up with him.

Today's highlight:

LIVE EVENT: WORLD SAFETY DAY @7:30PM
MUSIC MIX @10:30PM

TELEVISION

CITIZEN TV

- 5:00 Pambazuka
- 6:00 Day Break
- 8:30 Nutriversures
- 8:30 Knowzone Class 2
- 9:00 News Update
- 9:15 Knowzone Class 2
- 10:00 News Update
- 10:15 Knowzone Class 4
- 11:30 Tinga Tinga
- 12:15 Knowzone Class 6
- 1:00 Sema Na Citizen
- 2:00 Mseto Africa
- 2:30 Carrossel
- 4:00 News Brief
- 4:15 Animated Bible Stories
- 5:00 Blood Ties 6:00 Rebeca
- 6:30 Tahidi High

- 7:00 Citizen Nipashe
- 7:30 Maria 8:00 Ringo
- 9:00 News Night
- 11:00 Laws Of Love
- 12:00 Afrosinema
- KTN TV**
- 5:00 Command Your Morning
- 6:00 Joel Osteen 6:30 Wild Planet
- 7:00 KTN Kids 9:00 Moses
- 9:30 Afriscreen 11:00 Impostora 11:00 School Time
- 1:00 Newsdesk
- 1:30 Hollywood Movie
- 3:00 Ubongo Kids
- 3:30 Hollywood Movie

- 5:00 Baseline
- 6:00 The Stepdaughters
- 7:00 KTN Leo
- 7:30 Daktari 8:00 Jesus
- 9:00 KTN Prime
- 10:00 Hollywood Movie
- 11:30 Andrew Wommack
- 12:00 Music Interlude
- 01:00 CNN
- K24 TV**
- 5:00 Nuka
- 6:00 K24 This Morning
- 9:00 The Daily Brief
- 12:30 Inside Business
- 1:00 News Cut
- 1:30 Sports Hub
- 2:00 Bongo Movie

- 3:00 Sweetest Love
- 4:00 K24 Mashinani
- 4:30 Jus Kids
- 5:00 Beatbox
- 6:00 Unique Love
- 6:30 K24 Mashinani
- 7:00 K24 Saa Moja
- 7:30 Jane and Abel
- 8:05 The Secretary
- 9:00 K24 Evening Edition
- 10:00 TujuaneX
- 11:00 Playlist 254 Rpt
- 12:00 DW Feed Live
- KBC TV**
- 5:00 BBC
- 5:30 Gear Up
- 6:00 Good Morning Kenya

- 9:00 Laid Back
- 10:00 Newscheck
- 1:00 KBC Lunchtime News
- 1:30 Business Defined
- 2:00 Grapevine Rpt
- 2:30 Daytime Movie 5:00 Club 1
- 6:10 Mitikasi
- 6:30 Unyoya Unapepa Angani
- 7:00 Taarifa
- 7:30 Kona
- 8:00 Elena's Ghost
- 9:00 KBC News
- 10:00 Take On Tech
- 10:30 Beyond Stardom
- 11:00 CGTN News
- 12:00 Laid Back
- 12:30 BBC

ANDY CAPP





**BEGA
KWA BEGA**

**LET US
FIGHT
CORONA**



CALLING ON ALL CORPORATES, DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND WELL-WISHERS TO DONATE TO THE KENYA COVID-19 FUND.



ACCOUNT NUMBER: 204 255 4653
Account Name: Kenya COVID-19 Fund
Bank Name: Absa Bank Kenya PLC



PAYBILL: 999000
Account Number: Your name

Dalali Traders

Auctioneers, Repossessors & for E-Auctions
Kijabe Street, Opp. EA SEED Co. Ltd
P. O. Box 2213-00100, Nbi. Call: 0720 731 252
Email: info@dalalitraders.co.ke www.dalalitraders.co.ke

ONLINE PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by AIG Kenya Insurance Company Ltd, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned accident vehicles (Salvages) on **Tuesday 5th May 2020** online from 11:00am to 1:00pm through our link (e.auction.dalalitraders.co.ke)

M/V REG.	MAKE	LOCATION
1 KCD 470W	FORD S/CAB PICK-UP	AIG YARD NAIROBI
2 KCL 799F	LEXUS RX270	AIG YARD NAIROBI
3 KCJ 248A	SUBARU FORESTER - LOCAL	AIG YARD NAIROBI
4 KCD 742E	FORD FOCUS	AIG YARD NAIROBI
5 KAQ 893E	MITSUBISHI LANCER	AIG YARD NAIROBI
6 KBW 898M	TOYOTA WITZ	AIG YARD NAIROBI
7 KBG 817L	TOYOTA HILUX	AIG YARD NAIROBI
8 KBK 060X	ISUZU D-MAX	AIG YARD NAIROBI
9 KCQ 972J	AUDI Q5	AIG YARD NAIROBI
10 KAP 761G	VW JETTA	AIG YARD NAIROBI
11 KCB 475N	TOYOTA PROBOX	AIG YARD NAIROBI
12 KCU 514F	HONDA FIT	AIG YARD NAIROBI
13 KAV 146K	NISSAN PICK-UP D-CABIN	AIG YARD NAIROBI
14 KCQ 546K	NISSAN MARCH	AIG YARD NAIROBI
15 KCR 881K	MITSUBISHI FUSO FEB70	AIG YARD NAIROBI
16 KCM 103A	RENAULT KWID	AIG YARD NAIROBI
17 KBZ 323Y	TOYOTA PREMIO	AIG YARD NAIROBI
18 KCN 308M	VW GOLF	AIG YARD NAIROBI
19 KBS 916W	MAZDA DEMIO	AIG YARD NAIROBI
20 KAQ 249W	TOYOTA CORONA	AIG YARD NAIROBI
21 KBK 285G	TOYOTA ALLION	AIG YARD NAIROBI
22 KAM 042Q	MITSUBISHI LANCER	AIG YARD NAIROBI
23 KCT 826C	MAZDA DEMIO	AIG YARD NAIROBI
24 KBV 679L	NISSAN ALTIMA	AIG YARD NAIROBI
25 KCH 277P	TOYOTA HARRIER	AIG YARD NAIROBI
26 KAY 393E	TOYOTA PRADO	AIG YARD NAIROBI
27 KCL 098G	BMW X1	AIG YARD NAIROBI
28 KBP 128Q	BMW 550i	AIG YARD NAIROBI
29 KCS 244U	AUDI A3	AIG YARD NAIROBI
30 KBU 220S	VW JETTA	AIG YARD NAIROBI
31 KCN 501D	TOYOTA VANGUARD	AIG YARD NAIROBI
32 KBZ 321C	PEUGEOT 407	AIG YARD NAIROBI
33 KCL 501B	HONDA FIT	JAFFERY MOTORS MOMBASA

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Viewing to be done between 11:00am and 3:00pm at their yard along Kampala Road between Ryce Motors Ltd and Nairobi Water Co. Ltd. premises during normal working days.
- A refundable deposit of **Kshs. 100,000/=** bidding deposit to be paid to DALALI TRADERS AUCTIONEERS. Please note that there will be no bidding whatsoever without a bidding deposit.
- The declared purchaser must pay the balance of the purchase price directly to A.I.G Kenya Insurance Company Ltd within seven (7) days from the date of the auction failure to which all the deposit received is forfeited.
- Sale is subject to reasonable reserve prices.
- Strictly no cash transaction during the auction day
- Vehicles are offered for sale as is where is basis
- A purchaser who intends to buy a vehicle of Kshs. 1,000,000/= or more will be required to deposit extra Kshs. 100,000/= to bid for such cars

Call Newton -0724686568 for any assistance regarding online registration.

High Commission of India

Nairobi

TENDER NOTICE

Bids are invited for reconstruction of road, pavement inside the High Commission of India Residential Complex in Highridge and footpath along its inner boundary wall from reputed firms. Interested and eligible bidders are requested to download the Tender documents containing detailed procedure for submitting bid from the Mission's website www.hcinairobi.gov.in or CPP Portal. (<https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>)

The Nation Media Group

Advertising Centre

Located at the Ground Floor,
Nation Centre, Kimathi Street

We are open to receive all your Advertising Requirements.
For all enquiries please call: 3288661/2/3/4/5


Nation Media Group
Media of the Nation

READERS ARE ADVISED

To make appropriate enquiries and take appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expense or entering into binding commitment in relation to an advertisement.

NATION MEDIA GROUP shall not be liable to any person for loss or damage incurred or suffered as a result of his/her accepting or offering to accept an invitation contained in any advertisement published in the Nation.

Beauty/Medical/Health/Entertainment/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections

All Days 750/= per line per day

ALL OTHER SECTIONS: VAT Inclusive

All Days 450/= per line per day

SEMI DISPLAY BLACK & WHITE (Boxed Classified)

All Days 1,400/= per centimetre

SEMI DISPLAY COLOR (Boxed Classified)

All Days 1,500/= per centimetre +VAT

Beauty/Medical/Health/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections - Black & White

All Days 1,500/= per centimetre +VAT

Beauty/Medical/Health/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections - Color

All Days 1,600/= per centimetre +VAT

NB: Minimum size on boxed ads is 4cm²

DNA Voucher Fee 2,500/-

BUREAU OFFICES

MOMBASA
IMAARA (opposite Pandya Hospital)
8th floor located along Dedan Kimathi Avenue, Kilimo Mombasa
Tel:0732 138 900, 0719 038 900, 0722 200 770, 020 3288900

KISUMU
Tufum Mall, 2nd Floor
Jomo Kenyatta Highway Tel: 0719 038 900

KAKAMEGA OFFICE
Mega Mall, 2nd Floor opposite NHIF
Tel: 0719 038 988

KISII OFFICE
Royal Towers, 1st Floor Tel: 0719 038 974

ELDoret
MOI UNIVERSITY PENSION SCHEME PLAZA (MUPS TOWERS) Waigania Str, Off Uganda Rd, 7th Flr, Wing B, P.O. Box 2772 - 30100 Eldoret.
TEL: 0722-200773 0734-333- 389
0719-038-950/1

NAKURU
Tower 1,
6th Floor, Moi Road.
Tel: 0719 038971/73/74/77

NYERI
KDS BUILDING, 6th FLOOR, KIMATHI STREET.
P.O. BOX 1396.
Tel: (061) 2030640, 0719 038989/95
Tel/Fax: (061) 2041120

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PERSONAL NOTICES

A109 Lost
LOSS of title deed Kamagamba/ Koiuoch/320 Charles Obura Orina

LOST T/Deed Muguga je Scheme /782

TITLE

No. Kajjido - North/10271 of Chuna Housing Co - operative Society Limited under purchase by Debora Angola Ojoo.

PERSONAL SERVICES

A167 Acupuncture
Consultation -1000/= Free Tests.
Beauty, 0737540562, 0721 170217

CONSULTATION 1000/= Free Tests.
Children Disorders, 0737540562

CONSULTATION-1000/= Free Tests.
Trauma 0737540562, 0721 170217

CONSULTATION-1000/= Free Tests.
Menopause. 0737540562, 0721 170217

A230 Health
0202245564 Enlargement & Delay Spray

0723408602 Instant Rockhard Tabs

0723408602 Savings Kit & Vimax Pills

A265 Medical

PAIN RELIEF CLINIC
CONSULTATION Kshs 1,000/= and FREE TESTS
3744885,
0723-624-690
0722-044-383

VITALITY MEN'S CLINIC
CONSULTATION Kshs 1,000/= and FREE TESTS
3741179,
0733-718-237
0722-242-243

A279 Notices

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**
Telephone: Nairobi 2728900
If calling or telephoning ask for THE REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS
When replying please quote
DEPARTMENT OF THE REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS
SOCIAL SECURITY HOUSE, SIKINDI ROAD
P.O. Box 40326-00100, NAIROBI

GAZETTE NOTICE

THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT (NO. 14 OF 2007)

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND NAME
Notice is hereby given to all members of Kenya Unions Staff Union to Section 27 (4) of the Labour Relations Act. That a Notice of change of the Constitution of the Union has been received.
Any member intending to raise any objection against the amendments of the constitution is required to submit in writing any objections within twenty one (21) days from the date hereof. The amendments are open for scrutiny from the undersigned office during working hours.
E. N. DICHEHA (MRS)
REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS

READERS ARE ADVISED

To make necessary enquiries and take advice before sending money incurring expenses or entering into binding commitments in relation to an advertisement.

NATION MEDIA GROUP shall not be liable for loss or damage incurred or suffered as a result of a reader accepting or offering to accept an invitation contained in an advertisement published in its newspapers.

For further enquiries
Call: 0719 038 665/4/3/2/1/6
or email: adcentre@ke.nationmedia.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT, 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of the parcel Title No. LA, 176022 and being L.R. 29123/316 in Girihari, African Club along 123 Kamuli Road would like to change the user from residential (single dwelling) to residential (multi dwelling) subject to approval by County Government of Nairobi. Individuals, institutions etc. with objections to the above proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member, Responsible for Physical and Land Use Planning, County Government of Nairobi P.O. Box 30075-00100, NAIROBI

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 18, 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The owner of Plot No. Kisumu/Ayalenda B/ 1155 located within Kisumu City wishes to Change its User from Residential use to Commercial use subject to approval by the City of Kisumu. Any individuals, institutions, organizations e.t.c with objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of the publication of this notice to:
**THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF KISUMU
P.O. BOX 105, KISUMU**

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT No 18 of 2019
EXTENSION OF USER

The owner of the parcel Nairobi Block 116/267 Situated in Zimmerman, Nairobi County wishes to extend the use of the plot, currently under Single dwelling to include Shop subject to approval by Nairobi City County, Individuals(S), Organizations(S) and Institutions(S) etc. With objections or comments to the proposal should submit them in writing within fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice to:
**This Advert Addressed to:
County Secretary,
Nairobi City County,
Box 30075-00100, Nairobi**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Physical and Land Use Planning Act 2019
CHANGE OF USE

The owner of plot number KISUMU/NYALENDA 97/ 1820 & 2590 situated along Kisumu-Nairobi road in Nyamasia area proposes to change the use of the plot from agriculture to commercial (Sodow) subject to approval by the County government of Kisumu. Individuals, institutions etc with comments/objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen days of this notice to:
**THE CEC
Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development, County Government of Kisumu
P.O BOX 2728-40100, Kisumu.**

WHERE TO STAY

A571 Hotels

KENYA Comfort Hotel | 101 Kenya
CBD Sgl 2500 Dbl 3000 Room Only
Mlimani Sgl 3250 Dbl 4000 Room Only
T:0737777777/7371111111 or 0722608865

FOOD & BEVERAGE

A660 Grains, Beans & Legumes

SUPPLY 2000(K) LTD we supply: Maize, Beans,Wimbi (Finger millet), soya beans, lentils, Baza & Rice. 0722281841

UNIMIX-CSB++, Soya Cake /Meal, Bakers Soya Flour, Pure Wimbi Flour Sorghum Flour, Fortified Mixed Flour & Breakfast Oats on sale.
Call: 0722281841 or Email: muharicornelius@gmail.com

FOR SALE OR WANTED

A871 Miscellaneous



Available in all sizes - 1 TONNAGE TANKS
Order your water tank now!
Call: 0717 800 502
Email: info@polytanks.co.ke
www.polytanks.co.ke
POLYTANKS & CONTAINERS KENYA LTD.
Plot 150, Industrial Area, Mombasa road,
next (200m) to Bamburi Glass Factory

MOTOR VEHICLES

B085 For Sale, Private

ADVANCE selling ur car 0722833300

HCRV BLK 08 CC | 250M 0722625477

ISUZU FSR FRR NPR KCB KCF KCH dep.500k binc financed 4yrs 0770060913

MOUTLANDER 09 | 1.2m 0722625477

N.XTRAIL Note,Sylphy,Tiids 0700282727

PEUGEOT 504 s/wag 199k 0724228888

TATA Tippers new @6.8M 0720 861583

T. Beta,Lexus,Noah, LT,ouring 0700282727

T. Hilux DC,Hilux SC, N.Biord 0700282727

T/PROBOX KCH 250K 0784-143657

T/TOWNACE '12 Mtl | 2M 0722513105

VW Golf 970K KCVW KCY 0700747023

HEAVY COMMERCIAL

B227 Containers

CONTAINER sales 206/40k/ 0790541117

SITUATIONS VACANT

B250 General

LIVESTOCK MANAGER

Minsons Investments Group Limited (Established 2018) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Metro Investments Group LLC of Minnesota, USA. Livestock feed is our key strategic activity (Grass growing, harvesting/baling and storing). A Diploma or Degree in Animal Health and Production, Animal Husbandry, Animal production, Farm Management, Dairy Science Technology, Agribusiness or Agricultural Education and Extension from a recognized institution is desirable. Qualified individuals are encouraged to send a resume and a cover letter detailing their verifiable track records. State current and desired salary.

- **Job Type:** Full Time
- **Qualification:** Diploma/Degree
- **Experience:** 10 years
- **Location:** Isiolo County
- **Job Field:** Animal Production Industry

For application to this position, an individual must have:

1. Proficiency in the use of technology.
2. Knowledge and experience in Pastured/Feed production and storage.
3. Experience in Livestock Disease Management.
4. Thorough knowledge of Local and International Livestock Markets desired.

Send CV to: Rahmarfarms2018@gmail.com
Application deadline: May 15th, 2020.

NGO clerks, driver, clinician 0700457409

PHARMACIST required by local distributor of medical equipment, consumables and drugs. Sales experience desirable. Apply attaching detailed CV, current valid practicing licence, ID, PIN, certificates and testimonials to edgarnug@yahoo.com

COMMERCIAL

B469 Business Offers

INVESTMENT opportunity. A mid sized hospital in Nairobi is looking for investors, good returns assured. Minimum inv. \$M. Call 0712120934 / 0202336000

B476 Business Opportunities

WANTED!!
SMALL WATER BOTTLING BUSINESS
Are you willing to sell your small business, whether you are in operation or closed?
• Must be having a Brand Name
• Must be registered with KEBS
• Must be registered for EGMs stamps with KRA
• Has not a must you have an operational plant.
Interested write to:
EMAIL:supply2kenya@yahoo.com
TEL: 0722433874 / 0735433822

B498 Construction

ECO CONCRETE
BUY A READY FLOOR



SAVES ON COST - 20%

- Free advice to Self-build
- Delivery Upcountry
- Fixed Price
- Strong and Durable
- No need of Shuttering
- No fixing of Reinforcement
- No concreting on site
- Easy to install by owner
- Reduce theft from site
- Suitable in black cotton
- Fast construction
- For small & large projects
- Replaces Steel Decking

Doctors Park 5th Floor, 3rd Parklands Avenue, Nairobi.
Mobile: 072282088 0791799898
Email: build@somerseng.com
www.somerseng.com

B525 Financial

0700282727 Logbook loans 1 Hr @ Jjenge

0721632889 Buying cars/loan offset

0726545566 Don't be auctioned. We buy off car loans

0726545566 Don't be auctioned. We buy off car loans

B546 Machinery for Sale

ENGINEERING MACHINERY

Dadley SERVICES & ACCESSORIES

Lathes, Milling Machines, Bending, Cutting, Rolling Machines, Pipe Benders, Hydraulic Crimpers

Mobile: 0722 793955, 0722 868546
Email: sales@dadley.com

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES

B740 Land, Plots for Sale

1/4 acre K/Sukari 0722336331

GAITUMBI Kinoo 1/8acm. 0722730030

GARDEN Estate 1/2ac 35M 0722899288

HOMA - Bay Oppo 3.5ac 0722899288

KAREN 1/2, 1 ac plots 0722899288

KITENGELA - Muigai 1/8ac plots at Italy, Havana Lanes, Mlimani 1/4ac 0722899288

KONZA 300mts @475k 0799455444

LUCKY Summer 5 plots 0729475785

MAKUYU Manaja @180k 0799455444

MUIGAI Inn Krd 40x80 3M 0700747203

NANYUKI 2lm @370k 0799455444

NGONG Bondeni 1 ac. 14m 0746347565 no brokers

PRIME one acre in Athi River near Cololo & Crystal Edge Malls @ 30M. An adjacent One Acre with Houses @ 45M. Call 0727777711 or 0727777755 office Hours

SAGANA 300mts @435k 0799455444

B761 Premises, Offices for Sale

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Death and Funeral Announcement

Joseph Ndung'u Muiruri

Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company Ltd regrets to announce the death of Joseph Ndung'u Muiruri, which occurred on 23rd April 2020. He hails from Murangai County, Sabia Sabia Sub-county, Kamahua Location, Manyata village.

Son of the late Michael Muiruri and Sabina Wambui. Loving Husband of Eunice Indasi. Father of Leone Muiruri, Samantha Wambui, Ramson Ndung'u and Kimberly Wambui. Brother of the late Grace Nyambura, Consolata, Peter, Patrick, Eunice, Rose, Hollen, Catherine, Betty and Joan. Friends and relatives are having a WhatsApp group for funeral arrangements.

The cortege leaves Coptic Hospital Mortuary on Tuesday 28th April 2020 at 8:30 am thereafter burial will be held at his home Murangai County, Sabia Sabia Sub-County, Kamahua Location, Manyata village.

May the Almighty God rest his soul in eternal peace

THOUGH NOTHING CAN BRING BACK THE HOUR OF SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS, OR GLORY IN THE FLOWER.

WE WILL GRIEVE NOT, RATHER FIND STRENGTH IN WHAT REMAINS BEHIND.

-WILLIAM WORDSWORTH-

Death and Funeral Announcement

Denis Ouma Sumba
Sunrise: November 1968 - Sunset: 25th April 2020

It is our humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the death of Denis Ouma Sumba, a businessman in mombasa which occurred on 25th April 2020.

Son of the late Bonface Sumba Oracha and Agneta Atieno Sumba. Stepson to Betheba Okanda Sumba and Margaret Sumba of Alego Kaloo, Kobara. Siaya. Husband to Beatrice Awor Osiago and father to Kevin Ochieng Ouma of Taita Taveta county government, Belinda Atieno Ouma of MTC, Tweza and Christine Adhiambo Ouma of The Star of The Sea Girls' Secondary School. Brother to the late Francis Awino, Nicholas Sumba advocate, the late Lucy Atieno Sumba, Eunice Awor Sumba, Susan Akinyi Sumba, Mercy Sumba, James Odihambo Sumba of USA, the late Beatrice Adhiambo, the late Patrick Onyango Sumba, Margaret Atieno, Mildred Atieno, Meshack Sumba, Judith Sumba-Osiago and Tabu Ovese Osiago, MICA, Siaya County Assembly.

Son-in-law to the late John Ella and Margaret Anyango of Alego Nyadhii, Siaya and brother-in-law to the late Onyango Abokia, Rosemary Onyango, C. C. Atieno, the late Ogiaga Dengu, Bob Oduogo of KIRDI, the late Shadrack Ovese Osiago, Kennedy Otiemo Arum advocate, Henry Ouma, Stephen Opondo, Kassie Hooten Sumba, Caroline Akoth and Brian Onyango. Cousin to Hon. Edwin Yinda, Lilian, Roseline, Esther, William, Maurice Yinda, Erick Oduor Okuma, the Obyuay, Owinos, Otiemo, the Omuoloi, Nyamodi and Nyamagos. Uncle to Emma Paddy Otiemo of USA, Bette, Cindy, Juliet, Marlon, Franklin, Metch, Clifford, Evelyn, Brian, Elvis, Benson, Eugene, Ryan, Abigail, Awor, Frank, Raphael, Beryl, Toto, Betheba, Bonface, David, Pinto and Andrew of Sweden and Raquel, Kay, Samora and Selina of USA.

The cortege leaves Coast General Hospital Mortuary on Thursday 30th April 2020 for burial on Saturday, 2nd may 2020 at the family home in Nyanboya Village, Kobara, Siaya County.

Family and friends are contributing towards funeral expenses by mpsa to be sent to tel: 0721347704

In God's hands you rest, in our hearts you live forever

Appreciation

John Mwalimu Ndeme
Sunrise: 10th October 1945 - Sunset: 9th April 2020

We the family of the late John Mwalimu Ndeme wish to express our sincere and profound gratitude to the almighty God for taking you to your heavenly abode. We would like to convey our deepest appreciations to AIC Jericho, AIC Ngong'u, ICC Kitengela, Chuna CG, Nyikima Welfare Group, Kitui West Investment Group (KWING), Tambya CSR group, Alumni: Daystar University, Punjab University, USIU Flames/Tigers Basketball teams, Old Pirates Basketball team, Harambee Primary class of 92 & 95, Mutunguni High School, Kitui School '96' & '99', K.P.C staff, les dix-huit group, Team C, Kibuti Court, Mbaa Mutulia, in-laws the Kalika's & Marete's, Mwangangi's, Etyang's, Syuki's, Ngunyu's, Kalu's and all other relatives, friends and wellwishers. Your prayers, moral and financial support touched us and helped us lay our hero and father to rest in a special way. Accept this as our expression of gratitude - since it is not possible to mention each one of you great people individually who stood by us.

May God richly bless you.

Celebration of a Life Well Lived

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the death of Kennedy Kaunda Ngonze of Data Net - Uganda, which occurred on 10th April 2020 in Uganda after battling with syneristic problems.

Son of the late Grishon Ngonze and the late Rhodah Ngonze. Step son of Beatrice Ngonze. Husband of Agatha Mumbie. Father of Dennis, Faith, late Erick and Raymond. Brother of Kyalo, late Nyungo, David, late Nzomo, Mwasu, John, Joel, Jonah, Jeremiah, Hellen, Monica, the late Nduku and Mumo.

He will be laid to rest in his home at kũmbaba village, mukaa location Mukuni county. 30th April 2020.



Kennedy Kaunda Ngonze
Sunrise: 1969 - Sunset: 2020

In God's arms you rest and in our hearts you remain forever. Rest in peace. Amen.

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing on of Mrs. Mary Wambui Mwai Muchugu on April 24, 2020 after a long illness.

Wife of the late Agostine Muchugu. Mother of Mwal, Wairimu, Ngare (KAA), Lucy (Canada), Sami, Simon (Djibouti), and the late Kabaku and the late Leah. Sister of Nyokabi and the late Kirathe and the late Warigia.



Mary Wambui Mwai Muchugu

The cortege leaves Mathari Funeral Home (Nyeri) on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 8 am for funeral service and burial at the family home in Leshau Pondo, Nyahururu.

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing on of Paul M.M Njau, which occurred on 22nd April 2020 after a long illness bravely borne.



Paul M.M Njau

Son of the late John Kigambi and the late Isabela Kanyua. Father of Peter Kimathi, Martin Mwili, Pamela Wawira, Purity Kagendo, Dennis Mugambi, Stephen Mugendi, Lucy Karegi, Prudence Gakili and Grace Kathomi. Brother of Andrew Mugao and Angelica Kajugu. Father-in-law of Monica Kares, Emily Nkatha, Benson Muceeri, Thomas Thinguri and Caroline Kemunto. Grandfather of Kiya, Muthoni, Naema, Jayden, Ayden, Jai and Nettie.

He will be laid to rest on 1st May 2020 at his rural home in Kichino, Tunyal location, Tharaka Nithi County.

In God's hands you peacefully rest, in our hearts you forever remain.

Death and Funeral Announcement

With profound sadness we announce the passing on of Jane Anne Adhiambo Omondi, our loving and devoted sister, aunt and friend, Jane went to rest with the Lord on 25th April, 2020 at 06:12 PM after battling endometrial cancer for 1 year. Jane loved people and touched the lives of many in different aspects.



Jane Anne Adhiambo Omondi
27/3/1959 - 25/4/2020

She worked as a Quality Assurance specialist with a variety of multinationals among them Unilever in Kenya and South Africa, Bico Oil Refinery Kenya. She also had a career serving as a lecturer at Nairobi Polytechnic (TUK) and most recently at JKUAT in the department of food science and technology. At the time of her demise Jane was serving as a consultant on Quality Assurance and ISO Standards with Bekko and Reaser.

She is the third born in a family of 12. Jane was daughter to Mzee Ezekiel Omondi Obare, Mama Agnes Anna Aollo Omondi, the late Pleta Omondi and Mama Pamela Omondi. Sister to the late Michael Ogden Obare, Maria Anyango Omondi, Dr. Lilian Omondi, Evelyn Kadogo Omondi, Benjamin Omondi, Mfred Aworor Mukelwe, Grace Patricia Omondi, Olive Aworor Omondi, Hoses Omondi, Christine Saleem Omondi, and Faith Eunice Omondi. Jane is also survived by a number of nieces, nephews and grandchildren all of who will surely miss her.

She will be laid to rest on 28th April 2020 in Ugunja sub-county, Siaya County.

2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith."

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the death of Judith Ndumba Miriti that occurred on 21st April 2020. Loving daughter of Jennifer Tirindi M'Miriti and the late Geoffrey M'Miriti.



Judith Ndumba Miriti
1/1/1962 - 21/4/2020

Wife of Samuel Miriti Kibaki. Mother of Patrick Kaumo, Bernard Mutema, Faith Kanyua and Jennifer Kagendo. Sister of Alice Gitonga, Lucy Kathambi, Joyce Mulari, Kinana, Gacheri and Monica. Sister of Kaaria, Mbaabu and Mawini. Grandmother of Favour, Kendi, Nkatha, Munene, Mueli, Mwingi and Esra.

Friends and relatives are meeting daily from 4pm at Kigwaa, Kiang'we Village for prayers and funeral arrangements. The cortege leaves the Meru General Mortuary on Tuesday 28th April 2020 at 9:00am and proceed for burial at her home in Kigwaa, Kiang'we Village Akaru at 11:00am.

2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith."

Celebration of a Life well lived



Peter Kasili Kokonya
18th January 1953 - 23rd April 2020

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the sudden passing away of Peter Kasili Kokonya.

Peter was the beloved husband of the Late Elizabeth Mbebe Kokonya Nee Kituku. Treasured father of Marina Nabutuu, J. Blase Kokonya & Vivian Nthambi. Doting grandfather of Eliza Mbebe Kokonya.

Son of the Late Joseph Blase Kokonya and the Late Elizabeth Bakula. Brother of Mary Wasike, Leah Nakhumicha, the Late Dr. George Kokonya, Mathias Wakoli, Richard Lutuka, Flora Kokonya, the Late James Masinde, Martin Kokonya, Ferdinand Wakoli, Reginald Khasoo, Alice Wambani, Duncan Misiko, Dennis Kokonya, Cleophas Misiko, Clement Mhese, Daniel Wakoli, Celestina Wakoli, Peter Wakubegi, Romano Wachye & the Late Prof. Edward Kasili, Pius Mumiukha, Joseph Mumele, Maurice Namiti & Alice Wasukwa among others.

Brother-in-law of Edward Wasike, Major Wakula, Maria, Bilha, Lilian, Rose & Lynette Kokonya; Mary Wakoli & Mary Namiti; Fred Wamnyokoli; Speranza Kasili, Rachel Mumele, Anne Mumiukha, Anna Misiko & Dora Mhese. Papa & Uncle of The Kokonya, Wasike, Namiti, Wakula, Kasili, Mumiukha, Mumele, Misiko, Wachye & Nabangi families among others.

The cortege will depart from Chiromo Funeral Home on Tuesday April 28th, 2020 at 6:00 a.m. for the family home in Namitima, Bungoma County for the final rites and interment.

May the Lord rest his soul in eternal peace.

Death and Funeral Announcement



Julie Njeri Koinange Ngigi

It is with deep sorrow and a humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing of Julie Njeri Koinange Ngigi on the 25th of April 2020 in India. Julie was a dynamic and influential human rights advocate. Formerly with FIDA and UNHCR, a LSK member, a founder member of Women Ambassadors for Peace and the California East Africa Tea Tourism Association, a real estate developer and a great Kenyan Patriot.

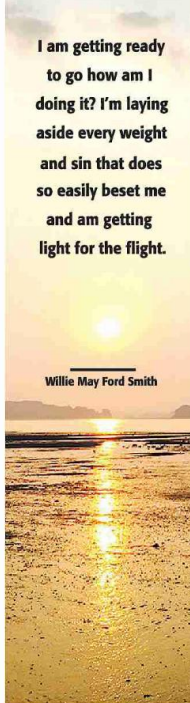
Wife of Dominic Njoroge Ngigi. Mother to Kinyenje Ngigi and Karuga Ngigi. Daughter of the late Joseph Karuga Koinange and Grace Njeri Koinange. Sister to David and Njambi Koinange. Daughter-in-law of the late P. J. Ngigi and Pauline Ndindi Ngigi. Sister-in-law of Nduta Kibathi, Treza Kihara, Joseph Ngigi & Muhoro Ngigi.

A funeral service was held in Gurugram, Haryana State, India, on Monday 27th April 2020. A memorial service will be announced later, after the Covid-19 pandemic abates. Friends and well-wishers may make a contribution on Mpesa Paybill: 639643 Account number: first name surname to support the family in these difficult times. Close family members may visit Riara Tea Farm for a maximum of 30 mins until Friday 1st May 2020. We urge everyone else to support through sms and paybill provided.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;" - John 11:25

I am getting ready to go how am I doing it? I'm laying aside every weight and sin that does so easily beset me and am getting light for the flight.

Willie May Ford Smith



Death Announcement



Serah Muingo Mbebe

To God be the glory in the passing of his faithful servant Mrs. Serah Muingo Mbebe. Daughter of the late Hon. Chief James Kitonga and the late Martha Mwathi Kitonga. Sister of the late Mary Mukami Mwangangi, the late Peter Munkume Kitonga, the late Anne Angela Kitonga, Nzamba Kitonga, the late Naza Kitonga, Muthusi Kitonga, Simba Kitonga, the late Nyamwari Kitonga, Jane Mbuli Kitonga, John Mwaki Kitonga, and Ruth Syombu Kitonga. Beloved wife of Major (Ret.) Benjamin Mbebe. Mother of James Kitonga, Rachel Ndune and Martina Mbartha. Grandmother of Ali Mbebe Zidane. Daughter-in-law of the late James Mbebe and Late Rachel Ndune. Sister-in-law of Col. (Ret.) Alice Mwangangi, Rhoda Peter Kitonga, Carol Mbuvi - Nzamba, Lynet Kaimuri Muthusi, Bessah Mbeba Simba, Jennifer Mwangi Mwaki, Razak Ayub, David & Rose Mbebe, Joseph & Francisca Mbebe, Elizabeth Isiko, Washington & Rhoda Kitonyi, Margaret Wiyaa Mbebe, Noah, Wiyaa & Selina Mbebe, Job & Elizabeth Mbebe, Judge Mwangi & Lily, Tony & Janet Mbebe, Mbil & Rhoda Mbebe, Cousin, aunt and grandmother of many more.

The burial will take place at her residence in Ikutha location, Murumo Sub-County, Kitui County on Saturday 2nd May 2020 at 1pm. The prevailing requisite stringent health measures with be observed. The family remains deeply indebted to all our Relatives, Friends and well wishers who stood by us throughout her illness. We shall forever be grateful for the immense support by those in the WhatsApp group who came to our rescue during our grief and bereavement.

May the Lord's Mercy Grace Her Soul in Eternal peace

SPORT



FORMULA ONE
Formula One season to begin in July in Austria but French Grand Prix is cancelled.
PG 46, 47

Football >

Former Stars striker Onsika decries dwindling standards of the local game



Former Harambee Stars striker Elijah Onsika has backed the move by former Football Kenya Federation chairman Sam Nyamweya to contest for the top seat in the forthcoming elections.

BY BENSON AYIENDA
bayienda@ke.nationmedia.com

Former Harambee Stars striker Elijah Onsika has backed a decision by former Football Kenya Federation (FKF) chairman Sam Nyamweya to contest for the top seat in the forthcoming elections.

At the same time, the former Kenyan international has decried the dwindling standards of Kenyan football.

Last week, Nyamweya confirmed that he will challenge incumbent Nick Mwendwa for FKF's presidency.

"I will unveil my team after consultation with our sub-branch officials who have been the engine of our success hitherto," said the former FKF boss.

Speaking to Nation sport yesterday, Onsika who is a Confederation of Africa Football (Caf) instructor and coach, said Nyamweya lifted the standards of Kenyan football during his time as FKF boss by introducing youth development programme to nurture fresh talents.

He said all registered clubs should be allowed to vote in FKF elections.

"Elections should start from the grass root going up and all registered clubs be allowed to vote. The idea that elections should be started from the county level is unacceptable," he said. He noted that the current FKF leadership had failed to show transparency and accountability in management of local football.

Kisii is among the counties that had already conducted elections twice before the exercise was nullified by the Sports Dispute Tribunal (SDT). In the nullified election, Jezreel Mberera had been elected Kisii County FKF chairman.

Onsika has urged former players to take part in the management of football in the region, saying Gusii had been adversely affected by poor leadership.

"We have to restore the lost glory as far as sports is concerned in Gusii region. We have legends in football who represented the country well and should be given a chance to manage football in Kisii and Nyamira," he said.

FOOTBALL

Former Brazilian football star Ronaldinho (below) said yesterday that his arrest and subsequent house arrest in Paraguay for using a false passport was "a very hard blow".

"I would never have imagined myself in such a situation," said the former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain striker in an interview with the Paraguayan newspaper ABC. Ronaldinho and his brother Roberto de Assis Moreira are accused of entering Paraguay in possession of false passports.

"I was completely caught off guard when I found out that these passports were not valid," Ronaldinho said in his first public statement since his arrest two days after arriving in Asuncion at the beginning of March. After more than a month behind bars, the 2005 Ballon d'Or winner and his brother paid bail of \$1.6 million (1.48 million euros). Since April 7 they have been under house arrest at the Palmaroga Hotel in the historic centre of the Paraguayan capital.

Ronaldinho said he hopes to be released "as soon as possible" after cooperating with the Paraguayan police investigation. "We came to participate in the launch of an online casino and the publication of my autobiography with the company in charge of exploiting the rights for Paraguay," he said. He said he was originally scheduled to be back in Brazil on March 7 for his son's birthday. (AFP)



Rugby > Local competitions now remain suspended, federation says

KRU rescinds its decision to cancel entire season



Jerry Indusa (right) of Blak Blad runs into a wall of KCB defenders, led by Geoffrey Okwach (centre) in their quarter-final match of 2020 Enterprise Cup at KCB Sports Club in Ruaraka on March 7.

Union official Mugambi says joint team of clubs and federation will come up with a way forward

BY GEOFFREY ANENE
gobuyi@ke.nationmedia.com

Kenya Rugby Union (KRU) has rescinded its decision to cancel the 2019/2020 season "after further consultation with clubs over the past one week."

"Following further consultation with clubs over the past one week regarding cancellation of the KRU calendar for 2019/2020 season, KRU is persuaded that stakeholders prefer a scenario where the season comes to a conclusion once Covid-19 and its various restrictions ease," KRU honorary secretary, Ian Mugambi said in a statement sent yesterday to newsmen.

While pointing out that the season remains suspended, Mugambi said KRU and clubs have agreed to form a consultative committee to come up with various scenarios and timelines under which the season can be con-

cluded. On April 9, KRU announced the cancellation of the top-flight league, the Kenya Cup, as well as the KRU Championship, Nationwide leagues, Enterprise and Mwamba Cup, saying it had been forced to take the decision due to disruption caused by coronavirus pandemic.

At the time, KRU said the cancellation meant there would be no promotion or relegation of teams in any of the leagues. All teams were to remain in their current division.

But clubs were angry. They would hear none of KRU's explanations to cancel the season. Kenya Cup leaders Kabras Sugar and second-placed

KCB Rugby led the list of teams that expressed their displeasure.

"All the major events that were to happen in the country have been deferred not cancelled," Kabras Sugar chairman Philip Jalang'o said at the time as he criticized KRU for rushing to annul the league at the time.

KCB rugby team chairman Xavier Makuba termed the move unfortunate because the union did not engage clubs.

The clubs threatened to appeal the decision and made the threat real. On April 16, KRU confirmed receipt of a protest letter from Kenya Cup sides.

KRU chairman, Odior Gangla, said the fixtures committee would look at the appeal and make recommendations before forwarding them to the board for approval.

Yesterday's decision by KRU will be music to the ears of Kabras, who were hoping to recapture the title they last won in 2016. The Kakamega-based team had for the first time in their history, defeated defending champions KCB in a 15-a-side rugby match this season. Both Kenya Cup and KRU Championship were due for the play-offs on March 14 with the semi-finals due March 21. The finals had been planned for April 4.

KRU is persuaded that stakeholders prefer a scenario where the season comes to a conclusion once Covid-19 and its various restrictions ease," Ian Mugambi, KRU honorary secretary

BUSINESS OF SPORT

Covid-19 impasse: Our sportspeople need psychosocial support now more than ever

On Sunday, a concerned resident blew the lid off an ill-advised house party organised by a group of youngsters in Nairobi's Jamhuri Estate.

The 18 young Kenyans, some barely in their teens, were busted by police allegedly stark naked, shooting nudes and imbibing copious amounts of liquor.

This incident came just days after another group of about 20 was uncovered, hidden in a Kilimani restaurant and gulping alcohol by the bottle, in flagrant contravention of public health laws against such assembly owing to fears over the indiscriminate spread of coronavirus.

Sunday's incident came barely a week after a carbon-copy gathering in which a group of 21 youth, disguised as a "talent bank" was unmasked in Nakuru's Millimani Estate, allegedly high on a cocktail of nocturnal, pornographic orgy.

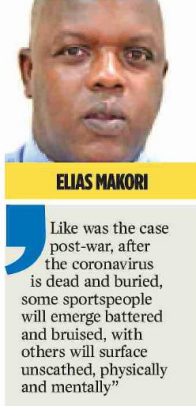
These are just three incidents. I'm sure occurrence books across our police lines have further similar entries, while many others may have escaped the long arm of the law, countrywide.

While the randy Jamhuri Estate group faced charges yesterday, Rift Valley authorities confirmed the 21 truants arrested in Nakuru were all quarantined for a 14-day period as medics look out for any Covid-19 symptoms.

Herein lies the problem. The Rift Valley security officials claim they are "only concerned with their (youth's) health status," and that the issue of counselling "belongs to different people".

Although these security chiefs, thankfully, say the incident is "a parenting guidance problem and not a security concern," it highlights a huge crisis that's been triggered by Covid-19, and which will most certainly explode post-virus, if urgent pre-emptive measures aren't employed.

With the dusk-to-dawn curfew extended for another three weeks, schools remaining closed, pubs still a no-go zone, social distancing emphasized, open group sports training sessions



ELIAS MAKORI

Like was the case post-war, after the coronavirus is dead and buried, some sportspeople will emerge battered and bruised, with others will surface unscathed, physically and mentally."

outlawed and the stay-at-home mantra sustained, our young population is desperately searching for apertures to ventilate.

Traditionally, our sports coaches and officials of sports federations focus squarely on the one-dimensional approach of physical performance, with little or no attention at all directed at psychological aspects of the athlete, yet it's essential to strike the right balance between mind and body.

The current coronavirus lockdown is the biggest test of character yet for us all - and especially for amateur and elite athletes - since the guns fell silent, ending the Second World War on September 2, 1945.

Like was the case post-war, after the coronavirus is dead and buried, some sportspeople will emerge battered and bruised, with others will surface unscathed, physically and mentally.

Just as Olympic champion, world record holder and "sub-two man" Eliud Kipchoge has always emphasized, success in sport depends on one's physical and mental shape, a fact which Kenyan psychologist Lambert Oigara endorses.

Drawing from the book *The*



SILA KIPLAGAT | NATION

Tusker FC coach Robert Matano and members of the squad bid farewell to Lloyd Wahome before their Kenyan Premier League match against AFC Leopards at Kenyatta Stadium in Machakos on March 9, last year.

Mindset - The New Psychology of Success (by Carole Dweck, an American psychologist, author and professor at Stanford University) that seeks to distinguish between fixed mindset and growth mindset, Oigara stresses the need for our sportspeople to develop a positive state of mind that will hold them in good stead, post-virus.

"It really calls for resilience and a resilient mind," Oigara, who practices in Nairobi, kindly obliged after I ambushed him with an unscheduled telephone call yesterday.

"Only resilient people will successfully go through this pandemic," he added.

"Coaches and sports leaders must support people within their groups with positive talk, and offer the hope for a better tomorrow."

Indeed, investment in emotional intelligence is one area over-looked by coaches and

federations which needs to come into play now more than ever.

"Sports people need to re-group and engage professionals to talk to them consistently so as to help them build emotional intelligence, so that their IQ (human intelligence) can be sustainable" Oigara prescribes.

Lack of emotional intelligence leads to anxiety that in turn propels people into substance abuse, which was the case with the Jamhuri, Kilimani and Millimani groups busted over the last seven days.

Further prescription from Oigara is that close community connection makes for good therapy, and that sportspeople must be allowed to express their thoughts and feelings over and over again so as to avoid being traumatized by the Covid-19 ghost and melt away into depression.

Indeed, our sportspeople must be helped to chart their destiny

out by being in control of their thoughts and behavior, in order to build resilience.

Internally, at Nation Media Group, our good management has organised staff counselling services with the company's health insurance brokers in appreciation of the fact that the Covid-19 pandemic will certainly take its toll on staff, especially frontline journalists on the virus beat.

Equally, sports associations must adjust and invest in professional support for sportspeople's mental health.

Technical benches should - in addition to coaches, trainers, doctors and their assistants - enlist psychologists, nutritionists and even chaplains.

Sportspeople must develop the growth mindset.

"The growth mindset helps people keep going despite the inevitable difficulties they will face on their journey," Dweck

explains in her book originally published in 2006.

"Those with the growth mindset will more likely love what they do as obstacles appear as opportunities to learn something new.

"By believing their talents can be developed, it allows them to fulfill their true potential."

Pandemics come and go, and, indeed, Covid-19 will soon be history.

We must be prepared to reinvent ourselves and get back to the grind stronger physically, mentally and spiritually.

Speaking of spiritually, let me conclude by wishing our Muslim brothers and sisters in sport, and generally, Ramadhan Mubarak. Saum Maqbul.

We shall emerge from this pandemic stronger, Inshallah.

Makori is the Editor (Sports) at Nation Media Group. emakori@ke.nationmedia.com

Junior Golf Foundation suspends caddy training at Nakuru Club

BY FRANCIS MUREITHI
fmureithi@ke.nationmedia.com

Caddies at Nakuru Golf Club who were hoping to undergo a training organised by the Junior Golf Foundation (JGF) so as to improve their skills in the gentleman's game will have to wait longer, thanks to coronavirus pandemic.

Caddies at the 91-year-old uphill course were slated to start the training in August this year but JGF has suspended the programme due to outbreak of the deadly virus.

"We had drawn a detailed training programme for caddies to equip them

with golf skills which they could use to training rookies at the club and earn a living," JGF regional co-ordinator for Central Rift Valley Stephen Kihumba said yesterday.

Besides using the skills to put food on the table, caddies training would also enable them perform well in tournaments.

Kihumba said prior to the launch of the training programme by JGF, only professional golfers were allowed to train upcoming golfers in their respective clubs.

"This is a new training programme. When it resumes after Covid-19 crisis is over, it will prove a game changer for

caddies as it will improve their playing skills and boost their earnings," said Kihumba, who is also the chairperson of Nakuru Golf Club.

Hundreds of caddies in seven golf clubs in Central Rift region were scheduled to undergo the training as part of JGF's initiative to demystify the notion that golf is a preserve of the elite and the rich.

"We also want to discover fresh talent in the sport, and to sponsor some of them to exploit their talents in local and international tournaments," Kihumba told *Nation Sport* yesterday.

Some of the clubs in the region with

a vibrant pool of caddies include Njoro Golf Club, Gilgil Golf Club and Kenya Military Academy (KMA) Lanet.

Others are the Country Golf Club and the Great Rift Golf Club (both in Naivasha) and Nakuru Golf Club which has about 60 caddies, among them seven women who are hoping to make a maiden appearance on the course.

Nakuru Club's top caddies John Kamais and Gentol Esto are among the beneficiaries of past training programmes. They and have been participating in national golf tournaments for caddies. That has seen them earn vital points that put them on the path

to turning professional at a later date, with a chance of qualifying to play in Kenya Open championship.

Caddies who have a passion for the sport cannot afford the expensive equipment, and lack training skills despite spending a great deal of their time in the course.

Meanwhile, more than 300 golfers at Nakuru Golf Club have distributed foodstuff worth Sh250,000 to the caddies and staff to cushion them against the effects of coronavirus.

Each member contributes Sh2,000 per month, but others have given up to Sh30,000.

Luseneka steps out of her seniors to excel on the court



BY AGNES MAKHANDIA

After coming out of the shadow of veteran players Janet Wanja and Jane Wacu, setter Joy Luseneka is ready to stamp her authority in the national women's volleyball team.

Luseneka had played second fiddle to the two regulars for a long time before making a breakthrough early this year during the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games African qualifiers in Cameroon.

While Wanja opted out due to personal reasons, Luseneka made the cut ahead of Kenya Pipeline's Esther Mutinda. Along-

side Wacu, the Lugulu Girls High School alumna made the trip to Yaounde that saw Malkia Strikers return to the Olympics after a 16-year hiatus.

Kenya won

Kenya conquered rivals Cameroon, Egypt, Nigeria and Botswana to book the sole slot reserved for Africa.

"The adage patience pays perfectly describes my case. I have always received national team call-ups for many events, but have failed to make it to the final squad."

"It has been a tough journey but I'm glad I've finally made the cut in the senior

team, played in some matches during the qualifiers and made a difference. I know it's one thing to be at the top but staying there is another. However, my goals are to be a regular in the national team and become number one setter in the country," said the officer attached to Nairobi West Prisons.

Luseneka was part of Kenya Under-23 team that featured in the 2015 FIVB World Championships in Mexico, where Kenya finished bottom of the 12-team log. She was also in the national team that won gold in the 2015 African Games in Congo Brazzaville under the guidance of Paul Gitau. The diploma student in Dangerous

goods and Regulations at the WingWays Aviation Training College is keen on winning a third consecutive league title with Kenya Prisons.

"I have stood the test of time and it will be my joy to help my club record good performance during the African Clubs Championship," said Luseneka.

Kenya Prisons last won the Clubs Championship in 2013. Prisons, KCB Ladies Volleyball Team and Kenya Pipeline were due to represent the country in this year's tourney that was planned for April 3 to 10 but was later postponed due to coronavirus.

Football > The going gets tough for star players, some from EPL, who venture into Chinese football league

Pay dispute, eccentric owner and smashed-up furniture: Drogba's chaotic season in China

Anelka and the Ivorian put Chinese football on the global map but they didn't last long at Shanghai Shenhua

Shanghai

A pay dispute, an eccentric owner and smashed-up furniture -- and arguing with fans for refusing to bow.

When Premier League stars Didier Drogba and Nicolas Anelka made surprising moves to China in 2012, they put Chinese football on the map.

Carlos Tevez, Marouane Fellaini and others would ultimately follow as money poured into the Chinese Super League, but the former Chelsea duo's chaotic spell served as a cautionary tale.

Anelka lasted only one, turbulent year at Shanghai Shenhua while his fellow forward Drogba did barely six months at the club. Drogba signed in June 2012 at 34, just weeks after he scored the winning penalty

Shenhua supporters mobbed the Ivorian as he touched down in Shanghai.

"Shenhua's nuclear bomb has arrived," Shenhua goalkeeper Wang Dalei said. Drogba lived up to expectations, obliterating opposition defences and scoring eight goals in 11 matches.

Shenhua fans affectionately called him "Devil Beast". Anelka was already at Shenhua when Drogba pitched up having also signed from Chelsea, in January 2012, on similarly vast wages. But while Drogba was a success on the pitch, the Frenchman found himself sometimes playing out of position in defensive midfield or on the wing.

Anelka managed only three goals in 23 matches before both departed China in January 2013. So what went wrong?

Shenhua, one of the traditional heavyweights of Chinese football, were owned at the time by video gaming mogul Zhu Jun, who fancied himself as a player on occasion. Zhu made Anelka China's first direct import from the Premier League and he also lured another famous Frenchman, Jean Tigana, as coach.

But the

ex-Fulham manager was hit by a player revolt against his training methods and was sacked after just five games in charge. Upon learning his services were no longer required, Tigana departed the stadium before kick-off for a home game, leaving Shenhua without a coach for the match and empty seats in the dugout.

Anelka, who had no coaching experience, announced he was Tigana's replacement. But Zhu soon brought in Argentine Sergio Batista as coach, much to Anelka's annoyance. The former Arsenal, Real Madrid and Liverpool forward also became embroiled in a public row with a fan after refusing to perform the customary bow following a defeat.

"I don't care," Shenhua's skipper, nicknamed "Le Sulk" by British press because of his moody demeanour, reportedly said. There was the odd high, such as a 5-1 home thrashing of rivals Hangzhou Greentown with Drogba scoring twice and Anelka laying on two assists. But it was only a glimpse of what might have been and the pair found themselves pawns in a board-



Didier Drogba signs autographs for fans at Pudong International Airport after arriving in Shanghai on July 14, 2012.



Shanghai Shenhua's Nicolas Anelka (right) trains with his team mates at Shanghai Stadium in Shanghai on July 24, 2012.



FILE | AFP
Shanghai Shenhua player Didier Drogba plays against Liaoning Whowin in the Chinese Super League (CSL) match on September 12, 2012 in Shanghai.

for Chelsea in the Champions League final against Bayern Munich. "For me it would have been easy to go to another team in Europe but I chose China because of the challenge," he said at the time, after becoming one of the world's best-paid players on a reported \$32.16 million (\$300,000) a week. Hundreds of Shanghai Shen-

dispute. Zhu said his fellow owners had promised him a majority stake because of his heavy investment, and he threatened to withhold the foreigners' salaries unless they handed it over. Drogba and Anelka missed several games between them towards the end of the season, ostensibly due to injury, but many suspected the dispute was to blame.

Shenhua finished the season ninth out of 16 teams, despite Drogba's fierce determination to win -- after one match ended in a draw he smashed furniture in the dressing room.

"Wait for me, I'll be back," Drogba told media after scoring on the final day of the season. Weeks later both he and Anelka were gone. (AFP)

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC — SPORTS AT A CROSSROADS

Formula One > Fate of Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Francorchamps on August 30 remains uncertain, with mass

F1 season set for July start in Austria but

We're targeting a start to racing in Europe through July, August and beginning of September, with the first race taking place in Austria on weekend of July 3-5, says Formula One boss Carey

Formula One boss Chase Carey yesterday targeted the coronavirus-hit season starting in Austria on July 5 after the French Grand Prix was cancelled and fans barred from the British race at Silverstone.

The French Grand Prix, which was to have been held on June 28, was the 10th race of the season to be scrapped or postponed.

"We're targeting a start to racing in Europe through July, August and beginning of September, with the first race taking place in Austria on 3-5 July weekend," Carey said in a statement.

"September, October and November, would see us race in Eurasia, Asia and the Americas, finishing the season in the Gulf in December with Bahrain before the traditional finale in Abu Dhabi, having completed between 15-18 races."

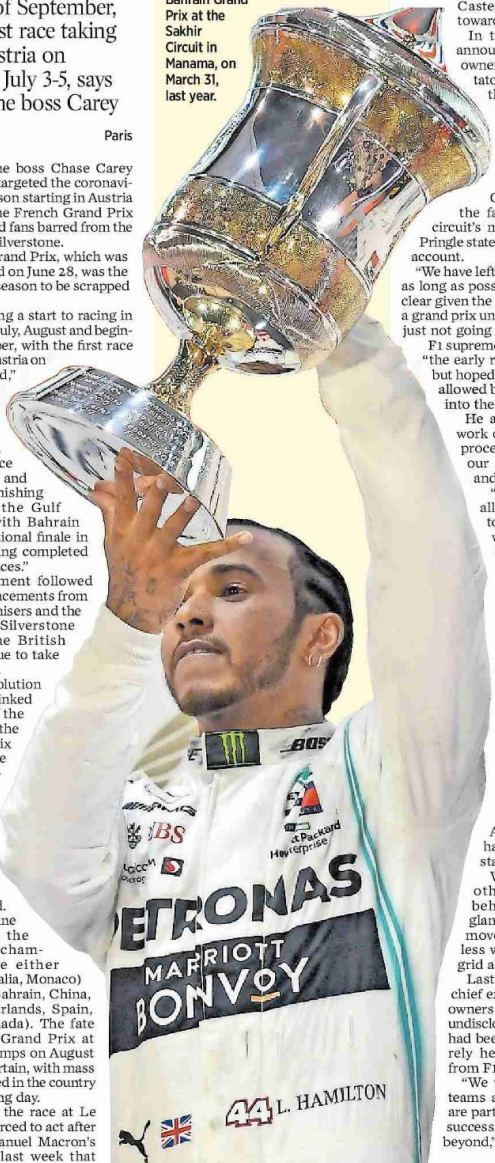
Carey's statement followed quickfire announcements from the French organisers and the owners of the Silverstone track where the British Grand Prix is due to take place on July 19.

"Given the evolution of the situation linked to the spread of the Covid-19 virus, the French Grand Prix takes note of the decisions announced by the French state, making it impossible to maintain our event," the race's managing director Eric Boullier said.

France joins nine other races in the slashed 2020 championship to be either cancelled (Australia, Monaco) or postponed (Bahrain, China, Vietnam, Netherlands, Spain, Azerbaijan, Canada). The fate of the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa-Francorchamps on August 30 remains uncertain, with mass gatherings banned in the country until the following day.

Organisers of the race at Le Castellet were forced to act after President Emmanuel Macron's announcement last week that

FILE | NATION Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton celebrates on the podium after winning the Formula One Bahrain Grand Prix at the Sakhir Circuit in Manama, on March 31, last year.



the lockdown in France will be extended until May 11 and public gatherings banned until mid-July.

Ruling out holding the race behind closed doors, Boullier said: "Le Castellet are already turning towards the summer of 2021".

In the next of a series of announcements, Silverstone's owners declared that no spectators would be able to attend the British Grand Prix but that they hope it will go ahead as scheduled. "I am extremely disappointed to tell you that we are unable to stage this year's British Grand Prix in front of the fans at Silverstone," the circuit's managing director Stuart Pringle stated on Silverstone's Twitter account.

"We have left this difficult decision for as long as possible, but it is abundantly clear given the current conditions... that a grand prix under normal conditions is just not going to be possible."

F1 supremo Carey said he expected "the early races to be without fans" but hoped that spectators would be allowed back "as we move further into the schedule."

He added: "We still have to work out many issues like the procedures for the teams and our other partners to enter and operate in each country."

"The health and safety of all involved will continue to be priority one and we will only go forward if we are confident we have reliable procedures to address both risks and possible issues."

The American said F1 would publish its finalised calendar "as soon as we possibly can".

After the opening Australian Grand Prix was cancelled the traditional summer workshop shutdown was brought forward to April/March to free up the August break to help complete the truncated season.

Both Silverstone and Austria's Spielberg circuit have floated the notion of staging back-to-back races.

With races cancelled and others due to be staged behind closed doors, the glamorous global sport has moved to help some of the less well-heeled teams on the grid absorb the financial hit.

Last week, Greg Maffei, the chief executive of Formula One owners Liberty Media, said an undisclosed number of payments had been made to teams, which rely heavily on profit-sharing from F1 to survive.

"We want to make sure that teams are solvent because they are part of what we need to race successfully in 2020, 2021, and beyond," he said. (AFP)



REVISED CALENDAR

SEASON WILL START IN AUSTRIA IN JULY

- Cancelled:** March 15: Australia (Melbourne)
- Postponed:** March 22: Bahrain (Sakhir)
- Postponed:** April 5: Vietnam (Hanoi)
- Postponed:** April 19: China (Shanghai)
- Postponed:** May 3: Netherlands (Zandvoort)
- Postponed:** May 10: Spain (Barcelona)
- Cancelled:** May 24: Monaco
- Postponed:** June 7: Azerbaijan (Baku)
- Postponed:** June 14: Canada (Montreal)
- Cancelled:** June 28: France (Le Castellet)

STILL PLANNED:

- July 5:** Austria (Spielberg)
- July 19:** Great Britain (Silverstone)
- August 2:** Hungary (Budapest)
- August 30:** Belgium (Spa-Francorchamps)
- September 6:** Italy (Monza)
- September 20:** Singapore (Marina Bay)
- September 27:** Russia (Sochi)
- October 11:** Japan (Suzuka)
- October 25:** United States (Austin)
- November 1:** Mexico (Mexico City)
- November 15:** Brazil (Sao Paulo)
- November 29:** Abu Dhabi (Yas Marina)



Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton (right) Ferrari's German driver Sebastian Vettel in t in Monaco.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC — SPORTS AT A ROSSROADS



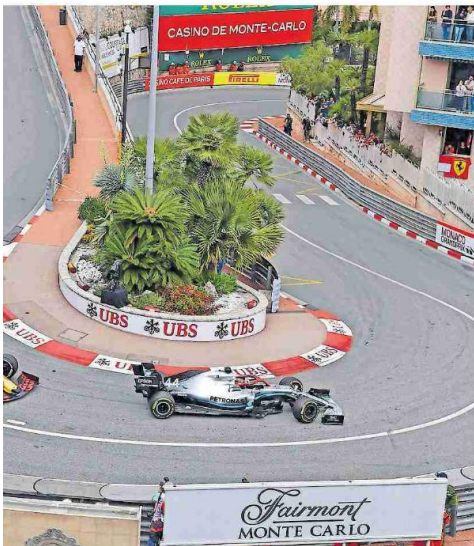
gatherings banned until the following day

French GP cancelled



FILE | NATION

Mercedes' Finnish driver Valtteri Bottas steers his car during the qualifying ahead of the Austrian Formula One Grand Prix in Spielberg, central Austria, on June 30, 2018.



FILE | NATION

... competes to win ahead of Red Bull Racing's Dutch driver Max Verstappen and ... the Monaco Formula 1 Grand Prix at the Monaco Street circuit on May 26, last year

Football >

Spanish govt says there is no guarantee La Liga will resume before summer



FILE | NATION

Real Madrid players celebrate their second goal in their Spanish League football match against Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on March 1.

Madrid

Spain's health minister Salvador Illa said on Sunday it would be "imprudent" to promise the football season would restart before the summer as the country took steps to ease one of the world's toughest coronavirus lockdowns. "I can't tell you right now if professional football is going to be able to restart its activities before the summer. It would be imprudent on my part," he said during a daily briefing on the coronavirus pandemic. The minister sounded a note of caution over La Liga plans to test players for the virus before

returning to training and re-summing a season suspended on March 12, saying giving priority to footballers might breach government policy. "The diagnostic tests of any kind must be made available to the regional governments," Illa said. Before players can return to the

pitch they will have to undergo Covid-19 screening tests. They will then continue to be monitored on a regular basis.

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez announced Saturday that Spaniards will be allowed out for exercise and to take walks from next weekend, with the state of emergency extended this week until May 9.

Unlike most other countries, since imposing a lockdown on March 14, Spain has not allowed anyone out for walks, jogs or bike rides, allowing them to leave home only to buy food or medicine, briefly walk the dog or for a medical emergency. (AFP)

23,000

Coronavirus fatalities in Spain. The country has the third highest death toll in the world after the United States and Italy.

Cycling >

Tour of Catalonia centenary is off

Madrid

The 100th edition of the Tour of Catalonia has been postponed until 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic, organisers announced yesterday.

Due to be held from March 23 to March 29, this year's tour was initially postponed on March 12 but a compressed cycling calendar means the event will not go ahead in 2020.

"The 100th edition of the Tour of Catalonia will in the end be held in the last week of March 2021," the event's organisers said in a statement.

"The cycling calendar that the UCI has made official has been reduced to practically three months, and what we are clear about is that we want to celebrate a 100th edition with



FILE | NATION

Riders compete in Volta Catalunya race last year.

maximum guarantees and the best cyclists in the world," said Tour of Catalonia president Ruben Peris.

"We are very clear that we do not want to do the race no matter what," added Peris.

"Nor did we want to do it in a reduced number of days." The coronavirus pandemic has caused this year's Tour de France to be postponed, with new dates currently set for August 29 to September 20. (AFP)

Coronavirus-hit Formula One season set for July start in Austria, but the French Grand Prix remains cancelled and fate of Belgian GP is unknown **PAGE 46, 47**



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Budget > KDF had set aside Sh23.7 billion in the current financial year for weapons acquisition

Kenya's military spending hits new high of Sh121bn

Expenditure stands above those of Tanzania and Uganda combined

BY ALLAN OLINGO
aolingoo@kenationmedia.com

Kenya's military expenditure for last year rose to Sh121.82 billion, up from Sh116.19 billion in 2018 as the country sought to modernise its hardware.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri) 2019 Military Expenditure Database report released yesterday, the country's spending rose by over Sh5.7 billion, mostly driven by its rising arms imports appetite.

The spending is in line with the allocation of National Treasury for the Kenya Defence Forces, which had set aside Sh23.7 billion in the current 2019/2020 financial year for weapons acquisition — an increase from the 2018/19 spending of Sh109 billion to Sh121 billion.

"Of the Sh121 billion spending proposed for the KDF, Sh23.7 billion will go into buying military hardware in a 'defence modernisation' drive," the National Treasury said.

This allocation was a sharp increase from the Sh17.5 billion spent on the same in 2018/2019.

Last month, a similar report by Sipri, which tracked actual arms delivery, showed that Kenya had spent Sh3.78 billion in payments for the arms it received in 2019.

Kenya also recorded a rise in its ranking on the amount spent in military arms to position 62 last year, from 95 the previous year.

The country, however, does not make public its military purchases, and only Parliament is mandated to scrutinise the expenditure by security agencies.

Some of Kenya's arms expenditure items have been revealed through other international sources, which illustrate the race to strengthen the country's military might. The country has traditionally preferred to purchase its arms and weapons from Serbia, Russia, China and Israel, with some of these purchases now coming in from Italy and the US.

According to the data by Sipri, an independent global security think tank, Kenya last year received from Italy the last batch of the three C-27J Spartan Transport aircraft ordered in 2017. It also received two of the AW139 Helicopters ordered in 2018. This delivery, Sipri said, included one helicopter "for VIP transport" from Poland.

From the United States, the Kenyan military received two of the M28 Skytruck planes, which were part of military aid, with the planned delivery of the last one set for later this year.

KDF last year also received six of the Rolls-Royce AE-2100 engines for the C-27J Spartan Transport aircraft it had ordered from Italian firm Leonardo at a cost of Sh20 billion. They are expected to replace the ageing fleet of De Havilland Canada DHC-5 Buffalos. Washington also delivered six of armed MD 530F Cayuse Warrior helicopters that were ordered in 2018. The deal also



President Uhuru Kenyatta views various tanks during the Kenya Defence Forces Day celebrations at 3KR in Lanet, Nakuru, in 2014.

included initial logistics support (ILS) for the aircraft, aircraft systems and ground support equipment.

In 2018, Kenya topped in its military spending in the region, forking out a new high of Sh109.7 billion to stand above those of neighbouring Tanzania and Uganda combined.

The country's spending on its military in 2018 by Sh8.2 billion from Sh101.5 billion in 2017, pushing its defence bill to become the sixth largest in Africa. Tanzania's military spending in 2018 rose to Sh67.5 billion, while Uganda came in third in the region at Sh40.8 billion.

The five largest spenders in 2019, which accounted for 62 per cent of expenditure, were the US, China, India, Russia and Saudi Arabia. This is the first time two Asian states have featured among the top three military

spenders. The latest Sipri arms expenditure data shows that the US still drives global growth in military spending, splashing Sh77.6 trillion in 2019, which accounted for 38 per cent of global military spending.

"The recent growth in US military spending is largely based on a perceived return to competition between the great powers," says Mr Pieter D. Wezeman, senior researcher at Sipri.

China and India top Asian military spending, becoming the second- and third-largest military spenders in the world. China's military expenditure reached \$27.69 trillion in 2019, while India's grew by 6.8 per cent to \$71.1 billion.

In Africa, the combined military expenditure of states grew by 1.5 per cent to an estimated Sh4.37 trillion in 2019 — the region's first spending rise for five years.

At a glance

BID TO MODERNISE HARDWARE

In 2018, Kenya topped in its military spending in the region, forking out a new high of Sh109.7 billion to stand above those of neighbouring Tanzania and Uganda combined.

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US military admits it killed civilians in air strikes against Shabaab

BY KEVIN J KELLEY
in New York

At least two Somali civilians were unintentionally killed in US air strikes carried out during the past 14 months, the US Africa Command (Africom) acknowledged yesterday.

Allegations of several other civilian deaths caused by US air attacks on Al-Shabaab targets during that period are still being investigated, Africom added.

Africa Command noted that it had previously acknowledged the unintentional killing of two Somali civilians in April 2018.

Africom investigations did not substantiate claims of additional civilian killings in a total of 19 US air strikes since February 2019, yesterday's statement said.

The newly substantiated finding of two civilian deaths pertains to what Africom describes as a US air attack on February 23 last year, that also killed two Al-Shabaab militants who were the intended targets.

Three civilians were also injured in the strike in the vicinity of Kunyo Burrow in southern Somalia, Africom said.

Those deaths and injuries resulted either from the US air raid itself or from secondary explosions of munitions stored by Al-Shabaab at that location, the Africa Command added.

"We are deeply sorry this occurred," said US Army Gen Stephen Townsend, the Africom leader.

Admissions of civilian deaths caused by US military operations in Somalia reflect what Gen Townsend described as a policy of increased candor on

Africom's part.

Since taking charge of Africom in July 2019, "I have placed additional focus on increasing the transparency of our process and status of closed and ongoing

allegations," Gen Townsend said.

"There is no secret air or shadow war as some allege," the general added. "How can there be when the whole world knows we are assisting Somalia in their fight against Al-Shabaab terrorists? When we publicly announce every single air strike we conduct? When we publicly admit to our mistakes?"

Gen Townsend further declared: "It is important that our partners and the public understand our commitment to minimising collateral damage while conducting military operations. Where we come up short, we will admit it openly."

Allegations of civilian killings arise from reports by Africom itself, as well as through traditional journalism channels and social media, Africom said. Claims made by non-governmental organisations are also assessed, along

with reports by individuals filed through a link on Africom's website.

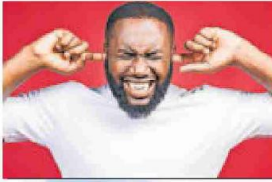
A finding that an allegation is "unsubstantiated" is not intended to rule out the possibility that a civilian casualty may in fact have occurred in a particular incident, Africom cautioned.

Insufficient information

An "unsubstantiated" determination is said to reflect Africom's assessment that a civilian death or injury either did not occur in the course of US military operations or that there is insufficient information to support an allegation.

A charge of civilian deaths or injuries is found to be "substantiated" when Africom has determined that US military operations had "more likely than not" caused such casualties, the Africa Command added.

It is important that our partners and the public understand our commitment to minimising collateral damage while conducting military operations"
Gen Stephen Townsend, commander, US Africa Command

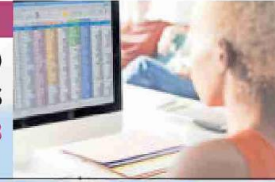


Q&A

Doc, how can I stop this ringing sound in my ears? P. 6

TECHNOLOGY

How an app can help Kenya fight coronavirus disease P. 8



at the heart of the story

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TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020



DEADLY DISEASE

At risk

WITH KENYA NOW IN THE COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION PHASE, SPECIFIC POPULATIONS FACE HIGH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19.

P.4&5

BRIEFLY

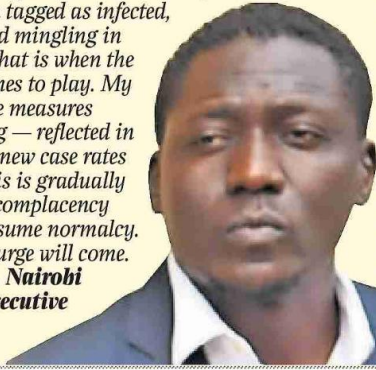
development

SCREEN TIME EXPOSING CHILDREN TO AUTISM-LIKE SYMPTOMS, FINDS STUDY

BY SIMON MBURU

How often do you sit your baby in front of a television, laptop or tablet? Many parents leave their babies in front of the television, tablet or even mobile phone to attend to other chores. This is happening more, now that most parents and children are staying at home. But leaving a baby sitting in front of a tablet or television has grave health repercussions, researchers have found. The study conducted by Drexel University's College of Medicine and Dornsife School of Public Health shows babies who have less parent-child play time and those who are often left in front of the television or tablet are at an increased risk of developing greater autism spectrum disorder (ASD) - like symptoms later in their childhood. "We found an aggravated risk for ASD symptoms in children aged 12 months who spent time in front of a screen compared to children who experienced more parent-child play time instead," said Dr David Bennet who led the study. "This echoes medical research conclusions that greater screen viewing is associated with developmental delays among children." ASD is a group of neurodevelopmental disorders that result in behaviour and communication deficiencies. These ASD-like symptoms may include behavioural disturbances, impaired thought skills, delayed speech and language and inappropriate social interactions. According to the study, published in the journal *JAMA Pediatrics*, one of the ways to stop this is by increasing their social interactions and limiting their screen time from an early age. "Parents should avoid screen time in children younger than 18 months," said Dr Bennet.

Community transmission means members of the community infected with Covid-19, who have not been tagged as infected, are circulating and mingling in the community. That is when the risk of a surge comes to play. My worry is that these measures seem to be working — reflected in our relatively low new case rates reported — but this is gradually leading to public complacency and pressure to resume normalcy. That is how our surge will come. **Dr Allan Pamba, Nairobi Hospital chief executive**



Even though the government directive is good and aimed at stopping the spread of the virus, Kenya is flirting with depression and mental illnesses. Leaving people to meditate on their own can be a recipe for low self-esteem and depression. **Halimu Shauri, sociologist**



We don't want to negate the gains made on issues such as vaccination and maternal health. Having facilities dedicated to Covid-19 will give many relief that they can visit the facilities without fear. **Mohamed Kutli, CoG Health Committee chairman**



BRIEFLY

risks

THE COVID-19 LINK TO SMOKERS AND WHY CASES ARE HIGHER AMONG MEN

BY ONYANGO K'ONYANGO

As Covid-19 ravages the world, if you are a smoker, this might be the best time to quit smoking. Experts have raised an alarm that cigarette and tobacco users are vulnerable to the virus. Immunologists and World Health Organization (WHO) have warned that smokers are at a high risk of suffering from severe Covid-19 infection accompanied by other health conditions. Prof Simeon Mining, an immunologist at Moi University, says smoking interferes with the immunity, making one susceptible to infections such as pneumonia and influenza. He adds that since most smokers tend to be male, that could partly explain why most men are prone to Covid-19. "On average, men die younger and are more exposed to life-threatening ailments like cardiovascular diseases and cancer. On behavioural aspects, more men tend to indulge in alcohol and smoke than women, lowering levels of antioxidants such as Vitamin C in the blood," says Prof Mining. Dr Joseph Kuria, an immunologist from University of Nairobi, says Covid-19 attacks the lung and that's the reason the smokers are vulnerable. "Smokers may be prone to severe Covid-19 infection, in part, because their lungs contain an abundance of entry points that the virus can exploit. In other words, their lungs are already compromised," explains Dr Kuria. For example, a study in China, published by the *New England Journal of Medicine*, recently found that smokers with Covid-19 were more likely to require intensive medical interventions than non-smokers.

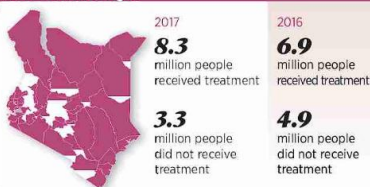
Neglected tropical diseases

Neglected tropical diseases are a diverse group of communicable ailments that prevail in tropical and subtropical conditions. Populations living in poverty are the worst affected. These diseases have been eliminated in other parts of the world, according to World Health Organization.

Globally



NTDs in Kenya



DISEASE RISK (2015)

Bilharzia
Common in Coast, lower eastern, Western

6 million Kenyans at risk of infection

70% of the population is between 5 and 14 years

Prevention: Improved sanitation and snail control



Intestinal worms
Most parts except very dry and semi-arid areas

16.6 million people are at risk

31% lowest surveyed prevalence

95% highest prevalence

Prevention: Handwashing key

Elephantiasis
Common in coastal areas

25% occur in the northern part of Kenya

16% southern part of Kenya

30% rate in males of 15 years

5% have elephantiasis of the limbs and scrotum

Prevention: Sleep under mosquito net



Trachoma
Common in arid and semi-arid areas

7 million people live in 39 suspected endemic regions

3% active trachoma in children 15 years and older

20% active trachoma in children 1-9 years

19% blindness attributed to Trachoma

Prevention: Facial cleanliness and improved sanitation

Kala azar
Common in arid and semi-arid areas

28 old districts have been affected

Prevention: Avoid sandfly bite by avoiding dusk to dawn activities and spraying indoor areas

Rabies
Common in Coast and Western

2,000 die annually

100 amount in shillings it costs to vaccinate a dog

Prevention: Get rabies vaccine or vaccinate dogs



SOURCE: Health ministry, WHO, Neglected Tropical Disease Treatment Report 2017, CDC. Compiled by Helen Shikanda



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GUEST COMMENTARY

When toddler wakes up screaming

BY NELLY BOSIRE
nbosire@gmail.com

Corie* was frustrated. Her four-year-old son Neal* was causing her sleepless nights literally and figuratively. Neal was mostly a healthy baby from birth to infancy and the toddling stage.

Trouble started when Neal started playgroup at two-and-a-half years. Being an only child, Corie thought he needed to interact with children his age a little bit more to improve his social skills. She also did not have a nanny, so she felt it would be good for Neal to broaden his social interactions beyond his mother. She enrolled him in a kindergarten near home, where he went half-day, three days a week.

Neal took to his playgroup well. But, the joy came at a price. Neal started having recurrent upper respiratory tract infections. Every other week he would come down with a new episode of common cold, throat or ear infection. Their life turned into an endless cycle of hospital visits. She thought he would outgrow this as his immune system toughened up. Further, most of Neal's age-mates were battling similar issues.

By three, Neal had joined mainstream kindergarten and though the infections were less frequent, he had a persistent cough. He would cough mostly at night and sometimes it would be so bad that he would vomit. Corie would make countless trips to his room to check on him, depriving herself of adequate sleep.

Her fear of Neal choking on his vomit prompted her to move him to her bed for closer monitoring. Corie continued to be sleep deprived. Neal snored like a tractor overdue for service. When he was not snoring, he was breathing through his mouth. Even worse was the repeated startling at night with nightmarish cries, like he had had a bad dream.

He was constantly on antihistamines and was eventually put on an inhaler as he was thought to have childhood asthma, but this did not result in significant improvement. To make matters worse, Neal's appetite was down. His weight stagnated at 14kg for a year and a half despite growing taller.

One day after a rough night, Corie was unable to wake up in time to prepare her son for school. When Janice, the housekeeper, let herself in, she was

surprised to find the two in bed at 10am. Janice, Neal and Corie went to a paediatrician.

The visit was more cathartic for Corie than anything she had experienced in a long time. She let out her pent up frustrations to the doctor. Corie was relieved to learn she was not responsible for her son's medical issues and the problem could be corrected.

Increased swelling

As the paediatrician explained to Corie, Neal manifested every symptom of adenoid hypertrophy. While most people are familiar with the palatine tonsils seen at the back of the mouth (oro-pharynx), humans also possess adenoid tonsils which are at the back of the nostrils (nasopharynx) and the lingual tonsils located within the posterior one-third of the tongue.

Overall, tonsils form part of an important component of the immune system factory. They are sites for the manufacture of immune cells and antibodies, effectively making them a plant that stocks up our armoury against infections and malignancies. However, these tonsils are also subject to infection, resulting in inflammation and swelling. This

swelling increases with every subsequent infection. The degree of swelling varies from child to child hence those with excessive swelling (hypertrophy) develop symptoms while those with minimal swelling will outpace this as they head to adolescence.

For the adenoids, by virtue of their location, enlargement means they extend into the airway, causing narrowing, resulting in obstruction of smooth air flow through the nostrils and to the lungs. This causes snoring and the child sleeps with the neck hyper-extended in an attempt to maximally keep the airway open. In his sleep, should his neck flex forward, the obstruction is worsened and he feels like he is being choked, resulting in the startling and screaming in his sleep.

There is also obstruction of the flow of mucous secretions, resulting in continuous dripping of these secretions into the airway posteriorly, causing bad breath, chronic cough and recurrent or persistent respiratory infections. The proximity of the auditory tube connecting the middle ear to the throat means that infection from the adenoids easily spreads to the ear and causes otitis media. There is also increased risk of

recurrent sinusitis.

Long-term obstruction results in poor appetite, impacting on the child's growth, poor sleep results in poor concentration while awake and the child may be wrongfully labelled as intellectually challenged. The difficulty in breathing leads to attempts to breathe through the mouth, which can cause staining of teeth.

An X-ray of the face from the side easily confirmed Neal's diagnosis and a referral to the ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgeon was scheduled. The ENT surgeon affirmed the paediatrician's recommendation that Neal would benefit from surgery to remove the adenoids. The surgery was done two weeks later on a chilly morning and by afternoon, Neal was back home healthy. Although the inflammation resulting from surgery kept him snoring for a few more days, he could finally sleep through the night, much to Corie's delight.

Even more reassuring was the return of Neal's appetite. Last month, they celebrated two years since the surgery by throwing away the expired inhalers.

Dr Bosire is an obstetrician/gynaecologist

NEAL WOULD COUGH AT NIGHT AND SOMETIMES IT WOULD BE SO BAD THAT HE WOULD VOMIT.

Dr Bosire

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DANGER » THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WILL BE PARTICULARLY HARSH ON POOR POPULATIONS, PUSHING UP TO HALF A BILLION PEOPLE

Covid-19: Kenya's most

BY SIMON MBURU
mburusymonh@gmail.com

It has been a little over six weeks since Kenya confirmed her first Covid-19 case. On March 13, the Health ministry announced news of the patient, who had travelled to Kenya from the US through the UK on March 5.

Since then, the number of cases has been rising steadily and this has effectively left certain sections of the population at an increased risk of contracting the virus.

According to Dr Moses Masika, a virologist at the University of Nairobi, it was easier to tell the at-risk populations before the onset of the current phase of local transmissions. "The risk of infection was highest among those who were returning from overseas and people with whom they interacted," says Dr Masika.

However, this has changed. With international flights into the country suspended, cases of coronavirus infections that involve foreign nationals and Kenyans with a history of travel have gone down. The Health ministry's daily briefings are now dominated by cases of local transmission.

In the first month since the emergence of Covid-19 in Kenya, geographical data on the infected people was limited to cases per county. Nairobi, Mombasa, Kwale and Kilifi had the majority of the first cases and were declared hotspots. Mandera County was later added to this basket after seven people tested positive for the virus.

However, the lid on how far the virus had geographically spread was lifted on April 18 when the ministry began releasing data on areas that were reporting high number of infections.

Experts now worry that with areas that are congested and those that carry most of the urban poor now reporting cases, the risk of community transmission is even higher.

The first breakdown of data showing local transmissions by Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe suggested that the infections had transcended socio-economic boundaries. For example, Pipeline had five cases, South C and Utawala had four cases, Kawangware three cases, Tassia, Kibra, Parklands, Kitisuru, and Buruburu had two cases each. Runda, Eastleigh, Donholm, Kasarani, Hurlingham, Madaraka, and Lavington had one case each.

"We have mapped the cases and zeroed in on areas of origin. In Nairobi, we have noticed that the cases

are spread between almost all estates," said Kagwe. Additional data from the Ministry of Health revealed that more cases are now being reported in Mombasa County. For example, on day 40 since the first case was confirmed, Mombasa recorded seven out of the fifteen cases that came out positive. Six were reported in Nairobi and two in Mandera County. None of these cases had a history of travel.

Dr Robert Rono, an epidemiologist working in Baringo County, says the emergence of Covid-19 across social and economic statuses presents diverse risk factors for the respective populations. "An area like Kawangware is at an increased risk of virus spread than Kitisuru, Karen or Kilimani. This is mainly because of population density, sharing of utilities, and the inability to practise social distancing," says Dr Rono.

He explains that upmarket areas like Karen are more spacious, have better planning, lower populations per square

13

Kenya reported its first case on this day in March and from April 18 the Health ministry began releasing data on the areas that had recorded the most infections

kilometre and limited human interactions and more financial capacity. This increases the effectiveness of social distancing, affordability of quality and certified masks, sanitisers, and even fumigation. In turn, better containment of the virus spread is achieved.

"On the opposite extreme, a place like Kawangware or Kibra is socially and economically characterised by a combination of overwhelming human-to-human interactions, human congestion, poor planning and inadequate access to resources such as water and sanitisers," says Dr Rono. "An outbreak in such areas is more likely to spread faster and be harder to contain due to the way the socio-economic layout is designed."

According to the population and housing census carried out by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) in 2019, areas such as Kawangware, Kibra and Eastleigh that have all recorded cases have an average population of 234,000 people. Kawangware leads with a population of 291,565 people, Eastleigh has 225,815 while Kibra has 185,777 people.

These areas are congested because the land on which the peo-

COVID-19 HOTSPOTS

Mombasa	91
Nairobi	234
Kilifi	8
Mandera	8

cases (by yesterday)

POPULATION DENSITY

Kawangware	291,565
Eastleigh	225,815
Kibera	185,777
Embakasi	988,808
Mukuru kwa Njenga	242,941
Malthare	206,564
Dandora	295,670

EMPLOYMENT

5.3 million of the 13.7 million Kenyan youth are jobless

83.6 per cent in the informal sector

The deadly coronavirus has stage. Experts now worry it into play, putting millions of the virus. The disease has congested, where thousands go in disease spread

KENYA

363 Total cases

14 Number of total deaths

114 Recoveries

POVERTY

8.6% of Kenyans extremely poor
16.4 million Kenyans living below the poverty line

17.6 million Kenyans living below two dollars (Sh200) a day

756,306 Turkana has the largest number of people living below the poverty

Wajir (76 per cent)
Busia (53.5 per cent)
Kilifi (39.1 per cent)
Narok (49 per cent)
Kwale (41.3 per cent)

ACCESS TO SANITATION

30 million Kenyans use unsafe sanitation methods

41% of Kenyans don't have access to basic water services

71% don't have access to sanitary services

Sources: WHO, Unicef, KNBS, Kenya Medical Association

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

80% of Kenyans have no health insurance.

88% are enrolled with NHIF

National average for inpatient beds at 13.3 beds per 10,000 population.

National average health facility density is 24.4 per 100,000 people.

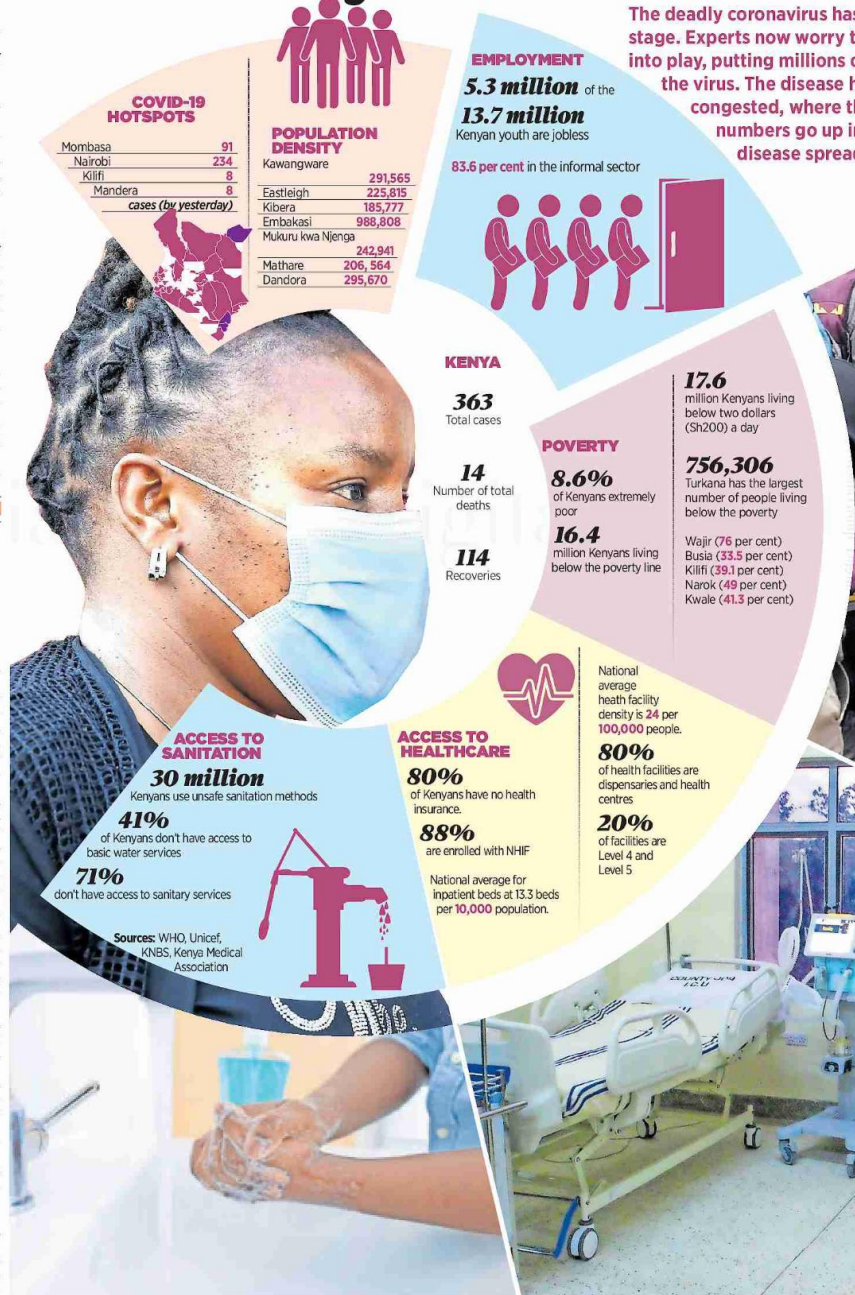
80% of health facilities are dispensaries and health centres

20% of facilities are Level 4 and Level 5



COMMENTS

Go to this link to join the debate and to see views from other readers
www.nation.co.ke



LE GLOBALLY INTO POVERTY, SHOWS REPORT BY OXFAM INTERNATIONAL ON THE IMPACT OF THE DEADLY DISEASE

vulnerable populations

entered the community transmission at socio-economic factors will come f people at a high risk of contracting as now penetrated areas that are highly ie urban poor live and once the i such areas, controlling the i will become harder.



people live is smaller compared to, say Karen, where the population occupies vast land.

Other low-to-middle income areas in Nairobi where population could be exposed to infections due to congestion include Embakasi, which is the most populated area in Nairobi with 988,808 people, Mukuru kwa Njenga, Kware, Pipeline, Tassia and the formal Imara Daima area. Mukuru kwa Njenga has a population of 242,941, Mathare has 206,564 people and Dandora has 295,670 people.

According to Dr Masika, the level of risk in lower income areas will also be determined by measures taken by the populations. "You might find populations in Kibra and Mathare having different risk levels despite having the same socioeconomic statuses if the population in Kibra follows precautionary measures like wearing of masks and washing hands, but the population in Mathare does not," he says.

This diversity is also reflected across the 47 counties. For example, Nairobi County is more densely populated than Marsabit County. With a population of 459,785 people in a land area of 70,944 square kilometres, Marsabit has six people per square kilometre.

On the other end, with a population of 4.3 million people in a land area of 703.9 square kilometres, Nairobi has 6,247 people per square kilometre. Despite this, you might find Nairobi doing better in keeping the disease at bay than Marsabit due to factors such as higher levels of awareness on hygiene measures and accessibility to this. "This means that a one size fits all type of containment approach may not be very effective," says Dr Rono.

In the same vein, economic disparities, lack of jobs and the low earning power might be spread-factors. A report by Oxfam International on the global economic impact of the disease estimates that the Covid-19 pandemic will be particularly harsh on poor populations. It will push up to half a billion people globally into poverty.

In Kenya, for instance, calls for a total lockdown to curb the spread have been met with fears of a total economic collapse for millions of livelihoods. This is because a significant part of Kenya's population is either jobless or surviving on less than two dollars a day. Data from the 2019 census shows that 5.3 million of the 13.8 million Kenyan youth are jobless. This represents 38.9 per cent of young Kenyans. This, therefore, means that guidelines such as staying at home to prevent the spread of the virus become

harder to implement among these populations.

It is this same populations, due to their low economic capacity, that use public transport to and from work. By virtue of the high number of people they serve in a day, public transport modes such as matatus or ferries are a fertile ground for disease spread. The government has put in place measures such as limiting the number of people each matatu carries to avoid disease spread.

Data from the World Poverty Clock report shows that as of 2016, 8.6 per cent of Kenyans - representing 682,000 households - were extremely poor. A total of 16.4 million people were living below the poverty line while 17.6 million were living below two dollars (Sh200) per day. Turkana had the largest number of people living below the poverty line at 87.4 per cent. Higher poverty levels were also recorded in Wajir (76 per cent), Busia (33.5 per cent), Kilifi (39.1 per cent), Narok (49 per cent) and Kwale (41.3 per cent).

According to Rhodes Irungu, an economist and financial analyst, the populations living below the poverty line are not bound to give priority to Covid-19 safeguarding measures that might affect their already depleted resources. "These populations do not have health insurance. Health facilities are also not readily accessible. Access to water and basic sanitisation products such as soap are a luxury that is not readily available or affordable. This means that the incentive for them not to adhere to the rules or go to a hospital even when they are symptomatic is high," says Irungu.

His sentiments are echoed by Dr Rono, who says while risk disparities in countries such as the US are racial, the differences in Kenya are the case of rich versus poor. Take Leah Mutua. The measures instituted to curb the spread of the virus have had a grave impact on her life. "I cook chapatis and githeri, which I sell door-to-door in Mawanga, Nakuru County. I have been doing well, but my business is almost crashing," says the mother of three. Most of her customers now have time to cook their own meals and save on their budgets since they are working or staying at home.

The ban on food hawking during the coronavirus pandemic has made things worse, she says.

"I live in a rented one bedroom house for which I pay Sh3,000. I have to risk and go out, so that I can get rent. I don't want my landlord to knock my door down or take away my roof," she says. Before the outbreak, Leah took home a profit of between Sh500 and Sh1,000 a day. Today, she is lucky if she makes Sh200.

Leah's case plays out in many other small businesses whose owners are risking the wrath of the virus to survive. For example, before the suspension of business in Eastleigh two weeks ago, hundreds of Kenyans who sell clothes for a living were sneaking in and out of Nairobi to access the cheap sales in Eastleigh. Movement from and into Nairobi has been banned.

One of the traders, who did not give her real name for fear of arrest, says she sneaked into Eastleigh twice. "I know that Eastleigh is densely populated especially inside the shopping malls. I was aware that I might be arrested or infected, but people like me have no option. I need to pay rent for my shop and house, buy food and keep my life going. This is not the US where government is giving free cash. Ours is survival for the fittest," says the trader, who runs a boutique in Engineer Township, Nyandarua.

Alarmingly, in the event of an infection, the ripple effect of these disparities will be the untamed spread of the virus and possible higher fatalities. For instance, according to a medical study on coronavirus conducted by the University of Texas and published in the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, the virus is most contagious before and during the first week of symptoms. This means asymptomatic victims could be spreading the infection unknowingly.

According to Dr Masika, the onset of local transmission has now presented a new challenge in mapping out the worst hit and at-risk areas. "It is now difficult to identify who is at risk unless with targeted mass testing," he says.

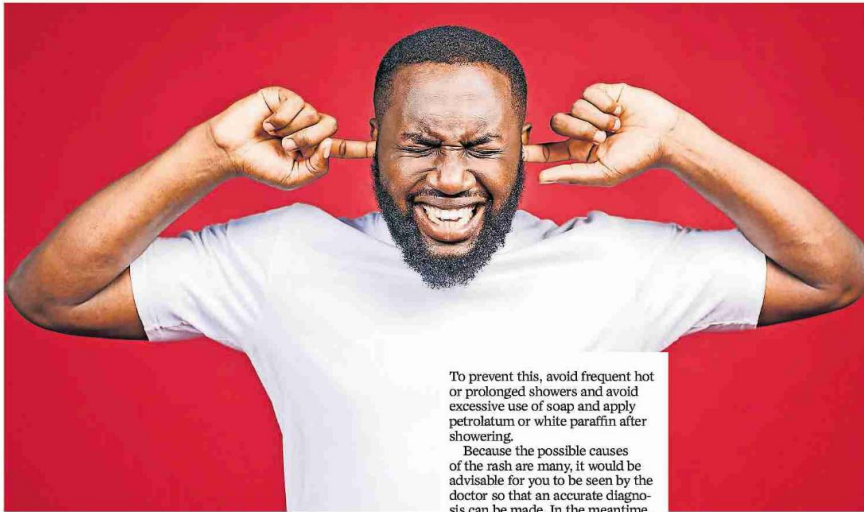
The virologist adds that to identify those at risk, targeted mass testing could be done in areas with high cases and on people who by nature of their occupation and mode of transport used, may be exposed to infection.

"The testing of health workers is a good start. But, mass testing should be scaled up to randomly test and retest to determine prevalence," he says.

THESE POPULATIONS DO NOT HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE. HEALTH FACILITIES ARE ALSO NOT READILY ACCESSIBLE. ACCESS TO WATER AND BASIC SANITISATION PRODUCTS SUCH AS SOAP ARE A LUXURY THAT IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE OR AFFORDABLE. Rhodes Irungu, economist and financial analyst

DR FLO » Q&A

Doc, how can I stop this ringing sound in my ears?



Dr Flo,
I have this ringing sound in my ears. What should I do?
Kevin

Dear Kevin,
Hearing sounds within the ear is referred to as tinnitus. The sound may be ringing, buzzing, humming, hissing or even beating in time with your heart (pulsatile tinnitus). In many cases, it is mild and disappears on its own. In severe cases, however, it may be accompanied by hearing loss, dizziness and poor concentration.

Tinnitus can be caused by an outer ear infection or by a buildup of wax in the ears. You need to see a doctor to get examined, so that if an infection is present, it will be treated, and if there is wax, it will be cleaned out.

Tinnitus can also result from exposure to loud sounds and you may notice your ears ringing or buzzing after you leave a concert, after alighting a matatu that had very loud music or when you remove ear/headphones after listening to music at high volume. Sometimes repeated exposure to loud sounds causes damage to the inner ear and recurrent tinnitus.

It can also occur due to advancing age with hearing loss, especially after age 60. This type of hearing loss is called presbycusis. It may also be due to inner ear cell damage, a middle ear infection (otitis media), ear injury and other diseases like otosclerosis, Meniere's disease, thyroid disease, heart and blood vessel problems, brain tumours, nerve problems and some medication.

Wear ear protection if you are in an area with loud sound and turn

down the volume, especially if you use headphones. It would be good for you to see an ENT (ear/nose/throat) specialist for further investigation.

Manage stress, avoid noisy environments, and also avoid coffee and smoking. Playing soft music or radio static when you are in a quiet environment or when you are sleeping may help to mask the noise. Also reduce alcohol consumption because alcohol increases blood flow, especially in the inner ear. If you have high blood pressure or other blood disorders, they should be properly managed. You may benefit from using some medication prescribed by a doctor to reduce the symptoms. A masking device can also be given to reduce the discomfort.

Dr Flo,
I am 85 years old and pretty active, but I have itching pimples on my back and legs. I have also had prostate cancer for the past 18 years and I am diabetic. What can I use on the itchy rash? NT

Dear NT,
The itchy rash may be due to infection such as fungal, viral, bacterial, worm infestation and scabies or an inflammatory skin disorder like psoriasis, allergy and eczema. The rash may also be triggered by diabetes, prostate cancer, kidney disease, liver disease, thyroid disease, iron deficiency or use of some anti-hypertensive medication, opioid painkillers and cholesterol lowering drugs.

In those with advanced age, the skin can also get itchy because of drying out, though this is not usually accompanied by a rash.

To prevent this, avoid frequent hot or prolonged showers and avoid excessive use of soap and apply petrolatum or white paraffin after showering.

Because the possible causes of the rash are many, it would be advisable for you to be seen by the doctor so that an accurate diagnosis can be made. In the meantime, you can use anti-histamine tablets and cream to reduce the itching. Specific treatments, such as using an anti-fungal cream, requires that you have a diagnosis before using them.

Dr Flo,
I am 27 years old and I got married last September. I have not been on any contraceptives since then, but I am not yet pregnant. Every time I get my monthly periods I feel very bad. What could be wrong with me? Could the depo injection I was using before the wedding have made me infertile?
Aunna

Dear Aunna,
It is not automatically given that someone who is not on contraceptives, and neither she nor her partner has any issues will conceive. In fact, medically speaking, concerns about fertility arise after one year of having regular unprotected sexual intercourse. For some women, it takes a few months before there is return to fertility after using contraceptives for a while, though this depends on the type used, the duration and the specific person's body. With depo provera, the return to fertility can range from three months to up to two years.

About 15 per cent of couples are unable to conceive after one year of trying. Of these, a third of the time the problem is in the woman, a third of the time, the problem is in the man, and in the other third, both partners have a problem, or no problem can be found at all.

In women, infertility can be caused by abnormal ovarian function, hormonal disorders, fallopian tube obstruction and abnormalities of the uterus. Some factors that can increase the risk of infertility are

alcoholism, smoking, obesity, severe weight loss, extreme physical or emotional stress, and being over 35 years of age.

In men, infertility can be caused by a disruption of the function of the testicles, ejaculatory dysfunction, hormonal disorders and genetic disorders. Some factors that can increase the risk of infertility include diabetes, alcoholism, smoking, use of steroids, injury to the testicles, being overweight or as a consequence of exposure to some drugs, toxins or radiation.

For now, you can afford to wait for several months, so that you will have completed at least one year of trying to conceive. If you do not conceive by then, please visit a gynaecologist. Check-ups include a pelvic ultrasound to check the pelvic organs, a hysterosalpingogram (HSG) to check the fallopian tubes and a hormone profile to check the hormones. Your partner may also need to have a seminal analysis and a hormone profile, as necessary. Treatment is given, depending on what is found. For example, you may be given medication to facilitate ovulation or to control hormones, you may need surgery if there is scarring, endometriosis or the fallopian tubes are blocked. Your partner may also be put on medication. You may also benefit from assisted conception through intra-uterine insemination or in vitro fertilisation if you are unable to conceive after all this.

Send your medical questions to healthynation@ke.nationmedia.com for free expert advice

CAUTION

COVID-19 TREATMENT: KENYAN EXPERTS CALL FOR MORE TRIALS ON HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE

BY AGGREY OMBOKI
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Since the outbreak of Covid-19, medics have been using chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine as one of the treatment options for the viral disease.

Hydroxychloroquine has been used with Azithromycin to treat Covid-19 on an experimental basis, with encouraging results reported in France and the US.

A number of countries including Kenya have already okayed the use of antimalarial drugs as part of experimental clinical trials geared towards finding effective treatment for Covid-19.

Experts are, however, advising caution in the growing enthusiasm for the drugs, saying their efficacy has not yet been conclusively proven for blocking coronavirus infection or treating Covid-19 disease.

Scientists warned about the initial French studies that used a small sample size and also failed to use a control group for data collection and analysis.

Dr Joseph Aluoch, the current patron of the Kenya Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases, takes a different view to the universal preference for chloroquine as an effective drug in Covid-19 treatment.

Dr Aluoch says the medical fraternity should not "rush to declare chloroquine a cure for Covid-19 before conducting proper research".

The medic, who is also the president of the Pan-African Thoracic Society, terms it unfortunate that researchers are yet to learn from the lessons of the Spanish flu, which killed an estimated 50 million people between 1918

and 1919. "Medics owe the world an apology for the continued interest in the use of chloroquine as a possible cure for Covid-19 which is a viral disease. The same drug was tried during the Spanish flu and was found ineffective," says Dr Aluoch.

According to epidemiologist and paediatrician Prof Ruth Nduati, hydroxychloroquine has not been vindicated by clinical trials.

"The clinical trials show that hydroxychloroquine does not work and is even harmful to the patients in some cases," says Prof Nduati, also a University of Nairobi lecturer.

She also casts a shadow over the use of Azithromycin in Covid-19 treatment, pointing out that there is no conclusive data on the drug as a single element in the treatment.

Prof Nduati, however, acknowledges that researchers' interest in the antibiotic could have been driven by the fact that Covid-19 affects lung function in a way that is similar to Respiratory Syncytial Virus.

Concern over the medication in terms of side effects is also growing after recent findings from a small clinical trial in Brazil suggested that the drug may prove to be dangerous for patients who are also suffering from heart disease. This is after 11 patients given high doses of chloroquine died during the trial.

On Monday, April 20, 2020, pharmaceutical firm Novartis announced it had agreed with the FDA to proceed with a Phase 3 clinical trial to evaluate the use of hydroxychloroquine for the treatment of hospitalised Covid-19 patients.



PHOTO | AFP

A medical staff shows tablets containing hydroxychloroquine, which has been used in the treatment of Covid-19.

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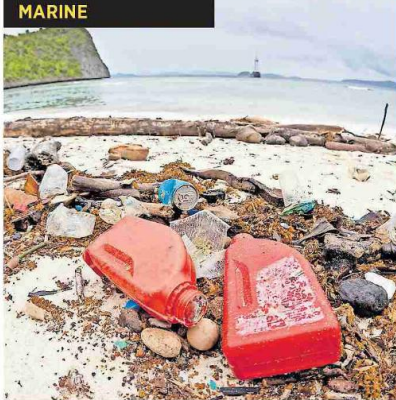


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MARINE



Kenyan picked for research fellowship

BY WINNIE ATIENO
watienco@ke.nationmedia.com

A Kenyan is among eight marine scientists and conservationists who will conduct research and develop tools to strengthen ocean conservation. The eight, from Kenya, Australia, China, Japan, Indonesia and the US, will do the research after they were named this year's recipients of the Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation. The research aims to improve fisheries management, advance sustainable aquaculture, protect declining populations of sharks and other marine species and foster more effective restoration of coral reefs in their respective

countries. The Kenya marine fisheries scientist, Dr Nina Wambiji, is the only one in Africa. The other 2020 Pew Fellows are Eric Gilman (US), Ling Cao (China), Arthur Gleason (US), Asta Audzijonyte (Australia), Ana Sequeira (Australia), Andrianus Sembiring (Indonesia) and Hiroo Ishihara (Japan). Dr Wambiji, who has over 15 years' experience in marine research, becomes the second African woman to be picked. The marine scientists will collect existing data to examine how fisheries are affecting populations of billfish species, focusing on Kenya, Somalia, Comoros, Seychelles and Mauritius. "I am very delighted to be picked for this prestigious

fellowship. The support is very important to my institution, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute and the Western Indian Ocean region at large as we continue to expand research on understudied billfish species," she said in an interview with Shipping and Logistics. Their work is to support the sustainable management of the world's oceans, which face mounting threats from climate change, development, overfishing and pollution. "The programme supports high-quality research that brings new data, analyses and innovations to marine conservation. It builds and fosters a global community of experts who learn from each other and work together to amplify the

effects of their combined research efforts," said Rebecca Goldberg, the director of environmental research and science for The Pew Charitable Trusts. Following a nomination and review process, a team of experts from around the world recommends fellows for the award based on the strengths of their proposed projects, including the potential to advance protection of ocean environments. Each of the selected individuals will receive a three-year \$150,000 (Sh16 million) fellowship and access to a community of fellows and programme alumni, who share ideas, form collaborations and gain professional skills and connections.

DATA » BASIC INFORMATION GIVEN BY HEALTH MINISTRY SAID TO BE INSUFFICIENT



stations," he says. To get a clear understanding of the virus, he supports the idea of creating a cyber-secure open source cloud platform accessible to anyone to post data on symptoms, recovery progress as well as allow researchers to publish insights. Data providers could then chip in to reduce the cost of mobile internet while users utilise the platform. Accurate data on how long it takes for patients to heal, their pre-existing health conditions, where they live, how they have been moving around, how they are responding to quarantine measures as well as real-time tracking on the progress of those who have been intubated will be critical in containing the virus. Correlation of insights and comparison with biomedical data from other countries will also be important. "We should be in a position to know the different strains of the virus, how long they stay alive on different surfaces and how they are mutating. This will tell us why those who previously recovered test positive again," he says. The use of machine learning, a subset of AI, will be crucial to build regression models and algorithms to understand different scenarios. "At the end, it is not about the technology. It is about seeing digital health platforms helping patients recover faster and preventing new infections," says chief executive of online doctor consultation platform Daktari Africa Charles Kamotho. A balance between data privacy and health risk prevention must be struck, allowing the government to use geo-location data of infected people to shield the masses from the virus, as well as tracing those who escape from quarantine stations, says the experts. The Kenya Data Protection Act of 2019 provides for the access to private citizen data when there is a matter of public interest or when national security is threatened. "Anonymised and aggregated data from telcos is an imperative insight to understand and predict infection patterns within populations, improve decision making," says Timothy Oriedo, founder of local data firm Predictive Analytics Lab.

BRIEFLY

study

PROTECTING CORAL REEFS 'NOW HARDER'

It has become hard to protect tropical coral reefs due to climate change which has "undone decades of knowledge on how to protect them". According to Prof Nick Graham of Lancaster University and lead author of a study on coral reefs, "the rules we have come to rely on, no longer apply". A research published in *Nature Research* shows despite marine reserves having been established to conserve such environments, tropical coral reef marine reserves "can offer little defence in the face of climate change impacts". "Climate change is so fundamentally changing the structure and composition of coral reef ecosystems," said Prof Graham. — Bernadine Mutanu



award

LECTURER WINS SH18 MILLION HEALTH GRANT

A Computer Science lecturer at Kabarak University has been awarded an Sh18 million grant to lead a team of six researchers to investigate matters eHealth. "Dr Moses Thiga, our lecturer in the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, has won a research grant from the National Research Fund (NRF)," a document signed by Vice Chancellor Prof Henry Kiplangat reads. Dr Thiga will lead a multidisciplinary team of scholars from other universities to explore eHealth for universal maternal health coverage among underserved counties and vulnerable population groups in Kenya. His proposal was among 56 submitted for funding. NRF is mandated to facilitate research for the advancement of Science, Technology and Innovation. — Faustine Ngila

How an app can help Kenya fight Covid-19

BY FAUSTINE NGLIA
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Experts say a self-reporting tool is just what the country needs to make informed decisions

While the Health ministry releases data about Covid-19 every day, experts point out that such information is not analysed in an efficient way to provide valuable insights that can help the country in faster and more accurate decision making to tame the virus. This challenge stems from the fact that what the government releases is basic data on the number of people tested, new infections, recoveries and deaths. This, experts argue, leaves out numerous data points. To solve the juggernaut, health

informatics and data experts have proposed a public-private partnership where a free online resource can be used by any Kenyan for self-reporting, stating that this will be the best data collection method. "A free app where citizens can ask questions and share Covid-19 data from their locations will be crucial for both the government and private sector to gain daily analytics which could inform on which regions in the country need urgent testing," Dr Peter Arimi, technical lead, strategic partnerships at the University of Nairobi's college of health sciences tells *HealthyNation*. Dr Rob Korom, head of product at Penda Health, says this data should be integrated in such a way

that it flows in both directions. "Data collected by government agencies should be available to private researchers and vice versa. We can collect data that classifies patients as asymptomatic, symptomatic and severe," he says. Stressing that data and information from quarantine centres is equally crucial, Absa Bank Kenya's chief data officer Hartnell Ntungji believes the combination of Big Data and artificial intelligence (AI) can be used to predict infection trends. "When people are placed under quarantine, how sure are we that they are maintaining the required distance? Such data can help to get more insights about the disease especially from quarantine