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AFRICAN UNION WILL NO LONGER SECURE ASTRAZENECA VACCINE



-The vaccine will be supplied in Africa by COVAX facility backed by World Health Organization
-AU to focus on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine,

President Lungu successfully files nomination to re-contest for PF Presidency



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SADC intervenes in Mozambique



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Phofu Lodge – offering the Kalahari experience



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African Union will no longer secure AstraZeneca vaccine

The African Union's disease control has said it had dropped plans to secure AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines for its members from the Serum Institute of India, the world's biggest vaccine supplier, amid global shortfalls of the shot.

AstraZeneca's shot is by far the cheapest coronavirus vaccine launched so far, and the easiest to store and transport, making it well suited to developing countries.

On Wednesday, European and British medicine regulators said they had found possible links between the vaccine and extremely rare cases of brain blood clots, while emphatically

reaffirming its importance in mass vaccination against COVID-19.

John Nkengasong, head of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), said the AU's decision had nothing to do with those findings, and reiterated his advice that the benefits of the vaccine outweighed the risks.

He said the main reason was to avoid duplicating COVAX's efforts by the World Health Organization-backed COVAX facility, which will continue to supply AstraZeneca to Africa.

He said the AU was focusing on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, citing a deal announced last

week to supply Africa with up to 400 million doses.

COVAX aims to deliver 600 million shots - most of them from AstraZeneca - to some 40 African countries this year, enough to vaccinate 20% of their populations.

Africa trails most other regions in COVID-19 vaccinations; fewer than 13 million doses have been administered on a continent of 1.3 billion people, according to the Africa CDC. The AU had wanted to secure up to 500 million additional AstraZeneca shots for its 55 member states, at \$3 per shot.

However, last month India suspended its exports to meet

rising domestic demand. Nkengasong said the subsequent delays were complicating vaccination across Africa, noting that health systems had to know that second doses would be available in time for those who had received a first dose.

Matshidiso Moeti, who heads the WHO's Africa office, confirmed the two organisations wanted to ensure they were "not competing and stepping over each other looking for the same vaccines".

"I am very much assured that it is not to do with doubts about the safety and other considerations on the AstraZeneca vaccines. It's simply to recognise that there are challenges with the volumes that are available," she told a separate news briefing.

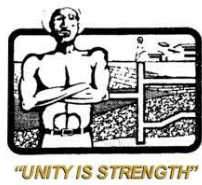
The single-shot J&J doses secured last week will not arrive until the third quarter, and Nkengasong said Africa would find it hard to bridge the gap in the meantime.

South Africa has cancelled orders of the AstraZeneca vaccine after finding it gave only minimal protection against mild-to-moderate infection caused by the country's dominant, highly infectious variant. Russia and China are also offering vaccines, but there are questions about their cost and availability in large volumes. The virus is confirmed to have killed 114,000 people across Africa, and infected 4.33 million.

(Reporting - Reuters)



Botswana Mine Workers Union



IDM AND BMWU PARTNERSHIP TO ENHANCE MINING BENEFICIATION



IDM and BMWU concluded a 5 year development partnership



Kgosi Martha Lebang of Palapye welcoming the guests during the event



IDM Regional Director Richard Malikongwa delivering the keynote address



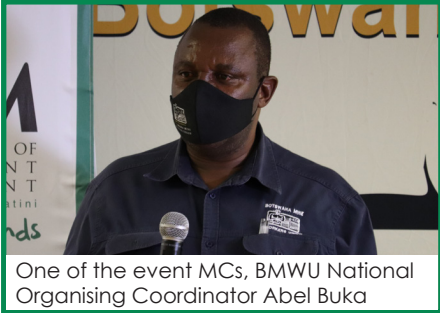
BMWU President Joseph Tsimako giving an overview of the partnership



The signing of MoU by IDM Regional Director Richard Malikongwa and BMWU General Secretary Maenge P.G Maenge



Dignitaries after successfully signing MoU



One of the event MCs, BMWU National Organising Coordinator Abel Buka



Closing remarks by BMWU General Secretary Maenge P.G Maenge



Entertainment by poet Olebogeng Thapelo Oagile

The first in the mining sector, the Institute of Development Management (IDM) and Botswana Mine Workers Union entered into a long term partnership agreement aimed at building capacity of membership of the union body across the length and breadth of Botswana.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed at Palapye on Tuesday 30th March 2021 will usher in a new developmental journey which will provide BMWU with the necessary tools to realise its core organizational objectives, among them, human capital development in the mining industry. The partnership comes at a time when the Union embarks on a transformational journey to ensure effective realization of their new mandate, namely; Capacity building, Sustainability and Transformation. Speaking at the signing ceremony, IDM Regional Director Richard Malikongwa said, the gesture was a great milestone for them as an education and training institution to partner with a brand which has a long standing history in the country dating as far back as 1967. Mr Malikongwa said IDM and BMWU are two brands which are synonymous with the developmental journey of Botswana. "IDM was established to create a talent pool for the three Governments of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, now eSwatini. Botswana Mine Workers Union on the other hand was formed to promote worker centric policies, laws and practices by aligning national strategic priorities to internationally recognized standards and frameworks," he said.

The IDM Regional Director said the journey both partners have traversed over the years gives them an opportunity to learn a great deal from each other, expressing his excitement that the agreement paves way for many prospects for the duo to thrive by drawing strengths from each other. He further said the partnership will usher in a new paradigm shift through which the beneficiaries will begin to look at life differently, where life after work should be prioritized and adequately planned for. "Our resolve as IDM is to cultivate a culture of professionalism in the labour movement," said Malikongwa further encouraging BMWU members to acquire work ethics that are inward looking and outward looking at the same time to provide them with a holistic view of life issues. Malikongwa further said through the partnership they can jointly engage government to make informed decisions on policy reviews and formulation that is based on empirical evidence gathered through research and consultancy that is issues-based. In his remarks, BMWU President Joseph Tsimako said despite the rich history and legacy which BMWU has enjoyed in the labour movement in Botswana, new trends both national and global have brought about new ways of conducting business in the mining industry. He further said the mining industry has evolved into a technologically driven industry, presenting 21st Century challenges and opportunities, which require technical approaches and new skills sets that were previously not sought after in the old way of conducting trade union business.

Tsimako said in responding to these external factors, BMWU has embarked on a transformation drive with key focus on capacity building, sustainability and transformation. "It is under the capacity building thematic area, that we have partnered with IDM, to assist BMWU with various aspects of its organizational capacity building efforts; support its core mandate of providing quality services to its members and sustaining its legacy as the pioneer Trade Union in Botswana," he said. "The partnership with IDM will support delivery of the education programmes to BMWU members, build capacity across strategic structures of the organization, strengthen BMWU research capacity, enhance BMWU's contribution to the country's human resources development strategy and the realization of its national priorities aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals Specifically Goal 8," noted Tsimako. Welcoming guests to Palapye, Kgosi Martha Lebang said the partnership will go a long way in achieving the vision of an excellent workforce by the year 2036. Kgosi Lebang, the woman Kgosi in the village said Palapye as a mining town was fortunate to be witnessing a futuristic partnership. Her sentiments were shared by BMWU Secretary General Maenge Maenge in his closing remarks. Maenge said the Union has always believed that development of workers is key to the sustainability of any business. There were other solidarity and inspirational messages from Botswana Power Corporation, Botswana Power Corporation Workers Union and Morupule Colliery Mine.



About 2% of world’s COVID-19 vaccines administered in Africa

Only about 2% of the 690 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered to date globally have been in Africa, where most countries received vaccines only five weeks ago and in small quantities.

Forty-five African countries have received vaccines, 43 of them have begun vaccinations and nearly 13 million of the 31.6 million doses delivered so far have been administered. The pace of vaccine rollout is, however, not uniform, with 93% of the doses given in 10 countries.

Vaccine rollout preparedness, including training of health workers, prelisting priority groups and coordination has helped some countries quickly reach a large proportion of the targeted high-risk population groups such as health workers. The 10 countries that have vaccinated the most have used at least 65% of their supplies.

“Although progress is being made, many African countries

have barely moved beyond the starting line. Limited stocks and supply bottlenecks are putting COVID-19 vaccines out of reach of many people in this region,” said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for Africa told a virtual Press conference on Thursday.

“Fair access to vaccines must be a reality if we are to collectively make a dent on this pandemic.”

Once delivered, vaccine rollout in some countries has been delayed by operational and financial hurdles or logistical difficulties such as reaching remote locations. WHO is supporting countries to tackle the challenges by reinforcing planning and coordination, advocating more financial resources as well as setting up effective communications strategies to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation.

The delays are not only affecting vaccine delivery to

priority targets but expanding vaccinations to the rest of the population, some of whom have expressed eagerness to receive the doses. WHO set a target to start vaccinating health workers and other priority groups in all countries in the first 100 days of 2021.

“Africa is already playing COVID-19 vaccination catch-up, and the gap is widening. While we acknowledge the immense burden placed by the global demand for vaccines, inequity can only worsen scarcity,” said Dr Moeti. “More than a billion Africans remain on the margins of this historic march to overcome the pandemic.”

Through the COVAX Facility, 16.6 million vaccine doses – mainly AstraZeneca – have been delivered to African countries.

The WHO’s Global Advisory Committee for Vaccine Safety this week concluded that the link between the AstraZeneca vaccine and the occurrence of rare blood clots is plausible

but not yet confirmed. This follows the European Medicines Agency’s announcement that unusual blood clots should be listed as very rare side-effects of the vaccine.

“Fair access to vaccines must be a reality if we are to collectively make a dent on this pandemic.”

Among the almost 200 million individuals who have received the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine around the world, cases of blood clots and low platelets is extremely low.

The Global Advisory

Committee for Vaccine Safety continues to gather and review further data while carefully monitoring the rollout of all COVID-19 vaccines. Based on current information, WHO considers that the benefits greatly outweigh the risks and that countries in Africa should continue to vaccinate people with the AstraZeneca vaccine.


There have now been around 4.3 million COVID-19 cases on the African continent and 114 000 people have died. For the past two months, the region has seen a plateau of around 74 000 new cases per week. However, Kenya is experiencing a third wave and the epidemic is showing an upward trend in 14 other African countries, including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Mali, Rwanda and Tunisia.

WHO Regional Office for Africa.

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President Lungu successfully files nomination to re-contest for PF Presidency

Zambian President, Edgar Lungu has successfully filed in his nomination to re-contest the Patriotic Front Presidency at the party's General Conference slated for this weekend. The head of state has been endorsed by all the 10 provinces as the sole candidate at the party's General

Conference and in the upcoming August general elections. Addressing hundreds of supporters after submitting his nomination papers to party Secretary General Davies Mwila at the party secretariat in Lusaka, Lungu challenged all those aspiring for political

positions ahead of the August polls to ensure they effectively serve the people who vote them into office once elected. He has also advised all those who will not be adopted or voted for during this year's general elections to remain patient and prove themselves worth of

taking up leadership in 2026. And speaking after scrutinizing president Lungu's nomination papers, PF Secretary General Davies Mwila said the head of state has met all the requirements of the party constitution for one to aspire for the party presidency. Meanwhile, the Patriotic Front truck drivers' National Mobilization Committee and the Zambia National Students Union-ZANASU- through their representative Max Changwe and Acting Secretary General Isaiah Mambwe respectively also



endorsed Lungu's candidature in the August polls. Phoenix news.

Foundation for democracy supports plans to report Zambia for possible malpractice in voter registration.



Foundation for democracy supports plans to report Zambia for possible malpractice in voter registration. The Foundation for Democratic Process -FODEP- has justified the need to report Zambia to the international community for possible malpractice during the voter registration exercise. UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema is believed to have written to the international community to come and verify the 2021 voter register citing malpractices among them, the reduced number of registered voters from southern province. Reacting to this development, FODEP argues that Zambian citizens who are dissatisfied with domestic mechanisms for resolving internal governance issues including abuse of human rights, have every right to seek intervention from regional or international bodies such as SADC or the African Union, among others. FODEP Executive Director George Chimembe notes that the first optional protocol of the international governance, civil and political rights to which Zambia is party, allows individuals to petition to the United Nations Human Rights Committee, hence the move by the UPND President Hakainde Hichilema to write the International Community over the voter registration is in order.

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Mr. Letsha Modise, the project operates through Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust and mines, processes and packages salt for livestock consumption.

The business registered with LEA in 2015 and was then operating eight (8) crystallization ponds, with eight (8) members of staff. LEA then assisted Zutshwa Salt Mining to develop a business plan to access funding for further developments. LEA continued to provide the project with business advisory support services that include Financial Viability Assessments to monitor profitability; Chemical Analysis; business management as well as

fostering safe and healthy occupational environment to promote social climate and smooth operations.

LEA continued to upskill the project employees through business training on Entrepreneurship Development; Intellectual Property and Patents. In addition, the business also benefitted from other LEA capacity development initiatives such as business coaching and mentoring services, which enabled the business to grow significantly. The trust staff complement currently stands at 23, and crystallization ponds have also increased to 44. This has



resulted in increased production capacity and ability to supply various markets across the country.

Furthermore, LEA facilitated market access, business linkages and marketing strategies for Zutshwa Salt Mining to network and establish supply opportunities with buyers. The business therefore participated in several buyer seminars, market days and trade exhibitions to market and sell the products.

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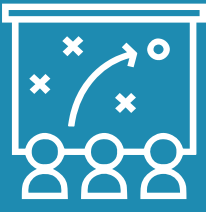
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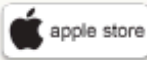


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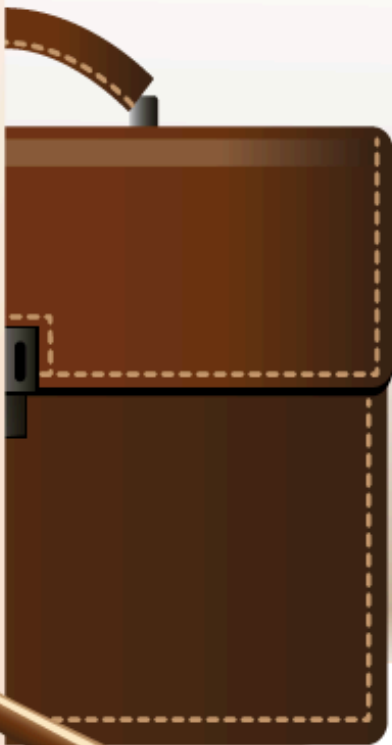
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Vaccine Manufacturing in Africa – an unexploited industry

By Emmanuel Allotey

Africa is plagued by the burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases. The African continent has made progress in manufacturing in industries that directly contribute to its economic growth whilst lagging in key industries such as pharmaceutical and medical manufacturing.

The Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent scramble for the vaccine has highlighted the

advantages of having a developed vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing industry. Currently less than 1% of the vaccines used in Africa are produced in Africa signifying the opportunity for industry growth.

The value of Africa’s pharmaceutical industry is predicted to be worth \$40–\$65 billion in 2020. This is a win-win for multinationals and pharmaceutical companies seeking new sources of growth

as developed markets stagnate and for patients, who will gain access to medicines previously unavailable on the continent.

Africa has the highest incidence of mortality caused by infectious diseases and does not have a developed industry and value chain that supports the manufacturing of vaccines that are essential to reduction of mortality, improvement of life expectancy, and promotion of economic growth.

Vaccine manufacturing is

complex and requires huge financial investments and collaboration from different stakeholders. The African Vaccine Manufacturing Initiative (AVMI) was formed as a continental initiative to advocate for strengthening Africa’s capacity to develop and manufacture vaccines. Through this initiative, companies, institutions, international organizations and individuals, are brought together to develop the manufacturing industry in Africa.

The coronavirus pandemic exposed the inability of African nations to manufacture and supply essential drugs and personal protective equipment (PPEs) needed to curb the disease. The breakthrough development of the vaccine by only a handful of pharmaceutical companies further uncovered the untapped industry of vaccine manufacturing across the world and particularly in Africa.

Through the COVAX initiative – which is co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the World Health Organization (WHO) in partnership with UNICEF – more than 16 million vaccine doses have so far been shipped to 27 countries. There are fewer than 10 African manufacturers with vaccine production capabilities and are based in five countries: Egypt, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia.

The current COVID-19 pandemic presents a great opportunity for African nations to develop a vaccine manufacturing industry. The capability to produce vaccines requires a fully integrated combination of financial investment, skills development, introduction of a regulatory framework, infrastructure development, and the technology know-how which can be achieved through public-private partnership.



Life Insurance in Africa – dispelling the top 5 Myths

By Emmanuel Allotey

The coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the importance of maintaining good health and wellbeing. The African continent has a rich history of culture, traditional beliefs and superstition, some of which still exist and influence financial decisions.

Africans once labelled poor are becoming wealthy through

opportunities created by business ownership, formal employment and entrepreneurship among others and require insurance products to protect and preserve their wealth and legacy. The decision to buy life insurance in Africa is often met with hesitation, confusion or even denial which can be addressed by providing the right information.

The insurance market in Africa is the least penetrated in the

world and the opportunities for growth are tremendous. The top 5 myths that prevent individuals from taking up insurance coverage are:

Myth 1: You don’t need life insurance if you’re young and healthy: Africa is home to the youngest population in the world and thus taking up insurance early may be deemed as an invitation to premature death, however future insurability is

a factor to consider. The cost of insurance on younger, healthy individuals is inexpensive.

Myth 2: I’m single or Married with no children: Life insurance isn’t just for breadwinners. Even without a spouse or dependents, life insurance benefits can be used to pay off debts such as mortgage or car loan. Life insurance can also help cover funeral costs.

Myth 3: I’m better off saving and investing: lessons from

the economic fallout from the coronavirus has shown that investments and savings can be depleted in times of economic downturn. The failure to accumulate adequate Savings and Investments to last through retirement and final expenses may lead to financial discomfort for dependants.

Myth 4: Life Insurance through my Employer is adequate: Some employers provide group life insurance for employees. These policies are usually valid as long as you remain employed with the employer and are non-transferable. With an individual life insurance policy, you are covered regardless where you work.

Myth 5: If you have health issues you cannot get cover: insurance companies typically use your health to calculate rates and coverage amounts, however it doesn’t mean you can’t get life insurance with a pre-existing condition. There are tailored policies specifically for certain health conditions like diabetes or cancer. The coronavirus pandemic has raised concerns over whether life insurance covers deaths from COVID-19, which is largely unfounded as life insurance policies cover infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

Consult a financial advisor or life insurance agent to explore options for a life Insurance policy.

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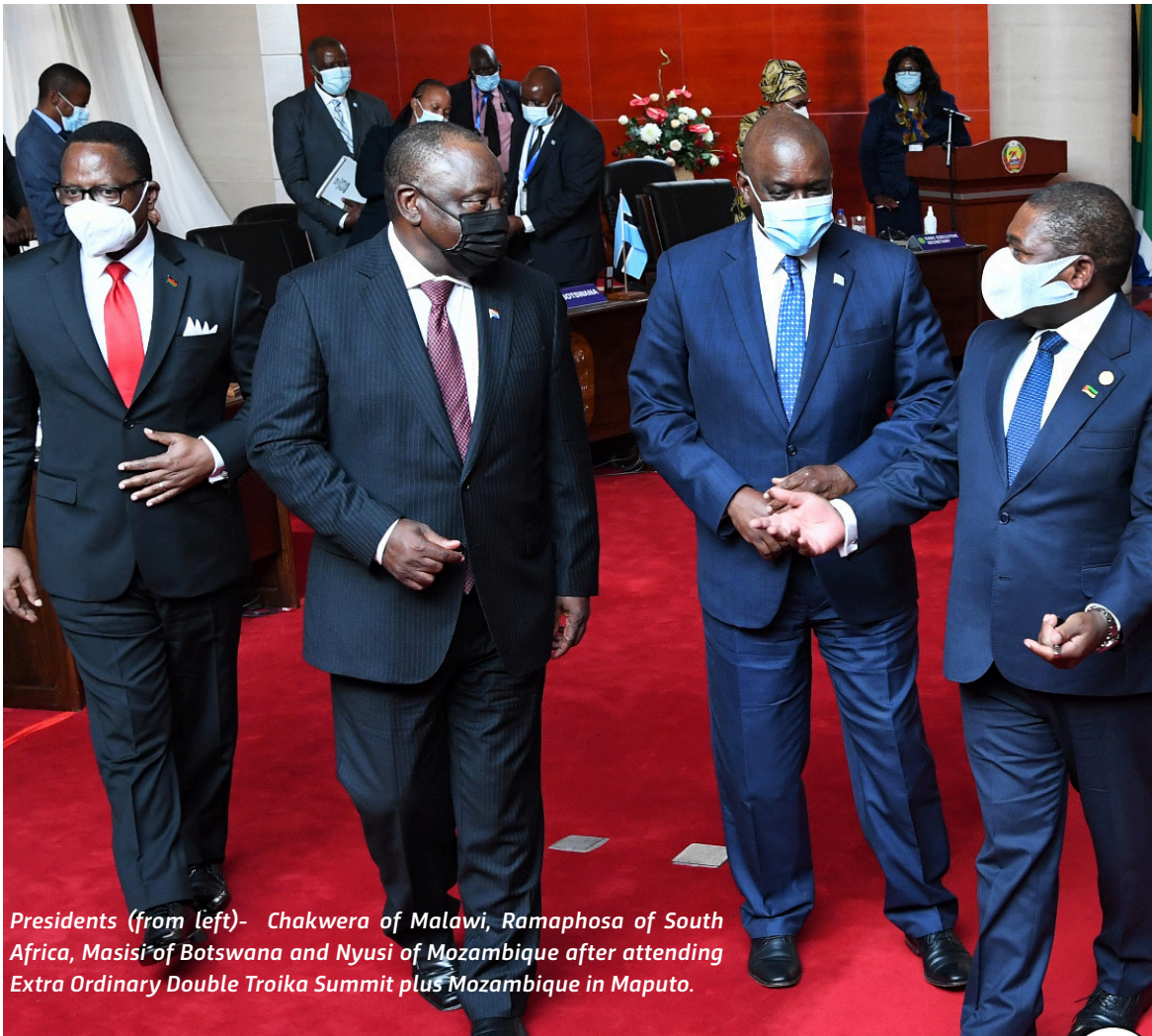
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Presidents (from left)- Chakwera of Malawi, Ramaphosa of South Africa, Masisi of Botswana and Nyusi of Mozambique after attending Extra Ordinary Double Troika Summit plus Mozambique in Maputo.

The Southern Africa regional bloc, SADC’s Extra Ordinary Double Troika Summit plus Mozambique last week directed an immediate SADC Organ technical deployment to the Republic of Mozambique

following the insurgency in the country’s region of Cabo Delgado. The Summit also directed the convening of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Organ by 28

April 2021 that will report to the Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit to be held in the Republic of Mozambique, on 29 April 2021. The Summit got appraised on the insurgency in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, and also

SADC intervenes in Mozambique

deliberated on urgent measures to bring peace and stability to the region. SADC held meetings on Wednesday and Thursday to consider a regional response to the insurgency. The United States already has a small special forces team in Mozambique on a training mission. Meanwhile, Mozambique has told the international community what support it needs to deal with an Islamic State-linked insurgency, but for reasons of sovereignty it will tackle some aspects of the problem unassisted. This was said by President Filipe Nyusi two weeks after an attack by insurgents on the coastal town of Palma, near natural gas projects worth tens of billions of dollars that are meant to transform the southern African country’s economy.

The government has said dozens died in the latest assault, and aid groups believe tens of thousands were displaced. French energy major Total withdrew all staff from its Afungi site outside Palma when the militants appeared to be approaching, but the army has since said the town is secure. “We know in which areas we need support and which areas are up to us, Mozambicans, to solve. Those who arrive from abroad will not replace us, they will support us. This is not about pride, it’s about sovereignty “ Nyusi said in an address broadcast on state broadcaster TVM Islamic State-linked insurgents have been increasingly active in the Cabo Delgado province where Palma is located since 2017, although it is unclear whether they have a unified aim.



Global food prices rise for 10th consecutive month

Global food commodity prices rose in March, marking their tenth consecutive monthly increase, with quotations for vegetable oils and dairy products leading the rise, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has reported that global food commodity prices rose in March, marking their tenth consecutive monthly increase,

with quotations for vegetable oils and dairy products leading the rice. The FAO Food Price Index, which tracks monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities, averaged 118.5 points in March, 2.1% higher than in February and reaching its highest level since June 2014.

Trends varied by commodity types. The March increase was led by the FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index, which rose 8.0% from the previous month to hit a nearly 10-year high, with soy oil prices rising sharply due in part to the prospects of firm demand from the biodiesel sector. The dairy price index increased 3.9% from February, with butter prices buoyed by somewhat tight

supplies in Europe associated with increased demand in anticipation of a food-service sector recovery. Milk powder prices also rose, supported by a surge in imports in Asia, particularly China, due to declining production in Oceania and scarce shipping container availability in Europe and North America. The meat price index also rose, by 2.3% from February, with imports by China and a surge in internal sales in Europe ahead of the Easter holiday celebration underpinning increasing poultry and pig meat quotations. Bovine meat prices remained steady, while ovine meat prices declined as dry weather in New Zealand led to farmers offloading animals. By contrast, the cereal price index dropped by 1.8%, but it is still 26.5% higher than in March 2020. Wheat export prices declined the most, reflecting generally good supplies and favourable production prospects for 2021 crops. Maize and rice prices also declined, while those for sorghum rose. The sugar price index declined 4.0% in the month, triggered by prospects of large exports from India, but it remained more than 30% above its year-earlier level. FAO expects world cereal production in 2021 to increase for the third consecutive year and has raised its preliminary global wheat production forecast on better than-earlier-

anticipated crop conditions in several countries. Global wheat production is forecast to reach a new high of 785 million tonnes in 2021, up 1.4% from 2020, driven by a likely sharp rebound across most of Europe and expectations of a record harvest in India. Above-average outputs are also expected for maize, with a record harvest anticipated in Brazil and a multi-year high in South Africa, according to FAO’s Cereal Supply and Demand Brief, also released today. For the current 2020/21 marketing season, global cereal utilization is now forecast at 2,777 million tonnes, 2.4% higher than the previous year, driven largely by higher estimates of feed use of wheat and barley in China, where the livestock sector is recovering from African swineWorld cereal stocks at the end of 2021 are forecast to decline by 1.7% from their opening levels to 808 million tonnes. Combined with the utilization forecasts, the global cereal stock-to-use ratio for 2020/21 is foreseen to dip to a seven-year low of 28.4%. FAO also raised its forecast for world trade in cereals during 2020/21 to 466 million tonnes, a 5.8% increase from the previous year, driven by even faster trade in coarse grains linked to unprecedented levels of maize purchases by China. Also for rice, international trade is forecast to expand by 6% year-on-year. (Bizcommunity.)

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Music festivals different come summer 2021



Live events are set to make a welcome return as the UK moves out of lockdown in the coming months. Parklife and Wireless are the latest events to confirm that they will go ahead this year, both for September, in Manchester and London respectively. Wireless has yet to announce artists, but Parklife's bill includes rappers Megan Thee Stallion and Dave, and electronic stars Disclosure.

Meanwhile, Glastonbury has made a U-Turn from its previous cancellation announcement by releasing details of a possible two-day "concert" in September, again with no line-up details. Other big festival brands like Reading, Leeds, Isle of Wight, TRNSMT in Glasgow and Creamfields near Liverpool are also slated to go ahead.

These announcements have been a long time coming. Sporting, music and cultural events are among the things that people have missed most during the pandemic and are most looking forward to being

able to attend again.

People's reasons for attending events like music festivals range from social interaction to a love of certain music styles. We love the escapism, the community ties that get built, and the sense of national and local pride that such events can instil in us.

Yet festivals in 2021 are going to be somewhat different from the ones we all know. The closeness of long queues, crammed cars, boulevards of tents and mass gatherings as your favourite performer graces the stage are unlikely to be part of the experience. So what can we expect this time around?

Events have become viable again now that more than half of the UK population has received at least one vaccination. The impossibility of social distancing saw these events cancelled in 2020.

The much-mooted vaccine passport is viewed as a possible way around the problem. The UK government is conducting a review to decide whether

everyone from pubs to airlines to outdoor gatherings will have to require people to show this proof of vaccination before coming in, or whether it might be optional.

If we do see vaccine passport requirements at festivals, it will be a huge change and is bound to be controversial. Stone Roses lead singer, Ian Brown, has already pulled out of the Neighbourhood Weekender in Warrington in September for this reason, though the festival is saying it will follow the lead of whatever the government decides in June.

If there are no vaccine passports, the rate of vaccination and the potential for second-dose shortages suggests that even by the end of summer, there will still be a need to be careful in your contact with people.

Queuing at festivals is another major area where social distancing becomes compromised. We can expect timed entries and contactless ticketing to help manage the

flows of people, along with contact tracing to help organisers manage potential infection. Event venues will need to be adapted with messaging about COVID symptoms and hygiene, plus handwashing stations.

Masks are also likely to be a requirement: our perception is that they will be mandatory at festivals all the time, at least until most of the population is fully vaccinated. The only times people will probably not need to wear them is when they are eating and drinking.

There are also additional requirements for security, cleaning and marshalling people. Organisers have to at least have conversations about whether they need extra staff to maintain social distancing and hygiene. We have seen innovative and perhaps gimmicky ideas, such as the Flaming Lips bubble concert where both the band and the audience were inside inflatable balls. Whether we will see anything as innovative at UK festivals over the summer remains to be seen.

So far, indoor and outdoor venues require different approaches to manage social distancing. For events between mid-May and June 21, which is the nominal date for all English restrictions being lifted, they are already being capped at different numbers.

There is a 1,000 cap for indoor venues and 4,000 for outdoor

venues (or 50% of capacity in both cases, if that's lower). Large events are also permitted with a 10,000-person maximum, or a 25% capacity if that number is lower.

But from June 21, in England at least, the plan is that these capacity restrictions will be lifted. No doubt this explains why many festivals are slated for the late summer: even if the June 21 date were to slip by a few weeks, these events would hopefully not be ruined.

All the same, the pandemic has had enough twists and turns that festival cancellations are still an inevitable possibility. It has been suggested by event and festival organisers that there is a need for the government to underwrite insurance in case this happens over the summer. So will the government step in?

Certainly with international travel likely to be restricted in some form for a while, the chances are that international and local demand for festivals will still not be the same as they were pre-COVID.

Travel restrictions will most certainly favour local and regional travel, and this may then mean that you will have to focus your attention on localised festival experiences. This is not entirely a bad thing as local festivals can foster community pride and help local economies.

(Bizcom.)





Barren, timeless and mystical, the Kalahari is a top travel destination that has contributed enormously to the tourism landscape of Botswana. In this week’s Echo Travel we take a look at Phofu Kalahari Lodge Phofu – the only lodge south of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, and 45Km North of the village of Kang.

Phofu is ideal for travelers looking for the remote Kalahari experience. The lodge has a unique color scheme and architecture with an enormous, thatched roof on the main lodge that blends well with the surroundings while standing out impressively. Phofu has seven luxury en-suite thatched chalets, 2 executive rooms at the main lodge, sunken hide with

accommodation for four guests, dining room, lounge, bar, boma, viewing deck, swimming pool and lookout point.

Like other hospitality facilities, Phofu was equally affected by Covid-19 was forced to cease operations for 8 months.



Game drives are the popular activity at Phofu and Van Aardt estimates the population of game at Phofu to be at about 900 with evening drives and breakfast drives being the most common.

Game drives offer the opportunity to spot brown hyena, leopards, cheetah, wild dogs and giraffe among others.

The sunken hide is another great way to view game and to take photographs as it provides an opportunity to capture photos up close as they come to drink water at the nearby pool. The sunken hide also provides amenities for overnight stays.

Being quite remote and surrounded by harsh terrain, the best way to reach Phofu is by 4x4 vehicles.

For travelers to or from Central Kalahari Game Reserve or the north western parts of the country, Phofu is the good stop over to relax before you continue on your journey

Van Aardt said that Phofu Kalahari Lodge is a solar friendly lodge and that they use pumps powered with solar energy to retrieve water from 340m under the ground.

Phofu uses eco-friendly energy systems for electricity generation in order to minimize the impact on the environment.

For corporations and companies, Phofu also provides a conferencing venue, and the staff organizes team-building activities such as constellation spotting and identification at night tracking and field guide instruction as well as target shooting.

Budding astronomers will appreciate the clear night skies that make it ideal for star photographers so do pack telescopes and long lenses with your cameras.



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IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB-002790-2020

In the matter between:

AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED
t/a BancABC

And

NEO GIFT MOLEFHE

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION


BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to judgment granted in the above Honourable Court on **11th December 2020**, the Defendant's property will be sold by auction to the highest bidder by Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi.

DATE: 30th April 2021
TIME OF SALE: 10.30 am
PLACE OF SALE: Lot 64645, Gaborone (A portion of Lot 10104, Gaborone)

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : piece of land being **Lot 64645, Gaborone (A portion of Lot 10104, Gaborone)**; situated in Gaborone Extension **64**; Measuring **750 m² (Seven Hundred and Fifty Square Meters)** held under Deed of Transfer No.**44/2019** dated **14th January 2019** made in favour of **NEO GIFT MOLEFHE** with some developments therein being; a 2 bedroom house, sharing common bathroom, master ensuite, sitting room, kitchen, dining room, double garage, store room, screen wall, electric fence, paved, guest toilet.

TERMS OF SALE: Cash or bank guaranteed cheques

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 18th DAY OF MARCH 2021.



Serole & Partners
ATTORNEYS • NOTARIES • CONVEYANCERS

Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi (71623026/71263198)
C/o Serole & Partners
The Courtyard, Lot 54513, Unit 1
P O Box 1679 ABG, Sebele
GABORONE

HOUNORABLE JUSTICE RADJENG

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB-00566-16

And

B & T DIRECTORIES (PTY) LTD

CUL DE SAC (PTY) LTD

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION


BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court the following property will be sold by **DEPUTY SHERIFF OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA** by public auction to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE: 21st May 2021
VENUE: Broadhurst Police Station
TIME: 10:30 am

TERMS OF SALE: Cash or bank guaranteed cheques

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Toyota Landcruiser White Colour Registration: B 269 AVF

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 19TH DAY OF MARCH 2021



RAHIM KHAN
& COMPANY
ATTORNEYS

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CAF at the forefront of women's football and training of its administrators

Confederation Africaine de Football (CAF) recently organised two seminars via videoconference, from 22 - 24 and 29 - 31 March 2021, to strengthen the capacities of women's football administrators.

The aim of the workshop was to inform, educate and increase the managerial expertise of staff in charge of women's football in all CAF Member Associations. Opening the workshop, CAF Deputy General Secretary in charge

of Football and Development Anthony Baffoe highlighted that "management is an essential pillar of success."

In the light of activities initiated several months ago, CAF - through its dedicated Women's Football Development Department - organized a first online seminar from 22 to 24 March, that focused on capacity building for female football administrators.

"This webinar is important for the continuity of our work on CAF women's football strategy.

You know all the key elements of this strategy, namely development, competitions, marketing and promotion. Then we have professionalization and leadership, and social impact. But how do you become a good manager of women's football?"

A question to which Anthony Baffoe provided some answers, citing, among others, discipline, time management, sharing information with the team and stimulating creativity as essential in the process.

The work, led by FIFA experts

such as Karl Lines (leadership expert), Sue Ronan Martin (former player and coach) and Emy Casaletti-Bwalya (marketing consultant), focused on leadership, strategic planning combined with project management, marketing and sponsorship.

The three-day event brought together a range of women's football administrators from different Member Associations, specifically football officers, women's football managers, department heads and heads of

women's football committees.

In addition, zonal unions were also invited to participate with an average of 75 participants per day.

The second seminar, which was held from 29 to 31 March, was intended to consolidate the learning outcomes of last November's training on the menstrual cycle, its four phases and their management through nutrition. It should be remembered that CAF was the first Confederation to address the issue of the female athletes, and the first to provide training on this subject.

"It was important that, we as a Confederation, were the first to launch this initiative. The players management is a crucial issue, especially in our continent where we do not like to tackle certain subjects. This will help the players to advance and have a better understanding," said Baffoe. "I encourage all our coaches across the continent, especially men who coach women's teams, to participate in such webinars to improve their knowledge."

The webinar was hosted by sports science experts, namely Dr. Georgie Bruinvels, science researcher at Orreco Bio-Analytics and Eva Woods, athletic therapist, and women's health coach for Chelsea FC Women. The two speakers gave presentations on the different stages of the female athlete's life cycle, including puberty, pre- and post-partum period, perimenopause and menopause. Cafonline.



FIFA awards media rights for upcoming World Cup

Following the tender process for the Italian media rights to the FIFA World Cup 2022, FIFA has awarded the exclusive rights to the competition to Rai, the Italian national public service broadcaster.

Rai has been awarded multi-platform rights across television, digital and radio,

and will provide an extremely strong broadcast platform for the tournament. In addition to making all 64 matches available live in the territory, Rai will also offer extensive support programming, including highlights and magazine programming. At least 28 matches of the tournament,

including the opening match, final and both semi-finals, will be shown on the broadcaster's flagship channel, Rai 1, meeting FIFA's objectives of providing large exposure for its competitions.

The FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 will be the 22nd edition of the competition, and it will

be particularly unique as the first FIFA World Cup in the Middle East and the first to take place in November/December. With ultra-modern venues, optimal playing conditions and a compact event footprint, the host nation will provide a unique platform to celebrate the game and its ability to connect

and inspire people around the world. The tournament will follow the traditional format, with 32 participating teams and 64 matches, offering a highly competitive group stage followed by an exciting knockout phase.

FIFA's Director of Media Rights & Content Services, Jean-Christophe Petit, said, "After a very competitive tender process, we are pleased to have concluded a deal with a strong media partner in Italy for the FIFA World Cup 2022. We look forward to working with Rai to make this unique FIFA World Cup a great success and create an unforgettable experience for all Italian fans."

Rights to the FIFA World Cup 2022™ are still available in certain territories. FIFA launched a tender for the competition's media rights in Greece earlier this month, which is due to close on Tuesday, 20 April.

Through the sale of media rights for its tournaments, FIFA generates income which is essential to support and develop football around the world, for instance through the FIFA Forward Development Programme.



FIFA suspends Pakistan, Chad football federations over interference

FIFA has announced that it has suspended the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) due to third-party interference and the Chadian Football Association (FTFA) due to government interference.

A group of football officials led by Ashfaq Hussain Shah, which was elected by the Supreme Court in 2018 to run the PFF but was not recognised by FIFA, took over the headquarters last month and seized control from the FIFA Normalisation Committee (NC) headed by Haroon Malik, local media reported.

FIFA said its decision to suspend the PFF was prompted by the "hostile takeover" which constituted a serious violation of its statutes.

"FIFA issued a letter warning that, should the illegitimate

occupation of the PFF headquarters not be lifted and the office bearers recognised by FIFA not be permitted free access to the building to carry out their mandate, the matter would be immediately submitted to the Bureau of the Council for decision," FIFA said.

"As the situation remains unchanged, the Bureau of the Council has decided to suspend the PFF."

Pakistan was also suspended by FIFA for third party interference in 2017. FIFA said the latest suspension will only be lifted once it has received confirmation from the NC that the PFF premises, accounts, administration and communication channels are again under its full control.

"It's very unfortunate for Pakistan that FIFA suspended

PFF, and some people who have vested interests in PFF are responsible for it," NC head Malik told Reuters.

Pakistan men's forward Kaleemullah Khan and women's team midfielder Abiha Haider had urged Ashfaq to hand control back to the normalisation committee with a ban likely to spell the end of many careers.

Chad was disqualified last month from the Africa Cup of Nations by the Confederation of African Football due to interference. Chad's Football Federation president Mactar Mahamoud Hamid said FIFA's decision was expected.

"Everyone knows that these sanctions from international football bodies will fall sooner or later and we are there," he told Reuters.

The sports ministry withdrew the delegation of power granted to the Chadian Football Federation for insubordination and lack of collaboration. A few days later, a provisional committee responsible for the management of football in Chad was set up by a presidential decree.

The FTFA's suspension will be lifted once the relevant

government decisions have been repealed and the FTFA and its management, led by Hamid, have confirmed to FIFA that its premises are under its control.

The suspensions means the countries will not receive funds from FIFA and will be barred from official competitions.

(Reuters.)



"As the situation remains unchanged, the Bureau of the Council has decided to suspend the PFF."