

Fisherman mysteriously survives abduction

From PETI SIYAME in Sumbawanga

A FISHERMAN from Kala village along the shores of Lake Tanganyika was abducted but later abandoned in deep waters by suspected bandits believed to be from DR Congo.

Joseph Sungura (35) was taken hostage by a gang of armed bandits last week at night while on a fishing mission, along with his fellow fishermen, according to Kala Ward officials.

He was however, abandoned in one of the canoes by the bandits believed to be about 12. The victim rowed the canoe for two days before reaching the shore in Nkasi District.

Kala Ward Councillor Mr Privatus Vorum confirmed the incident and said a tired and hungry Sungura was found lying along the shore.

The bandits are said to have made away with the fishermen's items worth over 31.3m/-.

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DAR WEATHER TODAY
High: 32°C
Low: 19°C
Weather: Partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods.
Wind: South easterly to Southerly at 20km/hr.
Sunrise: 06:20
Sunset: 18:32

SPORT

Grief as Dar say bye to Mafisango

PAGE 20

STUNT CHILDREN

SCIENTIFIC projections from a recent report published by the Save the Children show that by 2020, Tanzania will have an additional 450,000 stunted children. PAGE 3



GREEN REVOLUTION

PRESIDENT Barack Obama on the eve of G8 Summit at Camp David will, among other things, speak on food security and agriculture and food self-sufficiency in Africa. PAGE 4



Dar wins praise over MCC

TBS Board ordered to suspend DG

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE government has directed the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) Board to suspend its Director General, Mr Charles Ekelele to pave way for investigations over the alleged subcontracting of ghost agents to carryout pre-shipment vehicle inspection exercise.

Mr Ekelele is accused of contracting ghost officers in some Asian countries, causing massive losses to vehicle importers as well as government revenues.

A scandal surrounding pre-shipment inspection scheme adopted by TBS attracted public attention after the Parliamentary Public Organisations Accounts Committee (POAC) and the Controller and Audit General (CAG) reports revealed discrepancies in the process.

It was also one of the agenda that created fierce debate in the just-concluded seventh parliamentary meeting Dodoma last month.

The Minister for Industry, Trade and Marketing, Dr Abdallah Kigoda announced the government decision yesterday in Dar es Salaam while listing various strategies by the new team appointed to head the ministry.

"The alleged TBS scandal is one of the major causes for the ministry's rearrange-



PRESIDENT Jakaya Kikwete (in glasses) with other world leaders during the International Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security held at the Reagan Centre in Washington DC, US, yesterday. Second left is the US President, Barack Obama. (Photo by Staff Photographer)

From MKUMBWA ALLY in Washington, Friday

TANZANIA won high praise here yesterday for exemplary implementation of projects under the 698 million US dollars compact provided by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), the US government arm said it had no qualms negotiating a follow-up package.

The MCC Chief Executive Officer, Mr Daniel Yohannes, said during a conversation on Tanzania at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) that he was very pleased with Tanzania's performance.

"I am extremely proud of MCC's partnership with Tanzania. It stands as a pillar of bilateral relations with the United Nations and an example for Africa in moving towards brighter future and prosperity," he said.

Mr Yohannes attributed Tanzania's success to President Jakaya Kikwete's keen guidance. "He has been fantastic in providing leadership and support. He knows every single detail of the compact," he said.

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Dar on course to win praise over MCC 2

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The Millennium Challenge Account for Tanzania, whose first phase expires next year, covers energy, power supply and transportation infrastructure projects. The CEO said negotiation for the next phase would await final report on implementation of the current package which will assess the quality and sustainability of the projects.

However, the mood at MCC and the US government is upbeat about the handling of the funding released to President Kikwete's government, which was two thirds of the total MCC disbursement so far. Observers believe the prospect of a follow-up compact is all but guaranteed.

The MCC funds projects that help

de-bottleneck factors impeding sustained economic growth in developing countries. Tanzania's next package is expected to dwell further on power supply and rural roads.

Speaking at the CSIS forum, President Kikwete praised MCC approach which, he said, gave recipient countries decision on projects to be funded. "We told them our priority is roads and we proposed roads in Southern Tanzania, which had been turned down by other donors," he said.

The President said MCC support would greatly compliment Tanzania's efforts to modernize agriculture which had the potential to alleviate poverty and improve nutrition among a majority of the people who live off the land.

He said local and international private sector investment in agriculture would be encouraged, dismissing what he termed as propaganda by some foreign media that participation of foreigners in large farming would alienate the people from the land.

He said under the approved model, large farmers would support smallholders around them with inputs and provide market for their produce. "We have an American company, which has been allocated 5,000 hectares at Kilombero. They are producing 18,000 tonnes of rice, the largest single producer in East Africa, supporting the community around them. That is not land grabbing," he said.

The President said in response to a question, that the country was building

capacity to manage the potential wealth to be created by the discovery of vast deposits of natural gas and probably oil. "We are making preparations for proper management of the potential wealth. We pray that the discovery does not turn into a curse," he said.

Earlier yesterday, President Kikwete attended a high level breakfast briefing on scaling up nutrition at the US Senate building, where legislators, government and civil society officials argued a case for integration of food security with nutrition.

He is today scheduled to attend an international symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security, which will also be addressed by US President Barack Obama ahead of the G8 Summit at Camp David here tomorrow.