



# POLICE NAB UPND C/BELT OFFICIALS

**By Natasha Sakala**  
POLICE on the Copperbelt have arrested UPND chairman for international relations Dr Choolwe Beyani and six others in Chililabombwe for conducting intra party

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elections without notice. They have been charged with unlawful assembly. In an interview, Katanga confirmed the arrest and disclosed that five motor vehicles were also impounded in the process. "We were not aware ourselves over them having intra-party elections. There was no such..." *Story page 4*



Housing and Infrastructure Development Minister Vincent Mwale prepares to share his COVID-19 recovery story on Chipata's Breeze FM yesterday

## Audit reveals how MFEZ allocated K100,000 fuel to a non-runner vehicle

**By Julia Malunga**  
THE Auditor General's Report has revealed that the Lusaka South Multi-Facility Economic Zone Limited (LS-MFEZ) allocated fuel worth K105,478 to a non-runner vehicle.

December 31, 2018, the company's fuel statements revealed that one of the motor vehicles was a non-runner yet the fuel card for the vehicle was active. *Story page 4*

And the Report disclosed that the company recruited an unqualified lawyer in the position of Company Secretary which resulted in paying K185,600 to a law firm as legal fees for services which would have been provided by the employee.

According to the Auditor General's Report on the Accounts of Parastatal Bodies and other statutory institutions for the financial year ended

## There's an erratic supply of COVID-19 testing reagents, admits Chilufya

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HEALTH Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya says there is an erratic supply of COVID-19 testing reagents, a situation which causes delays in releasing results for those who have gotten swabbed. *Story page 4*

## Those who have survived covid must be advocates of behavioural change - Mwale

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
HOUSING and Infrastructure Development Minister Vincent Mwale says those who have

survived COVID-19 must become advocates of behavioural change. And Mwale has condemned the flouting of health regulations by PF

cadres at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court. Mwale was speaking during a News Diggers/Open Society

Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) sponsored programme on Chipata's Breeze FM, Sunday. *Story page 3*

## Two PF councillors join UPND

*Story page 7*



# Debt servicing, emoluments gobbled 73.5% of budget in Q1 – PMRC

By Natasha Sakala

THE Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) says the 2020 national budget performed more favourably in the first quarter of the year than expected as domestic financing, grants and revenues were above target by less than a percentage.

But PMRC data shows that 73.5 per cent of government's total expenditure in the first quarter of this year went to debt servicing and personal emoluments.

And the Centre says the kwacha depreciated at a year-on-year rate of 28.9 per cent against major currency convertibles, reflecting the unresolved macroeconomic challenges associated with high debt servicing, huge debt levels and declining foreign reserves, among others.

According to the PMRC Governance Series 2020 first quarter Governance and Policy Review, Zambia's budget performance in the first quarter of this year was more favourable than originally anticipated.

"PMRC observes that Zambia's budget performance for the first quarter of 2020 was favourable than anticipated given the projected negative impact of COVID-19 on both revenue collection and expenditure. It was observed that revenues, grants, and domestic financing totalled K18.1 billion, which was above target by less than a percentage, with the majority of the tax instruments being above target, except for Value Added Tax (VAT). The second quarter was characterized by several challenges amid the COVID-19 fight and it is expected that the budget performance figures for the 2nd quarter may not be favourable. The Minister of Finance (Dr Bwalya Ng'andu) has already hinted that the Treasury has been adversely affected due to several factors and the COVID-19 pandemic. The MoF further estimates revenue reduction of K14.8 billion as a result of the COVID-19. This is further exacerbated by the depreciation of the kwacha and debt repayments, among other factors. Value Added Tax collection of K2.74 billion against a target of K4.04 billion was below by 32 percent," the report read.

"This is due to the general slowdown in economic activities caused by the COVID-19. Insurance Premium Levy collections amounted to K30.76 million against a target of K38.74 million. Collections were below target by 21 per cent due to decisions by a considerable number of insurance consumers to downgrade their policy preferences from comprehensive to third-party. At K1.89 billion, Customs and Excise Duty collections were above the target of K1.86 billion by two per cent. This was on account of increased imports during the first quarter."

PMRC noted that income tax collection was above target by 23 per cent in the period

under review.

"Revenues, grants, and domestic financing totalled K18.1 billion in the first quarter of 2020. Of this amount, total revenue and grant collections amounted to K15.32 billion, 0.11 per cent above the projected K15.31 billion for the quarter. Tax revenue accounted for K11.87 billion, non-tax K3.18 billion, grants K271.96 million, and K2.8 billion came from domestic financing. Expenditure during the first quarter of 2020 amounted to K17.4 billion of which K14.8 billion was financed from domestic resources, while K304.9 million was foreign financed. Revenues, grants, and domestic financing totalled K18.1 billion in the first quarter of 2020. Of this amount, total revenue and grant collections amounted to K15.32 billion, 0.11 per cent above the projected K15.31 billion for the quarter. Tax revenue accounted for K11.87 billion, non-tax K3.18 billion, grants K271.96 million and K2.8 billion came from domestic financing. At K7.1 billion against a target of K5.8 billion, income tax collection was above target by 23 per cent. This was mostly driven by company tax from the mining sector and positive performance of Pay as You Earn (PAYE)," it stated.

"Collection of Export Duties reached K88.8 million between January and March, 2020, against a target of K52.99 million. The 68 per cent above target performance is attributed to the increase in exports of precious metals and copper. Non-Tax Revenue collections reached K3.18 billion against a target of K2.74 billion. The positive performance is attributed to a dividend received from the Bank of Zambia (BoZ) and improved collection efficiencies by Ministries, Provinces and Agencies, such as National Road Fund Agency (NFRA) and the Road Traffic and Safety Agency (RTSA). Collections from this revenue stream were above target by 16 per cent."

But the report disclosed that 73.5 per cent of the total expenditure in the first quarter of this year went to debt servicing and personal emoluments.

"Debt service payments between January and March, 2020, reached K6.4 billion, therefore, accounting for 36.6 percent of total expenditure. Personal emoluments accounted for 36.9 per cent of total expenditure in the period under review. K6.4 billion was released to cater for salaries, third-party payments and allowances for officials in Zambia's missions abroad," it read.

The report, however, noted that grants from cooperating partners, totalling K271.97 million, were spent on the Ministries of Health, General Education, Fisheries and Livestock, and National Development Planning.

And it added that towards the end of the quarter under review, the kwacha came under

pressure, which reflected the unresolved macroeconomic challenges associated with high debt service, huge debt levels, rising fiscal deficits as well as declining foreign reserves.

"The kwacha was relatively stable over the first two months of the year following the tightening of monetary policy in November and December, 2019. However, in March 2020, the kwacha came under intense pressure, reflecting the unresolved macroeconomic challenges associated with high debt service and debt levels, rising fiscal deficits as well as declining foreign reserves. The sovereign credit rating downgrade further weighed on the kwacha. The COVID-19 outbreak compounded these exchange rate pressures. During the period, the kwacha depreciated by 9.6 per cent against the US dollar to a quarterly average of K15.18/US dollar, and ended the quarter with a year-to-date rate of depreciation of 28.9 per cent," read the report.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube  
SPEAKER of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini has given a go-ahead to Kapiri Mposhi UPND member of parliament Stanley Kakubo to move a motion to censure Bowman Lusambo.

According to a letter from the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly dated July 16, 2020, Kakubo wants Lusambo censured for using unpalatable language when he described the opinions of youths as "stupidity" and "stinking nonsense".

"I am directed to refer to your letter dated 26th June, 2020 in which you sought to move the motion below on the floor of the House at an appropriate date: "Censure Hon B.C Lusambo MP-Minister for Lusaka: That this House being dissatisfied with the conduct of the Hon Provincial Minister for Lusaka Province, and in accordance with Article 87 of the Constitution of Zambia as read with Standing Order 175 of the National Assembly of Zambia Standing Orders,

## Kakubo wants Speaker to censure Lusambo for describing youths' views as stupidity

2016, Hon Bowman Chilasha Lusambo, MP, be censured for the following reasons; (a) that, at the press briefing held at his office on Wednesday, 3rd June 2020, the Hon Minister used unpalatable language when he referred to the youths who were expressing their opinions on governance issues as disgruntled and that their expression of opinions was an act of stupidity and stinking nonsense; and (b) that, at the same press briefing, the Hon Minister ordered the said youths to stop expressing their opinions forthwith, warning them that they were too naked to misbehave," the letter read.

The letter, which was signed by a Parliament

official only identified as T.C Nyangu, stated that Dr Matibini had approved the Motion for debate before the House adjourned Sine Die.

"I wish to inform you that the Hon Mr Speaker has approved the motion for debate on Thursday, 23rd July 2020," the letter further read.

And in an interview, Kakubo said he would go ahead with his Motion to have Lusambo censured once parliament resumes sitting.

"Yes [I will still go ahead]. All the business that was pending in the House after the abrupt closure will be restored in the next sitting," said Kakubo.

## ANNOUNCEMENT



On the reconstitution of the Board of Directors for Bridges Limited.



**Mrs. Chitembo Kawimbe-Chunga**  
CHAIRPERSON AND INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR



**Mr. Sikambala Musune**  
INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR



**Mrs. Mukalya Nampito-Mwangala**  
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Mr. Chibamba Kanyama**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO



**Mr. Wilfred Sakala**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Ms. Janett Mwafullwa**  
COMPANY SECRETARY

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*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
HOUSING and Infrastructure Development Minister Vincent Mwale says those who have survived COVID-19 must become advocates of behavioural change.

And Mwale has condemned the flouting of health regulations by PF cadres at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court.

Mwale was speaking during a News Diggers/Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) sponsored programme on Chipata's Breeze FM, Sunday.

Responding to a caller who expressed concern over Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo's remarks that he would not stop mobilizing the party on the Copperbelt amidst the pandemic, Mwale said those who have survived the virus must become advocates of change.

"As I am talking here, Honourable Bowman Lusambo admitted on his own that he has COVID-19. He is in hospital but he is not in danger. He is

# Those who have survived covid must be advocates of behavioural change – Mwale

okay after receiving care from the hospital. I am very sure that if he really said those words, after being affected, he is not the same person. Definitely, he will now become an agent of change. I have committed myself to come and talk about what I went through because I know that it will benefit my people. I believe even Honourable Bowman Lusambo will go back to Copperbelt and tell the people that 'my thoughts about this were different but now I have different views', after the experience, he has passed through. I appeal to all of you to use the influence you have to educate others and make sure that we are all safe, we protect our children," Mwale said.

And Mwale condemned the behaviour of some PF supporters at the Magistrates' Court when they went to give solidarity to Health Minister Dr Chitalu

Chilufya.

"That was bad. It's true we all saw that the party officials went to court and there was no social distancing. That was lawlessness. No one can even praise that. Even the police were told not to allow that to happen again. The government is concerned. It is also true that some of us ministers were holding gatherings and that wasn't good as well. But now, seeing what is happening, how people are dying, we need to desist from such bad conduct. What I am telling you now is in the best interest of the country. If leaders made a mistake, let us not incite everyone to do the same. Let us all mask up, wash hands and adhere all health regulations even in markets because once the virus hits us, we will not die alone but we will infect even young children who are just seated home," he said.

Mwale, who is also Chipangali PF member of parliament, appealed to his people to follow the provided health regulations in order to prevent the spread.

"I want to say that it is very possible, we have seen what is happening in Lusaka that people are dying in numbers, we have seen that the cases on a daily basis are more than 150 and it is possible that it can happen to us in Eastern province. But it is also possible that we can stop it. It all depends on us. Let us wear masks, let us practice social distancing, let us change our behaviour and make sure that we do what Minister of Health has told us to do. Let us not imitate bad examples but let us be good examples. I had

COVID-19 myself and I am very lucky that God protected me but not everyone will get the same experience. Let us all play our parts," Mwale advised.

"I think we have broken the law for a long time. People thought that Zambia was an exception from Coronavirus. They thought what we used to see on CNN or BBC about people dying in Brazil, America, China, Spain, Italy and so on, but now it has come to us because people have not been following the health regulations from start. This is the time for us to reflect and assess if this is the time to continue with breaking the regulations or not. If people are allowed to trade in markets, we need to make sure that they practice social distancing, they wear masks and follow all the regulations. You heard the Minister of Health said no wedding or funeral gatherings. If one dies of Coronavirus, the government will bury the body."

He implored Zambians to prevent infection, warning that some people would not be as lucky as he was in fighting it.

"Look at me, I stayed with the virus for seven (07) days. On the 8th day when the test results were released, the virus had already gone and I am very

fit now. But there are others who will not be healed the same way. We have just buried one MP because of COVID-19. All of us were in Parliament and the virus has hit us in Parliament. You have heard about MPs and Ministers who have gotten infected. But the virus has hit us in different ways, others are in oxygen. As we speak now, there are others who are in oxygen in hospitals. But for me, I didn't get to the hospital and I was healed. So, God created us differently," said Mwale.

"But simply because I am fit, I should not put the next person in a compromised situation, I should not put the next person in danger or at risk because the virus didn't affect me badly. Let us be careful and make sure that we protect ourselves. We have been told that from August to October, the whole Zambia will be badly hit by the pandemic and that about 1,000 people will die every day. But even with this 1,000 plus number of confirmed cases that we have recorded so far, we may not reach 5,000 if we all take part in preventing the spread."

And Mwale advised those who may have contracted the virus to take care of themselves and avoid infecting the next person.

## SILENCE KILLS DEMOCRACY



## LET PRIME TV OPERATE



PUBLISHED BY FRIENDS OF THE UPND

## Name those enticing security officers to resign, it's treason, Gary tells Kampyongo

*By Natasha Sakala*

UPND chairman for elections Gary Nkombo has challenged Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo to name the people he claims are enticing defense and security personnel to resign, saying the accusation is alarming and amounts to treason.

And Nkombo has rubbished allegations that the UPND plans to dethrone Paramount Chief Chitimukulu when they form government saying they respect traditional leaders and do not have the instruments to meddle in traditional affairs.

On Friday, Kampyongo condemned Sergeant Jayson Chipepo, who resigned from police citing political interference in the service, saying the officer did not follow laid down procedures for resigning.

Kampyongo charged that the opposition had mooted a ploy to entice security officers to resign in order to discredit government.

"Let me also take this opportunity to condemn the action of one of the undisciplined officers from the Zambia Police Service who opted to resign from the service through social media platforms. Zambia Police Service has well-established procedures to follow at entry into the service as well as the exit of the service, any police officer who wishes to leave the service should follow the outlined procedures as one's continuity in the service is purely a personal interest and a right. There is no police officer who will be treated with kid gloves if he/she decides to quit without following the laid down procedures," said Kampyongo.

"I also wish to bring this to the attention of the general public that government is fully aware of a scheme of a known opposition political party under the sponsorship of some foreign agents who are targeting our police officers to resign and then drill them to act in a manner that would discredit the service and the government. The hatched plan is anticipated to include also officers from the defence and other security wings. Furthermore, allow me to commend some police officers who have been professional and have since turned down the offers from these unscrupulous individuals, and decide to continue serving mother Zambia."

But speaking at the UPND secretariat when he received two PF councillors who defected, Friday, at the same event, Nkombo wondered why a minister in charge of internal security could be so careless with his utterances.

"We think that as a political party which is biggest in the country, we find it very irresponsible for a stature of a Minister of Home Affairs. This is an irresponsible statement from an irresponsible minister because it is not the first time where PF has made wild allegations and the allegations that simply sit to accuse other people.

*Continues on P10*



By Julia Malunga

THE Auditor General's Report has revealed that the Lusaka South Multi-Facility Economic Zone Limited (LS-MFEZ) allocated fuel worth K105,478 to a non-runner vehicle.

And the Report disclosed that the company recruited an unqualified lawyer in the position of Company Secretary which resulted in paying K185,600 to a law firm as legal fees for services which would have been provided by the employee.

According to the Auditor General's Report on the Accounts of Parastatal Bodies and other statutory institutions for the financial year ended December 31, 2018, the company's fuel statements revealed that one of the motor vehicles was a non-runner yet the fuel card for the vehicle was active.

"During the period under review, there were four motor vehicles which were allocated fuel cards for refuelling. A scrutiny of the fuel statements revealed that one of the motor vehicles (GRZ 946 BR) was a non-runner yet the fuel card for the vehicle was active and fuel in amounts totalling K105,478 had been irregularly drawn from January 2016 to December 2018," the Report disclosed.

The report said payments totalling K238,181 were made but were not supported by documents such as receipts.

"Contrary to financial regulation No.45 and 52, 22 payments in amounts totalling K238,181 made during the period under review were not supported with documents such as receipts and invoices. Consequently, the authenticity of the payments could not be ascertained" read the report.

The Report further

## Audit reveals how MFEZ allocated K100,000 fuel to a non-runner vehicle

revealed that the Company paid K1,230,291 to the Zambia National Service to construct gravel roads but the work had been abandoned.

"On 5th June 2017, Lusaka South Multi-Facility Economic Zone Limited engaged ZNS to construct 39 kilometres of gravel roads in the Lusaka South Multi-Facility Economic Zone at the contract sum of K2,795,992 with a completion period of eight months commencing 19th June 2017 and ending 17th February 2018. The scope of works included clearing and grabbing, gravelling and compacting. As at 31st December 2019, amounts totalling K1,230,291 had been paid to the contractor. A physical inspection carried out in August 2019 revealed that the contractor had abandoned works after only working on a 6.5 km stretch and had demobilised," the Report disclosed.

Meanwhile, the report stated that the Company Secretary was not among the shortlisted candidates.

"During the period under review, LS-MFEZ engaged a consultant to recruit a Company Secretary. According to the prerequisites for the position of Company Secretary, the eligible candidate was to have a minimum of seven years relevant post qualification experience in a reputable organisation of which three years should have been at senior level, should have been an advocate of the High Court and Supreme Court

of Zambia with at least five years at the bar and a member of the Law Association of Zambia among others. However, the officer who was recruited for the position did not qualify as she did not meet the above pre-requisites and was not among the shortlisted candidates. As a result, the company engaged and paid amounts totalling K185,600 to a legal firm for 44 provisions of legal services which should have been provided by the Company Secretary," it stated.

The Report said from 2016, the company did not have a stipulated tenure for the Board of directors which resulted in lack of consistent strategic direction and oversight.

"An examination of financial and other records maintained at the LS-MFEZ for the period from 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2018 revealed the following: the LS-MFEZ did not have a stipulated tenure of office for the Board of Directors from its inception in 2012. During the period from 2013 to 2018, the company had four sets of Board of Directors serving for periods ranging from three months to three years. Consequently, there was a lack of consistent strategic direction and oversight of the company. As at 31st December 2019, the Board had not been appointed," the Report disclosed.

Meanwhile, the Report said there was issuance of irregular discounts offered to residential plot buyers.

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Meanwhile, the Report said there was issuance of irregular discounts offered to residential plot buyers.

"On 10th September 2018, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry approved the sale of 275 residential plots at the recommended price of K100 and K200 per square metre

plus a service fee of K50,000 and a 10 percent discount on cash payment. A review of records revealed that a plot in phase one was offered at a sum of K182,600 of which the first instalment of K91,300 was paid on 14th December 2018

while the second instalment of K73,040 was paid on 15th January 2019. Contrary to the 43 provisions in the letter of offer which allowed a 10 percent discount on cash payment, the purchaser was granted a 10 percent discount of K18,260 upon the payment of the second instalment of K73,040 which was made one month after the initial payment resulting in issuance of irregular discount," stated the Report.

## There's an erratic supply of COVID-19 testing reagents, admits Chilufya



By Julia Malunga

HEALTH Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya says there is an erratic supply of COVID-19 testing reagents, a situation which causes delays in releasing results for those who have gotten swabbed.

And Dr Chilufya says Zambia has recorded 153 new COVID-19 cases out of 446 tests done in the last 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya says stigma is reversing the gains in the fight against COVID-19.

Speaking during the daily COVID-19 updates, Sunday, Dr Chilufya said there was an

urgent need for the country to invest in testing capacity.

When asked why there was a backlog of COVID-19 samples, Dr Chilufya said there was an erratic supply of testing reagents.

"The priority cost center in our response today is to do with diagnostic testing and there is an urgent need for us to invest in testing capacity. We need to ensure that we ride on the existing technology to expand testing in various parts of the country and erratic supplies of testing reagents, cartridges, yes, do hamper our ability to do tests

in a day like I said earlier on. The government is working with its partners to ensure that we unshackle the supply chain and ease the processes of testing," Dr Chitalu said.

"We are going to ensure that we reduce the time lag between the time you get tested and time you get the results. There are many people who get results within the same day and others within 24-48 hours and there are some who take a little longer. But we are working closely with all our partners to ensure that we streamline the processes and it will require improved resourcing for the response. So we share your concern and we are working tirelessly to ensure that we smoothen the processes of testing and results processing."

And Dr Chilufya said four COVID-19 patients were currently on ventilators.

He said because of the rise in the number of cases, Levy Mwanawasa Facility had operationalized a new wing.

"In the last 24 hours, Zambia has recorded 153 new cases of COVID-19 out of 446 tests done. This again is a high number of cases. We have recorded no new deaths and we still have a number of ill patients in our facilities. 17 patients continue to be on oxygen support and now four are on ventilators. And we continue to provide the utmost we can under the clinical care departments at Levy Mwanawasa Facility and because of the rise in numbers we have now operationalized a new wing at Levy Mwanawasa Hospital with a 52 bed capacity. With 153 cases, Zambia now records a cumulative total of 4,481 cases with no new deaths. We remain at 139 deaths and we have 2,350 recoveries," Dr Chilufya said.

He said it was time for members of the public to hold hands and fight the pandemic.

Story continues on P10

## C/Belt police nab Beyani, 6 others for conducting UPND intra-party elections

By Natasha Sakala

POLICE on the Copperbelt have arrested UPND chairman for international relations Dr Choolwe Beyani and six others in Chililabombwe for conducting intra party elections without notice.

They have been charged with unlawful assembly.

In an interview, Copperbelt police commissioner Charity Katanga confirmed the arrest and disclosed that five motor vehicles were also impounded in the process.

"We were not aware ourselves over them having intra-party elections. There was no such notification on the part of the police. What we received was information to the effect that the UPND cadres were having elections in the bush. So based on the fact that police had no notification, they followed up the report and picked up six people for unlawful assembly. This occurred yesterday, 25th July, 2020 around 15:00 hours at farm number one, Kakoso, Chililabombwe. So those that were picked, there is Choolwe Beyani of A86a Kasaka, Kafue in Lusaka. The other one is Mfumpa Nsinzo, 46, of plot number 1007, Congo road Chililabombwe. The third one is Jerry Mumba, 49 of house

number 57, Shinde road, Chingola. Then we have Godfrey Besa, 62, of house number 12 Kambombo crescent Hellen Kaunda, Chililabombwe. The fifth one is Siachubo Benson, 44, of 6692 Mwase Close Riverside, Kitwe. And the last one is Sita Mwendesho, 63, of Shibuchinga in Lufwanyama," Katanga said.

"The facts are that the group of UPND were spotted by a concerned citizen at farm number 1, Kakoso, casting votes and when alerted, police managed to apprehend six while the others ran away and also five motor vehicles were impounded. That's registration number ACR 9264 Toyota Gaia, for Choolwe Beyani. Then the registration number ACZ4164 Toyota Noah for Godfrey Besa. The other one is BCB 1874, Regius for Siachubo and the two were the owners are not known are ABC 795, Alex and ACG 6481zm Vox. They were found in possession of 15 carton boxes for voting as voting boxes and 13 campaign materials. The six were detained yesterday at Chililabombwe police station for unlawful assembly."

Katanga warned that police would not tolerate people flouting laws.

"Earlier, when police had spotted cadres at the Secretariat whilst clad

in UPND regalia, I don't know at whatever office, so they were called and advised not to hold a meeting without notification because what is happening nowadays, a meeting is accompanied by a form from the local authority over health matters. But all this was not the case. So it was done in full defiance of the law. It's unfortunate that party cadres are flouting these laws, the Public Order Act, when the Public Order Act is so elaborate over the appellant procedure should they feel aggrieved. For instance, where possibly the police turns down such meetings, the law is clear, you appeal to the minister, if they are not satisfied, they take it to court, it's as simple as that but in this case, there was not even a notification over the meeting and everything. They were just doing what they want. I think that cannot be tolerated and we are going to ensure that the law takes its course," said Katanga.

And when contacted for a comment, UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka said being arrested was also part of the new normal under PF.

"You know, we get arrested every other day, it's like it's also another new normal that PF are abusing the police. They have unleashed the police to

continuously harass us, arrest us as we observe the health regulations under the new normal, sanitizing, masking, social distancing, that is what we have endeavoured to do in all our activities. And you know, for some time now, some people have unfairly criticised us as a party that does not want to democratise. I want to tell you that as a party, we have taken steps the most part of this year to democratise by way of holding intra party elections from the lower organs of the party, coming upwards and at the moment, we are almost done with our intra party elections at ward, constituency, district levels, we are now moving to the provinces," said Mucheleka.

"So our people, senior members of the party have gone everywhere, I just returned from Luapula where I was also being threatened with arrest by the police but I want to assure you that where I went, it was mission accomplished, we did what we had to do. Despite the arrest of Dr Beyani, we still want to assure the people of Zambia that as UPND, we remain undaunted, we shall continue to exercise our rights as enshrined in the contribution under the bill of rights. So they will try and do everything possible to try and disturb us frustrate us but it will not work."





## CTPD'S MONDAY OPINION

This is a weekly column aimed at sharing CTPD's perspective and steering public debate on various issues pertaining to Trade & Investment Law, Public Finance Management, Extractives and Human Development.

### TODAYS TOPIC:

Why the Tobacco Products and Nicotine Products Control Bill 2018 is progressive for Zambia with Chileshe G.Mange



# Why the Tobacco Products and Nicotine Products Control Bill 2018 is progressive for Zambia

**T**HE Tobacco Products and Nicotine Products Control Bill 2018 (the "Tobacco Control Bill") is a domestication and codification of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control ("WHO FCTC") to which Zambia became a signatory in May of 2008.

Zambia's membership to the WHO FCTC was necessitated by the realization that tobacco use and exposure is the leading cause of preventable death. According to the Ministry of Health (2018), tobacco related illnesses and deaths cost the Zambian economy approximately ZMW 2.8 billion, which equates to 1.2 % of the GDP. The Ministry of Health has further reported that there are over 7, 000 tobacco related deaths yearly with youths and adolescents being the most at risk. The number of tobacco related deaths in 2020 is expected to reach 7,312.

Proponents of the tobacco industry put forward that the export of tobacco in Zambia increased from approximately \$1.7 million in 1995 to \$156.5 million in 2012 and averaged of USD100 million between 2013 and 2019. Also, tobacco is a cash crop for farmers, about 10,000 of whom grow tobacco and a source of employment in the country. According to the WHO, agricultural land devoted to the harvesting of tobacco in Zambia increased over 350% in two decades from 1993 to 2013 which purportedly is indicative of the demand for the crop and its economic potential.

However, aside from the health risks already mentioned, tobacco production and manufacturing presents other socio-economic challenges. The Tobacco Farmers Survey Report 2019 published by the University of Zambia reveals that growing tobacco compares poorly with other agricultural livelihoods for most small scale farmers. The research demonstrated that most tobacco farmers who have commercial arrangements with tobacco leaf-buying companies operate at a net loss, compelling them to grow tobacco in subsequent seasons to pay off accumulated debts. This precipitates a continuing cycle of debt and poverty.

In addition, tobacco appears to be the most labour-intensive agricultural crop which,

when incorporating a minimal economic value of unpaid family labour, reveals that almost all small-scale tobacco farmers in Zambia operate at a loss. The survey further reveals that key informants estimate that almost 90 percent of child farm labour is in the tobacco sector.

From the foregoing, it is evident that any supposed benefits from tobacco growing and manufacturing is outweighed by the burden that exposure to tobacco products presents on public health and other development indicators.

The Tobacco Control Bill in its current form is comprehensive and addresses diverse issues under one statute- including taxation; prevention of illicit trade; licensing; strategies to curb/prevent tobacco consumption; mechanisms to remedy harmful effects of tobacco exposure. It is therefore a welcome development in the context of our legal reform and development.

The proposed legislation does not repeal or replace any existing legislation, but is the only act that will specifically address tobacco control issues and address harm reduction strategies. If effectively implemented, the Tobacco Control Bill will enable the country to make significant gains in reducing the burden of the harmful effects of tobacco on the Zambian public and also generate significant revenue through taxes on the tobacco industry.

A review of best practices from Australia, Kenya and South Africa (all of whom have domesticated the WHO FCTC) reveals that effective implementation of tobacco control legislation and policies significantly decreases tobacco consumption. A common thread among these countries has been the implementation of an increase in excise tax on tobacco to meet the WHO recommended benchmark of a 70 percent excise duties. This has resulted in increased revenue for the respective countries and a decline in tobacco consumption due to inaccessibility of the products on account of the higher taxes.

Australia specifically, is expected to raise over USD 4 Billion by the end of 2020 through tobacco taxation. This, coupled with a decline in tobacco consumption has eased the burden on the health sector and

livelihoods in general.

Since becoming a signatory to the WHO FCTC the adult smoking rate in South Africa declined from 27.1 percent in 2000 to 18.2 percent in 2012, according to the latest available data.

In the case of Kenya, as a result of implementing the FCTC domestically, legislation has been introduced which imposes an increase of 82 percent on lower end tobacco products (targeted at the poor) and a global increase on all cigarettes of 35 percent.

The Tobacco Control Bill contains, as salient provisions, all the requirements and guidelines of the WHO FCTC, however in order to ensure effective implementation, certain institutional processes should be addressed. The following recommendations are made:

(i) addressing measures and strategies aimed at ensuring alternative sustainable livelihoods for tobacco growers;

(ii) promoting cohesion among the different public institutions and state actors that have an interest in tobacco growth and manufacturing;

(iii) developing a national policy on tobacco control in order to synergise efforts between the various sectors;

(iv) increasing taxes on tobacco as a means to curb consumption of tobacco and nicotine products;

(v) ratification of the WHO FCTC Protocol on the Elimination of the Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products;

(vi) ensuring that civil society is included in all processes that are initiated to spearhead tobacco control strategies in order to include an independent proponent; and

(vii) minimising promotion by the State of tobacco industry activities so as to prevent interference by tobacco industry players in policy development and legislative reform.

### About the Author

**Chileshe G. Mange is a Researcher at the Centre for Trade Policy and Development, an Advocate of the High Court for Zambia and a part-time tutor with the University of Zambia.**

**We would like to hear from you, drop us a comment using the details below:**

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## PF- WHAT WE STAND FOR AS ENSHRINED IN OUR PARTY CONSTITUTION; OUR EMPHASIS ON HARDWORK AND OUR STAND AGAINST CORRUPTION AND EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY MAN

*By Hon. Davies Mwila*

**P**ATRIOTIC Front (PF) is THE mass movement of the people of Zambia in their diversity. As the pre-ambule of our constitution states, we are:

“a militant organisation of revolutionary peasants, workers and intellectuals”.

We are militant in our fight against exploitation of man by man in all its forms, including corruption, nepotism, tribalism and racism. We are aggressive in our endeavor to push back the frontiers of poverty amongst our people, just as we are uncompromisingly revolutionary in our expansionist transformational agenda for a better Zambia.

### MAIN TASK OF THE PARTY - ARTICLE 2. (i) OF PF CONSTITUTION

As outlined in Article 2. (i) of our Party Constitution, the main task of PF, is to accomplish, with the working people of the Republic of Zambia, a transition from self-centeredness, in order to develop all parts of our nation without leaving any one behind.

### OUR PHILOSOPHY

In accordance with the PF Constitution, we are:

“guided by humbleness and self-criticism”.

Egotism, pride and self-centeredness are therefore alien to the ideals of the party. The unique strength of our party thus lies in the dynamic synergy of the collective capacities of PF rank and file country wide.

The shared nature and national character of Patriotic Front provides a safeguard against the individualism or institutionalised regionalism that

is endemic to some personalised political interests that have even gone to the extent of amending party constitutions to entrench the lifelong leadership of particular individuals; and by default particular regions.

In PF, no single individual or particular tribe has an exclusive patent on wisdom or monopoly on its leadership respectively. Our record of leadership succession speaks for itself.

### PF IS AGAINST CORRUPTION AND THE EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY MAN

The fight against corruption and the crusade against exploitation of man by man is so sacred to the objectives of our party, that it is enshrined in our constitution.

Article 4 reads in part:

“The Party shall wage a relentless struggle against all domestic and international forces of reaction. It shall fight for the eradication of Capitalism, with its offshoots; poverty, with its offshoots of Hunger, Ignorance, Disease, Crime, Corruption and the exploitation of man by man.”

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARTY

In the words of our constitution:

“Membership of the Party is an honour, which entails a heavy responsibility that demands high political and moral qualities as well as selfless dedication to the cause of the Party which is the cause of the people”.

As our Party President who is also President of the Republic of Zambia recently reminded us:

“Those who love PF must respect the law and respect other people who elected us to office ... To those who join PF to break the law or hide their

criminality, you are alone because when the law catches up with you, we will not protect you... If you are a lawbreaker or a criminal and you want to hide behind PF, you've got no place in PF.”

### PF PUTS EMPHASIS ON HARD WORK - ARTICLE 1. (b) OF PF CONSTITUTION

The Party demands hard work, honesty, sacrifice and self-reliance in all activities to improve the living conditions and ensure greater benefits to the people of Zambia.

### TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PF pitches transparency and accountability very high at the top of its agenda.

Consequently, our constitution is in the public domain on-line and offline, open to public scrutiny.

This is in contrast to certain political parties that have made a deliberate effort to hide their constitutions from public scrutiny- because of some scandalous clauses that have been manipulated and personalised into the constitution in order to suit the lifelong tenure of their leaders; and by default deliberately entrench the leadership monopoly of a particular region to the exclusion of all others.

### CONCLUSION

The People are PF; and PF is the People.

The heartbeat of the people is the heartbeat of Patriotic Front.

Aluta continua!

**HON DAVIES MWILA**  
**PATRIOTIC FRONT SECRETARY**  
**GENERAL**



**By Julia Malunga**  
PF media director Sunday Chanda says Our Civic Duty Association (OCIDA)'S attacks on President Edgar Lungu proves that it is an opposition political party that serves as a surrogate of the UPND.

Last Wednesday, OCIDA said that President Lungu had lamentably failed to deal with various governance issues like corruption in Zambia.

But in a statement to News Diggers, Thursday, Chanda charged that the organization consisted of business associates of UPND

# OCIDA a UPND surrogate – Sunday

leader Hakainde Hichilema. “When OCIDA was formed, we were very skeptical of the integrity of their intentions given the fact that the make-up of their ‘directors’ was by and large a motley of vindictive individuals carrying the burden of miscarried political careers sprinkled with an assemblage of ‘civic leaders’ with less than flattering pasts. As for its ‘council of elders’, there were one or two names

of eminent senior citizens that on the face of it were worthy of respect,” Chanda stated.

“Their recent personal attacks on His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu have put all doubts to rest. OCIDA is a political animal baring its toothless mouth with hostile intent! Theirs is an organization comprising business and political associates of Hakainde Hichilema. This

makes them a de-facto opposition political party that serves as a surrogate of UPND and irritable political chaperone of Hichilema. It is very unfortunate that the ‘elders’ and ‘retired citizens’ of OCIDA can look the other way when their spokesperson insults the President.”

Chanda said insulting President Lungu could only come from minds corrupted

by hate.

“It is not our wish to insult them back as we believe in respect and decency – especially for senior citizens. However, we caution them, once again, that the few among them that are still respectable risk wrecking and ruining their legacy in the evening of their lives. History abounds with examples of great men and women

making a shipwreck of their legacies at the eleventh hour. Ad-hominem attacks and using insulting language on the person of the President can only come from minds corrupted by hate. At the end of the day, and after all is said and done, OCIDA's very existence is testimony to the ever-expanding civil liberties and pluralistic setting under the exceptionally tolerant Patriotic Front government of His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu,” stated Chanda.

# State Counsel have a duty to criticise govt – Miti

**By Mirriam Chabala**  
ALLIANCE for Community Action (ACA) executive director Laura Miti says President Edgar Lungu should understand that the loyalty of senior lawyers is not to the sitting government, but to the Republican Constitution and Zambians who own it.

Commenting on President Lungu's directive to new Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Abyudi Shonga to ensure that his Association deals with lawyers who openly oppose government when elevated to the status of State Counsel, Miti said the President should allow lawyers to operate independently.

She observed that by asking Shonga to deal with State Counsel, President Lungu was trying to dictate to the Association how to carry out its mandate just like he and his government had done to several other governance institutions in the country.

“Lawyers are only made State Counsel because they are of independent mind; because they are professional and because they understand that their duty is to uphold the Constitution and to defend law and order. So their loyalty is to the Constitution only. State Counsel have the duty to criticise government and to hold government accountable; they have a duty to call government out when it's in breach of the Constitution. And the State Counsel are

doing a very good job and we expect that all lawyers will be able to stand up and ensure that the government is always accountable for its actions and to always uphold the Constitution and what is good for Zambia and its people,” Miti said in an interview.

“So the President needs to understand that loyalty of the State Counsels and, indeed, all lawyers, is not to the sitting government, but their loyalty is to Zambia. The Constitution is there for the people of Zambia, not the sitting government. The sitting government is only one creature of the Constitution that is owned by the people. So, the President needs to stop asking LAZ to go against its ethics and the principles that govern the profession because that is unacceptable.”

And Miti said by asking Shonga to silence lawyers and State Counsel in particular, who were critical of government, President Lungu was trying to silence the Association and lawyers just like he and his government had done to other governance institutions in the country.

“What the President is asking Mr Shonga to do is exactly what he has done to so many institutions in this country, which fail to do their mandate. They have done this to everybody; when you look at the Judiciary, look at the DPP (Director of Public Prosecutions) and

all these other government institutions, none of them is performing according to the expectations of the people because of this same thing of ‘you must uphold the sitting government.’ I think what the President is asking the Law Association of Zambia president to do to the lawyers and to the profession itself is space to bury the professional body along with the reputations of the people in that Association just like what has happened to many other governance institutions in this country,” Miti said.

She insisted that it was not the duty of any lawyer to sing praises to government, but to offer checks and balances by ensuring that the rule of law was always upheld.

“State Counsel are public prosecutors, [they] have a mandate to uphold the Constitution and the rule of law. Therefore, they should be able to criticise government where they believe government has not performed to its expectation. But I think the President does not seem to understand that. He seems to not to understand that the duty of every public officer is to Zambia and not the sitting government because governments come and go, but the nation remains the same. So, you cannot have public officers who sing praises to the government of the day when they have a duty to uphold the Constitution on behalf of the people of Zambia,” said Miti

# 2 PF councillors join UPND

**By Natasha Sakala**  
TWO PF councillors; Kelvin Mwape of Kakoswe ward and Morton Sikazwe of Mbereshi ward, both from Mwansabombwe constituency in Luapula Province, have defected to the UPND citing lack of development in the area despite it being a PF stronghold.

Speaking when he received the two councillors at the UPND secretariat, Saturday, party deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka said they had been advising more ruling party councillors and members of parliament who wanted to join the UPND to wait in order to avoid costly by-elections.

“We want just to show you that UPND is a party that is on the verge of forming government in the next few months. For some

time now, there has been an impression that the party is in disarray, a number of induced by-elections by PF particularly in our areas that are perceived to be UPND strongholds, for us in the UPND, I want to let Zambians know that for some time now, we have been restraining several of councillors, several of MPs who have been wanting to join the UPND. However, for us, we have been pleading with councillors, MPS that you hold on. We are looking at the issue of how costly by-elections can be. The country is bleeding, there is no money. These councillors are able to tell you. They are coming from Mwansabombwe, there is no form of development that you can talk about. These people are fed up, they can't hold on any more,” said Mucheleka.

# Nakacinda sues MMD over his expulsion

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
NOMINATED member of parliament Raphael Nakacinda has sued the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD) in the Lusaka High Court, seeking a declaration that his purported expulsion from the party is invalid and void.

Nakacinda, who has sued Elizabeth Chitika in her capacity as MMD national secretary, further wants an order of interim injunction restraining Chitika either by herself or agents from continued interference with his membership in the MMD.

He also wants a declaration that his purported expulsion from MMD was illegal by reason of procedural impropriety and absolute defiance of the established rules of natural Justice.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, Thursday, Nakacinda explained he was informed by Chitika in a letter dated June 22, 2020, that he had been expelled from

the party on alleged grounds of arrogance, insubordination and disregard for the party leadership among others.

“The defendant did indicate in their aforementioned letter that they were unable to serve on the plaintiff (Nakacinda) a letter requesting him to attend a disciplinary hearing on November 15, 2019. Based on an exculpatory letter rendered the plaintiff sometime in 2016 and by their own admission, proceeded to consider their failure to notify the plaintiff of the then pending disciplinary hearing to amount to arrogance, insubordination and disregard for the party leadership,” read the claim.

Nakacinda stated that Chitika accused him of holding meetings in Lusaka, Chipata, Luangwa and other places in the country and that he continued to bring the name of the MMD party into disrepute and slander thereby injuring the name of the party and abrogating sections of the MMD constitution.

He added that he was further alleged to have failed to adhere to the conditions of his suspension restraining him, his agents and servants

from having any dealings and contacts whatsoever with party structures during the period of his suspension.

“The defendant states in the said letter, that through it's National Executive Committee (NEC), using their supposed inherent powers purported to be vested in them by Article 52(2) and 19 (N) of the MMD party constitution, resolved to expel the plaintiff from the party with immediate effect from June 20, 2020,” read the claim further.

Nakacinda stated that he was neither formally charged on any of the grounds alleged in the letter nor was he ever given an opportunity to be heard on the allegations levelled against him by the defendant.

He stated that he only became aware of the purported alleged offences against him on June 22, 2020, the date he was informed of his wrongful purported expulsion from MMD.

Nakacinda further stated that the allegations levelled against him were never communicated to him prior to his wrongful purported expulsion from the party.

He added that no formal charge of any purported misconduct was ever preferred against him or if preferred, the same was not communicated to him prior to his wrongful purported expulsion from the party.

Nakacinda stated that as a result, he had suffered loss, damage and inconvenience.

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**A**T THE 17th Cabinet Meeting at State House on Thursday July, 23, the Executive approved "The Public Procurement Bill, 2020" for publication and introduction in Parliament during the next sitting. This means the government is proposing to repeal and replace the Public Procurement Act of 2018 in order to tighten procurement laws and strengthen regulatory authorities.

"The repeal and replacement of the Public Procurement Act of 2008, was necessitated due to the need to enhance legislation on public procurement by including provisions that will strengthen enforcement mechanisms in the regulation of procurements, while also enhancing the participation of citizens in public procurement, through the use of electronic systems in the process.

The strengthening of the oversight and regulatory role of the Zambia Public Procurement Authority is also emphasised in the Bill and that this is cardinal in public procurement. The Bill also allows for Zambians' participation in matters pertaining to procurement as part of ensuring Zambians fully contribute to the development of their country," read the statement from

Cabinet Office.

This move could not have come at a better time than now when we are discussing scandalous procurement tender such as the one awarded to Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited. The question we must now ask is, if enacted, how will "The Public Procurement Bill, 2020" fix the procurement flaws such as the ones we have been listing in our past editorial comments?

Some may argue that Zambia lacks realistic procurement laws or strong ethical guidelines for controlling officers. But we have said it before that there is no point in having strong laws

when lawbreakers are in charge of government institutions.

We do not think that strong procurement laws can change anything in Zambia under the PF administration. Scandalous procurements such as the Honey Bee tender from the Ministry of Health did not go through because the Public Procurement Act of 2008 was weak, but because it was disregarded. We already have some good laws in this country which have publicly been disregarded by those who control public resources.

This is why regulatory Authorities

such as Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA) end up enforcing laws according to the desires of those who are in government. In Zambia, the law is what the PF says it is, not what is in the Constitution. So of what value will a strong Public Procurement Act fix? Even if we repeal the entire Public Procurement Act of 2008 and replace it with a new law, how will that help, given our government leaders who don't care about the law?

Imagine having an Attorney General who says yes to giving a poor individual a US\$17 million worth of a government contract despite all

the flaws identified in the process of arriving at the decision. We demonstrated in our recent editorial opinion that the Zambia Medical Regulatory Authority gave a wholesale pharmaceutical licence to an entity that failed inspection, and that entity was not even a registered company, yet it won the tender. With all the revelations we have made, the government and the Ministry of Health has remained unmoved. The tender has not been cancelled and there is no known investigation that is in progress.

So what will this Public Procurement Bill 2020 try to fix in such a country? Laws are not respected in Zambia.

The Judiciary and the Constitution don't serve their purpose because law breakers are in government. We have a President who is a lawbreaker, and previous incidents have shown us how such a Head of State affects the running of government. Our readers must remember that we have a President who is on record saying he does not support the ruling made by the Constitutional Court against ministers who illegally stayed in office after dissolution of Parliament in 2016. The President broke the law by failing to obey the Constitution and he also broke the law by failing to protect the Constitution.

Since the President has no respect for the Judiciary, how can his ministers obey law? How then can the permanent secretaries, directors and procurement officers follow procurement laws when awarding government contracts? It's not possible, that is why we insist on sober leadership. We need a change of mindset at the top. You cannot be making laws that you yourself are refusing to obey. The Public Procurement Act is not for the opposition or private companies to follow, it is for government institutions that spend taxpayers' money. So if those in government don't follow the rules, it's pointless to have them.

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

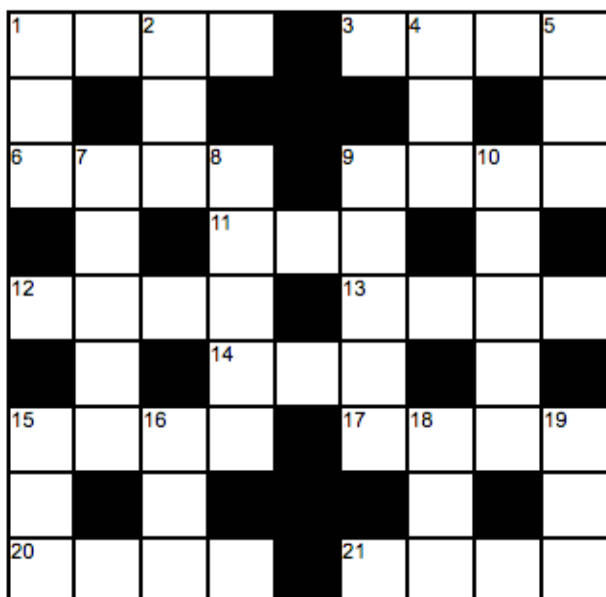
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# It's pointless to enact procurement laws that you don't follow

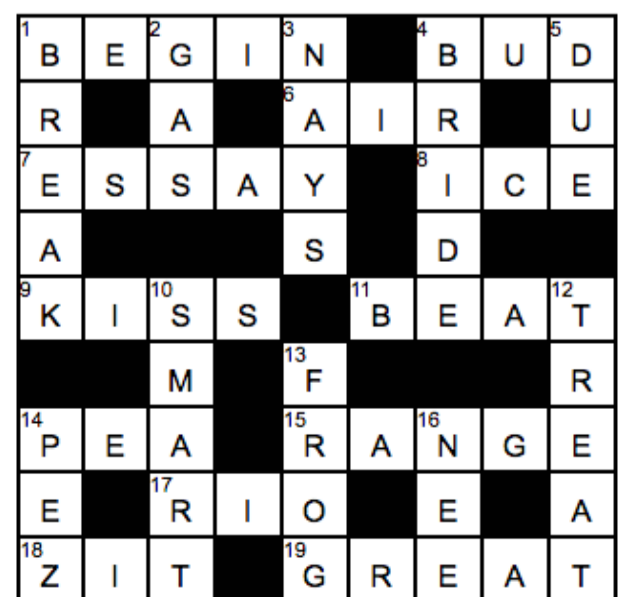
## Crossword puzzle No 654



*"Every mountain top is within reach if you just keep climbing."*  
- Barry Finla

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To gain from working</li> <li>3. Side dish</li> <li>6. Young fellows</li> <li>9. Monastery resident</li> <li>11. Deuce; even score</li> <li>12. Bart's sister</li> <li>13. Precipitation</li> <li>14. Coffee cup</li> <li>15. Quick fastener</li> <li>17. Adam and Eve's place</li> <li>20. Firm hold</li> <li>21. Unlikely, as a chance</li> </ol> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Moray, e.g.</li> <li>2. Color of blood</li> <li>4. London lavatory</li> <li>5. Chinese cookware</li> <li>7. UFO pilot</li> <li>8. Official seal</li> <li>9. Combine</li> <li>10. Loud sounds</li> <li>15. Hang loosely</li> <li>16. Boxing legend</li> <li>18. Penn. neighbor</li> <li>19. Viet ____</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

## Crossword puzzle No 653





# Readers' Feedback

## ND! OPINION: Why does Mwila want Lubusha to act against Jay Jay, when he overturned the decision last year?

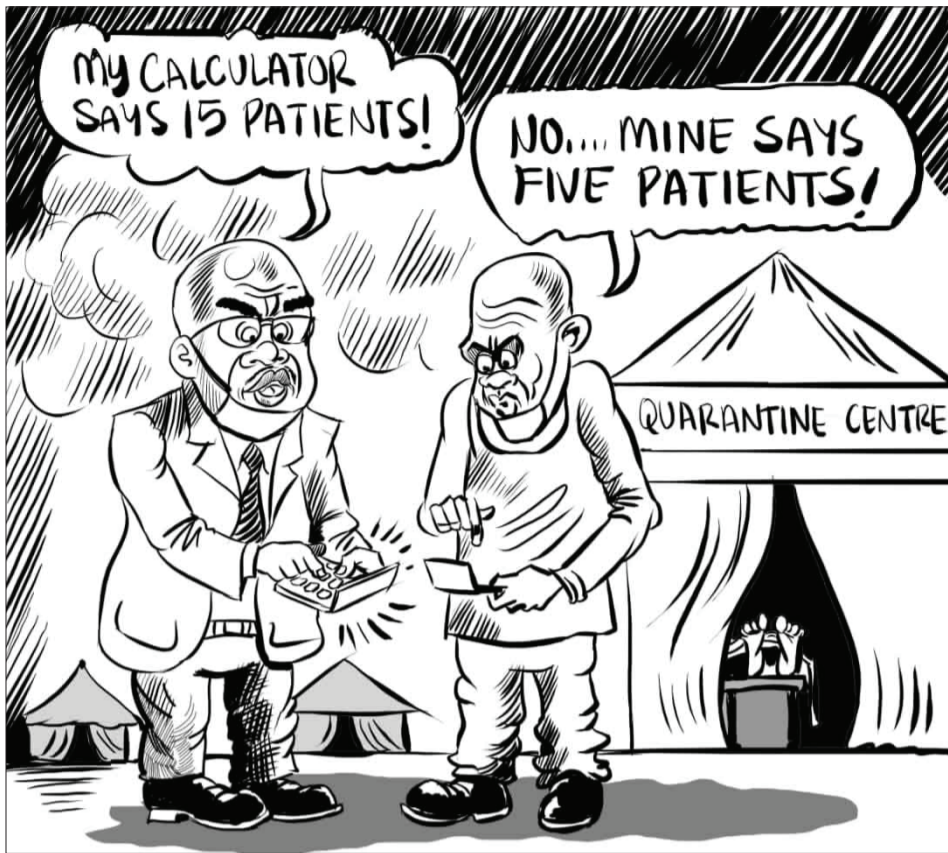
Dear editor,

"Sad state of affairs. When indiscipline is allowed to take root, there is breakdown of law and order which ultimately brings in anarchy. Ba Mwila just own up and take the necessary action for which you are mandated". - Nick Ndawa

"A criminal offence to dealt with at party level!" - Hopeson Nyondo

"When citizens want to protest peaceful police send armoured vehicles into the city of Lusaka. When a PF cadre commits aggravated robbery at a police station at it will be dealt with at party level. A criminal offence ends with an apology? No problem, time is ticking, just 12 more months!" - Thomas Sankara

"Is PF SG Davis Mwila saying what he is saying because he knows what we all know that Zambia Police is just a Wing of the PF under the command of PF thugs? Stephen Kampyongo himself the Minister of Home Affairs is Loudly Quiet as if the Face Mask has SEALED his usually Loquacious Mouth. Are his powers only limited to Breaking the Legs of Peaceful Demonstrators? Even Tutwa Ngulube who is fond of Cooking Up ridiculous excuses for the PF thugs is SILENT on the Central Police Raid. The most interesting one is the Commander in Chief who is NDWII after his Main Police Station in the country is Raided by his thugs. Was this not the same President Lungu who FIRED Shapa Wakung'uma the Sesheke Police Commander for disciplining PF thugs in so called "National Interest"? I think PF must consider Renaming President Lungu as SCANDAL at their next Party Convention. He enjoys being deep in scandals to the extent that now he is even EXPORTING them to Rwanda". - Christopher Kalima



## OCIDA on Lungu failing lamentably to fight corruption

Editor,

"Sad that it takes old men to speak on behalf of the young people they already invested in. Young people have more to lose than OCIDA". - Edna Musonda

"I second the motion by OCIDA... I agree, I raise my hand in support of the statement". - Kelvin M Yubya

*independence and now they are fighting for economic development". - Asa Amisi*

*"Understatement of the year". - Maimbolwa Kamanga*

*"Everything has been messed up". - Chipo Chilwana Shimuunza*

*"So ati they will say ni Bally who paid for this". - Mike Sichela*

*"He is a total failure especially that he is a lawyer who should fear the law, but he doesn't. He is very different from the late Mwanawasa (MHSRIP)". - Crispin Simwinga*

"They fought for

# **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

Go to our News Diggers! Facebook page, select a story you like and jot down your comment. We will pick that as your feedback and get you published on this page. The shorter the comment the higher the chance of getting published. Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

## Zesco's target of 4-hour daily load shedding by end of 2020

Editor,

"The best Zesco can do is to keep quiet until everything is in place. I am tired of endless promises!" - Andrew Sakala

"Zesco just needs to keep quiet! But kudos for decampaigning the PF!" - Towela Msupa Banda

"Targeting zero hours next year because of elections, after that we will be back to the reality of 12 hours+ if PF wins. We are way ahead of PF tricks this time around!" - Mumba Chitondo

"Last year they said by June all these power challenges will be sorted, this is July. Why not just shut up because people already know how useless you are!" - Nkole Jimmy

"Zesco is a failed project period!" - Pack Muchi

"When you have nothing better to say but you just have to say something to sound relevant!" - Beverly Musonda

"This is like listening to your goalkeeper telling the coach that my target in this match is to only allow maximum 4 goals chabe, 4 or less coach, it won't be more I promise". - Mweemba Mubita

## Sangwa on State Counsel not being kavala mulomo

Editor,

"I agree honours are bestowed on individuals for meritocracy not patronage. Unfortunately in Africa in particular this is not the case". - Manfred Ngweza

"If we had atleast 10,000 people of his calibre, the PF wouldn't have damaged our country". - Adams Kambila

"That's the reason why LAZ president was invited to state house so that he can be instructed on how to silence lawyers like Mr Sangwa. But baloba ilyauma!" - Kajuba

Mazuba

"Tell Them loud and clear! Is that why they want to misquote the Constitution and kuti dyela masuku pamutu??? Aikona! We say no to chivala mulomo on the Constitution matters and rule of law in Zambia! SC Sangwa I stand with you!" - Philip Mbewe

"This is a different kind of lawyer Tate, one who will

escort you to prison if need be and continue to visit if he loses your case before a judge...not tuma am an advocate twa tea yamasamba who just want to pose and show off...law is bigger than fame...it's in the dirt so to speak". - Michael Ngala

"The Martin Luther king Jr. kind of leadership....I stand with John Sangwa, the fearless man". - Raymond Mbiiza



By Natasha Sakala

THE Auditor General has revealed that over K700,000 was irregularly paid to the North Western Water Supply and Sewerage Company Limited (NWWSSC) managing director and director finance as long service allowance.

And the Auditor General has revealed that the utility owed over K11 million in statutory obligations and penalties in the form of Pay As You Earn (PAYE) and Pension Contributions to the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) and National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA).

According to the Auditor General's report on the accounts of water and sanitation companies, the payments made to the managing director and director finance were not part of their entitlements as they were on renewable contracts.

"Irregular Payment of Long Service Bonus During the period under review, long service bonus in amounts totalling K720,139 were paid to the Managing Director (K481,568) and the Director Finance (K238,571). However, a review of contracts for the officers revealed that the officers were engaged on three (3) years renewable contracts and were therefore not entitled

## NWWSSC paid K720,139 long service allowances to bosses who weren't entitled, reveals audit

to long service bonus, rendering the payments irregular," the report read.

The report also stated that the water utility paid for the managing director's internet services in amounts totalling K18,108 when it was not part of his contract.

"Irregular Payment of Internet Service In 2018, payments in amounts totalling K18,108 were made to service providers for internet services at the Managing Director's residence. However, a review of the Managing Director's conditions of service revealed that he was not entitled to internet services rendering the payments irregular," read the report.

The report further revealed some irregularities linked to a personal loan contracted by the managing director.

"Questionable Payment of Interest on the Managing Directors' Loan On 14th

September 2015, the Board authorised the Managing Director to obtain a personal loan of K200,000 from a commercial bank as payment towards his outstanding gratuity of K200,000 which was due on 1st March 2015 after expiry of his three-year contract. The following conditions applied on the loan: The loan was secured against outstanding gratuity of K200,000 for the Managing Director; NWWSSC was to service the loan until it was fully paid. However, the following were observed: On 25th January 2016, the company refunded the Managing Director expenses in amounts totalling K13,000 relating to loan arrangement fees (K6,000), facility fees (K6,000) and registration and legal fees (K1,000) which were charged by the bank while arranging for the loan; Out of a total loan repayable amount of K383,898, an amount of

K183,898 representing 92% of the loan amount of K200,000 relating to interest and other expenses was borne by NWWSSC. The payment of interest of K183,898 in excess of the outstanding gratuity amount of K200,000 which was due to the Managing Director was questionable," the report revealed.

The report further revealed that there was K39,505 which was stolen from the assistant accountant which was yet to be recovered.

"Financial Regulation No. 86 defines accountable imprest as imprest issued to facilitate the purchase of goods and services whose value cannot be ascertained at the time of issue. During the period under review, imprest in amounts totalling K1,201,488 was issued to twenty-six (26) officers to procure goods and services such as stationery, building materials and service of motor vehicles whose values could have been determined before procuring them. Included in the K1,201,488 was imprest in amounts totalling

K41,005 issued on 30th August 2016 (K27,524) and 30th August 2016 (K13,481) in the name of the Assistant Accountant, to procure stationery, pay casual workers and other office expenses. However, an amount of K39,505 from the K41,005 was reported to have been stolen on 7th September 2016 from the Assistant Accountant at Kyawama Market seven (7) days after the money had been withdrawn. Although the matter was reported to the Police, as at 31st December 2019, the funds had not been recovered resulting in a loss of K39,505," it revealed.

The report also noted that the utility spent K106,389 on five officers to travel abroad in 2016 and 2018 without authority from the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection.

The utility is also reported to have failed to act against defaulting customers after an accumulation of K11,648,792 in bills for 1,446 accounts as at 31st

December 2019.

The report also revealed that the company was operating at a coverage rate of between 19 to 22 percent leaving a substantial amount of customers without access to sanitation services.

"Sanitation Coverage is the proportion of urban population with access to sanitation services. However, a review of the sector report revealed that the Company was operating at a coverage of between 19% and 22% which was below the sector benchmark of 80%. As a result, a substantial number of households did not have access to sanitation services, thus compromising public health," read the report.

The report also revealed that the company, as at 31st December 2019, was owing a total amount of K11,193,377 in statutory obligations and penalties in the form PAYE (K7,094,594) and Pension Contributions to NAPSA (K4,098,783) contrary to the Income Tax Act Chapter 323 of the Laws of Zambia.

## There's an erratic supply of COVID-19 testing reagents, admits Chilufya

From P4

"There is a time that country men and women pause, hold hands and agree to fight a common enemy, today is that time. And it is critical that we realize that we face a formidable enemy in COVID-19. An enemy that is able to distort our livelihoods forever. It is important that we heed the call from His Excellency President Edgar Lungu for us to unite in purpose and fight across the political aisle, across the religious aisle and just ensure we fight COVID-19 collectively," he said.

Dr Chilufya said there was no need to stigmatize people with COVID-19.

"There is no need to stigmatize people with COVID-19. This is a disease that any of us is at risk of getting. It is airborne. It is decent to state when you are COVID-19 positive so that the people you have interacted with would actually raise a level of alertness and probably be tested. I do not believe that any of us would like a situation where we did not disclose our COVID-19 status and then we allow someone who did not know they are interacting with a COVID-19 positive person to succumb because they had a comorbidity," Dr Chilufya said.

"Stigma must be frowned upon. Stigma is reversing the gain we have posted in the fight against COVID-19. The people who are going public about being COVID-19 positive are responsible people and they would like to protect the people they came in contact with. If you don't want to go public, contact the people that you had come into contact with. Even through our public health professionals we can do contact tracing. You may not be on the media but by revealing who you came in contact with through our public health professionals, we will be able to find your contacts."

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya has called on corporate entities who made pledges towards the fight against COVID-19 to activate them.

"As I thank the cooperating partners that have worked with us, I make a clarion call to all stakeholders to unlock pledges that they made to the fight against COVID-19. We sincerely appreciate the support that is coming through and that is pledged. We request that the pledges translate into tangible support. We thank you for the support and we request that with the epidemic radically escalating, we quickly unlock all the pledged support," said Dr Chilufya.

From P3

We challenge him to name those people, this is a treasonable offense, if anyone decides to destabilise the country by tempering and tinkering with the defense forces, with the internal security, it is an amount that goes for treason. It is irresponsible for the minister to say this, what they needed to do as Dr Kenneth Kaunda did during the Shamwana and the others coup to just Dr Kaunda, they went and arrested them and took them through the due course of the legal trial. Mr Kampyongo must learn that this is what they call alarming the nation, it's inciting the nation against political parties. It is an act of incitement and he will pay the price one day because the only thing that is permanent is change," Nkombo said.

"This is cast in paper, it is his statement. He is keeping the names of these people to himself, we can only say it is another lie from PF and when a minister resolves to lying, Zambians must wake and say look, you cannot continue to put a country in harm's way by giving unsubstantiated statements such as this one, irresponsible. I think the country should be alive to the fact that we have jokers running the affairs of the country but you can take jokes up to a certain point. You cannot have people who just imagine things around them that are not there, that is called schizophrenia so we challenge [him] to withdraw that statement, and we give him 24 hours to give an exact story of who these people are so that we can all as a country march against these people."

Nkombo asked Kampyongo to resign if he felt the job had become too heavy him as opposed to making irresponsible statements.

He, however, commended Chipepo for listening to his conscience.

Meanwhile, Nkombo said allegations that UPND was going to degazette the

## Name those enticing security officers to resign, it's treason, Gary tells Kampyongo

chieftaincy of the Chitimukulu were unfounded as he would be the first to be invited for the inauguration ceremony next year when UPND is elected.

"I want to inform you that where we come from, we don't engage in feuds with chiefs because we are their children. So the allegations that are reaching our table and the statements that are coming and attributed to my father, Chief Chitimukulu, we would like to settle this with him. We respect you as our father, we are the

government in waiting. We love you, we cherish you and once the Zambian people decide that it is us with Mr Hichilema, you will be the first one to be invited to the inauguration. This is to settle fears that are coming for our father, that we want him out of the throne. We haven't got what it takes, we don't have what it takes, we have no instrument whatsoever just like the sitting government has no instrument to interfere with traditional leadership," said Nkombo.

## Govt must pay outstanding salary arrears to tourism workers, demands Union

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

GOVERNMENT should pay all outstanding salary arrears for workers at National Heritage Conservation Commission and National Museums Board who have gone unpaid for nine months, University of Zambia Allied Workers Union (UNZAWU) president George Katapazi has demanded.

But Tourism Minister Ronald Chitotela says government has just released a grant to clear salary arrears for the workers and promised to clear the remaining two months balance.

In an interview, Katapazi said government owed National Museum workers salaries for nine months.

"It's not just Victoria Falls alone, we categorize them all as workers from National Heritage Conservation Commission and National Museums Board, who are behind in terms of salaries, and it is only yesterday (Wednesday) when a grant was released. Even then, we are talking them not having been paid for months. Civil servants have already started getting salaries for July. And the question we are asking government is: when are the workers going to get their salaries for July? The whole of last year, National Museum only received about seven months grants and the whole of this year, they have only received two months grants, meaning they are nine months

behind in terms of grants," Katapazi complained.

He wondered how the affected institutions would be able to operate effectively if government failed to release the grants.

"And now that the fees are not coming the way they were coming, it simply means that these two institutions are unable, even within themselves, to source for funds to pay these employees. It means that they were literally dependent on the government. Meanwhile, government is not releasing these monies. So, how are these workers going to survive? I have cited Victoria Falls as an example because the Republican President (President Edgar Lungu) opened Victoria Falls in good faith, but the problem is that workers are not being paid. They are going for work without food because they are not getting salaries. And they are working under very difficult and risky conditions," he lamented.

And Katapazi appealed to government to clear the arrears before workers downed tools.

"This is really a concern for the Union. We don't want to withdraw our labour because we don't want to be seen to fight government, no! Government must come in and assist these institutions so that our workers can also provide the labour that is required. Victoria Falls is a world heritage

site. It is being monitored by UNESCO and it is shared by two countries. If workers down tools on the side of Zambia, how will it look on the other side of our neighbours and how is UNESCO going to look at us? And how is government going to feel because the President opened that side?" Katapazi wondered.

But Chitotela said that the only remaining outstanding balance was for June and July as the rest had just been cleared.

"The Director of Finance is just from telling me that he just sent them a grant today (Thursday) for up to May. So, the only month outstanding is June and July. The grant for February, March, April and May was sent today (Thursday) to all the institutions, which is not good enough. My desire is to be current. As you may be aware, I found a lot of backlog in a lot of institutions, including the Community Resource Board. But the Community Resource Board, we cleared them all the monies that we were owing them, the K19.8 million. So, we don't owe them anything," Chitotela said in a separate interview.

And he pledged to continue engaging the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the outstanding two months' arrears were paid.

"So, the word of encouragement is that we will make sure that even the two

months' backlog will be cleared. Even the backlog was because of COVID-19. Otherwise, we are committed to ensuring that we are current. From the time I took over, we are up-to-date. What is impressive for me is that, today, money has been released for three months and we are just remaining with June and July. I will keep engaging the Ministry of Finance and we will make sure that by end of July, we will be up-to-date," said Chitotela.

And Ministry of Tourism Director of Finance Mutale Mbalamweshi said most of the departments under the Ministry had received grants of up to April, this year.

"For this year, statutory bodies like Zambia Tourism Agency, National Heritage Conservation Commission, National Museum Board, National Arts Council, Zambia Institute of Tourism Hospitality Services, and Hostels Board of Management have received their grants. For Zambia Tourism Agency, this year, they have received grants up to April. The same applies to National Heritage Conservation Commission. National Museum have received for five months up to May; National Arts Council (NAC) have received up to April as well; Zambia Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Services have received up to April. Hostels Board of Management have also received up to April," explained Malamweshi.



FRANK Lampard is the brightest English coach for a generation, according to Stan Collymore – because he swore at Jurgen Klopp.

The two managers were involved in a fiery confrontation at Anfield as Chelsea were beaten 5-3 by Liverpool, with Lampard taking exception to perceived arrogance from the hosts.

Lampard has since said he regrets telling Klopp to “f\*ck off”, but Collymore was pleased to see him bare his teeth at the home of the Premier League champions.

“Chelsea are bang on track and it’s just a matter of time before the Blues boss makes them a firm fixture at the top,” Collymore wrote in the Mirror.

“What happened at Anfield in midweek has convinced me more than ever that he is the brightest English coach to emerge for a generation.

“Going head-to-head with Jurgen Klopp isn’t for the faint-hearted, but when the sparks flew and

# ‘Lampard is the brightest English coach in a generation’ - Chelsea boss’ fiery altercation with Klopp shows his promise, says Collymore

Chelsea’s boss let rip with his four-letter rant a smile crossed my face.

“He was annoyed. Everyone had turned up to celebrate a title party. He hadn’t.

“His body language screamed: ‘I’m p\*ssed off, I don’t want to be among this. It’s rubbing our noses in it. I’ve told my players to remember this and take it back the next time we face this lot at Stamford Bridge.’

“That is why Lampard will be a success.

“Whether that’s at Chelsea, or maybe he comes back for a second stint, he will be a winner at the club.”

Despite the promise shown by his Chelsea team, Lampard still has plenty to

prove as a manager.

His first job saw him take Derby to sixth in the Championship – the same position they finished the season before – while Chelsea look likely to come fourth, below last year’s finish of third and with the worst defensive record in the top half.

The Blues have nonetheless done so without being able to replace Eden Hazard, and with an admirable reliance on youth products.

Whether those youngsters will see as many chances with Timo Werner, Hakim Ziyech and possibly Kai Havertz and others still to follow remains to be seen, but Chelsea are optimistic about the future

as they return to their big-spending ways.

“In five years’ time – and it has taken Klopp that long, remember – I would not be surprised if we are talking about Lampard’s squad like we talk about the German’s,” Collymore continued.

“It’s been tricky with the transfer ban and the exit of

serial match-winner Eden Hazard.

“So, if they did retain their spot in the Champions League and win the FA Cup that would be a really successful first season.

“But if it was fifth and the appearance at a final, I don’t think the board will bat an eyelid.

“Personally, I think the

gap to the top is too big at the moment. But they might be ready in the next two years. I can see them having a right crack at it.

“It’s all shaping up and pointing towards Lampard being the brightest English boss I can think of since Glenn Hoddle decided he wanted to get into management.” **GOAL**

ALBIN Ekdal has opened a war of words with former Sweden striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic, claiming the veteran was a detrimental influence on the national team.

Now 38, the centre forward is starring with Milan in Serie A as they fight for a European spot next season, after he retired from international duty in 2016, having won 116 caps and scored 62 goals – a record for his nation.

While Ibrahimovic’s statistics look formidable, Ekdal has claimed that the presence of the former Juventus, Manchester United and Paris Saint-Germain striker did not allow others to reach their maximum potential.

“Many players couldn’t handle his gesturing and sharp comments which shot holes in the confidence of some players. I’ve seen

## Ibrahimovic ‘shot holes in the confidence of some players’ - Ekdal slams Sweden great

that many times, and it seldom benefits the team,” 30-year-old Ekdal told Sverige Radio program ‘Sommar & Vinter i P1’.

“Probably many people couldn’t handle his massive winning mentality and temperament which he has, despite everything which has taken him to the best clubs in the world and made him Sweden’s best player of all time.”

Ekdal gave an example of the contrasting spirit in the camp for Euro 2016, which was Ibrahimovic’s swansong, and World Cup 2018.

“We were a team made up of one star and a few

team-mates in 2016 but we travelled to the World Cup in 2018 in Russia two years later. The entire team was players who were making their debut at the World Cup,” he said.

“Zlatan was the big star. He was the one who was supposed to do it, lead Sweden through thick and thin. National team manager Erik Hamren had given him the baton and made him the captain, and the rest of us were supposed to put our trust in him.

“Our team consisted of one superstar and 10 decent players around him helping him to dominate. That idea didn’t pan out.” **GOAL**

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## CAF launches Women’s strategic plan

**By Abraham Kalito**  
THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has launched a strategic plan for Africa women’s football dubbed ‘CAF Women’s Football Strategy’.

The plan is aimed at developing women’s football at different levels to new heights for an initial four-year period, 2020-2023.

The strategy will also serve as a reference for the promotion and development of the sport across the continent.

It has five main priorities including Development, Competitions,

Marketing & Promotion, Professionalization & Leadership and Social impact.

“The dawn of a new era for women’s football on the continent has come. After several months, the first ever CAF Women’s Football Strategy, the strategic plan to shape the future of the women’s game has come to fruition. The plan, for an initial four-year period, 2020-2023, is tailor-made taking into consideration peculiarities of the continent with a commitment to develop women’s football at levels to new heights. With the

slogan #ItsTimeItsNow, the strategy represents the new identity for the women’s game and will serve as a reference for the promotion and development of the sport across the continent, and as a guide to success for Member Associations and other stakeholders,” read a statement.

Meanwhile CAF President Ahmad Ahmad said the launch is in line with CAF’s commitment giving hope to youths across the continent.

“The launch of the CAF Women’s Football Strategy is in line with our commitment to give hope to the youth across the continent and to develop women’s football at all levels. It sets out a clear roadmap for specific actions which will revolutionize women’s football. My gratitude goes out to the key stakeholders and experts who took part in putting together this strategic document, which is the beginning of many things to come,” he said.

## Kansanshi Dynamos halt football activities over COVID fears

**By Abraham Kalito**  
KANSANSHI Dynamos has confirmed that the North-Western Provincial Health office has suspended the clubs training and hosting of matches in the wake of swirling Covid-19 cases.

According to a

statement by Dynamos media team, the club has been directed to self-isolate until the authorities give further clearance.

“The North-western Provincial Health Director has directed Kansanshi Dynamos football club to suspend any games and


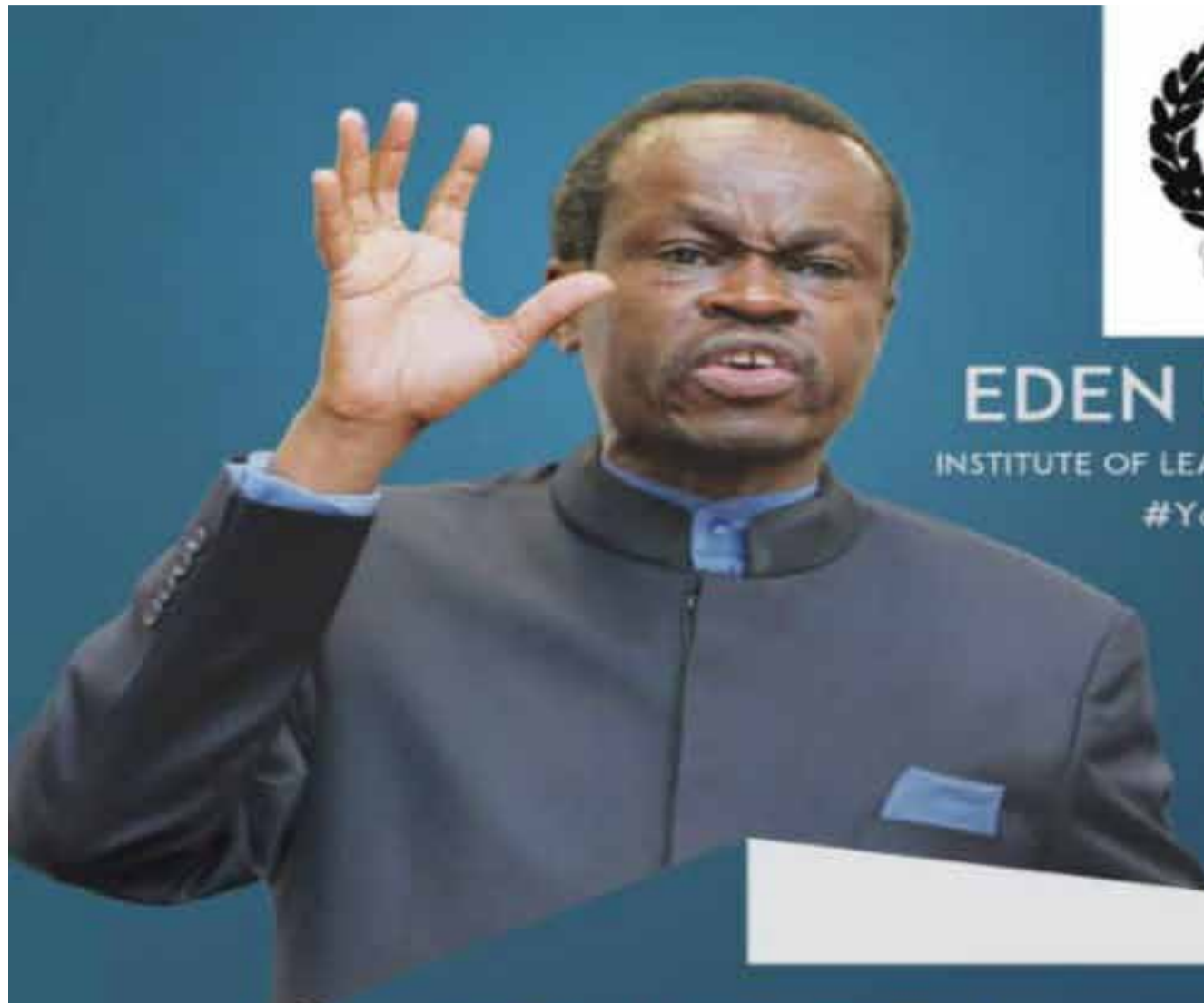
training sessions until the team is engaged and cleared to continue. We have since complied to the directive and we are up to now waiting for the office of the Director of the Provincial Health to engage and clear us. All players, technical staff and support staff are in

self isolation and have been directed to stay home,” stated the clubs media team.

“We further wish to refute stories circulating on social media that the directive to self isolate is from our sponsors Kansanshi Mining PLC.

The club remains focused and determined to complete all its remaining fixtures as long the environment remains enabling. Kansanshi Dynamos football club will inform all its stakeholders accordingly on further developments regarding this matter.”





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