

By Mukosha Funga

Wynter Kabimba says the PF risks fielding an ineligible candidate in the 2021 general elections if they keep endorsing President Edgar Lungu without waiting for the court to declare him legally qualified to recontest the presidency. And Kabimba says people

## PF risks fielding ineligible Edgar Lungu in 2021 - Wynter

must learn from Chishimba Kambwili's expulsion from the PF that "those who kill by the sword die by the sword". In an interview with News Diggers! the Rainbow Party General Secretary wondered

why the PF central Committee was bragging about endorsing President Lungu as a sole candidate ahead of the 2021 general elections when there was a court case pending adjudication on whether the

incumbent qualified to contest the presidency for the third time.

"This matter is in court, I think there is an action that is pending by PF itself. By a group of people led by Reverend Dan

Pule, they have taken this matter to court to seek the court's interpretation. Before that interpretation comes, they are making that resolution. For me, it shows their impunity and contempt towards the

Constitutional Court. They are accelerating this view which is being held by members of the public that our judiciary may not be independent of political influence.

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**"PF is being run by frustrated Secretary General and deputy"** <sup>P3</sup>

**Russia to deliver 4 planes to Zambia, one for the President** <sup>P4</sup>

**Truck overturns, kills 11 passengers, injures 39** <sup>P6</sup>



## Edgar Lungu hates me with a passion - Kambwili

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Former information minister Chishimba Kambwili says he has been kicked out of the Patriotic Front because he is a threat to "some people who are so preoccupied with being sole candidate in 2021".

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# I'M A THREAT!



# Face us in Roan, Mwila challenges CK



**By Mukosha Funga**

Patriotic Front Secretary General Davies Mwila says if Chishimba Kambwili is man enough, he will not challenge his expulsion in court but meet the party in Roan Constituency.

And Mwila announced that the Central Committee had adopted President Edgar Lungu as their preferred candidate for the 2021 elections.

Meanwhile, the former information minister today cancelled his highly publicized press briefing citing security concerns.

At a media briefing today, Mwila said had the party been scared of Kambwili and his counterpart Mwenya Musenge's popularity on the Copperbelt, it would not have expelled them.

"I think all of us have got the experience. I remember in 1992 when I was young, during Chiluba's time, he expelled 18 MPs and they went for by elections and MMD survived. I have said the party is bigger than individuals. If they are popular, they will face us in Roan. If we were scared of them being popular, we were not going to expel them to us we are geared as a party, we will move in. If he is man enough he should not even challenge this in court. We should meet each other in Roan. I challenge honorable Kambwili, you go and ask him that this is what the party has said that we are ready to face him in Roan then we will see who is popular between the PF and honorable Kambwili," Mwila said.

Mwila said Kambwili admitted that a fellow member of parliament had suggested that he form another party.

"Extensive debate took place where all members including Hon Kambwili and Hon Mwenya Musenge were allowed enough time to put across their views on this matter and others which came to light. During the Central Committee meeting, inimical activities involving Hon Kambwili and Musenge came to light where they were reported to be carrying out destabilization activities against the Party particularly in Central and Luapula Provinces, including Luanshya District," he said.

"In addition to these party destabilization reports, Hon Kambwili was in receipt of two letters of reprimand over his indiscipline in the Party. The first letter was written to him by former Secretary General Hon Davies Chama, now Minister of Defence and the second one was authored by myself following his activities in Luanshya District. During the hearing, evidence was put to both Hon Kambwili and Hon Musenge and both failed defend themselves. When he was given an opportunity to further exculpate himself, Hon Kambwili admitted that a former minister who was an MP from Muchinga province proposed to him to form a splinter party to undermine PF. He claimed he declined the idea but this was only after he was challenged to deny whether a meeting took place at his home comprising himself, Hon Musenge and three other former MPs. His response was 'I was sick and they came to see me and one of them proposed that idea but I refused.'" He further told journalists that Musenge had dished out K110,000 to destabilise the PF in Luapula Province on behalf of Kambwili.

"Another report raised by Hon Nickson Chilangwa, Luapula Province Minister showed that Kambwili went to three places and distributed money and criticized the party as failing. Further the meeting heard that Hon Musenge went into Luapula Province allegedly carrying K110,000 given to him by Hon Kambwili to destabilize the Party and had just returned from the Province less than 24 hours before the Central Committee meeting. He could not deny the charges either. He accepted visiting chiefs but denied money issue. Hon Kambwili made matters worse for himself when he stormed out the MCC meeting shortly after it resolved to reconstitute itself into a disciplinary committee to consider the charges against the duo," Mwila said.

"Let me inform the public that in line with PF's internal democracy, the duo was provided with an opportunity to exculpate themselves during the meeting and could not deny the allegations laid

against them. While the meeting was sitting, Hon Kambwili stormed out of the meeting, walking out on the President and the entire Central Committee in a clear effort to save his ego – a fact he confirmed in his interview to News Diggers. This was ultimate contempt by the Party President and the entire Central Committee! At this point, Central Committee once again deliberated extensively and regrettably, a decisive action to expel Hon Kambwili from the Party was taken to send a strong message of discipline in the Party. The extent of misconduct and other destabilization activities sponsored by Hon Kambwili had reached intolerable levels and posed a danger to internal party cohesion."

He warned PF members that the party would not entertain any form of indiscipline.

"Lastly, let me warn the membership that the Party will not take to any forms of indiscipline. On this score, I am directing all Party structures and members to watch out for those sowing seeds of discord in the Party and ensure they are exposed," Mwila said.

And Mwila announced that the Central Committee had adopted President Lungu as their preferred candidate for 2021.

"Let me also announce to the nation that Central Committee adopted the motion to have President Edgar Lungu as the Party's preferred candidate subject to approval by the 2020 General Conference. Central Committee believes this measure was important in consolidating the Party's unity of purpose," said Mwila.

Mwila also announced some new entrants into the Central Committee among them, Local Government Minister Vincent Mwale.

Meanwhile, Kambwili cancelled his briefing citing security concerns.

"Due to security concerns, I have had to cancel the scheduled press briefing this morning. My apologies for the inconvenience, I wouldn't like to put the journalists lives in danger or at risk," Kambwili posted on his Facebook page.

## Govt announces Threatened State of Emergency regulations

**By Joseph Mwenda**

President Edgar Lungu has signed statutory instrument number 55 of 2017, which provides guidance to the Zambia Police Service and other defence and security agencies during the period of the threatened public emergency. Acting Home Affairs Minister Given Lubinda, announced this today, saying this was pursuant to proclamation under article 31 of the Constitution and in accordance with sections 3,4 and 5 of the preservation of public security act chapter 112 of the laws of Zambia."

The Minister stated that the regulations were in two parts namely;

1. Those which can be implemented directly under the regulations and ,
2. The regulations that would require the President to issue specific orders to be implemented.

"With the publication of the Regulations, the following measures among others are now in force and have given extra powers to the police to enable them preserve public security and investigate cases affecting public security in a more conclusive manner."

" a) Stop and search vehicles without a warrant.

b)Withdraw Travel documents and

c) Power to detain suspects for a period exceeding 48hrs which can be done only with the Authority of the Magistrate."

He stated that the Maximum detention period was seven days if the police satisfied the magistrate that the detention was necessary.

He stated that any other period beyond seven days would only be done by the order of the President.

He also said that the regulations had also extended the powers of the police to the defence forces

and other national security services when acting in aid of the police.

"These regulations are not meant to interfere with freedom and liabilities of Law abiding citizens but will only be applied to citizens who are found breaking the law. The General public is free to go about their normal business as there is no curfew nor restrictions in movements," he emphasised.

He stated that regarding the regulations that would require the President to issue specific orders to be implemented, the President would only Invoke them under compelling circumstances.

" These regulations are-:

A) Prohibit certain activities at dwelling places and in Public places.

B)Close premises

C)Impose Curfews

D)Blackouts

E)Controlling of Electricity

F)Restriction Orders

G)Direct Persons to proceed to and remain in any part of Zambia and ,

H)Detain Specific Persons."

"His Excellency The President has not issued any specific order in this regard. Security agencies therefore, will not implement any of these regulations," Lubinda said.

He stated that the regulations also provided for procedures for any person who was aggrieved in addition to the existing procedures in the courts of law.

"I urge members of the public to continue with their normal lives and support the security agencies in the preservation of public security," he said.

The Minister encouraged members of the public to take interest to read the regulations to avoid being misled.

"These regulations can be obtained by the public from the Government Printers at K40 per copy," said Lubinda.

## PF risk fielding ineligible Edgar Lungu in 2021 - Wynter

**From front page**

That is what they are doing. They are acting as if they know the decision of the court already because if they have lawyers there and Edgar himself being a lawyer, he should be telling them, 'can you wait until this matter has been decided upon because we are the ones that took this matter to court,'" Kabimba observed.

"But also, if they are not careful about this matter, and they proceed the way they are proceeding, they may end up having a candidate running for elections even winning that election and going for an unconstitutional term which will haunt him in future. They may end up having a candidate who doesn't qualify, who may even win the election and run an unconstitutional term and surely that will come round and haunt him when another government comes into office. So they have to be very careful, this is not a matter that they should play around with."

Kabimba feared that it was possible for the Electoral Commission of Zambia to allow an ineligible presidential candidate to contest polls. "If you do not qualify but for some reason the ECZ in the situation in which we are, accepts your papers that you have qualified and after five years, another government comes into being and they say that the man did not qualify, it means that you were in office illegally. And he must be punished for that, so this is not a matter that they must be playing around with, this is a serious matter. What does it mean? It means that you must pay back all the emoluments that were paid to you in that five years. That's my view," he said.

"So this is not a party matter, it is a constitutional matter. It is one thing if you just don't qualify under the party constitution and you qualify under the republican constitution but it is another thing even if your party says yes and the Constitution says no but you bulldoze your way through, it means you have committed an offence and all those individuals in those institutions that may have assisted you in doing that commit an offence and this is what comes to haunt people when they are out of office."

And Kabimba reminded expelled Kambwili that those who live by the sword die by it.

"The only comment I can make on Kambwili is that there is a big lesson that those who kill by the sword shall die by the sword. Kambwili and his group thought that I was their impediment in their becoming presidents of the Patriotic Front and hence the concerted fight against me. And then now, I am sure he realizes that even without me, he is not getting that opportunity. So those who kill by the sword shall die by the sword."

# PF is run by frustrated SG and deputy, they wanted to be ministers - youths

By Joseph Mwenda

A recorded conversation among PF youths, obtained by News Diggers! has revealed their frustrations with Secretary General Davies Mwila and deputy Mumbi Phiri, whom they accuse of failing to manage the ruling party.

But Mwila says the youths are ordinary members who don't know how much he is doing to mobilize the Patriotic Front grassroots around the country.

Meanwhile PF media and publicity director Sunday Chanda says it is unfortunate that the youths were accusing the ruling party chief executive of not working, adding that Mwila and Mumbi were the best combination that has ever led the secretariat.

In the recording, renowned militant PF supporter Julius Komaki and Alex Kanyebele are exchanging views over the lack of morale within the party. They go ahead to suggest that Mwila has not yet gotten over his election loss in Chipili constituency and that Mumbi was equally frustrated because she wanted to be Munalu member of parliament as well as Minister. "Secretariat ilya mupele abantu ababa frustrated ukuranging'a. Aba abaiche baliishibe bwino baamba ukubomfya, nomba umulomo. Wemuntu umukulu niwe walaumfwila umulomo? Nomba bafilwa ukucita manage aba abaice, ichalo echo balacita manage? Bafilwa ukucita manage cipili icalo echo balacita manage? (You have given the secretariat to frustrated people to run. These youths they are using knew how to work, but the gossip... How can a senior member listen to gossip? Then you fail to manage the youths, how can you manage the country? You failed to manage Chipili (Constituency), how can you manage a country?," Kanyebele is heard saying in the recording during a chat at the airport.

"Balefwaya bu MP nabu minister ebo baishiba, balya

nabo, balefwaya kumunali, nabu minister, chapwa, ebo mwapela party ati raning'eni. Bali frustrated, tefyo balefwaya, umuntu kumupela eflyo alefwaya, epo alabomba bwino. Not ifi, abantu balikakikwa, tapali morale. (They wanted ministerial positions, that's what they know. That other one wanted to be Munalu MP and a ministerial position. Those are the people you have given the party to run. They are frustrated, you are supposed to give someone what they want to do, that's when they can work properly, not like this. people are tied up, there is no morale in the party)."

But Mwila said the ruling party was big and it was not possible for every member to like him.

"They are just like members on the street, how do you respond to them? It doesn't concern me. Members can say anything. In the entire country or membership, not everyone will like you. Some will say bad things some will say good things, that's just how life is," said Mwila.

When told that the youths felt he was not working because he was not on the ground to mobilise the party, Mwila said only the party leadership would tell him if he was not performing.

"It is not them to tell me that I am not mobilising the party, it's the structures; and I have been going round the country. They don't know that? Next week we are going to Western Province, what are they talking about?" asked Mwila. Meanwhile, Chanda defended Mwila, saying the party executive was discharging his duties to the best of his capacity.

"The Secretary General of the Patriotic Front remains solidly in charge of the day-to-day affairs of the party and anyone alleging otherwise is ignorant of the state of the Party. The Secretary General is number three in the hierarchy of this country and is higher than Cabinet ministers. He is beyond any sort of imagined

frustration and those who are thinking as such will wake up to a rude awakening as Hon Mwila leads the Party into high mobilisation gear," said

Chanda.

"We therefore urge members of the Party not to fall prey to frustrated voices within. The party is bigger and greater

than any one individual. Loyal members have a duty to rebuild without being distracted... Honourable Mwila and Ambassador

Mumbi Phiri are the best combination that has ever led the secretariat and therefore, that recording should be dismissed with contempt"



PF Secretary General Davies Mwila and his deputy Mumbi Phiri

## Lungu unhappy with ACC's failure to prosecute politicians - Lubinda

By Mukosha Funga

Justice Minister Given Lubinda says President Edgar Lungu is also disappointed with the failure by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) to prosecute politicians.

And Transparency International Zambia president Rueben Lifuka says the ACC must not be used as a tool to settle political scores.

Speaking during the launch of the Anti-Corruption Study in Southern Africa yesterday, Lubinda said President Lungu had made it clear that there would be no sacred cows in the

fight against corruption.

"One of the challenges that the Anti Corruption Commission is facing is the unfortunate perception that they get instruction from the executive on who to prosecute. This perception has raised serious concerns on the part of the executive. For instance, His Excellency the President has generally taken exception of the failure by the anti corruption bodies to prosecute cases involving politically inclined people. The President has indicated that the culture of waiting for the executive

to instruct on who to pursue must never be entertained. The President has publicly indicated and I quote, 'I will not use the Anti-Corruption Commission to fire anyone but I expect them to operate efficiently and fairly,'" said Lubinda.

Lifuka said a compromised Anti-Corruption Commission would only lead to a compromised fight against the scourge.

"We want to see an end to this trend of ACC only becoming active in investigating when people are fired from government positions. The ACC should not be used as a tool to settle political scores. We want to see an ACC which does its work without any undue influence. Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, a compromised anti corruption body simply leads to a compromised fight against corruption. The people lose trust in the whole process and corruption continues to thrive," Lifuka said.

He also observed that the PF was not doing much to fight corruption despite riding on that promise whilst still in opposition.

"We can all agree that Zambia faces a monumental problem, corruption. We cannot sit here and deceive ourselves that corruption is not real in this country. We are glad as TIZ that President Edgar Lungu a couple of months ago highlighted the seriousness of the problem when he indicated that there was too much corruption in this country including in his

Cabinet. Several reports such as the TI corruption perception index and our own locally driven bribery perception index all underscore the seriousness of the problem. Corruption erodes people's sense of equity and their belief in government. It undermines trust in government, business and society and it sustains both poverty and inequality," said Lifuka.

"We are gathered here today because despite the problem at hand, we do not seem to be taken the required action that is needed. In this country, we place a premium on making political pronouncements and in the fight against corruption. We have not invested enough in tackling the problem and tackling the problem. The Patriotic Front came into government on the back of a strong anti corruption campaign. We were therefore expectant as civil society that we would make a lot of progress but honorable minister, I don't think we are moving at the pace that we all expected. Some of us spent a number of years under the MMD government highlighting corruption that was prevalent at the time and when the PF came into power, we expected much more. Today, we hear comments from senior government officials that still suggest that the ascendance to power of a political party is a license for supporters of that party to reap the benefits through award of contracts."

## I'm a threat to the sole candidate - CK

From Front page

And Kambwili says he will fight for his membership in court because he wants to defend the PF from "infiltrators".

In a telephone interview with Muvi TV after he informed them that he would be unable to feature on The Assignment programme due to security concerns this evening, Kambwili said resolving to have a sole candidate was not democracy.

"I have said and I want to say it again, my preoccupation is to work for the people of Roan and work for the people of Zambia and not talk about standing in 2021 but it appears some people's preoccupation is just to stand in 2021 and anybody who they perceive to be standing in their way has to be kicked out. And there was even a resolution that somebody has to be a sole candidate for 2021, that is not democracy and I will not sell my principle for the purpose of appeasing an individual but I will give more details when I appear on the programme," Kambwili said. "Today we were supposed to have a press

briefing at my home [but] we were reliably informed that some PF cadres were being loaded on buses in Inter City to come and disrupt the press briefing and to prevent that I cancelled so that we do not put the lives of journalists and the people who were supposed to attend the press briefing at risk. So when we appear on Sunday, I will give a full account of what transpired and I will leave it to the people of Zambia to decide and I am going to fight in court for my membership because I love this party and I will not allow new comers to destroy the party that we have suffered for just for the purpose of somebody being a sole candidate for 2021 presidential elections."

And Kambwili said he would challenge his expulsion in court.

"The procedure was not followed and I will take the matter to court for the court to determine whether my expulsion is legal or illegal," he said.

Asked what he would do if the court upheld his expulsion, Kambwili said he would cross

the bridge when he got there.

Kambwili lamented that infiltrators were reaping the benefits of hard work and suffering by long serving members of the party.

"I love this party dearly and I would want to defend this party and see it united the way our founder Michael Chilufya Sata left it. But some few people are bent on destroying the party for personal gain and I think members of the party and I think members of the party would not accept these people to destroy the party. The party has been infiltrated. The old members who suffered for the party have been thrown out of the party in preference for people who have come now," said Kambwili. "We fought to remove MMD for 10 years. If I knew that I was fighting for ten years to go to prison and whatever happened to us in the bush, we slept in the bush, for the people who were in government at that time to be ministers again, I was not going to waste my time. We will talk more when I appear on the programme."



Lusaka City Market burning down

## LAZ not affected by arson - Amos

By Mirriam Chabala

Special Assistant to the President for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda says the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) does not want to support measures being taken by government to stop acts of arson because they are not affected.

Speaking to journalists at the PF secretariat yesterday, Chanda said LAZ did not want to support the Presidents' invocation of Article 31 to because cases of arson neither affected them nor their children.

"The invocation of Article 31 is producing desired results and ordinary people have

nothing to worry about as police are enforcing law and order. Right now, there is no need to escalate the measures that have already been put in place. So far so good, the President has not seen the need at this moment to escalate the measures [for the Threatened State of Emergency]. Honourable [Given] Lubinda outlined the measures that are in force and he also outlined the measures that can be enforced if these measures are not sufficient and so far so good, the police are reporting tremendous progress with regards investigations [through] arrests and also prevention

of other activities as I have to you attempts have been made on oxygen chambers on Hospitals," said Chanda. "Individuals have attempted to blow up oxygen chambers at the UTH in the Children's ward at UTH and even though the Law Association of Zambia does not think that is serious enough to warrant the government to

move in, well it's because maybe they don't have children in the ward at UTH or if the Law Association of Zambia as an institution does not think that an attempt on 250 mega watts power line is not serious enough, again we leave it to people's judgment because the Law Association of Zambia will not be affected."

## Mutati's MMD still independent - Nakacinda

By Mirriam Chabala

Raphael Nakacinda says the Felix Mutati led MMD is still an independent political party even though it is in an alliance

with the ruling Patriotic Front (PF).

In an interview, Nakacinda, who is MMD national secretary, claimed his party was providing checks and balances to the PF despite its president Mutati being Minister of Finance.

"First of all, we have a responsibility to advise and provide checks and balances to the Patriotic Front especially that we are in a working relationship with them. MMD continues to be an independent political party, what happened in 2016 prior to the general elections was basically us endorsing the candidature of Edgar Lungu and going into a working relationship or alliance for that election which has culminated in having our party president Felix Mutati taking up a position as Minister of Finance in this government. We think that his participation in government will also help in dealing with some of the challenges that the country has been facing," Nakacinda said.

"I think you would appreciate that for the past couple of months that Mr Mutati has been Minister of Finance, we have seen some economic gain that you can point to. For example you can see that the Kwacha is beginning to gain and the inflation is improving. You may have also noticed that when it comes to the economic recovery forum that was pronounced through the 2017 budget has generated an excitement and good will from local circles because of this approach to engage different stakeholders and get their input in the economic recovery programme which is dubbed 'Zambia plus'." Nakacinda charged that Nevers Mumba was only clinging to

the presidency for political relevance.

"Obviously you know that the president for MMD is honorable Felix Mutati and you can check for yourself at the registrar of societies or indeed any legal body that recognises the leadership of political parties and I can confirm to you that Dr Mumba hasn't got anybody following him. He may be a loud mouth but that doesn't mean that he has a following. At the moment he is advancing an agenda with UPND but he has been to using and clinging on to the MMD name basically for political relevance. What we know now is that he is orchestrating a plan to try and see if he can also be part of the leadership if not top of the UPND while HH is incarcerated," Nakacinda said. "Actually the message that Nevers is grieving over HH is hypocritical [because] some of the discussions behind the scenes that we are preview to suggest that there is a plan of hoping that if HH can be incarcerated or convicted even if it's for a lesser charge and disqualified, maybe he can be a part of the formula for 2021 under UPND. So you see that there is no genuineness in all the activities, the only thing that as MMD we have taken a position that we will not waste time on Nevers Mumba because he is not a factor and as evidenced in the 2015 general elections...the gentleman stood as Presidential candidate and he got less than 15,000 votes. Surely I don't think that such a person who can be beaten even at ward level is somebody that we have to pay attention to. He may be an irritating noise in our ears but I think we choose to look

at the bigger picture and focus ourselves on what we need to achieve."

Nakacinda also observed that politicians were quick in creating problems but very reluctant in solving them.

"Of course for us we encourage every effort to bring peace, to initiate dialogue and every effort to bring unity, you will find MMD endorsing such a message. World over, most of the conflicts that have been made in countries or nations are political in nature because as politicians we seem to be quick in creating problems but very reluctant in solving them. So politicians should be the first ones to initiate a process of changing a situation that is seemingly bringing tension in this country and those who are in government have even a greater responsibility because they are in government and have the entire system to their disposal. It doesn't reduce or take away from you as a leader to sit down and seek dialogue," said Nakacinda.

"It doesn't make you weak actually it makes you stronger if you can rise above your emotions and some of the feelings you may have against those who are insulting or speaking ill of you and be able to reach out in a greater interest of the nation to engage into dialogue, so for us as MMD owing to our experience of 20 years in government and 7 years in opposition we think we can advise both our partners in government and also fellow opposition political parties, we are in a unique position in that we are both opposition and also associated with those who are in government so both parts we can reach."

## Chishimba condemns Pick n Pay slave wages

By Mirriam Chabala

United Progressive People (UPP) leader Saviour Chishimba has hailed Pick N Pay employees for going on a nationwide strike in protest of the K50 salary increment proposed by management.

And Chishimba has called on the Ministry of Labour to enforce the labour law compliance audits and adjust upwards, the minimum wage policy across all sectors to ensure that foreign companies localise job positions that Zambians can competently occupy.

In a statement, Chishimba noted that Zambia was not a fertile ground for slave wages and cautioned management not to victimise any worker because of the the strike.

"We, in the United Progressive People (UPP), fully support and stand with the suffering workers of Pick n Pay who are protesting against slave wages. In the same breathe, we noted that negotiations for better pay were underway, but we categorically urged management to grant all the workers not less than K1, 000 salary increments across the board. This is a reasonable proposal because the evidence

before us shows that some of the workers get as little as K400 per month, Pick n Pay cannot pay this amount to workers in South Africa," Saviour stated.

"We seize this occasion to sternly warn Pick n Pay management that Zambia is not a fertile ground for slave wages. The workers demands are fair and genuine and no single worker should be victimised as a result of the strike action and we are closely monitoring the situation."

Chishimba further called on the Ministry of Labour to enforce the labour law compliance audits and adjust upwards, the minimum wage policy across all sectors.

"We seriously urge the Ministry of Labour to enforce the labour law compliance audits and adjust, upwards, the minimum wage policy across all sectors. The Ministry must also ensure that all other foreign companies Zambianise accountancy and all other positions that Zambians can competently occupy. We also urge tax authorities to charge penalties against Pick n Pay for all the historic tax evasions that they did using the NGO for dubious acts of

lawlessness. Pick n Pay has been making huge profits in Zambia and they must share the revenues with Zambia through fair pay and full tax compliance," he stated.

And Chishimba stated that his party would fully enforce all labour laws as well as index the minimum wage to the basic needs basket if at all he was given chance to rule the country.

"We also applauded the decision to terminate the contract of a worker who was working in accounts as well as leading an NGO which management had been using for many years to casualise Zambians in the name of helping the vulnerable. A fortnight ago, UPP commended Pick n Pay management for acting on our recommendation to Zambianise accountancy positions because our country has competent and qualified accountants."

"The future UPP Government, God willing, will fully enforce all labour laws as well as index the minimum wage to the Basic Needs Basket. Zambian workers will be the most dignified and respected in the region," stated Saviour.

# Abolishing students' unions a misplaced agenda - NARSAUWZ

**By Karen Mwelwa**  
National Road Sector Agency and Allied Union Workers of Zambia (NARSAUWZ) leader Clement Mwila says governments intention to abolish university and college

students' unions is a misplaced agenda. Mwila was responding to Higher Education Minister, Nkandu Luo's statement to Parliament that her ministry was considering abolishing

students' unions because they were not necessary. He observed that the PF government's inability to accept criticisms was dangerous, and was forcing those in power to see critics as

enemies. "This government can't accept criticisms, when they are criticised, they think that the institution or people who question them are enemies of government. Zambia is bigger

than those in power. So people need to have a thick skin and accept criticisms," Mwila said. "The current government should be objective, when they are criticised let them not see students' unions as political

enemies because at the end of the day we need to move forward as a nation." He said it was clear that Luo perceived students as enemies. "Now Government decides to say no because they are not in good books with one or two unions they decide to abolish the movement. I think to us as a union, its very unfair and government is not being objective. They should think twice about their decisions because these same unions act as a future for tomorrow. And they act as a voice to the voiceless students and society," Mwila said.

He reminded Prof Luo and other Parliamentarians that they were products of students' unions and similar students' movements.

"There are a number of key figures in decision making positions in government who have come from the student unions and already, we shouldn't even go far, like Kangombe, (Christopher) a youthful mayor for Kitwe is coming from the student movement. He was groomed from there, now if government decides to abolish the student movement then they are killing the future and we are not going to have proper leaders," said Mwila.

"We expected government to in fact formulate a deliberate policy of how to groom these student union leaders before they leave universities or colleges because these are the future leaders. But now they want to form a policy to kill the future and moreover, they act as checks and balances for government and institutions and they have got a following and following which is very popular."



## Kapata mocks Lusaka Mayor over suggestion to bury Zesco cables

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
When we heard the suggestion from the Mayor that we should bury high voltage electricity cables, we looked at the calendar to see if it was April Fools' Day, says Zesco Spokesperson Henry Kapata.

Mayor of Lusaka Wilson Kalumba, recently suggested that Zesco should consider getting rid of Pylons and instead bury high voltage cables and create room for more residential plots in Lusaka.

But speaking on the Kwacha Good Morning Zambia ZNBC TV show yesterday, Kapata asked if the City council could give Zesco US\$70 million needed for such an exercise, when there were retirees queuing up for their pensions at the local authority.

"First of all when we heard that statement from the mayor, we checked on our calendar whether it was Fools' Day because re-routing of pylons is a very expensive exercise that one can ever take... because all these lines that we are talking about the 132, 188,

they are connected to several sub stations. Remember that we did the re-routing of zesco poles on Chilimbulu road, Burma where RDA paid us about 4 million," said Kapata.

"And re-routing of those

pylons we are talking about 70-80 million dollars for a start for us as Zesco limited to open up that chapter. And so does the council have that money to give us when everyday we watch people lining up for their retirement

payments? I think they must take certain priorities than talking about re-routing pylons because that is practically impossible. I don't think as Zesco limited we will open up a chapter to talk about it."

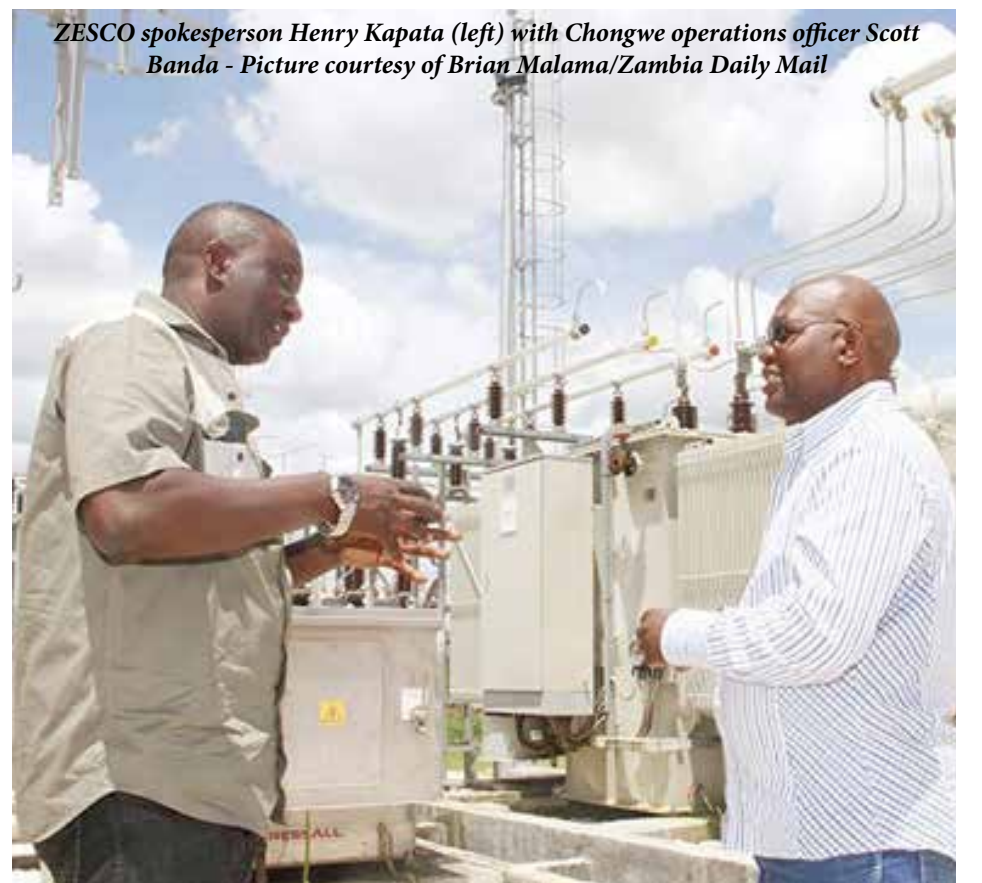
## Kaunda out of hospital

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
First Republican President Dr Kennerh Kaunda has been discharged from the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) where he was admitted for four days. Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya who visited the former President at the hospital shortly before he was discharged confirmed the development.

Dr Chilufya said Dr Kaunda was discharged with a team of specialists who would be carrying out scheduled reviews on him.

"Doctors are satisfied with his condition, he is stable and He is free to go home. He is being discharged with a team of specialists in our specialists transport and we will continue following up on his condition from the team of specialists that we have constituted. For now he will be attending scheduled reviews as determined by the team of specialists," Dr said Chilufya.

"I can confirm that Doctors have told us that he is in a stable condition and he can go home. As I mentioned earlier on that Dr Kaunda came in with a minor ailment and he has recovered fully and for now we also took advantage of the facility to do a number of tests on him."



ZESCO spokesperson Henry Kapata (left) with Chongwe operations officer Scott Banda - Picture courtesy of Brian Malama/Zambia Daily Mail

# High Court to set treason trial dates on August 14

By Mukosha Funga

The Lusaka High Court will on August 14 set dates for trial in UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema's treason case. One of HH's lawyers Keith Mweemba confirmed this to News Diggers! in an interview. "Yes, we got something from the High Court, cause list says the session will begin on 14th August. So that is when the trial dates will be set. The accused have to be present because trial can begin the same day or the next day," said Mweemba. The case has been allocated to Ndola High Court judge Charles Chanda who will sit in Lusaka on August 14. HH and his five co-accused have been in prison for over 100 days now.

## Former MET director in court for corruption

By Mukosha Funga

Former Zambia Meteorological Department director Jacob Nkomoki and three others have appeared in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court for corrupt practices. According to the indictment, in count one, Nkomoki, Joseph Kanyanga, Oversease Mwangase and Mukufute Mukelabai on dates unknown but between 1st July, 2014 and 31st November 2015 being public officers namely directors and senior officer respectively corruptly solicited for 12,459 Euros

cash as gratification from GBMS Engineering Limited as a reward in order for them to sign a completion statement the works that were awarded to the said company. In count two, the four are charged with abuse of authority of office for the manner in which a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between MET and GBMS Engineering. They will take plea before magistrate David Simusamba soon.



## Social media malice hurts - Mumbi Phiri

By Mukosha Funga

Patriotic Front Deputy Secretary General Mumbi Phiri says a lot of female politicians are hurting because of malice on social

media.

Mumbi was speaking to journalists after testifying in a matter in which she sued a 45-year-old man for insinuating

that she sacrificed her son to become a big political figure.

In this matter, Asher Hakantu is accused of posting defamatory words against Mumbi in a WhatsApp group called "We need a better Zambia" on unknown dates but between May 6, 2017 and May 8, 2017 in Lusaka.

"With intent to defame Mumbi Phiri, unlawfully did publish a defamatory matter concerning the said person on a WhatsApp bloc namely 'We need a better Zambia', to which you wrote, 'Are you sure she didn't sacrifice the innocent boy for her to come into a political limelight, who knew this finished scrap cargo before she lost her son in Kawambwa School accident. Apusa maningi Mumbi Phiri,'" read the indictment.

After the court hearing, Mumbi told journalists that there was no need to pretend about the gravity of malice on social media.

"I am a woman, we are fighting that we should have 50/50 gender representation then we have people who want to character assassinate us few women who are in politics. So we shouldn't pretend, a lot of us are hurting over the malice that is being posted on Facebook and social media. Can you imagine, the same UPND created a story that I am sick and I have been evacuated to India. Do I even look sick? And I was receiving calls from all over the country. What type of people are they that want to always see people dead? And for me, I have resolved that until I see this case to the end, in fact tomorrow I will be at the High Court to sue him for defamation so that we have two cases running," Mumbi said.

During examination in chief, Mumbi testified that Hakantu's post was shocking because it was unthinkable for one parent to mock the death of another's child.

Mumbi said Hakantu invited her for a meeting to talk over a cup of Irish coffee or whisky after he allegedly posted the defamatory statement but she declined because she did not want to relive painful memories of her son Taza's death and instead reported the matter to police.

Mumbi told the court that everyone who sympathized with the Kawambwa accident victims knew that the pupils died as a

result of negligence by the school authorities and that was why the head teacher and police officers who were at the checkpoint in Kawambwa had been sued in the High Court.

"When the accident happened, every Zambia sympathized with us hence they were even lawyers who took it upon themselves to sue the state," Mumbi said.

"According to the lawyers and Zambians at large they felt the children died as a result of negligence by the school authority who allowed the children to get on the transport which was rejected at Mable Show Secondary School."

Mumbi said she felt deeply insulted when Hakantu referred to her as scrap.

"I felt insulted because from what I know you cannot describe a human being as scrap. Scrap is referred to metals not human beings," she said.

And Mumbi also said she felt abused over her repeated inclusion in the Whatsapp group. "I have come out of this forum for so many times but they keep adding me. They add you without your consent the administrators are UPND," she testified.

But in cross examination led by lawyer Keith Mweemba, Mumbi said she did not have any tangible evidence to show that she was defamed by the accused.

The seemingly emotional Mumbi said despite messages being deleted, some screen shots were taken by a female police officer.

Mumbi kept on complaining that Mweemba was intimidating her by probing on availability of evidence to prove her claims but the court reminded her that she was merely assisting it to arrive at a just decision.

Mumbi denied ever mocking Mutinta Hichilema over her husband's arrest after being asked about her post in a Whatsapp group where she allegedly wrote that Mutinta was dramatizing her husband's arrest in front of cameras.

Mumbi also denied ever posting a comment in relation to Hichilema's arrest on treason charges.

The matter comes up on August 3, 2017 for continued cross examination where defense lawyers will show footage of Mumbi's comments on HH's arrest.

## Kazimai Market owners sue PF civic leaders for interference

By Diggers Reporter

Kazimai Marketeers Cooperative Society Limited shareholders have sued two

Patriotic Front civic leaders in the Lusaka High Court for allegedly interfering with the smooth running of the market.

According to a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court by Anderson Zulu and four others, the shareholders

want an injunction to restrain Watson Mtonga, a councillor, and Thomas Kaluba, a ward chairman, from causing further interference in the management and administration of the market in Lusaka's Mtendere compound.

Zulu complained that Mtonga and Kaluba had caused many irregularities at the market and had imposed their political will on the general membership and shareholders without regard to the legality under the circumstances.

Zulu claimed that the two councillors had on numerous occasions misappropriated funds, distorted the registers and records which rectification ought to be adjudicated upon by the court.

Zulu further stated that the two civic leaders were perpetrating their political will which did not serve the interest of the majority of people having an interest in the market.

He started that traders had tried to resolve the issue of political interference with the registrar of cooperatives but to no avail.

The plaintiffs are now seeking a declaration that the market is an entity existent by the due registrations as per certificate of registration and should be administered within the confines of the cooperatives act number 198 of 2008.

They also want the court to direct the registrar of cooperatives in implementing all the legalities pending the determination of the matter.



## Truck overturns, kills 11 passengers

By Joseph Mwenda

Eleven people died on the spot in the Munali Hills traffic accident that happened around 20:00 hours yesterday on the Kafue-Mazabuka road.

According to Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) head of public relations Frederick Mubanga, the accident happened after a Hino Ranger truck ferrying about 53 people from Lusaka to Chikanta village in Choma, lost control and overturned whilst descending the Munali Hills.

He said among the deceased are three children.

"The Hino Ranger truck AKB 2872 belongs to Mr Andrew Kazanyika of Kasukwe Basic School in Choma. According to eyes witnesses, the driver of the truck lost control whilst descending the Munali hills

and fell into a ditch. The truck was laden with assorted goods and items among them a hammer mill; and a total number of 53 passengers are believed to have been on the truck," Mubanga said.

He added that 39 injuries were recorded with one female in a critical condition referred to the University Teaching Hospital.

"Five people escaped with minor injuries that didn't require immediate medical attention. The driver's whereabouts are not known but eye witnesses say the drivers exchanged after passing Turnpike. As RTSA we call upon the travelling public to ensure that they use appropriate modes of transport for both goods and passengers. The crash could have been avoided had the travellers used a more safe and appropriate means of transport," said Mubanga.

# Poverty in Luapula up from 76% to 82%, says Minister



*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*

Luapula Province Minister Nickson Chilangwa says poverty levels in his province have over the last five years escalated from 76 percent to about 82 percent.

Chilangwa who is also Kawambwa PF Member of Parliament said the only way to fight poverty in the province was by creating platforms for people to find jobs and raise their economic profiles.

He said this when he featured on the Patriotic Front (PF) interactive Forum today.

“The fishing industry is driving the economy of Luapula province. Nearly 80 percent of the population in the province live in the river line areas, they live around lake Bangweulu swamps on the Luapula river, around lake Mweru. The

population has grown, the fishing industry has grown.

It is for that reason that we find highest poverty levels in Luapula province have grown especially in those areas which rely on fishing industries. You find in some constituencies like Chifunabuli, poverty levels are as high as 92 percent because of the dwindling fishing stocks,” Chilangwa said,” Chilangwa said.

“Poverty levels in Luapula province over the last five, six, seven years have been going from about 76 percent in about seven or so years ago to about 82 percent now. In other provinces, poverty levels are dropping, but in Luapula province they are escalating. What are the reasons? Both historical, political, cultural and otherwise. The only way we can fight poverty is by putting more money in people’s pockets like raising people’s economic profiles. We need to create a platform where people are able to find jobs, where people are able to find markets for their produce. That is why we came up with the Luapula Expo.”

He explained that the upcoming Luapula Expo which was expected to commence on 26th

and end on 31st July 2017 was mainly aimed at showcasing and improving the economic performance of the province.

“The Luapula Expo basically is to raise the profile of Luapula province, to showcase Luapula province, to improve the economic performance of the province. You cannot improve the economic performance of an area, of a region, or a country if you do not invite people with money to come and partner with you,” Chilangwa said.

And Chilangwa boasted about the upcoming investments in his province which he said would further raise the provincial profile from that of fish farming only.

“Now that we have got a bit more of power coming into Luapula province, we have Mansa sugar. Mansa sugar is a company that has set up a sugar estate. And before the end of this year, they are going to start constructing a sugar processing plant in Mansa. We have sunbird who are going to be producing ethanol from cassava and they are going to put up a processing plant as well in Kawambwa,” said Chilangwa. “We have got Kawambwa sugar who are also setting up a second sugar plantation in Luapula province and they are also going to put up a processing plant. We have another company called agro-pro, they want to grow cassava to produce industrial starch in Mansa and they are also going to put up a starch processing plant in Mansa. In addition to that, CEEC are putting up an industrial park and we are doing a ground breaking ceremony with the Minister of Commerce next week.”

## Reduced mealie-meal price will affect famers - CUTS

*By Mirriam Chabala*

The Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) International says small-scale farmers who grew their grain at a high cost last season will be negatively affected by the reduction in the selling price of mealie-meal.

And CUTS has encouraged the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) to consider purchasing maize from farmers that are most in need citing that previous studies have shown that only a few poor households are beneficiaries of FRA.

In a statement, CUTS International Zambia Centre Coordinator Chenai Mukumba acknowledged the drop in mealie-meal prices resulting from high productivity of maize but regretted that the development would disadvantage farmers who grew their grain at a high cost last season.

“CUTS would like to acknowledge the positive outlook of the agricultural sector with regards to the drop in mealie-meal prices as result of high productivity of maize. A few months ago, a 25kg bag of breakfast mealie-meal was fetching between K96 and K106, and in some cases as high as K120. But a check in retail outlets has established that the prices of mealie-meal have fallen significantly,” Mukumba stated.

“The drop in prices is as a result of the bumper harvest as well as the market forces of demand and

supply as most millers are now buying maize grain from farmers at lower prices. However, in as much as the price reduction will benefit consumers, small-scale farmers who grew the grain at a high cost when compared to the price they are selling to millers will be affected.”

And Mukumba commended FRA for reducing the amount of maize to purchase this year.

However, she encouraged the agency to consider purchasing maize from poor farmers adding that previous studies had shown that only a few poor households were beneficiaries of FRA.

“CUTS would therefore like to note that the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) indicated that they would buy a limited amount of maize this year. Firstly, as CUTS we would like to commend them for their decision despite the bumper harvest. We encourage the FRA not to buy more than they already indicated. Minister of Agriculture, Honourable Dora Siliya said that the agency has in the past operated and purchased crop from at least 1,223 satellite depots,” she stated

“However, FRA intends to operate 760 satellite depots across the country. This will imply a drop of 463 depots or 33 per cent of the depots. This is in line with the policy pronouncement of limiting the strategic food reserve purchase to 500,000 metric tonnes. As such, we urge the FRA to the buy maize that they have set out to purchase from the farmers that are most in need. It is more important this year that the FRA redouble their efforts to purchase from low income farmers as previous studies have shown that only a few poor households are beneficiaries of FRA.”

Meanwhile, Mukumba noted that the implementation of incentives such as the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) by the government were also important to cushion poor farmers.

“Statistics show that the agency mostly purchases from non-poor households. According to a study done by the World Bank Group on ‘Reaping Richer Returns from Public expenditures in Agriculture’, statistics show that non-poor households sold fifty-three out of 92 50kg bags of maize to the

FRA while extremely poor households sold only seven out of 23 bags.”

“It is also important to note that given the low maize prices the government may

need to consider another way to cushion poor farmers such as through the implementation of the Social Cash Transfer (SCT),” stated Mukumba



## Mwamba brings Trade, Investment forum to Zambia

*By Mirriam Chabala*

Zambia’s High Commissioner to South Africa Emmanuel Mwamba is tomorrow expected to lead a high powered delegation of 20 leading South African Companies and Business representatives on an outward Trade and Investment Mission.

The visit which has been organized by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), South African High Commissioner to Zambia Sikose Mji and the Zambia High Commission in South Africa is expected to hold a two-day consultative networking session and business to business meetings with Zambia’s private sector players and government agencies.

In a statement, First Secretary for Press and Public Relations to the Zambian High Commission in South Africa Naomi

Nyawali, said that the investment and trade mission was expected to increase awareness and of investment opportunities that existed in Zambia.

“Mr Mwamba explained that the Investment and Trade mission to Zambia was a culmination of the State visit to South Africa by His Excellency the President of Zambia Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu late last year where the two countries agreed to deepen bilateral trade and investment relations,” Nyawali stated.

“Mr Mwamba said the visit by the leading South African companies and business representatives follows Zambia’s investor friendly environment and abundant investment potential that exist in the country. He further noted that the investment and trade mission was

expected to increase awareness and of investment opportunities that exist in Zambia.”

Nyawali stated that the meetings which would be lead by Zambia’s Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry Margaret Mwanakatwe would attract stakeholders from the manufacturing, infrastructure development, tourism and mining sectors. “Zambia’s Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry Margaret Mwanakatwe is expected to lead the meetings that would be attended by representatives of the manufacturing sector, Zambia Association of Chamber of Commerce, and the Zambia Development Agency. And to be in attendance of the meeting are officials from the South African High Commission in Zambia and USAID,” she stated.

A wise Bemba saying “wilaikala pacipuna nowamatako ayakulu” warns against sharing a seat with a person with big buttocks because that person is likely to unseat you in the long run. This is true in principle and in reality. In reality, if you decide to share your seat with someone who is blessed with an enormous behind, you must be ready to give up your chair eventually. The same applies in principle; if you incompetently embark on a project, and you decide to incorporate smarter brains on your idea, those intelligent people are capable of taking over the innovation. They can take all the credit for the positive achievements and leave you to deal with the negative fallout.

This is what is happening to the PF as they create room for more MMD members. What has happened to Chishimba Kambwili, the Roan member of parliament, was very expected. It may be seen as good or bad, depending on which political divide you are observing from, but it was just a matter of time. We have also noted that very few people have expressed sympathy for Mr Kambwili. In fact, some are mocking him, saying “the expulsion is global”; that “he made his bed and it is his time to lie in it”. Others are telling him to go and use ZNBC, Times of Zambia and Zambia Daily Mail to complain about injustice, since he rubbished the role of private media when he was information minister. But at News Diggers! we welcome the former minister. We will cover him professionally, without prejudice or malice, because he remains a Zambian citizen with the right to freedom of expression. The only thing we can hope for is that honourable Kambwili will now show those who were being oppressed by the PF how he expected them to deal with the ruling party’s iron fist when he was the dispenser of injustice. Anyway, we will now leave posterity to judge Mr Kambwili.

# MMD buttocks too big to share a seat with

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Instead, we would like to express our opinion on the rise of MMD in green PF colours. On July 6, President Edgar Lungu said he was not ready to form a government of national unity. Yes, maybe not with the UPND, but we feel he is actually presiding over a PF-MMD coalition government already. This is a government that is being run by two presidents of two political parties - Edgar Lungu of PF in charge of politics and MMD’s Felix Mutati responsible for the economy. President Lungu and his ministers Stephen Kampyongo, Davies Chama, David Mabumba, Jean Kapata and others are running national politics. They are the militant bunch in control of the much-needed military power, source of money from the energy sector and land - a valuable political commodity. On the other hand, president Mutati and his ministers Margaret Mwanakatwe, Siliya, Mulusa,

Mwale and others are running the economy. They are in control of the Treasury, Agriculture, National Development and Local Government. These ‘MMD ministers’ are responsible for Zambia’s economic outlook and micro-economic stability. How is this not a coalition government? A negligible one or two opposition MPs in government is a different issue, this an alliance government. On May 3, 2015, Kambwili said “I would rather sell my soul to the devil than accept Dora Siliya who was insulting Michael Sata, as a member of PF”; Siliya is now full Cabinet minister and Kambwili is out. In fact, not only is Siliya a PF member of parliament and Cabinet minister, she is also a Member of the Central Committee that sat to expel Kambwili. Emmanuel Chenda, Bob Sichinga, Dr Ngosa Simbyakula and several other Michael Sata’s Cabinet appointees are out of government;

somehow replaced by Siliya, Lucky Mulusa, Victoria Kalima, Vincent Mwale and others. The same day Mr Kambwili was expelled from the ruling party, Mr Mwale was appointed to replace him as Member of the Central Committee. Clearly, the gigantic MMD buttocks are gaining steady grip of the PF’s seat.

It may not occur to President Edgar Lungu at this stage that these ‘MMD ministers’ he picked from Rupiah Banda’s school are much more skilled than those from the PF wing whom he is presiding over. They have political experience, they are careful with their statements, they don’t easily anger the public; they are cunning. This is not to say they are clean, far from it. They are as dirty as some PF ministers, if not dirtier. However, they are skilled at telling the public what it needs to hear.

For example, Zambians think finance minister Felix Mutati

is honest and smart, they think highly of him and hold his views in high esteem. Margaret Mwanakatwe might be mocked as a Muzungu in black skin, but she is definitely not a scatterbrain. She is exposed enough to know when to play politics and when to prey on politics. Even Dora Siliya, apart from her ridiculed private life, people respect her intelligence and political resilience. This is a woman whose 2011 election as Petauke MP was petitioned by the PF and she lost the seat. We don’t need to repeat how fast she is today rising to the top of the party that detested her. We understand that Ms Siliya even had the privilege of refusing a proposed appointment as information minister and government spokesperson under President Lungu, saying she did not want to start defending the proclamations left behind by Michael Sata.

We would not be surprised if one or two of these ‘MMD

ministers’ have already started conceiving the idea of leading the PF in future; after all, they are Members of the Central Committee and Guy Scott, who is former vice-president, has no say on the party he brought to power.

Meanwhile, those who are annoying the people with careless statements are Cabinet ministers of PF pedigree. Ministers like Stephen Kampyongo and David Mabumba who were suggesting extrajudicial killing on the floor of the National Assembly, encouraging police to shoot on site. This is not pleasing conduct to those who voted for Kampyongo and Mabumba, it is definitely not a pleasing state of affairs for those who voted to get rid of the MMD and its corruption.

We understand that those who wanted Mr Rupiah Banda to continue in power find this MMD encroachment very progressive. However, we feel President Lungu must prove that he is a leader worth his salt by making PF more popular as a stand-alone party than he found it. President Lungu must show that he has the political clout to kick the MMD away and win an election alone like Michael Sata did to the UPND before winning the 2011 polls. That’s is how people will respect him.

We don’t think it is wise for him to recall the ‘fallen’ MMD heroes to come and hold the PF together, and claim that the party is becoming more popular. We would like to warn President Lungu that the Camel’s nose is getting too far deep into his tent, and soon its buttocks will push him off the seat. This may not happen by ‘MMD ministers’ overthrowing him, but he is risking his presidency to the Zambian people. Those who voted against Mr Rupiah Banda and his ministers still have their voters’ cards; and if they decide to vote the MMD out again, President Lungu will be the greatest casualty.

# The case for Agro-Processing led industrialization.

The diversification rhetoric has been on Zambia’s development agenda for decades now but little -if any- has been achieved towards that goal. It is generally agreed that the economy must transition from copper dependency to agriculture, tourism and services sectors. However, the emphasis and rightly so, has been on making the agricultural sector value chain more productive and become a major foreign exchange earner for the country. Therefore, for the next couple of weeks, I will endeavor to offer common sense perspectives on how we can begin to rationalize the issues surrounding the diversification of the Zambian economy from copper dependency to agriculture sector and realize sustainable inclusive growth anchored on the agro-processing industry. The performance of the agriculture sector on the African continent has not been encouraging; the largest and wealthiest continent on earth is a net importer

of agricultural products. According to the African Development Bank (AfDB), Africa is currently spending in excess of US\$36 billion annually on food imports from outside the continent. This figure is projected to reach US\$110 billion by 2025 if nothing is done. These are monies that could otherwise be used to address the many socio-economic challenges facing the continent if food sufficiency could be attained. The continent has a small population of about 1.2 billion people compared to the two most populous countries (China = 1.4 billion; India = 1.28 billion) which are three and ten times smaller than the land size of Africa respectively. However, China and India both have a thriving and more productive agriculture sector despite the lack of adequate arable land and conducive weather conditions. In Zambia, the agriculture sector has been marred by uncoordinated and inconsistent policy directions-

with most of the resources being spent on the production of one crop. The agriculture sector is the largest employer by far and its success would guarantee enormous positive knock-on effects on the broad spectrum of the economy. According to the 2014 Labour Force survey, agriculture sector accounts for 48.9 percent of all formal jobs with manufacturing sector accounting for only 3.8 percent. Therefore, it is important that we get the conversations around agriculture sector development right if we are to achieve a structurally inclusive growth.

I think agro-processing (also known as food & beverages sector) should take centre stage in the diversification discourse of the Zambian economy. A viable and productive agriculture sector will only be attained when we begin to seriously address the challenges facing the entire spectrum of the value chain with deliberate emphasis on the demand side

of the network. This is because nature abhors a vacuum and the failure by the domestic agro-processing firms to meet the market demand will inevitably be cleared by imported products; a situation we are currently witnessing. The agro-processing industry is the largest component of manufacturing activities in Zambia. The latest available official statistics indicate that the food and beverages industry accounts for 72 percent of all manufacturing activities happening in Zambia. So when the 7th National Development Plan (7NDP) says manufacturing sector contributed 8.6 percent and 6.2 percent to GDP between 2006/10 and 2011/15 respectively, we should isolate agro-processing and analyze it independently because of its huge share in manufacturing. Despite this reality, the industry still continues to appear as a tiny component under agriculture in policy debates. The agro-processing sector is a huge sector

comprising 15 sub-sectors ranging from meat processing & preservation, fish processing & preservation, vegetable & animal oils/fats, ....., to soft drinks, mineral water and other bottled water. In Zambia, the entire sector is dominated by only two sub-sectors: the Bakery products and Grain milling products sub-sectors. They collectively account for more than 54 percent of all agro-processing firms in the country (see 2012 Economic Census data, CSO). This is not surprising, given the attention grain crops (especially maize) have received.

To wrap up, it is important to state some basic facts arising from this discussion:

There is sufficient market for agro-products both locally and across the continent, we just need to know what products “we are good at” producing. The agro-processing sector does not have the capacity to meet the prevailing market demand. Therefore, we must be concerned about what we should be doing to enhance capacity and efficiency of our agro-processing firms. Achieving an efficient and productive agro-processing industry is what would result in a profitable primary agriculture, not the other way

round. The reverse would result in wastage of inputs like the case is for maize

A successful well-coordinated strategy around agro-processing and primary agriculture will have the greatest positive impact on unemployment, poverty and inequality given the huge labour absorption capacity of the two sectors. The impressive growth recorded in the first decade of the millennium had no effect on poverty and unemployment because it was based on the mining sector which only employs less than 1.5 percent of the labour force and is characterized by low local embeddedness.

Send feedback to:  
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David Kapyo



# Buttock surgeon killed in suspected revenge attack

A Brazilian woman accused of carrying out illegal silicon implant procedures has been killed in a suspected revenge attack.

Marcilene Soares Gama, 49, had been accused by clients of using industrial silicone for buttock enlargement.

At the time of her death she faced court action over charges she pretended to be a doctor.

Police in Rio de Janeiro are looking for a man caught on a surveillance camera entering her flat on Saturday.

Her body was found hours later on a nearby road.

**'Anger and hatred'**

The man tied her hands behind her back, made her get in his car and shot her in the face before disposing of the body.

The killing has the hallmarks of a revenge attack, police said.

"Forensic experts concluded that she was shot in the face at close range, which is usually a sign of anger and hatred," chief investigator Fabio Cardoso told O Globo newspaper.

At least ten women have come forward saying their bodies were ruined in botched implant procedures carried out by Ms Gama.

**'People knew the risks'**

She was arrested twice for pretending to be a doctor in Rio and in Sao Paulo, but was

released and continued to practise despite facing a court case.

Her family denied the charges and said she always warned clients of the risks associated with silicone implant procedures.

"She never said she was a surgeon. People knew the risks but they went ahead anyway," said her brother-in-law, Daniel Mofacto.

"But I do believe that she was murdered by a vengeful client", he told O Dia newspaper.

Ms Gama had two children, aged 31 and 25, and was about to become a grandmother.

Buttock enhancement is one of several cosmetic procedures popular in Brazil, which has developed one of the world's largest plastic surgery industries.

-bbc.com

*Ithram-clad Malaysian Muslim boys circumambulate a mockup of the Kaaba, Islam's most sacred structure located in the holy city of Mecca, during an educational simulation of the Hajj pilgrimage in Shah Alam, outside Kuala Lumpur*



# China set to launch an 'unhackable' internet

As malicious hackers mount ever more sophisticated attacks, China is about to launch a new, "unhackable"

communications network - at least in the sense that any attack on it would be quickly detected.

The technology it has turned to is quantum cryptography, a radical break from the traditional encryption

methods around. The Chinese project in the city of Jinan has been touted as a milestone by state media.

distribution is that if anyone tries to intercept the light particles, they necessarily alter or destroy them.

The pioneering project is also part of a bigger story: China is taking the lead in a technology in which the West has long been hesitant to invest.

What this means is that any attempt at hacking will immediately be noticed by the original sender and the intended receiver - hence its description as "unhackable".

In the Jinan network, some 200 users from the military, government, finance and electricity sectors will be able to send messages safe in the knowledge that only they are reading them.

If quantum communication can help to secure online communications, why is China so far ahead?

China's push in quantum communication means the country is taking huge strides developing applications that might make the increasingly vulnerable internet more secure. Applications that other countries soon might find themselves buying from China. So, what is this technology into which the country is pouring massive resources?

"For a long time people simply didn't think it was needed," says Prof Myungshik Kim of Imperial College, London, adding that it was not clear whether there was a commercial market for this technology.

If you send a message you want to keep secure from eavesdroppers, traditional encryption works by hiding the key needed to read the message in a very difficult mathematical problem.

"The mathematical difficulty of the current coding system was so high that it was not thought necessary to implement the new technology," he says.

But what is "difficult" in terms of maths? It means you have to think really fast to figure it out as you try endless combinations of long, numeric keys. In 2017, that means you need to use a very powerful computer.

The research itself is not new and China does not have an edge over the competition. Where it does have an advantage is when it comes to applications.

Steady improvements in computer power mean that the number-based keys have to be lengthened periodically. Encryption has a shelf life and is rapidly becoming more vulnerable.

"Europe has simply missed the boat," says Prof Anton Zeilinger, a quantum physicist at Vienna University in Austria and a pioneer in the field.

There are also fears that the development of quantum computers, which effectively represent a massive step change in number crunching ability, will render much of modern encryption software vulnerable.

He says he tried to convince the EU as early as 2004 to fund more quantum-based projects but it had little effect.

The crucial advantage of this so-called quantum key

"Europe has been dragging its feet and this has hindered us from being able to compete," he says.

There are quantum key-based networks operating in the US and Europe but most are being carried out as research projects, rather than with commercial partners.

One problem is that it is expensive to build applications like the Jinan network. And if there is not yet a commercial market, it is hard to get investors or governments as backers.



# Pope shuts off Vatican fountains amid Italy drought

The Vatican has started shutting off its famous fountains amid a prolonged drought in many parts of Italy.

Vatican Radio said the move was in line with Pope Francis's teachings on the environment.

The Pope laid out his ecological fears in a 2015 encyclical, which denounced wasteful practices and highlighted the importance of clean drinking water.

The prolonged drought has hit two-thirds of farmland and has cost Italian agriculture some €2bn (\$2.3bn; £1.8bn).

The Vatican has about 100 fountains, including two Baroque masterpieces, and all will be switched off, including those in its gardens.

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke told

Reuters news agency it was the first time anyone could remember this happening. He said it was the Vatican's way of showing solidarity with Rome during the crisis.

"This decision is very much in line with the Pope's thinking on ecology: you can't waste and sometimes you have to be willing to make a sacrifice," he added.

In its report, Vatican Radio said the Pope's Laudato Si encyclical "recalls how the habit of wasting and throwing away things has reached unheard-of levels, while clean drinking water represents a matter of primary importance because it is indispensable for human life and for supporting ecosystems on land and sea".

This spring has been Italy's third-driest in 60 years.

Rome itself has suffered two years of lower-than-average rainfall and later this week city authorities will decide whether to introduce drastic water rationing.

Some of Rome's famed drinking fountains have already been shut off. The drought has affected many other areas of Italy.

A state of emergency was earlier declared in two northern provinces.

In southern Italy, hundreds of people were evacuated earlier this month, as firefighters battled wildfires.

Dairy farmers and those growing olives, tomatoes and wine grapes are among the most affected, farmers' association Coldiretti warns.

-bbc.com

-bbc.com

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Zambia Association of Musicians (ZAM) president Njoya Tembo has appealed for corporate bodies to help the association with more funding so that the Fundraising peace and unity concert for City Market inferno victims can be taken to the rest of the country. In an interview with News Diggers! Tembo said the intention of the association in partnership with the pillars of peace was to educate the masses on the need to keep calm in a situation where property was lost as well as on the importance of being vigilant on public infrastructure.

“The intension is to go around the country but at the moment I think what we need is more to do with funding. So any corporate bodies ready, or any individuals ready can come on board. And if its working with the fundraising funds for the city market victims, we are yet to have a meeting with DMMU so that we can just integrate our efforts,” Tembo said.

“But for now what we just need is for all of us to have one direction and one step forth to make sure that City Market is built especially in the lives of the affected but for us, one thing we want to do is to educate the masses on the need to keep calm in a situation where property is lost. And also we want to educate the masses on the importance of being vigilant especially when it comes to keeping an eye over public infrastructure. Because we have all heard that eleven people have so far been picked up by police in connection

# Musicians ask for more money to fundraise for City Market victims

with the burning of city market.”

Tembo said that the association would soon update the nation at a joint press briefing with the pillars of peace, on how much it had raised from its first peace and unity concert which was held at Woodlands stadium.

“We are trying to avail to the public on how much we raised during the Woodland stadium concert but that will be done when we make a joint statement with our partners who are the pillars of peace. So at the moment we are just putting our thoughts together. We will also be able to tell the public on the experience we had on previous concert at our joint briefing,” said Tembo.

“But the good thing is that musicians responded very well. It was a situation where we wanted to lead by example that its possible to share one platform even if you have divergent views. That is why we had musicians that were perceived to have been affiliated to different political parties. We invited political parties but as usual I think some could just see things using political spectacles. So we are hoping that maybe going forward we can change the strategy where we can find a common ground.



## John Heard, Star of ‘Home Alone’ Series, Dies at 72

John Heard, an actor best known for playing Macaulay Culkin’s dad in the original “Home Alone” movies,

died Friday in Palo Alto, California. He was 72.

The Santa Clarita medical examiner’s office confirmed

the death to People. According to TMZ, the actor was found dead in a hotel after recovering from a “minor back surgery” on Wednesday at Stanford Medical Center.

In a four-decade career, Heard accumulated scores of credits but was particularly known for supporting roles in high-profile ’80s and ’90s movies such as “Big,” “After Hours,” “Beaches,” “Gladiator” and “The Pelican Brief.”

He was also a familiar face on TV and earned an Emmy nomination in 1999 as a guest actor on the HBO series “The Sopranos,” playing a New Jersey cop who leaked information to James Gandolfini’s Tony Soprano. But he is best known for playing the forgetful father of Macaulay Culkin’s Peter McCallister in 1990’s box office hit “Home Alone” — a role that he reprised in the 1992 sequel.

—Yahoo News



## Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet Reunite

As Titanic turns 20, Jack and Rose are reuniting for a good cause — this time on dry land.

A private dinner with Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet is up for grabs at this year’s auction gala hosted by the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation. The annual event, hosted on July 26 in St. Tropez, France, is offering a lucky bidder the chance to have dinner with the friends and former Titanic co-stars sometime in October or November at a place of their choosing in New York City.

Proceeds from the gala and auction

will support the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, which since 2008 has made more than \$80 million in grants to environmental causes.

DiCaprio and Winslet’s dinner will also benefit a GoFundMe campaign Winslet has been involved with that aims to help a young mother in the U.K. pay for cancer treatment. Winslet cofounded the Golden Hat Foundation, which benefits children with autism and their families, and also supports regional charities in the U.K. and individuals’ fundraising efforts for cancer treatment.

The typically star-studded event will

feature a special performance by Lenny Kravitz. In addition, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo will be honored with the foundation’s “New World Leadership Award” for her “innovative approach to making Paris a model for sustainable urban living and design,” according to a statement from the gala.

Last year, the charity auction raised a record \$45 million and featured guests such as Bono, Chris Rock, Mariah Carey, Tobey Maguire, Jonah Hill, Naomi Campbell, Bradley Cooper and Edward Norton.

—Yahoo News

## Bieber Cancels Rest of ‘Purpose’ Tour



Justin Bieber is canceling the rest of his Purpose World Tour “due to unforeseen circumstances.”

His representatives didn’t offer details about the cancellation in a statement released Monday but said the singer “loves his fans and hates to disappoint them.”

Bieber has been on the tour for the last 18 months, playing more than 150 shows in six continents. The Grammy winner’s upcoming shows included stops in the U.S. and Canada, including the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, and the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

The statement said despite the tour’s success, “after careful consideration he has decided he will not be performing any further dates.”

Tickets will be refunded at point of purchase.

—AP

# Coach upbeat with U-17 COSAFA semis qualification

*By Diggers Reporter*

Zambia has qualified to the semifinals of the 2017 COSAFA Under-17 Cup in Mauritius with a match to spare in Group B and coach Mumumba Numba has revealed the secret to the success at the tournament. Zambia beat two-time champions South Africa 3-2 on Sunday in Port Louis in a penultimate Group B match to collect maximum points from their opening two games following Friday's 7-1 hammering of Madagascar. Lameck Banda took his tally to five goals after scoring a brace against South Africa in the 25th and 42nd minutes after captain Prince Mumba had put Zambia ahead in the 20th minute. Banda's goals came after he scored a hat-trick on Friday against Madagascar. South Africa found the target through Junior Nare who scored twice with late goals in the 83rd and 88th minutes. "We managed to utilize the chances that we had in the first half and that is where we killed off the game," Numba said. "By the time they came into the game in the second half, it was a bit too late for them. "But otherwise, we played

a better team. South Africa were tactically good but the only thing that they lacked was the fitness levels of their players.

"Because for us, that is where we concentrated on because we went around the country to pick the boys from the schools.

"We tried as much as possible to condition them and we gave them stronger training opposition like my team Zanaco, the club that I coach, that they played with in two friendlies so that we try and condition the boys for the challenge here.

"That has really helped the boys and that is why we have managed to win the two games that we have won so far."

Zambia now face Mozambique on Tuesday to decide the top two status in Group B.

Mozambique are 3rd on 3 points but after downing Madagascar 2-0 on Sunday.

Second placed South Africa, who have 3 points, need to beat Madagascar on Tuesday to join Zambia in the July 28 semifinals.

Mauritius is hosting the COSAFA U17 Cup from July 21-31 for a second successive year.



## Zambia withdraws from hosting 2019 AfCON

*By Joseph Mwenda*

Zambia has withdrawn from hosting the 2019 edition of the Under 23 Africa Cup of Nations due to lack of money.

Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) communications manager Desmond Katongo confirmed this in a statement today, saying

the development followed consultations with the Ministry of Sports.

"FAZ wishes to inform all stakeholders and the public that Zambia has formally withdrawn from hosting the 2019 U-23 Africa Cup edition which was granted to the country by the Confederations of African Football (CAF)," Katongo said.

"FAZ decided to withdraw from hosting the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations edition after thorough consultations with the Ministry of Youth, Sport

and Child Development. After these consultations with the Government, it has been concluded that the country is not in a position to host the tournament due to the current economic climate."

Katongo thanked CAF for the opportunity.

"FAZ would like to take this opportunity to thank CAF for having shown confidence in the Association and the country at large to host a tournament of this magnitude," said Katongo.

## FAZ summons Nkana over media attacks

*By Diggers Reporter*

Nkana's attacks on FAZ over the delayed outcome of the Walter Bwalya case has seen them summoned before the FAZ disciplinary committee. Nkana this week alleged that FAZ was dragging its feet over the case because some unnamed FAZ officials had an interest in the player and wanted to sell the striker to an unnamed foreign club for US\$400,000. Bwalya remains suspended

from all competitive action over the last month while FAZ investigates the matter.

"FAZ has summoned Nkana Football Club to a disciplinary hearing scheduled for Wednesday July 26, 2017 at Football House," FAZ spokesperson Desmond Katongo said.

"Nkana has been summoned in connection with several media attacks on FAZ.

"FAZ would like to advise the club to attend the disciplinary committee

meeting which will take place at 14:00 hours."

Bwalya is believed to have moved from Lubumbashi Sports to Forest Rangers without an International Transfer Certificate over two years ago.

The striker later moved to Nkana from Forest on loan in July 2016 before making his stay with the record 12-time champions permanent this season.

Bwalya was the 2016 golden boot winner with 24 goals.

*Derrick Rose played 64 games with the Knicks last season. (AP)*



## Swazi coach salutes Chipolopolo

*By Diggers Reporter*

Swaziland coach Pieter d'Jogh has tipped Zambia to overcome South Africa next month and qualify to the 2018 CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN).

Zambia beat Swaziland 3-0 on Saturday at National Heroes Stadium in Lusaka to advance to August final round 7-0 on aggregate after collecting a 4-0 away win on July 16.

"What I saw today (Saturday) and what I saw a week ago, I believe Zambia can beat South Africa," d'Jogh said.

Zambia will face Bafana Bafana for the final ticket to Nairobi for next year's tournament Kenya will be hosting in January.

Bafana will be home in the first leg on August 12 before travelling to Zambia on August 19.

D' Jogh also admitted that Swaziland were technical inferior to Zambia over both legs.

"Zambia is much too strong and much better in a lot of things technically and tactically," d'Jogh said.

"It is a good team, good players and we had no chance against them."



# ZAMBIA THUMPS SWAZILAND AGAIN

*By Diggers Reporter*

Wedson Nyirenda ended his winless home drought in charge on Saturday when Zambia beat Swaziland 3-0 at National Heroes Stadium in Lusaka to advance to the final qualifying stage of the 2018 CHAN.

Strangely, out of Nyirenda's 13 games in charge, Zambia has only played three matches at home.

And prior to Saturday's victory, he has endured an agonizing two successive losses at home since his appointment last September.

This is after losing 2-1 to Nigeria in a 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifier last October 10 and 1-0 to Mozambique in a 2019 AFCON Group K qualifier on June 10 this year.

Meanwhile, Justin Shonga, Brian Mwila and Simon Silwimba put an end to that run on the third attempt and were on target in the 2nd, 41st and 45th minutes respectively.

Zambia advance to the final CHAN qualifying round 7-0 on aggregate.

The result has also set the stage for the big derby showdown against Bafana Bafana whom they visit on August 12 in the first leg before hosting South Africa in the final leg on August 19. South Africa booked their date with Zambia after a 1-0 home win over Botswana to advance 3-0 on aggregate.

Winner over both legs in August will qualify to the tournament Kenya will host this January.



**FAZ summons Nkana over media attacks** <sup>P11</sup>

**Swazi coach salutes Chipolopolo, wishes them triumph over SA** <sup>P11</sup>

**Zambia withdraws from hosting the 2019 AfCON** <sup>P11</sup>

