



President Edgar Chagwa Lungu (c) with members of the Zambia Association of Manufacturers during the "Meet the President dialogue" at Radisson Blu Hotel yesterday
- PICTURE BY SALIM HENRY/STATE HOUSE

LUNGU CONFUSES RIVALS

By Mukosha Funga

At the most unlikely event – away from politics – President Edgar Lungu sparked a fresh debate about his stay in power after he 'announced' that he would only be going upto 2021.

This is in stark contrast to what the Head of State said in Solwezi recently when he declared his candidature for the next general elections, preceeded by a sharp warning to Constitutional Court judges against disqualifying him. "Whoever will be President will have to carry on with engaging you because you are not politicians," President Lungu told members of the Zambia Association of Manufacturers yesterday.

But the remarks by the Head of State confused his political rivals,

...says "I'm only going upto 2021, unless otherwise"

while leaving PF supporters and Zambian diplomats serving abroad in panic. The rest of the general citizenry turned to social media to offer their own interpretations of the President's statement.

Was the President joking? Has he been briefed about the decision made by the Constitution Court judges over his illegibility to recontest the presidency in 2021, or was the Head of State trying to dupe his opponents while

paving way for a favourable court outcome?

These were some of the questions which Zambians were asking in WhatsApp groups, on Facebook and other social media platforms.

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ZNBC is only for govt officials, not opposition - PF Lunte MP

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lunte PF member of parliament Mutotwe Kafwaya has told Parliament that

ZNBC is only for government officials because opposition political parties which do not have policies would waste the

national broadcaster's airtime talking about presidential petitions which do not exist. Debating the 2018 budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Kafwaya said ZNBC should not be allowed to air any views from the opposition. *To page 4*

Let's finish projects, not Kambwili or HH - Bwalya

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Finishing anybody should not be our business in PF, but finishing the developmental project that we started, says Central Committee member and chairperson for media, Frank Bwalya.

And Bwalya says if the Constitutional Court judges come up with a judgment that says President Lungu is not supposed to stand in 2021, people should not accuse them of merely copying the decision of the Kenyan Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, Bwalya regretted the conduct of some PF cadres

He said this in the morning today when he featured on Radio Phoenix's Let the people talk programme.

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HH cries on over unheard petition

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Govt wasted €1.8m to buy dilapidated embassy building in Berlin, but spent K2.6 million on rentals elsewhere

By Mukosha Funga

The Auditor General has revealed that the Zambian mission in Berlin, Germany has still not occupied the dilapidated building which government purchased at €1,858,128.83 in 1999, but spent K2,697,653 on rentals elsewhere.

The Auditor General

reported that although government had contracted a company to undertake repairs on the dilapidated building in 2001, works

were not completed, but the mission spent K779,133 on security and maintenance of the structure in the year ended 2016. *To page 5*

Mukuba University students riot after being barred from exams

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Wina must not forget that she was elected by Zambians not Lungu - CiSCA

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Vice-President Inonge Wina must always remembers that she is answerable to the Zambian people who elected her into office and not the President, says Civil Society Constitutional Agenda.

At a media briefing yesterday, CiSCA deputy chairperson Pamela Chisanga observed that the Vice-President was acting as if she did not have security of tenure.

“We call on Vice-President Inonge Wina to stop behaving as if she came into office under the old constitution under which the Vice-President was an appointee of the President. Mrs Wina was elected in her own right and is answerable to the people of Zambia, and not to the President or the ruling party, which currently appears to be the case. As leader of Government business in Parliament, the Vice President has an obligation to defend the Constitution. If she is finding this responsibility too hard for her, then she must resign,” Chisanga said.

Chisanga further called on President Lungu to facilitate action against those cited in the Auditor General’s report, saying the evidence the Head of State was looking for over theft and corruption in the civil service, was all tabulated in the document.

“As a movement, we will also petition the Anti-Corruption Commission to take action against those cited in the Auditor General’s report. We will also petition Parliament to enact relevant legislation. CiSCA is deeply concerned at the increased levels of abuse and misuse of public resources by public office bearers. For this reason, we are demanding for the arrest and prosecution of controlling officers and civil servants involved in the misapplication, abuse and the blatant theft of public resources as reported in the Auditor General’s Report of 2016. Not long ago, President Edgar Lungu challenged Zambian citizens to provide evidence for abuse of public resources in order for him to facilitate arrests and prosecution of those involved.



(R-L) CiSCA vice chairperson Pamela Chisanga, CiSCA treasurer Judith Mulenga and CiSCA mobilising committee chairperson Nicholas Phiri - picture by Zondiwe Mbewe

The Auditor General’s report has presented the evidence. Now, we expect action from the Head of State and law enforcement agencies. Abuse of public resources has become an accepted norm under the PF as no punitive measures are taken against these illegalities,” she said.

“How can anyone ignore misapplied public funds skyrocketing by close to 500 percent from K28, 153,997 in 2015 to K162, 095,699 in 2016? This money could have been channeled towards other productive public sectors. Given the clear lack of political will by the Government to address this

abuse, CiSCA is left with no option but to now consider public interest litigation against public service workers that are abusing public funds. It is high time that the country secured its meagre resources. We also demand that the Auditor General makes recommendations to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Anti-Corruption Commission for the prosecution of individuals who are cited in the AG’s report.”

Meanwhile CiSCA said President Lungu could no longer be trusted with the responsibility of safeguard the Constitution, considering his

remarks against the Judiciary. “We are also dismayed by President Lungu’s threats to the judiciary regarding the interpretation of the Constitution on whether he is eligible to stand again in 2021. His remarks potentially undermine the Constitution and the independence of the Judiciary. CiSCA expected President Lungu, who is not only a lawyer but also swore to respect, uphold and safeguard the Constitution and the rule of law, to respect as provided for under Article 91 of our constitution. CiSCA is concerned that President Lungu can no longer be trusted to safeguard our Constitution.

CiSCA believes that this is what will cause chaos and lead to a constitutional crisis, as opposed to the interpretation of the Constitution by the judges on whether or not he is eligible to stand again in 2021. We would like to remind the President that the over 15 million Zambians will not sacrifice the country for one individual,” said Chisanga.

She added: “The conduct of our police service is highly unprofessional and partisan beyond any question. Although the police are supposed to be a service, their conduct is far from that. We recently heard the Deputy Inspector General of Police

issuing a warning to people not to misuse the dialogue process to commit crimes. While we appreciate the Police warning, we question their lack of sincerity as we have seen political carders from the ruling PF breaking the law and getting away with it in full view of the police. We have seen unqualified and unauthorised individuals taking over some streets, bus stations and markets. The police are doing nothing about it. So how can the police be warning citizens on an issue which is not a crime at all? This is not only unprofessional but a threat to peace and democracy.”

Inonge explains her voting with the opposition

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Vice-President Inonge Wina today apologized to her fellow Patriotic Front members for voting with the opposition on a motion to expedite payments for retirees in Parliament yesterday.

Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament Garry Nkombo, who was the mover of the motion, said it was unfortunate that retirees had become destitute in their own

country.

Kambwili seconded the motion but it failed as 83 MPs voted against it whilst only 58 okayed it.

But results of the electronic voting system revealed that Vice-President Wina voted with the opposition.

Nkombo, who is the UPND Whip, commended Vice-President Wina putting the interests of the electorates above anything else.

“Mrs Wina has demonstrated true leadership befitting a democratic dispensation. I further thank all the MPs that have continued to represent the interests of the electorates on matters affecting the country. We hope and pray that this spirit continues even on many other motions to come for the interest of the nation,” stated Nkombo.

But in a personal statement this afternoon, Vice-President

Wina blamed her vote on an electronic mishap.

“You’ll recall that yesterday, Wednesday 8th November, 2017, the House considered a private member’s motion moved by the Honourable member for Mazabuka Central, Mr G G Nkombo MP and seconded by the Honourable member for Roan Dr C Kambwili MP, urging the government to expedite the payment of terminal benefits to all former government employs who retired prior to 5 January, 2016. At the close of the debate, the motion was put to a vote and voting was undertaken electronically and results of the vote are as indicated on division list number three which list has been distributed as required by standing order number 16. Sir, Honourable members, standing order number 16 of the National Assembly of Zambia standing orders 2016 provides as follows: 16 (i) The Clerk shall record the votes and proceedings of the Assembly or a Committee of the whole House and the records shall be reproduced

as the votes and proceedings and distributed to members ... when the House is sitting. (ii) The votes and proceedings shall be signed by the Speaker and shall constitute the official day the record of proceedings of the Assembly. (iii) A clerk shall have the custody of all votes and proceedings, records and other documents belonging to the Assembly,” said Vice-President Wina.

“Mr Speaker, Honourable members, the division list number three which has been circulated correctly shows that I voted along with the ‘Is’. Mr Speaker, Honourable members, in order to avert possible speculation and a dissention regarding my vote, I would like to place it on record and inform the House and the public at large that I inadvertently voted with the ‘Is’. Mr Speaker, I wish to apologise to the right (government side) for unintentionally reducing the figures. Additionally, to the left (opposition side) to apologise for inflating the figures unnecessarily. This was, indeed, an electronically induced mishap.”

US Air Force sharpens Zambia Air Force skills

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

A team of soldiers from the United States Air Force is in the country conducting a training course alongside the Zambia Air force (ZAF) to enhance and build capacity within the military wing.

Speaking to the media at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport when the soldiers demonstrated some skills learnt, United states Mission Commander Major Jared Cordell said the three weeks training course would allow ZAF officers to travel longer distances and transport more cargo safely.

Major Cordell said the Zambia Air force would be getting an additional aircraft of C-27 with intent to enhance ZAF’s ability to support peace keeping operations and disaster responses within Zambia and the region.

“As you can see we have got two groups of

trainings going on, the first is doing logistic training and the other group is doing some security training. We were asked by the government of Zambia to come and assist in building the capability within the ZAF to culminate future operational possibilities. The ZAF is going to be getting additional aircrafts of C-27. It will allow them to travel further with more cargo. And so the goal of this training is to help the ZAF prepare cargo for shipment and be able to move the people on their equipment for longer distances than they have before,” Major Cordell explained.

“Now simultaneously when you have additional aircraft here at the base, the security requirements also increase. In order to have the aircraft that can be able to transport goods and people regionally, they need to have the security capable of

protecting them wherever they go, and thats the training that you see here.”

He said the team would also train its Zambian counterpart how to better secure an air field as well as flight lines.

“A group of security forces are training how to better secure an air field, flight line and to protect these expensive machines that the ZAF has and they are going to require. Thats the training we have been focusing on for the last two weeks. The participants on the ZAF side have been extremely accommodating, very helpful and extremely knowledgeable. They have been operating Mi-17 helicopter for some time now and and thats also a cargo helicopter. The difference is the new airforce is much larger. So they are taking principles which they know already on the Mi-17 and applying them in a large scale to the C-27,” said Major Cordell.

Threatening judges was Lungu’s worst mistake of his presidency – Chipimo

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
NAREP president Elias Chipimo says President Edgar Lungu made the worst mistake of his presidency when he threatened Constitutional Court judges. And Chipimo, a lawyer, says heads of investigative wings must explain why they are not taking action against culprits exposed in the Auditor General’s report. Speaking when he featured on UNZA Radio’s Lusaka Star programme, Chipimo said President Lungu had made various mistakes while in

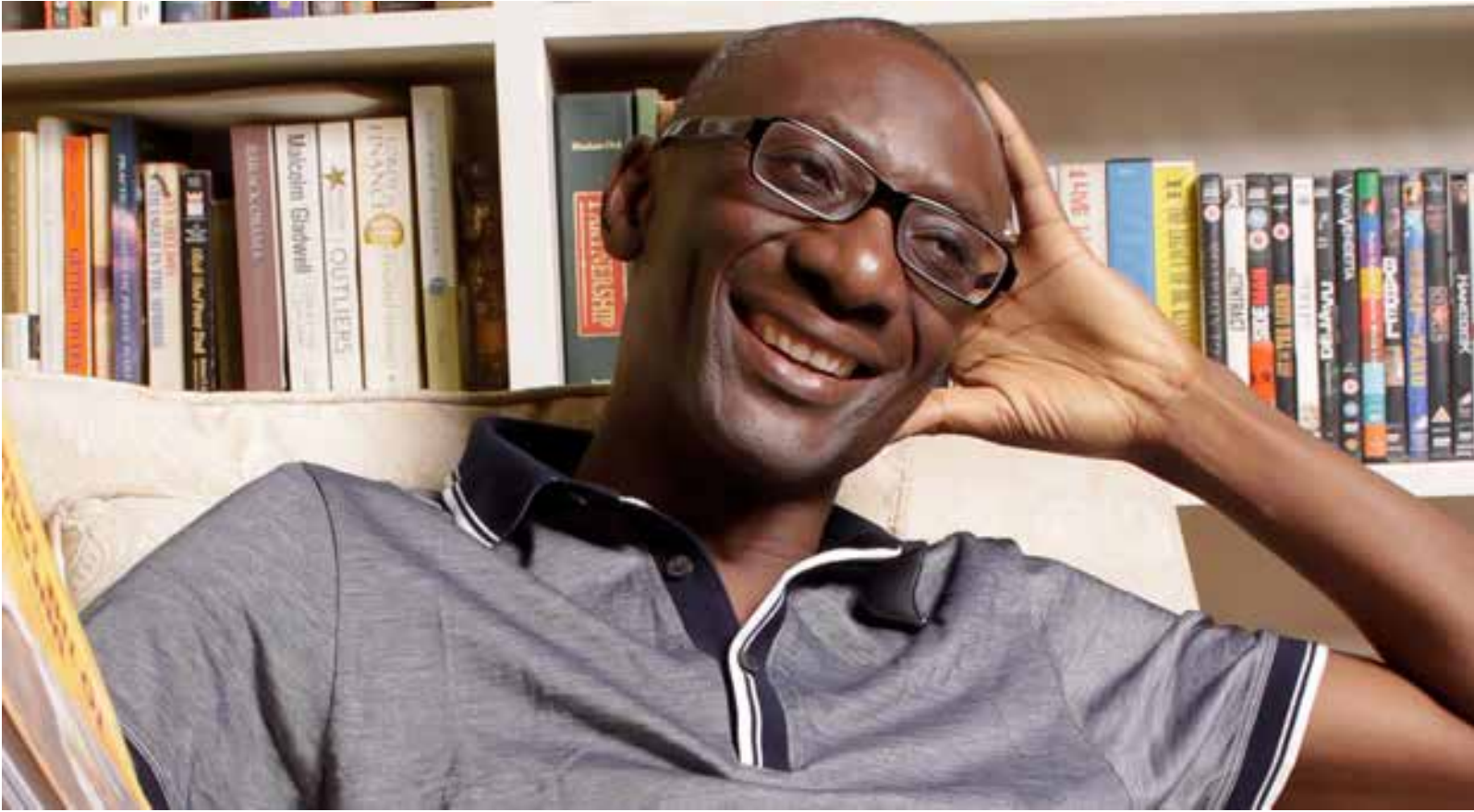
State House, but threatening Constitutional Court judges was his worst. “People may have issues and they may have legitimate concern about how certain things have been done in respect of the judiciary but the response is not for the head of state in a matter which involves his personal issue, in a matter which he has a personal interest, to make a statement which is tantamount to threats about how the judges are going to conduct themselves. This is unacceptable. I pray and I advise never must those

statements be uttered again, not even anything close to that must be uttered again,” Chipimo said. “The head of state should never ever make statements like that. If its not clear by now, it will be clear in the coming months, it could be the biggest and I know that a lot of mistakes have been made but this could be the biggest of the mistakes. We have separation of powers. The judiciary is the last reference point. You can’t fool all the people all the time. As a lawyer, I pledged an oath to defend the constitution and I will do

that. And the stand that I have taken, the stand that our party has taken as NAREP is that we will defend the integrity of the judiciary.” And Chipimo encouraged opposition parliamentarians to summon heads of investigative wings to ask them why they were not taking disciplinary action against individuals and institutions that have misapplied and misappropriated funds as revealed by the Auditor General. “First of all it is sad that even though the amount is incredibly high than it has been in the

past, no action has ever been taken when these revelations are made. We shouldn’t be jumping up and down because the amount is K126 versus K128, we should be jumping up even if its one million kwacha more than it should be on misapplication. But nothing is ever done,” Chipimo observed. “The whole systems are changed in response to the clear misapplication which is taking place. Now in some instances, we have to look a little bit beyond. In some cases, it would be clear that this money was

allocated and it benefited an individual. And we call upon the parliamentarians that, ‘that is your job, insist that there is an investigation. Summon the Inspector General of Police, summon the Anti corruption Commission, ask them why it it that they hare not taking action on these issues which demonstrate a clear case of impropriety,’” said Chipimo. Chipimo observed that some controlling officers were diverting money meant for essential services towards projects in which they had personal interests. “Instead of purchasing equipment for medicine you may find that the particular controlling officer or ministry happened to purchased air tickets to go somewhere or they purchased vehicles. Thats a misapplication. Now it may not necessarily be corruption, but it should be a warning flag to say lets look into this, why was this done instead of that, there must be some disciplinary action taken? Thats a disciplinary issue and disciplinary action must be taken,” said Chipimo. “So we may need to summon the relevant institutions of government and ask them why hasn’t disciplinary action not been taken against this particular individual. So this is something that the opposition parliamentarians can do, the independent parliamentarians can do, my FDD friend in parliament should be able to do. And so thats the action that is required in order to get any sanity to these auditor generals reports.”



HH cries on over unheard election petition

By Anastasia Kasongo and Patricia Mbewe
UPND president Hakainde Hichilema has continued lamenting over the unheard 2016 presidential election petition, adding that he will not stop fighting until the matter is brought back, regardless of how long it takes. And HH yesterday hailed the role UPND women played in pushing for his freedom when he was in incarceration facing treason charges. Addressing party supporters, HH repeated himself on various points regarding his views on the outcome of the last general elections. “When our election was stolen which is very clear kulibe nakushushana (no need to argue), olo mwana wa 5 years aziba ise (even a five-year-old child knows us. We chose not to go in the streets not because we can’t fight no! We chose not to go on the streets to kill our own people or to be killed by our own people, we decided no, lets follow a civilised route which is by evoking the Constitution of Zambia through the presidential petition. That’s a decision we made,” HH said. HH who mostly spoke in Nyanja, wondered why President Lungu refused to step aside from the presidency once his election was challenged, in accordance with the Constitution. “Our petition was not heard up



Hichilema joins UPND women in a dance at a party secretariat - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

to now that’s the second issue to demonstrate that we are peace lovers many countries would have gone to war but we did not go to war we provided leadership even when the constitution was breached,” he explained. The opposition leader said he did not mind waiting for the next elections in 2021, but expressed

concern that if President Lungu did not respect the constitution in 2016, there was no guarantee that he would change in 2021. “Our Bill of Rights especially Article 18, Article 17, 18 [says] when someone goes to court, there is no court that has a choice, the court must hear, they must hear the complaints of the

citizen it is mandatory so why not hear our petition now?” he asked. Meanwhile, speaking at the same event UPND National Women’s Chairperson Namakau Kabwiku said HH’s persecution had made him emerge as one of the most powerful politicians in the world.

“We are so proud of you, your persecution has made the whole world see the evils being perpetrated by Edgar Lungu and his government. Your persecution has made the international community take interest in our internal affair, like the collapse of the courts in Zambia, including institutions

like the Zambia police service. Your persecution has made you emerge as one of the most powerful politicians in the universe, today the whole world knows that you were unfairly incarcerated. Your persecutions made neighbouring countries like South Africa look like they were part of this great nation. Your disposition has made us understand international relations and diplomacy, understanding that Zambia is not an island,” said Kabwiku. “As UPND women we wish to express profound gratitude to you our dear president Hakainde Hichilema for bringing joy and integrity to our leadership in Zambia. Mr president, sir, the award you received in South Africa for being a freedom fighter would not have come at a better time than this. Your persecution and tribulations have outweighed what a reasonable person could have imagined. Mr president sir, you were thrown into prison for the sake of our political freedoms, you were mocked and subjected to inhuman treatment when you did not deserve it. Criminals have been spared and yet you denied yourself to simply send a message to the whole world that in his country there is a break down in the rule of law, violation of human rights, abuse of state institutions, violation of media freedoms among other.”

Let’s finish projects, not Kambwili or Hichilema, says Frank Bwalya

From front page

“As I was coming here somebody sent me a text message saying ‘ba bwalya, uko muleya (there where you are going) ku Radio Phoenix mumupwishe Kambwili na HH (finish Kambwili and Hakainde Hichilema). I had to call back this person, and I said ‘you sent me this message about finishing HH and finishing Kambwili on the programme today’ and he said in a deep voice ‘yes’. Then I said to him I can assure you that when I go to Let the people talk, am going to assure

Zambians that President Edgar Lungu will finish the development projects that the Patriotic Front started. Finishing somebody is not our business. Finishing the projects that we have started, that is our business,” Bwalya said.

“And then this person said ‘no you are trying to be philosophical’ I said no, but thats the point. We have no business going to a radio programme to finish somebody. what Zambians are expecting from us is to assure them that more projects are coming and that those that are underway will be finished and that soon they will be able to see the finishing of these projects that can improve their lives. That is why they gave us the mandate.”

He said President Lungu was a known candidate for the PF in 2021.

“We do realise, and we will never be naive about the need to have a strong institutional framework, a strong political party, the same party on which ticket we will continue to field candidates at Presidential level. And it’s already known



PF deputy spokesperson Frank Bwalya

for 2021 its President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, our natural, first choice striker who has been scoring very well, members of parliament, councillors, council chairpersons, mayors and so on,” he said.

Bwalya defended President Lungu’s remarks against the Constitutional judges.

“The question should not be whether the President overstepped his boundary but where the boundary is, that is the question. That boundary is where the President ended. If he

had gone beyond where he ended, he would have gone beyond the boundary. So many people who are accusing the president of having said something wrong, its because they don’t know where his boundary is, and that is what the debate is all about. The Vice president, state house, chief government spokesperson, a lot of scholars and so on have explained that the President was within his constitution mandate, he was within his job description when he made that comment,”

Bwalya said.

“I think the judges will not and should not emulate anybody, they should follow what the President said to follow the law and the law is the constitution. Should the judges in reading the law and applying it accordingly come up with a judgment that President Lungu is not supposed to stand in 2021, anyone who would accuse them of having replicated what happened in Kenya and so on, may not necessarily be confirming the fears that the President raised. Because

the fears the President raised were not to a specific matter before the court of law. The fact that the President talked about his eligibility and so on, may be mere coincidence because he also talked about other things.”

He said the Constitutional Court judges had the duty of following the law and not the wishes of the President.

“Zambians will not forget that we have had one or two incidences when the President explained the law in the manner he felt, and the court decided otherwise. And we have not had anything in this country happening in the manner of firing a judge or indeed going out after a judgment instigating [fear in] the judges and so on, that has not happened... This is why Zambians agree that our supreme law needs to be cleaned up because that matter am referring to without mentioning, had to do with something that has been added to our amended constitution, about Ministers staying in power and so on. It is agreeable that this law needs a clean-up,” Bwalya argued.

Meanwhile, Bwalya said it was not necessary for the PF to wait until HH publicly declared that he recognised President Lungu before the Head of State could sit to dialogue with him.

“I don’t want to say that president Hakainde, the leader of UPND doesn’t recognise President Lungu as the legitimately elected Republican President. I want to give him the benefit of doubt this time around and I think continuing to demand that he should openly say that he does recognise, maybe for now its neither here nor there. Signs and gestures are very clear that he does recognise President Lungu. So talking about dialogue, it is the reason why I wouldn’t come to a programme like this one to finish Hakainde Hichilema because if we finish him what happens to the dialogue?” he wondered.

And Bwalya regretted the bad conduct of PF cadres.

“You can never justify pouring of Chibuku on our brother Mr Chishimba Kambwili at the memorial, that cannot be justified and we distance ourselves as a party from such sentiments. On the justification that it was provocative and so on. Violence cannot be justified, not even provocation can be used to justify violence. Self defence can be justified. However, I must say that we do sympathise as leaders in the patriotic front, we do sympathise with some of our cadres, our members including some members of the wider community who feel frustrated,” said Bwalya.

“The Vice-President spoke in no uncertain terms and assured the public that action is going to be taken against those who allegedly tried to harass the UPND member of parliament (Malozo Chikote). It cannot be justified that this member of parliament belongs to a political party.”

ZNBC is for govt officials, not opposition - Lunte MP

From front page

“Many people when referring to ZNBC say that this institution only shows the President, the vice president, ministers and government officials to the exclusion of other players, specifically the opposition political players. I do think to some extent this is true. But I ask the question, why should opposition political players want to dominate ZNBC when in fact they don’t carry government policy?” Kafwaya asked.

“The purpose of ZNBC is to show the Zambian people what government is doing for them. If we say everyone must have the same share we will be hearing such things that there is a presidential petition in court on ZNBC. That’s what we will be hearing. People will be going

to ZNBC to go and say that there is an active presidential petition in court when in fact there is nothing because that’s what politicking is about. Its about misleading for some.”

He said ZNBC belonged to those in government and not those opposing government programmes.

“Mr chairman you go to an international platform to go and tell the world that in Zambia there is a presidential petition in court. Where is the presidential petition? There is no presidential petition anywhere in this country. This is not what we want to see on ZNBC. Mr chairman, ZNBC is an institution for government and not an institution for the opposition,” said Kafwaya.

“Therefore ZNBC must promote

activities for government. Those who say we must have a fair share, it is a dream which I don’t see being fulfilled unless the purpose of ZNBC changes because its mandate is to promote information on social cultural and economic development. What economic development will you get from an opposition? If you want to bring those oppositions and line them up on ZNBC then we are not promoting what the actual purpose of ZNBC is! In this country the only opposition is UPND which is unfortunate. Because in a diversified political dispensation we are supposed to have many political parties. For UPND sadly, their manifesto is one sheet of paper with only 10 points. Is that what you want to show on ZNBC? 10 points?” Kafwaya questioned.”

Govt wasted €1.8m to buy embassy building in Berlin, but spent K2.6m on rentals elsewhere

From front page

“The building was not ready for occupation at the time of purchase as it was still in a deplorable state. Although in 2001, the Government contracted a company to undertake repairs to the building, the works had not been completed and the building was still in a deplorable condition and unoccupied. In Paragraph 31 of the Auditor General’s Report for the financial year ended 31st December 2011, mention was made on the wasteful expenditure of K459,521,366 (€73,823.80) which was incurred on overhead expenses such as heating and electricity, water and security services,” the Auditor General stated. “In their Report for the Second Session of the Eleventh National Assembly, the Public Accounts Committee observed that the Government will continue

to lose a lot of money on the maintenance of the building unless decisive action is taken to fund the renovations exhaustively or resolve to dispose of the property. The Committee, therefore, urged the Controlling Officer to ensure that the Ministry decides what to do with the property. A review of the situation and a physical inspection of the property

carried out in July 2017 revealed that a final decision had not been made as to what was to be done with the property and the building was still in a deplorable state and not occupied.” The Auditor General stated that the embassy had continued incurring rental costs and security costs. “As a result, the Embassy had continued incurring security

and other maintenance costs towards the property and had continued occupying rented property. In this regard, during the period from January 2015 to June 2017, the Mission paid rent in amounts totaling K2,697,653 (€269,765.34) for occupying rented property and K779,133 (€77,913.28) for security and maintenance of the unoccupied property,

which was wasteful expenditure,” the Auditor General stated. “In 2012, a Special Board of Survey was constituted to facilitate the process of selling the dilapidated property. The report of the Special Board of Survey (BOS) on the disposal of the property, recommended among other things that the property should not

be sold but be renovated. However, as at 31st July 2017, the recommendation of the board had not been implemented. The building was being vandalized as evidenced by a broken window. The outside of the property was unkempt as the grass was not properly cut and the branches that were trimmed from the trees were lying around the yard.”

Mukuba University students riot after being barred from writing exams

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Some Mukuba University students today rioted over management’s decision to bar those owing the institution from writing their exams.

But Mukuba University registrar Mwala Sheba says the institution has facilitated for the students to write exams as long they commit themselves to settle the debt.

A student spoken to narrated that the protests started yesterday. “The riots started yesterday and they are going on now actually and some students

are hiding in boarding houses. There are police searching and still picking a few students. Some of them have even left the campus,” narrated the affected student.

“They are saying if you have not paid 80 percent of what you are owing the school, you will not write the exams and we are starting our exams next week. Our fees are K5, 000 per term. There are those who have been coming to school without paying for one or two years because the time we had a meeting management said they discovered that some students where owing up to K15,000 or K22, 000. So management said if you have not paid 80 per cent of what you are owing, you will not write the exams. Yesterday we had a meeting where we were told that if you have K4,000 or less, you will write the exams but if you have above K4,000 will not write,” said another student.

In an interview, Sheba told News Diggers! that the academic handbook indicated that students with balances would be excluded from writing exams but that they engaged parents and students to come up with a mutually beneficial resolution.

“The exams are going on. The requirement of students to be in a university is to be ready to pay the tuition fees. The university should be funded from grants and tuition fees paid by students. If they don’t pay, then it means the university will not operate. It is a requirement. So what we have just done is to facilitate. The 2016 academic regulation book says all students must pay fees three months before the end of third term. And those who do not pay, they should be excluded. That is what the handbook says,” said Sheba.

“Those who are owing up to K4, 000 have been automatically granted to write. So we have facilitated to allow those who are owing above K4, 000. If they give us a plan that shows us that they are going to pay, it is fine.” Meanwhile, by press time, Copperbelt police commissioner Charity Katanga was not available for a comment whilst her assistant said he was not aware of any riots.

Lungu tricks rivals: I am only going up to 2021, unless otherwise

From front page

Even during his interaction with the manufacturers at Radisson Blu Hotel on Thursday, President Lungu noted that his comment tensed his audience, but his clarification raised more questions. “The economy knows no politics, whoever will be President will have to carry on with engaging you because you are not politicians, you are economic players and you will always be there. Government just makes it conducive for you to succeed,” President Lungu said. “Together, we can achieve industrialisation with unity of purpose. We can transform Zambia into an industrialisation hub. So let us all rise to the occasion and ensure that industrialisation becomes a reality in our lifetime, or in my term of office. And by the way I am only going up to 2021.” A few people in the audience laughed whilst others remained silent forcing President Lungu to offer a ‘clarification’. “Yes, I am only going up to 2021, unless otherwise. Thank you very much, God bless you.” Earlier at the event dubbed: “Meet the President dialogue”, President Lungu said his government would do everything possible to promote consumption to locally manufactured products. “It is clear enhancing local content or the purchase and use of local products in various value chains is crucial for Zambia’s industrializing agenda. Again, we are saying that we will allow you to import only when the materials cannot be found locally unless you



show us that these materials will not get you to produce the right quality and quantity of what you want to produce locally. But when we realise that you need to import, I am sure we will be talking to the Minister of Finance to see how we can give you room so that you produce competitively. Not only on quantity but also in quality...we want to make sure that you buy Zambian, Trade Kings has already set the standard, but only when we can’t buy Zambian will we allow buying from abroad including manufacturers,” President Lungu said. “It is therefore pertinent that all government departments should make concerted efforts to procure locally manufactured products and give preference to those

products in all government contracts. I think we will enforce those with ease. If goods can be found in Zambia, the quality is good enough, why go and get them outside the country? This is one very low hanging fruit which we can harvest quickly. If there are such statutory instruments to be passed, we can pass them overnight. My government will do everything possible to promote the consumption of locally manufactured products as this is crucial to advancing Zambia’s industrialization agenda and national development.” He however encouraged local manufacturers to improve their products. “I wish to urge all of you present here and those not present to continue using

the Zambia Association of Manufacturers as a platform to engage in meaningful dialogue with the government. I am also concerned about the high number of imports which as you have already heard outweigh exports and this brings us to the fact that we need to improve tremendously on the quality of our products, including packaging,” President Lungu said. He said he would continue engaging other countries to remove trade barriers in order to help manufacturers grow their businesses without constraint. “The government is aware of this challenge and is supporting the growth of regional trade by implementing infrastructure development at border points such as one stop shops to

enhance ease of accessibility but we think that the more we work with you, it will be easier to achieve our objectives. We also engaged in talking to respective governments to address various bottlenecks our manufacturers face on the regional and international markets when exporting so as to create a level playing field for you. I was in South Africa and I did not mince words when I spoke to President [Jacob] Zuma about it and I think we are trying to get somewhere and recently again when the President was here, we talked about this issue that as SADC I think we will persistently pursue the need to have a level playing field for manufacturers and traders in Zambia and in the region,” said President Lungu.

By Mukosha Funga
A Lusaka woman has sued a suspended Catholic priest from Catholic Faith Mpika diocese, Father Benjamin Chisulo, for failing to payback debt amounting to over K70,000 which he borrowed from her to purchase a motor vehicle. Prisca Chewe Chanda, who is Life Saves Medical Centre proprietor, stated in her statement of claim that she had an intimate relationship with the suspended priest for about

Ex-girlfriend sues suspended Catholic priest over debt

two years. Chanda is also claiming K9,000 being the money Father Chisulo; who is also a teacher at Kamwala South Secondary School, borrowed from her for his personal expense and also to help his relative. The plaintiff is also demanding the payment of K27,800.00 which he borrowed through Xapit transactions from her bank account. Chanda is also demanding for an order of preservation of the Toyota hilux surf registration number BAC 818. “The Defendants failure to pay back all the monies owing and upon being reminded, he has instead resorted to threatening the Plaintiff herein and involving the police with the view of depriving the Plaintiff of her monies,” read the statement of claim.

Wina hopes culprits cited in Auditor General’s report will be arrested

By Mirriam Chabala
Vice-President Inonge Wina says those cited in the Auditor General’s report will be arrested. And Vice-President Wina says it is up to Zambians to judge UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema’s morality considering that he chose to invest in a tax haven instead of locally. Responding to a question from Itezhi-tezhi UPND member of parliament Hebert Shabula, who wanted to find out government’s position on the financial irregularities exposed in the Auditor General’s report for the year ended 2016, Vice-President Wina said for the first time, people would see arrests. “Mr Speaker, the Auditor General’s report year in year out has come out with the indictment of public workers misappropriating government funds and the President has been very categorical on this particular report of 2015/16 in that the investigative wings of government will delve into this matter and I can assure you that perhaps for the first time in a long time we going to see some arrests of officers who misused government funds,” Vice-President Wina said. And responding to a question from Kaputa PF member of parliament Maxas Ng’onga, who wanted to find out if HH had been declaring the correct figures of his wealth during elections, the Vice-President said HH decided to invest his wealth overseas so that he could avoid paying tax because he did not want his own people to benefit from everything he owned. “Mr Speaker, it may be a challenge for a leader to make a declaration on assets that are stashed away in an offshore account for one simple reason that offshore accounts are kept



to accumulate more income, to hide money so that the country of origin does not benefit from that huge sums of money. Mr Speaker, this money is usually moved in a private account and it is mainly for purposes of accumulation of more funds and also to hide money to evade tax. Mr Speaker, this is why governments globally have taken keen interest on these types of transactions which are not transparent to ensure that nationals pay tax in their countries of origin and Mr Speaker it is for this reason that the Paradise papers have generated such interest throughout the world to expose

the very rich who are not able to pay taxes in their countries but they hide money in the offshore accounts,” she said. Vice-President Wina alleged that government was aware that money invested in offshore accounts was often associated with criminal and other questionable activities; adding that Zambians should judge HH’s morality when considering him for the presidency. “Mr Speaker, in some countries, tax evasion is a crime which is taken very seriously. In all countries, the central bank and the Ministry of Finance always take interest in these matters.

So it is for the people of Zambia to judge the morality of some of our leaders [on] what they do, how they conduct their personal affairs, how they conduct public affairs, their businesses whether it is for the benefit of the country, it is for the people to judge Mr Speaker. So how then can a leader make a declaration with monies of this type? Because there is no transparency whatsoever. Mr Speaker, additionally, there are issues connected to offshore accounts, we know that in some countries this money has been connected to illicit activities such as money laundering, terrorism, promoting or

funding of mercenaries to distabilise countries as well as actually disposing legitimate governments. So there are many activities tied to these offshore accounts which governments in the world including Zambia should be interested in. I thank you Sir,” she said. Meanwhile, Vice-President Wina said it was unfair for Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili to allege King Mswati’s was not aimed at strengthening the brotherly relationship that Zambia shared with the Kingdom of Swaziland but that it was a business visit. “Madam Vice-President, at first value we were told that King Mswati came on a private visit to cement and improve on brotherly relations [between Zambia and the Kingdom of Swaziland] but we are reliably informed that he came to cut a deal to bring a fourth mobile operator and that some technocrats were flown to Mfuwe to discuss this issue. Can you assure this House that in the near future, we will not be told that King Mswati’s company has been given the license to bring a fourth mobile operator against Vodafone who are already here and have been trying to get a license?” asked Kambwili. But in her response, the Vice-President expressed disappointment at Kambwili for speaking like someone who never understood how government worked. “Mr Speaker, the honourable member for Roan has been part

of this government. He has been a minister and a minister of foreign affairs for that matter so he knows how these are done, so the issue that the honourable member is talking about is new to me, I am not aware of this deal and I know that when a King or President of another country visits Zambia, that is the highest level of tourism attraction that you can get in the country and we should be thankful instead of starting to castigate him for why he was here and some of these things Mr Speaker should really be investigated further than just coming up with accusations which cannot be substantiated,” said Vice-President Wina. “This country is open to mobile communications service providers and the doors are open to other companies to come in so that we can have a competitive ground so that the privacy of mobile service provision in the country goes down but to start castigating even the Head of State from another country on hearsay is not really in the best interest of our country. We are trying to develop good neighborliness and the country has seen more visitations of Heads of State simply because Zambia is a peaceful country despite the alignment by certain quarters but this country enjoys peace and the region appreciates it and Africa as a whole appreciates the peace that they see in this country. Let’s keep it that way Mr Speaker I thank you.”

Kambwili warns Bowman: “Unless I die, you will pay for slapping me”

By Sipiliwe Ncube
Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili has warned that unless dies, Bowman Lusambo will pay for slapping him. Debating the proposed budgetary allocation to Zambia Police for 2018, Kambwili said there was a lot of political interference in the police service, and took a detour to warn the Copperbelt Minister. “Today, the police work under instructions from politicians. You don’t need to be a rocket scientist to know this, its just putting one and one together and have the answer. When I was in government, I was assaulted.

When I reported the matter for assault, within few minutes the suspect was apprehended without even waiting for me to do a medical report, he was behind bars. I did not interfere unfortunately but I know that some offices somewhere might have,” Kambwili said. “I was here at Parliament, it is now two months since I reported the matter to the police, the police have not even come back to me and the suspects continue walking freely and coming to Parliament. Freely and continue coming to parliament without the police calling him but I will tel, you that I am a very different breed of a person. Where I come from, they say umulandu taubola

(an offense never rots). And for me, that particular individual whether he is free today, unless I die, he will definitely dance for slapping me like a small boy. I know today they can’t do anything to him because he is untouchable but I want to tell him that I will never rub that incident from my diary and unless I die today, he will face the wrath of the law so that people can learn.” But Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Mwimba Malama chastised Kambwili for turning the debate into a personal one, guiding him to focus on the main issue as his slapping case was already before the committee on privileges.

By Mirriam Chabala
Economist Dr Lubinda Haabazoka says electricity tariffs are very high in Zambia because energy generation methods are too expensive.
In a presentation at the Rosatom-Zambia public awareness workshop at Inter Continental Hotel

yesterday, Dr Haabazoka said there was need for the country to diversify its energy generation if the country's economy was to grow. Dr Haabazoka said nuclear energy was one of the solutions to Zambia's energy deficit. "More than 50 per cent of

Zambians use firewood to cook followed by charcoal and this charcoal even us who have formal jobs and have money to pay for electricity have this charcoal in our homes because we need it to cook beans, we can't cook beans on the stove because the tariffs are very high and why are they high?

Because the methods we are using to generate electricity is very expensive. We have been told that it is four cents per something...you know I am not an expert, but maybe four cents per kilo watt. When we were importing it was 20 cents, we were importing at 20 cents when we had load shedding. So

you can see how cheap that can be and I think we did that for about 10 years and there was no load shedding because Russia is a highly industrious country, not even a single day was there load shedding,” Dr Habazoka

“So you can see that we really need to find a solution to that and one of the solutions is nuclear energy because it has a number of benefits, we have a number of economic benefits, we have environmental health effects, we have social effects like increased employment because there will be creation of jobs, that is direct jobs, indirect jobs that are going to be induced. And then other benefits are that the overall economic effects are enhanced productivity, improved competitiveness, improved terms of trade and currency appreciation. That’s basically what an importing country like Zambia should wish for, the strong currency.”

And Dr Habazoka said introducing nuclear energy in Zambia would turn around the country’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had been stagnant for about three years now.

“Zambia’s economy has significantly grown over the years. In 2002 our GDP was just around a billion dollars and today it is around 27 billion dollars. In 2010

our GDP was 20 billion US dollars, then in 2014 it was \$26 billion dollars. So you can see that from 14 the economy became a bit stagnant and this is the picture up until 2016/2017. Our economic growth has been a bit stagnant and I think electricity is one of those problems that we can blame on the slow growth of the country's economy because we had load shedding which had devastating effects on production and from our GDP you can tell why we need other sources of energy," said Dr Habazoka. "When you look at exports and I am talking about diversification of our industry here, you will find that over 80 per cent of our foreign exchange inflows comes from copper and cobalt, just from these two pieces. So we really need to find industries, we need enhance the competitiveness of our industry and diversify. Those figures (of the GDP) should have been 10 per cent from copper and then other sectors should have been dominant because you know copper and cobalt very soon with the coming in of FDI especially from Asia we are going to see that in the next five years we are not even going to have any copper or cobalt to talk about."



**Labour and Social
Security Minister Joyce
Nonde Simukoko**

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Chaos rocked Parliament on Thursday after the Labour and Social Security Minister Joyce Nonde Simukoko became personal when debating the budget for the Ministry of Information, forcing the second deputy Speaker Mwimba Malama to halt proceedings and issue a stern warning to members of the House against unparliamentary conduct. In her debate, Simukoko told members of parliament to be patriotic and to feel embarrassed when they queue up to pay K1,000 subscription fee to watch foreign television channels, instead of paying K3 TV levy to support ZNBC. "Sometimes lets be patriotic and support a good course. Even if we are in the opposition doesn't mean whatever government is doing is wrong. After all, I'm sure you would want to find a country that has made some progress even if by accident you took over... Lets support something which is progressive. And one of such troubled institutions is ZNBC. Mr Speaker, it's not a secret that the workers at ZNBC have gone through a lot of trouble as regards to conditions of service. They have had difficulties with equipment, there are so many frustrations at ZNBC.

So we need to support the budget,” Simukoko said.

“We always admire CNN, BBC and so on but we don’t know that for the countries we are admiring to reach where they have reached, they put in money. Money does not come from heaven and drops. It has to be through us to make the institutions perform. Shamelessly we are always queuing to support foreign TVs. Shamelessly paying those, I wont mention, K1000 and yet you are just complaining to pay K3 [for TV levy]. When are we going to be patriotic? We should be embarrassed, some of you we don’t know whether you are Zambians or not.”

Some opposition members took offence with Simukoko’s line of debate and raised points of order, but the second deputy Speaker allowed the minister to continue with her debate, forcing Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili to walk out of the House.

“Honourable member take a seat. Hourable minister, on the floor, lets debate the ministry [of information] and what is important. No I will not allow any assistance from any member of parliament. I think it must be noted that I’m in charge.

Honourable member who is on the floor, please when you begin to respond, ensure that you bring out issues which were brought out by members on my left. I will not allow you to bring issues which will not be sitting well with members of parliament on my right and on my left. So honourable minister continue, bearing in mind what we are looking at,” Malama said, as Simukoko continued.

“Let’s be patriotic dear colleagues. This is our country, we will never have another country. I know some people who where in government who are talking have left no legacy..” said Simukoko as MPs shouted in disapproval while ministers supported her.

“Honourable we can not proceed in this manner. We are not going to proceed in this manner and honourable members on my left understand me. I have guided the honourable minister who is debating not to take that route and honourable minister continue and move away from what you said. Honourable members get me clearly, I have ruled and that is my ruling. That is my ruling. Honourable member for Roan you have decided to walk out, walk in silence,” said second deputy Speaker Malama.

When you critically analyse how our country is being government today, you will realise that there is practically no government in place. What we have is the Patriotic Front running the Republic of Zambia. We do have civil servants quite all right, and we do have ministers, but these are not operating under government guidelines; they are remote controlled by the ruling party structures. Instead of being answerable to the Constitution of the Republic of Zambia, our public office bearers are answerable to the Patriotic Front leadership. The higher you are in the PF hierarchy, the more power you wield to control senior civil servants.

There are many examples that can explain what we are trying to communicate, but the most recent incident of what happened to Luampa UPND member of parliament Makozo Chikote when he attempted to attend a ‘Patriotic Front event’, stands out.

To those of you who did not follow this development, Mr Chikote was invited to attend the commissioning of the Luampa electricity sub-station. He received, not one but two invitations; one from the Rural Electrification Authority, and another from the Vice-President through the District Commissioner’s office. According to the letters of invitation, Mr Chikote was expected to deliver a speech at the event. This was necessary because the UPND member of parliament had been lobbying for this particular development through his debates in Parliament.

Unfortunately, the Rural

There’s no govt, PF is running Zambia

Electrification Authority and the District Commissioner did not ask for permission from the Patriotic Front to invite Mr Chikote. They did not inform the leaders of our country, the PF, that a UPND ‘outcast’ was going to attend the function. They thought, being a government event, a parliamentary representative was free to attend. Little did they know that in the eyes of the PF, government doesn’t exist – they are in charge!

We had the privilege of talking to Mr Chikote and we can report that he has remained terrified and heartbroken. According to him, trouble started when he paraded himself at the airport to welcome the Guest of Honour, Vice-President

Inonge Wina. The cadres spotted the opposition MP and chased him from the receiving queue.

“At that point, I just held my heart,” Mr Chikote said.

Considering that he had been invited by the second-highest office in the land, the opposition MP was determined to attend the event, so that he could use the opportunity to address his people. But this is exactly what the cadres didn’t want – allow an opposition MP to take credit for the developmental project. So when he insisted to stay around, Mr Chikote met his fate.

He narrated that some senior PF officials who were present, were heard giving orders to the cadres to attack

him. Mr Chikote added that Western Province Minister Nathaniel Mubukwanu and Energy Minister David Mabumba who were inside the DC’s office with the Vice-President heard the noise, went outside, saw the chaos and walked away leaving their fellow MP in the jaws of the disgruntled.

Meanwhile, this was happening under the nose of the provincial police commissioner and his officers. Instead of assuring Mr Chikote of safety and guaranteeing him protection, the police commandant advised the member of parliament to leave the event before he could be harmed.

Today, Mr Chikote cannot believe that there

was no government official powerful enough to out-rule the PF cadres who gave him marching orders; there were no laws to protect him when he was attacked and threatened.

Like we said, there are many examples that one can point at to show that the PF has swallowed government. No wonder, the PF secretariat is not eager to issue a statement of condemnation over what the cadres did in Luampa; they don’t see anything wrong. But had it happened that the UPND youths, who are the majority in Luampa, attempted to chase PF officials from the constituency, more than 100 youths would have been arrested.

This is happening because

the PF has taken over all government functions. The security wings have given up because they have realised that they don’t have any protection of the law. They are just as vulnerable as those opposing the party in power. When all this madness is happening, our police officers and solders watch in awe, the breakdown of law and order, hoping they would one day wake up and discover it was just a dream.

Just a few weeks ago, soldiers who form the presidential royal guard at the main entrance to State House were amazed to see Lusaka businessman Valden Findlay in the company of PF cadres posing for pictures at the no standing zone; a restricted area where ordinary members of the public are certainly not allowed to take photographs.

There is no doubt that members of the PF cannot differentiate between the State and the party. That is why they wear police uniforms, military combats and drive government cars. They grab land from rightful owners and resale it. They control bus stations, markets and beat up anybody who dares question their criminal conduct. They are the government; they are first class citizens, while the rest of us are at their mercy.

But this primitive behaviour has its source. It stems from the great leader of this great country. Just like his supporters, our Head of State spells “government” with two letters “PF”. No wonder he desires to contest the Republican presidency for as many times as the PF allows him.

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.
PO Box, 32147. Cell: +26077122344/0965815078
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

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A ministerial conference is the highest decision-making body of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which meets every two years. It can take decisions on all matters relating to any of the multilateral trade agreements. So far, ten ministerial conferences have been held since 1996.

The 11th Ministerial Conference (MC11) to be held from the 10th to 13th December 2017 in Buenos Aires – Argentina is of extreme importance to developing countries because we are at the precipice of a global digital explosion. The odds and ends are many for the global South as the North continues to force their corporate digital agenda unto the South and perpetuate the parasitical relationship that exists between the developed and the developing world. This article will endeavour to show that the North is still playing the same old games of “market rush”, akin to “gold rush”, whenever their markets are saturated. This piece is an attempt to put into perspective the current state of play in the international trading system by highlighting the legacy of “inappropriate” liberalisation and how the politics of the upcoming MC11 are following in this path before concluding with the likely approach developing countries could take to retain the policy for digital industrialization as they go to Buenos Aires.

The Commission for Africa expressly argued that liberalisation of trade in services “is best managed within national development strategies, rather than through multilateral trade negotiations in the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) or through free trade agreements” (Commission for Africa report, March 2005). They noted that developing and

MC11 and the prospects of digital industrialization for developing countries

least developed countries take long to develop appropriate regulatory frameworks, competitive capabilities and relevant institutions to manage more liberalised trade environments. Thus, liberalisation should be sequential, over time and in line with national development regimes. Perhaps the most frank and honest statement is where they stated that “forcing poor countries to liberalise through trade agreements is the wrong approach to achieving growth and poverty reduction in Africa, and elsewhere” (Ibid).

The history of “inappropriate” liberalisation of industrial and manufacturing markets in the developing world has never been a good story to tell. It has threatened to undermine growth and development, exposed fledgling domestic producers to foreign competition, increased poverty levels in many cases, and has jeopardised the employment creation efforts for millions of people. In Zambia for example, the after-effects of the Washington Consensus experiment on the country which began in the early 1990s are still glaring in our sight. The industrial and manufacturing base has been obliterated with only few traces left in text books and research articles to remind the millennials about the late Kafue Textiles and the terminally-ill Mulungushi Textiles, the forgotten Mansa batteries and Mununshi Banana plantation, the defunct Pineapple Gineries and the untold

demise of the Livingstone Car assembly; to mention but a few. These are just some of the legacies of “inappropriate” liberalisation that have rendered developing and least developed economies as “dumping sites” to products from the global North which have now been segmented according to income groups leaving no room for the emergence of domestic producers, not to mention upgrading. The efforts to persuade developed countries to open-up their markets for products (e.g. agricultural produce) from the developing world have been met with prolonged inertia in reducing trade barriers. On the contrary, they have always been quick to prescribe and push for market liberalization policies for developing countries both at the bilateral and multilateral level while shielding their industries from foreign competition. In agriculture, the North is still dilly-dallying in implementing any meaningful reductions to their overall trade-distorting domestic support (OTDS) commitments which would help promote the viability of the agriculture sector in developing economies. For example, the continued subsidization of the poultry feedstock by EU countries has almost grounded the West African poultry sector (i.e. Ghana, Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Senegal), the milk sector in Burkina Faso is in crisis due to EU’s overproduction of milk which has distorted market prices to the disadvantage of the “Burkinabe milk producers”,

American and European cotton is now commonplace on the African market, and the dairy sector in Sri Lanka has shrunk because of imports. According to various WTO notifications, the United States in 2013 gave a massive US\$68,910 in domestic support to every farmer compared to US\$486 per farmer for Botswana in 2015, US\$348 per farmer for China in 2010, US\$148 per farmer for Tunisia in 2015, US\$77 per farmer for Zambia in 2012, and US\$8 per farmer for Madagascar in 2012. These are extremely uncompetitive subsidies meant to perpetuate the imbalances existing in the global trading system. The implications of this dishonesty by the developed countries on employment and poverty levels are huge and cannot be overlooked given that the agriculture sector still employs the largest share of the labour force in developing and least developed countries. It also frustrates the good efforts of the humanitarian organisations in their effort to end hunger, deprivation and poverty. It is clear that developed countries do not want to fulfil their side of the deal, and have instead made developing countries “pay” over and beyond their obligations. The language in paragraph 16 of the 2001 Doha Development Agenda (DDA) is a reflection of the aggressive liberalisation agenda by the North to attain market access without any barriers. Paragraph 16 of the DDA states: “We agree to negotiations which

shall aim, by modalities to be agreed, to reduce or as appropriate eliminate tariffs, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs, and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries. Product coverage shall be comprehensive and without a priori exclusions....” Clearly, products of interest to developing countries are agricultural products like poultry, dairy, fisheries, cotton and many others which have all been denied an opportunity to grow and benefit from the economies of scale by the uncompetitive subsidies developed countries have continued to give to their rich farmers.

It is this “inappropriate” liberalisation agenda that the global North is now starting to push for in the digital economy related discussions like discussions on E-Commerce, Domestic Regulation, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and Internet Governance. They know that we are just in the first phases in the evolution of the digital economy and their markets are fast becoming saturated when African markets and those of the rest of the developing world are still untapped, the population is growing, and the middle-class is surging. They are prepared to overlook the 1998 Work Program on E-Commerce established to clarify various issues relating to E-Commerce within the ambit of the four relevant bodies

(Council for Trade in Services – CTS, Council for Trade in Goods – CTG, Council for TRIPS – CTRIPS & Committee for Trade and Development - CTD) of the WTO. The Work Program seeks to clarify issues relating to classification of digital products (e.g. Codes for digital products), rules of origin, protection and enforcement of trade marks, new technologies and access to technology, effects of E-Commerce on the development prospects of developing countries and many others. These are important issues on E-Commerce which remain unexplored. But, developed countries want to start new discussions on E-Commerce and have so far made proposals that only advance the corporate interests of their global technology companies. These proposals will severely constrain the policy space of developing countries when they begin to implement their digital industrialization strategies. *(To be continued)*



David Kapya is a Senior Consultant and Co-Founder at Tanoeconomics



Rohingya Muslim refugees who were entered Bangladesh by boat walk towards refugee camps after landing in the Bangladeshi district of Teknaf

ICC probes Burundi for crimes against humanity

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has authorised prosecutors to open a full investigation into alleged crimes against humanity in Burundi. The move comes just weeks after the country became the first member to withdraw from the international court. Unrest broke out in Burundi in 2015 after President



Zimbabwe renames Harare airport after Mugabe

Harare International Airport has been renamed after Zimbabwe's current President, Robert Mugabe. Transport Minister Joram Gumbo justified the decision on the grounds that Mr Mugabe was a "war hero" and "African icon". There is tension about who will succeed the man in power since 1980, with a number of key contenders removed from their posts. Mr Mugabe, 93, says he will stand for re-election next year.

His wife Grace has been tipped to succeed him and is expected to be appointed vice-president. When plans to rename the airport were announced in September, Zimbabwean journalist Elias Mambo suggested the president's ego was being "massaged". President Mugabe and his wife unveiled the new plaque bearing his name in a short simple ceremony. The name change is just one of a series of events planned by the government to pay tribute the man who led the

country to independence. In August, the government announced plans to build a \$1bn university named after him. But the BBC's Shingai Nyoka in Harare says Zimbabweans are divided over the name change at the airport, and the opposition has described it as an insult. President Mugabe thanked the government on behalf of his family, which he said "is not just my wife and the children it is the whole country". **BBC**

Pierre Nkurunziza decided to run for office a third time. Rights groups say hundreds of people were killed. UN investigators say there is evidence of crimes against humanity. They issued a report in September detailing killings, torture and rape, which they say have been committed largely by government forces - but also by opposition groups. The UN report urged the ICC, based The Hague, to launch an inquiry. In 2015 security forces launched a crackdown after major protests against President Nkurunziza's decision to stand for re-election. Groups disagreed over whether the candidacy was constitutional. The ICC statement said hundreds of people had disappeared in the country, and thousands had been illegally detained and tortured. As many as 400,000 people may have been displaced in the violence, it said. Burundi withdrew from the ICC on 27 October after accusing the court of deliberately targeting Africans for prosecution. The African Union called for a mass withdrawal of member states in February over the issue. The international court insists it "retains jurisdiction" to investigate

and prosecute any alleged crimes on the continent. But the case of Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, one of the ICC's "most wanted", has highlighted the difficulty of getting a non-member to co-operate in surrendering suspects. Responding to news of the ICC case, a senior Burundian presidential spokesperson accused the court of "outrageous lies to implement Westerners' hidden agenda to destabilize Africa". The country's justice minister, Laurentine Kanyana, called the court's decision a "fraud". She said her government had no intention of co-operating with the investigation. The ICC and global justice: Based on the Rome Statute adopted in 1998, the court came into force in 2002. It was ratified by 123 countries, and Burundi is the only one to have withdrawn. Now there are 122 - including 34 African nations. The United States is a notable absent member of the court. The court aims to prosecute and bring to justice those responsible for the worst crimes - genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. But only Africans have been prosecuted so far, fuelling criticism. **BBC**

Portia de Rossi accuses Steven Seagal of sexual harassment



Actress Portia de Rossi has accused actor and producer Steven Seagal of sexual harassment. The *Arrested Development* actress, who is married to US talk show host Ellen DeGeneres, made the allegation in a tweet posted on Wednesday night. She alleges that during a film audition Mr Seagal told her “how important it was to have chemistry off-screen” before unzipping his trousers. Mr Seagal’s manager told BBC News that the actor had no comment. The 65-year-old is best known for his action roles during the 1980s and 1990s, including *Under Siege* and *Flight of Fury*. He was given Russian citizenship by President Vladimir Putin in 2016.

Several other women have come forward to accuse Mr Seagal of inappropriate behaviour and harassment, including the *Good Wife* actress Julianna Margulies and model Jenny McCarthy.

He is the latest person in Hollywood to stand accused of sexual harassment or sexual assault after women began coming forward about producer Harvey Weinstein. Harvey Weinstein has

denied all allegations of non-consensual sex made against him. In the tweet, Ms de Rossi said her complaints about Mr Seagal’s behaviour were dismissed at the time by her

agent. She did not specify what movie the audition was for or in what year the incident allegedly happened. The Australian-American actress has been married

to television host Ellen DeGeneres for nine years. Ms DeGeneres shared Ms de Rossi’s tweet with her 75 million followers on Thursday with the caption: “I am proud of my wife”. **BBC**

Pregnant Khloé Kardashian covers up in another baggy shirt

They’re both expecting their own babies early next year. And on Monday, Khloé Kardashian and Kim Kardashian West were spotted out and about in Los Angeles wearing two very different outfits. The reality star sisters were photographed leaving a studio together, pregnant Khloé camouflaged her growing baby belly with a long-sleeve black T-shirt and Kim, who is expecting a baby girl (her third child with husband Kanye West) via surrogate, showed off her rock-hard abs in a black sports bra. Both ladies kept the rest of their looks casual. Khloé, 33, wore fitted jeans and black boots, while Kim, 37, rocked grey sweatpants and an oversized black jacket. As fans know, the Kardashian sisters aren’t the only ones getting ready to welcome a baby into their lives. Sister Kylie Jenner is also pregnant, expecting a girl with rapper boyfriend Travis Scott this February. **Yahoo**



French woman faked kidnap to be with lover

A woman who pretended to have been kidnapped so she could see her lover has been given a six-month suspended jail sentence by a French court. Sandy Gaillard, 25, an activist with the far-right National Front, sparked a huge search involving 50 soldiers and a helicopter, the court heard. She was separated from her husband and living with a boyfriend but came up with the scheme to see a third man. She was fined €5,000 (£4,400; \$5,800) and ordered to see a psychologist. Gaillard’s boyfriend alerted police in July when she sent him a text saying she was

being held captive in the boot of a black car, the court in the southern town of Mende heard. Following a 24-hour search she turned up showing no signs of any trauma and claimed that her abductors had simply decided to free her. Her story contained further inconsistencies and the authorities grew suspicious. Under police questioning she admitted she had made the story up in order to spend a romantic break with her lover in Le Puy-en-Velay, the court heard. She said her new lover had not been involved in the ruse. **BBC**

Chipolopolo a better team - Cameroon

By Nyambe Lubasi
Cameroon coach Hugo Broos is very wary of Zambia ahead of their battle for pride in their formality 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifier on November 11 at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola. Both teams are out of the race after Nigeria qualified with a match to spare on an unassailable 13 points leaving 2nd placed Zambia trailing on 7 points and Cameroon 3rd on 6 points. Despite being crowned African champions in February this year, Cameroon have failed to convince in the 2018 Group B qualifiers. The African champions salvaged a 1-1 home draw with Zambia on November 12, 2016 when Vincent Aboubakar equalised via a 45th minute penalty after Collins Mbesuma had put Zambia ahead in the 33rd minute. Cameroon were later humiliated 4-0 away by Nigeria but got a 1-1 home draw in Yaoundé in September before they beat bottom placed Algeria 2-0 at the same venue last month. But a rejuvenated Zambia who had four 2017 U20 AFCON winning stars in their ranks, improved and beat Algeria 3-1 at home and 1-0 away in a September Group B doubleheader before losing

1-0 in Nigeria on October 7 in a match that looked destined for a draw rather than the final outcome. “First of all there is a big difference between the Zambia team of November last year and the team today,” Broos said.
By Nyambe Lubasi
Zambia Under-20 coach Mumamba Numba has promoted 16 players from his 2017 COSAFA Under-17 Cup winning team to his provisional 45-member side named to defend their title as hosts. Zambia will host the COSAFA Under 20 Cup from December 6-16 in Kitwe. Meanwhile, Numba has kept faith in his entire Under-17 midfield comprising the likes of Michael Kafusha, Clinton Lubula, Prince Mumba, Muma Mumba, John Mulalangabo, Niza Simutenda, Jimmy Hamanzuka plus Mamelodi

Sundowns target Lameck Banda of Nkwazi. Others are goalkeeper Emmanuel Mphasi including striker’s Martin Njobvu and Christopher Phiri. Defenders Christopher Katongo, Kingsley Hakwiya, Victor Kasokolo, Jonathan Kapelembe and Andrew Phiri have also been promoted from the Under-17 team. Midfielder Ngosa Sunzu is the only survivor from Zambia’s 2017 U20 FIFA World Cup team called for trials that begin in Lusaka on November 12. And hosts Zambia have been drawn in Group A where they

will play Swaziland, Uganda and Malawi. Zambia will kick off its title defence against guest side from the CECAFA Zone, Uganda, on December 6 at Nkana Stadium. Nkana and Arthur Davies Stadium will be the host venues for the tournament. Numba replaces Beston Chambeshi as Under-20 coach following the latter’s promotion to the Under-23 team and Chipolopolo assistant bench. Numba guided Zambia to its debut COSAFA U17 Cup triumph in Mauritius last July. GOAL KEEPERS: Danny

improving and we will give it our best shot.” Meanwhile, Zambia are boosted by the return of striker Patson Daka after missing the Nigeria loss due to injury while his fellow Under-20 star Edward Chilufya is set for his senior debut. DEFENDERS: Jack Chisha (Young Zesco), Justin Mwanza (Young Nkana), Poncilio Kapampa (Kabwe Warriors) Hillary Mwiinga (Red Arrows), Joseph Phiri (Kamwala Academy), Kasonde Mulenga (National Assembly), Chrispin Kawezya (Malalo Police), Andrew Phiri (Kafue Celtic), Jonathan Kapelembe (Romeki), Victor Kasokola (Konkola Blades),

However, coach Wedson Nyirenda will not be with key players namely Simon Silwimba and midfielder Kondwani Mtonga. Both will miss the match due to injuries sustained in league action at Zesco earlier this month. MIDFIELDERS: Jonathan Tembo (Gomes), Dauti Silwimba (Young Zesco), Kelvin Kapumbu (Lumwana Radiants), Godfrey Chanda (Green Buffaloes), Ngosa Sunzu (Napsa Stars), Kunda Nkandu (Zanaco), Musonda Kalale (Chambeshi FC), Mukuka Chanda (Gomes), Harry Milanzi (Young Green Buffaloes), Benson Kolala (Nchanga Rangers), Jimmy Hamanzuka (National Assembly), Niza Simutenda (Mphande Youth Academy), John Mulalangabo, Michael Kafusha (Kasama United Youth), Muma Mumba (Zamcoal Diggers), Prince Mumba (Kabwe Warriors), Clinton Lubula (Kabwata Dynamos), Alex Bulaya (Nakambala Leopards) STRIKERS: Lameck Banda (Nkwazi), Gamphani Lungu (National Assembly), Martin Njobvu (Nchanga Rangers), Christopher Phiri (Kafue Celtic), George Nyimbili (Young Zanaco), Damiano Kola (Zanaco), Francisco Mwepu (Chambeshi FC), Paul Mwachisemu (Kafue Celtics)

Messi promises to go on religious pilgrimage if he wins World Cup

If all goes as planned for Lionel Messi at next summer’s World Cup, he will have run roughly 50 miles in seven games, the number the top four teams play in the quadrennial tournament. If he and his Argentina squad can manage to win the whole thing, Messi said he’ll tack on an extra 30 miles in the form of a

religious pilgrimage to celebrate. “I will go on foot to San Nicolas,” Messi told Argentina’s TyC Sports on Tuesday, shaking hands with the host, after training in Moscow, where Argentina will play a friendly against Russia on Saturday. San Nicolas, an important center of Argentine Catholicism, is a popular pilgrimage site that invites hundreds of thousands of believers to travel on foot to worship at

the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Rosary of San Nicolas each September. For Messi to get there from his house outside of Rosario, he would need to cover roughly 31 miles. That doesn’t sound that bad. What will probably prove more difficult is getting time off from his club team, Barcelona, to make the Sept. 25 trek. [Russian World Cup venue builds seats outside stadium to meet FIFA capacity standards] If Argentina wins and Messi follows through on his promise, he’ll be joined by teammate Sergio Aguero of Manchester City, who upped the ante. He told TyC Sports that not only will the pair make a pilgrimage to San Nicolas, but they’d run the distance. While Messi’s and Aguero’s promises have made for fun fodder in Argentine media, fans of the team are more keen to see the team shape up before the month-long tournament kicks off June 14. Argentina struggled to qualify, winning only seven of its 18 games. Fed up with his team’s lack of success, Messi even briefly retired from the national team in 2016 before making his return just months later. “It was what I felt at the moment,” Messi said of his hasty but temporary decision that came after losing in the final game of the 2016 Copa America to Chile on penalty kicks. Messi has since come back with a renewed attitude, and he helped salvage what would’ve been a historically bad qualifying season had Argentina not squeaked out a final win over Ecuador last

month to secure its World Cup spot. Without a win, Argentina would’ve risked missing its first World Cup since 1970. “There was always the fear of coming here to play,” Messi told reporters afterward about the Oct. 11 game played at altitude in Quito. “Luckily, we could react and we managed to play well. We were calm, we achieved

the goal and that is the most important thing. Thanks to God, we fulfilled the objective.” Messi, while not as overtly religious as some of his teammates, does not hide his Catholic faith. He has a large tattoo of Jesus on his right biceps and can often be seen making the sign of the cross on the field. **Yahoo**



Tiger on why he can’t use his old swing

Every time the subject of Tiger Woods comes along, it invariably leads to someone taking the bait on a lazy, logically fallacious argument: That the biggest mistake of Tiger Woods’ career was changing away from his 2000 Era swing. Make no mistake: Tiger was at his very best between late 1999 and 2002. Under the tutelage of renowned coach, his swing was a violent ball of unrelenting power, and he used it to torch everyone in his path. But Tiger’s swing was so harsh that it began having a deteriorating effect on his body, specifically in his left knee. So, in 2003 Tiger made the controversial decision to leave

coach Butch Harmon - a move Golf Channel analyst Brandel Chamblee said “destroyed” his dominance. In reality, it wasn’t as much a choice as it was a necessity. He opted instead for Hank Haney, who re-tooled his swing to make it more graceful and easier on his body. He won his next six majors using that move, boasted the best PGA Tour win percentage of his career, and staved-off injuries for years. It was the right move - the only move, really - but somehow, those realities too often get conveniently forgotten. And, interestingly, Tiger himself is discussing the issue more candidly than ever. **Yahoo**



CHILUFYA UPBEAT FOR CAMEROON GAME

Nyambe Lubasi

Zambia Under-20 star Edward Chilufya is relieved to be finally on the verge of making his senior debut after missing Chipolopolo's last three games.

The Swedish-based midfielder missed Zambia's last three 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifiers due to administrative problems over his release from Djurgårdens because he was still Under-17 until late October.

And now the 2017 U20 AFCON winning star is in line for his senior debut after helping propel the Zambia Under-20 to the 2017 FIFA U20 Cup quarterfinals in South Korea.

"I feel good to finally come and play for my country," Chilufya said.

"I has hasn't been easy but even when I had difficulties with my Visa issue I never gave up and I am very happy to be finally here."

And Chilufya said Saturday's 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifier against defending African champions Cameroon at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium was not a formality.

"We are taking this game seriously because we believe with a good result this weekend good things are coming our way despite being out of the qualifiers."

Second placed Zambia and 3rd positioned Cameroon have 7 and 6 points heading into their final Group B qualifier.

Nigeria command Group B with a game in hand on 13 points following their 1-0 home win over Zambia on October 7 in Uyo, which booked their ticket to the World Cup finals in Russia.

