



LUNGU PETITION READY - SANGWA

...we're just waiting for him to file his 2021 nomination

By Ulande Nkomesha

CONSTITUTIONAL lawyer John Sangwa State Counsel says he has already drafted a petition waiting to challenge Edgar Lungu's nomination as 2021 Presidential candidate, should the Patriotic Front go ahead to field him.

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We'll not be bribed by K30m - Pilato



By Julia Malunga and
Sipilisiwe Ncube

RENOWNED musician and civil rights activist Chama Fumba popularly known as Pilato says artistes will not be bribed by a K30 million youth empowerment scheme that has been approved by President Edgar Lungu.

And Pilato says if he and his team who protested in the bush last Monday are grandfathers, then Sports Minister Emmanuel Mulenga is the "grandest of them all".

In an interview, Pilato observed that President Lungu was trying to silence artistes by giving them money.

"The artistes in Zambia do not need K30 million. They might need more, they might need less. Why are they giving artistes money instead of young people in this country? How is that money going to benefit the artistes today and tomorrow? How does that respond to the young people's calls for a fight against corruption?..."

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Govt issues K5.2bn of COVID bond

By Natasha Sakala

SECRETARY to the Treasury Fredson Yamba has announced that K5.2 billion of the K8 billion COVID Bond has so far been issued through the Bank of Zambia.

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Malawia's President-elect Lazarus Chakwera during his inauguration ceremony

Chagwa congratulates Chakwera

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu has congratulated Lazarus Chakwera for emerging victorious in the just ended Malawian presidential election.

In a statement issued by

State House Press Aide Isaac Chipampe, Sunday, President Lungu said Chakwera's victory had proved the confidence which the people of Malawi have in his leadership.

"Your election is an affirmation of the trust and

confidence that the people of Malawi have in your leadership qualities, which ushers in a wave of democratic change that the people of Malawi have been advocating for," President Lungu stated.

President Lungu wished

Chakwera well as he takes up the leadership of that country.

"Zambia and Malawi share strong brotherly bonds of friendship based on mutual respect. I, therefore, wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm my country's commitment to maintaining strong bilateral relations that our two countries have continued to enjoy, for the mutual benefit of our two peoples," stated President Lungu.

Lusaka Mayor shuts down Chicago's, Grandaddy's

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By Mirriam Chabala
LEADER of the Opposition in Parliament Jack Mwiimbu has vowed that UPND is ready to take appropriate legal action against any illegality in the Constitution amendment process.

And Mwiimbu has disagreed with Government Parliamentary Chief Whip Brian Mundubile, who told a media briefing, Thursday, that the Standing Orders Committee has powers to change its own rules, saying that committee cannot override Parliament.

In an interview, Mwiimbu insisted that Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 was no longer on the floor of the House because it lapsed three weeks ago and that the only way to take it back to Parliament was through a fresh process.

“Let me make it very clear: on the part of UPND, as far as we are concerned, there is no Bill 10 that is before the House. Bill Number 10 lapsed on the 4th of June, 2020, it, therefore, means that there cannot be any deferment of debating of the Bill on the floor of the House. The most logical and prudent thing that has to be done on the part of the Minister of Justice (Given Lubinda) is to start afresh in this process of constitution-making. We are not going to allow illegality to be practiced on the floor of the House,” Mwiimbu said.

“And we, as UPND, will not allow that to happen and we will not be part and parcel of whatever illegality they want to evoke. I am a member of the Standing Orders Committee myself; I can tell you that we objected very strongly to that. That was illegal, and they haven’t even brought it to the

We’ll defend Constitution from illegal amendments, vows Mwiimbu

attention of the House for the House to make a decision. Standing orders is just a committee of Parliament; it does not override the functions of Parliament itself. So, we can assure you that, as UPND, we will not allow illegality to happen. We will evoke our rights in this situation to take any appropriate legal action against this process.”

And Mwiimbu disputed Mundubile’s assertions that the Standing Orders Committee had powers to change its own rules.

“Now that Honourable Mundubile has disclosed what transpired in the Standing Orders Committee, I would like to respond as follows: only Lubinda had requested Parliament to defer the Bill to a date after 30th June, Parliament responded to him and advised him that if you defer to after 30th June, the Bill would have been killed and there would be no Bill on the floor of the House. And as you may be aware, when people are trying to be mischievous in whatever they are trying to do, they are not methodical, they forgot that the Bill was not lapsing on the 30th of June, but it was lapsing on the 4th of June. So, even when the Standing Orders Committee was meeting yesterday (Wednesday), the Bill had already lapsed. So, there is no way Parliament can renew a Bill that has lapsed,” said Mwiimbu.

“The Standing Orders have

no powers to do that! They don’t have the power. You ask him (Mundubile), which provision of laws authorizes

Standing Orders to extend the life span of a Bill, there is none. The issue here is that PF is desperate; they want the Bill to

come to Parliament and they’re trying to use COVID-19. If you want to use the issues of COVID-19, there are supposed

to be other procedures, which they should have involved. Otherwise, the rules don’t allow. We are members of parliament that were sworn-in to defend the Constitution and the Standing Orders of Parliament. We cannot be seen to be in the forefront to violate the rules of the House just to please one political party, we cannot do that.”

Even us supporting Bill 10 have Zambia’s interests at heart - Wynter

By Natasha Sakala
RAINBOW Party leader Wynter Kabimba says Bill 10 is not dead but has only been deferred to a later date for debate.

And Kabimba says supporting Bill 10 is not a treasonable act because even those doing so have the interest of Zambia’s at heart.

Meanwhile, Kabimba says Zambia is undemocratic because leaders do not have the heart to accept divergent views.

Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix’s Let the People Talk, Friday, Kabimba said Bill 10 was still alive.

“Is Bill 10 dead? Not as far as I know. The last we heard about Bill 10 from the honorable Minister of Justice is that the bill has been deferred and the Speaker cautioned the Minister of Justice that can you make sure that the debate comes back to the floor of the House quickly before this bill lapses because we are running out of time. So Bill 10 is not dead,” Kabimba said.

And Kabimba said if it



was proven that the majority Zambia’s did not support Bill 10, he would “shut up”.

“Now let me tell you this, if we conducted a poll today and it is proven that the majority of Zambia’s say they don’t like Bill 10, I will shut up. If those that are saying they are against Bill 10 could prove in a scientific manner, using a poll for example, even a sample that they are in majority, I would shut up. The problem that I have, like he said, why are you shoving it down Zambia’s throats, no, he should say why are you shoving it down my throat because he has no evidence that he is representing the majority of the Zambia’s people. What I have disagreed to is people saying I have been bought, that’s what I disagree with. I object to that kind of characterization. I have seen on social media, they even put an amount, ‘you received K3 million’, I don’t know who was there when I was receiving that money. That’s how they try to alarm people. I remember somebody saying on social media after I featured on ZNBC, saying just tell us how much you have been paid, nonsense! If you don’t have an argument, keep quiet. Stop characterizing me and characterizing others,” he said.

In response to a question on whether there are two Bills, Kabimba said the recent Gazette notice was simply amendments to the Bill.

“There is only one Bill 10 which was gazetted in June last year and then now what you have are amendments to that Bill 10. So amendments in themselves are not a bill, so

there are two things, the Bill 10 and amendments to Bill 10,” he said.

And Kabimba said supporting Bill 10 was not betrayal.

“And in debating Bill 10, there is no need for us to debate as if we were at war, we are not at war, yes maybe we are at war of ideas but we are not taking out guns. We can’t debate this with this inherent spirit of hate between those that are for or against. We are all Zambia’s and we have a right to hold different views. I disagree with the notion that the people that are speaking against the bill are the ones speaking on behalf Zambia’s, that’s not right, all of us are speaking on behalf of the Zambia’s people. All of us in one way or the other represent the Zambia’s people. I disagree with those that are against Bill 10 when they say that those of us that are supporting Bill 10 are betraying the Zambia’s people. There is no treasonable act here, we are not committing any treason. We just happen to hold a different view,” he said.

“We also realize and are conscious of the fact that this Bill 10 has divided our society, it has divided families; it has divided friends. I have got some of my friends who are on the other side, they oppose Bill 10 and I am on the other side but we are still friends. I have got some of my family members that are anti Bill 10 and I am pro Bill 10 but they are still my brothers and sisters. So that is how it should be in a democracy, we can’t all think the same and that’s why we fought the one party state.”

Meanwhile, Kabimba said Zambia was far from being democratic.

“My appeal is that if you really are a democrat and you believe in democracy, your views shall not always prevail. Other people’s views shall prevail over yours, that’s the only way we can build democracy. Democracy is for strong men and women, it’s not for the faint hearted. How many times do we face adversity in life, how many times do we face defeat in life and we have to accept it? How many times have we lost loved ones and we still recover from that pain and move on? So if you are going to act like a spoilt child in a democracy, you shall always remain disappointed. A spilt child who wants to cry for chocolate in the middle of the bush where there is no shop, democracy means the views of others, however unreasonable they may sound to you shall prevail and you just have to accommodate that pain, that’s what democracy it all about. We are not democrats, even those that purport to be leaders in this country are far away from being leaders because we are undemocratic,” said Kabimba.

“There is nothing about the nation, each of us wants to score against the other. So we’ve become embroiled in these technical arguments, legal actions, interpretation of the law, interpretation of the bill which is not yet law, alarming of those who can’t read and write, creating an environment that Zambia is on fire when there is nothing like that.”

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LIES!



**In 2015 President Lungu promises
500,000 jobs by end 2016.**

WHERE ARE THEY?



PUBLISHED BY FRIENDS OF THE UPND

By Julia Malunga and Sipilisiwe Ncube

RENOWNED musician and civil rights activist Chama Fumba popularly known as Pilato says artistes will not be bribed by a K30 million youth empowerment scheme that has been approved by President Edgar Lungu.

And Pilato says if he and his team who protested in the bush last Monday are grandfathers, then Sports Minister Emmanuel Mulenga is the “grandest of them all”.

In an interview, Pilato observed that President Lungu was trying to silence artistes by giving them money.

“The artistes in Zambia do not need K30 million. They might need more, they might need less. Why are they giving artistes money instead of young people in this country? How is that money going to benefit the artistes today and tomorrow? How does that respond to the young people’s calls for a fight against corruption? How does that respond to young people’s calls for human rights? What problem are they trying to address? Just because we had musicians in the protest does not mean that this is a call for musicians to be given money, no. The young people will not be bribed by K30 million. We have bigger problems and that money is not even enough. That money could be used to create opportunities for every young person, it can be used to structure the industry. Why do they want to bribe the artistes? Because they are vocal? The President must be able to respond to the calls of the young people,” Pilato said.

“We already know which artistes will receive that money. The K30 million is a good thing but then it is misplaced and it is a bribe. The President is trying to silence the artistes thinking that once they are bribed, no one will be able to speak. But the cries of the young people are way beyond and bigger than just artistes. Even if they give that money to artistes, the young people will still want to be addressed.”

And Pilato said the youths that Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya has been meeting are from the ruling party and do not represent the views of the general youth populace.

“The president asking ministers to respond to the challenges of young people today is just a PR (Public Relations) stance. If this is when the President is directing his ministers or his government to respond to the young people’s needs, then what has his government been doing all this time? What have they been working on? If, for seven years, they have not done that, what have they been doing? We are not asking for popcorn statements but we are asking them to respond to their own proposals in their own manifesto. They said they will create 500, 000 jobs but instead, they have taken away more than 500, 000 jobs from people. They said they will give us more money in our pockets but now they have taken away money from our pockets. They said lower taxes but now we have got higher taxes. What is it that they are telling us?”

We’ll not be bribed by K30m – Pilato

Pilato asked.

He said all the problems raised by the youths are not new to government.

“It must be understood that the youths are not in any

way conveying new problems.

The challenges of the young people today are what made the same young people vote for the PF because when the PF was campaigning, they

were telling the young people about their problems and they promised that once voted to power, they were going to deal with those challenges. They promised that they were going

to fight the MMD corruption and deal with the issues that the MMD was voted against. The PF has been in power for seven years now. What have they done with those promises?” Pilato wondered.

“The problems that we are saying now are not new problems. The PF told us about dealing with the Chinese mistreatment of Zambians, we were told about the abuse of workers in these companies. The police brutality is not new. The young people are not in any way inventing new challenges but the problem is that the PF has not addressed the problems that the young people have been calling for.”

Asked why he and his team were not part of the team of youths who met Siliya on Wednesday and Thursday, he said the minister was only meeting youths that came from the PF structures.

“I wasn’t invited and I don’t think anyone that attended the protest was invited. You must understand that when the Patriotic Front Government

says they are speaking to the youths or they have solutions for the youths or a package for the youths, it’s not the general youths. It’s the youths from their party structures, those that they know, and those that they work with,” Pilato added.

And commenting on sentiments by Siliya that some youth representatives who were part of the Monday bush protests were said to be grandfathers, Pilato said: “If the youth representatives are grandfathers, the Minister of Sports should be the grandest of them all. What does she (Siliya) say about him?”

Meanwhile, when asked to react on police threats that they are contemplating arresting those who protested in the bush because that was also a public place, he said he will await their action.

“We await or their call. We are very law-abiding citizens. If they feel we broke the law, we await their action. Otherwise, we are still in Zambia and if they feel so, they will obviously reach out to us,” said Pilato.

Nevers wonders why Lungu doesn’t recognise his MMD presidency

By Natasha Sakala

MOVEMENT for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) president Nevers Mumba says it doesn’t matter whether President Edgar Lungu doesn’t recognize him as an opposition leader as long as the courts and the Registrar of Societies do.

And Mumba says he does not need to apologize to the President because he has never insulted him, but he will continue to call him whenever there is an issue that affects all Zambians.

He was responding to remarks made by President Lungu his tour of duty in Luwingu District of Northern Province recently.

In a video posted on his official Facebook page, Mumba wondered how the President would fail to believe the outcome of the High Court, which clearly stated that he was the rightful leader of the MMD last November.

“There are not two MMDs, I just want to make it very clear. Up until that date, yes, there were those who claimed to be MMD, but that was concluded in that judgement and that’s why courts exist to create harmony, peace and reconciliation for the country to move forward. And in this regard, our party has moved forward. So, when the President says, ‘he does not recognize me,’ I think it remains for him to explain to us what he means by that. Does he mean that he does not believe in the outcome of his own court and he would like to believe that those who lost the case are the MMD? I am not sure and I hope that he was misquoted, but, basically, I am comfortable myself that in case he doesn’t recognize me, I know that God recognizes me as his child, he recognizes me as his servant. I know that the people of this country recognize me and I know that the government of this country, the Registrar of Societies recognizes me as the legitimate leader of the MMD,” Mumba said.

“The other issue that has been raised by the President is that he doesn’t recognize me and the MMD. Well, first of all, I don’t really understand what the President meant by that; I personally recognize him as the President of this country, and I respect that position. I differ with him on many things, but that doesn’t take away who he is. I hope that the President will also respect me that I am a citizen of this country, he doesn’t have to accept it, but he has to respect it and that I am the president of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy

(MMD) and there is only one MMD in the country. And if he says, ‘he does now recognize MMD,’ I am not sure whether the President means he does not recognize first of all the judgement of November 5th 2019, which clearly declared that I am the president of the MMD. So, I do not know whether the President means he does not recognize that judgement, but I hope not.”

But Mumba stressed that he held no grudges against President Lungu for whatever he said in Luwingu as he remained focused on nation-

building during the current difficult times.

“There is not a single statement that I have made to play to the gallery. I am not a politician per se, I am a leader called by God to do what I do in politics and, therefore, I am not going to participate in the politics of name-calling, in the politics of trying to make somebody look bad. I am going to talk about things that affect me and affect the Zambian people and in the hope that things could be improved,” Mumba said.

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Despite good constitution, people aren’t safe with leaders who lack integrity – Aka

By Julia Malunga

PRINCE Akashambatwa Mbikusita Lewanika says even if there is a good constitution in place, if a country has leaders who lack integrity, the people are not safe.

And Aka says it would be better for Zambia to go back to the first constitution and examine every piece of change that has been made, one by one, in order to determine if the current proposed amendments are good for everyone.

Speaking at the “Zambia We Want Seminar”, Saturday, Aka said the country should take the warning of having leaders who do not have integrity seriously.

“I would like to comment on the systems of governance. Let us look at the real causes. The issue of a federal or unitary state may not be the root cause. We heard that even if you have a good constitution, if your leaders do not have integrity, you are not safe. That, I think is a good warning that we should take. But as we looked at the optional system, it seemed that we focus on whether it should be a federation, should it be a devolution. Which means that we agreed that whatever this was, whether it was a unitary state or whatever, it was what we have had up to. Now, the judgment is unanimous that it has performed poorly and adversely and dangerously and threatens the very existence of Zambia,” Aka said.

Aka said members of parliament were not voting for the constitution using their conscience and knowledge but that they voted on party lines.

“Where a constitution can be discussed by members of parliament, when even the party whip is not removed, what does the party whip not being removed mean? When the MPs are not even free to vote according to their conscience and their knowledge, where the MPs are voting along party lines when not voting along party lines can kick you out of parliament,” he said.

Aka suggested that the best way forward was to go back to the first Zambian constitution and examine every piece of change that had been made so far.

“The way forward, we are better

off going back to that first Zambia constitution and examine every piece of change that has been made one by one and decide whether it was in favor of everybody or whether it is in the spirit of wina azalila (somebody will cry) or whether it is in the spirit that all of us will rejoice. Whether it empowered us or disempowered us. We heard one of the last changes was the 2016, one over the Anti-Corruption (Commission) all those things we should detect them thoroughly one by one so that we can clean up as we move,” he said.

Meanwhile, Aka said the uncorrupted African systems were democratic, not dictatorial.

“All our traditional governance systems if they are not corrupted have the same characteristics. Chitimukulu, Litunga, Undi, they are not one man shows. The Bashi Lubemba can he make a decision as Chitimukulu? Would he have survived the onslaught from (Michael) Sata alone without them? Why is Litunga so quiet? He gets attacked every day. There is a gentleman called Ngambela he keeps going left, right to answer on him, why? Because that is our system of governance, it is not a one man show. Some people think that when they become dictators they are actually being African, it is not true. The African system was democratic. It was based on consensus and collective decision making. When we cast away our African system, those are the good things we are also casting away and making room for personalized leadership, unaccountable leadership,” he said.

“One of the greatest privileges I had was to stay the whole day with the last Gawa Undi and discuss African systems and we all agreed that it’s one system, it is the same system. A democratic system. In the design of the Zambia you want, the Africa you want, I am not asking you to completely turn your backs on these colonial countries you have now begun to love and get used to but please, within their renewed version, don’t discard African tradition, please. When we propose that in the Zambia you want, you are also going to continue to marginalize and subordinate traditional Africa, I am

not with you because I am proud to be an African.”

Lewanika said being in leadership did not mean stealing from people.

“How do African tradition choose leaders? Do the would-be leaders go round saying ‘choose me. If you choose me I will build you a bridge. I am better than this one?’ African leaders are not chosen on the basis of personal popularity, on marketing themselves, on bribing their way. Later on, on killing people to make room for them to be president. Those are easier to do in these modern systems, very difficult to do in an African system. The number one disqualification for leadership in our tradition and I say ours as a pan African, in our African tradition is to see an individual who wants to be leader. Because for you to want to be a leader, you should be suspected of not knowing what you are talking about,” Lewanika said.

“Leadership is giving up your individuality in service of society, it is not a pleasure, it is not a money asking position. It is not a position to be stealing from. It is an honorable position, you cannot refuse it but you do it knowing that it costs your person. Even the ceremony of choosing leaders, when a headman is picked, he goes through the motion.”

Meanwhile, Aka said he was shocked that some public officials donated huge sums of money.

“I was quite embarrassed one day. I was coming from Kalabo to Lusaka. I was shocked that a minister stood at some project and said ‘from the President, I am donating K50,000 and from my own pocket I am donating K25,000.’ And the natives clapped. I was still shocked when I arrived in Lusaka and when they asked me to speak about corruption, I said “that nigger should be arrested’ because all of us have extended families doesn’t he have even nephews who have no shoes? And then it is not the only project he had been donating I heard he had donated in Luapula. So I made a mistake of mentioning his name and I hoped that the newspapers wouldn’t print his name. But fortunately, he has been arrested so it is now public knowledge,” said Aka.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

THE “Stay Home and Stay Safe” recommendation has increased consumption of electricity because of the notable increase in the use of gadgets in households, says Vice-President Inonge Wina.

And Vice-President Wina says some politicians have launched a campaign to discredit government through telling lies and persuading youths to protest in the bush.

Speaking when she responded to questions during the Vice President’s question time in parliament Friday, Vice-President Wina said electricity consumption had increased during the COVID-19 pandemic when asked if government was considering lowering Zesco electricity tariffs.

“Government has received some presentations on the issue of Zesco tariffs. But the country should be aware that the tariff increment came at a time when the Load Management programme was between 12-14 hours, and currently is standing between eight to 10 hours [in a day]. This impacted the rate of consumption of electricity units for households. And there has been a fundamental shift following continued efforts to reduce the load shedding hours. Additionally, with the COVID-19, “Stay Home and Stay Safe” has increased consumption of electricity because of the notable increase in the use of gadgets by households,” Vice-President Wina said.

She said Zesco’s historical data indicated an increased demand for electricity during the cold season.

“The residential consumer purchasing patterns have shown that some customers front loaded their electricity meters towards the end of 2019 when it was announced that tariffs would be increased from January. And with the bulky units of this, customers gradually depleting units through the year, the customers who had front loaded units are not beginning to feel the real effects of purchasing electricity from Zesco. This has led to the media and social media sentiments that the tariff awarded was too high. Furthermore, Zesco Limited’s historical data

indicated increased demand for electricity during the cold months of June and July that many households tend to use electricity more for heating compared to other months of the year,” she said.

Asked by Livingstone UPND member of parliament Matthew Jere to conform if HoneyBee was awarded a contract to supply medical drugs before the company was incorporated in Zambia, a reason why some youths were protesting, Vice-President Wina said some political parties were using youths to discredit the PF government.

“The member should know that some of our young people are misled and misinformed by politicians. This is not a new thing. It is part of a program of some political parties to discredit this government. And this has been sustained from 2016 to today, and it will continue for as far as I see, to paint this government as a corrupt government. And this is not the only campaign. The young people are being persuaded to go in the bush. I don’t know why some people are objecting to what I am saying because that is the truth of the matter. The young people are being told stories that cannot be verified including some issues of corrupt activities,” Vice-President Wina said.

She, however, said government would not condone corruption.

“When these cases have been proved, then we cannot expect this government not to condemn such practices. But just to take action on the basis of perception and misinformation, I think it is to mislead our people especially the youth. Mr Speaker, this government will not condone corruption and this is a fact,” Vice-President Wina said.

And when asked why government had failed to pay civil servants for them to pay back the loans which some of them had gotten from the banks, Vice-President Wina said government was slowly paying the banks.

“Government has not failed to pay the banks, to pay the obligations of the civil servants. It was a huge bill and currently, the bill has been reduced as the Ministry of Finance has continuously paid

“Stay home” has increased electricity consumption says Wina

banks and remits the money to the bank on behalf of the civil servants. And this is an ongoing process. I believe that before the end of the year, we will see a drastically reduced bill with the banks,” she said.

Chimwemwe PF member of parliament Elias Mwila also asked what sanctions government would effect on the Lusaka City Council for selectively allowing some foreign-owned bars and night clubs to operate at will.

In her response, Vice-President Wina said government was aware that bars had been a source of employment for youths but urged those illegally operating them to stop.

“Mr Speaker, I do appreciate the frustrations of the Bar Owners Association of Zambia because bars are another source of job creation particularly for our youths. However, I wish to state that if there are any restaurants operating as bars under the guise of being restaurants, they are doing so illegally and must be stopped,” Vice-President Wina warned.

She appealed to bar owners to be patient with the government saying the decision for bars to remain closed was in the interest of the public.

“My advice, Mr Speaker, is that bar owners at the moment should abide by the guidance given by His Excellency

the President which is that bars should remain closed, especially during this cold season when the weather is not so favourable for bars to

open. I am very certain that His Excellency the President at an appropriate time will look into this matter. I call upon the bar owners to be patient

with the government as this is in the interest of their health and that of the general public at large,” said Vice-President Wina.

Lusaka Mayor shuts down Chicago’s, Grandaddy’s

By Natasha Sakala

LUSAKA Mayor Miles Sampa, in collaboration with other council officials, has withdrawn trading and liquor licences and closed down Chicago’s Reloaded, Grandaddys Pub, Drill Beat Pub in Chilenje and MS Liquor at Chilenje for operating as bars, defying the Presidential directive that bars and nightclubs remain closed as cases of COVID-19 keep rising.

The erring owners have been advised so visit the health department office on Monday and show cause as to why their licenses should not be revoked.

During his visit to Chicagos, East Park mall, Sampa was met by a fully packed restaurant with some patrons outside waiting to be admitted.

“We are at Chicagos, we have a concern. These are officials from the council, as you know the guidelines, the bars should not operate. The President repeated that over and over so that we stop Corona spreading. Just when I have come here people are drunk, spitting in each other’s face...we gave you permission to trade as a restaurant, to sell food while people are seated but what we found here, it’s just like a bar. So we have a job to do, because regulations are being

broken here. The officials here, I am asking them to pick up the licenses here and suspend [them] until further notice. So this place will remain closed until further notice. It’s one amidst every outlet in the city that seems to be behaving in this manner, so council officials take charge. Thank you for your cooperation. Within an hour everybody should be out of here,” said Sampa.

And Chicagos owner only identified as Sarva said they had been operating as a restaurant but people tended to become unruly and defy health guidelines when they were drunk.

“We serve the food while they are seated but once they start drinking [alcoholic beverages], they [start] hugging each other and all that kind of stuff, that’s the hard part,” said Sarva.

At Drill Beat Pub, patrons were found drinking within the premises and when asked why, a staff member manning the joint said people were buying take away and were only opening the bottles from inside the pub.

President Edgar Lungu said during his national address on Friday that bars and schools would remain closed until weather conditions are favorable to avoid continued spread of the Coronavirus.

ActionAid commends Govt for cancelling DTA with Mauritius

unbalanced and a source of tax evasion, thereby denying the host countries the much-needed revenue.

It is against this background that government decided to cancel its DTA with Mauritius and welcoming government’s move, ActionAid Zambia country director Nalucha Ziba encouraged the Zambian government to take similar action over other unbalanced DTAs.

“For a long time, ActionAid has been campaigning for cancellation and re-negotiation of problematic DTAs Zambia has with different countries. In recent times, tax treaties have not only been found to be unbalanced, but also a source of tax evasion by most multinational companies, denying the host countries the much-needed revenue. For example, some DTAs provide for as low as 0-7 per cent tax rate, while others have no or weaker anti-abuse provisions. For some time now, ActionAid has been calling for revision and/or cancellation of regressive DTAs like the now-cancelled Zambia and Mauritius DTA,” Ziba stated.

“The DTA between Zambia and Mauritius provided for 0 per cent Withholding Tax (WHT) on technical fees paid for technical services. With this provision, a Mauritius-

based multinational company would take advantage of such provisions and not pay any WHT on technical services, which is currently capped at 15 per cent. For example, if this company engaged a sister company from Mauritius to provide technical services at a cost of US \$100 million, this company when making this payment (US \$100 million) to a sister company, will not deduct any WHT. This implies that the entire US \$100 million is untaxed! On the contrary, if the DTA provided for 15 per cent WHT on technical fees, then US \$15 million would be deducted as Withholding Tax and remitted to the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA).”

Ziba also encouraged government to take some precautions before entering into other DTAs

“ActionAid conducted a study titled: ‘Sweet Nothings,’ which showed how Associated British Foods (ABF), operating in Zambia as Zambia Sugar Company, took advantage of the international tax agreement between Zambia and Ireland to avoid large tax payments. Zambia Sugar Company paid over US \$47.6 million equivalent to about K209 billion for management services and purchases to a fellow subsidiary called: ‘Illovo Sugar Ireland’ between 2007 to 2012. However, the

international tax agreement between Zambia and Ireland (before negotiation) exempted payment of WHT for management or consultancy services. By channelling this money (US \$47.6million) through their Irish subsidiary, Zambia Sugar avoided paying an equivalent of US \$7.4 million between 2007 to 2012,” recalled Ziba.

“It is against this background that we commend the government for the position taken and we wish to encourage government to take a similar position over other unbalanced DTAs. Furthermore, government should ensure that the following are put into consideration when re-negotiating for new DTAs: an impact assessment/cost-benefit analysis is done before they are signed and every five years, thereafter; they should not follow the OECD model Treaty, but develop their own model; the government should negotiate for favourable and/or fair DTAs WHT rates (10 per cent-15 per cent), which will not only promote Foreign Direct Investment, but also ensure that government collects adequate tax revenue; and all treaties should be negotiated transparently, and draft versions made available to the public prior to signature.”

Nevers wonders why Lungu doesn’t recognise his MMD presidency


From P4

And Mumba said that he did not see the need for him to apologize to President Lungu because he did not insult him.

“May I confirm that I have not apologized to the President because I have not had an opportunity to insult him. First of all, I don’t know how to insult, I gave my life to Christ when I was 17 years old. I have taught respect for one another, respect for leaders and I have also known the public ministry of 43 years of preaching on how to speak truth to power. The only reason why I say what I say is to see Zambia saved, brought to a place where all of us can benefit. Yes, it is true, like I have said on many radio stations, that I have found it necessary, from time-to-time, to call the President in an effort to raise an issue. When COVID-19 began, I called him, sent a message, but no response. When ritual

killings began, I called him; I sent a text, but no response. Now, when the China-Zambia relations began to sour, I did the same; on Africa Freedom Day, I sent him a message of congratulations and on his birthday,” recalled Mumba.

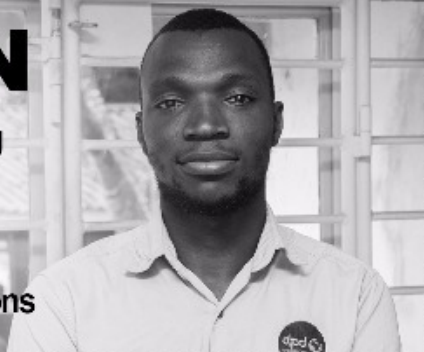
“I do those things because I would like to create an environment in this county where we are able to differ on policy positions, but acknowledge that we are leaders that are representing, not our personal interests, but the interests of those people that look up to us for leadership. And this is why I am in politics and I will continue to engage the President on matters that concern the country in the hope that he is not going to use those attempted communications against me or any other leader that tries to reach him on these national matters.”



CTPD'S MONDAY OPINION

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

TODAYS TOPIC:
Development Financing: The Untapped potential in unclaimed assets. Lessons from Kenya and USA (Florida) with Ibrahim Kamara



DEVELOPMENT FINANCING: THE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL IN UNCLAIMED ASSETS. LESSONS FROM KENYA AND USA (FLORIDA)

INTRODUCTION

AN EFFICIENT and well-functioning financial system to a country's economic growth and development is widely recognised and appreciated. The 2008 global financial crisis brought the world largest economies and other countries to undertake collective actions to safeguard the financial sector and bolster public confidence. The financial system plays an important role in the development process- particularly through the financial intermediation process. Reforms in the financial sector are centred around the recognition of its significance in the driving economies and changing the fortunes of many lives.

UNDERSTANDING UNCLAIMED ASSETS

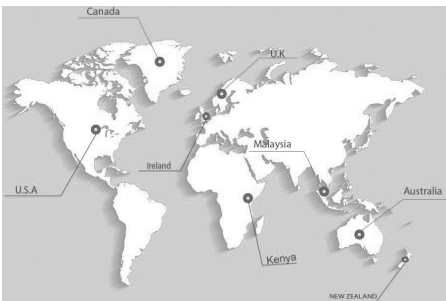
The issue of unclaimed assets has been recognised globally as an ethical, governance and development problem needing urgent attention in the form of regulatory frameworks and sensitisation of the populace. Under the legal principle of bona vacantia, the Government is the bonafide custodian of unclaimed property in any modern state. As such, many developed countries have developed explicit policy frameworks for the management of unclaimed assets.

International best practice includes the management of information and data related to such assets. This typically entails the identification of unclaimed assets according to prescribed definitions as well as the segregation, reporting and remittance of such assets into a central reclaim fund and the establishment of an unclaimed assets agency to regulate and manage these assets. The portion of remitted funds in excess of those required to meet claims of asset owners is invested for social, community, and economic benefit.

Some of the reasons that have been identified as the cause of unclaimed assets Other ways;Death; Poor record keeping; Relocation regionally or globally/ overseas; Ignorance, Negligence and even forgetfulness. In Africa, the culture of record keeping is not engrained, and people seldom write wills and there are huge assets lying because the rightful owners cannot be traced. Such assets are usually as a subject of targeted fraud and there are even companies that write

them back as profits when they don't trace their rightful owners.

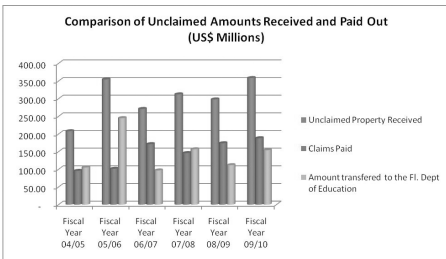
Australia, Canada, UK, Ireland, Malaysia, Kenya, New Zealand and the US have made major strides in the management of unclaimed assets.
Figure 1: Countries with unclaimed



assets regimes
US - STATE OF FLORIDA

In the State of Florida (US) their unclaimed assets regime was established in 1961 and so far, the Florida Department of Financial Services, Bureau of Unclaimed Property has made tremendous progress. Unclaimed Property accounts always remain claimable – indefinitely. Until claimed, however, the funds are used to help support Florida's public schools.

Figure2: Unclaimed Assets in the



State of Florida FY 2004/05-2009/2010
KENYAN EXPERIENCE

TheMinistry of Financeappointed a Taskforce in 2008 to carry out a baseline survey to find out the extent of the problem and where possible make recommendations. The Taskforce surveyed different institutions in the Banking, Capital Markets, and Insurance sectors. The total amount of reported unclaimed assets amounted to KSh.9.1 billion. The taskforce concluded that the reported totals of unclaimed assets were far below what was estimated.

The Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority (UFAA) was established

pursuant to the Unclaimed Financial Assets Act No. 40 of 2011. The Act provides a legislative framework for dealing with unclaimed financial assets. The need for this law was occasioned by the perceived colossal sums of unclaimed assets being held by individual institutions in Kenya. The Board of Directors to UFAA was appointed under Legal Notice No.16272 of 9th November 2012. The assets are invested in treasure bills.

Table 1: Status of the trust fund as at 31 March 2019

Asset type		Amount KShs.
CASH	Cash remitted	13,489,576,169.30
	FOREX reported	65,192,442.25*
Total		13,554,768,611.55
UNIT TRUST		8,151,824.26 units
	Estimated value (Kshs.)	18,060,061.61
SHARES		564,017,982 units
	Estimated value (Kshs.)	25,756,988,673.64*
Total value estimated	Fund	39,329,817,346.80 **

*Source: <https://www.ufaa.go.ke/index.php/trustfund> accessed on 4thJune 2020

Table 2: Sectoral Performance as a % of Fund Value

Description	Year		
Sector	2014	2015	2016
Banking	65.10%	66.41%	66.44%
Listed companies	4.74%	15.79%	18.98%
Insurance	29.97%	10.60%	8.53%
Telecommunications	0.19%	5.70%	5.50%
Saccos	0.00%	0.10%	0.10%
Pension funds	0.00%	0.40%	0.27%
Others	0.00%	1.00%	0.18%

*Source: UFAA
THE ZAMBIAN CASE
Thelaws and regulations pertaining to unclaimed assets can be cited from the Banking and services act, 1994 which provides regulations on Banking and financial services (return of unclaimed funds). A bank or financial institution is required to submit to the registrar annual returns within sixty days at the end of each calendar year all funds held for ten years wherein no transaction has taken place nor a request made on the statement of account by the person whose name the account is held. This return will include such details as, the classification of funds and the personal

details of the holder. However, there is limited information to set guidance or a clear indication on how such funds are handled.

CONCLUSION

Zambia's debt situation is worsening due to limited and insufficient resource mobilization. With COVID-19 shuttering world economies, Zambia has not been spared with the 2020 national budget been revised downwards due to focused reduction in revenues due to poor performance of the economy which has directly affected revenue mobilization. This calls for innovative approaches for domestic resource mobilization. Unclaimed assets have been used in different jurisdictions as a tool for increasing nontax revenue and economies like Zambia can borrow lessons.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establishing a taskforce to ascertain the quantum of unclaimed financial assets in Zambia
2. Development of policy and legal framework on unclaimed financial assets
3. Adoption, passage and implementation of the policies and laws
4. Benchmarking with jurisdictions with unclaimed assets regimes

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By Natasha Sakala
ZAMBIA recorded a K3,843.4 million trade surplus in May 2020, signifying a 72.2 percent increase from K2,231.6 million recorded in April 2020.

According to the Zambia Statistics Agency monthly bulletin, interim statistician general Mulenga Musepa stated that the increase was mainly on account of 96 percent of raw materials and 12 per cent intermediate goods exported.

“Zambia recorded a trade surplus valued at K3,843.4 million in May 2020 from K2,231.6 million recorded in April 2020, indicating a 72.2 per cent increase. This trade surplus means that the country exported more than it imported in nominal terms. Exports which mainly comprise of domestically produced goods increased by 17.9 percent from K8,929.5 million in April 2020 to K10,524.5 million in May 2020. This increase was mainly on account of a 12.0 per cent and 96.0 per cent increase in export earnings from Intermediate goods and raw materials, respectively. Imports decreased by 0.3 percent from K6,697.9 million in April 2020 to K6,681.1 million in May 2020. This decrease in imports was mainly as a result of a 13.3 percent and 5.2 percent decrease in imports of Capital goods and Consumer goods, respectively. The Total trade from January 2020 to May 2020 increased by 5.5 percent to K79,792.2 million from K75,657.3 million in the same period of 2019,” Musepa stated.

“The Traditional Exports (TEs) earnings increased by 17.3 percent from K7,045.5 million in April 2020 to K8,261.2 million in May 2020. In terms of share in total exports, TEs accounted

for 78.5 percent revenue earnings in May 2020. NTEs earnings increased by 20.1 percent from K1,884.0 million in April 2020 to K2,263.3million in May 2020. In terms of share in total exports, NTEs recorded a 21.5 percent in May 2020.”

He further stated that the volume of refined

Zambia records 72.2% rise in trade surplus

copper exported in May 2020 increased by 11.6 percent from 73,717.3	metric tonnes in April 2020 to 82,287.5 metric tonnes. “The volume of	Refined Copper exported in May 2020 increased by 11.6 percent from
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73,717.3metric tonnes in April 2020 to 82,287.5 metric tonnes. The Copper prices on LME market for the corresponding months increased by 3.7percent, from US\$5,048.3 per metric tonne in April 2020 to US\$5,233.8 per metric tonne in May 2020,” the bulletin read.

Resumption of IMF, Zambia talks a glimmer of hope – Kanyama

By Natasha Sakala
THE International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) announcement that it is discussing an economic programme with Zambia offers the country a glimmer of hope that will come with numerous benefits, says economist Chibamba Kanyama.

And Kanyama says the engagement of French firm, Lazard Frères, to manage the country’s debt may be the pivotal development that has encouraged the IMF to begin its talks in reigniting a much-needed economic programme for Zambia.

In an interview, Kanyama said that the Fund’s announcement that it was currently discussing an economic programme with the Zambian government may even lead to the kwacha’s appreciation following an improvement in the country’s perception to address the huge debt stock.

“It’s really like your parents saying, look, they have been resisting you to marry this man, but finally they say, ‘okay, we can enter discussions, not that we have approved, but we can sit at the table.’ So, I think to us it’s glimmer of hope and what you may notice immediately is that the exchange rate will begin to slightly appreciate in favour of the kwacha because the international market and investors are monitoring this situation very rapidly because it’s not the financing



that we shall receive from the IMF that really matters. But the bottom line is the opportunity that this will create for this country to get access to financing and even possibly restructuring our debt. But it’s a rapid financing so it’s maybe a bullet payment to support our balance of payment with relaxed conditionality’s. The announcement on its own has elevated some profile of Zambia in terms of rating that, ‘we are going to discuss.’ Just the announcement induces some level of certainty and stability. You must know that this is a rapid financing instrument of the IMF and it is given under an emergency,” Kanyama said.

And Kanyama said government’s decision to engage Lazard Frères may have encouraged the IMF board to open up discussion lines for Zambia.

“First of all, the IMF is not involved in private debt that Zambia is involved in and, therefore, the IMF cannot push for Lazard Frères’

involvement with Zambia. However, it signals something and it’s a development that the IMF is supporting, they may not declare it openly, they can never do that. But behind the doors, having worked there, I know they are applauding the decision because they have been struggling to bring levels of debt to sustainable levels. So, Zambia initiating, engaging somebody is very possible that the IMF is excited, and it is very possible that somebody in the IMF may have whispered, off the line, unofficially to our authorities that, ‘you guys, don’t hold us responsible for this but take this line...’ That’s very possible, as long you don’t say, ‘you advised us’ because they don’t want to be responsible for this kind of decision. However, it is signalling something to the IMF that at least by engaging a debt manager, the sustainability levels of debt may be contained by a party, who is not us and that could have enhanced IMF’s board to say, ‘looking at what is

happening, can we open the lines for this country,” said Kanyama.

Last week, the Fund had announced that the current staff team now had the mandate to discuss an economic programme with Zambia as its virtual consultative and information exchange mission got underway and ends this Wednesday.

The IMF mission team will not only conduct virtual consultative and information exchange sessions with the central government, but also engage the Bank of Zambia (BoZ), Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), and other stakeholders in the economy.

IN THE SURBODINATE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS FOR THE LUSAKA DISTRICT HOLDEN AT LUSAKA (Civil Jurisdiction) - 2020/ CRMP/ML/023

BETWEEN:
IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 4 OF THE MONEY LENDERS ACT CHAPTER 398 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA AND
IN THE MATTER OF: ENIA KASHINA - APPLICANT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A MONEY LENDERS CERTIFICATE
TAKE NOTICE that ENIA KASHINA will be applying for a Money Lender’s Certificate under the Money Lenders Act CAP 398 of the Laws of Zambia at Lusaka before the Honourable Magistrate Mr/Mrs/Ms B.S. MALUPENGA on the 5th day of February 2020 at 08:30 hours in the forenoon and that the business wimll be carried out under the name and style of **DONCHI MONEY LENDERS**.
Dated at Lusaka this..... day of2020.

MARY SAKALA
CLERK OF THE COURT

Per: signed
ENIA KASHINA
plaat 226, off Vubwi Road.
Emmasdale
LUSAKA
APPLICANT

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STATE House says President Edgar Lungu will not suspend or dismiss Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya despite the corruption allegations and his subsequent arrest by the Anti Corruption Commission, arguing that the accused is innocent until proven guilty by the courts of law. This is not the first time that State House is being defiant to the call for transparency and good governance.

In February 2019, the Anti-Corruption Commission arrested Ronald Chitotela who was Minister of Infrastructure Development at the time. There were calls from all sectors of society for President Lungu to relieve the minister of his duties in order to pave way for a smooth prosecution. Those who called for Honourable Chitotela's removal never claimed that the minister was guilty, they simply expressed concern that prosecuting a sitting minister would threaten potential witnesses, while the minister himself would also be tempted to tamper with potential evidence from his office.

But President Lungu categorically said he was not going to remove Honourable Chitotela because, as far as

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Lungu’s hypocrisy: Chitotela, Chitalu, innocent; Kambwili, Kabanshi guilty before trial

he was concerned, the minister was innocent until proven guilty. The President went further to state that Honourable Chitotela was his close colleague and he was not ready to lose a friend in the name of fighting corruption. Mockingly, he offered to pay the Anti Corruption Commission for its investigation against the minister. He challenged them to prove their case.

“They have chosen to arrest Honorable Chitotela, so what has that got to do with me? He is a suspect and in their wisdom, they chose to arrest him so what should I do? They have to prove before the courts of law, and I hope they give him a chance to

prove himself, if he is corrupt. But you see, what I don’t want to do is to politicise the fight against corruption. Remember how I lost Chishimba Kambwili? So you want me to lose Chitotela on that basis again? I am saying no. I will give them leeway to arrest and prosecute, bring to court the culprit but I will not interfere, I will even fund them to do their operations but those who are calling for the removal of Honourable Chitotela now, I say ‘no, give me space to breathe’, bring your evidence but let him also have his day in court,” said President Lungu.

The same tape can be played on the arrest of the Minister of Health. Those calling

for the removal of Dr Chilufya from office should refer to the justification above from State House as a basis for refusing to take action. Now, at a glance, this reasoning seems okay until you look around for how the same President has treated other ministers who have been accused of corruption.

In February 2018, the National Democratic Congress reported Community Development Minister Emerine Kabanshi, Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya and Minister of Infrastructure Development Ronald Chitotela to the Anti-Corruption Commission for graft and abuse of office. President Lungu did nothing about it and

the Law Enforcement Agency also did nothing about it. The same year, on Monday September 17, British High Commissioner to Zambia Fergus Cochrane-Dyet announced that his government had frozen all bilateral aid to Zambia because of corruption and fraud in the social cash transfer programme under the Ministry of Community Development. Two days later, President Edgar Lungu fired Minister Kabanshi and unleashed the Law Enforcement Agency on her.

Why did President Lungu fire Ms Kabanshi before she was proven guilty by the courts of law? Why was Kabanshi presumed guilty before

she was granted an opportunity to prove herself innocent? On defending Honourable Chitotela, President Lungu said “I am a lawyer. And if you look at the Bill of Rights, I think Article 18 starts with presumption of innocence. So as far as I am concerned, he is innocent.” Is President Lungu saying only selected ministers are beneficiaries of Article 18 of the Bill of Rights? What about Chishimba Kambwili? Why was he convicted and judged by State House before the court could pronounce itself in his case?

This is hypocrisy of the highest level. This is what makes us conclude that in the Lungu-led government, some ministers are sacred cows while others are being used as sacrificial lambs. Those that are close to the President are innocent until proven guilty by the courts of law, but those who are not so close to the President are guilty without trial. This is a very bad way of governing and it takes away public confidence that government is really committed to fighting graft. One would, in fact, be forgiven for concluding that President Lungu is tough on those ministers who don’t share proceeds of crime with him.

Crossword puzzle No 634

1		2			3	4		5
6	7		8		9		10	
			11					
12					13			
			14					
15		16			17	18		19
20					21			

“Building willpower is simple: just do the things you don’t want to do, and don’t do the things you want to do.”
- Robert Celner

Across

1. Impale
3. Drapes over the head
6. Belonging to Ben
9. Happy
11. Roofing material
12. Twosome
13. Small insects
14. Umpire
15. Spore
17. Flubs
20. Racing sled
21. Cook by boiling slowly

Down

1. Yak
2. Harry Potter’s friend
4. Hooting bird
5. Father
7. Obliterate
8. Stroke the strings
9. Lollipop flavor
10. Time ____ Time: repeatedly
15. Young girl
16. Toupee, slangly
18. Groove
19. Darn

Crossword puzzle No 633

1	R	A	P	I	3	D		4	A	S	5	K
	A		E		6	A	G	E				I
7	B	E	A	R	D			8	S	O	N	
	I					S			O			
9	D	O	N	E			11	S	P	I	12	N
						13	H					U
14	G	U	M			15	E	N	T	E	R	
	I		17	A	C	E		O			S	
18	G	O	D			19	D	U	N	C	E	

Readers' Feedback

ND! OPINION: Kaizer, Amos are gone, so who's giving Lungu all this bad advice?

Editor,

"Poor judgement on the part of the appointing authority accounts for the poor performance of advisors. Advice is advice not an order; it can be taken or rejected. The person being advised should have a mind of his own which should be supplemented by advice. If that person has no idea on what he's doing, you cannot blame advisors, they are not him, otherwise they may as well be the

president themselves. Simply put, the buck stops at the president". - Cephas M Kunda

"I rejected him in 2015 before he even had advisors so I have never blamed anyone else apart from himself. I still blame him for everything including the Seer1 saga that has demeaned the presidency". - Victor Chansa

"President Lungu chose the people he wanted to work with. If they don't perform to expectations of Zambians, he gets the stick as the appointing

authority. Same thing he didnt elect himself to the Presidency. Zambians who elected him should get the stick themselves as well. It is how it is". - Mike Phiri

"KZ is very much around. He is working in the background as EL's advisor for thuggery, rigging, violence and corruption". - Bill Bantu Ntanda

"..But in our case its him who advises his aids and not the other way round". - Sekeli Lubinda

"I get surprised by people that say the president is a good person but he has bad advisers, how is thst possible? ECL is one of the most evil and ruthless president Zambia has ever had without a shadow of a doubt and everything to do with his bad administration has everything to do with him. In every company or organisation if the CEO or managing director is not up to the job they lose their job and cant blame it on advisors". - Mutinta Mulonda

Zukas on Zambia in a precarious state due to corruption

Editor,

"History surely ALWAYS repeats itself. Nyasaland (Malawi) and Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) were at each others heels in gaining political independence. It was Malawi first quickly followed by Zambia. The Fight to Regain Freedom of Expression and Democratic Rights has been WON First in Malawi. Next it is Zambia". - Christopher Kalima

"Let us wait and see whether there is impartiality in all what they will be saying. Unfortunately, the group is composed of those who are inclined to certain political parties". - Rock Chabs

"Please our veterans, help us since you are still alive. Because when the youths try to cough, they get locked up. Kapena they will be scared to harass elders like yourselves but knowing their impunity, they may come for you as well". - Lydia Ndandalika

"Nobody misleads him. He misleads him self for lack of a vision. Chapwa". - Ellison Mumba

Lusambo's mocking of youths over bush protest

Dear editor,

"Don't blame Lusambo he is just representing the views of our most humble president! But we the majority zambians and those youths who went to protest in the bush will surely have a last laugh come next year!" - Ian Malekhanie

"And the youths will once

be quoted "the last time we voted wrongly was in 2016" time is the best judge". - Khumbulani Mabhanti

"Time is not stagnant ,always in mortion ,very soon ,youwill be all kneeling before the very youths pleading and begging for votes". - Prince Kabala

"These are non issue, we expect

better from the honorable, more over mock the youths at your own peril". - Evannie Godbest Fulanswa Zuze

"And this confused Minister... You should count your self lucky to have been a minister... Because your place is at the bus station. Where your friends of your type are..." - Bright Sikaonga

'PF made a mistake to arrest Chella'

Dear editor,

"PF made a mistake to arrest him in the first place. It's payback time. Youths have a symbolic leader to rally behind. It will get dirty on social media going forward". - David Mungole

"Welcome back Tukuta. You remind me of Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr!" - Fidelis Kalenga Mwilwa

"Only released after applying for habeas corpus, the right to a speedy trial? Shame". - Genie Wi

"It is injustice for the police to keep someone in jail for 10 days without bail on taking him to court for a misdemeanor. Why is this happening in Zambia,

while ministers arrested for more serious charges are automatically granted bail?" - Lassie Kakuta

"After they realised that the other more equal people got a bail without stepping into a cell". - Emmanuel Mwila

"A Government that is about to be VOTED OUT OF POWER ALWAYS ATTEMPTS TO SUPPRESS CITIZENS' RIGHTS THROUGH ARRESTS AND GENERAL INTIMIDATION. HOWEVER, don't be cowards... They are leaving in the next few months. ZAMBIA SHALL BE SAVED". - Abel Kayombo Samungole

"Why has he pleaded not guilty when he has all the evidence???" - Lufeyo Phiri



By Ulande Nkomesha
CONSTITUTIONAL lawyer John Sangwa State Counsel says he has already drafted a petition waiting to challenge Edgar Lungu's nomination as 2021 Presidential candidate, should the Patriotic Front go ahead to field him.

And Sangwa has insisted that he has no political ambitions, but remains interested in protecting and defending the Republican Constitution.

Meanwhile, Sangwa says if the PF insists that Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 represents the will of the people, they should call for a referendum to test its popularity.

Sangwa was reacting to Malambo PF member of parliament Makebi Zulu, who charged that the renowned lawyer was being mischievous in saying that President Lungu was a lame duck President and was not the right person to advocate for a constitution amendment.

Zulu also said it was clear that Sangwa planned to challenge President Lungu's nomination in court.

In response, Sangwa said it was no longer a secret that "President Lungu doesn't qualify" adding that he had already drafted a petition which was sitting on his laptop awaiting to be filed at the right time.

"I have read the story from Zulu. I want to start by applauding him for confirming what we have always suspected: that Bill 10 is not about empowering

I already have petition against Lungu's nomination on my laptop – Sangwa

women, the disabled, the youth or improving the economy or sorting out chiefs' wrangles as we have been made to believe. The intention of Bill 10 is clearly to repeal Article 52 so that people do not challenge President Lungu's eligibility to stand in 2021. He has just confirmed that and I hope you quoted him correctly. He has said it clearly. Now, maybe this statement will clear it. It is not a secret, I don't believe President Lungu qualifies to stand for the election in 2021. I can confirm to Honourable Makebi Zulu that I already have a petition on my laptop pursuant to Article 52, ready to file in the Constitutional Court the day President Lungu will file in his nomination papers! It is not secret, God-willing I am alive next year, that is what I intend to do. I already have a draft of the petition on my laptop, I can confirm to you. So, it is not a secret," Sangwa said in an exclusive interview with News Diggers!

"Now, he has just confirmed that if Bill 10 passes, I will not be able to challenge that. He has confirmed that their biggest interest is Article 52, which they want to remove. That article empowers citizens to challenge the eligibility of any person to stand for an elective office, including that

of President. I am confirming that, God-willing, I am still breathing, the day when President Lungu files his nomination papers, I will file in that petition. My point is that if they truly believe that President Lungu qualifies to stand in 2021, then they should remove Bill 10 so that that issue is properly mitigated before the Constitutional Court. If you believe you qualify, then why are you trying to remove the law, which allows me to test your qualification?"

He reiterated that the ConCourt did not rule that President Lungu was eligible to stand for the 2021 general elections.

"I know that he (Zulu) claims that the Constitutional Court declared that President Lungu qualifies. Ask him to tell you the page where in the judgement the Court said he qualifies? There is no such a clause, there is no such a pronouncement. When you go to court for interpretation of the Constitution, it is simply to seek clarification from the courts; the Court is not being invited to declare the rights of parties. So, my position is that the Constitutional Court never declared President Lungu eligible," he insisted.

"First of all, they could not have done that because he was not before court. The



Court can never declare the rights, the existence of a right or non-existence of a right of a person that is not before the court. So, how could they have declared Lungu eligible when Lungu never moved [to] the Court? But even if, let us assume they did, nothing stops me from going back to the Constitutional Court and telling them that if, indeed, you declared him eligible, you were wrong, can you revisit your decision and I will give reasons why they should revisit the decisions. Nothing stops the Court, especially the Constitutional Court, to revisit its own decision and reverse itself."

Sangwa said there was nothing new about the proposal to have a mixed

member representation system.

"The next issue he talks about is that of mixed-member representation; my starting point is Zambia is not a banana republic! We have 96 years of legislative history. Let us read our history, let us respect our history. When you don't read history, you might think you are intelligent and creating something new. We have tried before from 1959 to 1963 to have a mixed-member political system; we have such a history. That system was designed to ensure that the (Northern Rhodesian) whites, who were in the minority, still had representation in the Legislative Council. So, we have already tried those models before, they are not inventing anything," Sangwa recalled.

"The point is that I have not heard any argument to support why the composition of the National Assembly and the manner of electing members of the National Assembly should be contained in the Act of Parliament and not in a Constitution. We don't know which system they are advocating for so there is no way you can ask citizens to blindly endorse a system you don't know, which you have not disclosed to them. Even if it is stipulated in the Act of Parliament, where is that Act of Parliament? If you want to put it in that Act of Parliament, doesn't common sense dictate that you publish the Act of Parliament as well so that people can see what system you are suggesting? All those issues he is talking about addressing the youths, addressing the women, addressing the disabled... where is he getting that information from?"

And Sangwa insisted he had no political ambitions.

"He (Zulu) ends up saying, 'Sangwa is a politician.' I don't have political ambitions, I have

never been a politician in my life. I have never been a member of any political party. I have only held a card of one political party, that is UNIP, and that was so that I can get on UBZ bus and buy groceries in the market. They used to say, 'show us your youth card before you enter the bus, before you enter a market.' All the women were part of the women's league of UNIP. All the youths were part of the UNIP youth league.' So I have only held one card for UNIP and that was mandatory, it's not like I had a choice. Otherwise, I never been a politician! My only interest is to protect the Constitution, that is all. I take the oath that I have taken to protect the Constitution very seriously.

So, he makes a remark to say, 'that is not the way we practice law' I have seen a paragraph where he says, 'he is working so that he goes and petition but that is not the way we practice law,' my response to that is that protection of the Constitution requires vigilance. It is better to prevent a wrong from happening than allowing a wrong to happen and then seek to reverse it. Any prudent lawyer would do exactly what I am prepared to do. Yes, I have a draft petition, I can confirm that. I stand by my position that President Lungu is a lame duck President and he is not the right President to advocate for the amendment of the Constitution!"

Meanwhile, Sangwa challenged the PF government to call for a referendum if they truly want Bill 10 enacted.

"If they believe that Bill 10 is popular and is in the interest of the people, there is a very simple way of testing that: let them put a referendum, simple! We settle the debate. Let's see the popularity of Bill 10. That is the only way we resolve these issues," said Sangwa.

Govt issues K5.2bn of COVID bond

By Natasha Sakala
SECRETARY to the Treasury Fredson Yamba has announced that K5.2 billion of the K8 billion COVID Bond has so far been issued through the Bank of Zambia. And Yamba has disclosed that the Ministry of Finance has released K30 million to clear arrears for ex-employees of TAZARA, ZAMTEL and former Railway Systems of Zambia. In a statement, Sunday, Yamba stated that some of the funds to be raised from the COVID-19 bond would be used to pay off the retirees and those on the separatees payroll who had been waiting for their benefits for a long time. "I take this opportunity to announce that we have started the process of acquiring the COVID-19 bond. The facility was approved by Cabinet on Monday and articulated by President Lungu in his address on Thursday. So far, the Government has issued K5.2 Billion, through the Bank of Zambia. Some of the funds to be raised from the Covid-19 bond will be used to pay off the retirees and those on the separatees payroll who have been waiting for their benefits for a long time. To help address outstanding domestic arrears, part of the resources from the bond will also be used to pay local contractors, and suppliers of goods and services," Yamba stated.

He added that K533 million of the K10 billion medium term refinancing facility had so far been approved, with K753 million worth of applications from the non-banking financial sector currently under consideration. "Further, the Covid-19 bond resources will be available to support the small and medium enterprises that will not be able to access the K10 billion medium term refinancing facility managed by the Bank of Zambia through commercial banks," Yamba stated. He further stated that despite working under difficult circumstances, government remains committed to dismantling of arrears, prudent utilisation of resources, and implementation of fiscal consolidation measures. "In line with the Government's ongoing commitment to dismantle domestic arrears, the Treasury recently released K30 million for ex-employees of TAZARA, ZAMTEL, and former Railway Systems of Zambia. The funds will help to facilitate the settlement of terminal benefits to the eligible ex-employees, some of whom were represented by legal firms. The Ministry of Finance hopes that in processing the payments, eligible beneficiaries such as orphans, widows, and other vulnerable persons, will be accorded

special consideration. We transferred the funds to ZSIC Life Limited, National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA), Mak Partners, and L.M. Matibini & Company. The Ministry of Finance is cognizant of the tight liquidity conditions that continue to impact on businesses and households in our country. As a country, we are also faced with reduced tax, and non-tax revenue inflows due to factors such as the Covid-19 induced economic slowdown. Even under such a difficult scenario, the Government remains committed to dismantling of arrears, prudent utilisation of resources, and implementation of fiscal consolidation measures," stated Yamba. "The K30 million facility for the youth empowerment scheme announced by President Edgar Chagwa Lungu on Thursday, coupled with among other facilities - the K10 billion medium term financing facility being managed by the Bank of Zambia, the K1 billion recently released for crop purchases by the Food Reserve Agency - and the US\$29 million for implementation of the aquaculture seed fund under the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project aimed at enhancing fish production for more than 3,000 entrepreneurs, are instances that demonstrate the Government's commitment to mitigation of liquidity constraints in society."

By Tim Zulu in Nyango, Kaoma

WHENEVER a football team seems to have lost grip and footing with grinding results, worse still if it lies below the belt of staying tight on the log table, it is in such moments that coaches spend sleepless nights knowing so well that the team's poor performance is triggering the would be powers to press on hot exit button.

Having that in mind, one can easily understand why Prison Leopards technical bench led by coach Mwenya Chipepo were over the moon after their pass out parade at Nyango Staff Training School last Friday and thanked Commissioner General Dr Chisela Chileshe, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, for turning them into officers of the Zambia Correctional Service.

"Sir, we are lost for words...we don't know just how we can thank you and what to say. This is the best thing to have ever happened to our lives. it's a great honour for us and the only way we can repay you Sir is to get this team promoted to Super League. We can assure you that we are more than determined to fight hard to the bitter end with our last drop to give you

Leopards coaches, players promise promotion

the result you need and that is winning promotion," Chipepo said.

And Chipepo's assistant, Coach Frank Miti, told Eden Media that it would be a huge draw back if the team failed to win promotion with all the support at their disposal.

"We have received motivation beyond the moon from the Commissioner General, the Club Executive and indeed the Correctional Service top command. Thanks to them we are officers today and we shall turn our focus in giving a good image not only in the pitch but whenever called upon for duty in the service," said Miti.

"Our players cannot believe it either that they are in full time employment. Surely, I don't think there is another kind of motivation beyond having full time employment. Certainly, we have every reason to deliver to the command and we shall not sit on our laurels but pay back; that is the only way we can show appreciation to the Command."

And goal keeper Langson Chisi, who received the Baton of Honor



award in 'Best Drills,' said it's a dream come true for him and his colleagues to serve the country as Correctional officers.

"We have every reason now to work extra hard and just pay back to the

command with nothing but promotion and we shall fight hard for it in the remaining 10 games," said Chisi.

And Dr Chileshe thanked President Edgar Lungu, through the

Ministry of Home Affairs, for having given him the opportunity for job creation in the service.

Other than the 69 Cadet Officers the Zambia Correctional Service recruited among them

former Chipolopolo physiotherapist Gibson Chaloba, 43 where Recruits among them Tennis Star Edgar Kazembe among other sports discipline and 36 footballers and their technical Bench.

AU Region 5 sports council to dialogue over effects of COVID

By Abraham Kalito
THE African Union Sports

Council Region 5 has announced that it will host

a COVID-19 Community of Partners dialogue in July to assess the impact of the pandemic on sports activities.

The dialogue scheduled for July 3, 2020 is meant to establish the impact of the pandemic on sports in all the Region's 10-member countries, challenges being encountered, and how different countries have dealt with the devastating effects.

According to the Union, the dialogue is the first step towards judicious development of a Regional Return-to-Sport Framework that will be used by AUSC Region 5 member countries as a reference in the establishment of strategies for sport to slowly resume.

The union is comprised of countries including Angola,

Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Sport has been on ice for the past three months in the region as a result of the Coronavirus-induced restrictions.

The union stated that it has noted that various member countries are experiencing various levels of restrictions and social distancing regulations in a bid to flatten the curve of infection.

COVID-19 has caused untold disruptions to various sports leagues, events and tournaments which had been planned for the year, including cancellation and postponement of other major events and activities.

Provincial leagues remain suspended - FAZ

By Abraham Kalito

THE Football Association of Zambia has stated that provincial national division one leagues will remain suspended pending further approval and guidelines by higher authority.

President Lungu announced last week that the sporting activities will kick-off in July but in a communicate on comprehensive guidelines for league resumption, FAZ stated that provincial league will not resume immediately.

"Therefore, all clubs can resume training in small groups of up to 10 players while maintaining social distancing and complying with the health guidelines attached to this circular on 1st July, 2020. The Zambian Premier League Matches will be the only matches played for the time being while Provincial Leagues remain suspended pending a review by the relevant authorities until further notice. We are also notifying all clubs to immediately begin preparing their training and match venues for inspection for certification by the relevant authorities as fit for use under the COVID-19 guidelines attached to this circular," read a statement issued by FAZ.

FAZ has since warned that severe punitive measures, including forfeiture of matches, would be taken on clubs that would not follow guidelines on inspection of pitches.

"Please note that inspections will be held at any time and maybe carried out without notice. Failure to pass inspections and to comply with venue guidelines will be grounds for severe sanctions including forfeiture of fixtures, fines and closure of venues.

We expect all venues to do general maintenance and ensure all doors, gates and fences to be repaired. Clubs are expected to ensure all toilets and change rooms in venues to be habitable and clean and all fixtures and fittings in them such as showers, taps, toilets, sinks to be in good order or replaced. We also expect d hand washing stations for hygiene purposes throughout the facility and provision for disinfecting equipment and people to be in place," FAZ stated.

The association stated that the measures were meant to help pass inspection of pitches.

"Detailed inspection guidelines are attached to this circular to provide comprehensive guidance on the measures to be taken to ensure venues pass inspections. We are hereby requesting clubs in the FAZ MTN Super Division and the FAZ Eden University National Division 1 send their CEOs or an appropriate representative at executive level to attend the following briefings. All Lusaka Province, Central Province and Southern Province based clubs of the Zambian Premier League to convene at exactly 1030 at Heroes Stadium in Lusaka on Tuesday 30th June 2020," FAZ stated.

"All Northern, North Western and Copperbelt Province based clubs of the Zambian Premier League to convene at exactly 1030 in Ndola at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium on Thursday 2nd July 2020 Clubs are hereby permitted to commence training in groups and to take all precautions necessary such as: use of hand washing; cleaning and disinfection of all equipment; avoiding the use of change rooms and

sharing of any articles of clothing or sanitary items like towels; restricting unnecessary body contact like hugging, handshakes; clamping down on littering and unsanitary disposal of waste; and wearing of masks at all times except when actually training and so on. Detailed guidance on training protocols and hygiene measures to be taken is attached to this circular."

The association has also directed clubs to go into 72-hour total lockdown prior to match days, adding that ball boys would not be allowed onto the pitches.

"Clubs must immediately get in touch with their District Medical Authorities and make arrangements for testing all personnel for COVID-19 who will be involved in matches and training. Please note that no children will be used in matches in any support capacity including ball boys, flag bearers and helpers. Clubs must make separate arrangements preferably using youth players over the age of 16. Regular cleaning and disinfection of all venues and equipment as outlined in the attached guidelines must be rigorously adhered to. All teams will go into isolation and lockdown 72 hours before matches. The first matches will be played on the weekend 18th July and 19th July 2020 at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium," stated FAZ.

"The full fixtures will be announced in the course of the next week. Please plan all your matches and training sessions with maximum COVID-19 preventive measures in place and rigorously follow the guidelines we will share with you to the letter in conjunction with the CAF COVID-19."



Odion Ighalo's goal for Manchester United against Norwich City in the FA Cup on Saturday means that the ex-Nigeria striker has equalled a club record that has stood for 95 years. In netting against the Canaries, Ighalo became only the second player in the club's history to have scored in each of his first four competitive starts for the Red Devils.

Provincial leagues remain suspended - FAZ

By Abraham Kalito THE Football Association of Zambia has stated that provincial national division one leagues will remain suspended pending further approval and guidelines by higher authority. President Lungu announced last week that the sporting activities will kick-off in July but in a communique on comprehensive guidelines for league resumption, FAZ stated that provincial league will not resume immediately. **Story page 11**



Prison Leopards coaches promise promotion

By Tim Zulu in Nyango, Kaoma WHENEVER a football team seems to have lost grip and footing with grinding results, worse still if it lies

below the belt of staying tight on the log table, it is in such moments that coaches spend sleepless nights knowing so well that the team's poor performance is triggering the would be powers to press on hot exit button. Having that in mind, one can easily understand why Prison Leopards technical bench led by coach Mwenya Chipepo were over the moon after their pass out parade at Nyango Staff Training School last Friday and thanked Commissioner General Dr Chisela Chileshe, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, for turning them into officers of the Zambia Correctional Service.

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Arthur, Pjanic pass medicals in Turin ahead Juve-Barca swap

ARTHUR and Miralem Pjanic edged closer to making summer transfers after they went through medicals on Sunday as Juventus and Barcelona prepare to completing respective deals for the midfielders. The two teams reached an agreement this week that will see Arthur leave Camp Nou for the Turin giants in a deal worth €70 million (£63m/\$79m). Pjanic will move in the opposite direction for a €60m (£55m/\$67m) fee. The two clubs had been in negotiation for some time, but the deals had been held up because the Brazilian midfielder was reluctant to join Juve, who have been interested in him since April. However the former Gremio star came to an agreement and travelled to Italy on Saturday night before being put through a medical with the Serie A title holders on Sunday morning, while Pjanic went through the same process with Barcelona. Although the players will not leave their respective clubs until the 2019-20 season is completed, they were made to go through the examinations this weekend because Barca were keen to wrap up the deal before June 30 for budgetary reasons. Arthur will sign a five-year contract with

Maurizio Sarri's side, which will see him earn a basic salary of €5m per season, going up to €7m (£6m/\$8m) with bonuses. The 23-year-old joined the Catalan side in July 2018 and has scored four goals in 28 appearances in all competitions this term, though he started just 17 of those. Although the midfielder impressed during his first season with the club, he has struggled to replicate that form this term. He was limited to a four-minute appearance in Barca's 2-2 draw against Celta on Saturday, having replaced Riqui Puig near the end of the game. Pjanic, meanwhile, played all 90 minutes for Juve as they ran out 4-0 winners against Lecce on Friday. The 30-year-old has spent four years with the Bianconeri, having joined from Serie A rivals Roma in 2016. The Bosnia-Herzegovina international has won three league titles and the Coppa Italia twice with the Bianconeri as he racked up 22 goals in 171 appearances in all competitions. Juventus manager Maurizio Sarri is also keen to retain his charge until the end of the 2019-20 season, with his side on the verge of a record ninth successive Scudetto and also still active in the Champions League. **GOAL**



AU Region 5 sports council to dialogue over effects of COVID

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