



# NAWAKWI ACTING LIKE A HIRED GUN



PF Lusaka Province secretary Kennedy Kamba (c) and former deputy minister Patrick Ngoma confer with Chief Mpuka of the Chikunda people in Luangwa District during a campaign trail - Picture courtesy of the PF campaign team.

## ...she's on a mission to give HH a criminal tag - Sishuwa

**By Mukosha Funga**  
THE new wave of smear campaign against opposition UPND president Hakainde Hichilema emanates from the Patriotic Front's realisation that the use of the tribal card against him is no longer effective, University of Zambia lecturer Dr Sishuwa Sishuwa has explained.

FDD leader Edith Nawakwi, who has mostly stayed away from political discourse since appearing with President Edgar Lungu during the 2016 Independence Celebration at State House, recently resurfaced on Hot FM radio with a scathing attack on Hichilema, calling him a thief who duped the country from the privatisation process. **Story page 6**

## Spax helped us arrest other murder suspects cop tells court

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
AN investigations officer has narrated to the Kitwe High Court how he received a docket of murder for investigation and he later learnt that four people of the same family were attacked, of which one was allegedly raped and another murdered.

Mavuto Nkhata, who was testifying in a case where Chingola-based small scale miner Kabaso Mulenga popularly known

as SPAX is jointly charged with five others for murder, attempted murder and rape, further told the court that Mulenga helped the police to bring the other suspects who were his workers, to book. **Story page 3**

## Zambians waiting to vote for us again in 2021 - Lungu

**By Ulande Nkomesha**  
PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu says there is no alternative to the PF because the ruling party remains the people's choice. **Story page 3**

## CEC sues Zesco, its director for accusing it of US\$67.2m fraud

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
THE Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) has sued Zesco Limited and its director strategy and corporate affairs, Patrick Mwila, in the Lusaka High Court claiming damages for accusing it of denying access to its meters and reporting inaccurate metering data, thereby defrauding Zesco of US\$67.2 million. **Story page 2**

## PF MPs' cash donations won't stop regime change - Roan MP

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

KONKOLA Copper Mines (in liquidation) has applied for leave to appeal High Court judge Catherine Phiri's decision to discharge the ex-parte interim injunction which was granted to it and Zesco Limited, restraining Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) from interfering with the supply of power to the mining company.

Kutawa Chamunda, an assistant to the provisional liquidator of KCM, says the mine is aggrieved by the said decision, adding that the situation is detrimental to KCM in its mining operations as it leaves its mines to a possibility of flooding on account of non functional pumps.

In this matter, Zesco and KCM have sued CEC in the Lusaka High Court seeking a declaration that CEC's action to restrict power supply to KCM contravenes the law.

Zesco and KCM were seeking an order of injunction restraining CEC by itself, its directors, officers or agents from interfering in the Time Sheet Agreement between Zesco and KCM through restricting KCM from receiving supply from Zesco, pending determination of the matter.

They also wanted, among others, an order restraining CEC from effecting or taking steps to take out any supply units, lines or delivery points to KCM as they are Common Carriers as declared under Statutory Instrument (SI) No. 57 of 2020.

On June 3, 2020, Judge Phiri granted Zesco and KCM an ex-parte order of mandatory injunction restraining CEC from interfering with the supply of power to KCM.

However, on Monday last week, Judge Phiri discharged the said ex-parte interim injunction, saying the injury likely to be suffered by Zesco and KCM could be compensated for in damages.

## KCM applies for leave to appeal High Court's decision to discharge its injunction against CEC

She added that Zesco and KCM had not demonstrated to the required standard where or how irreparable injury would be suffered if the injunction was not granted.

"It is not in dispute that the dispute between the parties involves commercial transactions, which both parties have stated have monetary value. Therefore, I find that if at all any injury were to be suffered by the plaintiffs, it is injury that can be atoned for in damages. While this court finds that there is a serious question to be tried by the court at trial, it cannot be said that this is a suitable case for the grant of an injunction pending determination of the suit," Judge Phiri stated.

"In view of the foregoing, the exparte interim injunction granted to the plaintiffs is hereby discharged, forthwith. Costs in the cause."

But according to an affidavit in support of ex-parte summons for leave to Appeal, Chamunda stated that KCM was aggrieved by the decision of the court and wishes to appeal the said decision, as it leaves it entirely up to CEC, notwithstanding the provisions of SI No.57 of 2020, to decide whether it would allow Zesco to wheel power over its infrastructure to KCM.

"This situation is detriment to KCM in its mining operations as it leaves its mines to possibility of flooding and further that thousands of employees and citizens that depend on its health services and other social amenities in its mine township areas to the perils associated with power shut down more so in this COVID-19 era," he stated.

Chamunda stated that the court did not grant leave to appeal its decision and that being a chamber decision, leave to appeal was sine qua non (an essential condition) for KCM

and Zesco to proceed to the court of Appeal.

He stated that the prospects of the intended appeal succeeding were reasonably high as the danger of the mine suffering physical irreparable damage due to flooding on accounts of non functional pumps was real and not speculative.

Chamunda stated that no prejudice would be occasioned to CEC by the grant of leave to appeal the decision, as a matter of fact and law, that there was a serious question of law to be decided i.e. the interpretation of SI No.57 of 2020.

On July 31, this year, the Kitwe High Court dismissed an order of interim relief pending arbitration, which had been

granted ex-parte on May 13, 2020 to KCM by which it sought to stop CEC from restricting power supply to the mine over its then US \$132 million debt owed to the power utility.

Kitwe High Court Judge Evaristo Pengele dismissed the said application by KCM with costs, saying the mining company did not convince the Court that there was a serious question to be heard and determined at arbitration.

In the said matter before the Kitwe High Court, KCM sued CEC seeking an order of interim relief to prevent losses and damages that would be caused if CEC proceeded to restrict power supply to the mining company.

And commenting on the

August 24 court ruling, CEC managing director Owen Silavve urged all parties to engage in constructive dialogue to resolve the ongoing dispute, and remains expectant that KCM will come to the table with workable solutions on the discharge of their outstanding US \$144.7 million debt to CEC.

"CEC has always held the view that commercial agreements should be honoured and respected in the interest of all businesses, their investors and all other stakeholders. We reiterate that the parties should engage in constructive dialogue to resolve these matters and remain expectant that KCM will come to the table with workable solutions on the discharge of their outstanding

US \$144.7 million debt to CEC," said Silavve in a media statement issued, Thursday.

"It is also important that firm agreements underpinning transactions in both the energy and mining industries should be in place for the proper functioning of the sectors and entities, and to engender certainty for commercial decisions."

CEC commenced the process of discontinuing power provision to KCM following multiple attempts to resolve KCM's outstanding debt in unpaid electricity charges, which stood at US \$144.7 million by May 31, 2020, when the contract between the parties expired.

But KCM made no attempt to settle its debts since December, last year, which left CEC no choice but to protect its commercial rights and preserve the value of its business.

## CEC sues Zesco, its director for accusing it of US\$67.2m fraud

By Zondiwe Mbewe

THE Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) has sued Zesco Limited and its director strategy and corporate affairs, Patrick Mwila, in the Lusaka High Court claiming damages for accusing it of denying access to its meters and reporting inaccurate metering data, thereby defrauding Zesco of US\$67.2 million.

CEC has also sued Zambia Daily Mail Limited, stating that Mwila was quoted in that newspaper accusing CEC of lacking transparency.

It now wants an order of injunction to restrain the defendants whether by themselves, their servants, agents, officers, or otherwise from making and publishing any further defamatory statements against it in their public pronouncements.

CEC is further claiming compensatory and exemplary damages against the defendants, as well as, interest and costs of and incidental to the action.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, August 24, CEC explained that it was a licensed independent power generating, transmission, distribution and supply company whose core business was to supply electricity to the Copperbelt Province and also some parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

It added that it was also a public company owned by a diverse shareholder universe totalling 4,632 shareholders who comprise local companies, pension funds, individuals, professional bodies, faith-based organisations, co-operatives and foreign investors.

CEC stated that it was incorporated in 1997 following the privatization of the Power Division of the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines, adding that from the date of its incorporation, it had invested heavily in the development, maintenance and expansion of its infrastructure and earned its good corporate image and reputation.

"Further CEC, is an active and respected member of the Southern Africa Power Pool (SAPP) the regional power pool and is listed on the Lusaka Securities Exchange (LuSE) and as such is held to a very high level of accountability in the carrying out of its business and the protection of various investors. It is highly distinguished and prior to the defendants' false and malicious statements, it was highly reputable both locally and internationally and was held in very high esteem by the public," read the claim.

It explained that Zesco and CEC were parties to a Bulk Power Supply Agreement (BSA) which expired on March 31, 2020, adding that under

the BSA, Zesco was supplying electricity to it in bulk which it (CEC) was distributing to its customers on the Copperbelt.

CEC stated that on June 15, 2020, the Zambia Daily Mail newspaper ran a story which appeared on pages one and seven of the edition under the heading: 'CEC deal costs ZESCO \$67m'.

"At page one, the first defendant (Mwila) is quoted to have made the following defamatory statement: 'Zesco now accuses CEC of lacking transparency as it did not allow access to its meters or metering data to show the true consumption by the mines that showed the true peak on the Zesco system. As such, CEC enjoyed the additional benefit from what is known as 'simultaneous maximum demand'. This is a situation which occurs as a result of the mining companies reaching their maximum demand consumption at different times to the maximum demand readings at the Zesco bulk supply points,'" read the claim.

"At page seven the story continues... 'He said this led to a loss of between 50 and 100 megawatts per month for Zesco. This amounted to approximately US\$2.3 million to US\$5.6 million monthly or up to US\$67.2 million annually, he said."

CEC stated that in their natural and ordinary meaning, the said words meant and were understood to mean that Zesco had the right to access meters and metering data which were in the custody of CEC but CEC acted dishonestly and defrauded Zesco of US\$67.2 Million by denying the it access to meters and metering data and reporting inaccurate and understated metering data.

It added that the words further meant and were understood to mean that CEC did not abide by the provisions of the BSA, but acted immorally and unethically and unjustly enriched itself to

the disadvantage of Zesco.

CEC stated that as a result of the defendants' publication of the said defamatory words, it had been seriously injured in its reputation, had been brought into public scandal, ridicule, odium and contempt and had been lowered in the esteem of right thinking members of society.

It further stated that on June 15, 2020, News Diggers Limited also ran a story captioned: 'ZESCO Claims \$200M Annual loss from BSA with CEC'.

"The story quoted Mwila to have made the following false and defamatory statement in relation to CEC, 'No we are not going to give them the old BSA, it will never happen, that will never happen. Maybe because they think they have been oiling some people here and there they think that maybe the government is weak but there are people who are watching and nobody is going to allow that...'"

CEC stated that the words meant and were understood to mean that CEC was unethical and corrupt and that through its officers, it had been bribing certain people known to Mwila, who have connections or authority to influence or direct Zesco to renew the BSA with it.

It added that the words further meant and were understood to mean that it conducts its business unethically and its recorded growth and expansion had not been legitimately acquired.

CEC further stated that on June 17, this year, it wrote to Mwila demanding a full and unconditional apology and a public retraction of the defamatory statement but the defendants had refused or neglected to do so.

It stated that unless restrained by the court, the defendants were likely to continue publishing defamatory statements against it.

## FUNERAL NOTICE

**The Mapoma Family Sadly Announce  
The Passing \*Joyce Mapoma in the  
early hours of Sunday 30th August,  
2020.**

**Funeral Gathering is at the Mapoma's  
residence on Plot 38, Mulungushi  
Road - Roma.**

**Whilst the Family Appreciates that  
Many Family Members, Friends &  
Colleagues would like to pay their  
respects in Person.**

**We kindly request that the current  
Guidancenon Public Gatherings be**



**taken into Consideration.  
Further Details will be  
Communicated - M.h.s.r.i.p**

**By Ulande Nkomesha**  
UPND chairperson of elections Gary Nkombo says his party will eventually take government to court over the mobile issuance of National Registration Cards.

In an interview, Nkombo said it was clear that PF was manipulating the mobile issuance of NRCs.

"They have the instruments of power, we cannot start standing up to them and start slapping them around. We can go to court, that is an option, to ask the court to adjudicate over this unfair way of running the national affairs and that is as far as we can go. We cannot go into a boxing ring and start beating people up, that is not what we are supposed to do. Eventually, we are going to litigate," Nkombo said.

"It doesn't require investigations because it is a foregone conclusion that the PF, the National Registration Office, the ECZ they are all related, they are distant cousins. It is all a scheme that they must do what they are doing, we are not surprised, there is no need for investigations because it was a forgone matter that they will be manipulating this process and it has exposed them. Honourable [Stephen] Kampyongo is a PF member, Mr Davies Mwila told the whole country and the whole country listened that this issuance of National Registration Cards is a party

# We'll eventually sue govt over manipulated issuance of NRCs – UPND

programme, that is what he called [it]. It is clear they are manipulating but you can fool people sometimes but you can't fool them all the time."

He said the postponement of issuance of NRCs in phase two would affect the process negatively.

"The delay obviously occasions a lot of worry, we are very worried that most of the people of this country, not just phase two areas, the entire process is a sham and whatever they do, they will not achieve their objectives. It should just be clear in everybody's mind

that whatever manipulation that these cousins are trying to do will not yield their desired results because we already know that the whole country will not forget the last 10 difficult years under the PF, they will not forget," said Nkombo.

"Nothing will make them forget the events of the last 10 years, of tyranny, of hunger, of poverty. So it is an exercise in futility what they are doing. It is a futile exercise and we know

their manipulations. So, the chickens have come to roost now, they have to do anything possible with impunity to disadvantage certain groups of people but it won't work."

# Spax helped us arrest fellow suspects in murder case, investigations officer tells court

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**

AN investigations officer has narrated to the Kitwe High Court how he received a docket of murder for investigation and he later learnt that four people of the same family were attacked, of which one was allegedly raped and another murdered.

Mavuto Nkhata, who was testifying in a case where Chingola-based small scale miner Kabaso Mulenga popularly known as SPAX is jointly charged with five others for murder, attempted murder and rape, further told the court that Mulenga helped the police to bring the other suspects who were his workers, to book.

He said it wasn't the first time for Mulenga to come to police's assistance whenever they needed help to bring wrong doers to book.

And another police officer testified that he found the woman who was allegedly raped

and assaulted lying in a hopeless manner and bleeding from the private parts and head.

Meanwhile, the rape victim painfully told the court that she had remained with only two children after the murder of her third.

This is a matter in which Mulenga, Boyd Kamizhi, 24, McLean Kamizhi, 22, Gilbert Zimba, 22, Syvio Kwibisa, 22 and Jimmy Bwembya, 23 are charged with murder and attempted murder.

The other five accused persons, excluding Mulenga, are also charged with rape.

In count one, it is alleged that Boyd, McLean, Gilbert, Syvio, Jimmy and Mulenga between January 22 and 23, 2019, in Chingola, jointly and whilst acting together,

murdered Emmanuel Mapunda.

It is also alleged that the accused person between the same dates, attempted to murder Billy Maponda and Stanley Maponda.

The accused are further alleged to have attempted to murder and had carnal knowledge of a woman without her consent.

The six had pleaded not guilty to the charges before Kitwe High Court Judge Abha Patel.

Testifying in the matter, the rape victim told the court that on January 22, 2019, her husband, her children and herself were seated in the house watching television.

She said she informed her husband and children that she was going to sleep as one of her

children who was on her lap, had slept.

"That is how I proceeded to go to bed and sleep. I left my husband and two children in the sitting room, watching a movie," the woman said.

She said she suddenly woke up, only to find a person seated on her stomach and strangling her.

The woman said when she opened her eyes, she saw a young man who had a long face, adding that when she turned towards the door leading to the bedroom, there was another young short man, holding something that appeared like a torch and pointing where she was sleeping with her husband and their third born child.

She added that earlier, she had not noticed when her husband had joined her in bed as she was fast asleep.

The woman said from there, she found herself in an incomplete house, naked.

She said when she checked her other side, she saw the pant which she had earlier worn, laying on the grass.

The woman said she collapsed after seeing that and when she woke up later, she checked her palms and found that there was an injury and she was bleeding.

She said she was in the hospital from January 23 to 31, 2019.

The woman identified the first accused person, Boyd as the person who sat on her stomach and the third accused, Gilbert as the person who stood at the door way.

Asked by the state prosecutors who were leading her in her testimony on how her children were today, the woman said she had remained with two children as one was deceased, before she broke down.

In cross examination by the defence, the witness said she did not recall who inflicted the injuries on her body.

Asked to read the last indication by the doctor on the medical report, the witness read..."no evidence of rape clinically established".

Meanwhile, Ronard Mpalo, an inspector by rank stationed at Chiwempala police station in Chingola, said on January 23, 2019 he received a report about a lady in an unfinished building who appeared to have been assaulted.

"I rushed to the scene where I found the same woman lying in a hopeless manner. She had no strength and was covered in a chitenge. When I checked on her body she had a deep cut inside the hands and was

bleeding from the private parts and from the head," he said.

Mpalo said later on, her neighbours took him to her house where he found two male persons lying outside the house along the veranda of the house.

"They both could not talk or move, I later came to know one of them as Stanely Mapunda, who had a swollen forehead and some blood on the head while I came to know the other one as Emmanuel Mapunda (deceased) who was producing white secretions from his mouth," the witness said.

He said in the house, he found another person, Billy, the owner of the house, lying on the floor and had general body pains and a swollen forehead.

Meanwhile, Nkhata a detective inspector currently stationed at Chingola District CID Headquarters, said on January 24, 2019 he received a docket of murder to investigate, and after perusing learnt that four people of the same family were attacked by unknown people who used unknown types of weapons to inflict injuries on them.

He said after he warned and cautioned the first accused, Boyd, he learnt during the interview of some names connected to some further investigations which he did during investigations of the same matter such as Gilbert Zimba, Syvio Kwibisa and Maclean Kamizhi, the first accused's young brother.

"After learning that the same three suspects and one, I forgot to mention Jimmy Bwembya, were all workers for Mulenga Kabaso, a Chingola based businessman also known as Spax. Acting on that information, I and other police officers saw it fit to contact Mr Kabaso Mulenga so that he could help the police bring the mentioned suspects to the police for investigations," Nkhata said.

Asked if it was the said Mulenga before court, the witness said yes before he continued with his testimony.

"After working together with Mr Kabaso Mulenga, the police managed to bring Maclean Kamizhi, Gilbert Zimba and Syvio Kwibisa (other accused persons) to book. These people used to work for him so we thought it wise to ask him for help since he knew them. It was not the first time for Mulenga to come to the assistance of the police where they need help to bring the wrong doers to the police, he has done it several times," said Nkhata.

Trial continues.

# Zambians waiting to vote for us again in

## 2021 – Lungu

**By Ulande Nkomesha**

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu says there is no alternative to the PF because the ruling party remains the people's choice.

And President Lungu says he will not tolerate any anarchy or criminal behavior within and outside the PF.

Speaking when he opened the PF's Muchinga provincial conference, Saturday, President Lungu said the opposition had continued to specialise in propaganda by alleging that the PF was corrupt, which had been already rejected by the Zambians.

He said Zambians were eagerly awaiting 2021 so that they could give PF another vote of confidence.

"Comrades, it is very true that Patriotic Front is number one choice in the political arena...Let us aspire to remain Zambia's number one party of choice. It is with humility that we say here there is no alternative for the PF. While our opponents specialise in propaganda such as alleging corruption they cannot substantiate, publishing and causing to publish falsehoods against the nation they claim to love. The people of Zambia are watching and are able to differentiate those of us who have sworn to patriotism and allegiance to the nation and those who think propaganda, lies and insults are a substitute to credible opposition," President Lungu said.

"Zambians know who is working and who is not. Zambians know that the opposition is not an alternative to government. They know that the opposition has failed to offer alternative policies. Most Zambians are waiting for August 2021 to come and give us another vote of confidence to lead this country up to 2026. For this reason I urge you as members of the Patriotic Front to continue working hard and preaching the development, we are taking to all parts of Zambia without leaving anybody behind."

He challenged the opposition to

debate issues of development as the ruling party would not be drawn to issues of fake news and innuendos.

"We invite the opposition to a contest in the people's arena of tangible developments as we will not be drawn to a brawl in their mire of fake news and innuendos. While our nation has faced some challenges brought on by climate change which have in turn been exacerbated by the novel coronavirus, even our fiercest critics can affirm that the development landscape countrywide has changed for the better under our stewardship. While our nation has faced some challenges brought on by climate change which have in turn been exacerbated by the novel Coronavirus, even our fiercest critics can affirm that the development landscape countrywide has changed for the better under our stewardship," he said.

"The roads, bridges, airports, health facilities, educational facilities and other socio-economic infrastructure which are vital determinants of our industrialisation agenda speak for us. Vision 2030 which a few years ago appeared to be an obscure target on the distant horizon, is now becoming more reachable with every giant stride we have taken since PF formed government in 2011. We therefore challenge the opposition to compete with us in the arena of civil politics and tangible development rather than attempt to draw us into their element of cynical opportunism, fake news, distortions, innuendo and ill-will. On this score, let me thank our strongholds for your continued support."

President Lungu said the party would not neglect its strongholds in its developmental agenda.

"The foundation of PF remains strong because Mr Micheal Chilufya Sata made sure that the foundation is rooted in the hearts of the people of Zambia including Muchinga where it remains

firmly established to this every day. It is a vision which we continue to carry in the boat of the PF, this vision he left us. Let Muchinga continue with [Micheal] Sata's spirit of unity. Let Muchinga continue with the spirit of patriotism and nationalism which Mr Sata lived for. For the PF party to continue to grow and for us as a political party in government to meet our developmental targets, we should never lose our opportunity of purpose," President Lungu said.

"As we change the face of Zambia for the better, I am here to assure you that our strongholds shall not be left behind. Therefore, as we prepare for 2021, let no one deceive our people in our strongholds that they will deliver development more than us in the Patriotic Front."

And President Lungu said he would not tolerate any anarchy or criminal behavior within and outside the party.

"Colleagues in the PF, let me make a call of discipline, my fellow party members, especially those of you at higher level, you must realise that the people of Zambia have entrusted the PF with the task of developing our nation in line with our manifesto and indeed the Seventh National Development Plan and vision 2030. Discipline is the bridge between where we are now as a party and the nation and where we plan to take our country to. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link; because a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, no one is indispensable. I would therefore not hesitate to part company with anyone and anything taking the party from its founding ideals. Indiscipline is a danger, indiscipline is a hazard and the PF will not tolerate any anarchy or criminal behavior within and outside the party," said President Lungu.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

THE UPND has applied for leave in the Lusaka High Court to commence judicial review proceedings against the Electoral Commission of Zambia's (ECZ) decision to commence online voter registration without authority of law, and further, to give a 30 day cut-off time for the said registration.

UPND deputy secretary general Gertrude Imenda has cited the ECZ and the Attorney General as first and second respondents in the matter, respectively.

Imenda is seeking a declaration that the Commission's decision to launch and host an online voter registration platform albeit dubbed as a 'test run' on its website [eczovr.org](http://eczovr.org) and commence the online voter registration on the said platform is capricious and without authority of law.

She also wants a declaration that the ECZ was oblivious to the effects of COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the dire need to have more citizens to register as voters in the wake of the August 12, 2021, general election and, therefore, acted unreasonably, irrationally or with a hidden ulterior motive at the behest of "an invisible hand" in announcing a '30 days' cut-off time for the voter registration scheduled to commence on October 18, 2020.

Imenda further wants a declaration that the ECZ's decision to discard the existing voter register was ultra vires section 7 and section 14 of the Electoral Process Act Number 35 of 2016 and an order of certiorari to remove into the High Court for purposes of quashing the online voter registration platform on the ECZ portal and the said impugned decision to commence the online voter registration exercise.

She also wants an order to quash the ECZ's decision to give a 30 day cut-off time for the voter registration exercise scheduled for October 18, 2020, and an order compelling the ECZ to embark on a continuous voter registration exercise to a reasonable period before the said general elections in 2021, among others.

According to an affidavit

## UPND seeks judicial review to challenge ECZ's 30-day voter registration period

verifying facts in support of ex-parte summons for leave to apply for judicial review and for leave to operate as a stay of the impugned decisions, Imenda stated that between July and August, this year, the ECZ launched and had hosted a portal for online voter registration and invited members of the public to register on the said portal on its website.

"The said portal allows for the registration of voters on the information superhighway or Internet without the necessity of lodging an application in the prescribed form to the registration officer or the assistant registration officer for the polling district in which the applicant ordinarily resides. The said portal does not further require the production to such a registration officer a National Registration Card issued to such applicant," she stated.

Imenda added that a cross-section of the members of the public have since followed the protocols for registration.

She stated that on June 12, this year, the ECZ through its chief executive officer Patrick Nshindano, announced its decision to give a 30 day cut-off period for voter registration, which would commence on October 18.

Imenda stated that in the said media briefing, ECZ announced its decision to discard the existing voter register and embark on a new voter register targeting nine million voters countrywide within the said 30 days.

She stated that she instructed the party's lawyer Marshal Muchende to seek clarification from the ECZ over the above issues, but the Commission had been mute and had not denied the veracity of the information.

"On August 24, 2020, Nshindano was quoted in The Mast Newspaper confirming ECZ's decision to commence online voter registration on September 26, 2020," Imenda stated.

She stated that the online voter registration has no backing of the law and that the decision by the ECZ to give the



30 day cut-off period for voter registration was unreasonable and irrational on the back of the COVID-19 pandemic and

the dire need to have more citizens register as voters ahead of the August 12, 2021 general election.

"The decision of the first respondent to discard the existing voter register to commence de novo a new voter registration exercise in the short time remaining before the said elections is also illegal," Imenda stated.

She stated that the incumbent regime had in the recent past channelled huge resources in the issuance of National Registration Cards in the areas they secured more votes in the last elections of 2016 and that discarding the existing voter register would disenfranchise the disadvantaged regions or provinces that had not received support from the regime over the issuance of NRCs.

"I verily believe that this

is a suitable matter for the Court to grant leave for judicial review of the said decisions. This is also a suitable matter for the said leave to operate as a stay of the impugned decisions aforesaid," stated Imenda.

And in an application for leave to commence judicial review, Imenda submitted that the decision to launch and host the online voter registration was illegal as it was not anchored or authorised by any law.

She stated that the ECZ did not consider that the cut-off period of 30 days would either engender "panic registration" reaction in the minds of the citizens in order to meet the deadline that would result in congestion at the designated registration stations and a resultant surge in COVID-19 cases.

Imenda added that in the alternative, the public would react with apathy to the process of registration to protect themselves from getting infected with COVID-19, which would result in low turnout of eligible voters at the registration.

## PF MPs' cash donations won't stop regime change – Roan MP

By Ulande Nkomesha

ROAN National Democratic Congress (NDC) member of parliament Joseph Chishala says PF MPs' continued donations of huge sums of cash, among other gifts, to constituents will not save the ruling party from regime change in 2021.

Commenting on the continued donations by some PF Ministers on the Copperbelt, with the latest being a donation of K50,000 cash to freedom fighters by Nkana PF member of parliament Alexander Chiteme in his constituency, Chishala argued that voters had already realised that the PF MPs' donations were cosmetic, adding that they were handed out to hoodwink recipients into re-electing them next year.

"So, in short, this is a corrupt government; all that is needed is to vote them out in 2021! There is no way we can be tolerating such to be happening and we are quiet. There is no way such things

can be happening and the President (Edgar Lungu) himself is quiet, he should also take keen interest... 'where are my Ministers getting all these monies?' Those are the same people who are tarnishing the name of PF! People out there are wondering where have they gotten all this money? Moreover, in this case that we are going to wards elections, it clearly indicates that they have started the campaigns. In the opposition, we are failing to conduct meetings because of the COVID-19. So, they are disadvantaging us," Chishala complained in an interview.

"I know Zambians are very clever that this time around, they have opened their eyes. They know for sure that all this is just cosmetics that they are smearing on time. Come 2021, for instance, the people of Roan whoever might try to enter my constituency and do such dish outs, I think they might regret it at the end of day because people have opened their eyes this time around. They are aware that

all these donations PF are doing, all these empowerment they are doing is just there to hook people so that they gain popularity for 2021. People have opened their eyes. Even God above who we worship, He is able to tell that this time around, it is a matter of changing of regime because these people have taken the people of Zambia for granted."

He added that it was strange that PF MPs had continued donating large sums of money from unexplained sources, which were not equivalent to their salaries.

"In the first place, my point of view is that these guys, whatever money they are donating to the youths, women or in public or in their constituencies doesn't amount to money we get paid as members of parliament. The money that we get paid as members of parliament, personally, I can tell you that it's money that even fails to sustain us throughout the month," Chishala said.

"It is something that is

so shocking that you find that your fellow members of parliament, who you are getting the same salary, are dishing out huge money, which clearly indicates that there are other sources of income, which might be... Personally, I suspect it may be proceeds of corruption. Even in the capacity of being a Minister; how much do they get paid that in a month somebody can donate more than K100,000? Where have they gotten the money? Because they don't even get more than K100,000, even adding up all their allowances. Even if they had international trips, I don't think they can be donating huge amounts."

And he expressed disappointment that the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was compromised and had failed to investigate the large amounts being donated by PF MPs.

"There is no way your fellow MP is donating K50,000 within a month; he donates a total amounting maybe to K150,000! Where has he gotten that money? Because in a month, as a member of parliament, the total amount you can walk away with is just about K25,000, K30,000 somewhere there. So, where are they getting all that money? So, that clearly indicates that these guys are not straight," said Chishala.

"This should give a signal to the Anti-Corruption Commission, that is why we have always been crying that there should be live audits, personal life audits in the sense that we know where people are getting their money, where have they gotten all their money that they are dishing out? That should be in the interest of the ACC. But it seems that the ACC has no tooth to bite because already in the Dr Chitalu Chilufya case, you have seen what has happened. So, the ACC is being intimidated as well so they can't operate independently."

## Wina recovers from COVID-19

By Zondiwe Mbewe

HEALTH Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya has disclosed that Vice-President Inonge Wina, who tested positive for COVID-19 earlier this month, has now tested negative.

And Dr Chilufya says Zambia has recorded 123 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours out of the 1,171 tests conducted.

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya has disassociated government and the Ministry of Health from the COVID-19 relief package, which is being advertised on social media, saying the same was a scam by unscrupulous individuals.

Speaking at a daily COVID-19 update in Lusaka, Saturday, Dr Chilufya said that Vice-President Wina was in stable condition at her home after testing negative for

COVID-19.

"Her Honour, the Vice-President, tested negative to COVID-19 and has been discharged from our care and continues to be rehabilitated at home. She is stable and is recuperating very well under our care," Dr Chilufya said.

And he announced that the country had recorded 123 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours out of the 1,171 tests conducted, bringing the cumulative total to 11,902 cases.

He, however, added that they had lost a 51-year-old patient, who was also diabetic from the Levy Mwanawasa COVID-19 facility.

"In the last 24 hours, Zambia has recorded 123 new cases of COVID-19 all from Lusaka from 1,171 tests done. Unfortunately, we also lost

one patient, who is a 51-year-old diabetic from the Levy Mwanawasa COVID facility. We, therefore, now are at 11,902 cases of COVID-19 cumulatively. And after discharging 147 cases in the last 24 hours, we now have 11,092 recoveries. That is a very encouraging recovery rate, but that should not make us relax," Dr Chilufya cautioned.

"Levy Mwanawasa COVID facility has 34 patients. Out of these 34 patients, we have 16 that require oxygen support. Of these 16, six are critically ill and require intensive care management, while 10 are on intermittent oxygen support. The rest of the country, other provinces put together, we have 29 patients, out of these, 10 are on oxygen support."

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya further disassociated government and

the Ministry of Health from the COVID-19 relief package, which was being advertised on social media, dismissing it as a scam by unscrupulous individuals.

"There is, indeed, a scam by unscrupulous individuals running on various media platforms where they are advertising COVID relief packages, which is a scam and we disassociate government, the Ministry of Health from any of those adverts, COVID-19 relief packages, calling on you to pay some minimum amounts of money to access that COVID relief package... it's a scam and should be frowned upon. Should you come across such individuals, report the matter to the police. And we disassociate ourselves completely from those scams," said Dr Chilufya.



## 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:

The role of Non State Actors in the SADC Regional Intergration Agenda - Part (2) with **Dr. Gabriel Pollen**



#### INTRODUCTION

IN THE previous opinion piece, based upon the Toolkit for Non-State Actors (NSAs) developed by the Southern Africa Trust (SAT), I provided insight into the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Regional Integration agenda, detailing the economic context of the region as well as institutional arrangements and structure of the organisation. I also pointed out that the toolkit sees the SADC institutional arrangements as a platform upon which NSAs can engage SADC.

In this opinion piece, I will focus on what roles NSAs can play in the key priority sectors – industrialisation, trade and agriculture – based upon the toolkit, and I will amplify the specific activities of these agents in shaping the design and implementation of policy within the region. I will start by unpacking the proposed SADC-NSA engagement mechanism suggested by the SAT toolkit.

#### Proposed SADC – NSA Engagement Mechanism

By making use of SADC structures and institutions as a facility for engagement of a range of stakeholders, and owing to SADC's recognition of NSAs, the private sector and other stakeholders as crucial agents in SADC's regional integration agenda, particularly in terms of successful implementation of SADC projects and programmes of action, the SAT toolkit suggests an engagement mechanism. In the previous opinion piece, I noted that the SADC National Committees includes various stakeholders including NSAs, though the engagement mechanism was not yet discussed.

The core purpose of the proposed engagement mechanism is to enhance and strengthen partnerships between SADC and NSAs by providing a translucent structured framework for consultation between SADC and NSAs in the regional integration process. In addition, the engagement mechanism makes SADC regional integration people-centred via the agency of NSAs and other stakeholders; that is, it takes SADC to the people. Further, it also aims to strengthen the capacity of NSAs and other interest groups, thus enabling them to more meaningfully engage in SADC processes. In general, absence of awareness of avenues for engagement and communication diminish the potential power available to SNCs in helping SADC deliver on its mandate.

In alignment with regional development

priorities for SADC, the SAT toolkit suggested that engagement takes the form of a forum which is to be divided into thematic clusters, groups, or pillars of development. A consortium of civil society partners, drawn mainly from existing NSA networks such as SADC-CNGO, SATUCC and other such organisations, are to constitute the membership of the forum, and following regular meetings, they can influence and shape the design and implementation of SADC development policy through their provision of technical input and representation. Through meetings and consultations that take place at the level of member states, NSAs' voice can also be heard.

Note that at the SADC secretariat level, ideas germinate through the policy formulation process and grow into SADC projects and programmes; hence, NSAs can perceive an opportunity here in swaying in the first place what kinds of ideas germinate, including how they grow into actionable projects and programmes. Once SADC programmes and projects have been approved, the implementation stage also invites various stakeholders such as NSAs and the private sector to transform ideas into practical and concrete outcomes.

SADC also has institutions that it formed or are affiliated to it – such as the SADC Subsidiarity Regional Organisation (SRO) – to support the regional integration process. For the priority areas, there is, for example, the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) performs among others such roles as to harmonise the implementation of agricultural research and development, and improving agricultural technology generation, dissemination and adoption in the region through collective efforts, training and capacity building.

To achieve economic growth, employment creation and poverty alleviation, the SADC Development Finance Resource Centre (SADC-DFRC) can be relied upon. It also serves as a sub-regional centre of excellence to strengthen the SADC Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) Network and to enhance the capacity of the SADC DFIs. Realising the goals of industrialisation, trade enhancement and agricultural development, finance plays an integral if indispensable role.

The SAT toolkit sees these organisations as an additional dimension in the SADC-NSA interaction matrix. As these organisations are crucial to SADC's regional integration agenda,

engaging them by NSAs on technical and other such matters can help condition SADC projects and programmes.

#### Value and Role of NSA's

Through their wide-ranging expertise and experience, as well as far-reaching contact with individuals on the ground, NSAs can play pivotal roles in the idea-to-implementation continuum. Using evidence-based innovative solutions, NSAs can provide technical input and shape how projects and programmes are formulated and implemented in the priority areas.

NSAs are heterogenous and thus do many different things in practice, with varied capacities and skills which, through the forum, can be pooled and used to place pressure on development in practice. For example, by way of advocacy, lobbying and providing technical input and advice in consultative meetings with SADC structures, NSAs can help in reordering of national public expenditure programmes to give greater priority to public and private investment in physical infrastructure and human capital development.

NSAs can also function as whistle-blowers, thus morphing into an effective agency for providing checks and balances to national and SADC structures. This role is critical as it helps in enhancing transparency and good governance by holding governments and institutions to account. Also, NSAs can provide representation – e.g. Southern Africa Cross Border Traders Association – to amplify the voices of some stakeholders. Other NSAs can be seen as service providers, complementing the activities and functions of regional and national structures in delivering projects and programmes to the people.

#### Concluding Remarks

This opinion piece has given insights into the engagement mechanism proposed by the SAT toolkit. In addition, it has pointed out the activities, roles and values of NSAs in engaging SADC structures. Thus, by bringing awareness to the interaction avenues as highlighted by the proposed engagement mechanism, NSAs can begin to see themselves as active rather than passive agents in the SADC regional integration process.

#### About the Author

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By Ulande Nkomesha

PF Deputy Secretary General Mumbi Phiri says the UPND is a finished party because they have continued losing by elections in their strongholds.

And Phiri says neither President Edgar Lungu nor any of his family members have land in Forest 27, insisting that several UPND members of parliament do.

Meanwhile, Phiri says the PF will win 2021 because the party has performed well since it formed government.

Speaking on Muvi TV's The Assignment program, Saturday, Phiri said the continued loss of by elections by the UPND was an indication that the party cannot win 2021.

"You know, the only people who can trivialise what is happening in North Western and Western Province are those who are not politicians. If in my constituency I lose a by election, that is a signal to tell me that I am finished; because the ward elections is where you find the grassroots. So, we are penetrating the grassroots, we are not starting from the top no. I want those who are demeaning people that the people of Western and North Western are so cheap they can be bought by money to continue annoying those people, they will see in 2021. Me who is a politician, if you lose a ward by election in your constituency, just know that you as a politician and a party there you are finished. That is what it translates to," Phiri said.

"On top of that, you start insulting people to say the councilor was bought because in your mind, you think you have money and you are the only one who can't be bought, you are telling people that you think that they were bought because they are poverty stricken, they can sell their souls or their votes because of mealie meal. Let them continue, I am sure the people of Western Province are listening. We have a situation where in politics you even have lost respect."

Phiri claimed that PF never lost by elections when they were in opposition.

"If you go through your history very well, we never lost [a by election]. That is an indication that we knew we were going to win the election. After 2006, we were winning even in the strongholds of MMD. Just go through your records, UPND is making themselves feel comfortable, we never lost by elections when we were in the opposition. That is why we were convinced that in 2008 we had won. Us we were under the leadership of a proper politician," Phiri said.

And Phiri said neither President Edgar Lungu nor any of his family members had land in the Forest 27.

"You know, this is a public document, just go and log in kulya Ku Ministry of Lands, President Lungu is not there, not even his wife, not even his child. President Edgar Lungu is a very straight forward man. For me, [anyone] who comes up with an SI and everything and he hasn't gotten any plot is a person who is genuine. You interview Mr Hakainde

# UPND a finished party, they can't win 2021

## – Mumbi Phiri

Hichilema and ask him how did he get because there was no SI to authorise the portion of land he occupies. How did they get that?" Phiri wondered.

She listed members of parliament from the UPND who had land in Forest 27.

"Let me give you the details of these honourable members of parliament who have land in Forest 2. We have honourable Jack Mwimbu, his plot number is 72821/10, it is allocated to Mambo Muludika, this Mambo Muludika is the wife to honorable Jack Mwimbu and [it] has been paid for, the title is yet to be processed. The number two is on 72821/88 it is allocated to Ephraim Belemu and the title they are processing it, the third one is LN72821/170, it

has been allocated to Mulyata Lifuta and it has been assigned to Maluba Mizozo the daughter to honourable Mulyata member of Parliament for Rufunsa. The last one is LN7282189 and according to allocation list, it was allocated to Moono Lubezhi member of parliament for Namwala and in the system the name which is showing there is Galaya Solution," Phiri said.

"You have all heard that the UPND shout that they say Forest 27 is giving out under corruption. I heard honourable Shelly Mulyata, baby mama in politics. She thinks she can challenge me, I don't open my mouth, I am a christian, I am a proper Catholic, I am St Ann. My Bible tells me never to bear

false witness, I can't do that. I have told honourable Mulyata especially, hourable Mulyata challenged me to bring evidence, now I am telling her I have given her seven days if she doesn't take me to court it is me who is going to take her to court for calling me a liar."

Meanwhile, Phiri said PF was destined for victory in 2021 because the party had performed well since it formed government.

"When I go back to the Bible, it says even Jesus Christ was not appreciated by his own people, it is true. We told the people of Zambia and even in our PF manifesto that we will construct health facilities 5 kilometers apart, which we have done. The country has been opened up,

the business opportunities are there, we have good roads, the vehicles are not being broken the way it used to happen which means the cost of doing business is cheaper. Nobody will give you money to put in the pockets. It is creating an enabling environment for you to do business, that is what we meant. Those who are using the opportunities have money in their pockets. Mind you the privatization is what left us here. Privatization is what hit us hard and we are trying to rebuild," said Phiri.

"PF is the best party, we should return into power. You have seen how genuine

we have been. People have tried to tag us with corruption in their heads, they were thinking that when they talk about corruption, when we build a hospital they would say it's corruption, whatever they do it is corruption. If we didn't stand by the truth, we are going to be weakened and the development which you are seeing you couldn't have seen it. When people come to you, especially talking about corruption, tell them to bring evidence. You have tested leadership, come 2026, at least the development agenda which we have is going to be seen by everybody."

# Nawakwi acting like a PF hired gun to give HH a criminal tag – Sishuwa

By Mukosha Funga

THE new wave of smear campaign against opposition UPND president Hakainde Hichilema emanates from the Patriotic Front's realisation that the use of the tribal card against him is no longer effective, University of Zambia lecturer Dr Sishuwa Sishuwa has explained.

FDD leader Edith Nawakwi, who has mostly stayed away from political discourse since appearing with President Edgar Lungu during the 2016 Independence Celebration at State House,

recently resurfaced on Hot FM radio with a scathing attack on Hichilema, calling him a thief who duped the country from the privatisation process.

But in an interview, Sunday, Dr Sishuwa said Nawakwi's mission to resurrect Hichilema's role in the privatisation program of the 1990s is a calculated move of the PF's wider strategy aimed at undermining their main rival in the 2021 election, with a criminal tag.

"Nawakwi is acting like a hired gun because her campaign to discredit

Hichilema serves the interests of the PF more than it benefits her and the FDD. No wonder she is now being given airtime on ZNBC TV and PF propaganda platforms such as Smart Eagles to renew her attacks against a fellow opposition leader. Hichilema, who worked for Grant Thornton as a professional during the privatisation program, is effectively being accused of undervaluing property so that he buys it himself. This is a smear campaign that reflects the PF's realisation that the use

of the tribal card against him is no longer as effective when it comes to undermining his growing popularity. Previously, the PF got away with calling Hichilema a Tonga tribalist, but this narrative can no longer work for two reasons. First, President Edgar Lungu and the PF have so spectacularly mismanaged the economy that many Zambians from a diversity of ethnic groups are now prepared to rise above tribal considerations and support Hichilema. Hunger knows no tribe," Dr Sishuwa observed.

"Second, the narrative that Hichilema is a Tonga tribalist is undermined by the fact that Lungu and the PF practice tribalism every day. They are the apostles of tribalism. One simply has to look at the ethnic composition of President Lungu's Cabinet and the ethnic distribution of his appointments to other public offices such as permanent secretaries. Another way is to look at the ethnic composition of boards of state-owned enterprises by Lungu's ministers. Members of these boards are either Bemba speakers or those from the Eastern Province. So, Zambians generally are no longer finding the PF's use of the tribal card to discredit the UPND leader as convincing as it was previously."

Dr Sishuwa also observed that Nawakwi was working with the PF to divert people's attention from their policy failures.

"The tag of corruption has stuck on the PF like paint. In resuscitating the issue of Hichilema's involvement in the privatisation process, his competitors like Nawakwi, who is widely seen as working closely with the PF, are accusing Hichilema of having deliberately undervalued state property so that he could later buy it. Here, the PF's objective is threefold. First, Lungu and

the PF wish to divert attention away from their own policy failures. If they can get people to ask Hichilema all manner of questions about his role in the privatisation process, they would have succeeded in keeping him busy and diverting attention from their own policy failures. Second, the PF and its surrogates are seeking to paint Hichilema as corrupt by suggesting that the UPND leader failed to declare interest and used his position during the privatisation process to gain a pecuniary advantage," Dr Sishuwa said.

"Calling him corrupt helps them to say that Hichilema is not as clean as he claims and to present him as potentially more corrupt by suggesting that he stole while he was outside public office. It does not help that Hichilema has failed to develop a convincing political narrative on how he acquired his wealth. Third, the PF are creating the pretext on which they may move to arrest Hichilema soon for being in possession of property suspected to be proceeds of corruption. I heard Nawakwi the other day saying that Hichilema dubiously acquired a house in Lusaka and inviting state investigative wings to arrest him."

He urged Hichilema to sue Nawakwi for defamation.

"I know from history that the house she was referring to did not belong to Lima Bank when Hichilema bought it, and I hope the UPND leader could consider suing her for criminal defamation. What Nawakwi is doing however is to push to the front the privatisation issue because Hichilema is gaining momentum. She is doing so in a way that suggests that the PF are building a profile for his arrest on a bogus charge of corruption. And who knows what they may do to Hichilema when he is in detention?" wondered Dr Sishuwa.



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## Speaking English should never be a measure of intelligence – Bowman

By Daniel Chansa

KABUSHI PF member of parliament Bowman Lusambo says speaking English should never be used as a measure of intelligence.

And Lusambo says only visionless people can insult President Edgar Lungu.

Lusambo was speaking on when he officiated at the Ndola District COVID-19 Inter-School Debate Contest held at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium, which he sponsored.

Lusambo said it was regrettable that a lot of young people had not gone to the University of Zambia because of not having good English results.

"In this room, I have not seen a white person. All of us here are black Zambians. But the District Education Board, we have observed that you are making our children use the Queen's language. But the Queen's language has an origin. For us, we want our people to express themselves freely. I have seen that if someone makes a simple mistake as pronouncing 'the' as 'ze', then he will be mocked all over social media. Can you laugh at someone who makes a mistake in Tonga or in Lozi?" Lusambo asked.

He appealed to education authorities to allow children to learn local languages until Grade 12 and to remove English as a condition of admission to UNZA.

"So we want to appeal, this is my honest appeal to the DEBS, the provincial government education officer, up to the minister himself of general education and higher education. We know that it's government policy to study and teach other languages in our country from grade 1 to grade 7 but we want this to extend up to grade 12 because we cannot rely on the Queen's language. Me I'm Lamba and I can express myself very well in Lamba and we have a lot of young men and women out there in the community with proper knowledge, with proper ideas but they can't express themselves well because they can't communicate to other people

and the barrier of the Queen's language," Lusambo said.

"We want to develop this country and the reason why we are not developing this country is because we have put benchmarks on ourselves. We have seen learners coming from schools, grade 12s, with good results, distinction in sciences, but just because in the Queen's language someone gets 8 or 7, they deprive that intelligent young woman or boy from entering the University of Zambia because of Queen's language. Queen's language is not, you can't someone that you're not intelligent because of Queen's language, you can't. We want our boys and girls to enter University of Zambia whether with 8 in English, because that is not our language."

Lusambo said many advanced nations had embraced the use of their own languages.

"Language is part of our culture. By promoting the use of local languages, we are helping preserve who we are as a people," he said.

"What we have today is the Queen's language, it's not our language. After many years of Independence, we should be proud of examining our learner in Kaonde, Lunda, Lamba, Tonga, Lozi, Bemba and any of these local languages".

Lusambo praised President Edgar Lungu for ordering the reopening of examination classes saying the move was a wise one as it had ensured that learners in exam classes prepare adequately for their exams.

"When His Excellency announced the move, many visionless people including those from the political sector criticized the move but as we speak, all schools went through the full term without recording any COVID-19 cases."

Meanwhile, Lusambo said only visionless people could attack President Lungu.

"We have a lot of visionless people. And the only people that can attack, insult President Lungu are visionless," said Lusambo.

Masala High School emerged winners of the contest and walked away with K8,000 cash, a trophy, certificates, learning materials and T-shirts. Kansenshi High School came second and they received K6,000 and a trophy.

Meanwhile, Ndola District Education Standards Officer Chewe Chanda said the District had not recorded any COVID-19

# K1,600 COVID-19 relief fund a UNICEF initiative – Kampamba

By Ulande Nkomesha

COMMUNITY Development and Social Welfare Minister Kampamba Mulenga Chewe says the K1,600 being given out is an initiative under a United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) programme meant to cushion the informal sector from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Saturday, social media was awash with pictures of citizens in various localities lining up to get the K1,600 relief fund. Many people assumed that it was a PF initiative and that they were collecting NRCs from beneficiaries as part of a rigging scheme.

But in an interview, Mulenga said PF was not involved in the process.

"Look, we are going through the COVID-19 and our cooperating partners, at no time can compromise their integrity and connive with PF to get NRCs. Even if they get NRCs, what would they use them for? You and I best know that when it is voting, it is the individual on the NRC that will have to vote. So my question to you is that if they get those NRCs, what would they do with those NRCs? What benefit are those NRCs? Because if anybody can get NRCs and go and vote on that person's behalf, it makes a lot of logic. You and I know that when it comes to voting, it is an individual that has to vote, and a vote is a secret," Chewe said.

"It doesn't make sense at all, how

does UNICEF come in and connive with PF? It doesn't even make sense like that. You and I know that we are going through this situation; bars are closed, people have lost their jobs, this is just to cushion and we made this pronouncement. So this is just to cushion some of our problems that are within our community."

She said the fund was meant to benefit the informal sector, which had been worst hit by COVID-19.

"In fact, people that are already on social cash transfer, it is automatic but our cooperating partners and government went a step further to say 'look it is easy for those that are already on the social cash transfer to receive the money', our cooperating partners went a step further to say 'can we involve the informal sector', and these in the informal sector, these are people that working in restaurants, in bars and they were closed, these marketeers that had lost their jobs, or lost their merchandise during this pandemic," she said.

"So we said let Ministry of Local Government, because the markets fall under Ministry of Local Government, the informal sector falls under the Ministry of Labour; even when we flag off [these programmes] these are institutions that we are closely working with. So they are going into the communities with the help of their members of parliaments, their councillors to identify those that are

worst struck. Of course we have had unscrupulous people trying to take advantage of the situation. So this is just to cushion some of the challenges just like the social cash transfer which has always been there."

Mulenga said the opposition were trying to politicize the scheme by insinuating that PF was using the fund to hoodwink people.

"So I don't know why people are making a fuss about it because it is the opposition, sometime back, that said social cash transfer does not exist, social cash transfer is a hoax. So, my question is do these people mean well? One moment they are saying give people social cash transfer to help them, one moment they are saying we are trying to get their NRCs, which one is it? There is so much inconsistency and it is shocking me," said Mulenga.

"Zambia comes first before anything else, the people come first before a political party. So, even in the midst of trying to convince people to vote for whoever, we must put humanity first. Just because I am in a privileged position that money should not matter, it matters, you don't know the lives that money is actually changing and touching. People are in need right now and what we need to do more than ever is to unite and see how we can help these people. People this time are going through a very difficult time."

## Choppies store manager in court over false theft allegation against customer

By Zondiwe Mbeve

BUSINESSWOMAN and politician Faith Mushongo has dragged a Choppies Zambia Limited store manager to the Lusaka High Court for accusing her of stealing goods from the shop concealed in her bag.

She laments that she was subjected to a feeling of shame, low esteem, as she was unjustly accused of being a thief to the extent of the said store manager invading her privacy by conducting a search on her.

Mushongo has sued Choppies Zambia Limited and Martin Mwape, a store manager for the Matero outlet, seeking damages for defamation of character, damages for mental

anguish and stress as well as damages for assault.

She stated in her statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court that she was a businesswoman running a gemstone mine as well as a senior politician residing in Lusaka.

Mushongo stated that Choppies Zambia was a Limited company, which runs a number of outlets of supermarkets, including one in Matero township of Lusaka.

She explained that on July 8, 2020, she went to a Choppies' outlet in Matero to buy groceries and other requisites.

Mushongo stated that while in the said outlet, her

phone, which was in her handbag rang and she attended to it.

She stated that upon finishing to attend to her phone, she put it back in her handbag and proceeded to do her shopping.

Mushongo, however, stated that before she could move, a certain man who she later came to learn as a shop manager by the name of Martin Mwape, uncourtously approached her in an accusing manner, causing apprehension and embarrassment on her as it happened in full view of other shoppers.

She stated that Mwape accused her of hiding something in her bag stolen from the shop.

"He uttered the following words: 'What are you hiding in your bag!? Let me see what you are hiding in your bag, let me see what you are putting in your bag...what is that you are putting in your handbag?'" read the claim.

Mushongo stated that when she asked Mwape who he was, he refused to respond, but insisted on searching her, alleging that she had stolen something from the shop.

She stated that Mwape ordered that her bag be searched, adding that after he searched, he found nothing in the bag.

"Upon finding nothing in the bag and on her person, the said Mr Mwape then left the scene and hid himself,

while the rest of the shoppers were looking at Mushongo, who was left helplessly to the embarrassment, stress and torment suffered at the actions of Mwape. Mushongo enquired of Mwape and a Mr Rajeev W, the Receiving Manager, phoned Mwape, who obliged and came but refused to apologise and advised Mushongo to go anywhere if she wished," read the claim further.

Mushongo stated that Mwape's approach instilled fear and apprehension.

She added that she was subjected to a feeling of shame, low esteem, as she was unjustly accused of being a thief to the extent of the said store manager invading her privacy by conducting a search on her.

Mushongo stated that as a result of Mwape's conduct, she was also gripped with fear and insecurity as she had a bunch of cash in her bag, which then had been exposed to a stranger.

She stated that there were cameras in the store with someone watching the entire shop, adding that a thief could have been seen from there.

Mushongo lamented that as a female politician and a mother with children, she was a community worker and a role model to many young women through her media work, adding that she agonised as to how these would think about her.

She stated that as a result, she had suffered damage and loss.

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THREE years ago, on July 3, 2017, we raised questions around the absence of FDD president Edith Nawakwi from the political scene. Much of what we said in that editorial opinion can be repeated today, and it would even make much more sense now after what we predicted about her timely return to the scene has come to pass.

When we say that president Edith Nawakwi of the Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) is turning into a political opportunist, we say it with all the respect she deserves considering the achievements she has made in her political career. We are alive to the fact that president Nawakwi is among the most experienced politicians we have, having served the Republic of Zambia as first female Minister of Finance; not to mention the roles she played as Minister of Energy, Agriculture, and Labour in the MMD government.

Nawakwi's bio cannot be summarized without mentioning the courageous, spirited fight she gave against Frederick Chiluba's third term bid – a debate which actually gave birth to FDD in 2001. In fact, without taking away anything from

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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# What does Madam Nawakwi stand for?

late Lieutenant General Christon Tembo, this country may never get to know the great depth to which president Nawakwi went, risking her life in covert operations to defend Zambia's Constitution from being abused by Chiluba's administration.

But now, the fact that we are beginning to list her achievements when she is still alive and leading a political party; when she is still seeking to be President of Zambia, tells us that something is amiss. Indeed, something is definitely wrong with Ms Edith Nawakwi's politics. If we didn't know what she is capable of achieving, we probably wouldn't be holding this strong opinion against her. But we do, and the fact that Ms Nawakwi will

soon come back on the political scene to seek our votes, gives us the right to tell her what she needs to know when it really matters.

To start with, maybe those in FDD can help us understand; where is Edith Zewelani Nawakwi? Why is the president of the Forum for Democracy and Development hiding when Zambia desperately craves her voice? If an election was called in Zambia tomorrow, we know that Ms Nawakwi would resurface, but we wonder what her campaign message would be. Would she be able to say with a straight face that those who wield political power in Zambia have assumed unprecedented totalitarianism, when she watched in silence

as things degenerated? We wonder how Ms Nawakwi's silence is helping to protect the interests of the poor people of Namushakende whom she passionately speaks about during campaigns.

We are not calling on Ms Nawakwi to stand up and condemn the Patriotic Front or disagree with President Edgar Lungu. It is within her right to accept the political state of affairs in Zambia if she has given up on the fight for democracy. It doesn't surprise us that despite being in the opposition, Ms Nawakwi spends more time criticizing her fellow opposition leaders, as if she is a member of the PF. It is not a secret that Ms Nawakwi doesn't buy the politics of Mr

Hakainde Hichilema; she made it clear during the 2016 campaign that the UPND would be worse than the PF in power. That explains why Ms Nawakwi never stood up to condemn the incarceration of the UPND leader. While all opposition leaders demanded Mr Hichilema's release from prison, Ms Nawakwi was nowhere to be seen. It didn't bother her because she is not a member of the UPND.

But we need to remind the FDD leader of a famous quote by Adolf Hitler's foe Martin Niemöller, who said: "First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out – because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out –

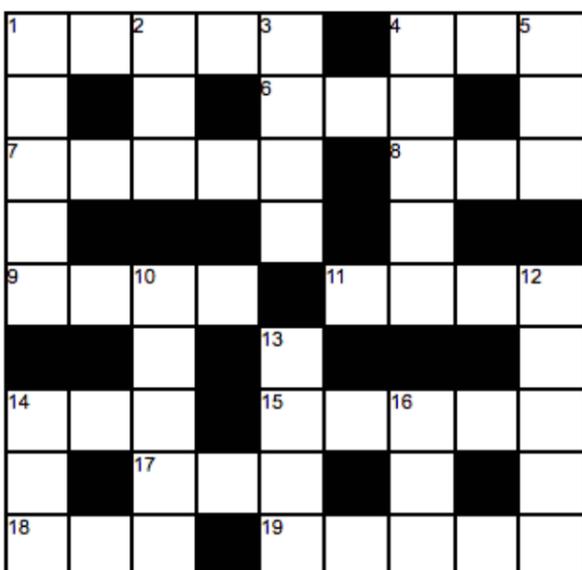
because I was not a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out – because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me – and there was no one left to speak for me."

Madam Nawakwi doesn't speak when the police are going for the UPND because she is not UPND. She has not been speaking when the PF is going for the Bishops because she is not a priest. She did not speak when PF thugs went to hound out Linda Kasonde from the LAZ secretariat because she is not a lawyer. Political power changes over time; one day, the police will go for Madam Nawakwi, we wonder who will speak for her.

Madam Nawakwi had been sitting comfortably wherever she was, leaving the entire FDD in the hands of Antonio Mwanza until the man gave up and joined the party that he spoke passionately against. This strategy of showing up during campaigns, making noise and money in the process from financiers, is sadly exposing Ms Nawakwi as a political opportunist who cares quite less about rule of law and good governance.

That's the politics of Ms Nawakwi; it is difficult for anyone to explain what she stands for.

## Crossword puzzle No 679



*“Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value.”  
- Albert Einstein*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Slightest amount</li> <li>4. Junior</li> <li>6. Dog doc</li> <li>7. Cry of surrender</li> <li>8. Crimson or ruby</li> <li>9. Hang on to</li> <li>11. Erupt</li> <li>14. Slang for apartment</li> <li>15. Light weight</li> <li>17. Talent for music</li> <li>18. Part of WWII</li> <li>19. Female relative</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Highway hauler</li> <li>2. Part of a circle</li> <li>3. At all times</li> <li>4. Throat ailment</li> <li>5. Move head affirmatively</li> <li>10. One who is older</li> <li>12. Reporter's question</li> <li>13. Having been birthed</li> <li>14. Feline foot</li> <li>16. First called</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

## Crossword puzzle No 678



# Readers' Feedback

## Mwila on UPND not existing in N/Province

Editor,  
 "Sorry about whether UPND is there in Northern Province or not what he should be worried about is how we'll vote his boss and his party out of power next year.... Because boss wakwe takapite!" - Ian Malekhanie  
 "Mwila practicing social distancing with his brain". - Nakweti Nam  
 "So says an SG that was beaten in

Chipili in 2016 by an independent "without structures" on the ground". - David M Mwanangombe  
 "You are lying and you know it. Mundubile is afraid that if UPND is a force to be reckoned with. Think what will happen happen if UPND was to campaign freely. In a short while, pf will pale into oblivion. Take up the gauntlet and see what happens". - Abraham Mwamba  
 "So? Why waste time and energy talking about something that is non-existent?Kuti waseka!" - Saphira Mundwe  
 "Northern province is in Zambia and UPND is known across Zambia so stop lying to us as if we are Babies that don't know anything". - Misheck Tafunya  
 "Since he has talked about it, it exists, we don't talk about things that doesn't exist, ninshi kupena". - Lewis Mwansa Kabamba

## Chipimo's elevation to act as BoZ Governor

Editor,  
 "Was it that when the President abruptly ended Dr. Kalyalya's contact, he didn't know that the next governor has first to be ratified by parliament before he can start work? It wouldn't be a surprise, remember how he said he was a lawyer too - when he misled ministers into continue working when parliament had bn dissolved". - Peter Mmembe  
 "Mvunga will be used as a pawn. Why not promote Chipimo to be governor and the other to be deputy? If all goes to worst, return the fired governor!" - Danny Muleya Moonga  
 "When the decision to relieve Dr Denny Kalyalya was made I can assure you that someone wasn't in his right state of mind, because if he was then he would have taken all factors into consideration, like the fact that parliament is in recess. Being a Saturday it would appear that the decision was perhaps made under the influence!" - Harri Sons Oko  
 "A fired Governor, A Pending Governor and an Acting Governor". - Chibuye Kunda  
 "Ba Lungu in ten basic rules of driving it says think before u act.this shows us that u are a failiur failing to obey rule number 33". - Jeff Mumba  
 "Now this is total confusion. You fire someone replace him with a questionable individual who then waits for ratification, while you wait for that process you now appoint an assistant but kwena eagle 1 ninshi father?!" - Makandwe Mwape



**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

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

## Tutwa's threat that Chilufya will sue ACC for K10m

Dear editor,  
 "They steal from poor citizens, donate crumbs to the victims of the theft, under fund the ACC, compromise them and then sue for damages. Not even liberation parties across Africa have been this arrogant. Ndimwe vikali zoonna ba PF!" - Richard Waga  
 "A thief threatening to sue the entire ACC kuti wapapa! Hospitals lack even common panadol because the person in charge of this important ministry has long hands!" - Ian Malekhanie  
 "The ACC officer should remain suspended and the due process of disciplinary action should follow. We should not be playing games in the fight against corruption. Conduct that brings an institution's name into disrepute must be punishable with dismissal". - Lassie Kakuta

## 'Nawakwi knows HH is innocent'

Editor,  
 "Nawakwi knows HH is innocent, she is not as ignorant as people like Mumbi Phiri who believe in their own concoctions. PF will never take HH to court, they just want to build a negative public perception against HH. UPND should play the game as opposed to being diplomatic towards these prevaricators". - Richard Waga  
 "It is easy to see that Nawakwi has some strange hard feelings for HH for whatever reason. And now that she hopes to be running mate of Mr. Lulu, these "hard feelings" are manifesting even more. But is Nawakwi a capable leader? Far far from it. Just look at where she found FDD and where it is now. She only surfaces near elections". - Sandwe Simate  
 "Nawakwi is a disgrace. She should be the last person to talk about privatization because she was in government when they were busy selling companies. The negative impact this had on me personally is painful to narrate. She should just shut up!" - Kelvin Maximoff  
 "Nawakwi has failed to maintain her own party. Instead of her working together hand in hand with HH to remove the PF in power but here she is saying things that she doesn't know anything about!" - Cindy Miyanda



Instead of fighting those who failed the economy of Zambia, you are busy attacking those who are trying to help the people of Zambia. Woman just join PF to be in full drive of the evil PF. Remember you are one of the MMD members who sold the mines, who signed the papers for the buyers? who was the finance minster by then? You think we are fools! Who was the lawyer? You are just a PF cadre who pretends to be in opposition, thank you". - Ballon Bokasi

An attempt to storm Germany's parliament during Saturday's big Berlin protest against Covid-19 restrictions has been condemned by politicians across the political spectrum.

Demonstrators, many with far-right sympathies, broke through a cordon and ran up the steps of the Reichstag before police dispersed them.

The interior minister said there should be "zero tolerance" for such behaviour.

Some 38,000 turned out for the wider, largely peaceful

## Anger after attempt to storm German parliament

Berlin demonstration.

What happened at the Reichstag?

Demonstrators bearing the flag of former imperial Germany - used by the Reichsbürger (Reich Citizens) far-right group - overcame a handful of police to run to the building entrance.

Police put the number involved at several hundred.

Scuffles broke out and the protesters were then overcome

by police using pepper spray. Several people were arrested.

Police rejected criticism of their small deployment, saying they could not "be everywhere all the time".

What has the reaction been?

"The Reichstag is the domain of our parliament and the symbolic centre of our democracy. It is unbearable that troublemakers and extremists misuse it for their own purposes," said Interior Minister Horst Seehofer.

President Frank-Walter Steinmeier condemned "an unbearable attack on the heart of our democracy".

"Those angered by our coronavirus measures or who doubt their necessity can do so openly, in protests. But my tolerance ends when protesters hitch themselves to the wagon of enemies of democracy and political rabble-rousers."

Vice-Chancellor Olaf Scholz, from the Social Democrats, was one of several to condemn the display of far-right and German imperial symbols.

The Social Democrats have also called for improved security around parliament.

The organiser of the main protest, tech entrepreneur Michael Ballweg, said the Reichstag demonstrators had "nothing to do" with his movement.

What happened in the wider demonstration?

The protest had originally been banned but a court eventually allowed it to go ahead on condition that coronavirus measures such as mask-wearing and social-distancing were adhered to.

In all, 300 people were arrested at various locations, 200 after right-wing agitators threw stones and bottles near the Brandenburg Gate.

Police ordered the dispersal of the protest as the day went on because those taking part were failing to observe coronavirus rules.

Protesters were closely packed in places, and sat together on the ground at one point.

Among those arrested was cookery author and conspiracy theorist Attila Hildmann, who had addressed crowds through a loudspeaker.

Although Germany has so far not seen the wave of cases affecting some parts of Europe, its infection rate has been growing. New case numbers are reaching highs last seen in April.

Who organised the Berlin protests?

The demonstration was called by the Stuttgart-based movement Querdenken 711 (or Lateral Thinking 711). The group has more than 16,000 followers on Facebook and communicates largely through encrypted messaging service Telegram.

It believes that coronavirus regulations infringe on basic rights and freedoms enshrined in Germany's constitution and wants them to be lifted.

The protests have also gained support from Robert F Kennedy Jr. The anti-vaccination campaigner, also the son of assassinated US Democratic presidential hopeful Robert F Kennedy and nephew of assassinated US President John F Kennedy, was at the demonstration in Berlin.

Photos shared online also showed flags and slogans linked to the conspiracy theory QAnon.

Participants also included families and children. Some people have said they just want the right to protest.

Counter-protests against the main march also took place, with about 100 people at one rally. "You are marching

with Nazis and Fascists," shouted some participants, according to broadcaster RBB.

What are Germany's Covid-19 measures?

The country was one of the most effective in enforcing the framework of response referred to as prevent, detect, contain and treat.

It has been particularly effective in keeping the death rate among the over 70s lower.

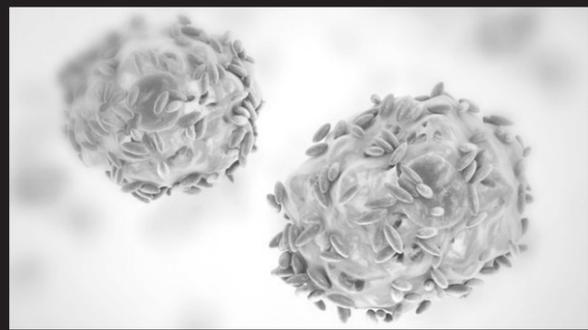
It began relaxing physical distancing in early April but continued to track infections,

which have seen a rise in August.

On Thursday, Chancellor Angela Merkel and the 16 federal states introduced a minimum €50 (£45; \$59) fine for failing to wear a face mask where ordered. A ban on major public events was also extended until next year.

Germany has recorded 242,000 infections, fewer than the other major European nations. Its figure of 9,297 deaths is considerably lower than the numbers in Russia, the UK, Spain, France and Italy, Johns Hopkins University research shows. **BBC**

## Oral sex linked to vaginal condition bacterial vaginosis



ORAL sex may create an environment for a common vaginal condition called bacterial vaginosis or BV, according to research in the journal PLoS Biology.

BV is not a sexually transmitted infection. It is an imbalance of the usual bacteria found in the vagina.

Women who have it may have no symptoms, but some get a strong-smelling discharge.

Researchers explored what effect mouth bacteria have on microbes that live and grow in the vagina.

About BV

BV is not usually serious, but should be treated because having BV makes women more vulnerable to catching sexually transmitted diseases and getting urinary infections.

If the woman is pregnant, it increases the risk of premature birth.

How can you tell if you have it?

It is quite common and women who have it may notice they have an unusual discharge that has a strong fishy smell.

You may notice a change to the colour and consistency of your discharge, such as becoming greyish-white and thin and watery.

Your GP or sexual health clinic could arrange for a swab test to see if you have BV.

If the result is positive, it can be treated with antibiotic tablets, gels or creams.

What did the new research find?

Women without BV tend to have plenty of "good" bacteria called lactobacilli that keep the vagina more acidic, with a lower pH.

Sometimes this healthy balance can tip and let other vaginal micro-organisms thrive.

What causes this to happen is not fully known, but you're more likely to get BV if:

you're sexually active (but women who have not had sex can also get BV)

you have had a change of partner

you have an IUD (contraception device)

you use perfumed products in or around your vagina

The study in PLoS Biology showed how a common type of bacteria found in the mouth that is linked with gum disease and dental plaque may support BV.

They did experiments in human vaginal specimens and in mice to look at bacterial behaviour.

The mouth bacterium, *Fusobacterium nucleatum*, appeared to aid the growth of other bacteria implicated in BV.

The researchers, Dr Amanda Lewis from the University of California and colleagues, say the findings show how oral sex might contribute to some cases of BV.

Experts already know that BV can be triggered by sex, including between women.

Prof Claudia Estcourt, spokesperson for the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV, said research such as this was important to add to the understanding of BV.

"We know BV is a really complex entity with lots of contributing factors."

She said oral sex could pass on sexually transmitted infections and other bacteria that may or may not be important in other health conditions. **BBC**

## Angola to join oil and extractives transparency group

Angola plans to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), an international effort to fight corruption in revenues from oil, gas and mineral extraction.

Tete Antonio, Angola's minister of foreign affairs, announced the move on Twitter late on Friday and said Angola "has clearly demonstrated its commitment to promote the open and accountable management of its natural resources for the benefit of its people."

EITI, formed in 2003, has more than 50 implementing countries.

Angola's President Joao Lourenco has embarked on an anti-corruption drive since taking power from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who stepped down in 2017 after a near four-decade rule.

Earlier this month, a court in Luanda sentenced dos Santos's son to five years in prison over a \$500 million corruption case.

Africa's second-largest oil exporter is also working to stem a steady decline in oil output due to a lack of investment. **Reuters**

## Mauritius fishermen battle to save dozens of dolphins near oil spill

FISHERMEN battled on Sunday to save dozens of injured dolphins washed ashore in Mauritius where in recent days at least 40 of the animals were found dead in a lagoon near the site of an oil spill from a Japanese bulk carrier which struck a coral reef.

Yasfeer Heenaye, a fisherman near Pointe aux Feuilles on the island's eastern shore, said he had counted at least 45 dead dolphins since they were first discovered on Wednesday, and said half a dozen more dolphins were in the bay fighting for their lives.

He said he believed the

animals' vision was impaired by the spilled oil, which is how they ended up on the reef where they sustained fatal injuries.

Authorities, who put the death toll at 42, ruled out this is a possibility but said on Sunday they were still investigating the cause of death.

"The preliminary autopsy report has excluded that oil played a role, however we sent some samples of the dead dolphins to La Reunion to determine why the animals couldn't swim and their radar wasn't functioning," Jasvin Sok Appadu from the Fisheries

Ministry said on Sunday.

So far veterinarians have examined only two of the dead dolphins, which bore signs of injury but no trace of hydrocarbons in their bodies, according to preliminary autopsy results. Autopsy results on all carcasses are expected on Monday, the official said.

Thousands of protesters peacefully demonstrated in the capital Port Louis on Saturday to demand an investigation into the oil spill and the death of the dolphins. Some called for the government to resign.

On Sunday morning Heenaye was out with seven other boats, making loud noise by hitting together metal bars in an attempt to drive the animals away from the coral reef towards the open sea.

"If they stay inside the lagoon they will die like the others...we are pushing them to go outside the lagoon, so they won't get in touch with the oil," he said.

The full impact of the spill is still unfolding, scientists say. The Mauritius Marine Conservation Society said 15 kilometers of coastline have been affected by the spill and that it is moving towards the Blue Bay Marine park, home to 38 types of coral and 78 species of fish.

The wildlife at risk include the critically endangered Pink Pigeon, endemic to the island, the seagrasses, clownfish and mangrove forests, whose roots serve as nurseries for fish. **Reuters**



Japan's longest-serving prime minister, Shinzo Abe, announces his resignation for health reasons. The 65-year-old, who has suffered for many years from ulcerative colitis, said he did not want his illness to get in the way of decision-making. He apologised to the Japanese people for failing to complete his term in office.

# FIFA meeting elates Siwale

By Ngosa Chalwe

FOOTBALL administrator Blackwell Siwale says the meeting among FIFA, the Football Association Zambia (FAZ) and aggrieved parties is an opportunity for the world governing body to have a clear picture of the alleged maladministration in Zambian football.

Tomorrow, FIFA is expected to chair the long-awaited meeting aimed at resolving the wrangles that have characterised Zambian football for over six months now.

According to a FIFA letter dated August 28, the meeting is set to take off at 10:00hrs and will have FAZ and Ministry of Sports representatives, the National Sports Council of Zambia and a maximum of three representatives from the aggrieved

parties.

Speaking when he featured on QFM's Soccer Chat programme on Saturday, Siwale claimed that there is a need for FIFA to be aware of the alleged constitutional breaches by the Andrew Kamanga-led FAZ executive.

"We will have a meeting at which all aggrieved parties will sit and agree on how to present our case. We have a draft of what we intend to [present]. What is remaining is fine tuning of the document," Siwale said. "Bear in mind that we have three issues that we intend to present to FIFA - the flawed electoral process, we need to show FIFA that the former executive sitting in office today has been breaching the constitution, we need to show FIFA that the current Exco today sitting in office today has been vindictive to

people."

He claimed that the current executive had also committed crimes which FIFA was not aware of.

"On top of that, we know that there are alleged crimes committed by the current Exco sitting in office today so we have approached this issue with three categories," Siwale said.

When the presenter Emmanuel Zite Tembo asked him why he was reporting crimes to FIFA and not to the Police, Siwale said, "No no Zite, don't misunderstand me; we are not reporting the crimes to FIFA, these matters I am telling you now are already with the appropriate officers who can deal with the matters and FIFA is unaware that that is happening," said Siwale.

# Messi can only leave Barca if his €700m release clause is met, La Liga confirm

LIONEL Messi can only leave Barcelona if his €700 million (£624m/\$823m) release clause is met, La Liga have confirmed on Sunday.

Messi handed in a transfer request to the Barca board last week, with a view to triggering the clause in his contract which allows him to leave the club at the end of each season.

The clause in question technically expired in June, but the Argentine's legal team are ready to argue that he should be allowed to terminate his deal unilaterally.

Manchester City is thought to be the most likely next destination for Messi, with Goal reporting that ex-Barca boss Pep Guardiola has been in touch over a potential reunion at Etihad Stadium.

Paris-Saint Germain, Juventus and Manchester United are also thought to be considering a move for the six-time Ballon d'Or winner, but La Liga have now revealed their stance on his current situation.

Spanish football's main governing body have insisted that the terms of Messi's current contract, which is due to run until 2021, remain valid, which means he will not be able to leave the club unless a potential suitor pays his €700 million (£624m/\$823m) buy-out clause in full.

An official statement on La Liga's website reads: "In relation to the different interpretations (some of them contradictory to each other) published in recent days in different media, related to the contractual situation of the player Lionel Andrés Messi with FC Barcelona, LaLiga considers it convenient to clarify that, once the player's contract with his club:

"The contract is currently in force and has a "termination clause" applicable to the event that Lionel Andrés Messi decides to urge the early unilateral termination of the contract, carried out in accordance with article 16 of Royal Decree 1006/1985, of June 26, by which regulates the special employment relationship of professional athletes. **GOAL.COM**

# You can't go to Algeria and lose 5 nil, Chamanga blasts Chipolopolo

By Abraham Kalito

VETERAN striker James Chamanga says Chipolopolo lacked hunger and passion when they lost to Algeria in the AfCON qualifiers.

Speaking with Kennedy Godwe's StudioKen, Chamanga blasted the national soccer team for losing five goals to nil.

"It's very painful to see Zambia fail to qualify. Zambia is big in Africa when it comes to football. These young don't know how important it is to wear the green jersey. I keep saying this, the zeal is gone. They just wear the jersey so that their families can see them but not to bring the results. We don't have the hunger. We can't, you cannot go to Algeria and lose 5 zero, it's not the coaches it's the zeal,"

he said.

He said he will not back down from his decision to retire from international football regardless of how well he plays.

"There are two things, when they say I am refusing to play for the national team, what I have refused to do is play but I can offer advice to players on the national team. When I play for the national team at forty, I will be denying a chance to that player who can offer Zambia ten years of service. I can only offer you one or two years. That's all I can offer."

And Chamanga disclosed that he was surprised when he emerged top scorer in his debut season after been away from the local league for close to 20 years.

"For me I can't say the

league hasn't improved, but as you grow older, like in my case you learn to play better in my position so I cannot say the league hasn't improved or I'm too good for the league. Because I have trained hard, and for me to be a top scorer directly after the first season is a blessing of course but all in all it's team work. My team has helped me to settle in very well. Of course it was a surprise. First when I came I arrived with the task of qualifying Red Arrows to the Champions league, that was my main target," Chamanga said.

"It didn't happen perhaps it's because of the Corona situation. If you saw very well Red Arrows was doing very well at the start of the season. But being a top scorer came as

a surprise for me because I didn't plan for this, things started happening and my confidence came plus my experience and I said this is a chance for me. I think for me it's about repetition, I think these young ones (younger players) don't pay attention to the things that happen on the game, a lot of things repeat themselves. For me I think they don't have the zeal to continue scoring week in week out."

# Barcelona must pay €14m to cancel Suarez contract

BARCELONA must pay €14 million (£12m/\$17m) to cancel Luis Suarez's current contract, Goal understands.

A new era is being ushered in at Camp Nou under Ronald Koeman, who replaced Quique Setien in the

managerial hot seat following a humiliating 8-2 defeat to Bayern Munich in last season's Champions League quarter-finals.

The Dutchman has already started making plans for his first year at the helm, with wholesale changes to the squad expected after the club's first trophyless season in 12 years.

Lionel Messi could be the first out the door in the coming weeks, as the six-time Ballon d'Or winner has submitted a formal transfer request amid interest from Pep Guardiola's Manchester City.

Goal has learned that Suarez is also being touted for the exit, having been informed by Koeman over the phone

that he does not feature in his plans for the upcoming campaign.

The Uruguayan striker is contracted to remain at Camp Nou until next summer, but is open to an early exit after being deemed surplus to requirements.

However, Suarez intends to continue training with the Barca squad until the club decides whether to cancel his contract, which will cost them a total of €14m in compensation fees.

The 33-year-old will leave Catalonia as a free agent if he is released, with Goal reporting that five clubs have already officially registered their interest in his services. **GOAL**



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# MAN UTD EYE DAKA

**By Ngosa Chalwe**  
NOT for the first time, British media have linked Chipolopolo striker Patson Daka with a move to English giants Manchester United

ahead of the new season. Last week, Daka put himself in the limelight after a brilliant first half performance against Liverpool in a club international friendly that

saw him score a brace in ten minutes as his side RB Salzburg played to a 2-all draw. Following his fiery performance, Liverpool fans

took to twitter, urging their club to sign the former Power Dynamos player, but fresh reports indicate Daka is on the United radar. Writing for British

tabloid, The Sun, football writer Dan King reports that after missing out on Daka's former teammate Erling Haaland, United are looking to snap up the former

Nchanga Rangers star. However, it is believed that United may face competition from other big guns among them, premier league champions Liverpool who are also believed to be tracking his signature.

Liverpool have previously snapped striker Sadio Mane and midfielders Naby Keita and Takumi Minamino who were developed at the Austrian club and Daka is the latest off the production line.

Last season, Daka scored 24 goals in 31 league games to guide Salzburg to their seventh straight Austrian Bundesliga title after stepping in the void left by Haaland who joined Borussia Dortmund in January.

## Messi skips Barca preseason medicals



LIONEL Messi failed to report for pre-season medical tests at Barcelona on Sunday as he continues to seek a transfer, Goal understands.

First team stars have been arriving at the Blaugrana's Sant Joan Despi training centre at staggered intervals to undergo health checks ahead of the new

season, amid the continued threat of coronavirus.

New head coach Ronald Koeman was in attendance with the rest of his coaching staff, with Jordi Alba and Martin Braithwaite the first players to arrive at the facility.

Luis Suarez and Arturo Vidal also checked in, despite having both

been linked with moves away from Camp Nou in recent weeks, but Messi deliberately avoided the screening.

Goal reported on Saturday that the six-time Ballon d'Or winner would skip the tests to reinforce the message that he no longer wishes to be a part of the squad. **GOAL.COM**

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