



DEFEND YOURSELVES

...there's no leadership to stop violence - HH

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Julia Malunga

WHEN you see your friend being attacked by PF, help them and defend yourselves because there is no leadership capable of stopping the violence, UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema told his supporters yesterday.

Story page 4

Kwacha to weaken on bondholders' rejection of govt debt suspension

By Diggers Reporter

THE kwacha is expected to continue depreciating against major currency convertibles, given the heightened demand for dollars on the local market, exacerbated by government's need to resume external debt service payments, market data shows.

Story page 5

Sata's death, COVID-19 slowed govt projects, says Mwale

By Ulande Nkomesha

HOUSING and Infrastructure Development Minister Vincent Mwale says a number of unplanned events have affected the completion of certain projects of Zambia.

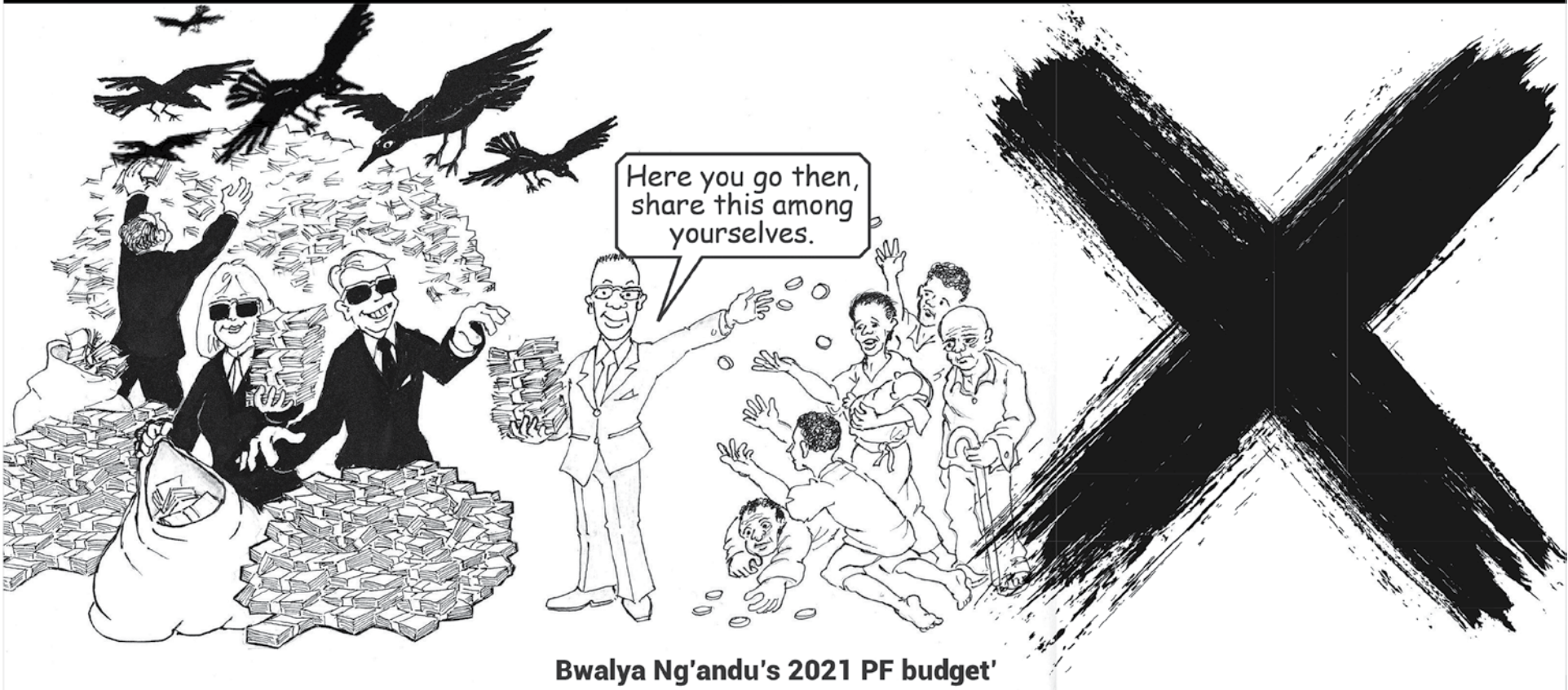
Mwale was responding to a question from Luena UPND member of parliament David Kundoti, who wanted to find out why a number of projects across the country had stalled.

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Home of investigative journalism in Zambia



# THIS IS WHAT IT HAS COME TO



# FIKAPWA!

#BallyWillFiXIt 

## Govt still owes K633m to agro dealers - Katambo

**By Julia Malunga**  
AGRICULTURE Minister Michael Katambo says government still owes agro dealers K633 million.  
Responding to a question asked by Nkeyema UPND member of parliament Kapelwa Mbangweta, who wanted to find out whether government had managed to pay agro dealers who were owed, Katambo said K20 million was released by the Ministry of Finance to pay off some of the debt, but said government still owed K633 million.  
“Mr Speaker, we are continuously dismantling the debt that we owe to the agro dealers that we contracted. We have about K633 million. Today (Thursday), K20 million was released by the Ministry of Finance. Mr Speaker, we owed agro dealers over K4 billion, and now we only have K633 million so commitment is there. Also, there was K20 million released for transporters so we remain with about K16 million to completely pay off all those that we owe. The retention of the K400 will be able to sort out all these problems of payments for this season,” Katambo said.  
And when asked by Mkushi North PF member of parliament Doreen Mwape what action government would take on agro dealers that were paid by government, but did not supply inputs under FISP

to the beneficiaries, Katambo said the dealers would be blacklisted.  
“Agro dealers who are engaging in fraudulent activities should be brought before the Ministry and the law enforcement agencies. Those who will be found wanting to deprive the beneficiaries should be reported and once the Ministry identifies them, they will be blacklisted. We will not engage such fraudulent agro dealers,” he responded.  
And speaking earlier when rendering a ministerial statement on the preparations of the 2020-2021 Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP), Katambo announced that a total of one million farmers would be targeted to receive inputs under the programme.  
“Mr Speaker, we are all aware that the FISP programme has faced several challenges in its implementation. As government, we are going to overcome these challenges. I am happy to inform this August House that the issue of late delivery of inputs to the districts is being addressed. Farmers have already started receiving their inputs for the 2020/2021 agricultural season. Mr Speaker, let me now highlight some of the measures that we have put in place for the FISP in the 2020-2021 agriculture season; the programme will be implemented as follows: modalities of implementation, namely the e-voucher and the

direct input supply, will be used. A total of one million farmers will be targeted to receive inputs under the programme,” said Katambo.  
“The farmer contribution remains unchanged at K400. For this agricultural season, six fertilizer suppliers have been

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
LEADER of the Opposition in Parliament Jack Mwiimbu says his party wholeheartedly welcomes government’s intentions to set up a commission of inquiry into privatisation.  
And Mwiimbu says the Ministry of Finance will have challenges financing the 2021 budget due to high indebtedness.  
Debating on the Motion of Supply on the estimates of revenue and expenditure for the year 2021 (national budget) in parliament, Friday, Mwiimbu said his party welcomed the privatisation inquiry, but warned that such a process would undermine the credibility of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.  
“Mr Speaker as I debate this Motion, I would like to take cognizance of what happened yesterday (Thursday) where PF members petitioned the President to constitute a commission of inquiry pertaining to the privatisation that took place in this country from the 1990s. Mr Speaker, this particular happening of yesterday is very critical to the fulfillment of the budget aspirations of the Minister of Finance. And I will be able to demonstrate why what happened

contracted to supply inputs under the Direct Input Supply system. The fertilizer has been delivered to all the districts except in those districts where there are no storage facilities. For the districts without storage space, the fertilizer has been strategically per-

yesterday is so important. Mr Speaker, on behalf of the UPND and our president Mr Hakainde Hichilema, we would like to welcome wholeheartedly this particular privatization inquiry. It will lead to rest a number of issues that have been raised,” Mwiimbu said.  
But Mwiimbu warned that the inquiry had potential to undermine the credibility of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank which were also part of the process and whom Zambia was currently begging for debt assistance from.  
“Mr Speaker, it is important to note that that particular exercise of privatisation was made by the Government of the Republic of Zambia under the Blessings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, institutions which we are now craving that they assist us to resuscitate the economy of the Republic of Zambia. We must take note that the petitioners have been questioning the credibility of that particular exercise, questioning the credibility of the institutions that advised government to privatise. And we also have to take note that whereas we are questioning the credibility of these two

positioned so that it can easily be delivered to those districts when needed. Further, the Ministry has contracted nine seed suppliers to supply various seeds and to-date, over 70 per cent of seed has been delivered to the districts. Mr Speaker, under the e-voucher

important institutions, we are before them kneeling for assistance over this matter to help us resuscitate the economy and help us to finance the budget,” Mwiimbu warned.  
He appealed for transparency in the inquiry process.  
“I did indicate that we welcome this investigation, Mr Speaker. We want this particular inquiry to be transparent. And also, we want this particular privatization inquiry to take into account that there are more than 240 companies that were privatised by the Government of the Republic of Zambia during that period. And a number of these companies Mr Speaker that are successful now are owned by foreign entities. And as a result of the intended inquiry, you are sending getters to those who purchased these companies in this country. And that is the point that I am making Mr Speaker that as we discuss these issues, they have a bearing on the economy of this country and the donor confidence of this country. And that is the reason why even bars that were operating in Chilenje are collapsing because of lack of confidence in people who patronize them,” Mwiimbu said.

system, we shall continue to work with agro dealers to provide inputs to the farmers. To avert accumulation of areas to agro dealers, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance will this farming season ensure that agro dealers are paid promptly.”

*Continues on page 4*



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**By Julia Malunga**

WHEN you see your friend being attacked by PF, help them and defend yourselves because there is no leadership capable of stopping the violence, UPND leader Hachilema told his supporters yesterday.

His statement followed an incident that occurred in Lusaka's Chakunkula ward 32 of Munali Constituency on Saturday, where some PF cadres went to the UPND constituency office, beat up the opposition members who were at the premises and threatened to burn the office down.

The PF cadres who were from attending a campaign rally at Kapwelyomba grounds went further to destroy the UPND constituency office and a water tank which supplies water to residents of Kamanga.

Later, other UPND members

# Defend yourselves, there is no leadership to stop the violence - HH

from the neighbourhood rushed to the scene and started stoning the buses that ferried the PF cadres.

Before police arrived to restore calm, the UPND supporters had regrouped and also attacked a PF constituency office which is close to the UPND office.

Addressing his supporters in the constituency, Hachilema said there was no leadership in the country capable of stopping the violence.

"Bantu baku Kamanga, Chainta muona muntu apwanya manzi (residents of Kamanga

and Chainta you saw this borehole being damaged, you should have protected it) you should have defended this borehole. Don't be afraid! Next time you must defend yourself in accordance with the constitution. Muzi zichita defend. Mukaona munzani bamumenya mwamutandiza because mailo bazamenya imwe. Mwaona mwamene banamenyela banzatu aba? Bafuna olo sibafuna 2021 change ibwela. (You should be defending yourselves. When you see your friend being attacked, help him because next time it will be you that they will beat. Have you seen how your friends were badly beaten? Whether they like it or not change is coming in 2021)" Hachilema said.

He told residents of Kamanga that it was clear that the PF did not care for them.

"What the PF did yesterday (Saturday) is a confirmation

of what this country is going through. This country has no leadership, people in this country are suffering. People have no jobs, families have no money to feed their children, those who completed college are not working, and they have no jobs. What families eat I don't know, some families eat once a day or nothing at all in a day. What Zambians want is food. What Zambians want is jobs, what Zambians want is businesses not destruction not violence. PF has shown us that they don't care for you the people of Chakunkula, people of Kamanga, people of Chainta they don't care for you," he said.

"In addition to not caring for you, they start damaging property they start beating innocent people. Where is the leadership there? It is clear that people don't need violence what they need is water and that

is what UPND will provide. And we must all agree that we must unite. All of us Zambians tisebenzele pamodzi, tubombele chapamo (let us work together) . Unity of purpose so that we can deliver change and remove this violent party. UPND's duty is to deliver food for our people, jobs for our people, it is to deliver business for our marketers, is to stop the violence going on this country, that is our job."

Hachilema said he would repair the water tank.

"I helped the people of Kamanga and Chelstone with this borehole 11 years ago that is when I came to build this facility because I answered the call of our mother who had no water, our sisters who had no water. And they have been benefiting as a community from this water. And the PF instead of improving the water supply, they damage it. That is hooliganism that is

failure!" exclaimed Hachilema.

"Ndiye kukangiwa kwamene uku. So naimwe bantu bakuno Chainta, Chelstone, Kamanga, Lusaka Zambia yonse muone ati ndiye faure ya PF. Manzi siyaziba mutundu, muntu ali onse afuna manzi sinchoncho? Kuli mutundu pa manzi apa? Kuli political party pa manzi apa? Ma parties' bonse bakumwa manzi apa. (This is failure of leadership so to you the people of Zambia be observant this is the failure of PF. Water has no tribe, everyone needs water regardless of their tribe. Everybody needs it, isn't it? Everybody benefits from this water source) So to show you leadership not violence I am committing that in the next few days I and you the local community will repair this borehole so that we can support you with the water. And if anything we should even do more."

## UPND welcomes privatisation inquiry

**From page 2**

"Mr Speaker, as we debate this particular issue, we would like to ensure that the government does not erode the confidence of investors in this country. As we are going to open a commission of inquiry, Mr Speaker, we should extend this inquiry to the privatizations that happened after 2001, we had Zanaco, we had LapGreenN and now we have ZAFFICO where you are selling the shares. And also Mr Speaker, we should also extend the inquiry to extend to the misleading advice that is being given by the Minister of Justice on any action that is taken by government comes from the Ministry of Justice's office."

And Mwiimbu feared that the Ministry of Finance might have a problem financing the 2021 national budget due to huge indebtedness.

"Honorable [Bwalya] Ng'andu has a problem in managing the budget of the Republic of Zambia because of what the PF have been doing in this country. We advised Honourable Ng'andu that don't borrow recklessly but Honourable Ng'andu did not listen to the advice we gave him. Mr Speaker, we would like Honourable Ng'andu to be listening to our advice. As you are aware, as we are debating today, Lap Green is calling on its debt, they are going to seize the assets of the Republic of Zambia, the bondholders have not agreed to the proposals by Honourable Ng'andu on the issues of the bond. It therefore follows that Honourable Ng'andu will have problems to finance the budget. We call up Honourable Ng'andu to listen to advice that we give him," said Mwiimbu.

## Katete PF officials in punch-up at their offices

**Zindikilani Banda in Katete**

TWO Katete District Patriotic Front officials were found fighting at the ruling party's district offices for unknown reasons.

Confirming the development in interview, PF district chairperson Moses Phiri narrated that the incident occurred when he was in a meeting with some opposition members, who wanted to join the ruling party, when they heard loud noises outside the district offices, only to discover two officials engaged in a physical fight.

He said due to that indiscipline, he had suspended PF district youth chairperson Luka Ndlobvu and secretary Bernard Mvula, who is also

Kamphambe ward councilor, for fighting, which was contrary to the party constitution.

"I was in a meeting on 26th September, and suddenly, we heard people shouting outside and when we went to check, there were two party officials who were involved in a fight. It really pained me that I almost cried to see indiscipline of that nature," Phiri said.

He stressed that the PF did not need unruly officials who brought shame to the ruling party.

"We need discipline, especially as we go to 2021, because it will be difficult for us to go in 2021 with undisciplined soldiers because an undisciplined

soldier can do any misconduct. We can't allow party members to be fighting at the party offices, that is indiscipline of highest order! For your own information, all this happened when I had some members from opposition UPND, who wished to join the party. What picture did it portray?" Phiri wondered.

"What pained me most is to see that one custodian of the party constitution, Bernard Mvula, who is the district secretary and not only that, but a civic leader under Kamphambe ward, while the other one, Luka Ndlobvu, is in charge of peace and sanity in the party, could act like that. What are they going to tell party members on discipline?"

And he called for strong leadership at grassroots-level to continue growing the ruling party.

"We don't want the spirit which was in MMD, where youths were above the law, to repeat itself in PF. We must provide good leadership as a way to show hope and confidence to the public," said Phiri, who also disclosed that the two erring members had since been suspended and were asked to exculpate themselves as to why further disciplinary action should not be taken against them.

Ndlobvu and Mvula were reached for a comment on the fracas, but both were unavailable by press time.



*By Julia Malunga*  
FORMER Attorney General Musa Mwenye State Counsel says it is an unnecessary and wasteful undertaking to constitute a commission of inquiry into the privatisation at this time.

Last week, President Edgar Lungu said it was only a matter of time before he constituted a commission of inquiry into privatisation after some students petitioned him to do so.

But in an interview, Mwenye said the country was facing serious economic problems which required urgent attention instead of prioritising a commission of inquiry which was clearly targeted at one Zambian.

“As all of us are now fully aware, our country is in serious economic problems. We are in a recession where our economic growth is in the negative and our economy is expected to shrink by 4% this year. We are also at risk of defaulting on our loans. Our energy sector is in serious disarray and the mining sector is also suffering. The kwacha is now trading at K20 to US\$1

# Privatisation Inquiry unnecessary, wasteful – Musa

and our reserves are very low. Poverty levels are increasing and Covid is wreaking havoc. In addition, corruption levels are at an all-time high while the political will to fight corruption is at an all-time low. With all these challenges that require urgent attention, why would we prioritize a commission of inquiry that is clearly targeted at one Zambian?” asked Mwenye.

“Shouldn’t we be directing our energies and resources at solving the many serious problems that we are facing as a people? A commission of inquiry costs a lot of money and it is a wasteful and unnecessary undertaking at this time. What will this commission unearth that is not contained in the several reports that have been written over the past 20 years concerning privatization? Our leadership should avoid concentrating on matters that do very little to uplift the livelihoods of the Zambian people. Let’s concentrate on

things that matter.”

Speaking when he received a petition from students at State House, Thursday, President Lungu announced that he would soon constitute a commission of inquiry into privatisation.

“This matter has been on people’s minds and discussions have been held in various places. I have also had people pushing me on the subject matter. But like I said, the will of the people reigns supreme. Section 2 of the Inquiries Act allows me to set up a commission of inquiry and I am not obliged to consult anybody. But having heard the voices, which have been across the country, north, east, south and west, throughout the country, I will take time to reflect on this matter. And I will make a few consultations. What you have given me is a petition of signatures without giving terms of reference so I will have to sit with those who are versed with the matter of privatisation, historically, and

those who are versed with the law to tell me what would be the terms of reference for the commission. Then we move in accordance with what the law provides,” said President Lungu.

“I think it’s a matter of time. We have to put this matter to rest and all those who were in it and are found wanting will have to answer to the people through the law. Whether people were sleeping or not, it doesn’t

matter; what is important is justice. The commission will be constituted and all I am looking for are these gentlemen, ministers and others, who are conversant with matters to give you what we could consider to be appropriate terms of reference. And then we begin identifying which citizens can be on this commission. This is the patriotism that we want to see in the young people of this country.”



## K8bn COVID-19 Bond reaches 72% subscription – BoZ

*By Stuart Lisulo*  
GOVERNMENT has extended the issuance period of the COVID-19 bond to December 31, 2020, to allow for more time to realise the targeted amount of K8 billion.

According to a notice issued via the Bank of Zambia

(BoZ), government has extended the issuance period of the COVID-19 bond to December 31, 2020, to allow for more time for the bond to be fully subscribed.

BoZ acting assistant director for communications Besnat Mwanza revealed that so far, the Bond had achieved a subscription rate of over 72 per cent, translating to around K5.76 billion.

“The Ministry of Finance and NOT the BoZ extended the issuance period to December 31. The extension has been made in order to realise the target amount announced for the COVID-19 Bond Issuance Programme of K8 billion. The COVID-19 Bond Issuance Programme has so far recorded a subscription rate of 72.12 per cent, indicating good subscription. With the extension, it is expected that subscription will be covered adequately,” Mwanza stated in response to a press query.

And she expressed confidence that the Bond would be fully subscribed by the end of the issuance period.

“As indicated, the COVID-19 Bond Issuance Programme has so far recorded a subscription rate of 72.12 per cent, indicating firm

subscription and, therefore, the Bank has confidence that it will be fully subscribed by the target date,” stated Mwanza.

The central bank started inviting applications for the issue of a COVID-19 Bond worth an initial K2.67 billion, whose proceeds were earmarked to be utilised in mitigating the negative impact of the pandemic on economic activities.

Subsequently, in announcing the extension on September 22, it stated that the amount of bonds available on offer was K2.33 billion at cost, and will be issued under a five, seven, 10 and 15-year maturity tenure.

According to the extension notice, the minimum value of each offer will be K500,000 at cost for both domestic and foreign investors, and that the pricing of the bonds will be market-based and will be benchmarked against the latest bond auction at the date of the bid application.

The Bonds will be sold on a first come, first serve basis from the time of publication of the September 22 notice until December 31, 2020, or upon realisation of the amount on offer.



## Zambians have nothing to lose by pre-registering as voters – Sangwa

*By Diggers Reporter*  
CONSTITUTIONAL lawyer John Sangwa, State Counsel, has advised Zambians to pre-register as voters during the current pre-voter registration exercise launched by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ).

Sangwa’s remarks were in reaction to a tweet by an unknown individual behind the handle @Sangwaspeaks which purports to be State Counsel’s Twitter account.

Last week, a tweet purportedly by Sangwa strongly condemned the ECZ over the voter registration exercise and called the process a sham.

There have been several other tweets and posts on Facebook critical of government, claiming to be made by Sangwa.

But Sangwa has clarified that it was not him who tweeted as he was neither on Facebook nor Twitter.

He disclosed that he had actually pre-registered online and urged all Zambians to follow suit as there was no reason to doubt the credibility of the system.

“I am urging people to register online. There is no reason to doubt the credibility of the system. I have no reason to doubt the credibility of the online voter registration. Zambians will lose nothing by pre-registering; it is their civic duty to register. I am not on Facebook or Twitter, so what is flying around purporting that I posted something about voter registration is not legitimate. It is not me,” said Sangwa.

“As a lawyer, I have no reason to condemn what ECZ is doing. I work with evidence. So far, I have registered online and based on what I have seen, measures have been taken to ensure there is no duplication of the information being captures. I can’t say more about this because the case is in court, but I would urge all Zambians to register online and wait for their voters’ cards. I even received a text message sent to me that I have successfully pre-registered online.”

## StanChart posts K225m losses

*By Stuart Lisulo*  
STANDARD Chartered Bank Zambia Plc has posted huge losses of over K225 million after tax during its half-year period ending June 30, 2020, mainly induced by the kwacha’s massive devaluation and the bank’s impairments on financial instruments.

According to its unaudited half-year results, StanChart posted losses of around K225.5 million in its half-year financial period ending June 30, 2020, compared to earning a K123 million profit in the prior corresponding period last year, mainly triggered by a significant kwacha depreciation, leading to higher operating expenses, among others.

“The bank reported a loss of ZMW225m compared to prior year profit of ZMW123m. This was mainly due to: Increase in operating expenses of 10 per cent on account of expenses relating to Personal Protective Equipment for the current COVID-19 pandemic. The depreciation of the kwacha also increased the foreign currency denominated expenses; impairment on financial instruments increased from K36m in June, 2019, to K434m in June, 2020, this was split as follows: loan impairment at K146m in comparison to K36m the same period prior year, and Expected Credit Losses (ECL) on government securities at K288m in comparison to K24m in 2019,” stated StanChart stated in a statement availed by brokers, Stockbrokers Zambia Limited.

“The above were negated by an increase in total revenue of 9 per cent, mainly due to interest from investment securities, which was driven by growth in balance sheet holding.”

On the other hand, StanChart’s customer deposits grew by 19 per cent on account of increased demand, driven by the bank’s digital campaign.

“Customer deposits grew by 19 per cent, year-on-year, mainly on account of increase in demand deposits impacted by the bank’s digital campaign. Investment in securities increased by 62 per cent, mainly on Treasury Bills. This was due to more liquidity in the market compared to the prior year. Balances with banks abroad increased by 14 per cent, year-on-year. Loans and advances reduced by 20 per cent year-on-year,” stated StanChart.

## Kwacha to weaken on bondholders’ rejection of govt debt suspension

*By Diggers Reporter*  
THE kwacha is expected to continue depreciating against major currency convertibles, given the heightened demand for dollars on the local market, exacerbated by government’s need to resume external debt service payments, market data shows.

According to financial market players, the kwacha is set to maintain a weak position, holding above the K20.00 per dollar mark, mainly induced by government’s need to resume external debt service payments on the Eurobonds, expected to resume on October 14, following a rejection by bondholders to suspend interest payments.

According to FNB, the kwacha is expected to continue losing value on account of heightened dollar demand, compounded by little supply of the greenback, as a result of government’s resumed external debt servicing, putting pressure on the local currency.

The local unit’s current trading position has worsened compared to an average K19.52 per dollar just one month ago.

“USD/ZMW has continued to hold firm at levels of K20.02. Volumes were

relatively subdued due to limited US dollar supply. Zambia’s bondholders yesterday (Wednesday) indicated that they were unable to provide a positive response to a ‘Consent Solicitation’ request, which would have seen a six-month freeze on interest repayments. Given Zambia’s current fiscal position – debt to GDP ratio trending north of 100 per cent – this information may signal a negative sentiment from bondholders, which could put pressure on eurobond yields. From an FX (foreign exchange) point of view, if a consensus is not reached in good time, the government will have to meet coupon payments, which could put the local unit under pressure,” stated FNB in its daily market update.

“With a huge demand pipeline in place, we don’t see the currency strengthening in the short-term. We expect the local unit to hold at current levels at best.”

Some bureaus, such as Golden Coin, quoted the kwacha at K20.04 and K20.44 per dollar, while commercial banks, namely, Zanaco Plc, held the local unit at K20.01 and K20.40 per dollar for bid and offer, respectively, by close of business, Thursday.





# 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:**  
**Extent to which the 2021 National Budget exploits the mining sector to initiate economic recovery and safeguard livelihood with Webby Banda**

THE 2021 budget gravitates towards two landscapes. The first being economic recovery and the second being to build resilience to safeguard livelihoods and protect the vulnerable. The biggest question that remains unanswered is whether the advanced policy framework within the mining sector speaks to these landscapes.

Mining continues to be the backbone of Zambia's economy accounting for over 14% of GDP and over 70 percent of export earnings. The sector presents itself as a low hanging fruit that government can exploit to initiate economic recovery and safeguard the livelihood and protect the vulnerable. The budget speech delivered by the Minister of Finance on 25th September 2020, seems at arm's length in achieving this. This is because the budget does not have sufficient pronouncement that aim at stimulating production activities in the mining sector. Inducing mining business activity has a spillover effect of linking and supporting other sectors. Therefore, the performance of this strategic sector cannot be undermined.

The relationship between mining companies and the Government has been deteriorating over time. This can be attributed to competing interest between both parties. Government feels that mining companies are not contributing a fair share of mineral revenue to the national development agenda and the mining companies on the other hand feel Government has not provided an enabling fiscal environment for their businesses to thrive. Although this is the case, the Government must not be tempted to punish the sector. This is because this will lead to an adverse transmission effect across the whole economy. Although the government can be commended for removing import duty on copper ores and concentrates, CTPD wishes to note that It could have done more.

It was expected in terms of large scale mining for the government to make the following pronouncements to initiate economic recovery:

- I. To increase the capital allowances claimed by mining companies in respect of capital expenditure from 20% to 25%.
- II. To reintroduce the deductibility of mineral royalty to calculate Company

Income Tax (CIT). The deduction should have been limited to 50% of mineral royalty payable.

III. To enhance tax administration, the government was expected to discard or undertake structural reformation of the VAT system applicable to mining. This tax system continues to be a serious revenue leakage for the Government in the mining sector.

The Government's strategy for Konkola Copper Mine is still not clear. In the 2021 budget Government has echoed its need to find a strategic partner to improve operations and production at Konkola Copper Mines. This issue is still an international arbitration case awaiting judgement. The Government needs to resolve this first before jumping to get another strategic partner. Secondly, the issue of increasing equity stake in Mopani Copper Mines seems to be sending a message of resource nationalism. CTPD advices that ZCCM-IH needs to actively participate in the mining operations of the entities in which it has a stake by providing finance to these mining companies in return for the dividends it receives. This will promote sharing of risk between ZCCM-IH and its partners and above all, it will strengthen its voice in so far as Board decisions are concerned at the mining project level. While the size of the equity is important, it should be noted that the rights attached to the equity are crucial as these can be negotiated and strengthened through active participation in mining projects at financing and operational level.

When we talk about mining in this country, we usually narrow our conversation to large scale mining at the neglect of artisanal and small-scale mining. The latter presents itself as a sector that can be exploited to improve the livelihood of Zambians involved in mining. To achieve this, the government needs to provide an enabling environment. Currently, the artisanal and small-scale mining sector is faced with several challenges including an excessive tax burden, lack of access to finance, lack of basic technology to exploit mineral deposits, lack of education and training, and lack of geological information. These challenges need to be resolved if the mining sector is going to become a game-changer for Zambia.

As CTPD we expected the Government through the vehicle of artisanal and small-scale gold mining cooperatives to build the capacity of international reserves and increase the import cover from the current 2.3 months to even 4 months. However, this can only be attained if the problems facing the sector are addressed. In the 2021 budget, we have not seen any pronouncement that speaks to these challenges. For instance, the budget is silent on the issue of allocating more resources to the process of obtaining geological information. Investing in this exercise will aid in opening up more Gold deposits for exploration, increase national Gold production, alleviate poverty levels in communities hosting Gold reserves and induce macroeconomic stability by increasing the strategic reserves at the Bank of Zambia (BoZ). Although BoZ demands that Gold has to be 99.5% pure before it can be stocked as a reserve, CTPD wishes to reiterate that this will procrastinate the national development agenda because achieving this will require an industrial base to achieve this processing efficiency and capacity. We wish to guide the Government that we can begin buying less pure Gold and sell it on the international market for hard currency. This will go a long way in building the country's international reserves which will subsequently lead to more than the projected import cover of 2.5 months next year.

That notwithstanding, we wish to further guide that as the Government embarks on a journey to protect the vulnerable, that the livelihoods of local people living around the mines are safeguarded and enhanced through ensuring that a part mineral rent from these companies goes towards sustaining the livelihoods and indeed productive capacity of the local people in these areas.

This is it for this week. Look out for next week as we will be discussing due diligence in the Gold supply chain.

**About the Author**  
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*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
VICE-PRESIDENT Inonge Wina says it is not too late for a Commission of Inquiry into Privatisation because there is no timeframe in which government can fight a crime.

And Vice-President Wina says UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema cannot be singled out because he is not the only one who was involved in the privatisation process.

During Vice-President's question time in Parliament, Friday, Livingstone UPND member of parliament Matthew Jere asked Vice-President Inonge Wina whether or not the petition received by President Edgar Lungu was rightly timed or it was a witch-hunt.

In her response, Vice-President Wina said there is no time-frame in which to fight crimes committed many years ago.

“When crimes are committed Mr Speaker, there is no timeframe as to when certain actions should be taken to address those issues. So, the president will decide on when this commission of inquiry will be constituted. It is in his powers to put in place commissions of inquiry when certain things happen in the country. Mr Speaker, the privatisation issue is such a very serious matter that it has changed the whole landscape of economic life of this country. People have died in destitution out of depression. Now we have street children that we never had before prior to privatisation simply because of the manner in which we did away with our thriving parastatals that employed a lot of Zambians. And these Zambians lost out up to

# HH won't be singled out in privatisation inquiry, a lot were involved – Wina

today, some have not been compensated, some have died, and some are still languishing in poverty,” Vice-President Wina responded.

“So, to say that the timing is wrong, I do not believe that there is any time that is given to undertake these commissions of inquiries. In any case, this issue has been lingering, it has been there since 1994 up to day, which means that people are still aggrieved and want to find a final solution to this issue.”

And Vice-President Wina said she could not single out UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema because he was not the only one who was involved in the process.

“Mr Speaker, those that watched the clip of the matchers that went to State House and listened to their petitions, I do not remember them mentioning the name of an individual. What was presented to His Excellency the President was a plea to institute a commission of inquiry to look into the issue of the privatisation of government institutions that happened in the 1990s and in the early 2020s. Mr Speaker, I do not remember hearing the name of Mr Hakainde being mentioned in that petition. And the privatisation exercise, Mr Speaker, was undertaken by various institutions including individuals. And because there were so many, I cannot

see why we should single out one person according to the member of parliament who is seeking support for that individual. He was not the only one who was involved in the privatisation exercise,” Vice-President Wina said.

Meanwhile, when asked by Roan NDC member of parliament Joseph Chishala when government would pay former RAMCOZ employees their dues, she said the employees in question were suffering as a result of the same privatisation of state owned enterprises.

“The issue of RAMCOZ today and their sufferings is part of the privatisation exercise. This is what we have been saying that the institutions or companies that were given the mandate to advise government on the privatisation process and actually in participating in the privatisation should have should have taken the interest of Zambians at heart because what has happened is that some of the companies were mismanaged in the manner they were privatized. Some of the workers have lost out and RAMCOZ workers are some of these workers that have suffered at the hands of privatization. And the sooner we know more about what actually transpired, perhaps some remedies will be found to support or help people such as RAMCOZ employees. Mr Speaker, this is an issue that is so intricate. And we will

hear more I suppose when a commission of inquiry has been established,” Vice-President Wina said.

And when asked by Bweengwa UPND member of parliament Kasautu Michelo on why the issuance of NRCs process was discriminatory in Monze, Vice-President Wina said the process was dependent on logistics on the ground.

“There is no discrimination whatsoever when it comes to issuance of NRCs. If the lines are long in certain areas, it really depends on the logistics on the ground and how much the officers can handle that day. But to insinuate that people are being discriminated against in one province is not fair. The ministry [of home affairs] is doing its best under the current circumstances to ensure that every Zambian who desires to have an NRC is provided with that NRC. And this is what is happening even in Monze, the area that the MP is mentioning in his question. On online voter registration, I believe that this issue is still in the courts of law. So, I cannot say much on that one but only to say that we have to move with the times. But ECZ is also addressing the issue of registration under the new normal using digital platforms,” Vice-President said.

Lumezi Independent MP Pila Jere then asked her to clarify on rumors that the USAID had heavily funded government to facilitate LGBT education in schools under



the auspices of comprehensive sexual education.

In her response, Vice-President Wina said government would constitute a multi-sectorial technical working group to understand operational and the functional gaps in the existing sexual education framework before communicating the next course of action.

“The rumors that circulate on social media in our country are so many including the big debate on sexual education. Honorable members will remember that the comprehensive sexuality education framework was introduced in 2013 as part of the revised Zambia education curriculum. Overtime, the society feels that the framework should be subjected to a review and that is what is causing all this discussion. To address these concerns, government is to constitute a multi-sectoral technical working group in conjunction with the Ministry of National Guidance and Religious Affairs, the UN family and many more, to understand the existing operational and the functional gaps in the framework and consequently advise government on the next course of action,” she said.

Asked by Chitambo PF MP Remember Mutale on


allegations by the opposition that the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) was planning to rig the 2021 elections, Vice-President Wina said such rumors were being spread by those fearing to lose the election.

“The allegations being leveled against ECZ are mainly to prepare Zambians' minds that if some political parties lose elections in 2021, they will say ‘we told you’ when in fact it's a fallacy. Mr Speaker, these are sentiments meant to undermine the integrity of the Electoral Commission of Zambia to conduct free and fair elections. And as government, we feel saddened when we see democratic institutions being weakened for political expediency. Mr Speaker, Institutions such as the ECZ are the visible pillars of our constitution and democracy. And if they crack, then the idealism of constitutionalism cannot hold. Therefore Mr Speaker, the answer is not to destroy what we have built but strengthen and perfect our institutions such as ECZ so that they become more stronger than before. Institutions are guardians of our liberty and we should nature them and strengthen them so that our democracy can thrive,” said Vice-President Wina.

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SO much has been said about the call for application and the recruitment exercise going on at the Ministry of Defence. The corruption and nepotism in the selection process is one thing to talk about and the academic qualifications required is another. Indeed, demanding for 12 points from high school graduates wishing to join the military is a little less than realistic. If a person who finished grade 12 with 13 points cannot find a job in the Zambia National Service, it means we are creating an unemployment volcano that will explode in our faces.

What is worse is that having 12 points or below is no guarantee for selection in this recruitment process. There is another hurdle that our desperate youths have to overcome, which is corruption and nepotism. The recruitment process in the defence force is always marred by corruption, nepotism, tribalism

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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were once pilots and doctors in their heads when they were in High School. If recruitment comes up in the Police Service, they will do anything to be picked.

Life is too hard to stick to the career you want. Firstly, even if you are ambitious, your grade 12 results will knock you out of contention for your career. Even if you are an academic genius, your good grades may present you an opportunity to go to college or university, but there will be no one to pay for your tertiary education. And in an event that you are lucky to sail past those initial huddles, you will now face the wrath of corruption and nepotism in the employment industry.

So it's almost impossible to be what you want to be in this country. That is why you have people who wanted to be lawyers ending up as farmers, nurses are reporting news, while soldiers are injecting patients – you can tell from the bad temper.

# The scramble for military recruitment

and regionalism.

Finding a job in the army is not as easy as being physically fit or having good grades. It's about who knows who. It's about knowing someone who knows someone. If the army is looking for 30,000 recruits, by the time the advert appears in the paper, only 30 per cent of the positions are available. By the time the call for application is made, 10 per cent of those military vacancies have already been filled by nieces, nephews and girlfriends to the generals. Then comes the party in

power which also takes up 30 per cent of the positions. State House and Ministers also want spaces for their relatives. Before that favouritism curtain closes, the rich and elites of society also want places for their relatives, so they go ahead and buy the remaining vacancies.

But other than the unrealistic demand for top qualifications and the corruption in the recruitment process, it is the scramble for recruitment that speaks volumes about the state of unemployment in this country. This scramble in the recruitment

process shows that government has not created jobs in the country. This is a sign that the politicians who are running government are far from satisfying the employment needs.

This scramble for employment also tells us that there is no more choosing a career in this country. In Zambia today, career prospects don't really work unless you were born in a rich family that can control your destiny and make sure that you get the job that you always dreamed of. For an ordinary citizen who finishes Grade 12, the future is completely

uncertain. Within a year of joining society, reality dawns and all dreams are shattered! You have to forget about whatever career you were telling your teacher and parents. If you are lucky, you get it, if not, you go with the wind.

At one point in life, we all said we wanted to be doctors, engineers, presidents, lawyers, pilots and all those fancy jobs, but circumstances dictate a totally different destiny. These labourers we see burning in the sun, crushing stones and digging drainages for Chinese contractors,

## Crossword puzzle No 704

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

*“If a tree’s strength is judged while it is still a seed, it is mistaken as weak.”*  
*- Idowu Koyenikan*

Across

1. Salad dressing choice  
4. Vase  
6. Loafer  
7. Prepared  
8. Programmer's output  
9. Long grand story  
12. Unearthly  
14. Mountain peak  
16. Brink  
17. Special snack

Down

1. Plunder  
2. Drifter  
3. Not soft  
4. Mex. neighbor  
5. Timberlake's old band  
8. Hoot and holler  
10. Orchard fruit  
11. Relax  
13. Grog ingredient  
15. Poker prize

## Crossword puzzle No 703

1	T	U	2	T		3	H	O	O	4	D
	R		5	R	I	C	E				U
	I			I			6	L	I	7	C
8	P	9	R	O	10	D		M			L
					11	R	Y	E			A
				A		A		12	13	T	A
15	B	R	A	G					W		M
	E				16	O	R	E	O		I
17	G	A	I	N					18	L	E



# Readers' Feedback

## Sunday's utterances on HH's 'alternative budget'

Editor,

“He did that last year. Did you consider it, no. The fact remains unchanged. You cannot bury your hole by digging another one next to it. Whom are you trying to impress? When you experience a contraction or recession, the natural response is to cut your appetite. A recession is a signal telling you to budget within your means, if you want to escape the hole. Unless you are telling us that even the means are not there”. - Mumba Mubanga

“Even if HH was to provide an alternative budget,does the mwankole crew ever take any of his freely offered advice seriously? Isn't this the same chief tribalist who calls him bitter? Wen did a bitter person ever offer sound advice mwebantu? Now that the things he warned u on several occasions against implementing have come to haunt your evil house u want to start listening to him? Sober up u corrupt gang and face the stinking mess u created. So shameful leadership!” - Kelvin Mwiinga

“Among the things that has made the PF not to perform is their media team, because where they are suppose to listen the respond. They don't listen to anything, even when there were on borrowing spree, Sunday Chanda was there defending and hiding real figures of our debt. For him as long as you the opposition, whether you say the truth and give solutions, the will attack just feed his belly. He knows that we are in a mess but his brain is now in the belly”. - Dennis Tyson Phiri

“Sunday must come back to Earth. How much more advice do you want from him? He has given you so much advice so much so that had you listened to him instead of deriding him as a bitter and jealous person, this country would have been on a completely different economic trajectory. Even as late as today, he has given you advice which you keep on disregarding and contemptuously pour scorn on because it comes from a “bitter and jealous” man. As far as an alternative budget is concerned, what is the point of casting pearls before swine? They will never appreciate them”. - Kanyata Mubita

## Lungu on it's a matter of time before he constitutes privatisation inquiry

Editor,

“Double standards yeke yeka. When Pilato, B Flow and team wanted to peacefully demonstrate on poor governance, they were threatened with death and we saw how police armoured vehicles flooded the streets of Lusaka. Yet these other chaps petitioning the probe into privatisation of companies in the MMD era have been well received at state house? Some people were just not fit to lead this great country. They have taken us 20 years aback!” - Edward Mapulanga

“And this is being pursued by a government already in the red. Those individuals sitting on this inquiry will be claiming for sitting allowance, the joke of it!!! All this done on political stupidity. What about you mr president and your sudden wealth, the one that has rendered the economy of Zambia into a Junk economy. Yours should be the first to institute. A 30 year history privatisation has not made the Kwacha to plummet to these levels no. You going to your bond holders for mercy is not due to privatisation no. Are you for real mr? Naimwe bamushanina bwali bwa beans, demonstrating for what. Just sad sad!” - Mary Taguma Bilsborough

“God is being unfair to us! How much more punishment does he want us to endure? Those who voted for PF atleast the majority have repented. This is too much, instead of dealing with the plunder of our resources currently, he is busy pre occupied with how to jail HH. The economy in in free fall, poverty is high, youth unemployment is extremely high, all he thinks of is hanging on to power! God please just clear them, if not make them run mad! This is too much!!” - Che Guavara

“Time waster if there is an inquiry that we need is how someone who swindled a client ended up being a President when he was a lawyer and how the euro bond was utilized as most of the companies that benefited ended up with no means to repay the loans as the money was looted by PEP's leading us to be in a debt trap.

We also need an inquiry to establish why a country that was growing at 7.5% ended up in a recession growing at -4.5% and the kwacha losing value from K6.8 in 2015 to K20 in 2020”. - Noritah Mwanza

## ‘ECZ ought to have been registering voters beyond one month’

Dear editor,

“So what? Even if it was their recommendation, what have you been doing in the last 5years for you to come and give the electorates 1month to register? What sort of madness is this?” - Mumba Mubanga

“The recommendation isn't necessarily the issue. It is the timing, the time frame and the method of implementation that are the problem”. - Zuba Kayasha

“Recommended in 2016. In 2020 they give just 30 days to replace 11 years work”. - Scott Davis

“And the recommendations were that a new register be done in 30 days? #justasking”. - Mbinji Mufalo

“If this *likomendesheni* was made as far back as 2016, we can easily just as well wait for 2026 to implement it. Why panicking NOW to do it now less than a year before *erectio*ns?? This is *eggiezakytilly* what is raising people's suspicions. Nshindano, you are not a good liar. Please leave lying to the veteran nshima tweerkers like Boma Ni Lusambo”. - Daniel Maswahu



## Bondholders' rejection of Zambia's plea for delayed debt repayment

Editor,

“They have done well to reject, people should learn to respect their obligations. Where is the pomposity of Zambia is a sovereign state that we used to hear. The next time we are voting as a country humility is not the only qualification but competence. The road ahead will be rough but Zambians can count on Bally in 2021, hope is on the way”. - Noritah Mwanza

“The Committee is only a contact point for the Zambian government with the actual creditors or Bond Holders who are not only diverse but harbour different interests. Forcing them to suspend payments will only make some of them to Dump the Bonds in the Secondary Market which to Zambia will be like jumping from the Frying Pan into the Ragging Fire as they will become more expensive or even double the amount due. We are now between a Rock and a Hard Place”. - Christopher Kalima

“Zambia has been cornered....These are situations which brought about privatization back in the day but we can't go that route because finshi twakwata.....buti ama sampo can go things collecting DUST...let's live within our means.” - Kc Lance Chan

“Rich Zambia resources and all debt money plundered by selfishness through construction and luxury by the very few individuals who are pleading for delayed debt repayment. Meanwhile, the currency continues to depreciate, inflation skyrocketing, triggering high cost of living on the part of ordinary citizens. Awe mwee! It's painful!” - Martin Nyanjagha

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

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*By Natasha Sakala*  
LUSAKA Province Minister Bowman Lusambo says  
Zambians are being unfair when they say President Edgar Lungu has destroyed the country when he is only fixing the damage he found.  
Speaking when he addressed a rally in Chingola, Saturday, Lusambo said that it was harder to build something than it was to destroy.  
“President Edgar Lungu found things destroyed, what he is doing now is fixing. And as you know, fixing is harder than destroying. Look at this gentleman, if you ask him, you will hear that he was born in 1989 but he can be destroyed in one minute. So what we want is to build our country, Zambia, we don’t want lies. For us as a mobilization committee, we have brought you a message of hope. The way the country was destroyed and the way it is today, there is a difference, we see how development is moving in this country. So lying that President Edgar Lungu is the one who has destroyed the country is unfair of you as Zambians,” Lusambo said.  
Lusambo, who spoke in Bemba, urged miners to refrain from being dependent on mining and explore agriculture.  
“The other thing the President has sent me to tell you

# Lungu hasn’t destroyed Zambia, he’s fixing the mess he found – Lusambo

is that let us change our mindset, let us think of farming, minerals get depleted. There are countries that don’t have copper but they are wealthier than us. So we urge you to also venture into agriculture,” he said.  
He said the delay in the selling Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) was caused by travel interruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, claiming that the new buyers were unable to travel.  
“The President has sent us to tell you the people of Chingola that what keeps us here is the mine, what keeps us is KCM. When you complained, the President heard but he is asking for some time. The liquidator in KCM came and the President did not lie about the promises he made to you. You know, the world was locked down, even as we speak, the world is still locked down. The people who were supposed to come and buy the mine, they can’t travel at the moment. As you can see, everywhere we go we have to be masked up, we can’t even recognise each other. So give him some time, when you do that, he will come and make sure that the KCM transaction is completed. And for those who work for KCM, when the transaction is done, all the workers, before they join the new company, we shall pay them all their benefits. We will pay all of them and there will not be even one employee who will be left out,” said Lusambo.  
“The other thing is that, I want to let you know that I have heard you saying that suppliers and contractors at KCM are coming from Lusaka, is that true? For us as the mobilisation committee, we will not allow Lusaka people to and get jobs for the people of Mufulira, for the people of Chingola, for the people of Chililabombwe, we won’t allow that. We will make sure that we speak to our colleague Milingo [Lungu], so that we tell him how we will proceed going forward.”  
He further urged Chingola residents to register as voters

## Sata’s death, COVID-19 slowed down completion of infrastructure projects – Mwale

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
HOUSING and Infrastructure Development Minister Vincent Mwale says a number of unplanned events have affected the completion of certain projects of Zambia.  
Mwale was responding to a question from Luena UPND member of parliament David Kundoti, who wanted to find out why a number of projects across the country had stalled.  
“May I know, has there been some financial planning, and if they have been financial planning towards these projects, why are we seeing these projects stalling, like not just in Chipili (District), but almost nationwide? Limulunga is one of them. The new district projects, houses are stalled. All I want to know is, if ever there was financial planning and money was set aside for these projects, why have they stalled?” questioned Kundoti.  
Earlier, Chipili Independent member of Parliament Jewis Chabi asked Mwale when the construction of the district administration block, civic centre and post office would be completed in the district and what had caused the delay in completing the projects.  
But Mwale explained that a number of unplanned events, such as the passing of late president Micheal Sata, had affected the completion of these projects.  
“Definitely, there have been plans, government presents a budget every year, which is a financial plan of what it intends to achieve in a particular year. In fact, we do have a Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) that gives us room and plans for three years. But Mr Speaker, we have had a lot of unplanned events that have happened in this country that affected our plans. We never expected to have a loss of the Head of State and have a national funeral, which then led into an unplanned election. We ended up having elections in two years, two elections in 2015, 2016,” Mwale replied.  
“Then, we also had a drought in this country, which affected our power production, we had to import power at a huge cost. So, within the last seven years, this country has seen so many unplanned events that have cost us a lot of money. Now, we are looking at COVID-19. Mr Speaker, so many things have happened in this country in the last eight years that have really affected our plans and that is why we find ourselves in this position. Mr Speaker, all things being equal, we should have completed these structures a long time ago and I think this time we could be looking at new ones.”  
He, however, outlined that despite the delayed completion of certain projects, government had registered success in developing the country’s infrastructure.  
“However, even though we have had this situation, we have seen ourselves achieving a number of things. We have a number of successes and also, we have issues that we are still dealing that we will be able to deal with. Not all has been lost and this government has done its best and that is why people continue showing confidence in us. There is improvement on many of these projects that we have in the districts. Some 12 months ago were at 70 per cent, and are now at 95 per cent; some which were 30 per cent are about 60 per cent and that is why I have given a timeline of December because I am very hopeful that the progress that we are making will see us through. And by December, we should have most of these projects handed over to people to use. We have been tracking projects, year-by-year, and it is very significant,” said Mwale.

# UPND has outlived its usefulness – Sunday

*By Julia Malunga*  
PATRIOTIC Front media director Sunday Chanda says UPND has lamentably failed to present a viable alternative vision and plan for the country.  
And Chanda says citizens can have confidence that the ruling party under President Edgar Lungu is better equipped to address the problems distressing the country, such as fighting corruption at all levels and lowering the cost of living.  
In a statement, Sunday, Chanda stated that the opposition UPND had outlived its usefulness.  
“We are not malicious in saying that the current largest opposition political party has lamentably failed to present a viable alternative vision and plan for the country. Instead, it has invested in falsehoods, fake news, while championing bitterness, tribalism and regionalism. The UPND has outlived its usefulness and exhausted the shelf life, unless they can retire its fatigued crop of leaders and open doors for new entrants. Unfortunately, the masses of our people do not trust the current crop of Opposition in Zambia as it is incapable of offering solutions and providing alternatives,” Chanda stated.  
“Citizen’s trust in the Opposition is at its lowest for many reasons, such as a failure to show why they would be better than Zambia’s number one (1) party of choice, the Patriotic Front. One of Zambia’s oldest Opposition Parties, the United Party for National Development (UPND), has failed to present alternative economic and development policies. Further, Zambians have called into question UPND leader’s honesty and integrity as well as his lack of experience.”  
He stated that the PF was unstoppable in its

transformative agenda of turning Zambia into a prosperous and middle income country by 2030.  
“PF remains grateful to the Zambian people for the continued support informed by the massive development evident in all ten provinces of Zambia. PF’s development agenda, coupled with His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu’s transformational leadership, has seen the country’s landscape changing for the better, even in the face of global warming and in recent times, the COVID-19 pandemic. PF is unstoppable in its transformative agenda of turning Zambia into a prosperous and middle income country by 2030 and a developed country by 2064,” Chanda stated.  
“PF is aggressively working hard to reposition Zambia as the region’s economic hub by investing in the five pillars identified in the Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP) namely: economic diversification and Job Creation, poverty and vulnerability reduction, reducing developmental inequalities, enhancing human development, creating a conducive governance environment for diversified and inclusive growth.”  
He stated that citizens could have confidence that the ruling party, under President

Lungu, was better equipped to address the problems bedeviling the country.  
“PF’s deliberate investment in infrastructure development is, without doubt, repositioning Zambia from being a landlocked to a land-linked country. With this transformation, Zambia should maximise its geographical location as the economic hub for the region. PF is too strong on the ground because it is a movement of the people, for the people and by the people. PF’s strength lies in the common man, the peasants, the working class, the students, the poor, the youth and women, including our differently abled brothers and sisters who all share in the hope for a better Zambia as captured in the ruling Party’s grand vision as pronounced in its 2011-2016 and 2016-2021 election manifestos, Seventh National Development Plan and Vision 2030,” stated Chanda.  
“With PF’s experienced and capable leadership, citizens can have confidence that the ruling party under President Lungu is better equipped to address the problems bedeviling the country; such as; fighting corruption at all levels, lowering the cost of living and commodity prices, pushing back the frontiers of poverty, creating jobs, building roads, hospitals, schools, and improving health, among others.”

**2021 polls could be marred by violence if govt doesn’t act on Inquiry – AVAP**  
He said there was need for Zambians to go to the next polls in a peaceful environment.  
“We want to see a situation where this problem is resolved. Political parties are key stakeholders and they are the ones that were very much cited in the report. We want to advise the government that, let us come to the table and start addressing those issues now because a repeat of that will not help this nation. It will see this country divided. It won’t help this country. We want to see a situation where the police, political leaders and all stakeholders are engaged and point out these issues that came out from that report so that the recommendations that were made must be addressed. We need to go to the polls in a very peaceful environment,” Mulwani said.  
He, however, cautioned that if the issues raised in the report remained unresolved, it would encourage those who were previously cited to repeat their violent actions ahead of next year’s polls.  
“The hate language that was used during the campaigns, the tribal sentiments, the violence that was

ignited as a result of all those issues that were highlighted are very important and they need to be addressed, and the time is now. We don’t need to go to the polls with past pain and anguish where people are breathing fire and are sitting on the volcano! We want to see a situation where people can greet each other, campaign together and live in harmony, and where those that lose can accept defeat in a fair and transparent manner. In other countries, this is what has caused a lot of problems because political leaders are not able to sit together. So, as AVAP, we are worried that if these issues are not addressed, surely, it will compel those people to repeat the same thing because we have not seen any punishment that has been given to those that were involved,” said Mulwani.  
“If this violence is not addressed, I don’t expect people to go and vote because they can’t withstand the pressure that they see when cadres are up in arms. Voters would rather distance themselves by staying in their homes. Imagine, we have the disabled who cannot run, expectant mothers and so on who cannot run for safety. That is going to be a very unfortunate situation because we are known to be a very peaceful country. We need a higher voter turnout without any violence.”  
The Commission of Inquiry into Voting Patterns and Electoral Violence revealed that PF deputy secretary general Mumbi Phiri, among other high-profile political players, influenced voting patterns by campaigning, adopting candidates and organising party structures on tribal and regional lines prior to the 2016 general election.  
It also revealed that the regional voting patterns and violence that characterised the 2016 presidential and general election was necessitated by a number of factors, including influence of traditional leadership and the use of hate speech perpetrated by Phiri and then-PF deputy spokesperson, Frank Bwalya, who is now Zambia’s High Commissioner to Australia.



THE Kop faithful will be familiar with the Zambian forward, as he scored twice against the Reds during their pre-season friendly game against each other in Austria before the start of the 2020/21 campaign.

Twitter account Sergi Dunez claimed on Saturday that Liverpool have opened talks with the Austrian Bundesliga champions regarding a possible move to the Premier League for Daka, since Rhian Brewster has gone to Sheffield United and Xherdan Shaqiri looks to be following him out of the exit door of Anfield.

While the credibility of the claim is not clear, this is not a new rumour, as sources in Zambia stated that Liverpool were the favourites to land Daka earlier this summer, competing with Manchester

# Liverpool fans gush over rumours of interest in Patson



United and Arsenal for his signature.

Daka has been sensational for Salzburg since his arrival, scoring 43 goals and providing 18 assists from 89 appearances for the club (as per TransferMarkt), with his brace against Jurgen Klopp's side further confirming their admiration for the Zambia international. [footballtransfertavern.com](http://footballtransfertavern.com)

Sergi Dunez @S...

· Oct 3, 2020

Liverpool have opened talks with Salzburg for forward Patson Daka. Brewster sold, Shaqiri leaving Liverpool. #LFC

pooldagr8

@StrydomMarnus

If this is true I'm done!!! This guys is a hidden star bookmark it

## Wada places confidence in Numba

**By Ngosa Chalwe**

FORMER Zanaco and Zesco United coach Wedson Nyirenda has said he has no doubt that Mumamba Numba will improve the Levy Mwanawasa side.

Last month, Zesco announced Numba as head coach to replace George Lwandamina ahead of the new season.

Nyirenda, who coached Numba during his playing days at Zanaco, described the former midfielder as a well groomed coach.

"I think Numba is coming from the University of Football. He is coming from my hands, I have been with him. He has passed through these hands and every coach who has passed through these hands

has gone on to do great wherever they have gone," Nyirenda, who who is now Lusaka Dynamos coach, said.

He said he had no doubt in Numba's quality.

"Numba is a great coach, I have no doubt he will carry out a great job at Zesco United, he is a disciplined coach, he loves winning, he is a demanding coach and for me, I have no doubt he fits in at Zesco very well," Nyirenda said. "I think Zesco have a philosophy from a long time that we left there and it has carried on and they have improved on it with coach George Lwandamina and I think with Numba in place with coach Noel Mwandila, I think they are going to do so well."

Jaziz

@jaziz1989

Replying to @SergiDunez

I really hope this is true...but even if it's not it gives something to look forward to on deadline day

2:30 PM · Oct 3, 2020

## FM TRAVELLERS /MAGODI LODGE LTD

Just arrived is a 32 seater luxury business class coach that includes a coffee making machine and a toilet inside with an excellent aircon facility. The business bus has been scheduled to depart from both Lusaka and Livingstone at 08:00 from Monday to Friday and Saturday Sunday it will be scheduled at the same time from Lusaka to Kitwe.

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# DAKA, MWEPU TO MISS ZAMBIA FRIENDLIES

**By Ngosa Chalwe**  
COVID-19 fears have ruled Austria-based striker Patson Daka and teammate

Enock Mwepu out Zambia's three international friendly matches after their club, RB Salzburg, cancelled

international travels for its players.

Yesterday, Salzburg announced that three unnamed players failed a Coronavirus test after their UEFA Champions League match against Israeli side Maccabi Tel - Aviv last week.

Consequently, the rest of the team will go into group quarantine while the affected players have been sent into self-isolation.

"The first corona test after the UEFA Champions League play-off match against Maccabi Tel-Aviv has shown that three players of FC Red Bull Salzburg have a positive test result. These players, all currently without symptoms, have immediately gone into quarantine and will be absent for the Bundesliga

match against TSV Prolactal Hartberg. In accordance with the COVID-19 prevention concept, the Bundesliga, the Austrian Football Association and the responsible health authority were informed," the statement read in part.

"The rest of the team goes to team quarantine according to this prevention concept. In concrete terms, this means that they are only allowed to move between their homes, the training location or the match venue. Contact beyond that is not envisaged. Of course, the frequency of checks will also be increased in the near future."

The club has also banned players from honouring national team call ups for the next two weeks.



Patson Daka



Enock Mwepu

"Furthermore, all national team invitations of FC Red Bull Salzburg players for the next two weeks have to be cancelled," the statement concluded.

This means Mwepu and Daka, who are key members of the national

team, will not travel to play in the team that will face Malawi, Kenya and South African next week.

Micho is using the games to prepare Zambia for the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers against Botswana next month.

## Kashikishi warriors living their dream - Katumbi

**By Tim Zulu**

NEWLY-PROMOTED Kashikishi Warriors president Abraham Chinyanta Soriano Katumbi says it is not by any fluke that his team has qualified to the Eden University League because his was a project that started a few years back with a lot of ambition.

He said because of that preparation, it is just right for them today to breath the dream of their long term planning.

"First of all, it took us three good years to camp these boys, 40 of them in one place, because we knew what we wanted and our song since then has been to be the best team not only in Zambia but in Africa as a whole. As it stands, I can ably assure you that our next target is to be Eden League Champions at the first asking, whether they like it or not and no team in Eden stands any chance of picking any points at our home ground, that I can assure you. Just watch the space and from there, our next main objective will be

to play African football," Katumbi said.

"I can promise and assure the nation that this will be the first team in Zambia to win the African Club Champions league, come what may."

When asked how financially capable his team was in fulfilling long trip fixtures, the flamboyant Soriano, who is the elder brother to Congolese Club Monsters TP Mazembe magnet Moise Katumbi, said that will be just like a drop of water in the lake.

"We are aware of what it means to play in the Eden University National Division One League where distance is concerned but the fact is, we are here and more than equal to the task at hand," Katumbi said.

"We have already in place our stadium called Mwaimwena and the name itself tells you what to expect and how organized we are, given what we have been doing in the background in line with we our set out objectives. So for me, I am going to work very hard

and invest massively in this team."

And Speaking on the Eden Saturday Football show biz, team spokesperson Lesley Mulwanda said playing in the Eden National league would be a great blessing to the town and province at large.

"Kashikishi will never be the same as we expect an upswing of businesses in the area such as accommodation, transport and all that. Remember, teams will come here and lodge so business people need to take advantage of this opportunity and if anything, increase the accommodation capacity," said Mulwanda.

The Luapula Province based side that beat Luena Buffaloes of Kaoma 2-1 in a tense make or break final group B playoff match to join Konkola Blades, City of Lusaka and Livingstone Pirates last Friday at Lilayi grounds, went into a frenzy after the final match and their celebration showed how much they wanted the win.

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