



# We finally have the numbers, claims PF 10 UPND MPS WILL VOTE FOR BILL 10

## There's no dictatorship in Zambia - Wynter

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

RAINBOW Party general secretary Wynter Kabimba says there is no dictatorship in Zambia and that those preaching about it should read researched works about how dictatorial regimes treat their people.

And Kabimba says he has

no emotions regarding NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili's imprisonment because the former is neither his friend nor his relative.

Speaking on the People's Debate on Pan-African Radio, Monday, Kabimba argued that there was no dictatorship in the country.

"Sometimes I hear people saying, 'oh, there is dictatorship in this country!' Have you ever lived under a dictatorship? Go and read Chile under Pinochet. Go and read. Read books. Don't just come to Pan-African Radio and read a small newspaper on the street. Go and read researched works. Read about Chile under Pinochet, and then you will know what a dictatorship is. Read about Brazil under a military dictatorship from 1964 to 1987. Read about the dictatorial regimes in Latin America and you will come to learn what dictatorship is. Go and acquire knowledge. Read about Chile under Pinochet where as we are seated here, you and I, the listeners there would just hear this programme coming to an end because you and I would have been picked up by Chilean police and we would disappear..."

Story page 4

## UPND to seek international intervention on police brutality

Story page 10

By Julia Malunga

KABWE Central PF member of parliament Tutwa Ngulube says Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 will go through with the help of some UPND members of parliament.

Last week, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Jack Mwiimbu said PF was delaying

to table Bill 10 for second reading because they were still looking for numbers.

But in an interview, Ngulube said Mwiimbu was speaking out of ignorance, claiming that actually, there were 10 UPND MPs who would support Bill 10.

He insisted that the ruling party had attained the

threshold to pass the Bill.

"Jack Mwiimbu behaves like he is not a lawyer. Any bill meant to amend the Constitution, before it comes on the floor of the House, it must be gazetted. If you read Article 79 of the Constitution, we are just following what is in Article 79. If you look at the period..."

Story page 2

## Kambwili gets K100,000 bail

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba has finally granted NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili K100,000 cash bail, with two working sureties from reputable institutions to be bound in the like sum.

The total amount is therefore K300,000.

But Kambwili's lawyer, Musa Mwenye State Counsel, says they are extremely unhappy about the stiff conditions, adding that K300,000 is a lot of money for a person of fixed abode.

By 15:00 hours, Monday, Kambwili who has been held at

Kamwala Remand Prison had not yet met his bail conditions and was still in custody.

Some of his supporters were still waiting for his release outside Kamwala Remand Prison at the said time.

On October 14, this year, magistrate Simusamba convicted and sentenced Kambwili to 12 months imprisonment with hard labour on charges of forgery and uttering a false document.

Story page 7

## Only 75,000 register online to vote

By Ulande Nkomesha

THE Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) says it is ready to start the mobile voter registration exercise which is expected to commence on Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

Story page 4



**Mobile Voter Registration**  
REGISTER TO VOTE IT'S YOUR RIGHT

If You Do Not Register You Won't Be Able To Vote In The 2021 General Elections

28th October- 30th November

**1**  
DAYS LEFT  
To Mobile  
Voter Registration

**Home of investigative journalism in Zambia**



# 10 UPND MPs will vote for Bill 10 – Tutwa



**By Julia Malunga**  
KABWE Central PF member of parliament Tutwa Ngulube says Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 will go through with the help of some UPND members of parliament.  
Last week, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Jack Mwiimbu said PF was delaying to table Bill 10 for second reading because they were still looking for numbers.  
But in an interview,

Ngulube said Mwiimbu was speaking out of ignorance, claiming that actually, there were 10 UPND MPs who would support Bill 10.  
He insisted that the ruling party had attained the threshold to pass the Bill.  
“Jack Mwiimbu behaves like he is not a lawyer. Any bill meant to amend the Constitution, before it comes on the floor of the House, it must be gazetted. If you read Article 79 of the Constitution, we are just following what is

in Article 79. If you look at the period that was made, it was less than 30 days from the time Parliament opened. The Constitution requires that 30 days before a bill is on the floor, it must be gazetted. So Jack Mwiimbu is a paralegal, he doesn't understand most of these things, he wants to expose his ignorance. Remember, the UPND were saying that 'Bill 10 is dead, it will not be on the order paper' so if it is dead why are they now looking for it?  
He himself told his people that Bill 10 can never be brought back on the floor of the House, how come they are now asking when the bill will come, why are they so scared?” Ngulube asked.  
“The PF right now as we are speaking, we have the threshold to pass Bill 10. We have 110 MPs, the PF has 90 MPs, 8 nominated, three MMD, one FDD and 11 Independent and 10 UPND MPs. That is giving you more than one third. We can't tell you the UPND MPs but you know them. You will see them when we vote, those who are principled, those who know that the bill is about the country and not about Hakainde (Hichilema). Hakainde is so scared of Bill 10 because he thinks it is going to block him from becoming president, it is not Bill 10 that will block him, it is the people. So all those games they are trying to play, trying to accuse people will not work.  
Ngulube said PF was working with other progressive parties to pass the bill.  
“As far as we are concerned, as PF, we alone cannot pass Bill 10, we have to work with other progressive political parties and that is why you see when they were saying 'we don't have numbers' they were speaking out of ignorance until they learnt. Even at the National Dialogue Forum (NDF), there were 17 UPND MPs who attended with us, those who defied Hakainde's orders. The UPND themselves want more constituencies, they want delimitation, they want a lot of things from Bill number 10 but they don't want Bill 10 so how is it going to happen? They don't want the bill but they want the benefits from the bill, it is a contradiction,” said Ngulube.

## New IMF country rep won't sway Funds position on bailout package - Chibamba

**By Abraham Kalito**  
ZAMBIANS should not be too expectant of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) appointment of Preya Sharma as the country's new resident representative because her office does not carry much authority, says economist Chibamba Kanyama.  
The IMF recently named Sharma as its new representative to Zambia last week two years after her predecessor, Dr Alfredo Baldini, was hounded out by government after he was considered as persona non-grata back in 2018.  
Commenting on the much-awaited appointment, however, Kanyama observed that the office of the IMF country representative did not carry much authority as to sway the Fund's position on Zambia and its enormous debt and fiscal challenges.  
Zambia's sovereign debt position is widely recognised as being unsustainable, with a huge fiscal deficit, missed debt interest repayments and a default projected on the horizon, all considered as major factors delaying the much-needed economic bailout package.  
“The appointment of Preya Sharma as the Resident Representative (ResRep) of the International Monetary Fund to Zambia may signal the Fund's increasing interest in the debt challenge facing the country. Since Alfredo Baldini was unceremoniously recalled in July, 2018, bondholders have been extremely anxious and this has not been helped by a couple of changes at the Mission Chief-level responsible for Zambia within the same time period at the IMF Headquarters in Washington DC,” Chibamba said in an interview.  
“Even if the appointment should be good news for government, investors and the IMF itself, we should, for now, not be over expectant about the impact the appointment will have over Zambia's debt situation. While a ResRep is crucial at a time like this one, the office does not carry that match authority as to tilt overnight the IMF position on Zambia and its debt. The ResRep has very

specific responsibilities and understanding them would be the best way of managing the IMF and its executive board.”  
He said it was vital for government to provide assurance of trust and mutual respect as it tried to negotiate with the Fund for the elusive bailout deal.  
“It is, therefore, important for government to maintain an open door policy and fully utilise the services of the ResRep through closed-door meetings to guide on government engagement with the Fund. Baldini has since been re-assigned, implying that as far as the IMF is concerned, he focused on the IMF mandate and it's important that as the new person comes, government should provide assurance of trust and mutual respect. To ensure that relations with the IMF are on higher ground and benchmarked on this trust, it's important for government to further accept that the ResRep will, from time to time, engage the wider public, including other political players, Civil

Society Organisations (CSOs), trade unions, academia and students,” he added.  
“It is a requirement by the Fund that these stakeholders be engaged on any matters of economic policy. Notwithstanding, the IMF has a refined diplomatic approach in engaging authorities and will always comply with clear instructions from their shareholder. I only advise that as Sharma takes office, there will be closed-door meetings so that both parties are clear of their expectations.”  
And he outlined that Sharma would ensure that the Fund's work would be sustained through continuous engagement with local authorities.  
“The Responsibilities include (1) maintaining a constructive dialogue with the Zambian authorities and providing technical advice on issues as they evolve; (2) reporting to headquarters on all relevant developments and policies in the country on a timely, regular and

systematic basis; (3) in case of a programme, assisting Fund missions in programme negotiations and reviews, as well as in Article IV Consultation discussions, including in the preparation of papers; (4) helping advance analytical work on key issues facing the country; (5) liaising with the World Bank and other multilateral and bilateral organisations providing financial and technical assistance to the country, and representing the Fund in related meetings,” said Kanyama.  
“Six, providing logistical support to and participate in country team missions, as well as facilitating requests of technical assistance missions from headquarters and the AFRITACs; and (7) conducting effective public relations work with Civil Society Organizations and the media. It is, therefore, very important to know how the IMF works and what the role of the Resident Representative is. The individual is the eyes and ears

of the IMF in the country and will not do or say anything that has not been authorised by the Fund.”  
Sharma's appointment, a special assistant to the director of the lender's Africa Department, comes after the Zambian government asked Dr Baldini to leave back in 2018, a move that marked a low point in Zambia's relations with the IMF.  
Sharma has not yet relocated to Lusaka due to travel disruptions amid the Coronavirus pandemic.  
Prior to joining the IMF in 2012, she was the head of emerging markets at the UK Treasury.  
Zambia had sought a loan from the Fund since 2016, but failed because of concerns over its excessive borrowing and unsustainable debt levels.  
The country is still in hot pursuit of a deal with the IMF for new financing under an economic programme, which the country's creditors see as a crucial step to restructure its US \$12 billion external debt.



Chishimba Kambwili's wife Carol speaks to his lawyers at Lusaka Magistrates Court yesterday – Picture by Tenson Mkhala



MEANWOOD FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

5 ACRE  
SMALLHOLDINGS  
FOR SALE

**MEANWOOD PARK - KITWE**  
About 1Kilometer from Mufuchani Bridge, Riverside  
**PRICE & PAYMENT OPTIONS**

|                 |                            |                             |                             |                             |                              |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>PRICE:</b>   | <b>30 DAYS</b><br>K200,000 | <b>3 MONTHS</b><br>K220,000 | <b>6 MONTHS</b><br>K240,000 | <b>9 MONTHS</b><br>K260,000 | <b>12 MONTHS</b><br>K280,000 |
| <b>DEPOSIT:</b> | <b>30 DAYS</b><br>K100,000 | <b>3 MONTHS</b><br>K50,000  | <b>6 MONTHS</b><br>K50,000  | <b>9 MONTHS</b><br>K60,000  | <b>12 MONTHS</b><br>K60,000  |

*\* Current plot pricing and payment options are subject to change*  
*NOTE: 1. MEANWOOD PARK IS AN ON-GOING PROJECT WITH SOME PLOT OWNERS UNDERTAKING HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ON THEIR PLOTS*  
*NOTE: 2. ALL PLOTS ALREADY HAVE INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATES OF TITLE*  
*NOTE: 3. SUBDIVISION OF PLOTS NOT ALLOWED*  
*NOTE: 4. MERGING OF PLOTS ALLOWED*  
**PROMOTION PRICE K160,000 CASH  
FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF PLOTS**  
**SALES ENQUIRIES**

**MEANWOOD OFFICE**  
Suite 207, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Mukuba Pension House, Kitwe  
Mobile: +260 964 727901, +260 964 727907  
Email:sales@meanwoodfinance.co.zm



**NKOSI HOUSING PROJECT**

Along the road to Chaminuka Lodge, near  
Kenneth Kaunda International Airport and  
Bonanza Golf Club  
The project is an ongoing prime and  
exclusive development with some property  
owners already living on Site  
**5 ACRES (20,000m<sup>2</sup>)**  
Price K800,000 - K1,000,000  
**FLEXIBLE PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY**

Plot 106, Great East road, Lusaka  
Phone: +260 972 002656, +260 979 547096  
Website: www.meanwoodproperty.com, sales@meanwoodproperty.co.zm





# There’s no dictatorship in Zambia – Kabimba

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**

RAINBOW Party general secretary Wynter Kabimba says there is no dictatorship in Zambia and that those preaching about it should read researched works about how dictatorial regimes treat their people.

And Kabimba says he has no emotions regarding NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili’s imprisonment because the former is neither his friend nor his relative.

Speaking on the People’s Debate on Pan-African Radio, Monday, Kabimba argued that there was no dictatorship in the country.

“Sometimes I hear people saying, ‘oh, there is dictatorship in this country!’ Have you ever lived under a dictatorship? Go and read Chile under Pinochet. Go and read. Read books. Don’t just come to Pan-African Radio and read a small newspaper on the street. Go and read researched works. Read about Chile under Pinochet, and then you will know what a dictatorship is. Read about Brazil under a military dictatorship from 1964 to 1987. Read about the dictatorial regimes in Latin America and you will come to learn what dictatorship is. Go and acquire knowledge. Read about Chile under Pinochet where as we are seated here, you and I, the listeners there would just hear this programme coming to an end because you and I would have been picked up by Chilean police and we would disappear. There are many relatives, today, in Chile who do not even know where the graves of their husbands, brothers, sisters, mothers, or fathers are. That’s a dictatorship,” Kabimba argued.

Kabimba, however, said police had made it difficult for opposition political parties to mobilise their members because they were trained to receive instructions.

“We think that the application of these restrictions is discriminatory and certainly not being applied in good faith.

It’s very difficult that every time you want to congregate, you must fight with the police and the health authorities and we are under one year before the next presidential election. We hope that the rules that have been put in place could apply to everybody, but they don’t seem to, unfortunately. So, we, as Rainbow Party, like many other opposition political parties are affected in this regard. Police are trained to take instructions. So, once they have been given instructions, they are hardly flexible. What we are hoping for is that this COVID-19 pandemic will actually slow down, become manageable even as we see a surge in numbers in other countries. Africa seems to be doing quite well in that respect. So, we are hoping that as we go along, we can see some kind of relaxed measures, which could allow people to assemble. But it is just a hope,” Kabimba said.

Kabimba said there was need for legislation to criminalise statements which had potential to plunge the country into civil strife.

“It is high time that pronouncements, which cannot be substantiated, should be criminalised. I am an advocate of that. And it is because they have the propensity of drifting this country into civil strife. We have never experienced civil strife in Zambia. We have never experienced a civil war in this country. And we have also not read about those countries that have drifted into civil war because of careless and reckless statements by politicians. So, statements like those must be curbed. And the way to curb them is to bring in a piece of legislation that clearly makes it an offense to make such pronouncements that, ‘political party A is colluding with ECZ to rig elections’ unless you have evidence. Where you have the evidence, you provide the evidence. Where you don’t have the evidence, the law must visit you because you are a bad

seed in the politics of the country and you can get this country into problems,” Kabimba said.

But Kabimba urged opposition political parties to work hard to defeat the PF next year.

“We must tolerate each other. That’s the only way we are going to build a democracy. And for me, I want to repeat myself that the only friend that I have is ‘Mr Truth.’ So, if you want to hear the truth, you will get it from me. And if it favours you, good, [but] if it is against you, too bad. There is nothing that I can do. I don’t have a factory where I can change truth into falsehood,” Kabimba said.

“So, I want to appeal to our colleagues in other opposition political parties [that] let’s just work in our opposition political parties and work hard. And if we do work hard, we can defeat PF in the 2021 elections just like the PF defeated MMD in 2011. I have been there and I know it can be done. Let us respect our institutions of governance. Let us respect the courts, let us respect

ECZ, let us respect the police, and let us respect all these institutions because they are part of the democratic process. In saying that, I am not saying that the men and women in those institutions are angels, no. They can make mistakes, but there are also avenues where their mistakes can be remedied if we have grievances. But I refuse to undermine these institutions. That is what I don’t want to be part of.”

Asked how he felt about Kambwili’s imprisonment, Kabimba said he was not moved about the former Roan PF member of parliament’s incarceration.

“I don’t have any emotions about it (Chishimba Kambwili’s imprisonment). I can’t express any emotions about it. Kambwili is not my friend, he is not my relative, so, I have no emotions about his imprisonment. If you remember when he was sick at CFB, I went and visited him. But if you want my honest comment about (his imprisonment), I don’t believe or let me put it this way...treason in Africa is often a political offence.

Treason in Africa is largely a political offence [but] forging a document cannot be a political offence,” he said.

Kabimba said there were several other avenues that Kambwili could use to appeal his conviction and that if he was innocent, the courts would vindicate him.

“Forging a document, when you append your signature falsely and utter that document that it has been signed by somebody who should have signed it is not a political offence. That’s a straightforward criminal offence. But the man is entitled to bail. He is entitled to an appeal and if the subordinate court was wrong, I am sure the High Court will set aside the conviction and a sentence. If the High Court upholds the judgement of the subordinate court, he still has a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal, and you can go up to the Supreme Court. So, like he, himself, has said that this is not the end of him, he has all these avenues. Again, institutions of governance, established under

our Constitution, and I have no doubt that if the NDC leader is innocent, he shall be vindicated by this process. But if he is not innocent, then the consequences will follow,” he said.

When asked why the Rainbow Party never participated in by-elections, Kabimba said participation in elections required strong foot soldiers to fight the electoral battle effectively.

“Participation in an election is like going to war. You only go to war if you know that you have got troops that are ready to fight on the ground. There is no need for you to attempt to go to war when you have weak soldiers or when the strength of your army cannot fight a war. We are very realistic in the Rainbow Party that unless we strengthen our mobilisation on the ground, until and unless we get to marshal numbers on the ground, there is no need for us to participate in a by-election, besides [that], our focus is on the 2021 presidential and general election. We continue to mobilise the party,” said Kabimba.

## 75, 000 have successfully pre-registered to vote online – ECZ

**By Ulande Nkomesha**

THE Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) says it is ready to start the mobile voter registration exercise which is expected to commence on Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

And the Commission says it has recorded 75,000 complete registrations on its online pre registration platform.

In an interview, Monday, ECZ acting public relations manager Sylvia Bwalya said the Commission had concluded all preparations for the commencement of the mobile voters registration.

“The Commission is ready, we conducted the training of trainers, then also the technical staff who are supposed to assist in

the field, they were also trained. The assistant registration officers skills training came to an end on Saturday. The Commission is set, we have been conducting publicity and voter education. We have voter education facilitators on the ground who are our foot soldiers that are going around sensitizing people on voter registration,” Bwalya said.

“We are using various platforms as well including social media TV radio and newspapers just to inform people about the voters registration exercise. So we are set. The Commission continues to engage the political parties and the doors are still opened for political parties to engage the commission.”

And Bwalya said 75,000 people had successfully pre-registered to vote.

“We have 75,000 complete applications and then we have 130,000 like those who have logged in like the users, so the total number of users is 130,000. Complete applications are 75,000. I think we are progressing, people are coming in, everyday we are getting an improvement. So it is not stuck, we are moving. So yes, we can do better and we can only encourage people to continue to pre register online because we are still not yet closed even if we are going to mobile voter registration. So they can still pre register online and then go to the physical registration center,” said Bwalya.





## Talking Business with Chibamba Kanyama

Chibamba Kanyama is founding partner of Bridges Limited; Corporate Leader; public speaker; communication specialist and strategist



...Only in **Diggers!**  
Ear to the ground

# Boards and Toxic Environments

ONE OF the challenges I faced as head of a public organization was containing a potentially destructive toxic culture. This is an environment where management fails to instill discipline among staff members because some of them enjoy privileges of access that you may not enjoy. That access could be to board members who will intervene to stop management from executing a decision. How the board came to know about administrative decisions made by management shocked quite a number of us.

It should be understood that as executive management, decision making is one of your core- pre-occupations. You make policies, strategic and administrative decisions that may not be very favourable to members of staff. When employees get wind of a decision, the next moment is a phone-call from your permanent secretary or board chairperson, 'MD, we understand you have decided to make some internal staff changes. Why was the board not consulted?'

**SELF-DESTRUCTION MODE:** In public institutions, the level of indiscipline, gossip, rumour mongering, fact-twisting, information peddling and general destructive behaviour is so deep one would think many companies are on a self- destruction mode. The real problem in all this is that board directors become the problem and not the solution. Some will deliberately seek information that may implicate the executive outside the normal reporting channels. They get this information from staff members who should not even be meeting board directors in the first place. When employees get disciplined by management, the employees run to board members to malign management. Some board members will entertain this behaviour.

There have been documented cases (one I mentioned in my earlier article) about how a manager who was transferred to another station had the board reverse the decision. The manager was not even part of management but had the support of the board to have the transfer reversed. This was done via an extraordinary board meeting, for one agenda item. The Board even ensured they helped the manager move back to the office before they left the premises. The board was in this case responsible for the growing toxic environment in the organization; creating a huge culture of mistrust and insubordination.

There are board members who are serious gossipers, using informal platforms to undermine their own management. It should be mentioned from the outset that the responsibility of the board is to provide oversight regarding the organization's environment for purposes of promoting a harmonious corporate culture and not to pollute the organization with dangerous toxins. By allowing a toxic culture to exist in an organization, we are accommodating and

injecting a poison that will be nearly impossible to eliminate. This eats at the core of good corporate governance.

**INCUBATION OF MISTRUST:** A toxic culture incubates mistrust among staff members and between management and the board. There are many executives who have lost jobs or been dismissed for simple infractions. Susan Keating, a high standing corporate executive writes as follows, 'a dysfunctional or toxic culture creates inefficiencies and underperformance across the organization. At worst, cultural blowups can damage a company's reputation with negative media coverage, put the organization in breach of laws and regulations, trigger lower productivity, and be very costly to resolve.'

But why are some board members found wanting as perpetrators of the same toxic environment they are supposed to eliminate? One of the reasons, and possibly most common, is that some board members have a private agenda to achieve. A newly appointed board chairperson of a statutory body in Zambia told colleagues at a private function, 'There is a lot of dirty going in there. I want to go and clean up the mess.'

This remark is based on a presumption. That is not how we deal with any such matters, let alone disciplinary matters. You cannot take over leadership of a board with a made-up mind that management is dirty. If this information was shared to you by appointing authorities, you will still have to establish the extent to which such a perception is true. Deciding what to do even before you have the facts at hand closes up your mind from listening and knowing the truth. Such a chairperson will usually manipulate the process to get the pre-determined answers.

I have met board members who seek out union leaders privately to make (false) accounts of what they may know of management. They privately talk to some disgruntled employees, some of them on disciplinary charges, to make impressions about management. When you get into any board with an agenda to sort out people based on what you have heard, you will most likely regret the decision shortly afterwards. You will have promoted a toxic environment because you failed to apply the right process in addressing any management failings. Every organization has its disciplinary code and board members are expected to follow it. Anything short of procedure is anarchy and the organization will hardly recover from the damage caused.

**DYSFUNCTIONAL BOARDS:** Another reason why board directors promote a toxic environment is because the board itself can be a toxic environment. There are boards that are dysfunctional; they are always fighting. There is a lot of power-politics in some of the boards. Before every board meeting, there are caucuses promoted by group dynamics.

We should understand that some board

members are appointed by shareholders in order to drive an agenda and as long as other 'neutral' members see no need to push for certain decisions, there will be conflict. If there is misalignment between what the board should do with regards to its mandate, roles and responsibilities on one hand, and what the board is actually doing in practice, a toxic environment emerges. Some board members will now seek to use their (political) muscle to force everyone into a decision.

Board members with such (political) influence are always known and at times feared by other board members as well as management. Whenever such directors irregularly muscle their way into decisions, even deciding on who among the members of management should be replaced, the whole work environment becomes less trusting. Managers begin to align themselves with this director with power. Employees equally begin to know where to go to whenever they are disciplined or unhappy with a simple executive decision.

I should admit that there are many underperforming CEOs in Zambia on account of a toxic environment deliberately promoted by the board. An insecure management is an insecure work environment. Whereas management wants to execute functions professionally, they will first need to think of the implications because the toxic environment shifts levels of allegiance from the professional to the unprofessional.

**NOSE IN, FINGERS OUT:** Keating provides beautiful advice on what boards should do when an organization's culture is becoming toxic, 'Directors need to prioritize scheduled discussions on culture. Typically, the role of a board director is summed up as: "nose in, fingers out" (i.e., oversight but not management). With culture issues, the role of the board is now to "nose in, nose in, nose in"—to look deeper, ask questions, and probe for details when something seems amiss.'

In other words, the board's duty is to promote a culture where there is mutual respect, harmony, teamwork and collaboration. Board members should not entertain employees who visit them at night to peddle lies. There should be an internal mechanism about how such information is captured, whistleblowing policy one of such mechanisms.

The role of the board in any organization is oversight and oversight and oversight. This oversight function is properly defined in the board charter. In other words, the organization itself and the executive management are responsible for creating and driving the culture. They work in it every day and feel its heartbeat. It is serious immaturity on the part of the board to be tiptoeing corridors of the organization eavesdropping about what is happening inside. Doing so is undermining decency and professionalism.



# IMPLICATIONS OF ZAMBIA’S FAILURE TO PAY DEBT

By **Hakainde Hichilema,**  
**UPND President**

**D**EFAULTING on loan repayments is a sign of economic mismanagement by the PF Government.

Despite our rich endowment, Zambia under Mr. Edgar Lungu and his team has become the proverbial thirsty man in a well full of water. With their attention firmly on arresting opposition leaders and their family members, the economy has collapsed, placing our country on the verge of becoming Africa’s first sovereign debt defaulter in recent times.

How did we find ourselves here? As usual, in their unconventional way of managing our country’s affairs, the PF continued lying that they had set aside a sinking fund to repay the Eurobonds. As they say, “time will tell”, and they couldn’t lie anymore. On May 28, 2020, they informed the world that they had hired Lazard Freres to advise on restructuring the \$11.0 billion debt. As now customary with the PF, full-on lies and economizing on the truth, on September 22, 2020, a few days before the national budget, they announced that in fact, the debt problem was more significant than they thought. They suddenly realized that they were not only going to have the challenge to repay the Eurobond lumpsum payments in post-2021, but they didn’t have the money to pay the Eurobond coupon interest payment that was due in less than one month. Therefore, they hastily requested a six-month debt service suspension.

A lot has happened since then. Zambians will remember that the investors immediately expressed unwillingness to support the request. Key and distressing milestones were to follow. On October 14, 2020, Zambia failed to pay \$42 million in debt service; and on October 20, 2020, the country was unable to constitute a quorum of our creditors to vote either to support or reject the request for suspension of debt service. We now have another chance for a vote on November 14, 2020. This date is significant to our economic standing. It is coincidentally, the same day that we would technically default if our creditors don’t support our debt service request suspension and we fail to pay the \$42

million. The Zambian people are asking what a default would mean for the country. Well, the full consequences are too ghastly to contemplate. First, we must realize that since the Argentina default in 2001, the international financial architecture and sovereign debt litigation has evolved. Now the principle of sovereign immunity no longer applies. Holdout creditors can sue, courts will rule in their favor, and can now attach sovereign assets for seizure. Examples include a case of dozens of hedge funds that sued Argentina in 2001. The holdout creditors litigated for full repayment and got a settlement of more than \$10 billion. Greece faced litigation in 2012 but settled out of court immediately, Republic of Congo in 2017 (a creditor pushed for default), Puerto Rico in 2016, and Ukraine on-going.

Second, defaults have the consequence of undermining the integrity and confidence held in a government. Credit rating agencies downgrade your status as a borrower and position and holdup creditors litigate. The ensuing litigation immediately blocks a country’s access to the international financial market. Zambia would not be able to source funds from the capital markets to repay the \$750 million Eurobond due in 2022 and would have to look to other sources to repay the amounts due. But who would lend to a disgraced borrower and if they do, at what cost? A loss of confidence in the economy would also result in a decline in foreign direct investment inflows. In countries that have experienced such calamity, creditors have recalled loans to the private sector as well. The Zambian private sector is exposed almost to the tune of \$16 billion. The ripple effects of all this would affect the exchange rate and the financial sector. In fact, just last week, the treasury bill bids attracted the lowest participation level in terms of the number of bidders and the value of offers.

We are an import-dependent country for nearly everything, including oil procurement for the country. Defaults and loss of confidence in the economy also affect international trade. For example, Zambia shall be required to pay upfront for all our imports, and no one will be willing to accept letters of credit issued by our financial

sector players. Just like individuals, the credit reference bureau will share our status as a delinquent debtor once we default. All this said, what is the solution? We must avoid a default at all costs by paying or ensuring we get support on our request for a six-month deferral of interest payments worth about \$120 million on the three Eurobonds. And, as UPND, we stand ready to work with all Zambians in resolving this matter. It is our firm belief that the following five requirements will unlock the support we need:

- (a.) to come clean and be transparent about Zambia’s total debt;
- (b.) provide clarity on how the Chinese loans will be handled;
- (c.) provide a clear roadmap on how we intend to service the debt and pay the principal amount after the six-month moratorium;
- (d) stop further reckless borrowing and restructure the existing debt; and
- (e.) obtain IMF support.

Transparency on our debt exposure means we have to provide a full picture of our public external debt, domestic debt, private debt by quasi-government institutions that are not publicly guaranteed (including that which is contracted by companies now owned by ZCCM IH and IDC), arrears to suppliers of goods and services to government and VAT refund exposure. All these are a contingent liability on the State. The full disclosure must cover the terms on which the debt was contracted, for example, interest rates and maturity profiles. This should have already been public information for the citizens who are the ultimate beneficiaries and debtors, but that is not the PF way. We also need to revise our 2021 budget as it is the tool that the country uses to manage its public finances. Our budget has significant gaps as we indicated in our earlier statement by the UPND on the budget and our creditors have expressed similar misgivings. Lastly, an IMF staff program though not supported by the IMF Board and comes without resources, is a good enough trajectory towards beginning to earn our credibility, creditworthiness, and a path to a full-fledged program.



*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
LUSAKA Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba has finally granted NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili K100,000 cash bail, with two working sureties from reputable institutions to be bound in the like sum.

The total amount is therefore K300,000.

But Kambwili's lawyer, Musa Mwenye State Counsel, says they are extremely unhappy about the stiff conditions, adding that K300,000 is a lot of money for a person of fixed abode.

By 15:00 hours, Monday, Kambwili who was been held at Kamwala Remand Prison had not yet met his bail conditions and was still in custody.

Some of his supporters were still waiting for his release outside Kamwala Remand Prison at the said time.

On October 14, this year, magistrate Simusamba convicted and sentenced Kambwili to 12 months imprisonment with hard labour on charges of forgery and uttering a false document.

He however, acquitted him on the other charge of giving false information to a public officer.

When the matter came up for hearing of Kambwili's application for bail pending appeal, Monday, Mwenye said Kambwili lodged his notice of appeal against his conviction and sentence on October 22, 2020.

He said Kambwili was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment with hard labour, adding that if bail was not granted, the period of the imprisonment might be fully served before his appeal could be heard.

"This is an application for admission to bail. The precondition for the application is that there is an appeal the has been lodged. The convict was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment with hard labour, if bail is not granted, the period of the imprisonment may be fully served before his appeal can be heard. With our calculations your honour, as of Wednesday this week, the accused person would have served 4 percent of the sentence. And this is just in this period that we have been chasing up the bail application," Mwenye said.

He, therefore, prayed that the application for bail pending appeal was granted, adding that Kambwili was not

# Simusamba grants Kambwili K100,000 cash bail

a flight risk.  
Mwenye said Kambwili was a citizen of fixed abode, and was able and willing to meet the bail conditions.

However, the State objected to Kambwili's application for bail pending appeal.

In his ruling, Magistrate Simusamba said Kambwili's conduct during trial in relation to abiding to the police bond was quite bad, adding that he would stiffen the conditions more so that Kambwili was now a convict.

He granted him K100,000 cash bail, with two working sureties in reputable institutions to be bound in the like sum of K100,000 cash, each.

"I have heard the application and the reasons that have been advanced to admit the convict to bail pending appeal. I have also considered the objection by the State. After a thorough consideration, I have come to the following conclusion. That is to say I will admit the convict to bail pending appeal. However, I note the conduct of the convict in relation to abiding to the police bond during trial. And I have come to a conclusion that it was quite bad. And on several occasions, I did threaten to revoke it. For that reason, I will stiffen the conditions more so that he is now a convict," magistrate Simusamba said.

"The following are

the conditions for bail. K100,000 cash bail. Two working sureties in reputable institutions to be bound in the like sum, that is to say of K100,000 cash each."

He adjourned the matter sine die.

But speaking after court, Kambwili's wife Carol said the bail amount was unreasonable.

"Very outrageous, unreasonable amount. We are trying [to meet the bail conditions] and we are hoping that we meet the bail conditions by this afternoon," said Carol.

Mwenye also said they were unhappy about the stiff conditions.

"As far as we know, during the course of the conduct of the matter, to the best of our knowledge there is only a few times that he (Kambwili) excused himself from the proceedings. I personally brought him to court not less than eight times at which the court adjourned the matter at the court's instance. So we would have thought the court would take those things into consideration but the court didn't. All we can do is to respect the decisions of the court. But we are extremely unhappy about the stiff conditions. K300,000 is a lot of money for a person of fixed abode, of the prominence of Mr Kambwili," said Mwenye.

Last week, Magistrate Simusamba refused to entertain Kambwili's earlier

application for bail pending appeal, until such a time that he (Kambwili) complied with the appeal procedure enshrined in the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC).

He said Kambwili's notice of appeal which was filed on October 14, was irregular as it was filed into court way before he could finish pronouncing both his judgement and sentence in the matter, contrary to the demands of sections 321 and 323 of the CPC.

Magistrate Simusamba said the procedure to follow in simple language was that

after the court had delivered its last order in the case and adjourned the matter, either party to the case (the convict or the DPP), could file a notice of appeal on any lawful grounds stated under section 321.

He said it was only after a notice of appeal had been successfully filed that section 332 of the penal code (bail pending appeal) could be invoked.

Magistrate Simusamba

noted that in Kambwili's case, the notice of Appeal was clearly filed before he could conclude the delivery of judgement and sentence, a position which was contrary to the demands of section 321 of the CPC.

On the same day after the ruling, Kambwili through his lawyers successfully filed in his summons for admission to bail pending appeal as well as a notice of appeal against his conviction and sentence.

## ABSA employees challenge Simukoko's findings on their conditions in court

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
OVER 30 employees of ABSA Bank Zambia PLC, formerly known as Barclays Bank Zambia, have appealed to the Lusaka High Court against Minister of Labour and Social Security Joyce Simukoko's findings that they have been maintained on the old conditions of service when in fact they have been given new conditions to sign.

Jonas Matende and 31 others, being dissatisfied with the decision of the Minister given on October 14, 2020, have appealed to the High Court on five grounds; being that the Minister erred in law and in fact when she determined ABSA Bank's appeal against the decision of the Labour Commissioner out of time as prescribed by law.

Matende and others have further stated that the Minister erred in Law and in fact when she omitted to consider evidence that

the new conditions of service were general conditions applicable to all non-unionised employees without exception.

"The Honourable Minister erred in fact when she held that the information submitted by management employees did not show the alleged alteration of the Terms and Conditions of Employment when in fact the information submitted revealed the contrary," they stated.

"The Honourable Minister erred in law and in fact when she held that redundancy is a planned activity that falls within the sole discretion of the respondent (ABSA Bank) contrary to the law on redundancy."

This is according to a notice of appeal filed in the Lusaka High Court recently.

Matende and 31 others who have cited ABSA Bank Zambia PLC as the respondent.

*Continues on P10*

# Kang'ombe gets K200,000 bail

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
SESHEKE UPND member of parliament Romeo Kang'ombe has been granted K200,000 bail his own recognisance with two sureties of Chinsali District bound in the like sum.

And Kang'ombe's lawyer, Cornelius Mweetwa, says his client has met the bail conditions.

When his case came up before the Chinsali Magistrates' Court, Monday, Kang'ombe pleaded not guilty to two counts of abduction and two counts of assault on a police officer.

"He appeared today (Monday) at Chinsali Subordinate Court before

Honourable Julius Malata, and that he pleaded not guilty to the charge of abduction of two police officers, contrary to section 253, and 255 of the penal code and also the charge of assault on police officers, contrary to section 252 B of the penal code. The Court has since adjourned the matter to 25th November for commencement of trial and the Court in the meantime has granted bail in the sum of K200,000 in his personal recognisance," Mweetwa said in an interview.

"The bail conditions have been met, yes, because K200,000 in recognisance is

not a cash bail, it can only be payable if they default. So, the only other condition was to produce two suitable sureties. We already have those two suitable sureties. So, as it stands, bail conditions have been met; I am just doing procedures and, effectively he is out, because we are just waiting for the Court to finish other matters and sign the documents, otherwise, the only condition is two suitable sureties. The money is in personal recognisance so it is not a hassle."

And Mweetwa, who is also Choma Central UPND member of parliament, said

Kang'ombe was in high spirits and looked forward to the commencement of trial.

"Everything is calm here and Honourable Kang'ombe is in high spirits that is how far I can go, speaking as his lawyer.

I can say my client is looking good, he is in high spirits, and as State Council, we look forward to the commencement of trial so that we can vigorously and robustly defend our client," said Mweetwa.

## Prof Muhammad

Fortune Teller, Divine Healer And Herbalist . Consult From The African Great The Most Powerful Spiritual Powers And African Traditional Healings.

- Bring Back Lost Lovers And Contol Your Partner
- Improve Man's Performance In Bed
- Stop Cheating Lover And Other Marriage Problems
- Stop A Failing Marriage And Ensure Happiness
- Boosting Your Bizuness
- Quick Selling Of Properties
- Winning Tenders And Contracts
- Removing Bad Luck From Your Family And Buziness
- Men's Clinic ( Boosting Your Sexual Performance)

Note : Ask Any Question And Get To Know More About Your Problem, Cause And A Way To Solve It Using An African And Traditional Way

Call / Whatsup +260979470847

DECEMBER, 2020

*Bookings*



VACCINATED  
DE-BEAKED  
POINT OF LAY



FARM SELECT  
Your trusted pullets supplier

For the Love of  
**EGGS**  
K115 EACH

For more information  
Call: 260 963 946 368 | +260 973 134 216

## High Quality Pullets!!!

@ K100 Each

Fully Vaccinated Available Early November 2020  
De-beaked  
Point of Lay

+26097777180  
+260965327715





COPPERBELT Province Police Commissioner Charity Katanga says she arrested 27 UPND supporters, who “unlawfully assembled to march on Independence Day.”

According to Madam Katanga, the UPND members breached the law because they did not seek her permission to assemble, and she also did not like the words that were written on the placards they were carrying.

“We had a case of unlawful assembly yesterday, this happened in town around 12:30 hours where 27 UPND cadres unlawfully assembled. This happened at Chingola Town Centre and others were along the Freedom Statue in Chingola and were found marching with placards written: ‘vote for UPND and NDC for change,’ ‘COVID-19 only applies to the opposition,’ ‘stop police brutality,’ ‘release CK!’ In Ndola, police confiscated placards written ‘abash police brutality,’ ‘end police brutality,’ ‘work on the economy,’ ‘stop dictatorial tendencies.’ Whilst the participants were welcome, we are not going to allow people to flout laws, whether it is Independence Day or not. They are expected to abide by the Public Order Act. If they had wanted to march, they would have notified the police. It is unfortunate that on such a day like this one, they had a different agenda,” said Katanga.

A question we are posing to Katanga is simple, what is

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

Diggers! is published by NEWS DIGGERS MEDIA LTD  
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.  
PO Box, 32147. Cell: 0977708285 /0965815078  
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

To advertise in the Diggers! ePaper or website:  
Call +260953424603/+260967713093 or  
Email: advertising@diggers.news or visit us at  
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.

politically, under a new Constitution that would guarantee us the freedoms that Madam Katanga is taking away. It is not illegal to protest against the government, it is not a crime for citizens to denounce the police for using brutal force in policing.

If Katanga was a patriotic police officer, dedicated to serving the interests of the people, the least she could have done was to send her officers to observe the marching processions and only arrest those who engage in violence. It's Independence Day for goodness sake! What's the worst that a placard written: “abash police brutality” can do? This, in our view, is not professional policing; it is what we call bootlicking! But police should not serve the interests of the appointing masters only; they must also look at the concerns of the citizens and protect them when they wish to express themselves.

Katanga might think this intolerance is good for her boss in State House, but the opposite is the case. In less than 10 months, Zambians will be going to the polls to elect another leadership for the country. What Madam Katanga is doing is actually making President Lungu unpopular; she is making him look evil in the eyes on the international community. A democracy that is intolerant to opposing political views and activities is not worthy to be called a democracy.

# Arresting citizens for marching on Independence Day

her understanding of Independence Day? What should citizens do on Independence Day, according to her? Eat rice and chicken? What should be the agenda for Independence Day? Sing praise songs for the occupants of State House? We are asking because her justification for arresting 27 citizens on such a day doesn't make sense to us.

Another question we would like to ask Madam Katanga is this: if the citizens who were marching were carrying posters inscribed with praise messages for President Edgar Lungu and endorsing his 2021 sole candidature, would she have arrested those citizens? The answer is a definite no because Madam Katanga has

failed to do so when PF cadres hold similar processions on the Copperbelt. So, it means her problem is not breach of the law, but the political affiliation of the so-called lawbreakers.

Jerabos in Kitwe do as they please. When a minister makes a pronouncement on the Black Mountain that favours them, they drive their tipper trucks from one end of the city to another blocking the highways and contravening all the traffic rules in the book! Madam Katanga watches with her hands folded. It doesn't bother her. But on the national freedom day, Madam Katanga comes out with a whip in her hands to cane opposition members for merely expressing

themselves on the state of the nation. Why is she so heartless towards the opposition?

We take note of the fact that Madam Katanga is the longest-serving Commissioner of Police. All her colleagues who were appointed along with her by Michael Sata, including the Inspector General herself, are gone, but she has survived. The reason is obvious for anyone who cares to think. This is not because she is the most professional officer in the country; she is loved by the PF authoritarian regime because of her heavy-handed methods of policing.

But Madam Katanga must be reminded that freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and

freedom of association is guaranteed for every citizen, according to the Constitution of the Republic of Zambia. Not Katanga or her President can take away that right from the people. So, it is painful to see a police officer proudly trumping upon people's freedoms without any sense of regret.

Madam Katanga must also be reminded that the people who fought for this country's independence were not fighting rebels who were unconstitutionally in power; Dr Kaunda and his comrades fought against a legitimate government until they succeeded to get their wishes granted. What our founding fathers wanted was for every Zambian to be liberated,

## Crossword puzzle No 719

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

“Your silence will not protect you”  
- Audre Lorde

Across

1. Soda flavor  
4. Target towards a goal  
6. Shake, as a tail  
7. Consolidate  
8. Moreover  
9. Try again  
11. Frozen precipitation  
14. As well  
15. "Carmen", for one  
17. Globe  
18. Slightly submerge  
19. Third planet

Down

1. Xbox enthusiast  
2. What we breathe  
3. Rams' mates  
4. Repeated another time  
5. Furious  
10. Slump  
12. Rage  
13. Earing site  
14. Smidgen  
16. Mess up

## Crossword puzzle No 718

|    |   |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |   |
|----|---|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|
| 1  | W | A | 2  | G |    | 3 | S  |    | 4  | P | A  | 5  | C |
|    | H |   | 6  | U | P  | P | E  | R  |    |   |    |    | A |
| 7  | Y | 8 | A  | M |    |   | A  |    | 9  | O | 10 | A  | R |
|    |   |   |    |   | 11 | A | T  | 12 | E  |   | R  |    |   |
| 13 | S | P | U  | D |    |   | 14 | G  | E  | R | M  |    |   |
|    |   |   | L  |   | 15 | O | 16 | R  | G  |   | O  |    |   |
| 17 | L | E | G  |   |    |   | O  |    | 19 | O | W  | 20 | N |
|    | A |   | 21 | A | M  | B | E  | R  |    |   |    | O  |   |
| 22 | W | E | B  |   |    |   | E  |    | 23 | B | O  | W  |   |



# Readers' Feedback

## Is this how the abduction happened?



## Wina's claim that UPND has never "officially advised" PF on debt management

Editor,

"A person who does not take responsibility for his or her mistakes cannot learn from the mistakes made. What they learn is how to blame others and circumstances. Such a person will always be making the same mistakes all the time and cannot progress. Such is PF, they have never taken responsibility for anything!!!" - Lassie Kakuta

"Do you even take advise you people? Because I remember very well , you told HH to keep his opinion for his term. Now you are crying faul!" - Samson Kayange Mbale

"You approach them since you're the ones in need of their expertise on Economic Management. The begger can't be setting conditions!" - Clifford G Ngoma

"Gogo wina, I expect you to provide more councel and caution to the PF because of your age and experience. Stop playing politics at the expense of Zambians!" - Richard Shi-Mpundu Muvwanga

"Did you involve them when borrowing? How can they advise you as if they do benefit direct the way you handle the fund. Other countries borrow for everyone to benefit. This is what happen when a player miss a penalty, they blame the penalty spot". - Richards Rancho Kabaso Khanoz

"Ati simwenze serious na advice. Sembe munalila at we are appealing to make it official. I remember HH wrote to u before u even went to France to meet lizard who demanded \$500 million. That money alone could have worked miracles on the economy. Your devil is bigger than the one we know because yo guys are difficult!" - Costa Chibbonta

## ND! OPINION: Shonga is offside, Diggers has never attacked the Judiciary

Editor,

"If we treat the Judiciary like it's a sacred alter of a high priest then we are doomed as a nation". - Friday Tatila

"Shonga is a PF cadre! LAZ has been captured by the PF just like the police, the judiciary, parliament and all important institutions of government". - Oliver Litia

"If anything the Judiciary is not infallible which means they are human who are bound to error due to the cravings of their human nature. Scripture describes them as nonbelievers or the heathen. 1 Corinth 6 vs1 If any of you have a dispute with another Christian, how dare you go before heathen judges instead of letting God's people settle the matter? 6 Instead, one Christian goes to court against another and lets unbelievers judge the case! Look at Simusamba's behavior! You agree with the scripture". - Chiundule Wansimbi

"Even if you did, who is Shonga to talk on behalf of the judiciary...and besides that, our judiciary is in a mess now all because of elements like Shonga". - Chris Rock

## 'Unlawful assembly on independence day! How?!

Editor,

"WHEN UPND shuns events you call "national" you call them names. Nkomfwe nomba Mwankole @ fytoto fytoto! 27 arrested for attending independence celebrations. What a leaderless country Zambia is today. But busy raping the constitution just again wanting to rule. Another 5 years to Lungu will be worse than taking DOOM insecticide!" - Tukafililamunsenga Kambwili

"For the first time since independence to hear unlawful assembly during independence celebrations. Ine kudabwa. During KK days, govt used to provide buses to take people to the event". - Simon Kumwenda

"This police brutality against opposition has now become

an EVERYDAY song. How long will this cruelty continue? 2021 vote wisely and protect the vote. PF doesn't believe in democracy anymore and must be voted out together with it's dictatorship!" - Preston Kasempa

"Instead of being independent on independence day, you become inslaved what a government!" - Martin Ngandu

"We are not free to express ourselves even on the actual independence day!" - Richard Waga

"We are in the Opposition Arresting Era of Lungu, Kampyongo and Kanganja". - Obrain Ndumba

"Every time you hear the zambian police had made an rest is the either NDC or UPND members". - Omega Mu

"Stop appointing cadres in critical positions, these are the things that destroys once peaceful nations". - Hezron Mwape

"Shame on Charity a typical bootylicker for sure...How do you Nab people pa Independence?" - Brighton M. Nawa

"Nabbing people on Independence day". - Economist Carlos Winfords

"I thought it was independence day and freedom of expression was guaranteed?" - Keith Moono

"Its DICTATORSHIP, unlawful assembly even on independence day sure!!!" - Preston Kasempa

## 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.

## 'ZRA S/P regional office move to Kazungula commendable'

Editor,

"You see the goodness of dispersing infrastructure development? The shifting of the ZRA offices will definitely change the face of kazungula district and it will never be the same again. This also applies to the road sector, all those roads that have been built in Lusaka, some or should I say most of them have no economic significance but they

only play as a political bait. If the resources were channelled to areas where they are really needed by people of kashikishi to transport fish to the market, the meagre resources would have made a difference". - Mo Ze

"Also take back the provincial administrative capital to

Livingstone. Centrality is a wrong principal in naming administrative capitals. Most working capitals world over are located on the edges eg Washington, Libraville, Kinshasa, Dhaka, Sydney etc". - Jiikalala Moono

Is the ZRA provincial HQ for Northern Province located in Nakonde?" - Akataluka Songiso



*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
UPND national youth chairman Likando Mufalali says police have undoubtedly and notoriously become supporters of the ruling Patriotic Front as evidenced their harassment and torture of opposition leaders.

In a statement, Sunday, Mufalali charged that police were persecuting PF opponents.

“As United Party for National Development, we have extensive accounts of police arbitrarily arresting and detaining our members. The systematic nature of these arrests and detentions indicates intent by the police force to persecute perceived PF opponents. It is appalling that police officers, under Kakoma Kanganja as Inspector General, are increasingly becoming partisan on matters

# Police are undoubtedly PF supporters – Mufalali

of a political nature. In June this year, Kanganja himself made a political statement supporting the ruling Patriotic Front saying they have made the work of the police very easy,” Mufalali said.

“Beyond statements, however, this partisanship manifests itself in repressive, politicised policing. The police cannot allow our party to hold intra party elections even when the Republican Constitution demands that we hold elections. Sesheke Member of Parliament Romeo Kang’ombe is in police custody today even

when video footage of hired Patriotic Front officials and members are out in the public for all to see how they attacked the UPND convoy to and from Kasama. None of the known PF members that attacked the UPND convoy has been summoned or arrested.”

Mufalali said it was disappointing that the police had continued to defend PF members whenever they committed a crime.

“It has now become a norm in our country that PF officials, their members and their allies who commit crimes

in the context of political matters go Scott-free.”As a party, we condemn the Zambia Police’s partisan stance and its routine abuse of human rights. Never in the history of the Zambia police service have our men in uniform become notorious for supporting the ruling party, harassing and torturing opposition and civil society leaders like they are behaving under Kanganja. We are also disappointed that even the police spokesperson Esther Katongo, is pursuing the PF agenda using her position. A few weeks ago, Mrs Katongo



spewed untruths by giving out an appalling piece of fiction saying Chelstone police had arrested UPND members after they damaged property belonging to PF members. This was a blatant lie intended to put the name of the party and its members into disrepute,” stated Mufalali.

“The truth of the matter was that PF thugs, in full view of the police, went and damaged

the UPND offices, cars that were parked at a nearby garage and a public borehole that was sunk by our president Hakainde Hichilema for the communities around Kamanga and Chelstone. Esther Mwaata has shamefully continued feeding false statements to the general public in her quest to campaign for the PF. She must watch her yapping against our president Hakainde Hichilema when she says police can pick him whenever they want to. In a few months’ time, Esther will regret her utterances and cry that she was being forced to make negative statement she is making against the UPND. We challenge her to stop hiding in her uniform. Esther Mwaata must resign from the police service so that she can freely join politics and challenge us on a political platform. We want to remind Mrs Katongo that she is not the first police officer to hold that position but many others have risen to serve the country in different capacities.”

*By Abraham Kalito*  
ZESCO senior corporate affairs manager John Kunda says the fire that gutted part of the dam at Kafue Gorge Lower Hydropower Station will not delay the completion of the project.

In an interview, Dr Kunda said the fire had only affected the dam wall and the paint around that wall, adding that the rest of the project remained intact and will be commissioned as scheduled.

“So, the fire was true, and I wanted to say that this was purely an occupational issue. But the fact is that, first of all, it does not affect the operations of Zesco. The workers were grinding trying to cut some metal that was protruding on top of the dam. And you know, metals, when you cut them they become hot, and you know sometimes even grinding itself can cause some sparks, you can see this all over. So, there was a fresh coat of paint down on the wall; that paint is highly flammable and that’s what basically caused the fire,” said Dr Kunda.

“So, in terms of completion of the dam, and in terms of commissioning the Kafue Gorge Lower Dam, nothing has been affected because no equipment has been affected, and the dam wall has not been affected; the cables in the dam wall have not been affected; no turbines have been affected, it was just the coating, the paint on the wall where the water is supposed to make contact, and so, it’s the paint, which was burnt because it’s highly flammable. The dam wall, the area where the water is supposed to make contact, is painted with what is called a fillant to avoid certain issues in future. And that’s the area, which was on fire.”

According to a Ministry of Energy statement, the fire erupted, Friday, after tie rod bars that were used to hold formwork on the upstream face of the Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) dam wall caught fire from the cutting torch.

Three employees were burnt, but quickly rescued by their colleagues and rushed to the nearest clinic before being referred to UTH for specialist treatment.

“A flash-fire accident occurred at the Kafue Gorge Lower Hydropower Plant (under construction) on Friday, 23rd October, 2020, at around 11:30hrs. Preliminary investigations have revealed that the three employees were assigned to cut protruding tie rods bars that were used

## Kafue Gorge fire won’t delay project completion – Zesco

to hold formwork on the upstream face of the RCC dam wall,” read a statement.

“As the workers, who were in a motorised cage were cutting a tie rod mid-way on the dam surface, fire from

the cutting torch caught on to nylon rope that was next to the motorised elevated working platform and the burning rope fell to the foot of the dam on a pile of remnants of polyuria – a waterproof

coating that has been applied on the lower section of the upstream face of the dam wall concrete.”

The Ministry said authorities were now on-site investigating the incident.

# We’ll write to international community on unfair arrest of our members – UPND

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
UPND secretary general Stephen Katuka says the party will write to the international community, including the United Nations and the Commonwealth, on the continued arrest of its members.

And Katuka says it is not right that his members are living in constant fear of arrest in a country which is supposed to be a democracy.

In the past two months, the party has seen the arrest of its deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka for aggravated robbery, Sesheke member of parliament Romeo Kangombe for abduction and assault of a police officer and on Saturday, 27 UPND cadres were arrested during the Independence Day celebrations for unlawful assembly.

Commenting on these arrested in an interview, Katuka said the party would appeal for help from the international community.

“We need to inform the international community, they may be aware of what is happening maybe from newspapers but this is not enough. We as the affected people are required to do a formal complaint, we will definitely do a formal complaint to the UN, to the Commonwealth, to the African Union and to other international communities to show our displeasure in the manner in which we are being governed in this country. The international community are aware of what is happening in Zambia. I

believe they are watching and they are listening to what is happening. The only thing maybe, they want to see us as the affected citizens to react, if we react they will realise that we are serious and we mean business. Zambia has been independent for 56 years, this is the worst time in the history of Zambia. So, we need to formally write to the international community because we can reach the elections and they will still be arresting our people,” Katuka said.

“I can compare how [Roy] Welensky looked after us, I can also compare how [Dr Kenneth] Kaunda looked after us, I can also compare how Chiluba looked after us.

This is the worst time in the history of this country before independence and after independence. If Zambians take it as life as usual, they will get a rude shock as to where this PF is going to take them. When it is happening to us, others even call us cry babies until it finds them because it starts with one person and it will move to another person. [Chishimba] Kambwili is there, from Kambwili they will move to another one then all of us will be in trouble.” And Katuka said UPND members were now living in fear of being arrested at any time.

“That is the Zambia we are in now, how do you arrest people on independence? You

see this is Independence Day and people go to celebrate. It is the same government that was sending messages to all of us to attend and now people go there and they are arrested. So what democracy is in Zambia? There is no democracy, there are no freedoms for the people because the country has turned into a police state. We move around and we are in fear of being arrested anytime. You leave your home and you can be arrested, even when you are sleeping, your house can be raided because we are in an autocratic government,” said Katuka.

“We have a police state where the police are more superior than anyone else. The citizens are subservient

to the police. So the police can decide to arrest you anytime for no reason and nobody can protect you because the police are the ones to protect us. Now they are not there, they are there to hammer us. We need to stand up as Zambians, we have no police to defend us. It is the police who are arresting us everyday so they will not be there for us, we need to defend ourselves. We have no responsible government in place. The unfortunate part is that these criminals have regrouped and their agenda is to rip this country of its wealth and maintain power. The freedoms and liberty of the people have gone, the rule of law is gone, so what country are we in?”

# ABSA employees challenge Simukoko’s findings on their conditions in court

*From P7*

IN JULY this year, Zambia Union of Financial Institutions and Allied Workers (ZUFIAW) general secretary Msiska Chingati sued Barclays Bank Zambia and ABSA Bank Zambia in the Lusaka High Court, seeking a declaration that the unilateral and non-consensual transfer of unionised employees of Barclays Bank to the new entity, ABSA Bank, is unlawful, null and void.

Chingati also wants a declaration that the so-called name change from Barclays Bank Zambia to ABSA Bank Zambia is a sham intended to mask the real nature of the corporate transaction, being a transfer

of the business undertaking from Barclays Bank Zambia to the ABSA Group Limited and therefore unlawful, null and void.

He further wants among others, a declaration that the unilateral and non-consensual transfer of the employees of Barclays Bank to ABSA Bank is a terminating event entitling the employees of Barclays Bank Zambia to payment of redundancy benefits under the applicable Collective Agreement being 4.7 months’ pay for each year served.

But ABSA Bank Zambia PLC submitted that Barclays Bank Zambia PLC and ABSA Bank Zambia were one

and the same legal entity, adding that all rights and liabilities of the entity prior to the name change were not affected as a result.

It therefore asked the court to set aside the said matter for irregularity, and that in the alternative, Barclays Bank Zambia must be struck out of the proceedings as it does not exist separately from ABSA.

However, Chingati had insisted that Barclays Bank Zambia and ABSA Bank Zambia were two separate legal entities, adding that he intends to adduce evidence at trial to show that the two banks were separate.



# Nkana mourns Mulenga

*By Ngosa Chalwe*

A NUMBER of Super Division stars have taken to social media to mourn the loss of Nkana midfielder Chrispine Mulenga who died in a road traffic accident yesterday.

The skillful midfielder died in the Kitwe Teaching Hospital after succumbing to injuries sustained from the accident which occurred in Kitwe's Ndeke Township on Sunday night.

Nkana chief executive officer Charles Chakatazya told Goal Diggers! in an interview that the club will miss Mulenga's contribution to the team despite having only spent less than a year at the club.

Mulenga joined Nkana in January from Lumwana Radiants.

"I was just called by the police that Mulenga was in an accident, they rushed him to Wusakile Hospital and he was later moved to Kitwe Central, but he died while the doctors were attending to him. It is a big loss to the club, he only spent less than a year with us but you could tell that he was a good player," Chakatazya said.

Mulenga, who also once played for Power Dynamos and Forest Rangers, scored his first goal for Nkana in the 3 - 0 win over Zanaco in July at Nkana Stadium.

His last game for the Kitwe side was on Saturday when he came on as a substitute in Nkana's 2 - 0 win over Indeni in the 2020/2021 Charity Shield final.

Meanwhile, a number of football stars paid their tributes to Mulenga on social media.

"When a person becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. Rest easy my bro," former Nkana and Power Dynamos defender Billy Mutale wrote.

Power long serving defender Govenda Simwala simply posted. "Why so soon my friend, RIP"

Nkana's Ghanaian defender Richard Ocran, who was celebrating his birthday yesterday, posted a picture of him with Mulenga under the caption, "Wado [Mulenga], why so soon."

Chakatazya said funeral arrangements would be communicated once the club concludes with the family.

JUVENTUS superstar Cristiano Ronaldo is under investigation for breaching coronavirus protocols following his positive test earlier this month, according to Italy's sports minister.

Ronaldo was laid low with Covid-19 midway through the international break, having featured in a 0-0 friendly draw with Spain and the UEFA Nations League fixture against France which ended in the same scoreline.

The 35-year-old was forced to miss Portugal's 3-0 win over Sweden on October 14 after his positive diagnosis, and went straight into self-isolation.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner missed Juve's draw with Crotone and win at Dynamo Kiev on Tuesday before posting another positive test a day later, which prevented him from returning for the Serie A clash against Hellas Verona on Sunday.

Ronaldo will have to pass a coronavirus test 24 hours before the Bianconeri's next European outing against Barcelona in midweek or else his spell in the sidelines will be extended and a renewal of hostilities with long-time rival Lionel Messi will be postponed.

He could also now be facing punishment for breaking quarantine rules while away on international duty, having travelled back to his house in Italy via a private air ambulance after contracting Covid-19.

Previously asked whether Ronaldo had broken coronavirus regulations after leaving Portugal's training camp, Italy's sports minister Vincenzo Spadafora said on October 15: "Without authorisation from the health authorities, I think he has violated the protocol."

Spadafora has now reasserted his claim and revealed that the Juve striker's actions are being officially investigated.

He told Rai Tre: "Cristiano did not respect the protocol. There is an investigation by the Federal Prosecutor's Office to prove it."

"The virus has taught us that no one is exempt, obviously they are all people who have tried to respect the protocols as much as possible, but the only solution, in the end, is to stay at home."

Pressed on if he has discussed the situation with Ronaldo, Spadafora responded: "No, with all respect. It was an unpleasant episode, but on the occasion of the first leg he violated the protocol and this is a fact, because there is also an investigation opened by the prosecutor of Torino."

Ronaldo defended the steps he'd taken to self-isolate in an Instagram post on October 16, telling his followers: "I did not break any protocol. They're saying that I broke Italian laws but it's all a lie. I spoke with my team and we have the responsibility to do things right. **GOAL**

## 'If he has to put me on, he'll do it in the 80th minute' - Isco hits out at Zidane

Isco has taken a swipe at Real Madrid head coach Zinedine Zidane, claiming that he is being ostracised by the Frenchman.

The Spain midfielder has not featured for either of Los Blancos' last two outings, the 3-1 Clasico victory over Barcelona on Saturday and the stunning 3-2 Champions League loss to Shakhtar Donetsk three days earlier.

Indeed, the 28-year-old has played only sporadically this season, making four appearances after sustaining a sprained ankle in the summer.

It is a situation that the former Malaga man is not happy about.

"If he has to take me off, he takes me off in the 50th or 60th minute of the game. Sometimes even at half-time," the player complained on Movistar+'s 'El Partidazo' program. "If he has to put me on, he'll do it in the 80th minute."

In his seven years with Real Madrid, Isco has always been in and out of the team, and has not played full back-to-back league matches for three years. In that time, he has played the full duration of only six fixtures in La Liga.

There has been a suggestion that he has not put in the defensive work required for Zidane to select him.

"The win was a result of the defensive work of the group," Sergio Ramos pointed out after the weekend's win at Camp Nou. "We have run, we have suffered, and there is the result."

"It is the line that we must reach and maintain throughout the season. In the end, in football there are things that cannot be negotiated such as attitude and intensity, and the team has put in the maximum from the beginning to the end." **GOAL**



## 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.

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.

FM Travelers is also affiliated to Magodi lodge limited that offers accommodation at affordable prices yet an excellent standard with professional staff. Our rooms range from as low as K200 to K600 inclusive of free Wi-Fi, swimming pool, air con and DSTV.

To make a reservation contact us on +260977424351



# FAZ EXPECTS EXPLOSIVE

## SEASON

By Ngosa Chalwe  
AN interesting turn of events awaits match day one of the 2020/2021 Super Division season with champions Nkana set to launch their title defense against runners up Forest Rangers in Ndola.

Meanwhile, FAZ says it expects an explosive season considering the level of preparedness of the players. According to the fixture availed to Goal Diggers! by Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) general secretary Adrian

Kashala, the top flight will swing into action on October 31. "Following the approval of fixtures by the Executive Committee of the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) the Zambian Premier League will kick off October 31 weekend,"

Kashala said in a statement released by FAZ communications manager Sydney Mungala. After winning the league in a less convincing manner in the just ended season, Nkana will be out to prove their doubters wrong in the new season by defending their title.

The Kitwe giants won the league with 50 points at par with Forest after the season was abruptly ended at Week 27 following the upswing of the Coronavirus.

Week One matches set up some interesting games.

Nkana will travel to Levy Mwanawasa Stadium to face their fellow Champions League envoys Forest in what will be their 21st league meeting in 10 years.

Since 2010, the teams have met 20 times, with Nkana managing 10 wins and six losses while four matches have ended in a draw.

Other games will see Mumamba Numba's Zesco United face Napsa Stars away while six time champions Power Dynamos will welcome promoted side Young Green Eagles.

Buildcon will entertain Lusaka Dynamos, while it will be an all defense force affair when Green Buffaloes take on Red Arrows in a home tie.



Dabid Chilufya will face his former employers when his Indeni side take on Zanaco at Sunset Stadium while other matches will see Nkwazi travel to Lumwana and Kabwe Warriors play Green Eagles.


Meanwhile, FAZ president Andrew Kamanga says the association expects an explosive season.

"As we commence the 2020/2021 season, we expect a highly explosive season given the level of preparation that most teams have invested in. We urge our members to strictly adhere to the COVID-19 guidelines. The Ministry of Health has been very helpful in providing guidance on the health protocols that have to be adhered to," said Kamanga in his weekly column.

"We also wish to thank the Zambia Medical Association (ZMA) for providing counsel as we seek to refine our preparedness for the 2020/2021 season that kicks-off in a few days. It is our desire that we may be allowed to admit some fans into the stadia albeit under strict adherence to Covid-19 protocols. We are actively engaging the authorities on this score."


### When is voter registration starting?







#### Online Pre-registration

Online Pre-registration will start on Monday 21st September, 2020 to Friday 6th November, 2020. Visit the website: [www.ovr.elections.org.zm](http://www.ovr.elections.org.zm) to commence your application.



#### Mobile Voter Registration

The Mobile Voter Registration will be conducted from 07.00 hrs to 18:00 hrs every day at various registration centers in all the districts. The exercise will run from October 28th to November 30th, 2020.

## #VotingSquad