

Move on from my sex tape, says Iris

By Mirriam Chabala

Former Minister of Higher Education Micheal Kaingu's daughter Iris says she is determined to set the tone to champion the fight against cyber bullying because there is need to break down gender stereotypes in the country.

And Iris whose college sex tape catapulted her to fame five years ago, says people must move on from the pornography scandal and build her instead.

Meanwhile, Iris says if she met people who insult her on the Internet, they would fail to say bad things to her in person.

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MV Alberta loaded with Zambia's crude oil was stranded at sea in Dar-es-Salaam for a year



GUNVOR SUES GOVT...

For refusing to take "contaminated" oil

By Joseph Mwenda

Oil trader Gunvor has sued the Zambian government for refusing to take the crude oil supply, which has been abandoned at sea in Dar-es-Salaam for over a year and half. And Ministry of Energy

Secretary Brigadier General Emeldah Chola, in the audio published on diggers.news, says the Zambian government cannot commit to paying Gunvor for the "contaminated oil" until the matter is settled in the

arbitration court. News Diggers! has visited a crude oil tanker MV Alberta, that has been abandoned at sea in Dar-es-salaam since January 2016, carrying about 100,000 metric tonnes of crude oil destined for Zambia.

A source found at the offshore location explained to this reporter in an interview that the oil tanker was accumulating about US\$20,000 per day in demurrage (a charge payable to the owner of a chartered ship on failure to load or offload within the agreed time).

"This ship docked in January 2016 but the [Zambian] government refused to take the crude saying it was contaminated. Now what usually happens is that once there is such a dispute, an independent expert is called in to conduct lab tests and verify if the claim is true or not. Meanwhile, the ship does not stay even longer than two months because keeping this here costs US\$20,000 per day in demurrage," explained the source.

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Saviour defends Lungu's wealth

By Mirriam Chabala

United Progressive People (UPP) leader Saviour Chishimba says it is true that President Edgar Lungu was not poor before going to State House.

And Chishimba says it will be a mistake to narrow down the fight against corruption on President Lungu because the structures he is building are nothing compared to the money which other people are stealing.

In an interview with News Diggers! Chishimba said he could attest to the fact that President Lungu had assets before assuming the office.

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No one is harassing PF in S/Province - Police

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Southern Province Police Commissioner Bonny Kapeso has dispelled media reports that a named opposition political

party in Kalomo has been intimidating Patriotic Front members.

In a statement today, Kapeso said after carrying out one-week

investigations on the matter, it had been proved that no such report had been made to the police throughout the province.

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Govt to announce K65.4 billion budget for 2018

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Yaluma orders KCM to reverse transfer of 4,000 employees

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Mines Minister Christopher Yaluma has directed Konkola Copper Mine to reverse the transfer of 4,000 employees before conclusion of discussions between government, Mines, and the Mine Workers Union with immediate effect.

And Yaluma has asked mines to publish how much money in they were paying to the government for the sake of transparency.

Speaking at a press briefing in Lusaka today, Yaluma said government would only allow mines to outsource if the task was critical.

"KCM went ahead and transferred 4,000 employees. So I am just trying to redirect and instruct KCM right now to (a) stop whatever transfers they have made so far, it's not holding. I am requesting them to stop so that we can talk. We have said after all that we run an open door system whereby dialogue is the main thing and we have committed as government to always discuss things with the Mines or the chamber before anything could be implemented. Now if KCM are doing something like that, they are just going against something that we have talked about," Yaluma said.

"We are not going to allow to see employees in the mines get back to the streets or get to work for some other contractor where job security will never be guaranteed because that contractor is going to work with those people for three years and after that it will spell a lot of people out of employment. So we would like to talk to KCM to ensure that we understand what they are trying to bring in and then we tell them what we feel as the government.



Mines Minister Christopher Yaluma

But I can guarantee the Miners that they still have the employment as it was yesterday or the years ago." Yaluma said KCM had already agreed to abide by the directive to reverse all the transfers that it had already made.

"Just this morning, I had a meeting with KCM and they have agreed not to proceed

with any transfer until we talk and agree the way forward. We are on record to say outsourcing is one source of doing business but you don't outsource wholesale. You outsource to critical, if we agree that it's a critical task, then we can go ahead and allow them to, but we must agree on what we are doing and protect the

interest of the workers in the mining industry," Yaluma said.

"And also they have also confirmed whatever, they are reversing the number of people they transferred who were at play, its 910 which they haven't even completed but they did transfer 200 which I have told them to reverse with immediate

effect until we have concluded our discussions. So to the miners out there, it is business as usual, they have their jobs until we have concluded our discussions between the government, KCM, and the Union."

And Yaluma asked mines to publish how much money they were paying to government for the sake of

transparency.

"All the mines have accepted the new tariffs except for one mine but we have concluded and they have come to acknowledge the new tariff and they are to pay off the arrears whichever they are applicable. The mining companies also must make known how much money in terms of revenues they are paying to the government for the sake of transparency," he said.

And asked how effective the new committee on mining sector reforms would be compared to the previous ones, Yaluma said the committee was as a result of some complaints by mines that they were operating on loss for many years.

"No the President is not putting up a new committee. That committee is coming up because of somebody [who] said he has never made a profit for the past so many years. Then he said they must be playing with us, why are they in the country? If somebody says when he met the President last week, he says they have never made profits, then why are they in the country? Something must be going on wrong, they must be hiding something. Then it's necessary that we put up a committee to look into that," said Yaluma.

Lungu doesn't practice politics of braggadocio - Sunday

By Mirriam Chabala

Patriotic Front media director Sunday Chanda says President Edgar Lungu does not engage in politics of empty boasting because he is a man who identifies himself with the poor.

In apparent reference to Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili's remarks on

the Head of State's wealth, Chanda told journalists at a PF Interactive Forum on Sunday that President Lungu was not interested in playing 'ping pong' with those who were bent on attacking him.

"I think it is important to say that His Excellency the President means differently to different people and in meaning different things to different people, His Excellency the President in certain circles is known as the son of Amai (Mrs) Jere, the son of a marketeer who struggled so hard to fight for her son to get his education into the law school. He was one of the best students and a successful lawyer, a man who has spent a great life with the people of Chawama as their representative but what the President of the Republic of Zambia is not, is that he is not the metal scrap dealer whose business saw a sharp rise in the 1990s in Chingola and Luanshya and a sharp rise of the scrap metal business dealer corresponding even with a spate of increasing murder cases of mining guards, that is not President Lungu,"

Chanda said.

"President Lungu is not the man who built mansions on a golf course in Luanshya, President Lungu is not the man who privatized our mines and our companies and made a fortune out of it, that is not him. President Lungu is not a man who practices politics of braggadocio that he can have breakfast in London and have lunch in Lusaka. President Lungu is a leader who identifies himself with the poor people of Zambia and who has remained true to the founding principles and values of the Patriotic Front (PF) in serving the people of Zambia and I think over and above, President Lungu remains issue based, he is not the type that would want to play to the gallery and play ping pong. His mandate is to deliver on the aspirations of the Zambian people."

Chanda said President Lungu was not elected to be responding to criticism coming from people who could not account for their wrong doings.

"We wish to place on record

that we have seen attempts from certain political colleagues who would want to get so personal and attack the President to the point of insulting him and dragging his name in the mud. From the side of the Patriotic Front, we find these politics to be highly uncivilized and the people of Zambia did not elect President Lungu to answer to men who walk like models or men who cannot account for some of the things that have happened in their lives and also in the lives of those that are associated with them," Chanda said.

"The people of Zambia require that our politics ought to be mature and substantive in nature, that the opposition can provide checks and balances and that we can differ with the opposition without essentially becoming personally disagreeable, I think that this is what the people of Zambia are demanding of us. The people of Zambia are demanding the President to show the works, to deliver, to do that road from Lusaka to Ndola, a dual carriage way and to

bring that hospital closer to them, that is what the people of Zambia are asking for."

Chanda also said that President Lungu had not grown big headed after becoming Head of State because he understood where he was coming from.

"Whether or not President Lungu once lived in a garage, that is what shows that this is a type of leader that the Zambian people have entrusted with their day to day welfare to run the affairs on their behalf and he remains this humble and a simple story. And we are so glad that to this point, his Excellency the President has not been intoxicated by power. We have seen some of our colleagues who are insulting him that with an opportunity of just being appointed cabinet Minister, no body, not even people from the media could even cough, all because power went up to their head and they are better off here doing what they are doing at the expense of being with their life partners who need them the most at a critical hour as this," said Chanda.

Woman in court for burning step daughter

By Diggers Reporter

A 36-year-old Lusaka woman has been dragged to court for burning her nine-year-old step daughter on her left buttock for urinating on the bed.

Elizabeth Phiri of Lusaka's Bauleni compound is scheduled to take plea before magistrate Alice Walusiku.

Phiri, who is a housewife, is facing one count of assault on a child.

It is alleged that on June 3, 2017 Phiri assaulted her step daughter thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm.

Elizabeth is alleged to have been incensed by her step daughter's bed wetting.

Phiri burnt the victim on her left buttock with a pressing iron after not getting a satisfactory answer as to why the girl had not changed her clothes.

After assaulting burning her, Phiri sent the victim to wash the blankets.

By Mukosha Funga

Nkana PF member of parliament Alexander Chiteme says there is a “job mania” on the Copperbelt. And Chiteme says Non Governmental Organisations must praise government when things are going well in the country the same way they are quick to criticize when prices of goods and services go up. Speaking on Radio Phoenix’s Chat Back programme today, Chiteme boasted that the Copperbelt was experiencing a job mania owing to the ongoing projects.

“When it comes to the welfare of the people, you are seeing the PF delivering its promises and the cardinal thing that people keep asking, ‘where if the PF going, is the PF giving us jobs?’ yes, the PF is giving us jobs. Copperbelt we are in a job mania now because we have projects that are running that will give us close to 5,000 jobs. For example, the Copperbelt International Airport which AVIC has started constructing now, the good news is that that land was owned by people, our own people on the Copperbelt, we negotiated with them, we compensated them, we didn’t chase anyone. You would also wish to be one of those people whom we compensated because we compensated them handsomely. What we did, we were just flying over the other day in a chopper and you can already see the beauty of the work that is being done. That is about half a million, \$530 million worth of a project and we are looking at 4,000 jobs right on the Copperbelt in Ndola,” Chiteme said.

“PF is loved. On the Copperbelt for example, people were complaining about roads but the listening government launched the C400 in Chingola and the following day we started building the road. Now we are going to have a Copperbelt that looks like Lusaka because everywhere I go in Lusaka, there is a road, there is a clinic that has been developed into a level one hospital.” He also said President Edgar Lungu was in touch with the grassroots and prioritized their needs.

“If there was ever a government which looked into the poor people, it is this government which is backed by our manifesto. I am going to give you an example, unfortunately this example will hinge on the President. The President has always sorted the poor first. When our mothers didn’t have capital, the President took 10 per cent of his salary and said let us give this to them under the Presidential Initiative, tell me which other President has done that? Our women have received money through the presidential empowerment. Whenever there is a cause, the President has to be there, no wonder people are even laughing at us that the president went to open Chisokone Shelter, it is because the President is in touch with the poor and the government. So when you

There is a job mania on C/Belt - Chiteme

say that the party is not in touch with the poor, that is a statement which lacks truth,” Chiteme said.

He also disagreed with critics who felt road projects were not a priority saying good roads reduced the cost of doing business.

“Yes, imisebo shena twalashilya (Yes, we will eat roads). Today, unlike yesterday when my mother would go buy tomatoes on a broken down road, on a Canter that would not get to Chisokone or City Market the same day, today my mother will sell more boxes of tomatoes because she can go back and forth within a few hours because the road network is clear, she can bring in the tomatoes cheaper so yes, imisebo shena, twalashilya,” Chiteme said.

And Chiteme wondered why NGOs were not praising the PF over the improved economic indicators the way they aggressively condemned the administration when things were bad.

“I have seen a lot of NGOs who are very consistent when it comes to blaming the PF, when our dollar was sky



Nkana PF member of parliament Alexander Chiteme

rocketing, when we had load shedding, when fuel went up, these NGOs came out with guns shooting everywhere saying ‘the PF is bad, people are not benefitting anything,’

today we have the mealie meal price going down, I can walk into Shoprite and buy my mealie meal for K36, K45, where are the NGOs? Let them leave the umbrella

of Non Governmental and face us head on. Because you cannot be an NGO that is going to criticize when things are not going well for the party and then when things

are going well, you go mute! Why aren’t talking about mealie meal? Why aren’t they talking about fuel now that prices have gone down?” asked Chiteme.

Gunvor sues govt over “contaminated” oil

From front page

“In this case, MV Alberta has accumulated over US\$10 million, and I can assure you that the owners of this ship want that money which Gunvor will not pay because they have actually sued the [Zambian] government.”

The source narrated that Gunvor refused to take back the oil, insisting that it was according to the specifications requested by the Ministry of Energy.

“Gunvor has stuck to their guns, they have refused to take back the crude. They argue that the vessel contains the exact specifications which the Zambian government ordered. So they have resolved to sue the government. The last time we heard on that issue, the government surrendered the matter to the Attorney General for recommendation. But the dispute may cost government millions of dollars,” said the source. When contacted for a comment, Energy Permanent Secretary Chola said government was not willing to pay for the “contaminated” crude.

“It’s contaminated crude, who has said we are going to pay? That case is still with the arbitration court, so the ruling hasn’t yet come out,” said Chola adding that the matter was not being heard in the Zambian courts.

“The details will come out once everything has been concluded. Currently the ones who are handling it are Ministry of Justice.”

An investigation has revealed that the Zambian government deliberately purchased the “contaminated” crude feedstock from Gunvor, despite having been warned of the damage which the previous consignment from the same supplier did to Indeni Petroleum Refinery.

In May 2014, Indeni wrote to TAZAMA, explaining that a products sampling and analyses report had shown that the imported feedstock by Gunvor contained Organic Chlorides, which caused corrosion attacks on the refinery.

“Once again we present and demonstrate through product sampling and laboratory analyses by Intertek Testing Services that imported crude feedstock (Refinery raw material) continues to contain causes of refinery corrosion attacks namely Organic Chlorides,” the letter signed by then Indeni Managing director Maybin Noole read in part.

“Shipment cargo MT Lovina that docked recently with samples taken from board/ship’s tanks before offloading had 7.0 wt ppm of Organic Chlorides, thus depositing into Dar Tazama tanks Organic Chlorides, the compound dreaded by all petroleum refineries for being major cause of refinery corrosion. The above data is evidence that Organic Chlorides came along with imported crude feedstock from either the source or ship’s compartment/tank bottoms.”

The said crude was however pumped into Indeni, a move that caused further damage to the refinery as it was still contending with the effects of corrosion from the batch of feedstock that had been received from cargo ship Mt Sharp Lady, which again had a high level of Organic Chlorides amounting to 31 wt ppm.

On 6 May 2014 the Joint Operating Committee (JOC) considered the matter and resolved that TAZAMA Pipelines should write to Ministry of Energy to recommend that: “effective next shipment, quality data sheets from source/supplier must include organic and inorganic chlorides analyses first”.

The government however went ahead to procure another 80-100,000 metric tones of contaminated crude feedstock, which Indeni refused to take in.

Last year in January, Indeni wrote to TAZAMA questioning the source of the contaminant in the crude feedstock.

“We are in receipt of reports analysis from Intertek concerning latest cargo offloading at

Dar by name of vessel MV Alberta.

As per data sheet attached herewith, it is evident that once again, the feedstock components contain a contaminant/poison called Organic Chlorides in excess of 4 ppm against 1.0 ppm maximum allowed,” Indeni stated in a letter dated January 11, 2016.

“Our first reaction is as follows: 1. Help us understand fully where this contaminant is coming from and why it is still found in crude feedstock components as this contaminant/poison is not naturally found in petroleum products. 2. Also send us analyses of composite (resultant) Organic Chloride in the final mixture to be blended in the proportion/composition provided by Indeni as follows: Oman Crude oil =44% Gasoil =43% and heavy Naphtha =13%. We look forward to your usual cooperation in this very important and serious feedstock supply risk.”

Meanwhile, Indeni failed to process part of the earlier supplied feedstock and it quarantined the crude for disposal, amidst fears that the contaminant would cause further damage to public motor vehicles.

In a letter dated April 26, 2016, Indeni wrote to Energy Permanent Secretary Brig Gen Chola requesting to dispose 29,367m³ of feedstock that could not be processed.

“Reference is made to the above matter. Indeni has now completed analysing the feedstock. Attached is the quantitative analysis of the contaminated crude oil quarantined at the Refinery. The total quantity being held in the refinery is 29,367m³,” read the letter.

“With this information, we hope the process of disposal of the said feedstock to interested parties can now commence. We also hope that the process will not be protracted as the prolonged quarantining of this feedstock in our tanks may have adverse effects on the equipment in the refinery.”

From front page

At a press briefing yesterday, Iris said the negative comments about her recent nude pictures which went viral on social media, did not affect her because she was merely appreciating the diverse culture of the country. "To begin with, there are many issues I realised that we need to tackle as a country. One of which is gender stereotypes and I realised as a woman that most times women are usually misunderstood and ridiculed because of what of they wear. So to set the tone, I want to say that from reading the comments, which I rarely do, posted on the pictures which went viral the past three days, I would like to say publicly that most people are focused on my past which was five years ago since the sex tape happened. I would like to urge people on social media especially because there is cyber bullying in this country which I personally feel does not affect me negatively, but then there are many other people that I see going through the same thing and it affects them negatively.

"I want to urge the public out there that it's not very nice the things that most people say about someone. We are all just human beings and we all have feelings, so in as much I don't come and say that I don't like what people say about me, I think that I want to champion cyber bullying. It needs to stop, you hide behind your computers and you say what you have to say but if I had to meet most people that say negative things about me in person,

Move on from my sex tape, let's build Zambia, pleads Iris Kaingu



Iris Kaingu speaks to journalists as Zambia's female artist Dambisa Moyo looks on at Best Western Plus Hotel in Lusaka on September 9, 2017 picture by Tenson Mkhala

they wouldn't say it, they just hide behind Facebook. So I would like to tell people who like to cyber bully that they need to stop, its not a very nice thing to do and I think that if you were in the same

situation as another person, you wouldn't like that to happen." Iris called on Zambians to move on from her past and join her in building a better Zambia.

"I really want people to move on from the sex tape. I would like to just highlight that because my family is so affected by most of the negative comments. It was not a nice thing, I apologised

and I went to prison for it, I also paid a fine and I think that many people make mistakes, so I would just like people and the nation at large to move on from that scandal and focus more on what my future is, to secure my future," she said.

"Let's work together. As a person, I have a foundation which I want to build for prisoners. I want to build a country where prisoners are recognised and where their welfare is paid attention to, I have a lot of positive things surrounding me but most of you want to just focus on my negative publicity which is not good. I would like to urge the media to practice responsible journalism because I am just a young woman only 26 years old, so please please let's just work together and make this country better," she said. Iris said she understood that the media could make or break her.

"I called this meeting because I know that the media can either build you or destroy you and as you sit here, I am aware that you have the intention to bring a good story. Now, you are going to be writers or tellers of my story and I think that you are going to determine how we move forward as a country, you are going to determine me as a person. You as media are going to drive the motion and everything that is said about me will be determined by yourselves and I would like to urge you that you are the builders of myself, I could never be anything without you people, you have made me where I am today so don't twist stories."

Asked what she had to say about the picture of her in animal skin paintings which had been circulating on social media, Iris said the picture was intended for a project she was working on but that it was leaked before time.

"On the issue of the elephant in the room, I was just depicting in the culture of our country. We were not clothed before missionaries came on board and gave us clothing. We used to wear animal skin and I think that everybody here is very familiar with this history and so today I want to depict this because I feel passionate about our culture and I feel that we are slowly losing the depth of ourselves. So one point of the picture was to appreciate culture and the second thing is that women are not celebrated enough, so I feel that we live in society where when a woman wants to rise up, most people especially the women want to bring them down.

And that picture is actually intended for a project that I am working on. It's unfortunate that it was leaked before it's time. I know most of you say Iris you like to be naked, no. I can't come to this function in a bikini or naked because that's unacceptable but when I am at the beach or at the pool I have to be in my bikinis because there you can't be fully dressed up. So I would like us to see the bigger picture and I want to urge women out there that we need to partner with each other, we are not enemies and if we work together we can make a better Zambia," said Iris.

Democracy has brought problems - Defence Minister

By Joseph Mwenda

Defence minister Davies Chama says democracy in the country has forced the government to stop teaching street kids life skill for fear of infringing on their human rights.

And Chama, a nominated member of parliament, who is also former ruling party secretary general, says the PF government will use the defence wing to boost the country's food security.

According to State House operated Smart Eagles Facebook page, the minister was speaking when he paid a courtesy call on Kitwe District Commissioner Binwell Mpundu in the company of senior Zambia National Service (ZNS) officers.

Chama regretted that when the government decides to reforms

streets kids by teaching them life skills, parents protested saying the move was infringing on their children's rights.

When asked if the ministry would take on board youths from the streets to train them in agriculture and other skills, Chama said the arrangement could only be done after consultation with stakeholders and parents of the children.

"This democracy has brought problems in our country. When government decides to take youths from the streets to train them in various skills, people will rise to say you are infringing on the rights of the children. Even parents of the child who are not seen, will come from nowhere," Chama said.

He said government was not eager to take street kids.

"This is the problem in our country, everything is politicised. So unless stakeholders including parents of the children agree, we can't take the children in the streets to train them," Chama added.

He also said the Defence wing was not all about military activities.

"The ZNS is doing a commendable job in agriculture. They are contributing significantly to the food security in the country. So I can tell you that we are moving away from being a consumer ministry and we are now becoming an economic ministry through our involvement in agriculture and food production in the country," said Chama.

When HH becomes president, he should expect other people to chase investors like he is doing to the PF – Mwakalombe

By Mirriam Chabala

Lusaka Province Minister Japhen Mwakalombe says when UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema becomes president, the opposition will chase investors the way he is doing to the PF. And Mwakalombe says Lusaka Mayor Wilson Kalumba's idea of getting K10 garbage collection levy from people's phones is not yet government policy. Speaking at a PF Interactive Forum on Sunday, Mwakalombe, who is also Chongwe PF member of parliament, asked HH to be truthful.

"Where is the loyalty to his country? Where is the loyalty to the people who voted? He has got a very big number of people who voted. We cannot have a situation where as a country we are looking for investments to come into the country and other people are chasing people away deliberately. Tomorrow, you become a president and it will be the same because what you are doing to others is what will happen to you also. So I am appealing to HH's conscience to say when you are going to engage people, engage them truthfully, speaking on something that is happening," Makalombe said.

"For instance surely we are all Zambians, have you ever seen in Zambia police go into parliament? But the person who is aspiring to be president goes to South Africa, leaves his own people that he is supposed to be talking for, he goes all the way to South Africa to go and talk about our Parliament is not independent and police go inside. Surely, even if you want to attract attention, surely, even if you want to

attract sympathy or those who are funding you, can you go to an extent of saying something which has never existed? Zambia is bigger than all of us. It is unfortunate that we want to go into political offices at all cost. Our friends in Europe, they resign as president when they lose elections, they put integrity ahead of everything that they do and that has been our culture as Zambians, we have KK, he is living there, he is not a rich money but he has a big name. How can someone at a level of HH go to South Africa and start speaking

things like that? Why can't he dwell his energies on how he can organize his party? Why can't he go to the markets and go to the people who are poor and suffering? Opposition doesn't mean you have to be antagonistic or disagree with everything. In opposition, when your friend does well, you should be able to say 'this is right', when it is wrong, you say 'this is wrong', that is the only way you win." Mwakalombe also said it was unfortunate that politics had overshadowed development in Zambia. "It is very unfortunate that

in Zambia today, politics have gone to an extent of hating each other based on Zambia, because of the political party that you belong...I felt that politics, you offer yourself to the people and people vote for you. I have never seen any person in this world that has ever fought or attempted to kill a person because he is a garden boy, I have never. As politicians we say we are servants of the people but today people hate each other with a passion, to go an extent to create a story which does not exist to paint the other player black. It is very sad.

And it is very unfortunate. Today in Zambia, politics is what attracts people's attention, we are diverting from development to politics," he said. Mwakalombe urged Zambians not to forget about the liberation struggle. "The day we are conceived from our mother's wombs, we are conceived as Zambians. In Zambia when one is sick, we do not laugh, when one is mourning, we mourn with them and this has been the nature of Zambians, to be patriotic, you may wish to note that the suffering of

our forefathers, what they went through to attain the independence that we are enjoying today has eroded in our minds, perhaps because we were not there, the majority of us. But the history is very clear... yes, because we have not experienced it, we think it is a simple issue which we can brush aside and ignore. But we are not being loyal, we are not honoring people who sacrificed for this independence," said Mwakalombe. And Mwakalombe said he was yet to meet Kalumba to discuss garbage collection modalities.



Some farmers in Sioma District welcome WWF officials who were in the area to monitor conservation farming projects - picture by Thomas Mulenga

No one is harassing PF in Kalomo - Police

From front page
He appealed to those who had allegedly been

intimidated to lodge a complaint to any nearest police station.

"It is surprising to hear that outsiders from the province now seem

to know better than officers who are on the ground monitoring security situations under very difficult circumstances. My office is open to dialogue to both the ruling and opposition political parties in our quest to consolidate the peace currently prevailing in southern province. Let security matters be professionally dealt with by professional authorities in order to avoid igniting unnecessary political tension where it doesn't even exist," Kapeso said. He said there had been peace in Southern Province the last six months.

"We have carried investigations regarding the same for the past one week since the allegation was made but up to now, there's no where such a report has been made to the police throughout the province. since people are urging us to take the unconfirmed reports seriously, we also appeal to people that have been intimidated to come out clean and lodge the complaints to any nearest police station. We have enjoyed unimaginable levels of abundant peace in the province without registering any form of political violence for more than six months now," said Kapeso.

We'll share lessons from Congress of Constitutional Justice - Mambilima

By Joseph Mwenda

Chief Justice Ireen Mambilima says she is looking forward to the cases-exchange session at the 4th World Congress of Constitutional Justice in Lithuania so that she can learn from other countries. Mambilima said this when she was transiting through Germany during her interaction with Zambia's Charge D' Affaires at the Embassy in Berlin, Theresa Kimena. According to a statement issued by Zambia's First Secretary for Press at the Germany Embassy Kellys Kaunda, Kimena told Chief Justice Mambilima that her decision to attend the congress

signified the importance she attached to constitutional matters. "Your attendance of this meeting sends a strong signal to the Zambian people of the importance you attach to constitutional matters. This is the same importance President Lungu attaches to constitutional development as evidenced by his assenting to a new constitution last year," Kimena told the Chief Justice, who was accompanied by constitutional judge Mulonda. In her remarks, Chief Justice Ireen Mambilima said the congress afforded an opportunity to exchange global experiences regarding the promotion and upholding of justice based on

the constitution. "There will be an exchange of case law which we shall intend to bring back home and share with the rest of our colleagues", said Mrs. Mambilima. The Supreme Court of Zambia is a member of the Congress that regularly holds conferences on matters of justice. The southern African presidency of the congress is currently held by Namibia but will be represented at this year's congress by Zambia. During the weeklong conference Chief Justice Mambilima is expected to chair selected sessions as well as hold discussions with her counterparts from other parts of the world.

From front page

"It is true that comrade Edgar Chagwa Lungu was not poor at the time that he became President of Zambia, that is a fact and then also literally speaking it also stands out that the Zambian laws stops anyone from running for public office if he is bankrupt, so a bankrupt person cannot run for council position, Parliamentary office and you can't run for the office of Mayor or President and Vice-President, you can't. So we totally agree to what Honourable Kampamba [Mulenga] said that comrade Edgar Chagwa Lungu was not poor. Comrade Lungu was of course had assets, a farm and I for one can attest to the fact that there is one area where he is a neighbour, way before he became a public officer. It was before I became MP myself by then I was country director for international organizations. So there is one area where he was building and I was also building. So we knew each other way back. So there are basic assets that he had before he became President and I can attest to that," Chishimba said.

He however said there was need to examine how President Lungu's net worth rose between a short period of time.

"So when you look at the net pay worthiness of President Lungu now as compared to his net

Saviour Chishimba defends Lungu's wealth

pay worthiness when he became President which is in public record, about two years ago he was around K2 million if I am not mistaken then by the end of last year when we were running for elections that amount rose to K27 million. So these are details that we need to be examining and there is nothing irregular about this because public officers must give an account to the people of Zambia and these are the basic answers that the people of Zambia are looking for either directly or through those people who are speaking on his behalf," Chishimba said. And Chishimba says people should not personalize the fight against corruption but focus on building strong governance institutions.

"Sometimes the mistake we make in our nation is that we want to personalise issues. We in the UPP will not take any debate personal because the moment we begin to personalise then we are going to miss the bigger



UPP leader Saviour Chishimba speaks to journalist in Lusaka—picture by Tenson Mkhala

picture. We are going to miss what we should be addressing as a nation. And this is the reason why

we have been making a mistake as country because we want to think that the moment you just remove a particular individual and put another person then problems will end, no! What we should be addressing as a nation right now is rebuilding strong institutions of governance that will make it practically impossible to steal from the people of Zambia," he said. "Yes again I will have to go back to what I was saying, you are aware that UPP is the first political party to alert the nation about corruption and all these who are coming are just talking about issues that they don't even understand. You know it and we have been very clear even before elections it was our campaign message to the people of Zambia and after elections we have been very consistent raising awareness and our awareness on corruption goes beyond President Edgar Lungu because the amount of assets that you are talking about, when you compare with the amount of money which has been stolen by directors in government offices and those in the private sector who are working with them, the Chinese and you put this money together, you find that even this

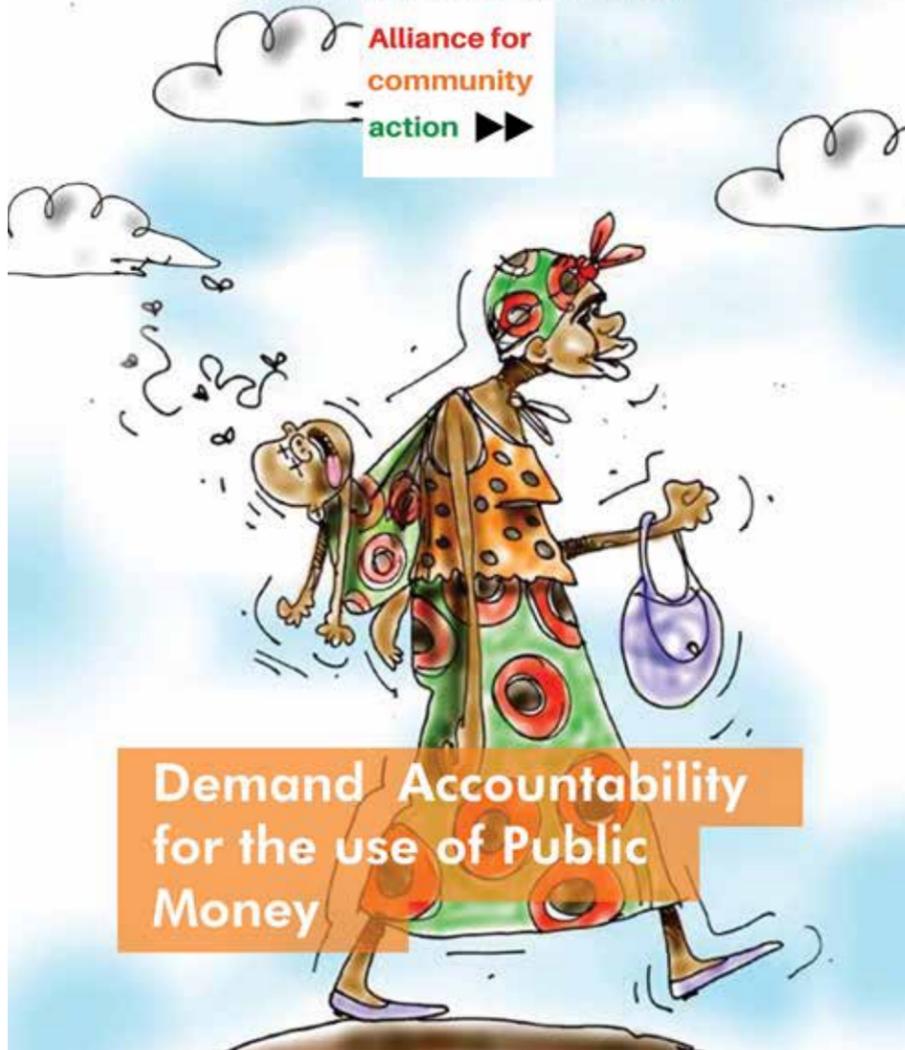
focus we want to target on Lungu is a mistake, we are making a mistake and this idea of trying to narrow the fight against corruption to the President or comrade Edgar Lungu is purely being by the group I think that has always championed the politics of simply wanting to settle scores." Chishimba said he was against the culture of persecution. "I remember I was still a Member of Parliament when I stood out clearly to challenge late President Levy Mwanawasa that while we welcome the fight against corruption, we have very serious concerns with the way the fight has been personalised and reduced to settling scores because Mwanawasa and Chiluba were at war and the first victim of Mwanawasa when he became President was FTJ Chiluba. Chiluba was not prosecuted but persecuted and that was all because Chilubi refused to punish Sata when he differed with Mwanawasa so he had that hurt for him and wanted to take his revenge. Rupiah Banda also decided to cover his own corruption when he became President and decided to settle scores against the Post Newspapers and Mathani to destroy Finance Bank. So there has a history

of personal vendettas in the fight against corruption in this country," said Chishimba.

"When President Sata became President we commend him because he did not hesitate to ensure that some of the officials in his own government who were corrupt were dealt with immediately. That approach, though President Sata didn't last long, should be hailed by all the people of Zambia because he started dealing with his government as well and he didn't hesitate to fire the corrupt advisors we know them, some of them have been reinstated and that is a question we should be asking, why have the corrupt people that President Sata removed been reinstated? So now we have comrade Lungu as President of Zambia, let us not narrow down the fight against corruption on comrade Lungu, we will be making a strategic mistake if we did that as a country. All those houses that Lungu is building cannot amount to the sum total of the billions of dollars that are leaving the country through Chinese monopoly and other means."

"The baby that does not cry dies on the mothers back"

Alliance for
community
action ▶▶



Demand Accountability for the use of Public Money

By Joseph Mwenda

Government has, through the Ministry of Finance, released the 2018-2020 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) with a K65.4 billion national budget projection. And the Ministry of Finance has called on government stakeholders to scrutinise the 2018-2020 "Green Paper" and make constructive recommendations.

"I am pleased to present the 2018-2020 "Green Paper" which is aimed at linking Government's medium term development goals, as tabulated in the Seventh National Development Plan. In over seven years, this is the first time that a green paper is being availed to the public for scrutiny, commentary, and refinement," the Ministry stated in a statement released today.

"Over the 2018-2020 medium term, Government projects to spend a total of K210.0 billion, excluding amortisation, out of which, K65.4 billion will be spent in 2018, K69.4 billion in 2019 and K75.1 billion in 2020. As a share of GDP, this will amount to an average of 22.2 percent per annum. Out of the projected total expenditure of K210.0 billion, 80.8 percent will be financed from domestic

Govt to announce K65.4 billion budget for 2018



President Edgar Lungu with Finance Minister Felix Mutati before speaking to journalists during a press conference at State House on July 6, 2017 - Picture by Joseph Mwenda

revenues and the balance through domestic and external borrowing. Table 4 below shows the budget

by economic classification as a share of GDP." The Ministry said government intends to

scale down borrowing. "In the context of the objective of fiscal consolidation, Government

will over the medium term progressively scale down its borrowing levels. With domestic resource mobilisation not being able to fully compensate for lower financing, Government's overall expenditure policy for the period 2018-2020 will be characterised by reforms aimed at improving value for money as well as reduced spending in non-priority areas. Therefore, expenditure will be focused on areas that will contribute to economic diversification and job creation. This will facilitate a reduction in poverty and vulnerability levels, developmental inequalities and enhance human development. Expenditure policy will also focus on developing a governance environment for a diversified and inclusive economy, in line with the 7NDP," read the statement.

creation in the medium to long-term. In this regard, Government over the medium term plans to prioritise agriculture, mining, manufacturing and tourism as the strategic sectors for the creation of decent employment opportunities and inclusive development."

The ministry called for recommendations and contributions from the public.

"All stakeholders are therefore implored to scrutinize the 2018 - 2020 "Green Paper" and make constructive recommendations that will enable the finalization of the nation's objectives over the next medium term period. In line with the theme of the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) which focuses on an integrated multi-sectoral development approach of "accelerating development efforts towards Vision 2030 without leaving anyone behind", the 2018-2020 Medium Term Expenditure Framework reflects Government's commitment to ensure that the benefits of economic growth are shared equitably by all citizens. Therefore, Government will work on creating a diversified and resilient economy for sustained growth and socio-economic transformation driven, by among others, the agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and mining sectors," read the statement in part.

"The MTEF will focus on restoring fiscal fitness for sustained inclusive growth and development. This will be done by realigning spending and enhancing domestic resource mobilisation. Administrative measures are being put in place to strengthen efforts of improving domestic revenue mobilisation so as to meet the medium term revenue targets. This will be through the full implementation of various measures already commenced upon, such as installation of fiscal registers in the retail and wholesale sector and the forensic audit of VAT refund claims to reduce cheating and revenue leakages. Tax payer education campaigns will also be enhanced to encourage compliance, while the introduction and roll out of electronic payments will be followed through in order to limit cash transactions and enhance audit trails. To complement the various efforts on mobilising revenues, the Government will also continue to engage with Cooperating Partners to increase the level of assistance from 2018 and beyond."

K60 maize price is recipe for poverty - Nkombo

By Mirriam Chabala

Mazabuka Central UPND Member of Parliament Garry Nkombo says the K60 buying price of a 50kg bag of maize recommended by government is a recipe for creating poverty among Zambians.

In an

interview today, Nkombo told News Diggers! that the price that had been set by the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) for the 2017 marketing season was ridiculously low and that it took advantage of poor farmers whose domestic demands kept escalating everyday.

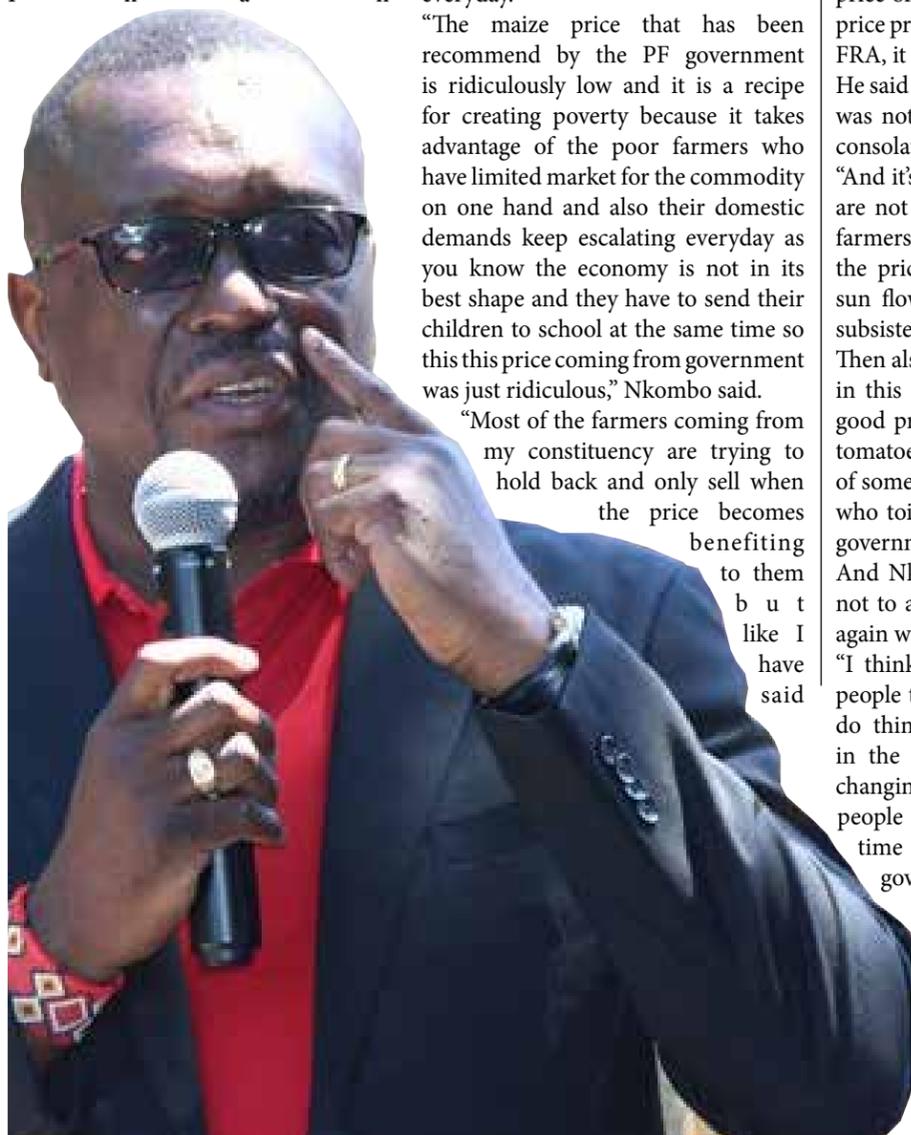
"The maize price that has been recommend by the PF government is ridiculously low and it is a recipe for creating poverty because it takes advantage of the poor farmers who have limited market for the commodity on one hand and also their domestic demands keep escalating everyday as you know the economy is not in its best shape and they have to send their children to school at the same time so this this price coming from government was just ridiculous," Nkombo said.

"Most of the farmers coming from my constituency are trying to hold back and only sell when the price becomes benefiting to them but like I have said

they are sitting on a hard rock and the demand sometimes could overwhelm them and they may end up selling at that very deflated price. So all this is the making of the PF. Government because they should have just allowed the market forces to determine the price of the commodity other than the price pronouncement that was made by FRA, it was very ill-made," he said. He said the price of other farm produce was not good enough to give farmers consolation.

"And it's not only the maize prices that are not favourable for the subsistence farmers, you must understand that even the price of Soya beans, groundnuts, sun flower is affected and then most subsistence farmers don't do wheat. Then also the market is so manipulated in this country so they can not get a good price even if they decided to do tomatoes. There has to be some policy of some kind that would favour people who toil and suffer on the ground for government to buy that maize," he said. And Nkombo has challenged farmers not to allow government to fool them again when its time for elections.

"I think the way to do it now is for people to learn that a government can do things right for them but maybe in the long run they must consider changing the government maybe people who will be in control at that time when they have changed the government can address their requirements and needs. It's common knowledge that last year's prices were inspired by the elections and by now people should know that never again should they be duped simply because it's an election year," said Nkombo.



Iris Kaingu, the daughter of former Higher Education Minister Michael Kaingu is making an earnest appeal to people in Zambia to move on from the pornographic video she produced while in college five years ago. She is not happy that critics always focus on negativity when discussing her, even when she does something with good intentions.

It seems Iris is eager to close the page and open a new chapter in life. She wants by-gones to be by-gones so that she can join other people who want to contribute towards Zambia's development. She is also concerned that there is too much cyber bullying in the country and goes further to brag that most people who insult and say bad things about her on Facebook, cannot do so if they met her in person.

"I would like to say publicly that most people are focused on my past which was five years ago since the sex tape happened. We are all just human beings and we all have feelings, so in as much I don't come and say that I don't like what people say about me, I think that I want to champion [the fight against] cyber bullying. It needs to stop, you hide behind your computers and you say what you have to say but if I had to meet most people that say negative things about me in person, they wouldn't say it, they just hide behind Facebook," says Iris.

"I really want people to move on from the sex tape.

Iris, hide your public private parts

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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I would like to just highlight that because my family is so affected by most of the negative comments. It was not a nice thing, I apologised and I went to prison for it, I also paid a fine and I think that many people make mistakes, so I would just like people and the nation at large to move on from that scandal and focus more on my future."

We need to take a moment to speak to Iris on this issue because it is of great concern to youth-driven organisations such as ours, which seek to promote positive change and youth empowerment among 21st century citizens of this country.

Dear Iris, to start with, we are surprised that your parents are actually affected by the ridicule that you continue to draw upon them. We say this because if you belonged to a standard family with entrenched African values, if you had a God-fearing father who

values discipline among his children, you would never ever again flaunt your nakedness to the public. In fact, you would never have been allowed to appear in public again until your so-called sex tape was completely forgotten about.

We are not here to condemn you Iris, for the mistake you made at a tender age. What you did happens all the time in colleges and universities, even as we 'speak'. Very few people are innocent when it comes to issues of morality and promiscuity; and even those who are innocent are not so clean in the eyes of God. We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, one way or another.

The problem with you Iris is that you seem to enjoy this negative publicity. You may disagree with us, but that is what people who were not involved in that sex tape think about you because of the manner in which you carry yourself,

years after that scandal. You were not the first person to be involved in a sex tape and you were not the last, but no one is talking about other offenders – not even the man you were groping. Zambian rapper Bobby East, for example, was also involved in a sex tape, but when one googles your two names, the results tell a different story about you. Why is your name synonymous with pornography? It is because you have continued to show your unsolicited nudity to the public. Your friends have vanished from the public eye; they are redeeming themselves and soon, when they decide to seek public office, no one will remember what they did. But you seem to want to ride on that negative publicity so much.

You want Zambians to forget about your nudity, but you keep providing them with X-rated attractions. How can men in a country, already so low in its moral fabric, forget about your

sex tape when you are busy flaunting the same instruments which you used to produce it? You want people to focus on developing the country but your contribution to the private sector is your Public Private Parts? It does not work that way. What you are doing is promoting moral decay and expecting the public to buy into it, just because "we all make mistakes".

What worries us more is that Iris Kaingu wants to one day lead this country; and make no mistake, if she stood as member of parliament somewhere, she stands a good chance of winning. Not because voters would believe in her as a good leader, but for the same reason that Donald Trump is President of the world's most powerful nation. Clearly, for those who join politics, no publicity is bad publicity; they play the victim card until they get what they want. So Iris can

claim that she apologised for her past mistake, went to jail and even paid a fine for it, but she certainly seems non-repentant.

In fact, we would like to ask the Minister of Religious Affairs Rev Godfridah Sumaili to take a break from quarrelling with false prophets and sit down with Iris Kaingu because she has such a huge following in this country. Many young girls admire Iris' fame and they are bound to follow her example if she does not condemn her past and present behaviour. If the Minister really cares about ending moral decay in this country, let her ignore the fake anointing oil for a moment and speak to Iris – as a mother who truly cares.

We are not asking for too much from Iris and her family. She is a Zambian citizen and has the right to participate in any area of human endeavour, but our demand is that she must show remorse and move on, before asking others to do so. What we are asking for is a changed Iris whom we can proudly support as a young aspiring leader, not one whose phone number you don't even want to save for fear of your wife.

If Iris wants to support the cause for prisoners as she claims, let her show us pictures of how the inmates in prison are starving, and not how the inmate in her underwear is starving.

Dear Fellow citizens
Corruption is an evil practice slowly consuming our efforts in building our nations as public service individuals classify it as another source of income besides their salary. There is need for African Governments to safeguard press freedom which is an important pillar in fighting corruption and other ills afflicting our people such as terrorism and drug trafficking. A robust media makes it much easier to illuminate corrupt transactions and corrupt public officials. Exposes about corruption scandals especially in high places is viewed as extremely newsworthy. Scandalous and corrupt conduct attracts wide national and international attention because of the general fascination by the public in seeing personalities especially perpetrators of political corruption in embarrassing situations. The media thus plays an important role in highlighting corruption through press coverage and investigative journalism. We must therefore continue to encourage and

For those who fight the fight against corruption

uphold the principles of a free and robust media for its role in promoting good governance and assisting in the fight against corruption. Another critical area deserving special mention is the central role of members of the public in fighting corruption especially through law enforcement. When people who witness corruption taking place are not willing to come forward, report it and later testify in court, law enforcement agencies would not be able to deal with it. The upshot of that failure in civic responsibility is the crumbling of cases through which corrupt persons would otherwise have been held to account. We must therefore innovate and implement strategies which address public ignorance and apathy in order to empower citizens to proactively participate in

anti-corruption processes. Further firming up of the policy and guidelines on the role of the public in the fight against corruption is very necessary. The public needs to be made aware that they are the ultimate victims of corruption and there is need to internalise and discharge the mandatory responsibility placed on their shoulders in the efforts to fight corruption.

African governments to foster and promote ethical leadership in all sectors and more so in the public sector. It is instructive that unethical leadership remains one of the biggest governance challenges in African countries which continue to ravage their economic and social landscape. The morality and ethics of the modern public service are a product of the minds of the leaders

of the organisation through the policies they establish and the behaviour they model. Leaders at all levels set the ethical tone for subordinates in their organisations and have a significant impact on how their subordinates act and perform. Indeed, leaders are often the most important source of information that subordinates look to for guidance in their behaviour.

The need for high standards of ethics and integrity for holders of leadership positions is not because the leaders have an inherent inclination to perpetuate corruption, or will necessarily do so. Rather, the nature of leadership positions requires the office holders to continually face difficult ethical dilemmas and constantly decide among competing interests hence the temptation to

engage in corruption. There is thus need for African States to establish effective and efficient mechanisms to promote the integrity and ethical conduct of those entrusted with leadership positions.

Thus was upon the realisation that while integrity is the most important quality of leadership, it is also one of the great challenges of leadership. Leaders who assume public office with genuine intentions to help their people may soon find themselves faced with ethical dilemmas when their personal interests are brought to competition with their official authority and discretion. It is therefore necessary that we subject leaders to prescribed standards of conduct to help them resolve such ethical issues. It is true that colonialism

did not bestow much to Africa but the African Leadership could not retain the little that it inherited. In fact, corrupt leaders destroyed it.

It is my greatest hope that my efforts will enhance our continental, regional and national efforts in fighting corruption and those who fight the fight. I strongly suggest that we take it upon ourselves to encourage the African States which are yet to ratify the AU Convention on Combating and Preventing corruption to do so without delay. This will enable us to move together as the African block developing solutions for African problems. God bless the United States of Africa.

*Dr Charles Sinkala
President - World Native
Identity Foundation
(WNIF) Based in RSA*

Mummies discovered in Egypt

Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered the tomb of a royal goldsmith containing the mummies of a woman and her two children, authorities said.

The tomb, dating back to the New Kingdom (16th to 11th Centuries BC), was found near the Nile city of Luxor, 400 miles (700km) south of Cairo.

Among the items discovered inside was a statue of the goldsmith Amenemhat, sitting beside his wife.

It is unclear whether the three mummies discovered are connected to Amenemhat.

The mummies were found down a burial shaft leading off the main chamber, Egypt's Ministry of Antiquities said.

According to the archaeologists, the mother died aged about 50, with tests revealing she had a bacterial bone disease. Her two sons were in their 20s and 30s and their bodies said to have been preserved in good condition.

Authorities believe the tomb of Amenemhat, who was goldsmith for the god Amun, the period's most powerful deity, could lead



them to further discoveries in the Draa Abul Naga necropolis, an area famed for its temples and burial grounds.

Minister of Antiquities Khaled al-Anani said: "We

found many objects of the funerary equipment inside and outside the tomb. We found mummies, coffins, funerary combs, funerary masks, some jewellery, and statue.

"The work did not finish yet."

Mr Anani said archaeologists had read four new names.

"What about those four new names? How about

their tombs? Their tombs are not discovered yet. But I believe they are owners of the tomb," he said.

"I believe, inshallah, for the coming season, we are going to do our excavations.

We are going to do our excavations in this area. So I believe we can find one, or two or maybe four if we are going to be very lucky, four of them in this area." **BBC News**

The United States released a revised draft for new sanctions against North Korea on Sunday, diplomats said, making concessions to Russia and China as it seeks to convince the UN Security Council to punish Pyongyang for its recent nuclear test.

The Security Council is set to vote Monday on the US-led effort to impose harsher

US revises draft UN sanctions proposal on N. Korea - diplomats

new sanctions against North Korea, which has defied multiple measures to rein in

its weapons programme. The new draft moderates the toughest parts of the original

proposal, with a potentially crippling oil embargo on North Korea to be introduced

progressively, diplomats said. Following four days of tough negotiations, notably

with Beijing and Moscow, it eliminated an assets freeze on leader Kim Jong-Un, according to diplomats, which had been called for in the earlier draft.

Among other concessions the new text is slightly softer when it comes to the situation of North Korean guest workers and the inspection by force of ships suspected of carrying cargo prohibited by the UN.

The new draft includes a textile ban, which Washington had pushed for originally.

The proposed raft of sanctions come as UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in an interview the showdown over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile program was the world's worst crisis "in years" and had left him deeply worried.

The purpose of the latest measure is to isolate North Korea, leaving it with little choice but to come to the negotiation table.

North Korea for its part has shot back that it would inflict "the greatest pain and suffering" if new measures are passed. **AFP**



Ooo, look what you made him do. Joseph Kahn is known for his memorable music videos, but now he's getting a reputation for stirring up some drama with one of the most intense fan bases out there -- the Beyhive.

Kahn, who directed the music videos for Taylor Swift's recent "Look What You Made Me Do" and her 2014 hit "Bad Blood," took

Swift's director claims Beyoncé's 'Lemonade' copied 'Bad Blood'

aim at Beyoncé and her fans in a recent interview with the Los Angeles Times.

Noting that Beyoncé's fans have been coming at him

on Twitter for seemingly copying the pop diva's work with the "LWYMMMD" video, Kahn went on to say that all artists are

influenced by one another. "It's not 'Formation' at all. They try to say she's wearing a black crop top and Beyoncé wore a black

crop top," he said. "But they don't realize in 2015 in 'Bad Blood,' Taylor Swift was wearing a black crop top. I really do think, by the way,

that Beyoncé copied 'Bad Blood.'"

It was unclear from the piece whether the comment was made in jest or not, but Kahn still had fun with the reaction, tweeting a link to the article and writing, "Come get it Beyhive. The candy is right here."

He continued to post shady links claiming Beyoncé had sampled from others, writing, "Beyhive triggered."

But then Kahn seemed to clarify that he'd been joking, retweeting several followers who noted that the Beyhive wasn't in on the joke.

When asked if he had simply been "trolling," Kahn replied, "Yes. The world is full of stupid mother**kers."

This isn't the first time Kahn has come to Swift's defense. In July 2016, he slammed the Kardashians shortly after Kim Kardashian released snippets on Snapchat of the now-infamous phone call between Kanye West and Swift.

"Ain't the first time the Kardashians supported the murder of an innocent blonde woman," he tweeted at the time, going on to praise Swift.

Kahn previously opened up to ET about Swift's creative process and involvement in her videos.

"We have a complete discussion. These are true collaborations it's not like, 'Hey Joseph, here's a song and come back and tell me what to do.' It's not like that at all," he said. "We talk about every shot, we discuss every set-up as we're doing it and there's nothing that happens without literally both of us putting our brains together about it." *Yahoo News*



Farrell opens up about son's rare disorder

Colin Farrell is opening up about one of the most special moments of his life.

The 41-year-old actor, who stars in the dark drama *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*, stopped by the PEOPLE, Entertainment Weekly and InStyle studio at the Toronto International Film Festival with costar Nicole Kidman and director Yorgos Lanthimos.

Farrell, who plays a father given a terrible choice in the movie, shared a joyful story from his real life as a dad. "When James took his first steps a couple weeks short of his fourth birthday, it was pretty amazing and humbling to see," Farrell says.

The actor's firstborn son, who turns 14 next week, has a rare genetic disorder called Angelman syndrome, which causes motor and developmental disabilities, among other symptoms.

Farrell says that while any child taking their first steps is a momentous occasion, it meant even to him knowing his son worked hard to reach that milestone.

"People talk about the children taking the first step, it's obviously a monumental moment and it's been represented in film," Farrell says. "But to be told your child may never take the first step and then see those first steps is

just kind of a different sport all together."

Farrell then jokingly tells Kidman to "beat that," but she responds that her two youngest daughters with husband Keith Urban have put a gag order on telling stories about them.

"I'm not allowed to talk right now about my children because they're becoming aware of what I say and it gets reported back to them so I've been silenced," Kidman admits. "I'm just very, very proud of them and would love to be able to discuss them, but have been told to cut it out."

Yahoo News



Usher denies allegations against him in herpes lawsuit

Usher is firing back at the three individuals who sued him for allegedly failing to warn them of his reported STD diagnosis.

In court documents obtained by PEOPLE, the singer's legal team "denies each and every allegation" made against him by Quantasia Sharpton and two others — identified as "Jane Doe" and "John Doe" — who filed their joint lawsuit in August.

The "Confessions" singer — through his lawyers Laura Wassar and Zia Modabber — claims that if sexual contact did take place with his accusers, there

wasn't any intent to harm. "Any alleged conduct by Defendant, which is expressly denied, was unintentional," the filing says.

Usher, 38, also says that they "assumed the risk of any alleged harm" by engaging in sexual contact.

He further accuses the three individuals of "unclean hands," meaning that they've committed some sort of wrongdoing or are liable for an offense themselves, in the document.

Sharpton said in an August news conference that the singer exposed her to herpes during a

sexual encounter with him after a concert on her 19th birthday. Though she did not contract the STD, Sharpton felt that her "rights were violated."

In 2012, Usher also reportedly paid a woman \$1.1 million to settle a lawsuit after she claimed to have contracted herpes from him. According to court documents filed by the celebrity stylist whom Usher settled the suit with in 2012, the "Confessions" singer was allegedly diagnosed with herpes around 2009 or 2010.

The stylist accused the star — who married his current wife Grace

Miguel in 2015 — of "consciously and purposefully" withholding his diagnosis from the woman and "continued to have unprotected sex" with her, according to papers obtained by Radar Online.

The woman was tested and diagnosed with herpes after suffering from vaginal sores, fevers and chills, according to the court papers.

California law states that it is illegal to knowingly or recklessly transmit an STD, and court papers showed the singer paid \$2,754.40 of the victim's medical bills in 2012. *Yahoo News*

Rafael Nadal wins 2017 US Open

Rafael Nadal restored order to this eccentric US Open last night, easing to a comfortable 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 victory over giant South African Kevin Anderson on Arthur Ashe Stadium. This contest always had "blowout" written on it. Anderson came in as a first-time major finalist, and the lowest-ranked man – at No. 32 in the world – to play for the US Open trophy. No wonder Nadal had been listed at prohibitive odds to secure a 16th grand-slam title.

Like the women's final on Saturday evening, the big occasion soon dwindled away into predictability. Nadal was dominant throughout. He broke the giant Anderson serve – which touched 136mph at one stage – no fewer than four times, while never giving up a break point himself.

The best hope for the underdog would have been to deliver ace after ace. Yet Anderson was landing that siege-gun of a first serve only 59 per cent of the time, his lowest figure for the whole tournament.

In all probability, the dip was caused by overpressing. Nadal was giving his opponent so little to work with – only 11 unforced errors in the match – that Anderson tried too hard for the miracle serves, and lost his rhythm as a result.

Among the women, the last couple of seasons have thrown up four new major champions. Among the men, however, the elite five-man cartel continues to monopolise the biggest titles, even if three of its members failed to sign in for this tournament because of injury.

As yesterday's final reminded us, the gap between tennis's haves and have-nots remains as wide



as the Hudson River. We saw a similar rout when Andy Murray disposed of Milos Raonic so serenely in last year's Wimbledon final. Nadal did everything better than Anderson. He moved with the electric pace of his heyday – a sign, perhaps, that the PRP (plasma-rich platelet) treatment he is believed to have used on his knees has succeeded in turning back the clock.

At the net, he was flawless,

winning all 15 of the points he played there. Even on the serve – where he was giving away around 15mph – he delivered more service winners than Anderson, who never even got to deuce as a returner until the last game of the match.

All in all, this was one of Nadal's most ruthless performances on a hard court. It made a fitting moment for Toni Nadal – his uncle and coach, who is stepping down after

this tournament to work at the family's new tennis academy in Mallorca – to bow out.

"I know is my last grand slam here," Toni Nadal told ESPN interviewer Tom Rinaldi. "I very happy, many thanks for all the people in my life." Nadal is held up as a screaming fan yelps at the top of her voice. The Spaniard looks unimpressed. Anderson hits his return straight into the net, but wins the

next point with a powerful riposte.

Oh no! Anderson misses a simple high volley, striking it long, to help Nadal move 30-15 up. Is that it? Not immediately, as Anderson levels things again. The crowd noise rises, but it's Nadal who moves to championship point. Anderson saves it, the first time he has got to deuce against Nadal's serve in this final.

Boom! Huge serve from Nadal is too much for

Anderson, whose racquet clatters into the ground. And that's it! Sixteenth Grand Slam victory!

What a first point. Eighteen shots between the pair and Nadal is producing spectacular, hard-hitting tennis and looks in a hurry as he nears victory. Anderson follows it up with an ace to go level and another powerful serve to move ahead. He finishes the game with a big ace. Nadal serving for the match. *Yahoo Sports*

Mighty, Power draw elates Wedson

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia coach Wedson Nyirenda has praised 2nd placed Power Dynamos and struggling 'Mighty' Mufulira Wanderers for producing a quality game despite their varying status

in Saturday's 1-1 draw in Kitwe.

Nyirenda was in Kitwe on Saturday to monitor his Chipolopolo CHAN players in action predominately at Power in the match played at Arthur Davies Stadium.

Power dominated the first half but could only score one goal in the 9th minute through Jimmy Ndhlovu.

Fourth from last Wanderers returned from the break with more belief against a wasteful Power and

equalised in the 48th minute through Guily Manziba.

The draw saw Wanderers maintain their unbeaten run against Power since they were promoted back in 2015.

Wanderers have three draws and as many wins against Power since ending their 10-year absence from the FAZ Super Division in 2015.

"The rivalry will always continue to be there but this game was so special in that it pitted a team that, one: is fighting relegation, and very difficult team to beat in the name 'Mighty' Mufulira Wanderers, who are a big team in Zambian football," Nyirenda said.

"And secondly, Power Dynamos are fighting for the championship, so it was an interesting game.

"That is why I had to come all the way from Lusaka to come and see what exactly is happening and especially to see the character of the players and also to look at the players who are passing through our national team."

Chipolopolo Vs Super Eagles will be between Africa's best – Nigeria coach

By Diggers Reporter

Nigeria coach Gernot Rohr believes their October date against Zambia will pit Africa's top two teams on current form in the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifiers.

"The two best teams in Africa now are Nigeria and Zambia. It will be an interesting but difficult game against Zambia, who we beat 2-1

in Ndola, but they have changed and succeeded," Rohr told local Nigerian TV.

"It's an important game and we have it in our hands to win. If we have our players fit, we will be at the World Cup. I hope we repeat what we did against Cameroon."

Nigeria and Zambia meet on October 7 in Uyo in a make-or-

break Group B showdown.

Leaders Nigeria are just three points ahead of 2nd placed Zambia on 10 and 7 points respectively with two Group B matches left to play.

Nigeria are unbeaten in Group B with three wins and a draw.

Zambia have kicked into form since losing 2-1 in their opening Group B qualifier at home to Nigeria last

October.

Wedson Nyirenda's side rebounded with a 1-1 away draw against Cameroon last November before collecting 3-1 home and 1-0 away wins over Algeria this month.

Nigeria flattened Cameroon 4-0 in Uyo on September 1 before drawing 1-1 on September 4 in Yaounde.

In charge of Arsenal for over two decades, the French manager once had the opportunity to replace Sir Alex Ferguson at Old Trafford. Arsene Wenger has revealed why he turned down the chance to manage Manchester United.

The Frenchman has stayed loyal to Arsenal since joining them in 1996, although former United chairman Martin Edwards has revealed that the Red Devils offered him the chance to replace Sir Alex Ferguson.

Edwards claimed in his autobiography: "Our first choice was Arsene. Since joining Arsenal in 1996 Wenger had been greatly successful, especially in his first full season in charge when he won the Double.

"And while it's true to say he suffered hard times since, at the time we thought he was the best candidate to replace Alex. Certainly he was my number one choice.

"So we made our approach and Wenger did show a little

Wenger reveals why he turned away Man-U job

bit of interest, enough to want to meet Peter Kenyon and me at his house in London to listen to what we had to say."

Wenger has found his position at the Emirates Stadium come under intense scrutiny in recent years but says that, while the United job was "attractive", he never felt the need to quit the Gunners.

"I was always happy here, people were happy with me and I was always happy," he said.

"I love the values of this club and, for me, a club is about values first. One day it would be a good chat to have with the press to look at the evolution.

"You speak about Man United, the evolution in the last 20 years would be very interesting. A lot has changed but when I came here this club was about values that I love in sport. That is why I am still in the competition.



"I always question myself. Yes, of course, Man United is attractive but am I happy here? The answer was 'yes'.

"It is too long to talk about

that but I think it is quite an interesting subject that you know certainly as well as I do, but a lot has changed.

"When I arrived here we

were 80 people, today we are 700. Sometimes I cross somebody inside our club who I know, that is quite new. Most of them I don't

know anymore. We have changed a lot."

Wenger, now 67, signed a two-year contract extension with Arsenal in the summer.



WEDSON DEFENDS MISFIRING STRIKER

By Diggers Reporter

Chipolopolo coach Wedson Nyirenda has defended striker Alex Ng'onga who missed several close range opportunities of scoring in the game against Algeria.

The Power Dynamos striker played as a second half substitute in the game, but has come under heavy criticism

from fans for his modest displays.

"The criticism is because of the chance he missed (in the 3-1 home win). The job of striker is to look for goals but you cannot be guaranteed that every chance you have, you will score. What I hate most is a striker who does not even take chances because you are not completing the cir-

cle, said Nyirenda.

"But if you have a striker knocking on the door, looking for a chance to score, he is trying to do what a striker should do. Had he scored that chance he missed, people would have been talking about other things. We will help him and it doesn't augur well if we just say 'drop him, drop him' that

is not the way to go. The way to go is to help him change on the final lap."

Ng'onga was recalled to the Chipolopolo fold in August after his hot form at Power since rejoining the Kitwe outfits in July.

Ng'onga has scored 6 goals for 3rd placed Power since his return to Arthur Davies Stadium in Kitwe.

