

Minister nods gruesome penalty for GBV

CASTRATE SEX

OFFENDERS

By Abraham Kalito

Minister of Gender Elizabeth Phiri has backed calls by a civil society organization, Men's Network, to enact legislation that will facilitate castration of sexual offenders.

And Phiri says government is working towards making gender-based violence cases non-bailable and non-withdrawable in a bid to curb the vice. *To page 4*



Officers keep vigil at Luanshya Police as they await NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili (right) to arrive for interrogations yesterday.



Kambwili denied bond, goes in

By Abraham Kalito in Lusaka and Daniel Chansa in Luanshya
Police in Luanshya have detained Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili after charging him with unlawful assembly.

This is in relation to the alleged illegal meeting which he held with aggrieved AVIC employees who marched to his house in Luanshya to complain about their conditions of service. On Wednesday, Kambwili's

lawyers wrote to Luanshya police asking them to defer their clients appearance to December 10, saying the NDC consultant had a matter to attend to before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court on Friday. *To page 5*

Samfya mob kills man accused of turning into crocodile, eating girl

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Inflation down from 8.3 to 7.8%

By Abraham Kalito

According to the Central Statistical Office (CSO), the annual rate of inflation for November 2018 has reduced to 7.8 percent from 8.3 percent recorded in October. *To page 2*

Maiko Zulu proposes HH, Lungu peace concert

By Thomas Mulenga

Reggae star and Child's Rights activist Maiko Zulu has proposed a peace concert to bring President Edgar Lungu and opposition UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema to reconciliatory terms. *To page 7*

There's no Zika Virus in Zambia - UK Envoy

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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PF members of parliament have rejected a private members motion which sought to push government to take measures in ensuring equal opportunities for all in the civil service.

The motion was tabled before the house for debate by Men's parliamentary Network chairperson Cornelius Mweetwa and was seconded by Kasempa UPND member of parliament Brenda Tambatamba.

Debating against the motion, Home Affairs Minister seized the opportunity and warned civil servants in a habit of siphoning public, saying government would not hesitate to chuck them out of employment.

"The Honourable member for Mazabuka talked about issues of retiring people on national interest, I want to place it on record that we are not going to entertain indiscipline for the sake of preserving equity. How can we deal with people who have been year in year out cited by the Auditor General's report siphoning public resources? Government says 'we've had enough of you' it's time to go so that we can get people that can come and work for their fellow citizens in preserving the national resources. For the first time we are saying 'we are not just going to talk to people who don't want to listen,' Kampyongo said.

"Its antagonistic, Mr Speaker, because most of the times we are the ones answering for people who are very well known because when those monies are lost, they don't say 'it's civil servant A or B' but they will say 'Ministry of Education where did this money go?' and when we find the culprit what should we do with them? because of equity should we preserve them? or because they come from a certain region they shouldn't be punished? The

PF MPs reject gender equity motion, as Kampyongo warns thieving civil servants

answer is no."

Kampyongo also explained that it was thieving and political civil servants who were being retired in national interest.

"These are the ones, Mr Speaker, who are being moved out of the public service out of national interest. And the other one is being partisan. It's very clear, if you are a civil servant [and] you have been told [that] loyalty to the authority does not mean being partisan. I personally wouldn't want to recruit anyone [because] we know where we recruit people to be party members and certainly not the civil service. And so if you want to mislead the civil servants by saying 'when we form government, you are going to be this, we are going to make you inspector general of police' and someone buys into that and gets intoxicated and stops performing professionally and starts performing his functions on partisan lines, we are not going to entertain that. And so we have got no apologies to make for those that are being chucked out of the public service on account of indiscipline and on account of siphoning public resources and on account of disloyalty to the powers that be," he said.

He added that the mover of the motion should have first judged his party before judging government.

"If this afternoon my dear

colleague, the mover of the motion came and was proposing that out of the few female MPs on your left Mr Speaker could be elevated to become either leader of opposition or vice or even share the two positions that are available, I would have been saying 'yes you are coming with practical solutions [and] not with lamentations. So it's not about preaching to others that which you don't believe in. And that's the challenge we have with this particular motion Mr Speaker because here, certainly when you look at the composition, yes we could do better but we are there. So to come here and try to preach to us who are already converted is a little bit mischievous," said Kampyongo.

And Bwana Mkubwa PF member of parliament Dr Jonas Chanda said the motion was "brought in dead" as it did not reflect what was happening in government.

"I wish to express my utmost disappointment on thin motion brought by the UPND for two reasons (i) because the mover and the seconder are both from

the UPND and yet we are being told 'no it's non' partisan. You are already being partisan. It's already dead on arrival. It's B.I.D, Brought In Indeed. Let us face ourselves in the mirror and as we have continued with this motion, I have looked at the motion on Article 173 (j) opportunities for appointments, training and advancement in public service are made to all employees without discrimination. That is the motion we have here. It almost came out as a women's rights issues, somewhere along the way it has come like a full ethnic issue but the best way to understand it is it's well packaged like sugar coated," argued Dr Chanda.

"Why are you knocking on an open door? Look at our front bench in PF, President Lungu who has been dragged into this debate is the first president in the history of this country to appoint a female vice president. How many countries in Africa have a female vice president? There is almost none. Look at some of the most powerful positions that we have in the government today; chief

government spokesperson is an accomplished female, look at the chief justice, she is a female, look at the minister of finance, she is a female, look at our minister of labour, a seasoned unionist. So when we come to talk about these motions let's be sincere. Let us not sugar coat politics and present things to us. So I would urge this house to reject this motion out rightly because in PF we don't have discrimination at all," said Dr Chanda said.

Meanwhile Mazabuka central UPND member of parliament Garry Nkombo said the motion needed support because a lot of people had lost employment on partisan basis.

"We have seen in this country where people who are deserving to be trained that [this article of gender rights for women in decision making positions] is not being applied to the way it should be. Sir there is a too that the PF government have been using since they came to power to further the advancement of moving backward against this motion, that being the retirement of civil servants. It has been used as a tool

systematically to exclude people from training, it has been used to exclude people from advancement, people who have delved and sweated from their careers just to be clicked off at the height of their careers," Nkombo said.

And Nkombo said the meeting between President Edgar Lungu and UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema was a relief to this nation.

"I am so happy that this last week Mr Speaker, probably has reached us at a melting point because politically we have been boiling in this country. I am a very delighted and happy member of parliament that Mr Hakainde Hichilema and President Edgar Lungu did meet to discuss issues of common interest for this country. It is my faith and hope that whatever they discussed is going to start cascading down to the bottom of those who make decisions on lives of others, in terms of training, in terms of appointments [and] in terms of advancement of people in their respective professional lives. I am quite certain that the temperature is cooling down as a result of that meeting of the two leaders. And maybe I [should take this] opportunity to thank President Lungu and president Hakainde, president of the UPND and whoever marshalled or shepherded them to that meeting, is to say that this meeting was long overdue because it will serve its purpose to address this issue of discrimination," said Nkombo.

Inflation down to 7.8 from 8.3%

By Abraham Kalito

According to the Central Statistical Office (CSO), the annual rate of inflation for

November 2018 has reduced to 7.8 percent from 8.3 percent recorded in October. CSO acting director of

Census and statistics Goodson Sinyenga attributed the decrease to an increase in vehicles purchased and an increase in passengers transport by air to London via Dubai.

"The year-on-year inflation rate as measured by the all items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 2018, decreased to 7.8 per cent from 8.3 per cent recorded in October 2018. This means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 7.8 per cent between November 2017, and November, 2018," Sinyenga explained in Lusaka, Thursday.

"The year on year annual food inflation rate for November was recorded at 8.4 percent compared to 8.3 percent recorded in October 2018, indicating an increase of 0.1 percentage points. The increase is mainly attributed to price changes of breakfast mealie meal, roller meal, maize grain, meats (brisket, fillet and rump steak), live chicken, dried kapenta and dried fish. The year

on year non-food inflation rate for November 2018 was recorded at 7.0 percent from 8.3 percent recorded in October 2018 indicating a decrease of 1.3 percentage points. The decrease in the non-food inflation was mainly attributed to purchase of vehicles; passengers transport by air (Lusaka/London via Dubai)." Sinyenga also said Zambia's trade deficit increased to 53.7 percent from K1,750 million recorded in September 2018 to K2,691 million recorded in October 2018.

"Zambia's trade deficit increased to 53.7 percent from K1,750 million recorded in September 2018 to K2,691 million recorded in October 2018. This trade deficit means that the country imported more than it exported in nominal terms. Imports increased by 20 percent from K9, 243 million in September 2018 to K11, 095 million in October 2018. This increase is mainly attributed to the increase in the imports of consumer goods," stated Sinyenga.

Samfya mob kills man accused of turning into crocodile, eating girl

By Mirriam Chabala

An angry mob in Samfya District of Luapula Province this week descended on a 36-year-old man of Shinka village in Bangweulu area, and beat him to death on accusations that turned into a crocodile and killed a girl who had gone fishing by the river.

Deputy Police Spokesperson Rae Hamoonga, disclosed in a statement that Changani Musenge was reported dead by her sister, Charity Chibale to Samfya police division on November 28, after villagers murdered and buried him.

Hamoonga stated that police had picked up a number of people from the said village to assist with investigations, including village Headman Misitala Mwewa Silvester, Lano Chiboni who is the father to the deceased and another male juvenile.

"Police in Samfya received a report of

Murder from Charity Chibale aged 34 of Mwanayama village in Chief Kasoma Bangweulu's area in Samfya District, that her elder brother, Changani Musenge aged 36 of Shinka village in Chief Kasoma Bangweulu's area as well was murdered by an angry mob which mobilised from villages: Shinka, Katanshya, Misitala. Brief facts are that on 25th November, 2018, at unknown time, the deceased allegedly turned into a human crocodile and killed Bupe Lano, aged 20 of Misitala village when she went fishing on Chisa River in Katanshya area," stated Hamoonga. "On 28th November, 2018, between 04:00 hours and 09:00 hours, information spread to surrounding villages where villagers mobilised, brutally murdered and buried Musenge. Police rushed to the scene and found the body already buried. However, three people have been

picked to assist with investigations namely: village Headman Misitala Mwewa Silvester, aged 74, Lano Chiboni, the father to the deceased and a male juvenile aged 18 years all from the same village."

And in a separate development, police in Lusaka have arrested Jessica Chilambe Chanda aged 24 years for the subject offence of obtaining money by false pretences.

"It is alleged that the accused has a Facebook page "Style by Jessie" on which she has been advertising hair products for women as well as soliciting for capital to partner with persons in her business. But as soon as she gets the money from such persons she would go into hiding. We are appealing to any persons who could have fallen prey to this crime to report to any nearest police station," read the police statement.

By Mirriam Chabala

Transport and Communications Minister Brian Mushimba says implementation of the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) mechanism is a necessity for all motor vehicles in Zambia because it will assist with tracking lost vehicles. And Mushimba says his ministry will soon embark on a vehicle re-registration exercise to ascertain the number of vehicles in the country which will help in planning road infrastructure. Mushimba told the Hot Fm Hot Breakfast show that the RFIM system would also help in recovering lost vehicles and stop duplication of number plates by some motorists. "The reason for the exercise is this, as country, we have a requirement for census for the people and for other strategic assets in the country for national planning and many other things. We are supposed to have a census on the vehicles every 10 years. But we have not done that since the 70s. So as we

Mushimba explains RFID, vehicle re-registration

speaking today, we don't know the number of vehicles we have in this country. So government cannot plan properly the roads that we need to have and the fly over bridges they need to design because of the traffic volume that we have in the country. So that's number one," Mushimba said. "Secondly, we have struggled with criminalities being committed using vehicles and what we've discovered is when someone commits a crime and the police get their number plate, when they go to RTSA to run it, that number is a clone number plate, it's a duplicate and does not probably exist in the RTSA system. So what RTSA is doing is

to adopt technology in reading number plates biometrically, using RFID so that only one plate will be printed per one biometric. And the issue of cloning will go away from Zambia forever. With the biometrics being done and RFID machinery usable number plates, what it means is that even the sensing of the vehicles will be done. The security of your vehicle will be done. If your vehicle is stolen, within a very short period of time, it will be tracked." Asked what amounts would be involved in the re-registration exercise, Mushimba said the process was still being discussed and that a decision would be communicated once it



was made by Cabinet. "The amount that they are going to use to rate, I

think it is up for discussion because RTSA proposed and when RTSA proposes, it comes to my office for further digestion and when I do the digestion, I don't make these decisions alone, I take to Cabinet because its impact people and... we don't want to penalise people and put burdens on people unnecessarily. That's why I have told RTSA that you have to justify any extra charge, it has to make sense, people have to understand it and well as the benefits for them and they can see them. Then the charge that is attached to the re-registration is for the enhanced security and safety measures that are going to be put on your vehicle on that charge. So there are benefits associated with that, if your vehicle has been lost, it will be tracked quicker than before. So there are benefits to be accrued by people and then these benefits have to be explained to the people so that people can attach whatever that charge will be to the benefit they are

going to get. But if that disconnection does not get very closed then I will insist on RTSA not doing this re-registration exercise until people buy into the value of what they are going to pay for the charge," Mushimba said.

Meanwhile, Mushimba said, contrary to public perception, RTSA had no intention of making any form of profit from the speed cameras being installed countrywide.

"I think that is far from the truth. In fact, I was talking about this in Parliament the other day on these [speed] cameras that they've put in Lusaka on a pilot basis before we roll them out countrywide and I was telling people that the driver for that is not that RTSA wants to make money from this. RTSA is a grant-aided institution by government. Government plans for its operations and government gives it money from your taxes, not from the cameras that we are putting up there. The cameras are supposed to slow people from speeding because the biggest contributor to accidents and fatalities is over speeding in the country. Right now, since the cameras were put up, people are not over speeding. There is literally very small fine RTSA is making from this and that's what we want. We don't want a fine, we want people to comply so that RTSA does not make any money from anyone for over speeding but people are safe and when an accident still happens at a low speed, at least people survive and the damage to the vehicle is very minimal," said Mushimba.



Deputy Inspector general of police Bonny Kapeso (1) speaks to Chishimba Kambwili's lawyers Gilbert Phiri and Keith Mweemba at Police Headquarters shortly after arresting their client on November 29, 2018 - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Union challenges suspension of 60 NHA workers

By Daniel Chansa

The Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) says the suspension of over 60 National Housing Authority workers is illegal.

Over 60 unionised workers at National Housing Authority have been suspended over the offence of riotous behaviour.

Speaking at a media briefing in Ndola, ZULAWU General Secretary Emmanuel Mwinsa said the decision was uncalled for.

"The Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union is greatly disappointed with the

illegal action taken by the national housing authority management. NHA employees, due to the incompetence of this management, have unpaid salaries that have been ranging from 11 to 15 months, a situation that has resulted in the employees being vulnerable and has brought industrial unrest in the company," Mwinsa said.

"This management has completely failed to bring back life to NHA and have continued to be cry babies and oppressing innocent workers who have no mandate in the day to day administration of the company. The action is against the provisions of

the industrial and labour relations Act cap 269 under Section 5 which provides the rights to be enjoyed by employees at the place of work."

He said NHA management had shown no regards to the institutional procedures, and as such, was creating industrial disharmony.

"NHA management has no regard to the institutional procedures and has no respect to the principles of industrial dialogue when dealing with matters of mutual agreement. This is so shameful and cannot be left unchecked as the conduct by NHA management is so detrimental

to the realisation of the objectives of the company and is the recipe for industrial disharmony," said Mwinsa.

"This also calls for scrutiny on the capabilities of these managers as they have failed to perform. We request the ministry to fire these managers who are detrimental to the performance of this institution. We finally demand for the immediate lifting of the illegal and unprocedural suspensions slapped on our innocent members who have always been ready to excuse their duties despite the state of the non payment of salaries."

By Abraham Kalito

Minister of Gender Elizabeth Phiri has backed calls by a civil society organization, Men's Network, to enact legislation that will facilitate castration of sexual offenders.

And Phiri says most intellectual women fear to join politics because of the insults they have to endure.

Meanwhile, Phiri says government is working towards making gender-based violence cases non-bailable and non-withdrawable in a bid to curb the vice.

At a media briefing, Wednesday, Phiri welcomed calls to castrate sexual offenders, saying she was happy the suggestion had come from a Men's Network.

Gender Minister welcomes calls to castrate sex offenders

"We are so happy that it is coming from men, so if castrating the perpetrators would be a solution, it is welcome, because it has come from you," Phiri said.

And Phiri said most intellectual women feared joining politics because of the insults they had to endure.

"Intellectuals are fearing to come into politics because of the insults. They take that every woman who comes into

politics is a prostitute. And they will be called names. I was disappointed when the students insulted the honorable here, I wanted to protest alone. I would have protested because look at this woman, she has gone for a funeral, she is not even part of the policing, she is a mother, but instead of respecting the minister, she was insulted by students. So it is because of the bullying and the respect

that we don't give women, that they are fearing to come into the open," she said.

"Those women who do not have thick skin like honorable minister here, Dora, who can receive blows, insults and everything and is still standing and competing fairly with men, you will find that others who are educated, who want to be what Dora Siliya is, will say ah, what they go through is too much. So my appeal to

our male counterparts is that let us respect [women]n and stop the verbal gender based violence which social media has encouraged."

Meanwhile, Phiri said government was working towards making gender-based violence cases non-bailable and non-withdrawable.

"However, even though the current statistics are painting a negative picture of the situation of gender-

based violence in Zambia, it is gratifying to note that a number of victims are now coming out in the open to report. We take it as a strength in the fight against gender-based violence for it gives the victim a chance to get justice. Increasing cases of GBV can also imply increased awareness against the vice. The ministry has been meeting various stakeholders to prevent cases of gender-based violence. And mitigate the impact. The Ministry of Gender is working towards a situation where GBV cases will be non bailable, and people not to be allowed to withdraw cases," she said.

"The ministry is also working with other stakeholders to sensitise the women, men and communities in general to break the norms and values that influence people to committing GBVs. It is an offence under the laws of Zambia and it carries very stiff punishment. As a Ministry we are also working towards harmonising the laws that govern gender-based violence so that its easier for the police to handle gender-based violence cases."

Phiri lamented that government did not seem to be winning the fight against gender-based violence.

"As a Minister of Gender, I am here to share with you the press the national picture of gender-based violence. The national picture of gender-based violence can be understood from cases reported to the police. The cases have been on the rise. We have also seen on stories of GBV, reported in the press and disappointed enough we are seeing even leaders, female leaders mainly being insulted on social media. You know there are some classes of gender-based violence. It can be verbal, physical, sexual or the common one is when people are fighting," said Phiri.

"As Minister of Gender I have been on record condemning such vices, such acts. According to the Police during the third quarter of 2018 where 6114 cases were reported to police, of this number 3702 where women while 1186 were men. 100 were girls, 226 boys. Up to the end of the third quarter there were 18, 128 cases reported for gender-based violence of various forms. In addition, the latest survey also revealed that 48 percent of women aged between 15 to 49 have experienced gender-based violence at some point in their life. 42 percent of women aged 20-24 were married off by the age of 18. This means that the issue of GBV is still very, very serious in our country especially against women and girls. We are extremely concerned as a government. We seem not to be winning the battle and we need to work harder with all citizens joining hands, it also indicates that gender inequality is still high in our communities. Implying that women's lower status in relation to men in our societies and communities can be attributed to GBV."



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DANGOTE INDUSTRIES ZAMBIA TAKES A NEW NAME

Dangote **Cement** Zambia Limited formerly Dangote Industries Zambia Limited has officially changed its name. The Company limited by shares and was incorporated on the 11th day of September 2007 in Zambia has since taken on a new name for purposes of business relevance.

We want to inform our esteemed customers and our business partners that we will now be trading as **Dangote Cement Zambia Limited** effective August 30, 2018.

Dangote Cement Zambia Limited is part of the Dangote Group; the first biggest African Cement group present in several African countries and creating employment for thousands of people across the continent.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lusaka High Court judge Sharon Nawa has dismissed MMD faction leader Felix Mutati's application to summon Nevers Mumba's lawyer, Jeh Madaika to testify in the matter concerning the opinion that he gave over the holding of the convention, on grounds that it was premature. In this matter, the Mumba-led MMD acting National Secretary Winnie Zaloumis has sued Mutati, Mwansa Mbulakulima, Raphael Nakacinda and George Kangwa in the Lusaka High Court, challenging the legality of the convention that was held in Kabwe that elected Mutati and others into office. Jonas Zimba is representing the Mutati-led MMD, while Jeh Madaika and Mulambo Haimbe are representing the other faction. When the matter came up for continued cross examination of the first witness, Zaloumis, Thursday, Zimba asked the witness if she remembered the various petitions that were sent by their members prior to the holding of a convention. In response, Zaloumis insisted

Court dismisses Mutati's subpoena application

that she did not receive any petitions. And Zaloumis said although she was invited to attend the said convention, she did not go there because it was illegally called. "There's no way I can go to a convention which was called by non office bearers. The convention was illegal," said Zaloumis. Meanwhile, Zimba applied to the court to subpoena Madaika, the plaintiff's lawyer, saying the opinion that was given by the said witness relating to the holding of the convention was on legal issues and could only be interpreted by him. He said Section 27 of the High Court Act states in clear terms

that such an application could be made at any stage of the proceedings. "The point at which this application is being made is indeed at any stage these proceedings. This court has latitude to allow a party to properly present its case by calling all witnesses it deems necessary for its case. It is our prayer that Mr Jeh Madaika be subpoenaed in this matter so as to resolve all issues," he said. Zimba said Madaika's evidence seemed to be the genesis of the dispute before court and could only be resolved if he was summoned and his evidence examined. But in response, the plaintiff's lawyer, Haimbe, opposed to

the application saying it was mischievous and not tainable at law. He added that, to require Madaika to interpret the opinion, the legal professional privilege line would be crossed. "To ask Mr Madaika to explain his role at a NEC meeting referred to, will entail that he divulge privileged information. That is not tainable at Law. To go further to require Mr Madaika to interpret the opinion, will entail that the legal professional privilege line will be crossed," he said. Haimbe said the court already had the written document, adding that they would be in a position to give it such

interpretation as the court deems fit without Madaika being brought on stand. He urged the court to dismiss the application with costs. Opposing the application, Madaika observed that the proceedings were at the stage where the plaintiff was presenting its case. He agreed with Haimbe's submissions that the application was mischievous and premature because the defendants were not yet calling their witnesses. "Where in the procedure will this subpoena fit in? I agree with my colleague that this application is mischievous because at this point the defendants are not yet calling witness. Unless it's what they

intend to do in the future. The application is premature in that regard. From the way we see it, by the deliberate tendering of this application at a premature stage, the (defendant's) only aim is to either derail the progress of these proceedings by causing unnecessary adjournments or to interfere with counsels representation of his clients," he said. Madaika asked the court not to entertain the application. In her ruling, judge Nawa dismissed the application on grounds that it was premature to subpoena Madaika as the plaintiff were still presenting their case. "In this application, the defendants seek to subpoena the counsel to the plaintiff to testify in an opinion that he gave. The plaintiff is currently presenting their case. They should be allowed to call as witnesses, those people considered necessary to their case. When the plaintiff has concluded in presenting their case, the defendants will be given an opportunity to also present their case and call their witnesses. If at that stage, it is desirable that Mr Madaika be called as their witness, they shall have the liberty to subpoena him. Right now it's premature to subpoena him as is the plaintiff's case. And I therefore decline to grant the application on the basis that the plaintiff is presenting her case," ruled judge Nawa. Trial continues.

Kambwili denied bond, goes in

By Abraham Kalito in Lusaka and Daniel Chansa in Luanshya

Police in Luanshya have detained Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili after charging him with unlawful assembly. This is in relation to the alleged illegal meeting which he held with aggrieved AVIC employees who marched to his house in Luanshya to complain about their conditions of service. On Wednesday, Kambwili's lawyers wrote to Luanshya police asking them to defer their clients appearance to December 10, saying the NDC consultant had a matter to attend to before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court on Friday. But Copperbelt Police Commissioner Charity Katanga insisted that Kambwili presents himself on Thursday warning that staying away would be at his own peril. Instead of presenting himself to Luanshya police, however, Kambwili decided to go to Police Force Headquarters, Thursday, to launch a complaint against Katanga, saying she was being unreasonable. Before he could lodge his complaint, however, Deputy Inspector General of Police Eugene Sibote ordered his officers to arrest Kambwili and ferry him to Luanshya. Sibote told journalists at a media briefing later that, "I wish to inform you and through you, of course the nation that the Police in Luanshya issued a police

callout for Honourable Chishimba Kambwili to appear today and himself decided to come to Police Headquarters trying to seek refuge or for whatever reasons known best to him. Now what I wish to state is that if any person commits a crime and avails himself or herself to the police other than where he or she is required to appear, such a person can be apprehended by Police and conveyed to the Police Station where he or she is required or alleged to have committed the crime, so that they can answer to the allegations against them. To this effect I want to confirm that we have apprehended and conveyed Honourable Chishimba Kambwili to Luanshya Police Station where he has been asked to go and answer to certain charges by Police on the Copperbelt." He said police officers were duty bound to apprehend suspects, no matter the jurisdiction in which the crime was committed. "You must all understand that this is done on the fact that the Zambia Police is one. When a person commits or is alleged to have committed an offence, in any part of Zambia, all Police officers are duty bound. They are obliged to ensure that such a person if seen is apprehended and taken to where he is alleged to have committed an offence. This is because of the issues of jurisdiction. If a person commits an offence in area 'A' and we find him

in area 'Z', we shall convey him to area A where he is alleged to have committed an offence...I just saw him come in and then he told me that he was supposed to be in Luanshya but I'm not going there. Now what do you expect me as a police officer to do? I will convey him to where he is supposed to be," said Sibote. Kambwili arrived at Luanshya police at 14:06 hours where he was immediately taken to the reception to wait for his lawyers.

Later, Kambwili demanded to get his medication. Meanwhile, his son Mwamba and NDC Secretary General Mwenye Musenge were blocked from entering the police station. By press time, police had charged the NDC leader with unlawful assembly and denied him bond. Meanwhile, UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema demanded Kambwili's release in a statement. "We call for the immediate release of the NDC consultant Dr. Chishimba

Kambwili from police custody. As a country, we do not need to treat each other like this especially in the midst of the dialogue process in the country. As far as we are concerned, Dr. Kambwili did not refuse to answer the police callout in Luanshya. All he did was to merely request for a date next week so he could attend to court matters in Lusaka tomorrow. There was no need to bundle him like an armed bandit this morning and drive him to Luanshya police," stated Hichilema.

Ugandan gets 2 years for illegal entry

By Abraham Kalito

The Department of Immigration in Solwezi has secured a conviction for a 35-year-old Ugandan national, Kaaya Sadabu, for unlawfully returning to Zambia after being deported. In a statement, Thursday, Department of Immigration Public Relations officer Namati Nshika said Kasabu, who was charged with four other counts, namely unlawful stay, working without a permit, using a forged Tanzanian passport and concealing his identity and citizenship, was sentenced to two years, one month with hard labour. "The Department of Immigration in Solwezi on 26th November 2018 secured the conviction of a Ugandan deportee for unlawful return to Zambia, contrary to section 36(5) as read with section 56(1) of the Immigration and Deportation Act number 18 of the Laws of Zambia. Kaaya Sadabu, a 35-year-old Ugandan male herbalist of Kabwiku area in Solwezi was on 13th November 2018 in Solwezi, found to have unlawfully returned to Zambia after being deported. The Ugandan

herbalist was also convicted on four other counts, namely unlawful stay, working without a permit, using a forged Tanzanian passport and concealing his identity and citizenship. He was sentenced to two years and one-month imprisonment with hard labour for all five counts," Nshinka stated. And Nshinka stated that the department had convicted four other foreign nationals, including one Tanzanian, two Congolese and one Egyptian for unlawful stay in the country. "Meanwhile, the Department of Immigration between 23rd and 27th November 2018, secured the conviction of four other foreign nationals countrywide. These include two Congolese and one Tanzanian, convicted for unlawful stay. An Egyptian was also convicted for unlawful entry and stay. During this period the Department arrested a total of forty-three 43 persons for various offences countrywide. These were six Congolese in Kasumbalesa, four Zimbabweans in Kariba, one Tanzanian, one Burundese and one

Congolese in Mpika, all arrested for unlawful entry. Those arrested for unlawful stay were one Tanzanian and one Burundese in Mbala, one Zimbabwean in Livingstone and another Zimbabwean in Lusaka. Others were one (01) Congolese in Chingola, one Lebanese in Sinazongwe, one Tanzanian in Mfulwira and one South African in Kazungula," read the statement. "Others arrested were 13 Chinese in Lusaka, for working without permits, and three Ethiopians and two Somalis in Kapiri Mposhi, for unlawful entry and stay. Meanwhile, one Tanzanian and one Rwandese in Mpika were arrested for bearing forged endorsement stamps in their travel documents, while one Congolese in Chirundu was arrested for being in possession of a forged visa. Lastly, one Zambian in Kapiri Mposhi was arrested for aiding illegal immigrants. The Department of Immigration between 23rd and 27th November 2018 also removed 17 illegal immigrants from the country and refused entry to two foreign nationals."



PAC

PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE

Viva New Zambia!!

Why we deserve your vote



Let's pause. Let's talk political intimidation

By Andyford Mayele Banda

This should have been the final article in a series of articles that we started on how a PAC government would fix the system before getting to the next stage of the PAC manifesto. We spoke of fixing our political and governance system and in this final one, we were going to talk about fixing our corrupt system. So let's push fixing the corrupt system to next week as once in a while, we shall pause policy series to touch on the critical happenings in our country.

Our political system seems to accept that opposition politicians can be summoned by police and arrested on fake charges and then released. It appears life goes on without due consideration of the facts that an individual's rights are being abused. Public officers who command the police to go and arrest their political opponents are actually abusing their offices, and a fact which will never change is that there is always a tipping point where tables turn and the hunter becomes the hunted- or should we say the haunted. Our political system seems to accept that it's okay for the ruling government to instruct police to stop opposition political parties from freely meeting with fellow citizens to discuss what plans they have for the country without due regard that they are stamping on the rights of the political parties and also on the rights of citizens who have a constitutional right to sample leadership in order to make an informed decision during an election.

During colonial and the apartheid times, freedom fighters were intimidated and sent to jail for fighting for the rights of the people. The only reason why white minority rulers sent freedom fighters to jail on trumped-up charges was for them to advance their hold on power in order to continue abusing resources that belonged to the indigenous people. The minority enjoyed as much as 90% of the country's resources and opposed plans for the resources to be shared equally among the people. For example, during apartheid, the white minority rulers even created laws that legalised the abuse of the black majority. In our country we have noticed all these happenings when recently, UPND leader Hakainde Hichilima was summoned in Ndola last week and this week, NDC Consultant Chishimba Kambwili was also summoned in Luanshya. As you may have guessed it,

next week we, we have no idea who might be summoned and we don't know where. The point is these levels of intolerance must not be accepted in our democratic dispensation. It's also a fact that opposition political parties do not have the freedom to have meetings without being disrupted by the police. Most governments that focus more on intimidating opponents actually fail to deliver promises made to the people and in fact abuse various institutions from Police to Judiciary to state resources. Instead of focusing their energies on ensuring that a friendly business environment is created to spur job creation, they put their energies on fixing enemies as a strategy to hold on to power and a warning to other political opponents that this is the fate that awaits them should they continue speaking against those in authority.

In Nelson Mandela's "Dare Not Linger" writer James Baldwin is quoted saying: "Force does not work the way its advocates seem to think it does. It does not, for example, reveal to the victim the strength of his adversary. On the contrary, it reveals the weakness, even the panic of his adversary, and this revelation invests the victim with patience. Furthermore, it is ultimately fatal to create too many victims."

Clearly what we are seeing from all these political intimidations is the panic and weaknesses of the perpetrators. The abuse of state institutions such as the police to intimidate political opponents just clearly shows the weaknesses of those who found comfort and security in machinery which is temporal and clearly not theirs. Since most perpetrators are blinded by power and money, they can't see that the more they create victims, the deeper they are digging their ditch.

This kind of unfairness or injustice has been perpetuated by wrong politics and wrong leadership; it has negatively affected our society. Unfortunately, many political leaders no matter how educated they are have developed a callous conscience and do not realise that's its lack of such simple values that has affected our society negatively. We need a mind-set change towards servant-leadership and empathy. It is only the possession of such values that can actually positively affect our economy and uplift

the lives of the majority of people who are disadvantaged in our society. This can only be achieved with leaders who are not greedy but who put the interest of the people first.

As a country, we must not accept this kind of politics. We must know that any government that perpetrates this governance style must be given a straight red card. Greediness is what drives such individuals to deal with political opponents in such a manner. Insecurity on what may befall them should they leave government is another reason why they don't want to give their opponents a chance because they know a number of illegalities that they have committed and what may befall them should there be change of government. Our stance as PAC is that these events are a waste of energy and time. A ploy to divert our attention from important matters and also an abuse of individual's rights who don't agree with the government. We have better things to focus our energies on such as the crisis of youth unemployment, the lack of support for various small businesses, lack of adequate support for farmers etc.

A PAC government will ensure an independent police service fully equipped to maintain law and order as opposed to being used as a unit of intimidating political opponents. A PAC government will allow democracy to flourish as a platform to share ideas and will tolerate those that have different opinions either opposition political parties, activists, the media and others. The PAC government will understand that the people of Zambia have the right to listen to divergent views and alternative plans for this country.

The biggest threat to any government's stay in power is not the opposition political party leaders but the lack of service delivery to the people. Any ruling political party that perpetrates intimidation instead focusing on the people are just pursuing unsustainable route and wasting their time. Our appeal to the PF is that they should focus on the people and not the opposition. There is always a tipping point through a social epidemic. Next week we go back to fixing the system and we talk about fixing corruption.

Andyford Mayele Banda
President
People's Alliance for Change (PAC)

By Abraham Kalito

A researcher by Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) has found that government's decision to re-launch the national airline is not prudent due to the country's debt position and poor micro-economic situation presently.

And CTPD has however recommended that government swap shareholding with Ethiopian airways to enhance autonomy, if it decides to

Plans to re-launch national airline not prudent, insists CTPD

proceed with re-launching the airline.

CTPD lead researcher Bright Chizonde said during the launch of the research, Wednesday, that the chances of successfully relaunching the national airline were

extremely slim adding that Zambia could not afford to take such chances given the current financial position.

"So, looking at some factors in the Zambian case, we are looking at now what is Zambia's perspective for

success. The positives, so the structure of the economy is fairly good. Service sector is almost 59 percent contribution. We have training facilities, Zambia Services Training Institute although it would be a true

investment for it to be in a condition for it to support the national airline. So, the size of the economy is fairly very small, about US\$30 billion maximum. And the size of the population is also very small about 16 million people. So therefore, it means that there will be a very small middle-class population which can demand for air transport. This is still too small to support a national airline. Airline autonomy is not likely to be there because we are looking at the partnership with the Ethiopian airways. If you want full autonomy, it would have been better to swap the stakes where Zambian can become a majority shareholder," Chizondi said.

"We only have strategic location for regional flights and not long flights abroad. Zambia airways is likely to face stiff competition from other airlines across Zambia. But on the domestic sector, we only have two players so, so most likely, it can do well in the domestic sector. The board of directors is also pending and so that's what we are waiting for to relaunch the national airways...but as we said earlier, it takes long to break even. So even the

Zambian Airways will take longer to break even and if we are unlucky, we may fail. If the national airline drags to break even as we have seen from the South African case, it may require bailouts. And bailouts can go as far as US\$3 billion which may be doubling our Euro-bonds. We also expect crowding out of private investments because the airline will have to, if the Zambian airways comes into fruition, we expect it to fight the stakes in terms of the domestic airline. That will be crowding out of the private investments. Most of the factors that we have checked suggest that the chances of successfully re-launching the national airline are very slim."

CTPD, however, recommended that government swap shareholding with Ethiopian airways to enhance autonomy, if it decided to proceed and re-launch the airline.

"So, the Centre for Trade Policy and Development consider the decision to re-launch the national airline as not prudent due to the nation current financial and micro-economic situation. The implications are, firstly we believe re-launching a national airline will be a drain on national resources due to the re-investments that will be required and the bailouts. Our recommendation would be instead of pursuing establishing the national airline, the Zambian government should make policy changes to the domestic market that promote investment into the Zambian aviation sector which should in turn support economic growth," said Chizonde.

"So, if we are interested in just facilitating economic activity, then there is a better way to promote private sector investment instead of re-establishing a national airline. However, we know that, if you look at the implementation, it has gone quite far, we had also to come up with recommendations in case the government proceeds with the decision. We recommend to swap, the share proportions between IDC and Ethiopian airways to enhance autonomy and reduce cost of investment, so if there was a swap, we are assured that Ethiopian airlines will have majority of the shares and will more influence in the operations of the national airline."



(l-r) Inspector General Zambia Police Kakoma Kanganja, Head of Interpol regional bureau Mubita Nawa, Commissioner General Zimbabwe Police Cde Tandabantu Matanga, Deputy Director - Training for Zambia Police Dr Mason da Mbita and SADC Representative, Jorge Cardoso pose for a picture during a graduation ceremony of 27 Law Enforcement Officers drawn from SARPPCO Member Countries held at the Center of Excellence in Zimbabwe, Harare on November 28, 2018 - picture by Esther Mwaata Katongo

Maiko Zulu proposes Lungu, Hichilema peace concert

By Thomas Mulenga

Reggae star and Child's Rights activist Maiko Zulu has proposed a peace concert to bring President Edgar Lungu and opposition UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema to reconciliatory terms.

Speaking when he featured on UNZA Radio's Lusaka Star Program, Tuesday, Zulu said he was willing to perform for free at a stadium concert in the presence of the two arch political rivals.

"I want to emphasise that the two major political parties, PF and UPND, have the onus to lead Zambians in the right way. So, let us ignore the power that the opposition has, let us not ignore the authority that government has. So this dialogue process should be supported. Let's commend our leaders for coming face to face and personally, I would like to invite the two leaders for a public concert where they should show the people that they really mean what they say. Let's come out, let's go in the stadium Mr HH, Mr Lungu, let's unite," Zulu

proposed.

"This has been done elsewhere in the World. So it's a challenge on the two leaders, I will be willing to perform for free and I know a lot of Zambian musicians will be ready to perform for free just to see HH and Edgar Lungu show the people that they want to unite the Zambians," said Zulu.

And Maiko took time to explain his newly released satirical song called 'Maggie Mayela.' The song which was played on the program, brings out different issues affecting the country and the immorality amongst leaders. "The song 'Maggie Mayela' is some satire that brings out a lot of pertinent issues that affect our country. Since the last elections we have had issues of disputed election results, these issues are prominent in the song, of course these issues went through the courts. But everybody knows that the level of appreciation of our justice system is quite minimal, so we bring these issues out in the song. We talk about issues of media freedoms. I know that on paper the Post

Newspaper was closed because of tax issues but everybody knows that is on paper, the reality is that the media are undergoing very difficult times in terms of bringing out important issues. There are a lot of issues that are silenced, information that should reach the people out there such as the information about our loans. So the media being the fourth estate, it is very important that they operate in a free environment. So the song talks about the closure of the Post also," he said.

Zulu said the Zambian government needed to be careful when dealing with Chinese investors as they were more concerned with more profits at the expense of considering the local peoples' interests.

"China has massive influence in this country. If China is going to bed with ZNBC, you know they are in your bedroom. They are strong because they have the money. The Chinese are different from others, if you and me want to kill each other and there is profit for the Chinese, we'll get money from them to kill each other,

no questions asked. So issues of morality also matter in terms of who is giving you money, who is investing in your country? We have had issues with some foreign investors, not only Chinese but other investors from other countries, who have continued mistreating Zambian workers. The song 'China Town' is not a new song, it was produced in 2006 and my MP Honourable Given Lubinda took it to Parliament when he was in opposition," recalled Zulu.

"I do not hate the Chinese, I have Chinese friends, I don't hate Chinese investment in Africa or Zambia. But we have to be very careful because when you sell massive tracks of land to them for example, they won't care about the environment and the people around. We cannot sell our sovereignty as a country to foreigners. First of all, where are the xenophobic attacks? I personally don't see any xenophobic attacks on Chinese. When people say they are being treated badly by foreign owned companies, that's not xenophobia, let's not exaggerate things."

We are told that by-elections are not a good measure of a political party's popularity. Those who argue in support of this narrative claim that it is easy for the ruling party to win parliamentary and local government by-elections because there is always a high concentration of resources in one area, thereby disadvantaging the opposition.

Most recently, those in the UPND have argued that former president Rupiah Banda kept winning parliamentary by-elections for his MMD until 2011 when he had to spread his tentacles and got a whipping from Michael Sata's PF. They say Mr Rupiah's MMD poured an unprecedented amount of money into the campaign, but it was not enough because a general election is hard to manage.

There is nothing wrong with anyone believing that narrative. Maybe it is true to some people. But our opinion is that the Bembas are right when they say "uwawa tabula akabepesho", meaning a failure never runs out of excuses.

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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UPND has become too used to losing elections

In our view, if the UPND is sleeping comfortably under a baobab tree in this jungle, waiting for the general election sun to rise, they will wake up to yet another dark cloud. While they are snoring, Chilanga is gone, Mangango is gone, and soon the nightmare looming in the Sesheke by-election will come to life and they will forfeit yet another vital seat from their stronghold.

Is it therefore logical to argue that winning a by-election is very difficult compared to a general election? We don't think so. If we may ask, how many general elections has the UPND lost for them to seek comfort in this narrative? The UPND has everything it takes

to win by-elections, especially given the public anger against the PF government, but if Mr Hichilema and his team don't develop clever campaign tactics to navigate the Public Order Actnet, it will not get it easy.

In our early days of publishing News Diggers, we wrote an opinion advising the UPND to abandon the presidential petition and focus of engaging the voting public, especially in rural Zambia. We told Mr Hichilema; 'God has heard your petition, please move on'. We further suggested that they should do exactly what the PF is doing now – holding intra-party elections for the lower organs in the build up to 2021; that

way, UPND would have kept its structures in the 13, 000 wards intact. But our opinion was met with hostile reactions from the UPND membership.

Today, the biggest opposition party is losing parliamentary seats in its strongholds, but it wants people to believe that this is all as a result of rigging schemes by the ruling Patriotic Front.

What is funny about this is that while losing a key parliamentary seat in UPND-predominant Western Province, the party has the courage of bragging over a ward election victory in Petauke District, boasting that it is a sign of the much bigger general election loss that awaits the PF in 2021.

Like we have said in the past, it is very possible for President Edgar Lungu to lose the 2021 elections, and Mr Hichilema has the potential to form government. But if that happens, it will not be because people will be voting in the UPND, rather they will be voting out the PF and its corruption.

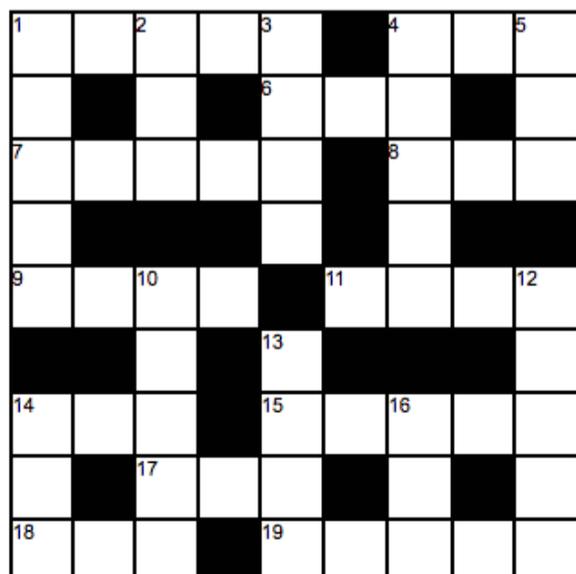
All those who are familiar with the politics happening on the ground in Petauke will affirm that this is exactly what happened in Lusinde Ward of Kaumbwe Constituency. The UPND must try to investigate what kind of campaign its officials mounted in the area to win people's votes, and they will find out that the opposition party

simply benefited from a protest vote against the bickering PF district leadership.

The UPND needs to do self-introspection and find out why its councillors are easily being stolen by the PF. It's easy to say that they are being bribed, but if they can't find a way of defeating that PF strategy, what makes them think they will have the capacity to defeat the high-level fraud at general election level?

It is really sad for democracy when a party that is considered as an alternative government gets this used to losing elections. Maybe there is a strategy that UPND is banking on, but from an outsider's perspective, the party seems to have leadership problems and lacks the unity deserving of the biggest opposition. Like we have said before, if the UPND membership wants to operate under the shadow of Mr Hichilema in order to be noticed, while neglecting the rural constituencies of Zambia, they must prepare a lot of tears for 2021.

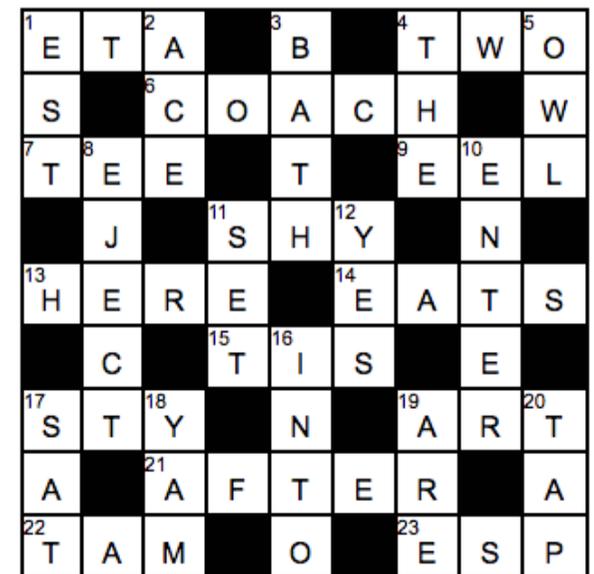
Crossword puzzle 242



*"You can have everything you want if you can put your heart and soul into everything you do."
- Roy T. Bennett*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elude 4. Unhappy 6. Rainbow shape 7. Grace word 8. Type of tree 9. Not common 11. Fender damage 14. Constrictor snake 15. Flame 17. Tell a mistruth 18. Type of cat 19. Shoe bottom | <p>Down</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot coal 2. Beer 3. Simple 4. Place of action 5. Make less bright 10. Royal domain 12. Current style or fashion 13. Aid in wrongdoing 14. Poker action 16. Had eaten |
|--|---|

Solutions to puzzle 241



Reader's feedback

Court acquits UPND cadres of possessing offensive weapons

Editor,

"Same pattern. Another loss by The State. The DPP's office should come under scrutiny for failing to advise Police where there is no case to prosecute, especially involving politicians," - Mike Phiri

"We waste a lot of court's time when we take politically motivated cases there. Courts are overloaded without us adding frivolous matters to their burden. The DPP should show a lot more stamina on these useless political cases than thus far displayed. Thank you court for jettisoning nonsense out to the gutter. Next time follow it up with severe sanctions," - Haggai Gondwe

"The state has again lost resources," - Enock Seith

Andyford's call for citizens to kick PF out in 2021

Editor,

"No replacement for PF. I wish Elias Chipimo would put himself in order, otherwise worse is better than the worst," - Grace Chisenga

"Yes, I can't wait for the day PF will be out of government, it's brought misery and suffering to a lot of people #mustgo2021," - Mutinta Mulonda

"2021 PF must go. how? Andyford wants to president, HH, Kambwili, Kalaba, Chipimo, Nawakwi, Kabimba, M'membe and Muliokela lest I forget him. And we only have one State House. So I ask again how?" - Mofi Kaseketi

"The problem we have in Africa is that, majority of electorates are illiterate and I think politicians take advantage of it. As a result, people in rural areas are denied development e.g. schools. Imagine some people don't know the meaning of inflation rate and GDP. Do you expect them to reason properly when it comes to government performance. Cadre mentality awe sure," - Irack Tembo

"The PF are the worst corrupt regime ever. Yes they have build roads and a lot of other infrastructure but those projects have largely been used to loot tax payers money into the pockets of PF officials. In view of this, there is no good legacy for the Edgar Lungu administration." - Concerned Citizen



Lusaka Police nab Kambwili, take him to Luanshya

Editor,

"You mean the same police that don't have transport and fuel to respond to a 911 call 2km away now have both to ferry someone to Luanshya?" - Nabuyanda Mwaka

"Fixing opponents using the police awe sure this should stop. Let us vote wisely in 2021 not this dununa regret," - Jack Mwape

"I thought Kambwili said there is no President in Zambia he dared the police to arrest him so the police has just done what he asked for. I pray that sazafente, koma benze busy kupelekeza banzabo ku Ndola ka," - Chileshe Mfunne

"While in government, CK helped set up this kind of substandard system. It's now high time he danced to it. Twalekwebwa. Now learning your lessons the hard way. And there is a chance he's been put in the pan of the police van," - Shoma Syachema Syamusana

"Katanga reminds me of the days of Nguni, Brenda Muntemba, no one is above the law mentality, no nonsense, we are all equal kind of working, iron

lady, welldone," - Masuzyo Nkhata Jr.

"I don't agree much with CK but the way Police is handling issues is really frightening. I heard he has a court case today in Lusaka," - Ricker Kuku

"How do you arrest someone who as been called for questioning without being charged for whatever they intend to charge him with!!!" - Andrew Dre Kapenda

VJ's call for Lungu, HH to tame their hotheads

Editor,

"Well articulated. We commend VJ for the timely counsel, there are some overzealous cadres that are becoming a serious danger to the national peace and development, they deserve to be tamed or reprimanded by these leaders who are committing themselves to the national dialogue and reconciliation," - Mweemba Mazuba

"More especially PF. Let them tame people like Kampyongo, Mumbi Phiri, Sondo Chanda, Jonas Chanda, Antonio Mwanza and that fake Rev Chanda, Pule And Davies Mwila," - Henry Chola

"Unfortunately the hotheads are too hot to be tamed," - Coxy Kaluba

Dialogue games: with a third term all but assured, Lungu agrees to play

By Sishuwa Sishuwa

Zambians were recently surprised to learn of the commencement of a secretive dialogue process between President Edgar Lungu and Hichilema, leader of the main opposition United Party for National Development (UPND), aimed at introducing institutional reforms on electoral law, judicial independence, media freedom and the police ahead of the country's 2021 general election. Most people assumed, quite reasonably, that talks slated as part of the Commonwealth-brokered political settlement to diffuse heightened tension following the arrest of Hichilema on treason charges in April 2017 would never happen. After Hichilema's release in August last year, little more was said about this dialogue and it appeared as if the entire exercise was simply a manoeuvre to have Lungu's political nemesis released without the President losing face. Yet on 12 November, Lungu and Hichilema, accompanied only by their security detail, met at an undisclosed location under the auspices of Zambia's Christian church leaders. Why then has this long-suspended process begun, and in secrecy? Two important reasons help explain this unexpected turnaround.

The first and most significant is the upcoming judgement by the Constitutional Court (ConCourt) on President Lungu's eligibility to stand for another term in the 2021 election. To recap: Lungu was first elected in the 2015 presidential by-election following incumbent Michael Sata's untimely death in office. He was then re-elected in the controversial August 2016 polls. The Constitution contains a clear two-term limit for the presidency, but Lungu's supporters argue that his first term of just 18 months should not count as a full term. In January 2017, Lungu himself declared that he is eligible to stand in the 2021 elections and challenged opposing voices to seek the interpretation of the ConCourt. A few days later, four small opposition parties did just that, petitioning the court for 'a declaration that President Edgar Lungu is eligible to contest the 2021 Presidential election'. In response, the then influential Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) and the UPND, who argue that the opposition parties were proxies of Lungu, joined the case seeking a counter-declaration. Hearing in the case was concluded in May this year and the judgement comes on Friday, 7 December.

The ConCourt has been under heavy pressure to rule in favour of Lungu. At the height of trial in the case a year ago, Lungu sternly warned the ConCourt judges that a 'brave' and 'adventurous' judgement against his plans would 'plunge this country into chaos'. If the 7 December judgement goes in his favour, much of the public may conclude that Lungu's thinly veiled threats to a Court that many Zambians already perceive as being predisposed towards him and whose judges were all appointed by him – even though none of them met the constitutional qualification to serve on it, according to prominent lawyer John Sangwa – proved effective. It is highly likely that Lungu is now operating from this premise: that as far as he is concerned, a third term is all but assured and he can now turn his attention elsewhere. A judgement that endorses his wish to stand for a third time will be hardly surprising given this steady encroachment of the presidency upon the judiciary and the increasingly fragile status of the rule of law in Lungu's Zambia. Exhibiting a total disregard for the rule of law, the governing Patriotic Front (PF) has also publicly declared, even before the ConCourt pronounces itself on his eligibility, that Lungu would be the party's presidential candidate in 2021 and assorted campaign materials in the form of cars, bicycles and apparel branded 'Edgar Lungu 2021' have already been procured and are being distributed countrywide. Given this context, a judgement from the ConCourt that Lungu is eligible to seek another term of office in 2021 would be highly controversial and many of his political opponents can be expected to condemn it, though it is also likely that criticism of the verdict will be hushed. A few days ago, in one of the most bizarre cases and interpretations of contempt since the country's independence from Britain in 1964, Zambia's Supreme Court convicted and sentenced to six years imprisonment Gregory Chifire, a civic activist who criticised one of its recent judgements. As well as the severity of the sentence handed to Chifire, it remains unclear if the procedure adopted by the Supreme Court in the case is legal and constitutional. The point though is that this verdict is likely to intimidate and silence many potential critics of a ConCourt judgement that is

favourable to Lungu. However, even if people are to perceive the judges as having given in to presidential pressure and consequently gather the courage to denounce the judgement, Lungu is unlikely to care much as he would have secured his primary wish: to be on the ballot of Zambia's 2021 election.

Lungu's decision to begin the dialogue now should be understood in this changing political context. Participating in this dialogue allows him to shift the narrative that would follow an unpopular judgement on his eligibility towards the need to focus on resolving the political differences that remain ahead of the 2021 elections. Lungu is also likely to respond to any criticism of a judgement that is favourable to him in a way that has the potential to wrong-foot his critics. He may, for instance, argue that 'the matter was properly before court, the courts have decided; let us respect judicial verdicts and turn our attention to other significant national issues such as the dialogue. I am committed to the talks, as demonstrated by my introductory meeting with the leader of the main opposition party, so let us get on with it'. As a result, the narrative is likely to shift from whether or not he can stand to the certainty that he will be a candidate in 2021 and the implications of his candidacy on the outcome.

A senior PF leader who spoke to me on condition of anonymity and who is both opposed to Lungu and convinced that the 7 December judgement will go Lungu's way, thanks to the cited presidential pressure on the judges, predicted the breakup of the ruling party once the verdict is announced. While there might be murmurs of discontent from those who had hoped to succeed Lungu such as ex-Lungu loyalist and Lusaka lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube, a spirited internal opposition is unlikely to occur because the main potential challengers to Lungu have either been kicked out of the PF already or are in the departure lounge. The others are either too timid or are lacking in resources to mount an effective challenge against Lungu at the party's 2020 elective conference at which he is expected to nominate an individual from Luapula Province to be his running mate in 2021. Lungu is likely to make this move to retain the support of the key Bemba-speaking constituencies and ward off the threat posed by Harry Kalaba, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs who hails from Luapula and now leads the opposition Democratic Party. He is also likely to maintain the PF's working alliance with the former governing party, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy, to compensate for the possible loss of support that he might suffer in traditional PF bases. The remaining cohort largely consists of Lungu's inner circle, a readymade set of corruptible political and business figures who pawn off the country for a few trinkets, who accumulate through brazen theft of public resources and massive sale of Zambian assets to so-called investors, and who strut around with self-importance when they are nothing but disposable playthings of even bigger global kleptocrats. This group is unlikely to be concerned about who leads the PF and Zambia as long as they continue to have the chance to engage in self-enrichment. The second reason that explains why the dialogue between Lungu and Hichilema is beginning now relates to the changed context of its facilitation. Until the 12 November secret meeting, Lungu, who had earlier given the nod to the Commonwealth's mediatory role in the aftermath of Hichilema's release from prison, had vowed that he would never take part in the talks unless they were facilitated by the Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue (ZCID), a talking shop of the country's main political parties. He thought a neutral body commended by UPND such as the Commonwealth would favour the opposition or was likely going to force him and the PF into uncomfortable positions. Hichilema, on the other hand, rejected the ZCID, dismissing the body as pro-PF, and insisted that the Commonwealth must lead the exercise. If any local institutions were to be assigned the role, Hichilema argued, then it must be the three main Christian church bodies: the Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops (ZCCB, formerly known as the Zambia Episcopal Conference), the Council of Churches in Zambia, and the Evangelical Fellowship of Zambia (EFZ). Lungu scoffed at such demands, not least because he sought a more pliable figure or body. The most influential of the three church bodies was the ZCCB, then under the presidency of Telesphore Mpundu, the Archbishop of Lusaka Diocese, who was outspoken against human rights abuses by Lungu's administration. At the height of Hichilema's detention, for instance,

Mpundu led the Catholic Bishops in condemning the arrest, denouncing the failure by key political institutions such as the police and judiciary 'to stand up to political manipulation and corruption', and branding the Zambian state under Lungu as a 'dictatorship in all except designation'.

Lungu's opposition to Hichilema's proposition that the church mother bodies be accorded the chance to lead the dialogue stemmed from a fear that doing so would embolden Bishop Mpundu, whom he viewed as difficult to manipulate and possibly a supporter of Hichilema. It was partly this deadlock that saw the dialogue process shelved. This context changed recently when the ZCCB president Mpundu, who was only recently re-elected to the position, retired under curious circumstances. The official explanation is that Mpundu was discharged on medical grounds, but sources within the Catholic Church allege that the Zambian government lobbied the Apostolic Nuncio, the Vatican's diplomatic representative in Lusaka, to have him quietly retired. His successor, Alick Banda, is a much less forthright figure and someone Lungu can be more comfortable with. When the straight-talking Mpundu issued the earlier-cited condemnation of Lungu's administration on behalf of the Catholic Bishops, Bishop Banda quickly distanced himself from the statement and criticised Hichilema's failure to accept the ConCourt's judgement in favour of Lungu over the challenged 2016 election results. With a favourable leadership at the helm of the influential ZCCB, and given that many regard the other Christian bodies, CCZ and EFZ, as riddled with pro and anti Lungu factions, Lungu now feels confident enough to proceed with the dialogue, partly to also reinforce his claim that the dialogue does not need the intervention of foreign organisations such as the Commonwealth. Hichilema, who appears to have overlooked this changed context of 'the church mother bodies' ahead of his secret meeting with Lungu, has effectively locked himself into the talks since he cannot now turn around to criticise the very local institutions that he had demanded must facilitate the dialogue. Already, many Zambians are uncritically praising Lungu for demonstrating leadership by 'conceding' to his opponents' demands. When talk is cheap, Lungu agrees to play.

Three scenarios are now possible. One is that Lungu will allow the talks to drag on until the 2021 elections. Another is that Hichilema, belatedly realising his naivety, may quit the negotiations when he understands how little can be achieved through them. What Hichilema wants to get out of the talks is the resolution of a key set of issues such as the partisan implementation of the Public Order Act, the partiality of the police, equal access to the public media, a faulty national constitution that does not promote accountability and the need for a truly independent electoral commission and a judiciary that is not susceptible to financial and political interests. The third is that the dialogue will go all the way and result in some kind of resolutions pertaining to the cited issues, which Lungu will then calmly ignore, as he is unlikely to institute any reforms that would undermine his re-election prospects and also because there is no binding mechanism to enforce any agreements reached through these dark-corner meetings.

Behind all this scheming is Lungu's determination to win the 2021 elections. With his eligibility to stand almost certainly confirmed, he has a high chance of doing so as it is likely that not even a weakened ruling party and an unpopular incumbent will be enough to help the UPND win power. The beginning of the dialogue process, alongside the fact that nearly all the UPND's legal challenges to Lungu's re-election were coincidentally disposed of in favour of the incumbent around the time of their secret meeting, means either that Hichilema has tacitly accepted that the 2016 elections were legitimate, or that Lungu has successfully frustrated his legitimate challenge of his electoral defeat and the probable use of state institutions such as the police, the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) and the public media to rob him of victory. Lungu can therefore use the same methods and strategy he deployed to win the previous poll, relying on the use of force and these supposedly neutral state institutions and the judiciary to perpetuate his stay in power. If anything, these institutions are more closely under executive control now that Lungu has firmly established his grip on power than they were in 2016. The UPND appears to have no strategy to deal with the PF's use of state institutions and resources.

Continues on page 11

There's no Zika Virus in Zambia - UK Envoy

By Mukosha Funga
British High
Commissioner to Zambia
Fergus Cochrane-Dyett
says there is no Zika

Virus in Zambia, contrary
to media reports in his
country.
In a Tweet sent out
yesterday, High

Commissioner
Cochrane-Dyett observed
that such misinformation
was harmful to Zambia's
tourism sector.

"There is no Zika in
Zambia. Misinformation
is irresponsible & harmful
to this beautiful country's
tourism sector. Tourism

supports much needed
jobs for Zambians &
ensures protection for
amazing but vulnerable
African wildlife," wrote

High Commissioner
Cochrane-Dyett.

On Monday, the Zambian
High Commission in
London demanded a
retraction of an article
published in the Sun
Newspaper, purporting
that the Duchess of
Sussex pulled out of a visit
to Zambia due to Zika
concerns.

The same article was
also published by the
Mail Online under the
headline: "Exhausted
Meghan pulled out of
royal trip with Harry to
Zambia amid fear over
Zika virus".

But the mission press
office has said in a letter
addressed to the print
house that Zambia has
never experienced any
Zika case and has not
been listed on the Center
for Disease Control and
Protection as a country
that is prone to that
disease.

Mission First Secretary
for Press and Public
Relations Abigail
Chaponda said in a
statement that the Zambia
High Commission further
advised the author of
the article in question
to research more on the
matter.

"The Zambia High
Commission in
London has noted with
disappointment an article
that was published by The
Sun, a UK Tabloid on
Sunday, 25th November
2018, insinuating that the
Duchess of Sussex pulled
out of a visit to Zambia
due to Zika concerns...

We understand that there
is freedom of expression,
but the Sun editorial board
should know that freedom
comes with responsibility.
Such unresearched and
irresponsible reporting
has the potential of
damaging a country's
tourism and business
prospects. In this
regard, the Zambia High
Commission demands
without reservations,
a public apology and a
retraction of the story to
be published with equal
publicity immediately,"
stated Chaponda.

Duchess of Sussex,
Meghan Markle was
expected to accompany
her husband, Prince
Harry Prince Harry on a
two-day visit to Zambia
on Monday 26 and
Tuesday 27, 2018 but that
she has instead opted to
stay home due to "fear"
of the Zika virus in Zambia.

Dialogue games: with a third term all but assured, Lungu agrees to play

From page 10

Also likely to help Lungu's re-election in 2021 is the fragmentation of the opposition forces. The UPND's narrow loss in 2016 was actually in relatively favourable circumstances, as it was helped by the absence of other credible opposition parties or prominent political figures standing. 2021 is likely to be different. Two former leading PF ministers have formed their own parties. Chishimba Kambwili, the former Minister of Information who now leads the National Democratic Congress (NDC), and Kalaba will likely contest the presidential election and have shown few signs of being willing to work together constructively against the PF. In sum, a combination of control of state institutions and the fragmentation of the opposition will likely deliver for Lungu the third term in office he desires.

In any case, none or few of Lungu's main political opponents may be on the ballot in 2021 as the ruling core, saddled with an unpopular candidate, is desperate to reduce political competition ahead of the general election. Hichilema, especially, may be targeted on two fronts.

First, Zambia's revised 2016 Constitution now requires political parties to promote and practice democracy through holding regular, free and fair internal elections. The UPND last held an elective national convention in 2006 and Hichilema has not stood in an internal election since then, a development that the PF may seek to exploit by arguing that any party that has not held regular polls should be disqualified from taking part in the national elections. UPND structures are weak and Hichilema possibly fears that the opportunity presented by an internal election may be used by the PF to replace him with another candidate or simply weaken or divide the party. In any case, the PF is already preparing to take to Parliament a Political Parties Bill that would give effect to the aforementioned Constitutional provision. Sources within the governing party speak of plans to include a provision that would bar undemocratic parties and a candidate who has hitherto made more than two unsuccessful attempts at the national presidency from standing. Lungu recently wondered why Hichilema, who he declared must go because he has lost on all his previous five attempts to become Zambia's president, should be allowed to stand in 2021: 'He has failed five times but the UPND are insisting that they want this same candidate. Zambia is not supposed to be condoning dictators.'

Second is that the persistent police harassment of Hichilema may result in a prison sentence, one that might affect his participation in the 2021 elections. The revised Zambian law disqualifies a person who has, in the immediate preceding five years, served a term of imprisonment of at least three years, or who is serving a sentence of imprisonment from being eligible to stand in a presidential election. Since less than three years remain before Zambia's next poll on 12 August 2021, the PF might simply seek to have Hichilema convicted on any charge that would keep him in prison at the time of the nominations for the 2021 election. Already, police have formulated a potential charge against Hichilema, from whom a warn and caution statement was recently recorded in relation to the rumoured sale of state-owned timber company Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation to the Chinese, which sparked violent public protests on the politically important Copperbelt

Province. Hichilema is also being investigated in relation to his role as a private evaluator in Zambia's privatisation process in the 1990s. Possible evidence that the police may be acting on instruction emerged soon after Hichilema's meeting with Lungu when the President, in an apparent reference to the UPND leader, denounced the 'shamelessness' of political leaders 'who are shareholders in the companies they were entrusted to privatise' [in the 1990s]: 'It is sad that the people that were entrusted with the privatisation process at the time shamelessly sold off the state-owned enterprises and even now boast of riches which they literally looted through the privatisation process to the disadvantage of the poor ordinary majority'.

The other opposition leader who may be targeted is Kambwili, an effective grassroots mobiliser and a populist who alleges that Lungu is beholden to the interests of the Chinese and has departed from Sata's pro-poor policies. The former Lungu trumpeter retains a distinctive support base on the urban Copperbelt and, left to operate freely, is capable of hurting the ruling party as his nascent NDC might take away significant chunks of PF support. However, indications that the government is planning to move for him surfaced a few days ago when Kambwili, who appears to have some useful contacts in the security services, confronted Minister of Home Affairs Stephen Kamyongo over the issue. In a leaked recorded phone conversation of the duo, Kambwili is heard challenging Kamyongo – who vows to teach him an unspecified 'lesson' he would never forget – about the police's plans to arrest him on a charge possibly emanating from his frequent criticism of Lungu's alleged loyalty to corruption, the exploitation of Zambian workers by Chinese firms, or the growing Chinese influence on the Zambian economy and state. As if to confirm public perception that they operate under political directives, the police command on the Copperbelt then moved to summon the Lusaka-based Kambwili to appear before them for 'interviews' and 'investigations' on 29 November. When he requested for a different date to enable him attend a scheduled court appearance in Lusaka a day later, police declined his appeal and instead arrested the outspoken NDC leader, bundled him in a car and towed him to the Copperbelt for questioning. Kambwili is already appearing in court facing 39 counts on separate charges and critics claim that the ruling authorities are eager to secure a conviction against him that would keep him out of the running in 2021. Whether or not Lungu and the PF are so desperate that they are prepared to go to such lengths to secure another five years in power, only time will tell.

With key institutions on his side, and the capacity of international actors to constrain his behaviour severely diminished by donors' shift from aid to trade (a move that has weakened good governance programs, with all their shortfalls), Zambians should brace for Lungu's extended stay in power beyond 2021. He has already demonstrated his capacity to both win a competitive election by possible crook and get the key institutions such as the judiciary to endorse his actions, even if it is by way of dismissing legal suits brought against him on technical procedures. Since his re-election in 2016, he has gone about silencing part of the critical free press, opposition parties and rivals within the PF, and capturing key state

institutions. Will this all end in a fully-fledged dictatorship? I think not, for while Lungu and the PF are undoubtedly becoming increasingly authoritarian, they lack the political capital and strategic tools necessary to justify, manage and sustain such a regime. To begin with, Lungu lacks the broad popularity and legitimacy needed to establish a complete dictatorship. According to the contested 2016 results, he beat Hichilema by less than 3%. In office, he has failed to put in place popular policies that would win him greater support. Moreover, with the country severely in debt and, with an anticipated IMF bailout on the way, public spending is likely to be slashed further, hurting the poor. To establish a full-grown dictatorship, one needs to manufacture tacit consent. In the Zambian context, this would require a significant redistributive agenda, but the regime lacks the resources for this. Lungu does not seem inclined to pursue the extractive industry for more revenue as the likes of Tanzania are attempting to do. Meanwhile, his cohort is opportunistically selling the few state resources that remain. Lungu also lacks the kind of charisma, oratory power, or 'saviour' credentials that his autocratic role models – such as Uganda's Yoweri Museveni or Rwanda's Paul Kagame – can fall back on. Lungu's actions will certainly undermine Zambia's cherished democracy, its political institutions and culture. Furthermore, like the other leaders emerging in his mould around the world – such as Donald Trump in the US or Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil – he is likely to leave havoc in his wake. In the US and elsewhere, broad sections of civil society have mobilised against actions they see as illegitimate or illegal. But in Zambia, the capacity of non-state actors to rally significant sections of the population behind national concerns remains weak. The Law Association of Zambia, hitherto a rare bright spot amid Zambia's increasingly inactive and ineffective non-state actors and arguably the leader of the country's civil society movement, appears to have finally been captured by the PF. Under the leadership of Linda Kasonde, whose term of office ended earlier this year, LAZ exerted every effort to fulfill its legal mandate of defending the rule of law, protecting Zambia's Constitution, and proactively using the law as a shield for the weak and the ordinary citizen and not as a sword for the elite and those in power. Following recent LAZ elections that saw one or two PF supporters assume senior leadership roles on the body, the association is now so ineffective that one can easily mistake it for a legal wing of the ruling authorities, as many Zambians today see its role as that of issuing statements, carefully-couched in legal terminology, in support of the government. In addition, the judiciary, so important in constraining Trump's authoritarian tendencies in the US and a body that in Zambia previously stood as citizens' last line of defence in protecting their rights, has, under the PF's watch, effectively been captured by the executive and is not in a position to stem the tragic slide – not so much towards complete dictatorship but chaos. Zambia was once so highly regarded as a model of democracy that many people have yet to come to terms with the country's gradually changing political character. By the time they do, it might be too little, too late.

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Liberia MPs order arrest of 'missing money' reporter

Liberia's House of Representatives has ordered the arrest of the journalist who broke the news about the alleged disappearance of more than \$100m-worth (£76m) of newly printed bank notes intended for the central bank.

The notes allegedly vanished from containers in Monrovia's port and airport - and the government ordered an investigation in September.

Central bank governor Nathaniel Patray denied the money was missing, saying an internal audit found that all the notes, shipped from a Swedish printer between 2016 and 2018, had been accounted for and had been stored in vaults.

Journalist Philipbert Browne had been asked to come to parliament on Tuesday to explain why, during a recent radio interview, he had accused some MPs of taking bribes to allow for the unlawful printing of the money.

But he failed to show up, so House Speaker Bhofal Chambers has asked the justice ministry and the police to arrest and produce "the living body" of Mr Browne before the house on Friday.

Mr Browne runs the Hot Pepper newspaper that is known for breaking news about sensitive matters.

He was a former assistant defence minister when Charles Taylor was president.

His family have been intimidated and he has received death threats since reporting on the alleged missing money. **BBC**



Science conference slams 'deeply disturbing' baby gene-editing claim

A scientist who upended a Hong Kong conference with his claim to have created the world's first genetically-edited babies cancelled a fresh talk and was heavily criticised by organisers Thursday, who labelled him as irresponsible.

He Jiankui had told a packed biomedical conference Wednesday he was "proud" to have successfully altered the DNA of twin girls born to an HIV-positive father, an apparent medical

breakthrough.

But details of the experiment, which has not been independently verified, triggered an immediate backlash and He said the trial had been halted.

He was supposed to speak at the summit again Thursday but disappeared from the schedule.

David Baltimore, a Nobel laureate and chairman of the organising committee, told reporters it was He's decision not to attend.

Organisers of the Second

International Summit on Human Genome Editing denounced He's "unexpected and deeply disturbing" claim that human embryos had been edited and implanted, and called for closer supervision of the field at the conclusion of the conference Thursday.

"Even if the modifications are verified, the procedure was irresponsible and failed to conform with international norms," they said in a statement.

"Its flaws include an

inadequate medical indication, a poorly designed study protocol, a failure to meet ethical standards for protecting the welfare of research subjects, and a lack of transparency in the development, review and conduct of clinical procedures," it added.

University professor He, based in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen, said the twin girls, born a few weeks ago, had their DNA altered to prevent them from contracting HIV. Eight volunteer couples -- HIV-positive fathers and HIV-negative mothers -- signed up to the trial, with one dropping out before it was paused.

He said there had been "another potential pregnancy" involving a second couple, but it is unclear whether that pregnancy is still ongoing. Experts warned that editing human embryos can create unintended mutations in other areas -- so-called "off-target effects" -- which can have an impact through the lifetime.

Southern University of Science and Technology distanced itself from He, saying he had been on unpaid leave since February and had "seriously violated academic ethics".

He, who was educated at Stanford University, said the twins' DNA was modified using CRISPR, a technique which allows scientists to remove and replace a strand with pinpoint precision.

Co-creator of the technology Jennifer Doudna said she felt "horrified" at hearing He's talk, adding she felt deeply concerned for the people affected and questioned whether they really understood the procedure. Summit organisers said germline genome editing could become "acceptable" in future if rigorous criteria are met, including "strict independent oversight".

However they added that there were too many scientific and technical uncertainties to permit clinical trials at this stage. **AFP**

Philippine police guilty of drug war murder

Three Philippine police officers have been found guilty of the high-profile murder of a teenager, the first such convictions since President Rodrigo Duterte's "war on drugs" began.

A court sentenced them to up to 40 years in prison each for the killing of 17-year-old Kian Delos Santos in 2017.

President Duterte launched the anti-narcotics campaign in 2016, to deal with a rampant drug problem. Since then 5,000 dealers or users have been killed, according to

police.

President Duterte has been criticised by human rights groups for what is seen as sanctioning the extrajudicial killings and promising to pardon police officers convicted for "drug war" killings.

"A shoot first, think later attitude can never be countenanced in a civilised society," said Thursday's ruling by Judge Roldolfo Azucena. "Never has homicide or murder been a function of law enforcement. The public peace is never predicated

on the cost of human life," he added. The killing of Kian Delos Santos in the capital city, Manila, has been one of the most high-profile deaths in the campaign.

He was found dead in an alley. He was accused by police of being a drug runner - though the family dispute this. Police said they had killed him in self-defence.

Then CCTV footage emerged contradicting the official police report and sparking huge public outrage and protests. **BBC**

Bobby Brown sues over Whitney Houston documentary footage

Whitney Houston's ex-husband Bobby Brown is suing Showtime Networks and the BBC, alleging unauthorised footage was used in the 2017 documentary *Whitney: Can I Be Me*.

A complaint was filed with the US District Court in New York on Wednesday, by Brown and the estate of the couple's daughter Bobbi Kristina. It claims the footage harmed Brown, his business and Bobbi Kristina's estate. Showtime, the BBC and Brown's lawyer have not commented.

R&B singer Brown said consent to use the footage was not given, adding the material is about 15 years old. It was shot before he and singer Houston divorced in 2007, and before her death in 2012.

The complaint said: "Every person should have the right to control how their identity or likeness or personality, or voice, name or image is commercialised by others." **BBC**



Reggae music to be protected by the UN

Reggae has been added to a list of international cultural treasures which the United Nations has deemed worthy of protecting and promoting. The music, which grew out of Jamaica in the 1960s thanks to artists like Toots and the Maytals, Peter Tosh and Bob Marley, was added to the collection due to its "intangible cultural heritage". Reggae is "cerebral, socio-political, sensual

and spiritual," said Unesco. It has "penetrated all corners of the world," added a Jamaican spokesperson. Reggae followed on from the ska and rocksteady genres - other early pioneers included Lee Scratch Perry and Prince Buster. Millie Small's 1964 ska cover of My Boy Lollipop also helped introduce reggae's laidback groove to the world. Reggae became

popular in the United States but particularly flourished in the UK, which had become home to many Jamaican immigrants since the end of World War Two. The British reggae label Trojan, which celebrates its 50th birthday this year, introduced the world to artists like Desmond Dekker, Jimmy Cliff and Bob and Marcia. "I am delighted, it's wonderful news," BBC 1Xtra veteran presenter Dave Rodigan told World Service radio. "I've loved this music since I first heard it as a teenager." Jamaica had applied for reggae's inclusion on the list this year at a meeting of the UN agency on the island of Mauritius. The protected list began in 2008 and grew out of the UN's convention for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in 2003. Its aims are to ensure respect for communities, groups and individuals involved in the listed activity, to raise awareness and encourage appreciation of those activities nationally and internationally. **BBC**

Stallone announces Rocky Balboa retirement

Creed II is the latest heavyweight box-office champ in the long-running Rocky series. Now, after 40 years of playing Philadelphia's most beloved fictional boxer, the architect of the franchise, Sylvester Stallone, is making it clear he's gone the distance. In a new Instagram post, the actor suggests that Rocky Balboa — who retired from the ring in 2006's *Rocky Balboa* — is leaving boxing behind for good. "This is probably my last rodeo," Stallone remarks in the Instagram video announcing his retirement, which was filmed on *Creed II*'s last day of production. "I thought Rocky was over in 2006, and I was very happy with that."

But then Rocky, and his creator, were coaxed back into service by director Ryan Coogler for 2015's *Creed*, which introduced Michael B. Jordan as Adonis Creed, son of Balboa's rival-turned-pal Apollo. Besides transforming the younger Creed into fighting shape, Balboa also won a serious bout against cancer in that earlier film, ensuring that he'd still be in his protégé's corner for the sequel as Adonis faced his biggest opponent yet: Viktor Drago, the son of Rocky's greatest foe.

Stallone co-wrote the script for *Creed II* and seizes the opportunity to gracefully end Balboa's story for a second time. After spending much of the movie expressing regret about being estranged from his son (Milo Ventimiglia, reprising his role from *Rocky Balboa*), the elder Rocky turns up on Rocky Jr.'s doorstep and is greeted by his cherubic grandchild before being ushered inside. It's a much more upbeat conclusion than some of the other final acts Stallone has had in mind for the Italian Stallion over the years. In an early draft of *Rocky V*, for example, Rocky died after his street fight with Tommy Gunn. **Yahoo**



Liverpool on the ropes as PSG close in on Champions League knockouts

Paris Saint-Germain took a big step towards qualifying for the Champions League knockout stages on Wednesday after Neymar helped sink Liverpool in a blistering 2-1 win at the Parc des Princes.

The Brazilian struck in the 37th minute after Juan Bernat's early opener to put qualification for the last 16 in the French champions' hands and leave Jurgen Klopp's team needing to beat Napoli 1-0 or by two clear goals in two week's time to guarantee a place in the knockout stage.

Thomas Tuchel's PSG have massive European ambitions but have flattered to deceive on the continent since being taken over by Qatari investors, and after defeats at Anfield and draws with Group C leaders Napoli Wednesday's win gives them a great chance of qualifying from an extremely tight group.

They are in second place but still need a win at Red

Star Belgrade -- who they beat 6-1 in Paris in October -- to ensure a knockout berth as they go into the final round of fixtures just two points ahead of Liverpool.

"It was our last chance to show that we are capable of competing with a team like Liverpool, a team with an incredible mentality," said PSG coach Thomas Tuchel. "Everyone was ready to suffer for each other. That was necessary against Liverpool and it was a big step forward for us."

Defeat left a bad taste in Klopp's mouth, with the German coach frustrated by refereeing that he claimed made his side look like "butchers" while only booking Marco Verratti for a high first-half tackle on Joe Gomez.

"For me it's a red card," he said. "I look like a bad loser, but I don't care. I had a very good view of it and for sure it was not the same colour as the 500 other

yellow cards."

Napoli meanwhile are just a point ahead of PSG but three ahead of Liverpool after breezing past Red Star Belgrade 3-1 thanks to Marek Hamsik's first goal of the season and a Dries Mertens double.

Carlo Ancelotti's side know that having beaten the Premier League outfit 1-0

in October a goal at Anfield next month would make their task much easier.

If they score the Reds would need to do so three times without reply to qualify ahead of the Italians with a superior head-to-head record.

A draw would also see them go through. *AFP*



Neymar scored the decisive goal for PSG in his side's 2-1 win over Liverpool



Sparks fly as Wilder, Fury face off ahead of title fight

Deontay Wilder and Tyson Fury needed to be separated here Wednesday as tempers boiled over in an explosive final press conference before their heavyweight title showdown.

World Boxing Council heavyweight champion

Wilder and Fury will collide in a high-stakes showdown at the Staples Center on Saturday which could see the winner advance to a money-spinning unification bout.

After trading verbal blows before reporters

on Wednesday, the two unbeaten heavyweights engaged in an angry face-off that threatened to erupt into a full-scale brawl.

British challenger Fury finished the press conference stripped to the waist and offering to

engage with Wilder as the two men hurled insults.

Fury, the trash-talking "Gypsy King", appeared to have clearly rattled Wilder, who looked by far the angrier of the two fighters.

The 30-year-old Fury, who has battled back from depression and drug abuse to land his shot against Wilder, opened by stating bluntly he expected to knock out the American champion (40-0, 39 knockouts).

"I'm telling you now, Wilder is getting knocked out by me on Saturday night," Fury said. "On Saturday night the whole world will know him as the person who Fury knocked out."

"This swagger is not genuine, it's fake - a snide and a fraud. I look at him and don't see a bad man, I see a pretender." *AFP*

Warriors' injured star Curry to return in Detroit



Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry will make his return from injury against the Pistons in Detroit on Saturday, coach Steve Kerr said Wednesday.

Kerr ruled Curry out of the two-time defending champions' marquee matchup against the league-leading Raptors in Toronto on Thursday, despite the fact that Curry himself is "dying to play".

He said Curry, recovering from a left groin strain suffered in a loss to Milwaukee on November 8, had "looked

great" in practice over the last two days.

But the team decided to proceed with caution in the early going of the season.

"If this were a playoff game, he would absolutely be playing," Kerr said. "But it's November. Caution is the word of the day." Kerr said Curry was particularly disappointed to miss the game in Toronto, not only because the Raptors currently own the best record in the NBA but also because he has fond memories of the Canadian city from the time his father, Dell Curry,

played there from 1999-2002.

Curry a two-time NBA Most Valuable Player, got off to a strong start this season as the Warriors launched their bid for a third straight NBA title. He was averaging 29.5 points, 6.1 assists and five rebounds and shooting 49.2 percent from three-point range before he was hurt.

In the 10 games that Curry has missed the Warriors are 5-5. That includes a rare four-game losing streak, although they have bounced back with three straight victories. *AFP*

Lwandamina downplays Zesco triumph over Sonidep

By Alex Chilumbwe
ZESCO United coach George Lwandamina says although his side beat Sonidep 2-1, it still requires final drilling in some areas saying CAF's changed calendar disturbed the squad's preparations. Lwandamina's boys beat Sonidep of Niger in their backyard but were not satisfied with their first half performance. In a statement availed to the media yesterday, Lwandamina noted the need for his side to find a way of juggling CAF games as well as fixing his weak links in the squad. "We beat Sonidep on

home soil but I am not pleased with my boys' performance especially in the first half. They could have done better because they were evidently

struggling. The result would have been different if Sonidep utilised the chances they had in the first half. We only settled and gained composure in

the second half," he said. And Lwandamina also said that ZESCO's win over Sonidep was an indication that it is a good team despite having fumbled in

the first half. "Mine is a good side that did not even play any preparatory match and just dived into CAF. If we had enough preparations, we

could be at a higher level in terms of performance but I am sure we will settle and display a better game as we proceed," said Lwandamina.

FAZ applauds Zambian clubs after winning start to continental leagues

By Alex Chilumbwe
FAZ has applauded ZESCO United, Nkana, Green Buffaloes and Green Eagles for a good start to the biggest African club leagues saying their victories in

first leg matches indicate a growing football talent in the country. ZESCO and Nkana are playing the CAF Champions League while Buffaloes and Eagles are chasing the

Confederations Cup of the continental League. The four teams won their first leg ties and FAZ general secretary Adrian Kashala noted that they have a bigger task of winning more games

and proving to soccer fans that only hard work yields intended results. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Kashala urged the teams to stay focused and carry their winning formulas to the

two leagues' final stages. "It was a good start for all the teams in both CAF and continental football. It is really encouraging to fans when their teams give them high hopes but there is pressure on the players not to disappoint in other games. Stay focused therefore and each team should not leave behind its winning formula," said Kashala.

And Green Buffaloes coach Biltone Musonda confirmed in an interview that a little boost to the squad would be in order, but expressed confidence in the current squad following their win against El Merreikh in continental football.

"If management allows me and my technical guys to boost the squad further, of course I would agree because that would give me more options. I'm however happy and confident in the current one and hope that they impress me more," said Musonda.

Meanwhile, Eagles' coach Aggrey Chiyangi noted that his side was a fair match to all the teams in continental football, citing their hard work and endurance.

"Every team works hard but mine works harder and are more determined because it is its debut in the league. There is so much hunger in them and that alone is motivation to work harder. I'm really confident in the squad and I'm hoping that together, we shall keep winning," said Chiyangi.

AfCON failure is inexcusable; Sven is not cut for Zambia

From page 15

By Augustine Mukoka
There is strong criticism from across the board. Others are taking an extra effort to go into memory lane and comparing Kamanga's leadership with that of his predecessors. The reaction, particularly from those expressing displeasure, is understandable. Zambia were African champions in 2012. Since ascending to the apex of continental football six years ago, we have fast-dropped to among the lowly ranked footballing nations befitting a place among continental minnows. As things stand, Uganda, Mauritania, Madagascar and even Comoros Islands are better than we are. And even Mozambique, who are on seven points in our group, collected six of those by defeating Zambia both home and away. It once was unimaginable, but that's the reality. We have to live with for now. And it confirms we are no longer the force to reckon with. Failure to make it out of a group with teams like Mozambique, Equatorial Guinea and Namibia was unheard of. In fact to live to see it happen is highly contemptuous to the memory of our football heroes. No country in southern Africa, for instance, comes close to Zambia's 17 appearances at the Africa Cup. Other than the DR Congo, Zambia

stands out in the SADC region with 17 trips out of 31 editions so far held. That puts Chipolopolo in the top 10 bracket of countries with most appearances at the competition. In that tier are respected footballing nations like record seven-time winners Egypt (23), Ghana (21), Ivory Coast (22). Cameroon, DR Congo and Tunisia are at 18 while Nigeria and Algeria tie with Zambia on 17 ahead of the 32nd edition set for Cameroon next year. Herve Renard's Morocco has 16 and close the top 10 bracket. Not even Jules François Bocandé's Senegal or Frederick Kanoute's Mali would match our hard-fought record. We will excuse those who are seven or eight times away from matching that feat like Jomo Sono's Bafana Bafana of South Africa, Fode Mansare's Guinea or Aristide Bancé's Burkina Faso. To fail to qualify in a pool that has Mozambique, Guinea Bissau & Namibia, three teams with a combined appearance less than half our record, is truly an abuse of people's football passion. As if that is not enough, our technical bench is headed by someone we allege is an expatriate, or has expatriate credentials. The last time an expatriate failed to qualify Zambia for the tournament was over three decades ago. Local coaches in Samuel 'Zoom' Ndhlovu, Ben Bamfuchile, Honour Janza and Patrick Phiri

have all succeeded on this path. Coach Phiri suffered the ignominy of Africa Cup failure when he could not guide the team to the tournament in Tunisia in 2004. He redeemed himself on his second calling leading Chipolopolo to the Ghana 2008 edition. Over the years, it become acceptable that irrespective of our form at any given point, an AfCON slot was guaranteed – whether it was 8, 12, or 16 finalists. And perhaps this is the reason why FAZ engaged Sven Vandembroeck by giving him a modest target of earning a long-term contract by qualifying to what will now become a 24 nations tournament. For a team that came close to a Russia 2018 World Cup appearance under Wedson Nyirenda from a pool parading Nigeria, Algeria and Cameroon to fail an AfCON slot against the likes of Mozambique, Namibia and Guinea Bissau is truly damning. The more reason why it is more clearer that Sven is not cut for Zambian football and probably, too, are people at Football House. In any case, Zambia does not need Sven; it the Belgian who needs Zambia to create a CV so he would catapult himself into another better paying coaching job that with earn him 10 times more than the \$10,000 he is minting. So failing to qualify the team, especially that this was his target, is a non-negotiable exit door. Decisive leaders would have

shown this coach the exit door shortly after the calamitous outing to Mozambique. And accompanying him, too, to close that door behind would have been the same leaders. Whoever said a bad carpenter blames his tools must have had Zambia's Chipolopolo leaders at this point. Should we blame the players because we failed to qualify? Who changes a decently performing coaching in the middle of qualifiers only to come and blame him that by pointing to the first home loss? Have we not forgotten that we have once started poorly, but finished strong? Those that want to blame Zambia's exit on the home lost to Mozambique must go into history and see how we have sometimes started qualifiers on a slow note but still gone on to qualify. This failure should teach us a lesson or two. No single man has the monopoly of wisdom in discharging his or her duties in the interest of Zambian football. At our worst performance at national team level, we should still not fail to overcome Mozambique, Guinea Bissau & Namibia in a qualifying series more so that we are not relying on local human resource on the technical bench. The main objective of hiring a foreign coach is to do better than our local coaches can do. Sven has failed to do what Janza, Phiri and Bamfuchile did. It's plainly unacceptable to keep him around.

SVEN WORSE THAN LOCAL COACHES

Analysis by Augustine Mukoka

When 24 countries converge in Cameroon next year for the 32nd edition of the Africa Cup of Nations, Zambians will be among the 30 countries

absent. To think this is the second successive edition without the Chipolopolo showcasing our Eagle--the symbol of our dignity that

inspires us to soar above all else--is not only painful but incomprehensively devastating. Since last Saturday when the Mambas of Mozambique

nailed us 1-0 to confirm we were no longer the giant we once assumed we were, there has been a myriad of commentary accompanying the

failure to qualify to the tournament. Coaches, politicians, soccer fans, journalists, soldiers, policemen, comedians and all sorts

of pundits and common people have vented, offered their views and analysis, whatever you would call it; it's out in space.

For his part, Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) president Andrew Kamanga was on national television on Sunday November 25, 2018 and apologized for his executive's disastrous record.

He said, "I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to the government, the soccer fans and the nation at large that the performance has not been what we expected especially that we put in everything that we thought was adequate to get the team to qualify."

So why then has Zambia failed to qualify if, according to Kamanga's admission, "we put in everything that we thought was adequate to get the team to qualify?"

No one is happy with Zambia's failure. The right thing to do was to calm the nerves of a disgruntled populace that is still reeling with the reality that its celebrated national team is not among Africa's best 24. Sounds weird, but that's the reality.

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Carlsen retains Chess World Championship



Norwegian chess superstar Magnus Carlsen on Wednesday cemented his reputation as the game's greatest player after demolishing US hopeful Fabiano Caruana in a winner-take-all world championship decider. The 27-year-old won three successive rapid-chess tiebreakers in a display of intuition and guile that overwhelmed the 26-year-old American in London. Carlsen was gracious after his thumping win put an exclamation point on a defensively-minded series that saw the original series of 12 matches played since November 9 end in a dozen draws. **AFP**



Christian Eriksen celebrates Tottenham's vital winner against Inter Milan - AFP

