



PF SUFFERING AT GRASSROOT LEVEL -MAXWELL CHONGU

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Mr Chongu




POLICE REJECT HH RAID CLAIM

I am not aware of the raid myself. Why can't you go and interview the same people who are saying they were raided, as far as I am concerned I don't know about the raid"

Ms Katongo

Mr Hichilema

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Pursuing Justice and Equity with Integrity

CROOKS INVADE PRESIDENTIAL RACE

...suspected criminals want to enter State House to clean their names. **Page 3**

By AARON CHIYANZO

THIS year's Presidential race has been invaded by criminals and fraudsters who should be in prison for clear crimes than aspiring for the highest office in the land, Citizens Democratic Party president, Robert Mwanza has said.

He has called on security wings to protect Zambians

against such criminals and interlopers seeking power for their personal ends in the hope of obliterating their criminality.

The vast majority of Zambians, he said, were ignorant of the nefarious intentions of some of the Presidential candidates who did not mean well for the country and hence the need for security forces to expose them.

TO PAGE 3



Mr Mwanza

Imbwili investments denies debt claim

By GRACE CHAILE -LESOETSA

IMBWILI Investments limited has denied owing Finsbury Investments Limited any funds under the Mortgage and supplementary

Mortgages.

It has also stated that it was not aware of its alleged debt being assigned to Finsbury Investments by Finance bank Zambia limited and described the transaction as illegal. **TO PAGE 3**



Tazara workers protest hiring out rail

ON PAGE 3

Zambia, IMF talks reach 'numerical' stage


ON PAGE 3




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ZAMBIA, IMF TALKS REACH 'NUMERICAL' STAGE

By BUUMBA CHIMBULU

GOVERNMENT is now exchanging numbers with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the on-going virtual meetings for an Extended Credit Facility (ECF).

Once this stage is done, Government and the IMF would then move to discuss policy issues during the meetings, says Finance Minister, Bwalya Ng'andu.

The on-going virtual meetings started about 10 days ago and would end on March 3, this year.

"We are at the numbers stage right now. Once the

numbers are done then we will get into the policy issue but we are at the numbers stage. That is the stage we are at. "We are on, we are discussing. At this stage, it is a stage of looking and sharing numbers," Dr Ng'andu said in an exclusive interview.

The Minister said Government was confident that it was exchanging useful information with the IMF.

"We are discussing. They are going on accordingly, I mean we have gone this far because there is expectation that we are exchanging useful information between us, for us to reach an agreement of some sort.

"We know what they want,

they know what we want, and it is just a question of bridging the gap between us through the sharing of information," Dr Ng'andu said.

Under the ECF, member countries agree to implement a set of policies that will help them make progress towards a stable and sustainable macroeconomic position over the medium term.

On January 22 this year, Secretary to the Treasury Fredson Yamba said the meeting comes after a request by Government last November for a formal programme and a visit by an IMF team in December.

Mr Yamba said that the programme discussions would

centre on the Government's objectives to attain fiscal and debt sustainability and on key pillars in the country's economic recovery programme.

"In line with the need to stabilize the economy and gain traction on its reform agenda, the government as espoused in the economic recovery program, 2020-2023, and prior cabinet approvals has prioritized having a formal program with the IMF," he said.

The talks, he said, would also focus on the need to scale up social protection programs and undertake the much-needed reforms in the agriculture and energy sectors.

Govt gets support for covid vaccine acquisition

By NATION REPORTER

GOVERNMENT has received expressions of interest and offers of support from a number of private sector and foreign missions based in Zambia to support the Covid-19 vaccine acquisition and deployment, Minister of Health Jonas Chanda has said.

Dr Chanda however said the expressions of interest and support would await cabinet decision.

He said the memo outlining recommendations for the Covid-19 vaccine acquisition and deployment was

scheduled for consideration by Cabinet soon.

"We remain cognizant of the challenges being faced the world over around issues of Covid-19 vaccine efficacy against some coronavirus variants, which information will play a key role in recommending vaccine choices for Zambia as informed by scientific evidence from genomic sequencing," said Dr Chanda.

Dr Chanda also said a number of developed countries had indicated that they may be able to offer a portion of their over procured vaccine stocks to developing countries.

And Dr Chanda said

Government was consulting and exploring public-private partnerships for establishment of PCR testing facilities at points of entry, borders and airports to stop the importation of Covid-19 variants and other diseases.

He urged the public not to fear or panic over the reopening institutions of learning because pupils and students were safe. Dr Chanda said schools surveillance had been key to provide baseline on the Covid-19 situation in learning institutions as well as guidance monitoring.

He announced that 609 new Covid-19 cases were recorded in the last 24 hours out of 4,144 tests conducted.

Dr Chanda said four Covid-19 deaths were recorded while 1, 001 were discharged from isolation centres and home management.



Fake news, cyber bullying big headache for govt - Minister

By NOEL IYOMBWA

FAKE news and cyber bullying have become a source of concern for Government, Transport and Communication Minister Mutotwa Kafwaya has said.

He was speaking at the Cyber Hygiene and ZICTA walkathon from Lusaka to Livingstone yesterday.

Mr Kafwaya said that last year alone, the Zambia Information Technology and Communication Authority (ZICTA) received 3, 075 reports regarding online abuse cases.

He said out of the cases received, 615 were on fake news, 551 cyberbullying and 126 were identity theft-related.

Mr. Kafwaya also said 1, 150 cyberbullying cases were received through child helpline 116 managed by Lifeline Zambia.

"We are aware that

demographically cyber bullying is more rampant among children and youths, and across genders, more females are statistically bullied," he said.

And ZICTA Director Patrick Mutimushi noted that there is need to have a safe internet experience for children especially the girl-child.

Mr Mutimushi said ZICTA has introduced interventions to bridge the gender digital divide through the collaborative effort with the Ministry of Gender and UNDP under the GRZ UN programme against gender-based violence phase two.

He disclosed that the phase two include creating awareness about gender-based violence that women and girls suffer online, particularly on social media platforms.

Nine activists have on embarked on an awareness campaign from Lusaka to Livingstone aimed at encouraging responsible use of the cyber space.

Among the nine are Zambia's first female fighter pilot Captain Thokozile Muwamba and child online ambassador Mwangala Maunga.

Nevers repays \$70,000 debt

By GRACE CHAILE-LESOETSA

MMD president Nevers Mumba has now repaid the US\$70,000 loan to Lusaka businessman Oliver Scott who alleges to have paid the former for the purchase of land located in Ibex Hill in Lusaka.

Mr Scott claims Dr Mumba failed to complete and transfer the said property to him.

This is according to a Notice of payment filed by Dr Mumba into the Lusaka High court.

And Dr Mumba is also counterclaiming a declaration that the unsubstantiated documentation for sale of his land are null and void.

He wants an order compelling Mr Scott to accept payment of the money and an order preventing him from charging penalty and compound interest.

"Take notice that the defendant in these proceedings paid into court the sum of US\$70,000 the kwacha equivalent of which is K1,494,458 as at February 12, 2021 by way of bank transfer into the High Court clients account number 0060417125017 held at Atlas Mara limited Longacres branch," the notice of payment

"The transaction reference number is OT2143ZM014582(copy of proof of payment is attached.) The payment is with regard to

the plaintiff's claim hence the plaintiff is at liberty to withdraw the kwacha equivalent of the sum paid into court only on condition that it is accepted as full and final settlement of the claim," further read the notice of payment.

This is a matter where Mr Oliver Scott has sued Dr Mumba in the Lusaka High Court for failure to complete and transfer a property which he sold at US\$70, 000 to the plaintiff.

Mr Scott is seeking an order for specific performance of the contract of sale dated September 6, 2018 being the transfer, assignment and vacate the possession of property LUS/38497 in Ibex Hill, Lusaka.

He stated that it is now over two years since the said property was bought and Dr Mumba has to date failed to complete and transfer the said property to him despite numerous reminders.

But the MMD leader Mumba has described claims by Mr Scott that he has failed to complete and transfer a property which he sold at US\$70, 000 as a lie aimed at extorting money from him.

Dr Mumba said he has on several occasions since 2019 requested for Mr Scott's banking details so that he can pay the money but the plaintiff has refused to provide the same.

Dr Mumba said he discovered that Mr Scott was trying to surreptitiously lodge the contract at Ministry of Lands and was trying to change ownership of his property into his own name.

Turnpike-Chikankata Road Intact - RDA

By KETRA KALUNGA

ROAD Development Agency-RDA has refuted claims by some members of the public that the newly rehabilitated 38.5 kilometers Turnpike-Chikankata T1 road is rutting.

Agency Communications and Corporate affairs Director Masuzyo Ndhlovu said the road is intact with no signs of rutting.

Mr. Ndhlovu said a team from the agency inspected the road as part of the handover procedures and did not notice any rutting.

"The concerns by the general public that the Turnpike-Chikankata road is rutting are not true, we recently did an inspection on February

16, as part of the handover procedures and our team on the ground did not notice any rutting," he said.

Some members of the public had raised concerns that the newly rehabilitated Turnpike-Chikankata road is rutting.

Members of the public claimed that they have noticed the wheel path was being engraved in the road covering a stretch of 38.5 kilometers which is phase one of the Kafue-Mazabuka road rehabilitation project.

And Mr. Ndhlovu further assured that the nation that RDA would, however, continue to monitor the performance of the road in all aspects which include among others rutting and cracking.

He said the Defects Liability Period (DLP) of one year would come into effect after the contractor, China Henan International Corporation Group Company Limited, hands over the road to the RDA in a few weeks' time.

The RDA director communications and corporate affairs added the contractor would work on any defects that would appear on the road during the one-year Defects Liability Period.

Mr. Ndhlovu said the Defects Liability Period was done over a period of one year to ensure that there is value for money for the contracted work.

"After the road is handed over by the contractor to

the RDA, this will be done within the next few weeks, the Defects Liability Period (DLP) of one year will come into effect, during the DLP the contract will make good any defects that will appear," he said. Under phase one the road rehabilitation works on Turnpike-Chikankata T1 road consisted of widening the existing road formation to allow for cross section geometry of 2 x 3.4m lanes and 2 x 1.5m surfaced shoulders with 0.5m outer shoulder strips.

In Phase two of the Kafue-Mazabuka Road covering a stretch of 33.5 starts from Chikankata turn-off to Mazabuka General Hospital and is being done by China State Engineering Corporation.

Crooks invade Presidential race

...suspected criminals want to enter State House to clean their names

From Page 1

Many political leaders, he said, had a lot to explain to the Zambian people owing to their previous dubious dealings that continued to hover on their heads.

Security service, Mr Mwanza said, should not be intimidated but feel emboldened to expose crooks and con-men vying for political office to perpetuate their criminality.

He lamented that the political space in Zambia had been dented by some politicians who have an insatiable appetite to abuse public property for their personal gain.

He appealed to UPND president, Hakainde Hichilema and Socialist Party President Fred M'membe to explain their position on matters affecting them, "Mr. Hichilema must explain the controversy and contention over the 4 Lima properties scandal, sale of Intercontinental Hotel in Livingstone and the holding of Saturnia properties while pensioners languish in poverty and others die," he said.

Mr Mwanza said Socialist Party leader, Fred M'membe must explain his taxes and benefits from privatization of Zambian Airways where the Development Bank of Zambia had lost a lot of

money.

Mr Mwanza said the political space had been invaded by criminals and fraudsters who were banking on becoming republican President to clear their names of wrongdoing.

"Zambians needed answers before you even think of becoming President. Names must be cleared of wrong-doing first. Otherwise as it is, this is invasion of our political space which has been known to be noble," he said.

And Zambian DNA spokesperson, Spuki Mulemwa said Mr Hichilema and Mr M'membe need to explain all allegations against them before thinking of having their names on the ballot.

Mr Mulemwa said the allegations against the two political leaders were very serious because they involve public resources which must be pumped back into the economy if they were found wanting.

He also said several pensioners had died as a result of the frustrations incurred after the privatization of public assets.

"Hundreds of pensioners have died because the manner in which the privatization was handled which left pensioners destitute," said Mr Mulemwa.

PF SUFFERING AT GRASSROOT LEVEL - MAXWELL CHONGU

By NATION REPORTER

THE Patriotic Front is suffering at the grassroots level while the party leadership is being cheated by officials who wanted to cling to power that everything is ok, a PF diehard, Maxwell Chongu has said.

Mr Chongu said the party had disintegrated at the grassroots because many leaders were championing personal interests at the expense of the party.

"Those people refusing to lift suspensions are the ones who have put people who are doing nothing in positions. They want them

to be there so that they can vote for them at the general conference," he said. All suspensions, Mr Chongu, said must be lifted with immediate effect to build the party because the grassroots are getting weaker.

Mr Chongu said PF needs to reconcile members and bring back members who were on suspension if it was to become stronger.

The party, he said, should learn from Luanshya and elsewhere where it lost because it was divided internally and could not mount an effective campaign.

He warned that it would be 'deadly' for PF to face the August general elections

with a divided front.

Mr Chongu said people who could help grow the party were being kept at bay to safeguard their own interests.

He said calls by PF Lusaka province chairman, Paul Moonga for suspensions to be lifted should be supported by all well-meaning party members.

"We cannot be pretending that everything is fine when not. That is what led to PF losing the Katuba and Roan constituency seats. It's because of divisions so this should not be allowed as we go to the August elections," he said.

Mr Chongu said PF should



Mr Chongu

learn from the outcome of the Katuba and Roan elections to focus on growing the party.

He said the ruling party needed both old members and those serving suspensions to have it easy in the August elections.

POLICE REJECT HH RAID CLAIM

By NOEL IYOMBWA

THE police have insisted they were not aware of any raid by their officers on a family of Shibuyunji and challenged the alleged victims to come forward with evidence.

UPND president, Hakainde Hichilema who claims to have visited the village, insists that the police went there with a search warrant indicating that they were searching for weapons.

But police spokesperson, Esther Katongo said she was not aware of the raid.

"I am not aware of the raid myself. Why can't you go and interview the same people who are saying they were raided, as far as I am concerned I don't know about the raid," she said.

Mr Hichilema recently alleged that PF sent a battalion of heavily armed Police who raided his In-laws homes in search of imaginary weapons. The police dug the maize fields and yards and literally turned the In-laws houses upside down as onlookers watched in shock.

"In all honesty, Mr Ed-

gar Lungu must know that I, Hakainde Hichilema and my wife Mutinta including our In-laws have no weapons besides God. Other than God, the people of Zambia and their voters cards are our weapons," Mr Hichilema said.

The UPND leader demanded that PF leaves his In-laws out of politics and face UPND head on in terms of how this country can be developed.

"We are aware that the PF is having sleepless nights and wants us to stop being their challenger in the August elec-



Ms Katongo

tions, but they must not push their luck too far.

We call upon all Zambians to remain calm and focused and not be disrupted by such intimidation by the PF as exhibited today," Mr. Hichilema said.

Tazara workers protest hiring out rail

By PETER SICHALI

TAZARA workers have protested Government's decision to allow the company to hire out its rail to private operators.

The workers feel that allowing private businesses to access Tazara rail facilities would disadvantage the Institution and make it even less profitable.

Worker's Union of Tazara (WUTAZ) president Beldwin Mulowa said private operators using the facilities were having more haulage cargo than Tazara. Mr Mulowa said Government should instead suspend Open Access to do away with private operators accessing Tazara railway line.

"There is no way someone just accessing your line can be surpassing you in terms of haulage of cargo," he said in an interview.

Mr Mulowa said the decision to have private operators access Tazara lines was rather rushed because of the playing field which was not levelled.

He said these private operators have literary taken away business from TAZARA making it difficult for it to operate sustainably. Mr Mulowa said



Tazara was currently facing a lot of challenges including failure to pay salaries for workers.

Mr Mulowa said the gate-takings Tazara has been getting from private operators cannot help solve the problems the company is facing.

Recently, Transport and Communications Permanent Secretary Misheck Lungu said Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (Tazara) should engage two or more companies to run on open access to expand revenue base.

Mr Lungu said the institution is making about \$6 million per year from one operator for using Tazara railway facilities.

He said Tazara was currently charging 1 dollar per tonne for each kilometre.

"Having more operators will help the institution to generate money from private operators using the rail facilities," Mr Lungu said.

Mr Lungu said there was need for more private companies to set up wagons to operate on Tazara facilities at a fee.



**LUSAKA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LC.SAKA PLASMSC, AUTHORITY
THE URBAN AND REGIONAL ACT No. 3,
SECTION 53(2) OF 2015 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MAHMOUD SIBLINI intends to apply for planning permission for Change of Land use from Residential to Commercial (Warehouse), at Sub 438 of farm 401a, Makeni, Lusaka. The plot measures approximately 727m2 in extent.

The application may be viewed at the Office of the Town Clerk of Lusaka City Council; P.O Box 30077, Lusaka and submissions or Observations on the application may be made to the planning authority without charge. Submissions or Observations must be in writing and made within the period Of 30 days beginning on the first date of the period for the publication of this notice being 22nd February, 2021 and ending on 23rd March, 2021.

**Alex Mwansa
TOWN CLERK
For: THE CITY OF LCSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY**

Date of erection of site notice 22nd 2021

NATION

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PERSONAL INTEGRITY

We have been accused of many things.

More recently and perhaps most enduring we have been accused, of practicing tribalism, more specifically of being anti Tonga.

A few years ago, then President Michael Sata took us to court for demanding tribal inclusivity in his cabinet and for questioning his support of Fred M'membe and Mutembo Nchito in their dealings with development Bank of Zambia in relation to Zambian Airways.

Our position on tribal inclusivity has not changed. We said the same of the Cabinet that President Lungu inherited from Mr. Sata. We even went further to make a public presentation to a Parliamentary hearing where we recommended a revolving presidency to ensure equity.

Our position has always been that elections are not synonymous with democracy. Informed democracy demands accountability founded on firm public policy merits and adherence thereto.

More importantly our position has been consistent. We have spoken against the abuse of power to victimize the voiceless. We have condemned specific cases of injustice where innocent people are left to suffer for no cause of their own. We have always demanded integrity of purpose in the exercise of any form authority in public or private life.

We believe that any power or responsibility must be exercised with decency, civility and more importantly compassion. This is the bedrock of integrity.

Integrity has been described as the practice of being honest and showing a consistent and uncompromising adherence to strong moral and ethical principles and values. In ethics, integrity is regarded as the honesty and truthfulness or accuracy of one's actions

This is the level to which leaders aspiring for high office must be held to account.

It is against this background that we have earned the anti-Tonga name for questioning Mr. Hakainde Hichilema. We have done so with respect, responsibility and sensitivity. Our concern has been the plight of pensioners and those displaced from their land in circumstances that have led to litigations while some have fizzled out. There is also the question of the sale of Livingstone Inter-continental Hotel which was valued at more than US\$26million that was sold for less than US\$6 million, in a transaction where he was the chief officer on behalf of Government. The Hotel now belongs to him and Chief Mukuni as local directors while being an international company domiciled overseas.

Above all else we have asked why the Saturnia forensic audit report has remained a secret, when Government audits are made public. There may be absolutely nothing to worry about, but it concerns us because of the many lives that have been negatively affected by some of the dealings that Saturnia and related companies have undertaken.

It is a fact that in one such case a Judge in the High court faulted Saturnia for being less than honest in dealings with pensioners some of whom have died without receiving their benefits.

These are very specific issues we hope Mr. Hichilema can address otherwise they will continue to haunt him as an individual, concerns which have absolutely nothing to do with tribe.

On our part, we promise to stand by the poor and voiceless.

PURSuing JUSTICE AND
EQUITY WITH INTERGRITY

CHONGWE MAYOR STOPS 'SUSPECT' KANAKANTAPA DEMARCATATIONS

By JOHN KOMBE

CHONGWE Mayor Geoffrey Chumbwe, has ordered a stop to the demarcation of plots in Kanakantapa farm bloc.

Mr Chumbwe, who visited the area after complaints from residents, said the demarcation by the surveyors was improper as the plots were of incorrect sizes.

He made the order yesterday after he met residents

who presented their complaints during a meeting.

The residents stated that they welcomed the demarcation, but raised concerns on the way the exercise was being done.

Mr Chumbwe was with Kanakantapa councillor, Hildah Musopa.

He noted that there was no coordination between the community and those doing the exercise.

According to him, this had led to the misunderstandings

between the two parties.

Mr Chumbwe said the plot sizes needed to be resolved before the exercise could continue to prevent more disagreements between surveyors and community.

"I will make sure that the delimitation exercise is temporarily halted as we find a way forward," he said.

Mr Chumbwe assured the community that they will be protected, stating that the whole process was in their best interest.



Mr Chumbwe

Jack Kalala caned

By NOEL IYOMBWA

JACK Kalala should be the last person to be attacking President Edgar Lungu and should instead he should tell the nation why he was recalled from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where he was Consul General at one time, the Evangelical Youth Alliance has said.

Alliance Executive director, Moses Lungu warned that Mr Kalala should stop scandalizing innocent people, but clean up his own mess

Reverend Lungu was reacting to remarks Mr Kalala who alleged the Heat of State was corrupt.

He charged that the former government officials should stop attacking the Head of State because he had not come out in the open to explain why he was recalled from DRC.

He said that President Lungu does not blow the trumpet when he is dealing with corrupt individuals because he respected government institutions.

"We would like to express our sadness over remarks by the former special assistant to the president. He should be the last person to talk about corruption and I challenge him to tell the name why he recalled from Congo," he said.

Reverend Lungu said the Head of State does not talk about corruption because he works quietly.

Imbwili investments denies debt claim

By GRACE CHAILE
-LESOETSA

IMBWILI Investments limited has denied owing Finsbury Investments Limited any funds under the Mortgage and supplementary Mortgages.

It has also stated that it was not aware of its alleged debt being assigned to Finsbury Investments by Finance bank Zambia limited and described the transaction as illegal.

In this matter, Finsbury Investments has sued African Banking Corporation Zambia limited trading as Atlas Mara and Finance Bank Zambia limited in the Lusaka High Court alleging that their false claims that Imbwili Investments Limited does not owe any funds under the Mortgage and supplementary Mortgages are malicious and aimed at causing economic loss to it.

Imbwili Investments has been sued as the third defendant for failing to fully settle the loan in the sum of K33,648,819 (un-rebased) outstanding as at July 31,1997 with interest payable at the then current banking rate.

Finsbury Investments claims include an order that Atlas Mara's failure to safeguard its interests with re-



gard to Imbwili Investments amount to the economic tort(s) of inducing loss by unlawful means for which the plaintiff (Finsbury) is entitled to damages against

LOAN

Imbwili Investments has been sued as the third defendant for failing to fully settle the loan in the sum of K33,648,819 (un-rebased) outstanding as at July 31,1997 with interest payable at the then current banking rate.

the defendants.

It also wants an order that Imbwili Investments still

owes the interest due under judgement cause number 1996/HP/2892 and for the payment of the total sums owing and outstanding from the third defendant to it under the said judgement and the same to be assessed by the registrar of the High court. The plaintiff also wants an order against Atlas Mara and Finance bank for damages for breach of contract. And Atlas Mara and Finance bank in their combined defence contended that there is no legally binding assignment of the debt owed by Imbwili Investments which exists between Finsbury and them.

They claim that in the case that such a document does exist, the Finance bank will object that such agreement or assignment was illegal and void on the ground of champerty and on grounds of public policy.

Chiefs refute dishing out huge chunks of land

FORMER House of Chiefs chairperson, Chief Kaputa has dispelled assertions that traditional leaders sold huge chunks of land to foreigners without government involvement.

Chief Kaputa said contrary to assertions by some sections of society that traditional leaders are fond of selling large pieces of land to foreign investors, no traditional leader has done that.

There has been complaints from Masaiti and Mwinilunga that traditional leaders have made it a habit to sell huge

pieces of land to foreign investors at the expense of their subjects who end up being displaced.

The traditional leader said huge land investment requires government involvement.

He explained that chiefs' mandate in terms of land allocation is limited to 250 hectares while the Ministry of Lands can allocate up to 1,000 hectares.

The chief wondered why some traditional leaders can be accused of selling huge pieces of land to foreign investors when their capacity to do

so is limited to not more than 250 hectares.

"Honestly, I do not know of any chief who has given large chunks of land to any foreigner. I say so because large land investment requires government participation," Chief Kaputa said.

The traditional leader added that government agencies are always involved when it comes to land allocation to foreign investors on projects of national interest.

Chief Kaputa said supporting institutions such as local authorities were also consult-

ed whenever the traditional leaders were dealing with matters of land. - ZANIS.

"Honestly, I do not know of any chief who has given large chunks of land to any foreigner. I say so because large land investment requires government participation," Chief Kaputa said.

By IRVIN MUYUMBWA

MOVEMENT for Democratic Change (MDC) Matero Constituency aspiring Member of Parliament Captain Charles Musenge has bemoaned the piles of refuse at the Chunga dumpsite likely to pollute ground water, land and the air.

Capt. Musenge said the dump site which lacks proper management is now a health

'CHUNGA DUMPSITE A HEALTH RISK'

risk especially to the individuals occupying residential settlements nearby who are likely to already suffer some ailments owing to the refuse and its foul smell. He said part of the solution to the problem would be to woo investors that can set up a recycling and fertiliser manufacturing plant because

the same waste which is disposed of and left for scavengers to pick can be a serious source of income generation.

“The piles of refuse at this site is frightening and pollution is threefold as all ground water, land and air are under constant pollution.

“To make matters worse, the

dumpsite is now surrounded by residential properties which are not serviced with piped water and they depend entirely on the same contaminated ground water,” Capt Musenge said. He said with a visionary leadership in the constituency, specialists would have been identified to make use of the

garbage, recycling all of it and reproducing bio-mas, paper, plastics and fertiliser among others. He said this would have in return helped Matero residents find gainful activities and further avoid feeding the ground with garbage which most likely contain industrial chemicals.



We've not swindled anyone, says NGO

By KETRA KALUNGA

A NON-GOVERNMENTAL organisation that empowers physically challenged people has disputed media reports that it had swindled about 13, 000 registered members on the pretext of being empowered.

It has been alleged that International Federation of People Living With Albinism and Blindness (IFPAB) had allegedly swindled about 13, 000 registered members by collecting money as a registration fee for the

empowerment programme.

But IFPAB has refuted the allegations with

Federation president, Peter Ngoma saying that contrary to what was reported, IFPAB has not received an official complaint from any of its 30, 000 members.

Speaking during a media briefing in Lusaka Mr. Ngoma explained that the empowerment of its members had been delayed due to Covid-19 as its funders had been faced with the challenge of travel restrictions.

“IFPAB is a registered organisation in Zambia, surely how a thief can register with the government only to swindle people, I don't think it works in that way,” he said.

He said IFPAB is a non-political organisation that is ready to work with the government in improving the living standards of the less privileged in society.



22nd February 2021

ZAMBIA

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Lusaka, Zambia
Telephone: +260 211 262104

INVITATION TO TENDER- SUPPLY OF DETERMINE HIV TESTING KITS AND SD BIOLINE CONFIRMATORY TESTING KITS

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is an International Non Governmental Organization operating in forty four (44) countries around the world. In Zambia, AHF has been working to contribute to the control of the AIDS epidemic since 2007. AHF currently operates in twelve districts, running 2 clinics independently and supporting 27 Ministry of Health Clinics. Services offered by AHF include: Anti-retroviral treatment, facility and outdoor HIV counseling testing, voluntary medical male circumcision, free condom distribution, provision of monthly operation grants to government clinics, provision of human resources, Behavior Change Communication and Advocacy, all at no cost to the end user.

The AHF wishes to engage a duly registered Company to procure Determine HIV Testing Kits and SD Bioline Confirmatory Testing Kits for AHF Zambia. Below are the quantities.

1. Determine HIV testing Kits 346 packs - 1*100 (Testing Panel, Chase buffer, lancets and Capillaries)
2. SD Bioline Confirmatory testing Kits 80 packs -1*25 (Testing Panel and Solution)

The bidder MUST provide the following:-

- i. Statutory documents. a. Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
- ii. Registration certificate/ Certificate of incorporation
- iii. Product /Item code (Optional)
- iv. Product Name
- v. Manufacturer
- vi. Country of Manufacturer
- vii. Packing details
- viii. Expiry date- shelf life not less than 6 months
- ix. Delivery timeline
- x. Three Reference letter

The sealed envelope should be clearly marked: “AHF Zambia Tender for HIV TESTING KITS” and should be deposited in the Tender Box placed in the Board room of AHF Zambia Head office, 32 Bishops Road, Kabulonga, Lusaka, before 14:00hrs on Friday, 26th February 2021. Telegraphic, telephonic, facsimile, email and late bids will not be accepted.

NOTE: Only registered with AHF vendors are qualified to take part in the tender. AHF reserves the right to reject any or all bids without giving reasons.

Yours faithfully,

**Procurement Committee Chairperson
AIDS Healthcare Foundation**

Let's fight Covid-19 together — MP hopeful

By MARTIN AKENDE

ONE of the PF aspiring candidates for the Kabwata parliamentary seat Danny Yenga has flagged off the disinfection exercise of all schools in the constituency.

Under this programme, Mr Yenga is targeting to disinfect over 60 public and private schools in the constituency.

Mr. Yenga said the exercise is to supplement the government's efforts in combating the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic.

Speaking during the flagging off exercise at Mkandwire Basic School where he did his primary education, Mr. Yenga said the fight against Covid-19 must not be left to the government alone but that it must be everyone's responsibility.

He said the pandemic should not be politicised because it is

public health issue.

“Covid-19 is a public health issue and should not be treated as a political issue. We want to be part of the solution to minimise the spread of this disease. Of course we cannot eradicate it, but we can minimise its spread.”

Mr Yenga said it was important to disinfect schools in the constituency to ensure pupils are protected from the coronavirus pandemic.

He has also urged the corporate world in the constituency to join hands in the fight against coronavirus.

He challenged politicians to come on board to ensure the battle against Covid-19 is won.

Mr Yenga said he wanted to be part and parcel of what President Edgar Lungu was preaching about in terms of delivering development to the people.

“I may be aspiring to be an MP but the first thing is that I should be preaching development and the eradication of this pandemic. Even as we tour the constituency, we will be very clear that there is Covid and we must adhere to health preventing measures,” Mr Yenga said.

He also hailed President Edgar Lungu for allowing aspiring candidates to get to the ground to appreciate challenges people are going through.

Average Exchange rates: 19-02-2021		
Currency	Buying	Selling
USD	21.6287	21.6787
GBP	30.3516	30.4282
EUR	26.2529	26.3180
ZAR	1.4795	1.4838

K14 BILLION TRANSACTED VIA MOBILE MONEY

By BUUMBA CHIMBULU

OVER K14 billion was transacted through mobile money in the fourth quarter of 2020 driven by adoption of digital platform amidst Covid-19.

Mobile transactions shot up especially in the second, third and fourth quarters of last year, says Bank of Zambia (BoZ) Director of Banking, Currency and Payment Systems, Lazarus Kamanga.

Mr Kamanga said in an interview that over 8.5 million people were actively using mobile money out of the registered mobile accounts of

about 19 million.

“We are almost close to 50 percent of the population using mobile money in Zambia. The transactions have really shot up, particularly in the second, third, and fourth quarter of last year.

“We are yet to get the numbers for January, we are just finalising those statistics but otherwise the uptake is quite good. More than K14 billion could have been transacted just in the fourth quarter of last year through mobile money,” he said.

Mr Kamanga attributed the improvement in mobile money transactions to the

adopting of the digital platform especially during the Covid-19 period.

He explained that mobile money users had understood the need to use the digital payment system as it was much safer.

Mr Kamanga also attributed the improvement to the implementation of the National Financial Switch (NFS).

NFS is the first ever local nationwide shared platform which will facilitate for interoperability of digital payments through-out the Country.

This Switch is meant to

reduce the dependency on cash and its associated risks by providing stakeholders with shared infrastructure.

“Prior to December last year, if you are on one network, you could not send your money to a different network but with the implementation of the National Switch, today people are able to transact across networks,” Mr Kamanga said.

Meanwhile, Mr Kamanga warned the mobile money users to be careful of fraudsters who would always be there to take advantage of the weaknesses in the payment system.



He explained that as part of measures to protect the mobile money users, especially through phone in live programmes on Radio stations, BoZ had involved the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA).

“We have also dealt with IBA. You may remember at one time some radio stations

while doing some of these promotional things would get people's numbers online so these fraudsters would sit on their computers and obtain these numbers and then send you messages. IBA wrote to all radio stations to work on that,” Mr Kamanga said.



By DR LABAN MWANSA

AS our government and private sector partnerships embark on fulfilling huge capital infrastructural and transformational projects. It is quite common nowadays to find failed, challenged or orphaned projects. However, what is important to note is that, project success may be viewed in twofold, the success of the project methodology used to deliver the project and also the success of the project deliverables or products produced and accepted by relevant beneficiaries or stakeholders. Here we see the need to recognise the difference between:

A Successful result (product) and a Project Management methodology Success. It is therefore important to consider some factors contributing to project success and failure in project delivery?

The Standish Group Report Chaos study defines project success by categorizing projects into Successful projects, Challenged projects

PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

Project Manager's 7- essential tips to successful project delivery!

and Failed projects as being: Successful projects = Those projects which are delivered: On Time & On Budget, & with satisfactory result; Challenged projects = Those projects delivered late, over-budget or did not meet target; Failed projects = Those projects which are cancelled or results not adopted by users. We may also add Orphaned projects as those projects which lose project team members and end up with no project direction and management. The list continues as some projects, people just stop talking about them and they die a natural death. Maybe that's too harsh but that is what reality is.

Recently one of my acquaintances requested me to explain how to measure and categorise a project which has been put on hold by senior management because of an emergent high priority project which needs more priority resources. This was a very interesting question in my opinion because yes it is right to allocate more resources to an emergent high priority project. But the real question here is can you put a project on-hold? Most people would say yes, why not? I don't think so, the best that can be done is to trigger a premature project closure and perform normal project

closure activities. The consequences which may arise if you don't perform a premature project closure and put a project on hold is that whilst the project is on hold, requirements, regulations, technology, stakeholders and environment may change and if this happens then it will mean that you will have to re-plan your project from scratch. The best option would be to trigger a premature project closure rather than putting the project on hold.

The 7-PM tips to prevent

you may use variance analysis and earned value management (EVM)

Deliver project on approved scheduled time Manage the project schedule by monitoring and controlling the project schedule, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Some schedule compression techniques include fast-tracking and crashing depending on circumstances. Some consideration should be made to use Project Evaluation and Reporting Techniques (PERT). I find this



project failure should actually come from the 7 project success criteria as follows:

Deliver project on planned and approved budget: Manage the project budget by monitoring and controlling the project costs, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. For example

technique very useful.

Deliver project on agreed and fit for purpose quality standards: Manage the project quality assurance by monitoring and controlling the set project quality standards, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Plan for quality manage-

ment. Remember you cannot mark your own homework, so make sure that there is no conflict of interest between those making the project products and those checking the quality of the products. The key here is to keep defects reaching the customer or end user.

Deliver project planned benefits: Manage the project benefits by monitoring and managing the project benefits realization plan, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Make sure benefit realization plan is in place and that there is someone to take care and account for post project benefits realization.

Deliver the scope according to the objectives: Manage the project scope by monitoring and controlling the project scope, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Prevent scope creep. A project is a living thing, so expect changes from stakeholders but be prepared to manage the change requests in an agreed formal way. Remember properly managed changes may bring additional income.

Deliver the project with managed risks to optimize project benefits: Manage the project risks by monitoring and managing the project risks, use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Risk management is important in order to maximise project benefits we need to proactively manage risks.

Deliver project deliverables to the satisfaction of beneficiaries and stake-

holders: Manage the project stakeholder's expectations by monitoring and engaging project key stakeholders use available tools and techniques to accomplish this. Remember if stakeholder are happy it means your project has been successful.

Final thoughts: To ensure that project manager achieves project success factors there is need for project managers to proactively manage project risks and also use lessons to avoid repeated mistakes in project execution. This will also avoid a popular anonymous quote “We are great at doing profitable projects but really bad at keeping our customers”, evidently in customer – supplier project environments, it is very key that customer satisfaction is met and this can be ascertained and measured.

This article was written by Dr Laban Mwansa, MSP®, PMP®, PRINCE2® Practitioner, Agile®, Laban is a consultant and trainer in project management and specifically trainer/coach in PMP®, PRINCE2® Practitioner, and PRINCE2 Agile® in Zambia, South Africa and Europe for many years. He was in the executive committee of ICTAZ as technical chair. He is also the managing partner of Betaways Innovation Systems and can be reached at: Laban.Mwansa@betaways-innovations.com, +260975280392 or WhatsApp +27817029669. He is also a professional project management member of PMSA and PMI-USA.

KQ pilots fight move to have them paid per trip

NAIROBI - Kenya Airways (KQ) pilots are against proposals by the national carrier to have them paid per trip.

KQ, which had been struggling even before the coronavirus pandemic, is floating the idea as part of a wide range of cost cutting measures to stay afloat.

Kenya Airline Pilots Association (Kalpa) secretary-general Murithi Nyagah said that even though the move would help the carrier reduce its wage bill, it breached mutual agreements between the two parties.

"We are not aware of any plans by KQ to pay pilots per trip. After all, we are opposed to it," said Nyagah in a statement.

"That was a road side declaration by management because they have not even reached out to us. There is a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between

Kalpa and KQ that guides how pilots should be paid."

Pilots account for about 10 percent of KQ's workforce and prior to the pandemic there was a biting shortage of the professionals which cost the airline Sh5 billion in just one year.

Effective this year, KQ also introduced a fresh wave of payouts of as much as 30 percent and non-payment of deferred salaries which the pilots have also rejected. This is on the back of staff redundancies by the dozen.

KQ also said it would reduce its network and offload some assets with Kilavuka forecasting a loss of as much as Sh40 billion in revenue in 2020. "It is illogical for KQ to talk of paying pilots per trip at a time they have slashed their pay for about nine months. We will reject the proposal anyway," said Nyagah.

In the latest attempt to keep KQ afloat, the government said it would inject Sh26.5 billion into the airline in the course of the financial year to June 2021 as part of plans to nationalise the airline.

KQ has been one of the hardest hit by the pandemic announcing planned staff redundancies by the dozens and other cost cutting measures to stay afloat. - THE STANDARD, Kenya.

KENYA FUEL PRICES SOAR

NAIROBI - The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (Epra) has defended its decision to increase fuel prices at a time many Kenyans are facing harsh economic times as a result of the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic.

The Central Organisation of Trade Unions (Cotu) had condemned the move, terming it "insensitive" to the suffering population because it would lead to increased cost of consumer products.

"Cotu views this move by the authority as an affront to workers and Kenyans as a whole, and demands for the Energy ministry's immediate intervention in the matter to avoid any imminent confrontation that the government is likely to attract from workers and the rest of Kenyans," Cotu



Secretary-General Francis Atwoli said.

But Epra acting Director-General Daniel Bargoria said the increase was necessitated by the relaxation of the Covid-19 containment measures, as economies globally were restarted.

"The matter of pricing is emotive and concerning to many Kenyans because of the Covid-19 pandemic that has slammed the economy," he said.

"After benchmarking globally, the demand for crude oil has considerably risen leading to the high prices in its importation."

Speaking in Eldoret after a consultative forum on the draft review of the legislative framework for petroleum activities, Bargoria said the import prices of crude oil were "very competitive."

"Towards mid last year there was a collapse in the price for crude oil globally.

But now the demand for crude oil and petroleum products globally is high, as a result of restart of world economies, making us procure it at competitive prices," he said.

However, Bargoria said, there were consultations within the Ministry of Petroleum and the regulator on how to stabilise the prices going forward.

"Back in the 1980s, petroleum products were being sourced at relatively lower prices. We are finding a lasting solution to stabilise the prices to cushion the locals from fluctuation," he said.

On the proposed mid and downstream petroleum regulations, Bargoria said they would ensure the rules do not have adverse socio-economic impact on the affected stakeholders. - THE STANDARD, Kenya.

HARARE - The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) has hiked its bank policy rate, against which banks benchmark interest rates, from 35 to 40 percent, as part of new policy measures announced last week to buttress the prevailing economic stability.

This comes as the bank said the economy was poised for strong growth in the short to medium term, amid stable exchange rate and low inflation, buttressed by the resilience and hard-work of its people.

Announcing the new policy measures, RBZ governor Dr John Mangudya, said earlier interventions introduced last year have been effective towards stabilising the economy.

He said the bank

RBZ increases bank policy rate

continues to successfully implement a conservative monetary targeting framework in order to contain money supply growth, reduce pressure on the exchange rate as well as root out inflationary pressures in the domestic economy.

As such, the central bank chief said it was evident the bank's focus should remain on monetary and financial system stability.

Dr Mangudya said the measures, contained in the 2021 monetary policy presented last week, were with immediate effect.

The policy rate is the rate the monetary authority sets in order to influence the evolution of the main monetary variables



in the economy such as consumer prices, exchange rate or credit expansion.

Apart from raising the bank policy rate to 40 percent per annum, the central bank also hiked the medium term

lending rate for productive sectors from 25 to 30 percent per annum.

"The decision interest rates takes into account the current liquidity conditions in the market and the need to continue controlling speculative borrowing," Dr Mangudya said.

The apex bank also increased statutory reserves from 25 percent to five percent for demand and/or call deposits and maintained the rate at 2.5 percent for time deposits. The variation of statutory reserves by maturity is expected to incentivise banks to hold long-term liabilities or time deposits for long-term lending in the medium-term. - THE HERALD, Zimbabwe.

Eskom's debt

...Banks, investor push to solve Eskom's R464bn debt crisis

JOHANNESBURG - Nedbank is leading discussions to restructure Eskom's R464 billion debt load, according to people familiar with the talks.

The parties met in recent days, and one of the options is to transfer at least R100 billion of debt to a special-purpose vehicle that would be overseen by the state-owned asset manager, the Public Investment Corporation (PIC), the people said. "Eskom intends to work constructively with all its creditors to develop a plan that will improve the company's balance sheet while adequately catering for the requirements of its lenders and other stakeholders," the utility said in response to questions.

"The utility is in regular discussions with its stakeholders to agree on the best solution

to shape the balance sheet as the company moves to the next phase of its strategy," it added.

Eskom, described by Goldman Sachs Group as the biggest threat to the South African economy, has become mired in debt as a result of overspending on projects.

The power utility can't meet its costs and is subjecting the country to intermittent power outages as a result of inadequate maintenance at its aging fleet of coal-fired power plants.

The yield premium of Eskom's 2028 dollar bonds over comparable government debt narrowed on Friday to the least in 17 months, suggesting bondholders are gaining confidence in a rescue plan.

"We continuously engage with strategically important state-owned companies including Eskom," Nedbank said in an emailed response to queries. "These constructive engagements are held with positive intent, together with other financial institutions and respective shareholders, and focus on creating solutions in respect of liquidity challenges faced by state-owned companies," said the banking group. - BLOOMBERG NEWS.

NEF launches an Economic Distress Fund for black-owned businesses

JOHANNESBURG - The National Empowerment Fund (NEF) and the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition have launched a fund to help black-owned businesses recover from the Covid-19 induced financial crunch.

The institution said the new fund, announced on Saturday will offer concessional business loans as well as equity funding with a maximum interest rate of 2.5 percent.

Eligible businesses will be able to access between R250, 000 and R10 million in funding. But they must provide proof of commercial viability and must demonstrate that the need for economic relief is a direct result of distress caused by Covid-19, said the NEF general counsel Mzi Dayimani in a statement on Saturday.

To qualify for funding under the Economic Distress Fund, the NEF said applicants must meet the following criteria:

- The business must have been operating for at least three years by the time they apply to the NEF.

- It must have proper historical financial records demonstrating a track-record of honouring debt obligations, except during the period since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

- The business must have at least 10 employees.

- The applicants must demonstrate that the business is unlikely to pay all its debts due in the next six months without external financial support.

- They must show that the business is unable to fund its operating activities in the next six months.

- They are also required to prove that getting financial support will give their businesses a fair chance of recovery and job retention.

The NEF CEO, Philisiwe Mthethwa said the organisation has dedicated teams including chartered accountants, engineers, corporate lawyers, and various other experts who will help in the implementation of the Economic Distress Fund. Mthethwa said while the pandemic has devastated and placed the livelihoods of many businesses at stake, black businesses have been dealt a particularly heavy blow because they have historically struggled to access affordable capital. - FIN24.

Forum

Send an email to dailynation@ymail.com

You can also send contributions on any topic. Anonymity when requested will be granted. Send your text message to: 0967 697056 / 0954 328223 / 0972 067699

HH can turn state house into a haven of ama sample

Dear editor, **INITIALLY**, when one and only five time losing Presidential candidate Hakainde Hichilema who is also the recently selected leader of the 23 year old opposition United Party for National Development (UPND) launched his wild hallucinations to sell off strategic national assets including the Presidential Jet, we gave him a benefit of doubt.

We opted to give Mr Hichilema sufficient and fair opportunity to reflect on his intended direction hoping he will reconsider this careless ambition.

Later, in what appeared to be a rare public comment on politically charged debate from security wings, the Zambia Airforce (ZAF) reactively came out in open to correct HH's ignorance on matters of aviation security for the sitting President.

Of course ZAF was just compelled to respond in order to save the greater majority who would have innocently been misled by the apparent "Mr know it all" opposition leader.

The advice was plainly stated in no uncertain terms that his premeditated and overzealous idea to sell the Jet was on national security grounds not tenable.

This unsolicited advice was stubbornly rejected and fell on Mr Hichilema's deaf ear.

Rationally speaking, with the cogency attested from the detailed explanation given by ZAF, Mr Hichilema was expected to honorably concede and bring the security sensitive debate of selling the national asset to rest.

It is surprising that Mr Hichilema has reignited the futile promise of turning State House into a haven of ama sampo and the selling of the jet will be executed on the first day of his inauguration.

We would like to remind UPND and Mr Hichilema that he should exercise utmost humility and heed the advice given by ZAF, a sole institution with close to 57 years' experience of providing aviation security to 6 Presidents who have ruled Zambia.

Mr Hichilema should weigh between his unrepentant history and the interest of the state.

While HH brags that he is a self-proclaimed messiah that can eradicate all Zambian problems upon his appending of his signature on being inaugurated as Republican President, we find this claim unrealistic and plain lies.

There are glaring inconsistencies in his hallucinations on matters of national interest.

For instance, Mr Hichilema from uninformed point of view, claims he will end Zambian debt crisis.

On the other hand he confesses that he will go for an International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout package.

This is not the thinking of a President or an aspiring who is opposed to the contraction of debts.

On another front, Mr Hichilema as uniformed as he is, claims that he will channel the proceeds of privatizing the Presidential Jet towards the procurement of drugs in the hospital and in the Agriculture sector.

But how will he sustain his imaginary Government through

selling of assets in order to mobilize financial resources to be used for delivery of public services?

As regards selling assets as a means of raising public finance, here are our two observations.

Firstly, Mr Hichilema does not appreciate the reforms which have taken place at the Ministry of Health in 2021 especially the realignment of the functionaries is so far bearing fruits to uphold public and donor confidence in the health sector.

Just this past week alone, about 58 million Euros was pledged by the cooperating partners to be injected in the procurement of necessities in the health sector. This on its own provides for sufficient and reliable ways of mobilizing resources needed to buy medicines without risking national security to sell the Presidential Jet to aliens who are Zambia's potential rivals. We have not forgotten that Mr Hichilema promises to reduce or even waive the tax obligations of citizens while at the same time increasing the salaries of civil servants.

We wonder if this argument is coordinated.

On his other claim that he will channel proceeds of selling Presidential Jet towards the agriculture sector, again this is laughable.

Mr Hichilema has allowed politics to blind him and ignores the ongoing reforms that have taken place in the Agriculture sector.

Some of these include aquaculture funds to boost the fishing sector, the livestock programs, reforming Fertilizer Input Support program among others. As regards his claim that he will sell the Government vehicles in exchange for small loans for marketers, we wonder which country he lives in.

As a nation is fully aware, there are several empowerment opportunities for marketers and the President has taken it upon himself to mobilize money to empower marketers with start-up capital.

The number of marketers who have directly benefitted exceeds 30, 000. To mention but a few, the Presidential Empowerment Initiative which was led by the now Kabwata PF aspiring candidate Clement Tembo, the Edgar Chagwa Lungu Multipurpose Cooperative Society all have the marketers as primary and principal beneficiaries of President Lungu's desire to empower them.

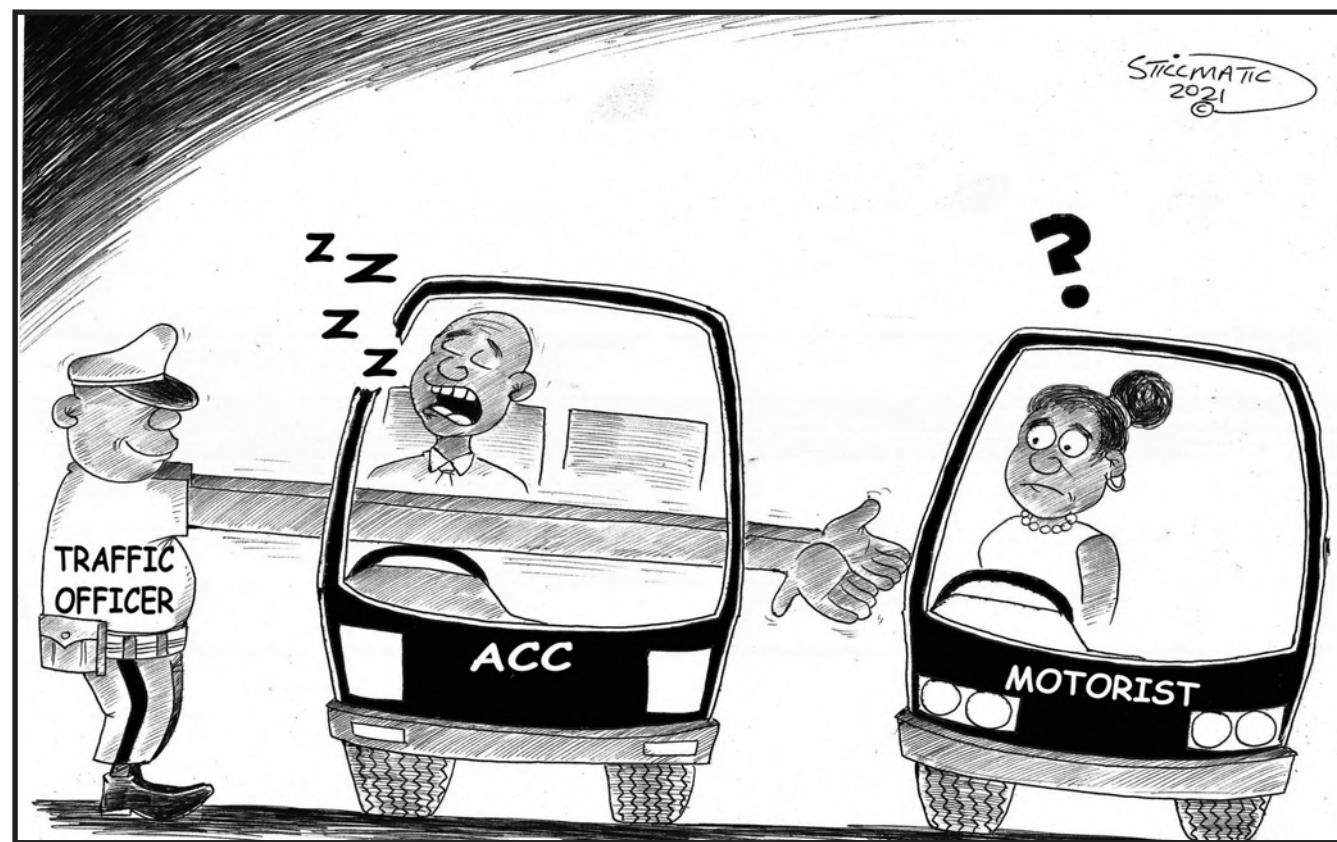
We challenge Mr Hichilema to visit any market in Lusaka and get facts for himself to appreciate how marketers are already having a fair share of President Lungu's efforts to empower them.

We are also shocked that he has admitted that the congress which selected him as President was a sham and achieved only 29 % of the expectations, and it will single handedly be corrected by him using what he terms as "necessary provisions in the UPND Constitution."

Now our concern is that how can Mr Hichilema or his controlled National Management Committee (NMC) "correct" what the general membership at the convention decided?

It is not proper for the NMC to interfere with the popular will of the people by adding in the 71% of what they deem as the inadequacies of the convention.

Anyway, we will carry on with this discussion on another day.
MARVIN CHANDA MBERI



IF THINGS ARE BAD IN ZAMBIA, WHY AN INFLUX OF FOREIGNERS?

...it is unfortunate that foreigners speak well about Zambia than Zambians themselves

Dear editor, **I**n one of my articles a fortnight ago, I talked about the need to rebrand our country and I stated the fact that rebranding our country can only be done by Zambians themselves because we know the country better than anyone else.

The outside world will believe what we will tell them about our country, whether negative or positive. If we say Zambians are bad people, that is what outsiders will believe and vice-versa. We have a choice to create a kind of image for our country to non-Zambians.

Most nations elsewhere have been developed mostly by their own citizens and we can do that for Zambia if we want to just like we can destroy what we have if we choose to. But where are we going to go if we took that course?

Back to the gist of my write-up today, as we continue counting down to the August 12, 2021 General Elections, it is obvious that politicians and in particular those in the opposition are likely to come

up with all kinds of campaign messages in a bid to lure the electorates into voting for them, their candidate or indeed their party.

My concern is the kind of messages these leaders are preaching about affairs of a country they want to rule and much of them are negative messages. I know that is the language of politicians but at the same time, I am concerned as a Zambian because most of these messages are actually painting this country black and that does not help us at all.

As we criticize the current regime in our campaigns, let us be mindful of what we say because it can be used against us in future.

We have politicians who are just full of negative energy and to them, there is nothing good worth speaking about Zambia today and to them, "things in the country are bad" in Zambia and they are ones who can do it right once voted into office.

But the most interesting thing however, which we should all scrutinize is that if things are really that bad in Zambia, why have we

continued to have an influx of foreigners coming into the country? You do not need to check with our Department of Immigrations because we do live with these people in our communities.

We have a number of foreign nationals staying with us and some of us eat with them, chat with them and we become one big family.

If you go in any compound or area in Lusaka, most of the people running different kinds of businesses are foreigners and they have become successful business persons.

To my surprise, non-nationals in this country have appreciated the warm reception that we have accorded them and they have thrived in business because of the conducive trading environment that the Zambian Government has created.

Is that not something we should spread to the outside world that Zambia is one of the best countries to do business in this part of Africa? And by so doing, don't you think we will be attracting potential investors into the country?

Some of us who interact

with these brothers and sisters in the community, they have nothing bad to say about Zambia and at times I wonder why Zambians are the ones in the forefront of talking ill about their own country.

Are foreigners more Zambian than the Zambians themselves because they are the ones portraying a positive image about the country while its own nationals, born and bred in the country are busy spreading bad messages in the media and other platforms.

Yes, not everything is good and neither is it bad that but can be objective in our criticism and campaigns and let us strive to say something good about our own country and we lose nothing by doing that, do we?

Let us reflect and carry out an introspection as Zambians. Stay blest!

FRANCIS CHIPALO, The author Francis Chipalo is a Lusaka-based Journalist and a Freelance Public Relations Practitioner.

For comments and contributions, SMS, WhatsApp or call the author on 0977203043

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BY MAKELI PHIRI

CONCEPTION OF VILLAGE CHICKEN

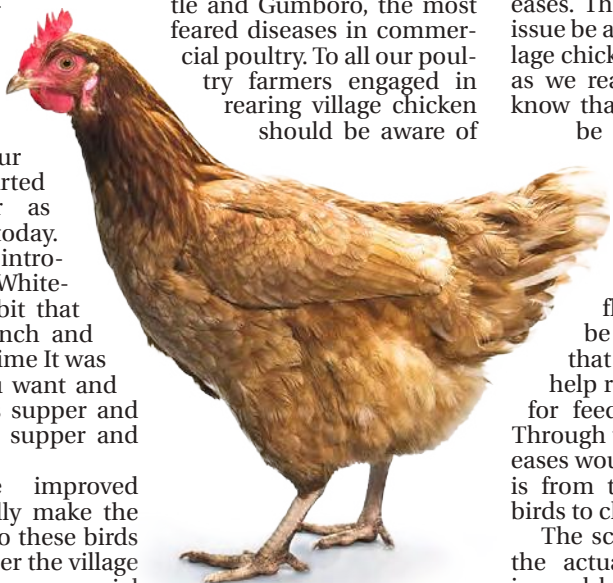
THE VILLAGE CHICKEN CONCEPT IS ACTUALLY ADDING TO WHAT WE CALL GMO FOODS.

IT is becoming now as a trend among the so many people are going into keeping village chickens. The reason they are easy to keep and now they are getting closer to commercial bird standard but at a lower level. And it is a well-known fact among such farmers that these birds take care of themselves but they are forgetting with improvement they shall need care and this would be time spent on them. Because of such belief the potential of these birds has been suppress. Improvement of such birds has impacted negatively in the real sense. Their natural immunity is and has been disturbed. Some people have gone as far as introducing out grower on village chicken with some very attractive conditions. But the concept that they are hardy and have very little to do with diseases that affect our commercial birds has attracted many, it is im-

portant to ask if someone is to in the right. However, with some improvement taking place, it means their immune system is already being compromised. The so-called village chicken is no longer in the category of village chicken. Their potential to survive has equally been downgraded naturally. Improvement in the village chicken means the following production parameters have to be tackled or are already talked, this is because in the adverts concerning rearing village chicken would woo or attract the would-be village chicken farmer. And this is to improve egg production and hatching this would mean this farmer has to improve the old to modern structures to suit this breed of poultry, improved growth is to be looked into and I believe it has been done. This we are able to see feed specifically made for this type of bird. Boosting their growth can

also likened to us humans. In the past our food was for survival but with the coming of colonial masters. The eating habit for almost every citizen changed. We started eating the white man's food introduced to us. Our chicken started growing faster as we see them today. We have been introduced to the White-man eating habit that is breakfast, lunch and supper. In our time It was breakfast if you want and main meal was supper and people eat this supper and go to sleep. With these improved bird, will equally make the farmer attend to these birds work or look after the village chicken just like commercial birds and exactly this is the direction we are going and we have gone. They shall need special attention just

like commercial birds. Now the challenge from these so-called village chickens is that they have been made very prone to Newcastle and Gumboro, the most feared diseases in commercial poultry. To all our poultry farmers engaged in rearing village chicken should be aware of



there diseases and at no time should these birds be kept near the commercial

birds. There immunity has been compromised in the name of village chickens being hardy towards certain diseases. This is no longer the issue be assured my dear village chicken farmers as long as we rear them, then just know that a budget should be available for the treatment of these diseases and others. Of course, the goodness is that the whole flock of them can be kept separately that is adults this will help reduce competition for feeders and drinkers. Through this transfer of diseases would be reduced that is from the more immune birds to chicks. The scavenging to which the actual village chicken is used has to be checked and therefore, the reduction, losing energy meant for body building. Depending on the locality where such village

chicken farmers are they must also make improvement to the accommodation meant for these birds. This has to be done it is part of improving village chicken. Therefore, look around what would be suitable material. The village chicken concept is actually adding to what we call GMO foods. The bird system is been changed from its natural to what we are now calling improved bird. Genetically modified foods come in so many ways. The village chicken is being changed or transformed into a different bird because of the various manipulation taking place over the same chicken as mentioned above improved in growth, give improved food as opposed from scavenging and so on. To maintain their village status certain things should be provided that is like perches. This helps avoid birds from crowding, these would also be as sleeping and resting places during the nights. The spaces of perches would be determined by the available space and the number of birds in the available house. The material to be used in their housing should be as close to those used in the commercial bird rearing. So, for any one attempting to go into village chicken rearing must be prepared at least to practice good hygiene for the birds. Otherwise the menacing diseases are likely to wipe the birds. And please never keep these next to commercial birds.



LUSAKA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY
THE URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT No. 3,
SECTION 53(2) OF 2015 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Mohd Zayed Alam intends to apply for planning permission for a Change of Land use from Residential to Institutional (Clinic), at Stand No. 12241, Lunyema Road, Woodlands extension, Lusaka. The plot measures approximately 1961 meters squared in extent.

The application may be viewed at the Office of the Town Clerk of Lusaka City Council; P. O Box 30077, Lusaka and submissions or observations on the application may be made to the planning authority without charge. Submissions or observations must be in writing and made within the period of 4 weeks beginning on the first date of the period for the publication of this notice being 22 February, 2021 and ending on 21st March, 2021.

Alex Mwansa
TOWN CLERK
For/ THE CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY

Date of erection of site notice being 22 February, 2021



LUSAKA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY
THE URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT No. 3,
SECTION 53(2) OF 2015 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

EXCELLENT HACHILEKA intends to apply for planning permission for Change of Land use from Residential to Commercial (Lodge), on Stand No. 222/B/378a, Salama Park, Lusaka. The plot measures approximately 662m² in extent.

The application may be viewed at the Office of the Town Clerk of Lusaka City Council; P. O Box 30077, Lusaka and submissions or observations on the application may be made to the planning authority without charge. Submissions or Observations must be in writing and made within the period of 30 days beginning on the first date of the period for the publication of this notice being 22nd February, 2021 and ending on 23rd March, 2021.

Alex Mwansa
TOWN CLERK
For/ THE CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY

ZATP APPROVES K367, 432 FOR TWO COOPERATIVES ON THE COPPERBELT

BY HLUPEKILE NDHLOVU

THE Zambia Agri Trade Project under the Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry (ZATP) has approved funding grants for two cooperatives in Kitwe district of Copperbelt Province.

ZATP Copperbelt Province coordinator Emmy Kaluba said two cooperatives in Kitwe namely Tulima Multipurpose Cooperative in Mufuchani agriculture camp and Tusole Women Multipurpose Cooperative in Maposa have had their grants approved for funding.

Mrs Kaluba explained that Tulima multipurpose cooperative who are specialized in fish farming will receive a grant of K227, 423.28 from the project while Tusole Women multipurpose cooperative who specialize in village chicken farming will receive K140, 000 from

the project. She said that the project is currently processing the grants for the cooperatives and will in the coming few weeks call the cooperatives to receive their grants.

Additionally she called on all registered cooperatives dealing in agriculture on the Copperbelt to apply for

grants through her office.

And Tusole women cooperative chairperson Judith Simwanza expressed gratitude for the grant approval by the project. Mrs Mwanza said the cooperative intends to build more chicken runs and equipments needed in the poultry houses. She ex-

plained that currently, the cooperative only has local village chicken breed but with the coming of the grant, they intend to improve on the breed of the village chickens and get better breeds like Black Astrolops which grow faster than local village breed. - NAIS

7000ltrs pesticide dispatched to fight army worms in Southern Province

By LAWRENCE KABUTU

GOVERNMENT through the ministry of Agriculture has dispatched 7000 litres of Fall Army Worm chemicals to fight the deadly pest from ravaging field crops in Southern Province.

Southern Province Agricultural Coordinator Dr. Max Choombe said the chemicals are being distributed to all the 13 districts and affected farmers in the province to combat the pest.

Dr. Choombe said quantities of chemicals being distributed per district are dependent on reports received from District Agricultural Coordinators in terms of areas affected and also the areas at risk.

He further explained that chemical distribution is also dependent on the number of farmers in a given district because the more the number of farmers the more the infestation.

Dr. Choombe emphasised that the chemicals distributed from the Provincial Office to District Agricultural Coordinators in the province and subsequently to farmers were free and not for sale.

Dr. CHOOMBE told the National Agricultural Information Services that his office has received reports of Fall Army Worm attaches on field crops from most districts in Southern Province adding that infestation is at the small level.

The PACO further pointed out that so far the crop stand in the province is very good for the 2020/2021 season noting that if there will be no floods the province anticipates a bumper harvest.

Dr. CHOOMBE said most of the maize in the field is green and not yellow as it has received fertilizer.

He named the districts to be recipients of the Fall Army Worm chemicals as Kazungula, Livingstone, Zimba, Kalomo, Choma, and Sinazongwe.

Others are Pemba, Namwala, Gwembe, Monze, Chikankata, Mazabuka, and Siavonga. -NAIS.



Photo by: Fortress Media

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

FOSTERING MULTILINGUALISM FOR INCLUSION IN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY
February 21, 2021

The USAID Let's Read project joins the rest of the world in commemorating International Mother Language Day.

USAID Let's Read supports the Ministry of General Education (MoGE) in the implementation of mother-tongue instruction for early grade learners through the government's Primary Literacy Programme.

Research has shown that when children are taught in their mother language, they learn better in school. Learning in one's mother tongue builds confidence to participate in activities in and outside of the classroom.

Learners across the country from ECE to grade 3 are taught and assessed in the 7 main languages, namely: Chitonga, Cinyanja, Icibemba, Silozi, Kikaonde, Lunda and Luvale.

USAID Let's Read will provide over 5 million pieces of teaching and learning materials in the seven approved languages of instruction over the life of the project.





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ZAM MILK LACTO FULL
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JUICE ALL VARIANTS
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K16⁹⁹
CROSSE & BLACKWELL
TANGY MAYONNAISE
250g EACH



K29⁹⁹
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VARIANTS 150g



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BOOM
SPARKLE PLUS
DISH WASHING PASTE 400g EACH



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WASHING POWDER
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K149⁹⁹
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ACTION AID ZAMBIA TO EMPOWER FISHERS

BY VICTOR CHABINGA

ZAMBIA is endowed with vast water bodies that support both agriculture and the aquaculture sectors. The fishing industry is one major vital sector which contributes to social and economic growth of the nation at both national and household levels.

Most of the rural communities along these major water bodies are dependent on fish capture and fish trade as their source of livelihood. However most these fishers are faced with economic challenges during the enforcement of fishing ban period as this is their only source of income.

It is for this reason that Action Aid Zambia in partnership with the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock development has commenced activities which will enable fishers and traders to diversify to other social economic ventures during the fishing ban period.

Speaking during the consultative meetings with fishermen and fish traders in Kafue District fishing camps of Chanyanya and Minyoni, Action Aid Zambia Project Officer, Mambo Tembo emphasised the need for the fishers not only to depend on fishing but to engage in other income generating activities so as to avoid being in conflict with the law.

And Lusaka Province Fisheries Officer Muyangali Kagoli says the European Union Funded, Action Aid Zambia sustainable Fisheries Management Project which will be based in Kafue and Luangwa districts will not only reduce the economic hardships faced by the fishers during the fish ban but will also upgrade the management of the fishery areas in the respective fishing communities.

"We appreciate and thank Action Aid Zambia for coming on board to support our small-scale fishers so that at the end of the day, we have alternative livelihoods so that they are able to diversify from fish to other economic activities to sustain their livelihoods, especially during the fish ban," reveals Mr. Kagoli.

Meanwhile Kafue District Fisheries Officer Aaron Mbuzi has commended Action Aid Zambia for initiating developmental programs which will uplift the welfare of the fishers in the district.

"Our fisher folk around Kafue face a lot of challenges, such as sanitation where they are operating from, limited resources, transportation, storage and value addition. The coming of this project will help in reducing the challenges the fishers go through," Appreciates Mr. Mbuzi.

Community centres ready completed

By JACKSON MAPAPAYI

THE newly constructed community centers in the five wards in Solwezi are complete and ready for commissioning, Mayor Nicholas Mukumbi has announced.

Mr Mukumbi said the initiative was aimed at bringing local government closer to the people in the wards of Solwezi districts. He said the facilities would be used as mini civic centres

where the mayor and the council management would operate from in selected days of the week.

"Councillors alike will be compelled to be meeting their electorate on a daily basis as opposed to operating from their homes," the Mayor added.

Mr Mukumbi explained that community activities such as weddings, church functions, sports and recreation, literacy classes among others would also be held at the centres.

The centres which come along with the councillor's office, Ward Development Committee office, Community tuck shop and a 300 capacity community hall had been constructed using locally generated funds.

the council chairmanship position.

Speaking shortly after submitting his application, Mr Taima said his return was out both personal persuasion as well as an outcry from the constituents.

Mr Taima said that there was a loud outcry that the fire which was ignited in terms of development and service delivery had been extinguished.

He said most of the projects had stalled despite political will from Government, which had created more districts.

"Unfortunately, despite President Lungu giving us a district which is meant to accelerate development, we have missed the opportunity somehow because the elective office bearers have not done enough in terms of coordinating stakeholders in trying to establish the Central Business District (CBD)," Mr Taima said.

He said it was over five years now since the creation of Mushindamo district, but nothing had been done in terms of selecting the CBD.

PF adoption race for Solwezi East hot up

By JACKSON MAPAPAYI

THE adoption race for the Solwezi East constituency in North-western province has attracted four candidates from the PF including former Member of Parliament (M), Richard Taima.

Others seeking adoption on the ruling party ticket are former Mushindamo District Commissioner Benson Ngambo, Athanase Kaleleka and Catherine Kayukwa.

On the council chairman position, three aspiring candidates have applied, namely, Dynes Kabunda, Mr Maheke Mutobe and Mr Precious Masaba.

Mr Taima submitted his application letter yesterday and was accompanied by Mr Mutobe, who is gunning for

Rotary fights covid-19 in Lufwanyama

By ROGERS KALERO

THE Covid-19 pandemic should be confronted with serious interventions from various sections of society as it has the potential to leave critical sectors of the economy fragmented and devastated, Rotary Club of Kitwe North President Patrick Chilambwe has said.

He said interventions should include sensitizing people in far flung areas in order to reduce the spread of the pandemic which has continued to claim lives and ravaging economies of various countries in the world.

Dr Chilambwe was speaking at the weekend when the Rotary Club of Kitwe North donated 10 bicycles in Lufwanyama district to be used for Covid-19 interventions.

He said it was important that people in areas like lufwanyama were educated about the covid-19 so that they were able to appreciate that the pandemic was real and a threat to human life and world economies. "We decided to donate 10 bicycles for Covid-19 interventions which will include educating the people in far flung areas on the dangers of Covid-19. People need to be sensitized and educated on how Covid-19 is transmitted and how to reduce infection rate. "We donated bicycles because in rural areas bicycles are mostly used. Where a vehicle cannot pass, a bicycle can pass. So in our small and humble way as Rotary we decided to donate the bicycles," Dr Chilambwe said.

Receiving the bicycles, Lufwanyama District Commissioner (DC), Dorothy Chimpimpi, said the bicycles would be used by health workers to disseminate information about diseases.

MONZE IN DAIRY ANIMALS GALORE

By ANDREW MUKOMA

GOVERNMENT has handed over 20 dairy animals to women and youths in Chief Choongo's area in Monze under the Enhanced Small Holder Livestock Investment Project (E-SLIP).

This is aimed at improving milk production, income and poverty reduction among beneficiaries.

Chief Choongo of the Tonga speaking people said the project would raise standards of living and eradicate poverty among his people.

In the first phase, 20 out of the total of 40 dairy animals were handed over to be distributed to beneficiaries in the area.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister, Nkandu Luo, said Government attached great importance to the development of the livestock sector through restocking exercise under the E-SLIP project.

Professor Luo said the

E-SLIP project was founded on the premise of fighting poverty and improving living standards through livestock pass on programme in Monze District and other parts of the country.

The Minister added that the project was focusing on benefiting 50 per cent women, 30 per cent youths with 20 per cent for men.

Prof Luo was speaking in a speech read on her behalf at Nteme Milk Collection Centre by Deputy Director in the Ministry,Young Vibetti.

Prof Luo said the E-SLIP pass on projects of livestock such as goats, chickens and cattle had two components including increasing animal production and as well as disease control.

She said the ultimate goal of the project was to see improved nutrition, income and poverty reduction in Monze District and other parts of the country where the project was being implemented.

"My government through the E-SLIP project has

handed over 20 out of the 40 dairy animals for beneficiaries in Nteme area and the main aim of this project is to enhance animal production as well as income generation and thus eradicate poverty among the beneficiary households," Prof Luo said.

"We expect beneficiaries to take very good care of these animals with the understanding that this is a pass on project that once a calf is born it should be given to the next beneficiary. We need to improve nutrition and at the same time eradicate poverty," she added.

And Chief Choongo advised beneficiaries to take good care of the animals so that others too could benefit.

He noted that it was encouraging that the E-SLIP pass on livestock project being implemented by the government was not only meant for Monze but the entire country saying this would significantly help to reduce poverty.

"I want to sincerely thank the government for

remembering my subjects to also benefit from the E-SLIP dairy animals pass on project and I just want to encourage beneficiaries to take extra care of these animals so that others can benefit as well," Chief Choongo said.



PF 'camps' emerge in Kalulushi

By ROGERS KALERO

PATRIOTIC Front (PF) members in Kalulushi must not create camps as they compete for adoption ahead of the August elections, District Vice Chairperson Cornelius Mwansa said.

He advised members that they must ensure that they work together and support candidates which the party would adopt.

Mr Mwansa said camps had continued to emerge as more members were aspiring for adoption for various positions.

He has since called for a meeting this week between the constituency and district

officials to deal with the increasing camps.

Mr Mwansa was speaking yesterday at Dongwe skills center when Kalulushi Deputy Mayor Paul Chivunda announced his decision to aspire for the position of Mayor in this year's elections.

"August elections will be crucial and it will be irresponsible and carelessness of the worst order for any PF member to entertain divisions through camps of aspiring candidates. "So we must not create camps as we compete for adoptions ahead of the August elections, but we must ensure that we all work together and support candidates which the party will give us," Mr Mwansa said.

And speaking later, Mr Chivunda emphasized that his intention to aspire for the position of Mayor was because of the experience he had acquired as councilor, chairman of finance and as deputy mayor

He said he was a young man with ability to deliver development adding that he would not disappoint his supporters.

Mr Chivunda who is also PF district youth chairperson, said President Edgar Lungu had encouraged young people to take a leading role in the governance system.

"I want to be mayor because despite being a youth, I have gained immense experience as a deputy mayor and also as a councillor of Dongwe ward, which was an added advantage for me to eye for the mayoral position with a goal to serve the people," Mr Chivunda said.

Mr Chivunda said President Lungu had demonstrated his desire to work with young people as evidenced through his continued inclusion of the youths in various leadership roles hence taking up the challenge.He said with the guidance given by the party Secretary General, Davies Mwila, for all those aspiring for different positions to come out in the open, he had decided to do so as he believed in the party ideologies.

Mr Chivunda called for unity of purpose and urged party members in the district to mobilize more people to help the party win the elections.

"The party has done exceptionally well in various developmental projects. It is fair that we are given another term or mandate to roll out even more projects," he said.

Lubambe aids three Chililabombwe schools

By ROGERS KALERO

LUBAMBE Copper Mine will continue to strengthen its relationship with the communities through investing in communities where it operates from, Communications Manager Loyce Saili has said.

Ms Saili said Lubambe was committed to strengthening its relationship and investing in communities through sound corporate social responsibility programmes.

She was speaking after donating assorted school items worth K161, 000 to three schools in Chililabombwe to mark this year's world corporate social responsibility day

which falls on February 18.

Items donated included face masks, 50 school desks, Black boards, notice boards as well as teachers' desks and chairs, which went to Konkola Combined School, Kasapa and Miyanda Primary Schools.

The mine also rehabilitated some old desks at some of the schools.

Over 90 countries around the world have commemorated the world corporate social responsibility day under the theme 'rebuilding towards resilience.'

"The focus of the commemoration this year is on creating awareness among key stakeholders on the position of

corporate social responsibility in recovery efforts, following the many challenges brought by the covid-19 pandemic.

"Lubambe corporate social responsibility programmes are anchored on four areas namely, health, agriculture, education and infrastructure. Through the corporate social responsibility programmes, Lubambe Copper Mine works to strengthen its relationship and investing in communities," Ms Saili said.

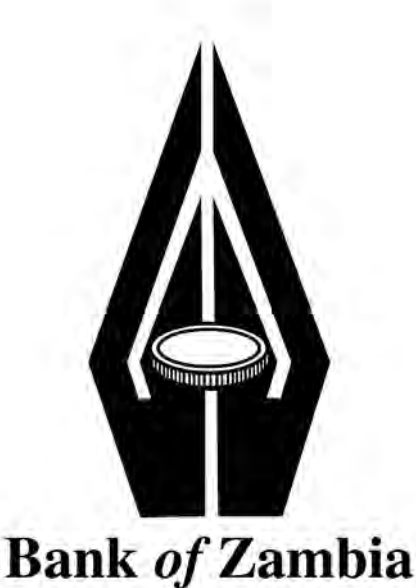
At the same function, Chililabombwe District Education Standards Officer for open and distance learning, Joachim Mulenga, thanked the mine for helping uplift the standard of

education in its area of operation.

Mr Mulenga said he was happy that the mine donated adequate face masks for the three schools to ensure that learners were protected from contracting Covid-19.

He advised the learners to always keep the masks clean and follow all the covid-19 protocols and assured the mine that all the donated items would be out to good use.

"Let me take advantage if this occasion to appeal to the mine to extend its corporate social responsibility programmes to other schools around the mine," Mr Mulenga said.



MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

Monetary Policy Rate adjusted upwards by 50 basis points to 8.5%

At its February 15 - 16, 2021 Meeting, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to adjust the Monetary Policy Rate upwards by 50 basis points to 8.50%. This has been necessitated by the escalation in inflationary pressures, which are pushing inflation further away from the upper bound of the 6-8% target range¹. The decision balances the need to contain rising inflation and anchor inflation expectations against the efforts made to support financial system stability and growth. Ensuring that inflation remains well anchored in the medium-term is essential to moderate fragilities in the financial sector and support economic recovery. In addition, the implementation of a strong fiscal policy adjustment, whose key parameters are clearly outlined in the Government's Economic Recovery Programme, is critical in restoring macroeconomic stability.

A strong recovery in the global economy expected in 2021

As anticipated, the global economy contracted in 2020 on the back of lockdown measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. The lockdown measures caused severe disruptions to global supply chains and resulted in a slump in consumption and investment spending. Consequently, global real GDP is estimated to have shrunk by 3.5%. However, a strong rebound to 5.5% in 2021 is projected. This recovery is on the back of policy support and the gradual easing of restrictive measures owing to the anticipated widespread COVID-19 vaccination. In the medium-term, growth is projected to be uneven and highly uncertain contingent on the

extent of economic damages, effectiveness of policy support and severity of the current health shock. **Indicators of domestic economic activity point to a less severe contraction, but weak recovery projected in the medium-term**

High frequency indicators of domestic economic activity point to a less severe contraction in real GDP in the last half of 2020 following the partial relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions. Nearly all the monitored indicators in the **Bank of Zambia Survey of Business Opinions and Expectations improved over the third quarter readings. In addition, the Stanbic Bank Zambia Purchasing Manager's index** also signalled a softer deterioration in the private sector business environment.

In 2021 and the medium-term, domestic real GDP is projected to recover supported by positive growth in mining, electricity, gas and water as well as information and communication sectors. However, uncertainty surrounding the resurgence of COVID-19 infections and the narrow fiscal space pose significant downside risks to this growth outlook. This is consistent with the weaker January 2021 Stanbic Zambia Purchasing Manager's Index.

Inflation accelerates and deviates further away from target

Annual overall inflation accelerated to a four-year high in the fourth quarter of 2020. This was largely driven by the sustained depreciation of the Kwacha, reduced seasonal supply of some vegetables and the fish ban. Inflation rose to a quarterly average of 17.6% from 15.7% in the preceding quarter. Food inflation averaged

17.2%, up from 15.2% while non-food inflation rose to 18.0% from 16.2%. Inflation increased further to 21.5% in January 2021 from 19.2% in December 2020.

Over the next eight quarters, inflation is projected to deviate further away from the upper bound of the 6-8% target range due to the lagged pass-through from the depreciation of the Kwacha and sustained high fiscal deficits. The risks to the inflation outlook are assessed to be tilted to the upside. Inflation is bound to accelerate further if crude oil price increases persist, fiscal deficits turn out to be higher than projected and the exchange rate depreciates further. Inflation may be moderated by improved supply of food and subdued aggregate demand as economic growth is likely to remain modest.

Overnight interbank rate held within the Corridor

The overnight interbank rate declined further to a quarterly average of 8.06% in the fourth quarter of 2020 from 8.57% and was contained within the Policy Rate Corridor of 7.0% to 9.0% throughout the period. This was largely attributed to the accommodative monetary policy measures implemented earlier in the year.

Demand for Government securities weakens

Demand for Government securities weakened as investor appetite reduced. Both Treasury bills and Government bond auctions were undersubscribed with the bid amounts falling short of amounts on offer by 20.0% and 70.0%, respectively. However, funds raised from the auctions were adequate to cover

The forecast period or horizon is eight quarters ahead, that is, the first quarter of 2021 to the fourth quarter of 2022.

maturities resulting in a marginal surplus of K0.3 billion. Additional securities were issued through private placements mostly to finance the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) and partially clear fuel arrears to suppliers. Consequently, the stock of Government securities rose by 9.7% to K130.2 billion.

At end-December 2020, Government securities held by non-residents increased by 30.9% to K18.4 billion, representing 14.1 % of the total securities. Ninety-three percent of these holdings were in Government bonds.

Interest rates continue to decline

Market interest rates continued to trend downwards, influenced largely by the accommodative monetary policy stance. The commercial banks' average lending rate declined to 25.1% in December from 25.7% in September. The savings rate for 180-day deposits also reduced to 9.8% from 10.3%. Similarly, the composite yield rate on Treasury bills declined to 21.2% from 22.7%. The composite Government bond yield rate, however, rose to 32.9% from 32.3%, reflecting weaker demand for longer-dated instruments.

Credit to tile private sector moderates further, but money supply continues to expand

Credit to the private sector moderated to 8.5% in December, year-on-year, from 13.8% in September due to strict lending conditions as banks sought to curb elevated credit default risk. However, credit to Government continued to grow at a strong pace underpinned by issuance of Government securities, particularly for procurement of agricultural inputs under FISP and clearance of fuel arrears to suppliers. This continued to contribute to the sustained strong annual growth in money supply (M3)², at 46.4%, in December 2020.

Fiscal pressures persist

Fiscal pressures remained high as revenue fell due to the COVID-19 shock amidst rising expenditures especially on agricultural inputs, health and clearance of arrears. Fiscal consolidation remains challenging given the significant uncertainty about the evolution of escalating COVID-19 infections and the debt restructuring process. Narrowing the fiscal deficit by ramping up revenue whilst rationalising expenditure, and restructuring of

Government debt remain critical to restoring fiscal and macroeconomic stability. Securing

external sector support will be central to this effort.

Current account surplus narrows

Preliminary data indicate that the current account surplus was sustained in the fourth quarter, supported by strong balance on goods performance. The current account surplus, however, narrowed to US\$0.6 billion (3.3% of GDP) from US\$0.7 billion (3.7% of GDP) in the third quarter. This was largely explained by the widening of the primary income account deficit due to the pay out of earnings to non-resident shareholders, particularly in the mining sector.

The balance on goods surplus edged higher by 5.2% to US\$1.1 billion as the growth in exports outpaced imports. Exports rose by 2.7% to US\$2.4 billion supported by copper export earnings that rose on account of higher average realised prices and volumes. However, earnings from non traditional exports, gold and cobalt declined. Merchandise imports rose by 0.5% to US\$1.4 billion following an increase in consumer and capital goods which more than offset reductions in raw materials and intermediate goods.

Depreciation of the Kwacha accelerates

Rising excess demand continued to characterise the foreign exchange market due to higher import requirements for petroleum products and agricultural inputs under FISP. Consequently, the Kwacha weakened against the US dollar by 9.4% to an average of K20.71/US\$ in the fourth quarter compared with 3.3% depreciation in the third quarter.

In response, the Bank of Zambia scaled-up interventions to moderate pressure on the exchange rate. The Bank sold US\$339.8 million compared to US\$148.5 million in the third quarter on a net basis. This included receipts of all statutory tax obligations by the mining companies.

Gross international reserves declined by US\$117.7 million to US\$1.2 billion (equivalent to 2.4 months of import cover) at end-December 2020 from US\$ 1.3 billion at end-September (equivalent to 2.3 months)³. The decline was largely on account of foreign exchange interventions and debt service.

The MPC Decision

The MPC noted the escalation in inflationary pressures which are pushing inflation further away from the upper bound of the 6-8%

target range. This is despite aggregate demand remaining subdued. In the medium-term, growth is expected to recover albeit at a weak pace given the uncertainty surrounding the resurgence of COVID-19 infections and the narrow fiscal space.

The risks to the inflation outlook are assessed to be tilted to the upside. These include persistent increases in crude oil prices, higher than programmed fiscal deficits and a further weakening of the Kwacha against the US dollar.


In view of this, the MPC **decided to raise the Monetary Policy Rate by 50 basis points to 8.50%**. The decision balances the need to contain rising inflation and anchor inflation expectations against the efforts made to support financial system stability and growth. Ensuring that inflation remains well anchored in the medium-term is essential to moderate fragilities in the financial sector and support economic recovery. In addition, the implementation of a strong fiscal policy adjustment, whose key parameters are clearly outlined in the Government's Economic Recovery Programme, is critical in restoring macroeconomic stability.

The Bank stands ready to adjust the policy rate upwards further should inflationary pressures persist.

Decisions on the Policy Rate will be guided by inflation forecasts, outcomes, and identified risks, including those associated with financial stability and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The next MPC Meeting is scheduled for May 17 - 18, 2021.

Issued by


Christopher M. Myunga
GOVERNOR



Bank of Zambia

² M3 comprises currency in circulation, Kwacha deposits, and foreign currency deposits

³ Despite the reduction in the level of reserves, the months of import cover remained broadly unchanged, explained by a further reduction in imports of goods and services following the weakening of the Kwacha.



CHAMBESHI WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COMPANY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLIES UNIT
TENDER FOR THE DISPOSAL OF BOARDED PLANT, MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT
TENDER NOTICE NO: ChWSSC/ASSET DISPOSAL /01/2021
ISSUED ON: FEBRUARY 15, 2021

Chambeshi Water Supply and Sanitation Company Limited would like to dispose of the following item(s), plant, motor vehicle(s) and equipment(s) by tender:

1. CHINSALI DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U / PRICE
1	Submissible Pump	KSB	Good	Boma Intake	1.00	14,000.00
2	High Lift Pump	KSB ETA 100-250	Good	Boma WTP	1.00	14,000.00
3	Motor	SIEMENS 45 KW	Good	Boma WTP	1.00	8,400.00
4	Motor	SABS 55 KW	Bad	Boma WTP	1.00	10,500.00

2. KASAMA DISTRICT

S/N	ITEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATION	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Brook Hanssen	185Kw motor	Not working	Milima	1	17,500.00
2	KSB 3 stage pump	Turbine pump	Not working	Milima	1	
4	Vehicle Nissan cab	ABX 826	Not working	Treatment plant	1	3,000.00
5	Vehicle Land cruiser	ABX 2396	Not working	Treatment plant	1	25,000.00
6	Steel Tanks	10m3	Not working	Location	1	10,500.00
7	Steel Tanks	20m3	Not working	Location	1	14,000.00

3. LUWINGU DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Non Return Valve	4"	Obsolete	Treatment plant	1.00	350.00
2	Electrical Motor	45kW	Obsolete	Intake/Booster	2.00	2,100.00
3	submersible Pump	No Specs	Obsolete	Booster Station	2.00	14,000.00
4	Gate valve	10"	Obsolete	Treatment plant	1.00	210.00
5	Electrical Motor	90kW	Obsolete	Intake/Booster	1.00	3,500.00
6	Gate valve	8"	Scrap	Treatment plant	1.00	210.00
7	Non Return Valve	8"	Scrap	Treatment plant	1.00	350.00
8	Gate valve	(assorted scrap of 06 No)	Scrap	Treatment plant	1.00	210.00

4. MPIKA DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	STORAGE TANKS (clarifiers)	10m3	NOT WORKING	CHIBANSA	3.00	14,000.00
2	STEEL TANKS (CLYNDRICAL)	10m3	NOT WORKING	CHIBANSA	2.00	10,500.00
3	STEEL TANKS (CLYNDRICAL)	2m3 on a stand	NOT WORKNG		1.00	2,100.00
4	Pumps	Scrap	Scrap		2.00	175.00

5. MUNGWI DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Electrical Motor	75Kw	Burnt	Intake	1	1,750.00
2	Online Filter		Non-functional	Intake	1	10,500.00

6. MPULUNGU

S/N	ITEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS	Qty	LOCATION	REMARKS	UNIT PRICE
1	NON-RETURN VALVE	8"	1.00	Intake	in bad condition	350.00
2	NON-RETURN VALVE	4" (scrap)	2.00	Intake	Scrap	105.00
3	GALVANIZED IRON GATE VALVE	4" (scrap)	1.00	Intake	Scrap	175.00
4	Scrap pumps		3.00	Intake	Scrap	140.00

7. MBALA DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Motor	75kW, 2970rpm, cast iron casing	Obsolete	Chila T/Plant	1.00	3,500.00
2	Motor	45kW, 2955rpm, cast iron casing	Obsolete	Chila T/Plant	1.00	3,500.00
3	Motor	55kW, 2965rpm, cast iron casing	Obsolete	Lucheche	1.00	3,500.00
4	Motor	75kW, 2965rpm, cast iron casing	Obsolete	Lucheche	1.00	3,500.00
5	Motor	55kW, 2970rpm, cast iron casing	Obsolete	Alan Chelemu	1.00	3,500.00
6	Pump	Type - 232st; 1465rpm	Obsolete	Alan Chelemu	1.00	3,500.00
7	Pump housing	Cast iron casing, ETA 100/250	Obsolete	Chila	1.00	3,500.00
8	Gate valve	4inch	Obsolete	Chila	1.00	1,750.00

8. KAPUTA DISTRICT

S/N	TEM DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Sedimentation tank	18.76m3	Used	Intake	1	10,500.00
2	Receiver tank	2m3	Used	Intake	1	10,500.00

9. NAKONDE DISTRICT

S/N	TOTAL 9	SPECIFICATIONS/ MATERIAL TYPE	CONDITION	LOCATION	QTY	U/PRICE
1	Electrical Motor	50kw	obsolete	Intake/ store room	2	3,500.00
2	metallic clarifiers	40 cubic meters	obsolete	office	2	10,500.00
3	metallic clarifiers	20 cubic meters	obsolete	office	3	10,500.00
4	poly disc filter	diameter	obsolete	store room	1	14,000.00
12	Submissible pump	2900 rpm	obsolete	store room	1	5,250.00
14	Steel container	40 * 3 meters	obsolete	office	1	3,500.00
15	Gate Valves (8")	Scrap	scrap	store room	1	175.00

To be eligible, you are required to pay **ZMW 250.00 NON-REFUNDABLE** application fee at the above mentioned Chambeshi District Offices; and present a copy of a receipt to the Procurement Unit (Kasama) for collection of the application form. A duly filled in and signed application form, with a copy of a receipt should be appropriately bound, sealed, clearly marked "**TENDER FOR THE DISPOSAL OF BOARDED PLANT, MOTOR VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT: ChWSSC/ASSET DISPOSAL /01/2021**" and must be deposited in the tender box situated at the Head Office, Chambeshi Water Supply and Sanitation Company, Plot No. 690A, Mubanga Chipoya Rd, Central Town, Kasama on or before Friday 12th March 2021 at 10:00 hours local time. Bids will be opened thereafter, in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. **Late, faxed and electronic Bids will be rejected.**

For viewing and inspection contact:

No.	District	Name	Cell No.	Email Address
1	Mpika	Sunny Banda	0977 699594	sunnybanda6@gmail.com
2	Chinsali	Jonathan Singu	0975 535659	masekasingu@yahoo.com
3	Nakonde	Onarld Mpani	0976 545467	onardmpansi@gmail.com
4	Kaputa	Willard Kakoma	0969 638636	willardkakoma02@gmail.com
5	Luwingu	Dickson Sinfukwe	0972 081059	dixonpsim@yahoo.com
6	Kasama	Frank Bambala	0977463827	bambalakangwa@gmail.com
7	Mungwi	Meldrine Kasonde	0977 194378	meldrinekasonde@gmail.com
8	Mpulungu	Ackson Miti	0974 895052	acksnmiti@gmail.com
9	Mbala	Kayula Kasonde	0954 272935	Kayulakasonde@gmail.com

Time: Between 08:30 hours to 12:30hrs and 14:30 to 16:30 hrs, from Monday to Friday
For clarifications on the Tender contact:

Procurement and Supplies Unit
Chambeshi Water Supply and Sanitation Company Plot No. 690A, Mubanga Chipoya Rd.
Central Town, P.O. Box 410397

KASAMA – ZAMBIA.

Time: Between 08:00 to 16:30 hours local time from Monday to Friday Makani Moonga, Cell: +260 977 754193; email: moongamakani@gmail.com

For submission of the Tender:

Attention: The Managing Director
Chambeshi Water Supply and Sanitation Company Plot No. 690A, Mubanga Chipoya Rd.
Central Town, P.O. Box 410397

KASAMA – ZAMBIA.

ISSUED BY:
Procurement Unit For/MANAGING DIRECTOR
CHAMBESHI WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COMPANY LIMITED

US PLANE SCATTERS ENGINE DEBRIS OVER DENVER HOMES

A Boeing jet has scattered debris over a residential area near Denver after one of its engines failed on take-off.

The Boeing 777, with 231 passengers and 10 crew on board, was able to return safely and land at Denver airport. No injuries were reported. Police in the town of Broomfield

posted pictures of what appears to be the front of an engine casing in the front garden of a home.

Passengers onboard described a "large explosion" shortly after take-off. Flight 328, a United Airlines plane bound for Honolulu, suffered a failure in its right-hand engine, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said.

One passenger who was on the flight told AP news agency that the pilot was giving an announcement when there was a loud explosion.

"The plane started shaking violently, and we lost altitude and we started going down," David Delucia said.

He added that he and his wife placed their wallets in their pockets

so that "in case we did go down, we could be ID'd".

Images posted online showed smoke trailing from the engine. One video apparently shot from inside the plane shows an engine on fire and stripped of its casing.

The incident happened shortly after 13:00 local time (20:00 GMT) on Saturday. - BBC



Tough times for print media sector

THE government-controlled Zimpapers has started a massive retrenchment exercise.

Alpha Media Holdings' Southern Eye, launched in 2013 to focus on the southern parts of the country, will stop operating on March 31, according to insiders.

"This is our last month. The paper had the potential to claim a niche market and the market was responding well, but we have been dogged by viability problems owing to a severe liquidity crunch," said a source who declined to be named.

Some senior managers and shareholders had been opposed to the establishment of Southern Eye, which they viewed as chairman Trevor Ncube's personal project to serve his home area in Matabeleland at a time the media house was facing severe problems, added the source. AMH, which also publishes the Independent, The Standard and NewsDay, has been facing financial problems over the years and recently relocated from the city centre to Graniteside to reduce operational costs. It has already retrenched a sizeable number of its staff, including senior employees, but some of them are yet to receive their full terminal packages. The High Court placed AMH's in-house printers, Strand Multiprint, under provisional liquidation due to financial problems worsened by a severe reduction in clientele.

Former AMH chief executive, Raphael Khumalo, who has since left the company, said in his High Court Application: "Applicant is insolvent in that it is no longer able to generate any cash sufficient to settle its recurrent liabilities, particularly its obligations to employees". Zimpapers insiders said more than 100 employees had been retrenched after the company offered a voluntary exit package of a month's salary for every year served. - THE ZIMBABWEAN



REGISTRATION OF TRANSPORTERS FOR CROP AND MARKETING MATERIALS HAULAGE DURING THE 2021 MARKETING SEASON.

In its quest to attain an effective and efficient crop transportation system, the Food Reserve Agency (**FRA**) invites applications from eligible and reputable transporter(s) to register for the provision of transportation services in the following categories:

- 1. INTRA PROVINCIAL HAULAGE** - This category will involve moving stock and marketing materials within a province. The following vehicles and trucks are appropriate for use under this category;
 - 4 x 4 wheel tipper truck(s);
 - Small to Medium sized rugged truck(s) – rigid;
 - 4 x 4 tractors and trailer; and
 - Any truck(s) suitable for rough and sandy terrain.
- 2. INTER PROVINCIAL HAULAGE** - This category will involve moving stock and marketing materials between provinces. The following truck(s) are appropriate for use under this category:
 - Articulated truck(s) with trailer(s);
 - Any suitable truck with carrying capacity of **20 – 30** metric tons for long haul.

The Agency will prefer as a **priority** to register transporter(s) with truck(s) fitted with a **GPS monitoring system** to be used for easy tracking of the movement of stock.

Applicants are required to provide the following information in their applications:

1. Registered Company Name with PACRA Certificate;
2. List of Names of Directors (**3**) with **Certified Copies** of their **NRCs**;
3. List of Names of Transport & Logistics Coordinating team;
4. Company profile (**brief history of business operations of similar works and experiences**);
5. Current Physical and Postal address;
6. Current **Bank Details**, Company contact phone numbers and emails;
7. **Road Service License** from Road Transport and Safety Agency;
8. Fleet size with valid copies of truck registration white books and insurance cover;
9. **TPIN** Certificate and Tax Clearance Certificate;
10. Goods in Transit Insurance Cover copy;

Application forms may be **obtained** from the FRA Regional Offices **ONLY** upon payment of a **non - refundable** fee of **ZMW 150.00**

All transporters currently registered and working with the Food Reserve Agency should RE – APPLY if they wish to be considered for the 2021 Crop Marketing Season.

All application(s) clearly marked **REGISTRATION OF TRANSPORTERS FOR THE YEAR 2021 MARKETING SEASON** should be deposited **ONLY at FRA Regional Offices** highlighted here below:

CHOMA

CIDA Sheds
Box 630002
Tel: (213) 20314

CHIPATA

Off Airport Road
Box 510879
Tel: (216) 221684

MONZE

P.O. Box 660091
Livingstone Road
Tel: (213) 250 537

KASAMA

CIDA Sheds
Box 410501
Tel : (214) 221560

KABWE

Buntungwa Road
Box 80425
Tel: (215) 223037

PETAUKE

P.O. Box 560039
Off Chipata Road
Tel: (216) 371 062

NDOLA

Bwana Mkubwa Depot
Box 71796
Tel: (212) 651082

MONGU

CIDA sheds
Box 910255
Tel: (217) 221056

SOLWEZI

CIDA Sheds
Box 110255
Tel: (218) 821 644

CHINSALI

Minestone Sheds
Box 480050
Tel: (214) 560139

MANSA

Along Samfya Road
Box 710394
Tel: (212) 821061

LUSAKA

Mwembeshi Sheds
Box 34054
Tel: (211) 286 353

Please note the following;

1. No application(s) should be deposited at FRA Head offices or else they shall be treated as invalid and WILL NOT be considered.
 2. Registering/registration with the Agency DOES NOT mean automatic offer of business as offers of business will be based on transporter's fleet capacity, past performance and the availability of stock among others.
- The Closing date for receipt of application forms both Intra and Inter provincial stock/marketing materials haulage is **Friday 30th April 2021.**

Kelvin Mukosayi.
PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR
For and on behalf of the Executive Director

By Dr. Mwelwa Mulenga

PRESIDENT Lungu has been known to make bold and sensible economic, social, and political decisions. This article urges the President and his administration to make one more bold decision to launch a transition campaign to shift the country from the old fuel economy (diesel and petrol) to the new economy powered by solar technology and other clean energy sources.

This transition campaign could begin at the micro level with kitting a solar panel to generate electricity, a battery to store the electric energy, and a two plate cook stove, and supplying these to Zambian homes at minimal cost. More solar panels may be made available to small businesses so they have enough solar-generated power to keep them off the Zesco grid. In this way Zesco power could be reserved for heavy industrial use.

These solar-battery-stove kits would actually reduce deforestation if distributed in areas of the country still dependent on charcoal for cooking and dry wood for lighting.

One of the by-products of this paradigm shift from old fuel will be the shift from old fuel engine vehicles to electric motor vehicles. Since the mid-1970s the country has struggled with petroleum imports which, combined with low copper prices of the mid 70s, wiped out the foreign currency reserves the country inherited at independence.

Even though the cost of crude oil per barrel may be low, the cost of transportation by ocean tankers from oil wells in the middle east to Dar-es-Salaam and then by truck or through the 1,700 km TAZAMA pipeline to Zambia remain very high. In addition, operating and maintaining the refinery in Ndola is not cheap either. Further, after the refinery, the distribution of petrol and diesel across the country is a haphazard and costly operation. All these costs are reflected in the unusually high price per liter of both petrol and diesel. This cost argument forms part of the rationale for why the country should shift from old fuel vehicles to new electric motor vehicles.

The rest of the rationale for the economic paradigm shift to the new economy is based on problems on the supply side of electricity in the country. The country has suffered from poor hydro-power generation and distribution for many years now. This problem will be exacerbated by poor rainfall patterns due to climate change. These negative changes in rainfall will continue to lower the volume of water in rivers that feed hydro-power stations and will lead to low hydro-electric power generation and consequently a series of rolling black-outs in cities and towns across the country.



ZAMBIA: TRANSITION FROM THE OLD FUEL ECONOMY



FILEPHOTO: President Edgar Lungu prepares to power on the Bangweulu Solar Plant during the project's inauguration in Lusaka

These will have a negative effect on economic growth at the individual, corporate, and national levels.

Given these challenges, and because the chassis of the Zambian economy is constructed of hydro power and fossil fuels like petrol, diesel, and kerosene, even small changes in the supply market of these factors have large negative economic and political multiplier effects on economics of individual Zambians as well as on the entire national economy. For example, a one-hour power blackout, though seemingly short in duration,

may mean a thousand small businesses stopping work for one hour and losing productivity and the potential revenue, and yet be stuck with fixed costs such as lease and payroll costs for that hour.

It is thus a logical proposition that we begin an economic transition away from the old expensive economy of hydropower and fossil fuels to the new low-cost economy fueled by solar energy and others. The transition will solve the cost problem of old fuels and also solve the supply and consistency problem of hydro-electricity. Solving the first

problem will save the country oil import dollars that could be re-purposed for acquisition of critical medical supplies, investment into educational infrastructure, and other national priorities. Solving the supply and consistency problem will lead to improved productivity by individuals and businesses, and generally result in a higher gross domestic product (GDP) for the country.

The new economy will also create thousands of jobs for local Zambians. And the jobs will require special skillsets to support various technologies of the electric economy. For example,

the former Mansa Batteries Factory could be repurposed to manufacture batteries and charging stations for cars and trucks. The Livingstone motor assembly could be revamped to assemble electric motors and vehicles for the domestic market. The Chipata bicycle assembly plant could innovate and assemble electric battery powered bicycles.

We don't need foreign investors. Instead, local banks, can syndicate the financing of critical infrastructure for the new economy. For example, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), working with this syndicate of banks and other financial institutions, and perhaps including ZESCO, may take the lead by investing in solar panel manufacturing. Similar partnerships could also set up solar panel farms across the country to generate electricity, and using the electricity so generated, to power a nationwide network of charging stations so electric vehicles can charge as they drive from one end of the country to the other.

These solar farms could also power homes and businesses in towns, cities, and villages across the country.

The concept of a solar panel manufacturing plant is not new to Zambia. It has been discussed before among private individuals, and was scheduled

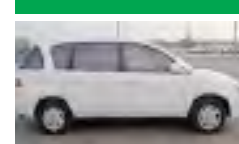
for Luapula Province a few years ago.

Across the developed countries the shift from old fuels to electric powered vehicles has been underway for some-time now. At this time all the major auto manufacturers have developed electric vehicles and many countries are passing or have already passed restrictions on old fuel vehicles. For example, the State of California in the United States has passed regulation banning the sale of vehicles with diesel or petrol engines beginning in 2035.

It is expected that as old fuel engines are phased out by developed countries, vehicles with those engines will be dumped in nations that will not be ready for the electric economy. As graveyard nations for old fuel vehicles these nations will have to deal with all the environmental challenges generated by an overabundance of these old fuel vehicles.

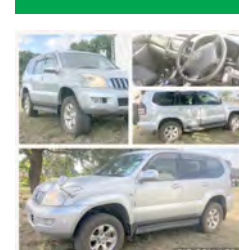
With all the challenges the country has had with availability and sufficiency of hydro-generated and fossil fuel energy sources, it is time to start laying out the infrastructure that will make it possible for the country to transition from the old economy of hydro power and fossil fuels to the new electric economy powered by solar and other energy sources.

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NAPSA MATCH ON

.. Fathi in tears as Mayuka inspires debutants
NAPSA Stars to Confederations Cup Groups

Win propels Lusaka Dynamos to third

By MICHAEL MIYOBA

LUSAKA Dynamos propelled to third on the MTN/FAZ Super Division table after beating Buidcon 1-0 in a tightly contested Week-18 fixture played yesterday at Nkoloma Stadium in Lusaka.

Duncan Otieno scored in the dying minutes of the game to propel Wedson Nyirenda's boys to 30 points, two points behind league leaders Zanaco who beat Indeni 3-1 on Saturday.

In the lunch time kick off at the same venue, Power Dynamos misery continued following the team's goalless draw with Young Green Eagles.

It was Perry Mutapa's fourth draw in 2021 as Power Dynamos continue to struggle with four draws and two defeats from the last six games.

Meanwhile, Kabwe Warriors coach Levy "Chabby" Chabala has bemoaned his teams' failure to collect maximum points in the 2-2 stalemate against Green Eagles in a FAZ Super Division Week-18 fixture played on Saturday in Choma.

Chabala said he was not happy with the draw because Warriors created numerous chances including a missed penalty which could have won them the game.

Chabala however noted that a draw away from home is not a bad result for Warriors whose main objective is to get 30 points from the second round of the Super Division.

"We wanted to get three points but our strategy couldn't allow. Last time we drew against Green Eagles this time we have a draw," Chabala said.

And Green Eagles gaffer Aggrey Chiyangi said it was unfortunate for Eagles to begin the second round on a shaky note by dropping two points at home.

By MICHAEL MIYOBA

NAPSA Stars coach Mohamed Fathi couldn't hold his tears as the 2012 AFCON winner Emmanuel Mayuka came off the bench to score the equalizer for the Pensioners who made history by qualifying to the CAF Confederations Cup Group Stages.

The Pensioners who beat the Kenyan Champions Gor Mahia 1-0 in the first leg pre group stage fixture advanced 3-2 on aggregate following yesterday's dramatic 2-2 draw at Heroes Stadium in Lusaka.

Mayuka came into the match as Bornwel Mwape's replacement when NAPSA Stars were 2-1 down, and sent goal keeper Bornface Olouch the wrong way to score a penalty awarded in the last minute of added time as NAPSA Stars matched on.

The final whistle by central referee Martin Mokete from Lesotho presented an emotional moment for Mohamed Fathi who shed tears of joy and dedicated NAPSA's triumph to his late father who died on Wednesday and was buried on Thursday in Egypt.

Fathi hailed his charges for not giving up until the final whistle to qualify for the Con-

federations Cup Group Stages.

Meanwhile, Gor Mahia coach Carlos Pinto complained of unfair officiating by referee Makete who awarded NAPSA Stars a penalty in the dying minutes of the game.

Pinto said his team was robbed and didn't deserve to be ejected from the competition with a last minute penalty.

He said Gor Mahia was better than NAPSA Stars who had to come from behind twice to record a draw at home.

Samuel Onyango broke the deadlock at Heroes Stadium beating goal keeper Rabson Muchelenganga with a beautiful long range volley in the 17th

minute.

NAPSA cut shot Gor Mahia's celebration with Austin Banda's equalizer after benefiting from Danny Silavwe's cross in the 18th minute.

The Pensioners lost focus two minutes later and conceded as Clifton Ayisi long range shot hit the upright before going in.

With NAPSA Stars trailing 2-1 Fathi was forced to make a first half substitution, introducing Emmanuel Mayuka for Bornwel Mwape.

The 2012 golden boot winner went on to score the crucial goal from a penalty awarded to NAPSA Stars after Daniel Adoko was tripped inside the eighteen yard.

Triumphant Stars get bonus hike

By MUKWIMA CHILALA

ZAMBIA's CAF confederation cup envoys NAPSA Stars president Greg Nsofu has promised to reward the players with a hike in bonuses following the team's qualification to the Group Stages of the CAF confederation Cup.

NAPSA who are debutants in the competition had to leave it very late as veteran striker Emmanuel Mayuka converted a penalty to lead the home side into ecstatic celebrations at the Heroes Stadium.

The triumph cheered Nsofu who saluted his side for making it to the lucrative stage of the competition.

Nsofu said the team deserved to be rewarded and hence his board's decision to up the winning bonuses.

And Nsofu said the stakes will be raised higher as the tournament progresses.

"I am hoping that you win the next game and the one that follows because the principle is to share what CAF will give us," Nsofu said.

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- U Channels
- Insulations
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- Flat Bars
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