

**Mopani must pay - CUTS**

By Mirriam Chabala

The Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) International says mining companies must pay cost reflective tariffs if Zambia's economy is to be revived because the country has no money to continue subsidizing energy. In a statement, Zambia Centre Coordinator Chenai Mukumba said it was disappointing that government had decided to restore power to Mopani Copper Mines on subsidized prices when the mines were the largest consumers of energy.

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**Govt defends President's wealth, properties**

**LUNGU WASN'T A POOR MAN**

By Joseph Mwenda

Chief government spokesperson Kampamba Mulenga says it should not surprise people when they hear that President Edgar Lungu has a number of properties because the Head of State was not poor before going to State House.

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**...he made his money as a lawyer before State House - Kampamba**



President Lungu with Felix Mutati and Amos Chanda at State House today - Picture courtesy of Smart Eagles

**Mutati not answerable to PF - MMD**

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Movement for Multi Party Democracy (MMD) national Spokesperson for the Felix Mutati led faction, Rapheal Nakacinda says his party prepared the bed for the Patriotic Front (PF) and the two parties will lie in it together. And Nakacinda says Mutati is not answerable to PF or the ruling Party President, but the Republican President only. Speaking in an interview with NewsDiggers! today, Nakacinda said MMD was an independent political party, and as such, nobody should criminalise the process

of its mobilisation. Nakacinda was reacting to the recent 'Mutati must go' campaigns which the PF has launched, on grounds that the finance minister was using government resources to mobilise his party with the aim of unseating the PF. "We are firmly in an alliance with the patriotic front, we are firmly in an alliance with them. They are our baddies, we are in bed with them, we prepared the bed and we are going to lie in this bed together with the Patriotic Front. Whether they wake up in the night and they complain that we are snoring more

than them, that is not our business. We will still be able to discuss whether our snoring is disturbing them but we will still lie in the same bed," Nakacinda said. "So we are not ashamed to say that our contribution through honorable Mutati in

the development of this country has been very positive and that we are proud of, whether the PF complain or not, that is not something that will shake us. Ours is to continue in the best way we can to improve the lives of Zambians."

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**Kalaba joins Lesotho fact-finding mission over assassination of their Defence Chief**

By Mirriam Chabala

Minister of Foreign Affairs Harry Kalaba says he has travelled to Lesotho to represent Zambia on a fact finding mission over the assassination of that country's Defence Chief because President Edgar Lungu is the Deputy Chair of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Organ on Politics, Defence and Security.

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**Soldiers committed to High Court for trial over RB, KZ murder plot**

By Diggers Reporter

UPND Central Province youth chairperson Milner Mwanakampwe and two soldiers have been committed to the Lusaka High Court for trial in a matter in which they are accused of conspiring to murder former president Rupiah Banda and President Edgar Lungu's political advisor Kaizer Zulu.

And Lusaka chief resident magistrate Kenneth Mulife has warned state media against sensationalizing stories as they are prejudicial to proceedings. Magistrate Mulife committed Mwanakampwe, Steven Chooka and Steven Phiri after receiving a certificate of committal from the Director of Public Prosecutions.

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**Police must permit UPND assemblies like they have allowed Mutati protests - Katuka**

By Mirriam Chabala

United Party for National Development Secretary General Stephen Katuka says police must also allow

his party to carry out their activities freely like they have allowed Felix Mutati protests during the Threatened State of

Emergency.

In a statement today, Katuka observed that the countrywide anti-Mutati demonstrations by ruling

party supporters was proof that police were selective in their application of the Public Order Act.

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# Police must permit UPND assemblies like they have allowed Mutati protests - Katuka

## From front page

"We note with interest the seemingly countrywide demonstration by PF cadres against the Minister of Finance Felix Mutati calling for his resignation. Our interest is not on the merits or demerits of these demonstrations as that is really none of our business as we regard that as purely an internal PF and MMD led Mutati faction. But our interest is on the usual selective application of the Public Order Act in the country where PF members can easily get into the busy streets without a police 'permit' and start demonstrating," Katuka stated.

"Of interest equally is how these PF members are being allowed to demonstrate especially at a time when the country is under the [Threatened] State of Emergency where such activities are not allowed. We hope now the PF leadership that have been issuing statements against the UPND President Hakainde Hichilema on what he has been saying at various fora, including at a Press Conference in South Africa, can understand what he means that there is selective justice and application of laws in the country that favours those in the ruling party to the disadvantage of the opposition especially the UPND."

Katuka stated that he was hoping the Zambia Police Service could reflect and change from its discriminatory application of the Public Order Act. "Mr Hichilema and other UPND members have been very consistent in

their messages both home and abroad that there is suppression of the rights of those holding different views from those of the PF in the country, something that Zambia citizens and the international community must pay attention to, with a view to correct the situation so that it favours all citizens," he stated.

"We now hope the Zambia Police Service have finally reflected and have had a change of mind on the discriminatory application of the Public Order Act so that even UPND members will be allowed to freely hold both indoor and outdoor party mobilisation meetings as well as given their constitutional and democratic space to actively engage citizens and share their messages without hindrance."

And Katuka called on the police to allow his members conduct party rallies in peace just like those in ruling party were allowed to conduct theirs.

"We therefore wish to commend the Zambia Police Service for this seemingly change of heart and professional conduct and hope that from now onwards, they will also allow the UPND members who wish to hold thanksgiving rallies on the release of their party leader Mr. Hichilema to do so according to the provisions of the Public Order Act," stated Katuka. "As a matter of fact, the UPND intends to hold several thanksgiving rallies across the country some that will be addressed by the UPND senior leadership that includes the UPND President

Hakainde Hichilema and his Vice-President Geoffrey Bwalya Mwamba (GBM).

We believe that peaceful and lawful assemblies, demonstrations, meetings

and rallies are part of the democratic tenets that must be allowed like the PF

members have been doing against Finance Minister Felix Mutati of late."



UPND secretary general Stephen Katuka speaks to journalists in Lusaka

## Nkombo demands lifting of Threatened State of Emergency

### By Mirriam Chabala

Mazabuka Central UPND Member of Parliament Garry Nkombo says the declaration of a Threatened State of Emergency was an act of cowardice and must be revoked immediately.

In an interview with News Diggers! yesterday, Nkombo hailed Civil Society Organisations (CSO)s for petitioning the National Assembly to revoke the Threatened State of Public Emergency saying there was no need for its continued existence.

"The CSOs could not have petitioned at a better time than now, I am saying so because to us the invocation of that Article 31 was an act of cowardice on the part of the executive and the President himself. There is a state of mind which is called the fear of the unknown and this is what has grieved PF and why I am saying the petition by CSOs could not have come at a better time is because it is actually true that there is no need for its continued existence," Nkombo said.

"And so the CSOs are 100 per cent right that Parliament should do self introspection, they must think through themselves especially those who were there at the time when the invocation was approved by the House of representatives. Parliament is a house of laws and it should not be used to diminish the democratic space for other political players. So that invocation should be removed forthwith."

Nkombo said there was need to normalize things in the country in view of calls for

dialogue.

"That invocation has a life span which is 90 days and the 90 days will soon be up but really again it's a question of self introspection on the part of Mr Edgar Lungu and his team to say whether this country is really at threat or not but as far as I am concerned, I think that the truth has no disguise and so you cannot disguise it and it will germinate even on the hardest concrete so they must face themselves and bring this society back to normal especially that there is this desire for everyone to dialogue," he said.

"For as long as they do not do the right thing, we from the opposite side of the divide will continue to provide the checks and balances on their actions. And just to sum it up, if that invocation was meant to be a tool suppress people, they have drawn a blank. If the state of affairs is not contained, government must be more definitive of what it is they are failing to contain. They must actually explain further what it is they are seeing that the rest of us are not able to see in order to warrant the justification of the continuation of Article 31." Nkombo also observed that the PF would have blamed UPND for the burning of Kapalala market in Ndola if the charcoal trader did not own up.

## From front page

But in his message of condolences, President Lungu has said it is up to the people of Lesotho to find solutions to their own problems.

Kalaba told a media briefing this morning that he would be travel to Lesotho in the afternoon with other SADC member states on a mission to find solutions to Lesotho's problems.

"As the nation may be aware, Zambia was recently appointed to the post of Deputy Chair of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Organ on politics, defence and security. In this regard, I regret to inform the nation on the unfortunate happenings in Lesotho, in which it

## Kalaba joins Lesotho fact-finding mission over assassination of their Defence Chief

has been reported that Lieutenant General Motsomotso, Chief of the Lesotho Defense Forces (LDF) was assassinated on 5th September, 2017," Kalaba said.

"Accordingly, the Chairperson of the organ on politics, defence and security affairs in consultation with SADC secretariat has called for an urgent SADC Ministerial Organ Troika plus SADC Chair to the Kingdom of Lesotho for a fact finding mission. The mission is expected to arrive in Lesotho today, meaning that in a few minutes from

now I will be rushing to the Airport to join my colleagues from Angola, Tanzania and South Africa on this very important fact finding mission."

Kalaba insisted that it was necessary for Zambia to give Lesotho all the support it could.

"As a strong advocate of peace and stability in the region and the continent at large, Zambia will participate in the process of finding a lasting solution to this issue. Further, as incoming Chair of the SADC Organ Troika, it is imperative that Zambia participates in this

important mission in order to provide the necessary support to the Chair and the work of the organ," he said. "Zambia recognises the important role played by SADC the in ensuring the development of countries in the region and will continue to support the values and principles of the regional body. The Zambian government, through the able leadership of His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu wishes to reaffirm its unwavering commitment to regional, continental and international efforts aimed at ensuring peace, stability

and prosperity on the continent."

But Kalaba disclosed that in his message of condolences, President Lungu said the problems that Lesotho was facing could only solved by the citizens of that country themselves.

"Well, His Excellency the President is very emphatic he has said the problems in Lesotho will only be solved by Basutho themselves, so solutions lie within the Kingdom of Lesotho. So we are encouraging a lot of consultations among the various stakeholders in the Kingdom of Lesotho," said Kalaba.

# Lungu wasn't poor before State House - Govt

**From front page**

And Mulenga says government will not allow President Lungu to travel with two people on his entourage in the name of austerity measures, adding that it is not a crime for the Head of State to appear in public with contractors and businessmen as long as they are not traveling on government expense. Meanwhile, the Information Ministers says government is not aware that President Lungu's former ministerial house is still being used by his family and children. In a telephone interview with News Diggers, Mulenga who is in South Africa on government duty said it was not true that President Lungu was building shopping malls in Petauke, Chawama and Lilayi, as alleged by Kambwili, but added that it was not illegal for the Head of State to own property. "That is not true, like we have clearly said, Honourable Kambwili should have questioned all these things when he was in government. Can he specify that this mall and this mall are being built by President Lungu, because we are not aware of that. And also what we must realise is that the President had a life before he became President. He is a lawyer. So questioning his capabilities because he is now the President is neither here nor there. What we must realise is that before the presidency, President Lungu is a very well educated man, he was a lawyer, so it is not like President Lungu just came in a poor man, no! We know lawyers are one of the most handsomely paid professionals in Zambia," Mulenga explained. "This is not to say that President Lungu is building [shopping] malls through tax-payers money, it is not true. But questioning the aspect of whether President Lungu can own property, yes he is a Zambian. He is a Zambian entitled under the Constitution to own property, but it does not mean that when you own property every property you own is coming from taxpayers money, it's not true. President Lungu has clearly stated even before, that he was in business. It is not true that President Lungu came into State House a poor man, he is a lawyer by professional. He had a life even before that. She said if Kambwili meant well for Zambia, he would have reported President Lungu's corruption while he was in office "because we want men an women

who can detect corruption while they are still in government". Asked if she would tell the public if she discovered that President Lungu was involved in corruption, Mulenga said she would do so and go further and to resign. "That is what noble people, credible people do. They don't wait to be fired to say President Lungu is corrupt. If I see that the decisions we are making in Cabinet are not going well with the Zambia people, I would resign on moral ground, I will not wait until I am fired," she said. Explaining why President Lungu spend four days in Swaziland, Mulenga said the Head of State was invited for two events. "The President was also invited for the National Reed Dance. There were two events taking place at once. And that invitation was a gesture from his counterpart. The Trade Fair has not even finished, it finishes next week Monday," she said. In the interview which lasted close to an hour, Mulenga also told News Diggers! that it was disrespectful for government to allow the President to travel with few people. "There is the presidential affair minister that accompanied him, there is a political advisor, and there is a press aide that accompanied him. So who did Honourable Kambwili want to accompany the President? Those are part of the presidential delegation and they have been from time immemorial. Every time a President travels, he travels with a delegation. There is no way... look, this is the presidency for goodness' sake. The Presidency is a big institution and we are not going to demean and undermine the institution because Honourable Kambwili says one or two people should accompany the President. Ubufuma buchindika umwine (One has to respect himself in order to be respected). So as much as there are austerity measures, this is an institution and there is no way the President will travel alone or with two people," Mulenga said. She also defended the pictures which were shared on social media of President Lungu posing with businessmen. "Honourable Kambwili has already said that Mr Valden Findlay is a businessman, do you think, in his own capacity Mr Findlay can fail to pay for his accommodation? If

he has that evidence that Mr Findlay used taxpayers money to get himself there, he might as well raise a query. We know that Mr Findlay owns Chrismar Hotel, he has been in business for a long time. You think he can fail to pay for his accommodation?" she wondered. "And we also know that under the laws of Zambia, it is illegal for anyone to deal in drugs, so since Honourable Kambwili seems to have so much information, why hasn't he reported them to the law enforcers? People have accused Honourable Kambwili of so many things, but no one is guilty

until proven innocent. He knows the speculations of social media, how people are accused innocently. But in any case, what is wrong with Mr Findlay being found with the President in Swaziland? What crime has he done? How many people appear with the President in public? What crime would that be if Mr Findlay appeared in public with the President? That was a public event, even me if I had the money, I would have gone, even Honourable Kambwili if he had the money, he should have travelled to Swaziland, no body was going to question him. A public event is not

restricted to an individual." Meanwhile, Mulenga said government was not aware that President Lungu's former ministerial House was still being occupied by his family. "We are not aware of that. This is one man who says the President has so many houses, then the other moment he says he has no house, he is using the ministerial house for his family. We are not going to continue answering Kambwili because he just wants to distract government from performing," said Mulenga. "The way he wants President Lungu convicted, if Honourable Kambwili

had any evidence of all those allegations, he would have submitted all that information to the law enforcers already. He knows where to take evidence. The judiciary is very independent and the President won't interfere. A man that switches his tongue is a very dangerous man. If President Lungu brought him back in government, Honourable Kambwili can switch and say, 'I was moved by evil spirits from the other side that's why I said those things.'" visit [www.diggers.news](http://www.diggers.news) and listen to the audio for this story and others.

## Zambia to finish digital migration in the next one year – Kampamba



*Information Minister Kampamba Mulenga during an interview with News Diggers! at her office in Lusaka - Picture by Tenson Mkhala*

**By Mukosha Funga**  
Minister of Information Kampamba Mulenga says Zambia will complete digital migration in the next one year. According to a statement issued by Zambia's First Secretary for Press and Public Relations to South Africa Naomi Nyawali today, Mulenga was speaking on the side lines of a Southern African Development Community (SADC) conference for Ministers responsible for Communication and ICT being held in Durban, South Africa. Mulenga boasted that Zambia was the first country in Africa to

acquire over 500,000 decoders in readiness for the digital migration switch. "Hon Mulenga said Zambia achieved a breaking record in Africa by being the first country to successfully acquire over five hundred thousand decoders in readiness for the digital migration switch. Ms Mulenga says this achievement has broken the record as no other African country has managed to acquire and record the figures that Zambia has achieved. She said this achievement has shown how ready and eager the people of Zambia are to migrate

to digital television," Nyawali stated. "She expressed happiness that Zambia's progress towards digital migration was within schedule as the first phase had been completed with the initial switch expected to be implemented on the 1st October this year covering the line of rail. Ms Mulenga added that government was impressed with the progress done so far as the country was on course to fully migrate to digital television within the next one year." Mulenga also said the construction of provincial studios would enhance the quality of

Zambian productions so that they could compete internationally. "She noted that the construction of Provincial Studios was also expected to commence next month following the finalisation of loan agreement with the government of China facilitated by Ministry of Finance. Ms Mulenga said the establishment of state-of-the-art studios will motivate and promote professionalism among players in the media industry as the studios would meet international standards to enable Zambian productions to professionally compete internationally," read the statement.

# Mutati not answerable to PF - MMD

## From front page

Asked if it was true that MMD had started mobilising its members in some parts of the country as alleged in the submitted petition by PF supporters, Nakacinda said his party was obliged to reorganising itself. "When did that become an offense in our politics? MMD is an independent political party and we are obliged to reorganise ourselves and nobody should criminalise the process of mobilisation of our political party. Politics is about numbers. The only way MMD would be of value to this working relationship with the patriotic front is when we are bringing numbers and possibly increasing numbers. Now if we don't conduct mobilisations, particularly in areas where PF is weak, surely does it need rocket science for somebody to appreciate that we need to work hand in hand to enhance the numbers that will help us secure victory in 2021?" he asked.

Nakacinda also said demands by PF supporters to have Mutati fired were being organised internally by the PF leadership.

"Those arguments can only be answered by the Patriotic Front. When we were discussing the possibility of working together throughout the elections, the MMD agreed to work together with the PF in order to achieve the 50%+1 and we campaigned collectively as a party. The end result was the victory of securing the 50%+1 votes. And after securing the victory, there was no

fact that changed in terms of Mutati remaining the leader of the party. The fact remained that Mutati remained the MMD president. Even when he was appointed Minister of Finance, he was appointed not just as an individual but he was appointed also into consideration that MMD is in a working relationship with the Patriotic Front. So those facts have not changed. So if those facts are the issues they have an issue with, the people who are supposed to respond and provide guidance to their membership is the Patriotic Front," Nakacinda said.

He said that whether the PF complained or not, his party would not be shaken.

"If MMD at this particular stage is not welcome and is not appreciated, and even the position of Mutati being in government is not appreciated by the PF, it is the PF who are suppose to deliberate that and be able to come up with a position. But for us as MMD, we supported President Edgar Chagwa Lungu and the PF in good faith and we believe that even the input and works that president Mutati has exhibited in government so far is positive, the dividends are there for everybody to see," he added.

Nakachinda added that Mutati as Finance Minister was only answerable to President Lungu as the appointing authority.

"The appointing authority is not the Patriotic Front, the appointing authority

is not even the Patriotic Front president, the appointing authority is the Republican President. He is the only one who has the prerogative as President to appoint any citizen. Mutati as

Minister of Finance is answerable to the Republican President, he is not answerable not even to MMD, not even to PF, he is answerable to the Republican President and he swears oath to the

Republican President, not to the PF president or Central Committee. And if it was President Lungu as Republican President who was carrying a placard in Cairo road saying 'Mutati must go'

maybe we can worry. But if its other people whether its PF or MMD, that should not worry us, they are not the ones who appointed him," said Nakachinda.

## SACCORD calls for speedy dialogue between HH, Lungu



SACCORD Executive Director Boniface Cheembe during press briefing at Lusaka's Pamodzi Hotel - picture by Tenson Mkhala

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Southern Africa Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes Executive Director

Boniface Chembe says the country is likely to be negatively affected if the process of bringing President Edgar Lungu

and UPND Leader Hakainde Hichilema to the dialogue table takes too long.

Chembe in a statement said the process of reconciliation and national healing must not be allowed to evaporate when an opportunity to dialogue was already there.

"SACCORD would like to make another appeal for the country to move with deliberate haste in holding the national dialogue between our Head of State Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu and his opposition United Party for National Development (UPND) President Mr Hakainde Hichilema. We must not allow, as a country an opportunity for reconciliation and national healing to evaporate when we have an opportunity to bury the hatchet and have a forward looking progress," Chembe said.

He said because

Zambia's every day living was characterized by politics, there was need for the nation to agree on the way forward.

"The longer we take for the dialogue to take place the more likely we may continue to have events or incidents that jeopardize the healing process. The dialogue process is political and politics characterizes our every day living and therefore in order to ensure that we continue to having normalcy in our politics we must agree on the way forward for our nation. We hope that the appointed special envoy from the Commonwealth will move quickly to formulate an agenda and bring the aggrieved stakeholders to the dialogue table within the shortest period of time. The longer we take the more we are likely to be negatively affected as a country," said Chembe.

## Let us all rally behind National team - Lungu

### By Mirriam Chabala

President Edgar Lungu has congratulated the Zambia National Soccer Team on their 1-0 victory against Algeria for the Russia 2018 FIFA World Cup return leg qualifier played in Constantine, Algeria on Tuesday night.

In a congratulatory statement today, Special Assistant to the President for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda said the Head of State noted that the football team had continued proving that national interest always superseded personal interests.

"I am happy for the victory that the Chipolopolo boys posted in last night's 2018 FIFA World Cup return leg qualifier against Algeria. The team has shown resilience and commitment to deliver good results for Mother Zambia. It is therefore imperative that as Zambians we rally behind the Chipolopolo to build their zeal and momentum for more victory," President Lungu said.

"This performance by our soccer team represents the model Zambian citizen doing duty for mother Zambia abroad. These are the envoys Zambia desires

that in both their private and public capacities, their focus is to project positively for the cause of their country. The boys' determination to win is an act in the right direction. In all areas of our lives, one great lesson we learn from the football team is that national interest must always supersede our narrow personal interest as it were."

President Lungu further noted that the incorporation of some players from the Under-20 national team into the senior team was a well thought out move.

He also encouraged the

Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) to continue supporting the players for the team to achieve the desired results in future endeavours.

"As Patron, I wish to urge the Football Association of Zambia leadership to continue supporting the Chipolopolo Technical bench for the team to achieve desired results. I convey my profound congratulations to the Chipolopolo and the entire bench. May the Almighty God continue to guide you and grant you blessings in this journey," said the President.

**By Mirriam Chabala**  
 United Progressive People (UPP) president Saviour Chishimba has insisted that Zambia is not a monarchy and anyone who thinks "chalo cha kwa wishu" is mistaken.

Featuring on UNZA Radio's Lusaka Star programme this yesterday, Chishimba said the State's decision to arrested him and later drop defamation of the President charges was because there was no offence he committed. "Nothing has changed on my stance against corruption and when it comes to my release, the state simply discontinued the case because there was no evidence. I did not defame anyone and to start with defamation is not a criminal offence. The problem we have in Zambia is that we are not a monarchy but we want to apply a system that is used in a monarchy. Zambia is a republic and it belongs to all of us, so anyone who thinks kwati Zambia chalo kwa wishu, that person is mistaken (anyone who

# Anyone who thinks Zambia chalo cha kwa wishu is mistaken, Saviour Chishimba repeats

thinks Zambia belongs to their father is mistaken). This is a public property for all Zambians so whenever you have an opportunity to govern at whatever level, you need to understand that this is a republic and in a republic, officers are accountable to the people," Chishimba said. And Chishimba said once in government, his party would reform the justice system. "We need prison cells that meet the minimum sanitary standards, now when you look at these prison cells that we have currently, the conditions are terrible. That is not what imprisonment is intended to achieve, so we in the UPP shall reform the entire justice system. Firstly we need to change the archaic laws that we continue to apply. We have always

said that this generation of leaders has failed to achieve autonomy when it comes to the legal regime. We in the UPP will not entertain an arresting system where police officers are going to arrest someone before concluding investigations. The idea behind an arrest is that by the time the police are effecting an arrest, they must be through with all their investigations so that when they come to you and say that you arrested, they must be ready to go and present you before the

courts of law," he said. "And even these holding cells, they are not meant to keep someone there over a month as I found when I was detained, I found some people who are there for over a month and have not been taken to court. And when it comes to prison conditions themselves, time has come to reform. We would also provide for the private sector to play a role. So if we have a prison in Lusaka, that prison will be under Lusaka county and those counties will provide

for the private sector to also invest in setting up correctional facilities and be able to hire professionals to reform the inmates. This is the kind of system that we in UPP commit ourselves to introducing so much that when someone is leaving the prison, that person must be ready to be reintegrated in society." Chishimba welcomed the proposed Political Parties Bill saying the move would intrigue a sense of ownership in the ordinary Zambians if political parties

were to be funded locally. "Zambia has always needed a bill to regulate political parties. Right now we are talking about state capture through corruption but there is also political party capture in Zambia, we have political parties that are serving the interests of foreign corporations. This is the tragedy that has befallen the PF, there are times when I do sit and I am honest with myself, I do sympathise with comrade Edgar Chagwa Lungu because there is state capture," said Chishimba.

## Govt extends deadline for submissions on Political Parties Bill to Sept 15

**From front page**  
 Meanwhile, 4TH  
 Revolution leader Eric

Chanda says it is pointless to fund political parties when majority of the

citizens are suffering. Speaking when he received the copy of submissions from Zambia Centre for Inter Party Dialogue (ZCID) acting executive director Rosemary Phiri yesterday, Lubinda extended the deadline for submissions on the bill from September 1 to September 15 while the deadline for submissions on the Public Order Act is October 1, 2017.

"Political parties are assets that belong to all people, assets of the state because whatever is said by political parties, is bound to influence the running of the country. The Ministry of Justice is compiling all the comments and concerns on the issues to be addressed by this Bill. At this point, I would like to urge all other stakeholders to please submit their comments on this Bill quickly as that is what will inform the drafting of the political parties Bill, 2017," Lubinda said. Lubinda also said the Ministry would in the last week of September hold a National Stakeholders Forum to take on board final comments from stakeholders on the Bill before it is submitted to Cabinet and introduced to the National Assembly. And Lubinda revealed that no one had made any submissions on the Public Order Act since Davies Mwila invited submissions as Minister of Home Affairs. "I also wish to inform you that government is also making efforts to amend the Public Order Act in order to address

sections in the Act that infringe on freedom of association and assembly and also frustrate the growth of democracy and good governance. This is important as it will also facilitate implementation on the political parties act when it comes into operation," said Lubinda. "My colleague Davies Mwila called for submissions on the Public Order Act when he was serving as Home Affairs Minister and I want to tell you that since then, nothing was submitted so I want to close this chapter and this is why I am saying that end of September is the deadline for submissions on the the Public Order Act." Lubinda said those who wanted personal invitations to make submissions should not frustrate the consultation process. According to the copy of the submission by the Zambia Centre for Inter Party Dialogue, 58 members from 24 different political parties participated in the submitted copy. Meanwhile, Chanda opposed the clause in the proposed bill which provided for funding of political parties by government. "This is why we are saying we are against Article 60 subsection 4, it must be removed. There should be no political party funding, it is as simple as that. Whether they have representation in Parliament or not, we don't want funding because it is retrogressive, our economy cannot sustain that," said Chanda.

# Our Defense forces need modern equipment - Lungu



**By Mukosha Funga**  
 President Edgar Lungu says his government will equip defense forces with modern equipment to enable them address new security challenges efficiently. The Head of State, who showed up wearing black shades, was speaking at the official opening of the L 15 Simulator Training Centre at the Zambia Airforce (ZAF) in Lusaka. President Lungu said the acquisition of the smart technology and assets which guaranteed operational capability without compromising standards, was in line with ZAF's

vision of creating an efficient force. "It is gratifying to note that systems in the simulator centre are capable of monitoring the aircraft from the ground and making it possible for ground crew to easily detect faults and rectify them. I also note that training can be done on the ground without taking to the air, hence saving on fuel," said President Lungu. "With Zambia's growing economy coupled with huge investments from local and foreign investors, the need for modern defence systems cannot be overemphasised." And ZAF Commander, Eric Chimese

said opening of the Simulator Training Centre redefined and opened a new chapter in flying training of fighter pilots in the Airforce. Lieut Gen Chimese explained that computer based ground training systems in Aviation had played a major role in building pilots' skills and confidence by providing cost effective ways of training. Meanwhile, CATIC Regional President, Li Houding said the L 15 Simulator Training Centre was the most advanced in Africa and would enable ZAF build up a cohort of well-trained pilots.

# Soldiers committed to High Court for trial over RB, KZ murder plot

## From front page

He informed the trio that they would now appear at the next criminal session in the High Court.

And Magistrate Mulife strongly warned the media to avoid sensational reporting as that might attract strict sanctions from the court.

This was after defense counsel Mulambo

Haimbe asked the court to warn journalists against sensational reporting, directing it to today's Zambia Daily Mail headline which referred to the accused as assassins.

"I have perused through the paper, the headline is sensational and prejudicial to the proceedings. Members of the press are aware

of the limits and the directions to take. The media is strongly warned to avoid such reporting. You are urged to report to the public accurately. Avoid depicting situations like the accused are guilty or not. Desist from such reporting as that might attract strict sanctions of the court," said Magistrate Mulife.

He also directed the officers in charge at Woodlands and Kabwata police stations to issue medical reports to the accused.

This was after defense lawyers Keith Mweemba, Christopher Mundia, Martha Mushipe, Zevyanji Sinkala and Mulambo Haimbe made an application

for the court to order the police to issue medical reports to the accused as they had denied giving them the medical reports.

They submitted that police inflicted injury on the accused by torturing them.

The state objected to the application saying the accused had already undergone treatment at Maina

Soko Hospital.

Meanwhile, magistrate Mulife granted Milner and the two defense personnel K5,000 cash bail each.

He told the accused persons to provide two working sureties each bound at K20,000 in their own recognizance.

Yesterday, the state objected to the bail application saying the accused persons could interfere with the witnesses but magistrate Mulife dismissed their submissions describing them as speculation.

Magistrate Mulife said it would be very dangerous for the court to operate on assumptions that if they were granted bail they would interfere with the witnesses. He said issues of human rights were very serious and that rights could only be taken if there was proof.

"There is no proof that the state has established that the trio is likely to interfere with the witnesses," said magistrate Mulife. In this matter the trio is accused of conspiring with other persons unknown to kill Banda and Zulu between June 30 and August 8, 2017.

# Lusaka woman gets 5 years for killing boyfriend

## By Diggers Reporter

Lusaka High Court judge Susan Wanjelani has sentenced a 21-year-old Lusaka woman to five years simple imprisonment for killing her boyfriend.

This was after Meya

Namfukwe pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter.

Namfukwe stabbed Zambian musician Francis Zimba who was popularly known as Frankis in the leg in November 2016 after a

dispute. Before the fateful incident, the duo had a fight on their way home from a drinking spree. Upon getting home, the two continued fighting after which the convict got a knife and run after

Frankis. Unfortunately Meya ended up stabbing Frankis when she slipped and fell to the ground.

Postmortem results revealed that the deceased died out of

haemorrhage shock and anemia.

In her mitigation Meya asked the court to impose a lesser punishment on her because she was remorseful for ending Zimba's life and that she had changed owing to the counselling she had been subjected to since she was incarcerated.

In her sentencing, judge Wanjelani stated that it was sad that a life was cut short in such acts which could have been avoided.

Namfukwe wept and her mother followed suit after the sentence was handed down.

# Lusaka man sued for having anal sex with a 7-year-old

## By Diggers Reporter

A 29-year-old bricklayer has been dragged to court for having anal sex with a seven-year-old girl.

When the matter came up before Lusaka magistrate Faidess Hamaundu yesterday, Teddy Siame pleaded not guilty to a charge of unnatural offence.

According to facts before court, the victim met her fate when she went to look for her mum at a bar in the company of her elder sibling in Lusaka's Mazyopa compound.

The accused dragged the victim in an unfinished toilet near

the rail line where he ordered her to undress and forced himself on

her back. This was after he gave the victim two coins

which he grabbed back before taking advantage of her.

# Ex Post employee fails to testify against M'membe

## By Diggers Reporter

Former Post reporter Abel Mboozi has failed to testify against Fred M'membe in a matter in which he complained that the editor in chief had concealed property from the provisional liquidator.

This is in a matter in which Dr M'membe is also accused

of personation among other charges.

When the case was called yesterday, Mboozi, who is the first witness and a complainant was not present before court. His lawyer Rabson Malipenga has told Lusaka Magistrate David Simusamba that Mboozi was unable to come

to court due to an illness prompting the court to adjourn the case to September 18, 2017 for trial.

Dr M'membe was however present in court for trial.

Allegations in this matter are the accused failed to declare real and personal books and documents to the provisional

liquidator Lewis Moshu.

M'membe is also accused of preventing the production of books or papers relating to the Post Newspaper in Liquidation.

The offences were allegedly committed between November last year and February 13 this year.

# Mopani must pay – CUTS

**From front page**

“We are disappointed and we note with the deep concern the inconsistency in that the government has agreed to restore the electricity supply at subsidized prices to Mopani Mines when it is increasing electricity tariffs for the average Zambians. As much as ERB has carried

out the process in a phased manner in order to attempt to mitigate the negative effects, four months is not long enough a time to allow consumers to adjust to the new tariffs. Further to this, we have failed to see accompanying measures such as the improvement of ZESCO’s efficiency levels and a coherent strategy to

reduce wastage in some of its internal operational areas,” Mukumba stated. Mukumba wondered why government seemed to be more willing to negotiate with the mines than with domestic consumers. “In May 2017, phase one of the electricity tariff hike that was approved by the Energy Regulation Board

(ERB) took effect with a 50% increase in electricity prices. Phase two will call for another increase and this time by an additional 25%. This means that the cost of electricity in Zambia would have gone up by 75% in the space of only four months. CUTS recognises that there is need for Zambia to move

towards cost reflective tariffs as there are no resources for the country to continue subsidizing electricity, further to this we acknowledge that Zambia needs to become a more attractive investment destination in order to draw investment into the sector,” Mukumba stated. “However, we also believe

that some considerations need to be addressed and it is with deep concern that we have seen government at a stalemate with Mopani Mines in recent days. The mining industry consumes about 55% of the total electricity generated in Zambia whereas domestic consumers only use about 30%, yet the government seems to be more willing to negotiate with mining companies. It is imperative that mines pay cost reflective tariffs and we are urging the government to take a strong stance in these negotiations.”

She commended government for expediting the completion of the cost of service study saying the study would enable citizens to know the true cost of efficiently producing electricity that was currently unknown.

“Having said this, CUTS commends the government for expediting the completion of the cost of service study that is supposed to identify the true cost of electricity in Zambia. It is expected that this study will allow us to know the true cost of efficiently producing electricity that is currently unknown. Knowing the true cost of producing electricity efficiently in Zambia is the first step on the road towards cost-reflective tariffs. Consumers should not have to pay for inefficiencies in producing electricity,” stated Mukumba.

## Kabwe PF explains Mutati’s MMD activities

**By Diggers Correspondent**

The Patriotic Front in Central Province has the crusade against Minister of Finance Mutati, accusing him of destabilising the ruling party.

Scores of PF members this morning staged a protest march from Kasanda market along Kabwe –Ndola road to the party secretariat, behind Horizon Hotel, to present a petition demanding Mutati’s removal to PF provincial chairman Chanda Mutale.

The placard carrying members chanted anti-Mutati slogans and some of the placards read, “Mutati must go”.

In presenting the petition, Kabwe central constituency information publicity secretary, Sam Lupupa, said Mutati did not mean well for the party structures.

He alleged that the Finance Minister had been using his ministerial position to revamp the opposition Movement for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) where he is serving as president. “Your excellency, Felix Mutati has been using his ministerial position as a stepping stone to revamp his MMD party which died in 2011. We say this as evidenced by what happened when he, in the company of two other ministers, honourable Mulenga Kaziya (water resources and sanitation); and Christopher Yaluma (minerals and natural resources), visited our newly acquired offices in Kabwe on 17th of July 2017 and the trio after complaining that we had no money donated only K4,000. To our surprise, honourable Mutati ended up donating K15,000 to MMD members the same day” Lupupa said.

Lupupa said as a party in the province, they felt insulted because MMD members in the province were now boasting by claiming that “the government is for PF but the power to control the



money is in the hands of the MMD”. “He must choose between being president of MMD or being a minister. It is our prayer that our cry shall be

heard” said Lupupa. And in receiving the petition, PF provincial chairman, Chanda Mutale said he would deliver the petition to the secretary

general of the party, who will in turn present it to the Head of State. “As you go back to your different districts, be assured that your petition

will be presented to the president. For now remain patient as we wait to hear what the president will say after receiving your petition,” said Mutale.



A woman buying sweet potatoes in Lusaka’s Mtendere Township. - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

It seems we were the only ones who didn't know that celebrated singer Mumba Yachi is not a Zambian citizen. Our friends in the music industry, especially those close to him, seem to have had this information for many years. They were well aware that the singer was a Congolese, illegally squatting in the country while doing his music business.

For those who don't follow Zambian music closely, Mumba Yachi is a guitarist and vocal performer who first appeared on the music scene around 2010 but never made a breakthrough. However, five years later, Yachi gained so much recognition and publicity because of his unique arrangement of Afro music. He became such a celebrated star that when he announced the launch of his "I am Lenshina" Album in May 2015, former vice-president Guy Scott, Cabinet ministers, businessmen and CEOs from various corporate companies were the first to buy tickets for the sold-out concert hosted at Joe Pilatus farm in State Lodge area. To cut the long story short, Mumba Yachi has been entertaining this country's VVIPs for years now, but apparently, he was just a foreigner with no proper records of his nationality.

Last week, the Immigration Department arrested Yachi on grounds that in May 2016, the singer entered Zambia (from a business trip) through Chirundu using a Zambian passport and green National Registration Card. He claimed to be a Zambian citizen, a statement which he later changed when he was summoned for questioning in August – admitting that he was, in fact, Congolese.

Immediately this news broke, we were flooded with comments and statements from the singer's close friends in the industry and of

# Mumba Yachi had very bad friends

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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course music fans. People were enraged by the Immigration Department's move and accused the authority of applying the law selectively because according to them, there were many illegal immigrants doing illegal business in the country. Others picked names of Congolese footballers they know who have adopted Zambian names and are freely playing professional soccer without being questioned by the Immigration Department. All the solidarity statements that came alluded to the fact that Mumba Yachi was a peaceful person and did not deserve to be arrested and locked up in the manner he was.

What caught our attention was the statement from the Zambia Association of Musicians

(ZAM). Led by president Njoya Tembo, ZAM claimed Yachi was a fully paid up member of the association who was merely a victim of the brutally drawn colonial boundaries that separate people of the same families and communities.

"While recognising the importance of the Immigration Department to carry out its mandate, we note at the same time that it has a duty to promote a human rights based approach and culture in respect of immigration controls. In that regard, Zambia Association of Musicians (ZAM) urges that a human face be attached to such operations in consideration to tribes, communities and families which were brutally divided by the greed of the colonial powers

without any due regard to the status of people on the ground... In a show of support, ZAM will accordingly help Mumba with legal support throughout this process," stated Tembo.

To a wider degree, this statement exposes ZAM, the people behind it and the purpose it serves. It further raises questions about the procedure followed before one can belong to this association. How much does the Zambia Association of Musicians know about its members? Do they just register anyone who has released a song before, or any person who has a recording studio? Does Mr Njoya Tembo's association demand any form of identification card before registering its members? If ZAM knew that Mumba Yachi was a

foreigner without a residence permit, why did they not advise him to apply for one, or better still, a citizenship having lived in Zambia for over 10 years? What kind of friends are they to Mumba Yachi? How can they be so proud to offer legal support to a man whose predicament they knew before he was arrested, but did nothing about? We are told that the singer has already admitted faking his Zambian citizenship, so what will the ZAM lawyer be defending in court?

It is clear to us that the Zambia Association of Musicians is mostly interested in money from paid up members. They never really care where the member hails from as long as they have paid their affiliation fees. If

an Al-Shabaab brother came with a banjo claiming to be a Kalindula maestro, Njoya Tembo and his ZAM would register him without delay. And if police arrested such a brother, ZAM's position would be that "he is a fully paid up member, we stand with him".

Surely, we are concerned with this development because ZAM is a government-recognised association registered through the National Arts Council (NAC) under the Ministry of Tourism and Arts. At least, we expect the National Arts Council to take interest in knowing the members who are registered in these associations; not necessarily for purposes of knowing who is Zambian and who is a foreigner, but for good governance.

It is also of concern that after the arrest of such a highly celebrated singer as Mumba Yachi, there has been no statement from the said National Arts Council. They have no comment over the matter. NAC seems to have distanced itself from this case because the singer has committed a crime, but if Yachi had won African Idols for Zambia, they would be all over praising him. In fact, it would be the Minister of Arts Mr Charles Banda himself who would take him to State House for a luncheon before conferring him with the free man of the city status.

Anyway, our point is that even though Zambia is home to its own citizens, this is a country that has welcomed hundreds of thousands of asylum-seekers and refugees than any other in the region. Well-meaning immigrants, especially peaceful and talented ones like Mumba Yachi, are definitely welcome in Zambia. It is not a crime to desire to be Zambian if you were born in Congo, but there are several legally accepted ways of doing so, rather than faking citizenship.

## S/Africa and medically prescribe heroin

South Africa has taken a lead in the HIV response, but HIV won't be overcome until the country faces some hard truths about drug abuse and its own prejudices. The country defied private interests when, for example, it faced major pharmaceutical companies in court in 2001 in an attempt to offer the best access to treatment for its citizens. It went on to become one of the few countries in the region to commit to funding the bulk of its treatment programme nationally.

South Africa has paved the way for evidence-based prevention, treatment and care. It became one of the few countries in the region to commit to funding the bulk of its treatment programme nationally.

South Africa has also led in ensuring human rights are respected in its HIV response, developing community-based outreach programmes to diminish stigma and discrimination.

But the world has changed a great deal since South Africa first began to tackle HIV in the early 2000s — and so too has the epidemic. By 2015, almost half of all people living with HIV were on treatment in South Africa, according to UNAIDS. But this is far from true for some of those most at risk of infection. For instance, we learned that less than a quarter of HIV-positive sex workers surveyed in Johannesburg were on antiretrovirals (ARVs), according to a 2014

health department study. The percentage of HIV-positive people who use drugs and are on ARVs may be even lower. Globally, UNAIDS reports that only 14% of people who use drugs and are living with the virus are on treatment. Locally, no such data exists.

Scarce data shows that South Africa, like the rest of the world, is facing concentrated HIV and hepatitis epidemics among people who use drugs, both injecting or non-injecting. A small, five-city 2013 study by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime showed that 14% of people who inject drugs were living with HIV. Local organisations such as Pretoria's StepUp Project say, based on anecdotal evidence, they believe there is an equally high prevalence of hepatitis C among people who use drugs.

But where South Africa has succeeded in breaking taboos and adopting people-based policies to tackle HIV infection for the general population, it has failed to provide the same humane approach to people who use drugs.

Criminalising the simple consumption and possession of drugs, particularly in the privacy of one's own home, causes considerable harm — people's privacy is violated and families are destroyed by subsequent arrests. And prisons become even more overcrowded. The "war on drugs" diverts law enforcement efforts away from tackling the violent crimes that

undermine the social fabric of certain communities and prevent effective development. The criminalisation of use and possession of drugs for personal consumption also fuels the HIV epidemic by pushing people who use drugs into hiding. They become unreachable and invisible, in effect preventing them preventing them de facto from accessing prevention, treatment and harm reduction services.

People arrested for simply possessing a drug — an act that potentially harms no one — are then saddled with a criminal record that creates huge obstacles to employment and leading a balanced and productive life.

It also makes little sense to use the criminal justice system for people who are physically or psychologically dependent on drugs. This is a medical condition that affects about 12% of people who use drugs, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in its latest World Drug Report estimates. Drug dependence must be treated as a health concern, respecting the rights to which all citizens are equally entitled.

These policy choices of criminalising people are based on moral prejudices and have not been grounded in the kind of evidence that has helped South Africa to turn the tide against HIV for many. Internationally, the South African government shows a progressive understanding

of drugs policy. It supports the African Union's common position to address illicit drugs in a more constructive manner, moving away from repression as a primary response and towards a human rights-based approach that encompasses harm reduction and treatment measures.

### At home, however, drug policy reform is still taboo.

The government and the general population do not appear to understand the extent to which ill-designed and ill-implemented drug control policies can negatively affect society. This is with regard not only to the HIV response but also to equity in the criminal justice system, sustainable development and upholding the dignity of all citizens, starting with the most vulnerable.

### To address drug-related issues, we need to review policies.

In practice, this means introducing a range of treatment and harm reduction options that can be accessed voluntarily, from rehabilitation programmes to measures aimed at minimising the harms associated with drug use, such as HIV, hepatitis infection and overdose. These treatments can include drug substitution therapies and even the medical distribution of heroin, which Switzerland initiated 25 years ago and is also practised in the Netherlands, Denmark, Canada

and Germany.

But only when the use and possession of drugs are decriminalised will harm reduction measures be most effective. And to the critics who argue that decriminalisation will promote drug use and violence, evidence from all over the world confirms the opposite.

In Portugal, the decriminalisation of drug use resulted in a 50% decrease in arrests and incarceration for drug offences, a fourfold decrease in opioid overdoses, and an 18% per capita decrease in social costs related to drugs, according to a report in a 2016 edition of *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*.

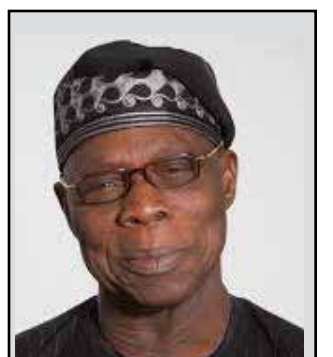
When people who use drugs face fewer health and security risks, because they are no longer driven underground but can use them in safe environments, society as a whole experiences lower public health costs and greater safety.

Evidence from other African countries — Senegal, Kenya, Morocco, Tanzania, Burkina Faso and Mauritius — shows that harm reduction initiatives are effective in curbing HIV transmission among people who use drugs and reduce the risks associated not only with drug use but also those often far greater risks associated with the illicit drug trade.

HIV has changed and so too has the international discourse on drug use. More countries are recognising that illicit drug use is a public health and

social justice concern rather than a criminal one, and are considering decriminalisation and legal regulation as more effective responses.

South Africa has led the world in HIV response, but the challenge will not fully be met until the country can chart the same gains in HIV prevention, treatment, support and care for its most vulnerable people, including people who use drugs, as it has for many others. The country has acknowledged in international arenas that any political agreement on drugs must address broader social and economic issues. Now it is time for South Africa to implement what it has rightly preached abroad.



**Olusegun Obasanjo is the former president of Nigeria. Anand Grover is the former UN special rapporteur on the right to health. Both are members of the Global Commission on Drug Policy.**



# Raila Odinga threatens re-run election boycott



Kenya's opposition leader Raila Odinga has said that he will not take part in the presidential election re-run slated for 17 October "without legal and constitutional guarantees". Last week, the Supreme Court annulled August's election result saying the electoral commission (IEBC) had not followed the constitution. Incumbent President Uhuru Kenyatta was declared the winner by the IEBC. The court said a new election needs to be held by 31 October. Speaking to journalists, Mr Odinga said that the fresh vote must be held in an environment where everything that went wrong can be corrected. "We know exactly what transpired in these last elections, we know what the IEBC did and we know that if we were to go back there will be no different results and that's why will say there will be no elections on the 17 October," he said.

Mr Odinga's opposition Nasa

alliance went to the Supreme Court to challenge President Kenyatta's win arguing that the results had been tampered with during transmission from the polling stations. They alleged that someone gained access to the IEBC's computer servers to tweak the results in favour of Mr Kenyatta.

The court found that, among other things, the IEBC had committed "illegalities" in the

transmission of results. But as it has not released its full ruling it is still not clear exactly what went wrong.

The Supreme Court said on Friday that it would make its full ruling public within 21 days.

Mr Odinga wants the IEBC to strictly follow the constitution's guidance on conducting elections.

He also wants some of the commissioners to be sacked,

alleging that they are partisan, and he is pushing for access to IEBC's electronic voting and result transmission system.

Mr Odinga criticised the IEBC for announcing the new election date saying that opposition parties had not been consulted.

Nasa sent a letter to the IEBC arguing that the date for the fresh election "should be a product of consultation with concerned parties and not a

unilateral decision".

The opposition leader alleged that the election date was set by the governing Jubilee Party. Mr Odinga also faulted the IEBC for saying that the new election will just be between him and Mr Kenyatta. There were eight candidates on the ballot paper in August.

"The entire election was cancelled by the Supreme Court," he said. "So it means that you do a repeat of the

presidential elections afresh." For his part, President Kenyatta said last Friday that while he respected the court's annulment of the election he disagreed with the decision. Speaking to supporters later that day, at an impromptu rally in the capital, Nairobi, he described Chief Justice David Maraga as a "crook". On Saturday he vowed to "fix" the Supreme Court if he was re-elected. *BBC News*

## Arrested Rwandan politician Diane Rwigara released

Rwandan politician Diane Rwigara has returned home after she was arrested along with her mother and sister during investigations into alleged forgery and tax evasion.

The police tweeted that the three women were "escorted home" after questioning.

The politician's family say she was arrested last week after police raided her house in the capital, Kigali.

The police, however, only confirmed on Monday that they were holding Ms Rwigara and her family members.

Police spokesman Theos Badege told the BBC's Focus

on Africa programme last week that the police did not know the whereabouts of the three women:

"They are said to be where they want to be, and because ours was just to conduct the search, which is part of the investigation... we don't know where they are," he said.

Ms Rwigara, a renowned women's activist in Rwanda, was disqualified to run in last month's presidential race which was won by incumbent President Paul Kagame.

Investigators allege that Ms Rwigara committed an electoral offence by collecting forged signatures to endorse her candidacy.

She has however denied the allegation saying instead that she met all the requirements to run.

Police also accuse her mother and sister of being involved in tax evasion, an allegation that the family has denied.

Family members say that police raided and ransacked their house on Tuesday last week, before arresting the three

women and confiscating communication gadgets, computers and some cash, which have not returned.

Mr Badege told the BBC that they had only conducted a raid at the politician's house and taken away communication gadgets, but denied arresting her.

Police said in another tweet on Tuesday, after the women's release, that they might be called back for questioning.

The politician's brother, Aristide Rwigara, told the BBC's Newsday programme that her sister's treatment was "inhumane", and blamed it on her political ambition.

"All my sister did was run for president and now they are persecuting the family." *BBC News*

## Nigeria and South Africa both come out of recession

Nigeria and South Africa, two of Africa's richest countries, are no longer in recession as the economies of both grew in the last quarter.

Nigeria had experienced a long period in the doldrums with five consecutive quarters when the economy shrank. But with annual GDP growth at less than 0.6%, Nigeria's emergence from recession is slow.

South Africa is still facing big

economic challenges despite recording a more healthy 2.5% growth figure.

The economic boost in South Africa can be put down to a big rise in agricultural output of 33%.

But overall, its economy still continues to struggle with unemployment remaining stubbornly high at nearly 28%, the BBC's Africa Business Report editor Matthew Davies says.

In Nigeria, the poor performance of the vital oil sector continues to be a drag on the economy. Furthermore, the country's GDP needs to grow by 3% every year just to keep up with the rise in the country's population.

"It still falls far short of the growth rates the Nigerian economy should be achieving," economist Razia Khan told the Reuters news agency. *BBC News*

# Steve Harvey: My wife told me to skip meeting with Trump, I should've listened



When comedian and TV host Steve Harvey met with President Donald Trump earlier this year, he didn't expect the degree of outrage he'd receive.

Harvey, who recently opened up to *The Hollywood Reporter* about his career as a comedian

and a TV host, spoke about both personal and political experiences over the years and how his meeting with Trump made for one that brings him regrets.

"I didn't see that coming. Jesus," Harvey told the publication in a new piece published Tuesday. "It was

so vicious that it really threw me."

"I was being called names that I've never been called: Uncle Tom. A coon. A sellout," he added.

Harvey said he first met with Trump after he said his business partner received "a call from the

Obama transition team, who said that the Trump transition team would like to set up a meeting." He said yes but the meeting was also to be held around Harvey's 60th birthday celebration, which was hosted on a boat. So his wife, Marjorie Harvey,

suggested he deliberately miss the meeting.

"My wife says, 'Steve, just take off [and skip the meeting]. You'll meet with him some other time,'" he recalled. "God, I should've listened."

Harvey met with the President at the Trump

Towers and said he spent about 20 minutes in the January meeting talking about golf. He recalled how he told Trump about potentially working with Ben Carson, whom the president appointed to lead the department of Housing and Urban Development, to help identify ways he could help transform closing schools into "vision centers and teach STEM and computers and coding."

Harvey said he has since been to HUD twice and that he's met with Carson. "We're actually trying to get it started," he said. "Hopefully before the year goes out, we'll be making the announcement about the first vision center."

Harvey, who was pictured following their meeting, drew ire from critics who called out the disrespect and shame they felt in seeing him, a black man, be so willing to work with a man who has consistently neglected and disrespected the black community.

Harvey himself released a statement in January as the outrage began to bubble up, explaining then why he met with the President and affirming that "he would sit with Trump anytime." *Yahoo News*



Nepalese dancers prepare to perform a traditional dance on the second day of the Hindu festival of Indra Jatra, which symbolises unity, victory and power, in Kathmandu. AFP

# City challenges ban of its Vodafone Stadium

**From back page**

It is sad that FAZ has further threatened to demote City of Lusaka to amateur football if it seeks legal redress. It is our belief that our men and women at Football

House have traversed the world and they know very well how other leagues are managed," Basopo said. "The English Premier League is sponsored by Barclays Cup and yet the

shirt sponsors for Liverpool Football Club is Standard Chartered Bank. Before Stan Chart came on board, Carlsberg used to sponsor Liverpool, yet UEFA never penalised it for participating

in the Champions League which for a long time has been sponsored by Heineken. We feel ill-treated and let down by the stance taken by the association particularly that

they were 'aware' before City of Lusaka signed a contract with Vodafone." He said the club had tried to reason with MTN but to no avail. "We have tried to engage

them over the matter but they have maintained their position. It is shocking that the Football House can even threaten to relegate us to amateur football if we try to seek legal redress over this matter. A lot of investors both within and outside the country have contacted us over the past week and expressed their displeasure over the stance taken by Football House. FAZ seems eager to chase away other potential investors in football in the country in order to protect one corporate entity for reasons best known to themselves," Basopo said.

"The money MTN offers for sponsorship of the league is not enough to sustain clubs, and it is the reason why clubs should look for other partnerships with the corporate world, and FAZ should in fact be encouraging them to do so. For instance, should City of Lusaka finish in the bottom four, they are likely to receive about K10,000 [\$1,000], which is not even enough to fulfil a single league fixture. We expect FAZ to provide thought leadership in this matter. They must deal with it decisively and they must spell out to all the clubs in Zambia which investors they can work with. Threats and intimidation will not take us anywhere.

The club further challenged FAZ to disclose how much money Football House was getting from MTN.

"We further challenge FAZ to disclose the whole MTN deal to the football family in Zambia. The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) and other bodies must also take a keen interest in this matter. We would like to thank other Super Division teams that have stood with us over this cardinal matter," said Basopo.

"We would like to further inform our fans that City of Lusaka will host Green Buffaloes in the MTN/FAZ Super Division Week 27 at Nkoloma Stadium in Lusaka on Sunday."



# WBC sanctions Catherine's fight against Fatuma Zarika

**By Joseph Mwenda**

Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions (OQBP) has announced Catherine Phiri's next fight on November 25, 2017 against US based Kenyan pugilist Fatuma Zarika.

In a statement, OQBP director Christopher Malunga said Phiri will be challenging Zarika for the WBC Super Bantamweight title.

"I'm very proud to announce that Catherine

Phiri, the former World Boxing Council (WBC) bantamweight champion has been given a chance to challenge the current World Boxing Council (WBC) Super Bantamweight Gold champion Fatuma Zarika,"

Malunga said.

"The championship Promoter is Bigger Than Life Entertainment from the United States of America. In partnership with Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions (OQBP) the championship will take place on 25th November 2017 at Carnival Gardens, Nairobi Kenya. OQBP would like to thank Bigger Than Life Entertainment and World

Boxing Council (WBC) for giving Catherine Phiri another chance to fight for the Gold championship."

Zarika has a record 43 fights, 29 wins-12KO, 12 loses and 2 draws. She won the WBC super bantamweight gold title after defeating the champion Alicia Ashley on October 1, 2016.

OQBP added that the bout will be streamed live in Zambia on [www.FiTETV.com](http://www.FiTETV.com) and [www.tvtibi.com](http://www.tvtibi.com).

## Algeria coach refuses to quit after defeat

**By Diggers Reporter**

Lucas Alacraz is defiant that he will not quit his job as Algeria coach despite suffering historic back-to-back defeats to Zambia.

Zambia beat Algeria 1-0 away in Constantine on September 5 and 3-1 at home in Lusaka on September 2 to keep their 2018 World Cup qualifying hopes alive but extinguished those of the four-time FIFA World Cup finalists.

"No, I won't quit," Alacraz said at Tuesday's post-match briefing in Constantine.

"I am convinced that we will improve our situation. And to improve

the situation, you have to continue working."

Algeria are bottom of Group B on 1 point from four games and out of contention in the 2018 World Cup Group B qualifiers.

It was Alacraz's second disappointment from his six games in charge since his appointment in April, 2017.

The Spaniard had prior to the dates against Zambia failed to qualify Algeria to the 2018 CHAN tournament after 2014 champions Libya beat his side 2-1 at home in Constantine and later finished a 1-1 away in Tunisia.

Alacraz has so far won just two games, drawn one and lost three as Algeria coach.

# Chipolopolo shines again

**From back page**

Daka's all-important goal saw the Chipolopolo Boys switch to defensive play up to the last whistle, giving Algeria no chance to break even.

Two of the four Under-20 stars included in the senior team, Enock Mwepu and Patson Daka have scored a goal each.

Zambia now has 7 points, 3 behind group B leaders Nigeria who stand at 10 points having

won three games with one draw from four games played.

With only two more rounds of games remaining to play, Zambia has to unseat Nigeria, as only one top team will qualify for Russia 2018 from each group. Wedson Nyirenda capped his first 12 months in charge of Zambia with a historic back-to-back victory feat over Algeria.

With those results, Nyirenda achieved what other local and

foreign Chipolopolo coaches had failed to do - beating nemesis Algeria at home and away.

The back-to-back wins also saw Nyirenda enjoy his best spell in charge, as Zambia records seven unbeaten games since July 9 when they lost 3-1 to Zimbabwe in the 2017 Cosafa Cup final in South Africa.

Overall, Nyirenda has nine wins out of his 18 games in charge.

# VODAFONE IRKS MTN...

## As City of Lusaka challenges ban of its Vodafone Stadium

By Joseph Mwenda

City of Lusaka has questioned the decision by the Football Association of Zambia to ban the club from hosting MTN/FAZ super division games at the newly refurbished Vodafone Stadium on grounds that the Internet data provider is a competitor of the telecommunication company which sponsors the league.

In a statement released today, "City Yamoto" communications manager Alex Basopo wondered how FAZ could go against the trend that was globally accepted in the world of soccer.

"The move taken by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) to ban City of Lusaka Football Club from using its Vodafone Stadium in Lusaka is retrogressive and has the potential to scare away investors. Their argument that City of Lusaka sponsors, Vodafone is a competitor with MTN, the official sponsors of Super Division in the provision of ISP services and cannot therefore have presence at the Stadium does not hold water.

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# Chipolopolo shines again

By Joseph Mwenda

Chipolopolo Boys on Tuesday beat Algeria 1-0 away, thanks to a Patson Daka strike in 65th minute which shattered the hosts' hope for a World Cup slot.

It's Zambia's second victory over the North

Africans in as few as four days.

Before hosting Algeria at Heroes Stadium on Saturday, where the Copper bullets won 3-1, Zambia had never beaten the Desert Foxes in 30 years.

Earlier in the first half tonight, Zambia's

goalkeeper Kennedy Mweene saved Leicester striker Riyad Mahrez's penalty in the 16th minute to keep Zambia's hope for a debut World Cup appearance at the Russia 2018 games alive.

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