



IDC LOSES

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Former Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) Executive Director for operations Paul Siame has won the court case in which he sued the government investment portfolio and its shareholders for unlawfully terminating his contract of employment. *To page 4*

Siame wins unlawful dismissal case



Sinda scouts for 5,000 positive locals evading ARV treatment

By Zindikilani Banda
Sinda district health medical officer Dr Benard Chimungu says his office records show that out of the 11,000 local people who tested HIV positive, only 6,000 are on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART). Speaking when

commemorating world AIDS day at Kasamba primary school, Friday, under the theme "Run the last mile, leaving no one behind", Dr Chimungu challenged the communities to ensure that they got tested instead of putting the entire community at risk. *To page 5*

HH has failed to fill Mazoka's shoes, says Sunday Chanda

By Mukosha Funga
PF media director Sunday Chanda says unlike Hakainde Hichilema, UPND founder

president Anderson Mazoka would give credit where it was due whilst criticizing government.

And Chanda says after 20 years of being in existence, the UPND must reflect on the roles of an opposition party for it to be relevant.

Meanwhile, Chanda has advised the UPND to draft a proper manifesto saying their 10 point plan has been rendered obsolete by the PF's vigor.

Congratulating the UPND for clocking 20 years in existence, Saturday, Chanda observed that some of the positive things Mazoka used to do had been abandoned by the current UPND leadership. *To page 11*

Cabinet, ex-ministers owe govt K254,000 in furniture expenses

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Works and Supply PS Agnes Musunga has told PAC that some cabinet ministers and ex-ministers owe government over K254,000 for furniture they bought on offer in 2016, 2017. *To page 5*

Church is involved in politics, not partisan politics - Telesphore

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Bahaiti MP Harry Kalaba with St Sancta Maria Parish local superior Fr Kapya Kangombe shortly before the Church service in Lukulu on Sunday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Stigma against 'positive' people is stupid - Foote

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Former Lusaka Arch Bishop Telesphore Mundu officiates at the UPND anniversary



Zambia's Embassy in Kenya has no courtesy for traveling citizens - Nkombo

By *Miriam Chabala*
Mazabuka UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo has expressed displeasure with the manner in which some diplomats accredited to various missions abroad treat Zambian citizens when they visit the embassies. And Cornelius Mweetwa has wondered why the Patriotic Front government has not sent replacements to missions where representatives have been recalled, saying the situation is illogical because the country is experiencing a job deficit. Debating the 2019 budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs last week, Nkombo said it was disheartening to see Zambians being mistreated by their own people serving in the embassies abroad. "I would like to share with yourself, honourable minister, the below character attitude that most of your staff have in the foreign missions have. We traveled out at one time with the Committee on Privileges, Absences and Support Services to the Republic of Kenya, and the usual thing that parliamentary delegations do when they go to visit is to pay a courtesy call

on the mission. I would like you to know that what we found there was extremely disheartening, the reception we received as members of parliament at the Kenyan mission... we were very unimpressed with the manner in which your staff treated us at the Nairobi mission. No courtesy whatsoever. This is a none partisan comment because as you want to know, committees of parliament are co-mingled. We had members of PF, we had members from the MMD, independent; but what we saw there was very unimpressive," lamented Nkombo. "I think if our secretarial staff did its work, they may have included that reception in the report for your attention so that you can assist the people who you have recruited to work abroad to not only treat members of government but even the Zambian who is at the bottom of our society, because that's one of the mandate that you have as Ministry of Foreign Affairs; to look at the welfare of the Zambians who are living abroad. When a Zambian for instance falls very ill away from home, it is your ministry that is responsible to provide the minimum

affordable medical care for the particular Zambian, because it goes without saying that if they die in foreign land, again it becomes your responsibility to repatriate the remains of those individuals to come back home." Meanwhile, Mweetwa, who is the UPND member of parliament for Choma Constituency challenged the government to explain why it was not sending new staff to missions whose representatives have been recalled. "Ever since PF came into office, there have been unprecedented numerous recalls of citizens of Zambia who were accredited, sent to work in missions abroad. You will discover that these recalls leave a lot to be desired. We have a lot of people who have been recalled by this PF government and those who were on contract have been recalled [but] they have not been paid their money after being recalled. Those who were civil servants who were in the foreign mission, they have been recalled but they have not been placed in the civil service to continue work, since they are civil servants. That's the evils of this PF. Where do you want to take these people? Is it another way of



having them thrown out of the civil service? These are the issues you need to begin to address your minds to. Meanwhile, you have citizens looking for jobs," Mweetwa observed. "I can give you an example of Nigeria where you just have two people at a mission. Just the Ambassador and the Accountant, what about all these other positions? And when the minister talks about economic diplomacy, how will that be realised? This ministry is supposed to be an image

builder for Zambia. This is the advertisement platform for this country abroad." Mweetwa then used the opportunity to castigate the PF government for the brutal arrest and detention of NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili last week. But charity begins at home. The things we do here, they reflect out there in the international community. What image is Zambia sending to the international community in terms of governance? Zambia's image under PF

has been destroyed. The international community has moved on, they are no longer just interested in natural resource endowment of a country, they are also concerned about democracy and the respect for human rights. How can we have a country, 54 years after independence where you have a member of parliament being bundled by police officers, thrown into a Toyota Land Cruiser and driven to Luanshya in Zambia, why? Why should we create a country of tyranny? Why should we create a country of fear where citizens are being intimidated that 'I will sort you out, why?' wondered Mweetwa. "These are the things that destroy Zambia's image abroad, [but] later on you come to this House and say 'Hakainde Hichilema is badmouthing Zambia outside', it's your activities! You have a responsibility beyond yourselves, you have a responsibility beyond PF. You have a responsibility to Zambia, so come down and use normal sense like everybody else. We have a beautiful country, you should provide sensible leadership. This is not a country for PF! This is a country for all of us, you can't turn this country backwards because of your 'Dununa Reverse' [slogan]. You want to take this country backwards into tyranny, into dictatorship... but we are saying no to you. Zambia can't turn into a Police State, we can't turn Zambia into a place where those who are in positions of leadership begin to behave like police officers," said Mweetwa.

It is stupid to stigmatize people with HIV/AIDS - Foote

By *Mukosha Funga*
United States Ambassador to Zambia Daniel Foote says it is stupid to stigmatize people living with HIV/AIDS because when they take their ARVs, they become virally suppressed and unable to transmit the virus. And President Edgar Lungu has urged citizens to get tested because ignoring their status will make them vulnerable to the virus. Speaking during World AIDS Day commemorations at Villa Grounds in Livingstone, Saturday, Ambassador Foote stressed that it was time to remove stigma. "I have met with many HIV-positive young people ages 12-24, almost all of whom were born with the virus. Not only are they exceptionally brave, they are the most dedicated advocates to HIV/AIDS elimination I've seen. Why do we stigmatize them, or anyone with the virus? Stigma against any HIV positive person is stupid at this point, because

if they take their ARVs, they'll become virally suppressed, and cannot transmit the virus. Remove the stigma!" Ambassador Foote said. "Why? Here's a reason: Of those on regular, sustained treatment, 89 percent have the HIV virus under control with the antiretroviral drugs, and this number should approach 100 percent, as we ensure every HIV-positive person takes their medicines correctly and religiously. Speaking of religion: religious leaders, please pray that suffering is eased, pray in thanksgiving that ARV treatment works, and ensure your congregations get tested, take, and stay on their medicines. I would never presume to speak for The Almighty, but I am certain that my merciful God wants us to prevent further transmission, save lives, and eliminate HIV/AIDS." He highlighted good habits which could help the world control HIV/AIDS. "I mentioned how far you have

already run. We are on the brink of controlling HIV/AIDS, but now it is critically urgent that we all fully commit to make the daily effort to ensure success. Here's the important part, and it's not complicated! We each must do a few things to win this battle: 1. Get tested. Know your status. Make sure everyone you love gets tested. Take your children to get tested. Make our young people get tested. We only know the HIV status of 50% of your children under age 14, and only 45% of young women aged 15-24. 2. If we test positive, we must all seek, and remain on, treatment for the rest of our lives, or until we find the cure. If you or a loved one tests positive, accept the challenge, love yourself and your family, and take your medicine. 3. If you are on treatment, always stay on treatment and do your viral-suppression testing. With patience and discipline, the virus in your body will become controlled, and you'll live a wonderful life and never

pass the virus on," said Ambassador Foote. "People with HIV/AIDS must live with it every single day of the year, and many continue to transmit it, and die unnecessarily. We mark World AIDS Day each December 1st, but we must work every day of the year to achieve an AIDS free Zambia, and indeed, world." And in a speech read on his behalf by Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya, President Lungu encouraged citizens to get tested. "I call upon every Zambian to know their status and especially men who are among groups with low HIV testing and treatment coverage. In order for Zambia to seize the opportunity of this unprecedented moment, each person should make the decision to know their status and start treatment immediately. Ignoring your status will not change your status. It will only make you and your loved ones vulnerable to the virus," said President Lungu.

PUBLIC DEBT INDABA - ADDRESSING ZAMBIA'S ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

The Public Debt Indaba brought together key communities in Zambia from business, the church, civil society, youth organisations and think tank sector. All are united in their view that Zambia's debt levels are highly concerning but that there is still time to act to manage the impacts of this.

The Indaba welcomed the participation of the Government of Zambia and looks forward to constructive and collaborative approach to addressing Zambia's debt challenge and supporting the country's development.

The Indaba highlighted the risks of failing to act on Zambia's growing debt for ordinary Zambians and called for greater transparency over Zambia's debt as well as a clear plan for dealing with unaffordable repayment levels.

On Thursday 15 November 2018, the Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR), Zambia Association of Manufacturers (ZAM) and Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) hosted the Public Debt Indaba in collaboration with the Consumer Unity Trust Society (CUTS), Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD), Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR), Development Finance Associates and the Ministry of Finance. The Indaba was also supported by a number of eminent persons who included Dr Caleb Fundanga, Mr Chibamba Kanyama and Honourable Members of Parliament, among others, with over 150 citizens in attendance. In the words of PS Budget Dr Pamu, at the Indaba, "participants have turned out in numbers and there can be no better demonstration of your patriotism and commitment to national development".

The broad coalition from across Zambian society present at the Indaba agreed with this sentiment, and as patriotic Zambians, used the Indaba as a platform to call for action to address the country's debt situation and deliver inclusive economic growth to build a better Zambia for all citizens. The participants were united in their view that if action is not taken, it will be ordinary Zambians who suffer from squeezed public spending, rising inflation and low levels of job creation.

The Indaba set out ways to: achieve the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) in light of

growing debt servicing costs; create an enabling environment for private sector-led growth; and develop technical solutions to address the debt challenge. Following these discussions, we the undersigned signatories would like to:

- Thank the Government for participating in the Indaba and for sharing the latest debt position with the hope that the Indaba marks the start of a consultative and collaborative approach necessary to address the debt challenge and maintain Zambia's development;
- Recognise concerns raised by participants about the level of debt in Zambia, and that, without careful management, such debt levels risk curtailing private sector led-growth, squeezing Zambia's citizens – particularly the poorest – and undermining the Government's ability to deliver on the aspirations of the 7NDP; and,
- Re-iterate our commitment to continued engagement with the Government of the Republic of Zambia to work toward a stronger economic future.

Building on the informative and open discussion at the Indaba, going forward there was a clear desire from participants for greater action and responsiveness to citizens' concerns from the Government. So, we are calling on the Government to take the following steps:

1. Continue to engage with stakeholders across Zambian society to communicate clearly on the issue of debt in Zambia and provide regular and detailed updates on the level of debt in Zambia. To this extent we welcome the recent quarterly updates on the level of debt, but would like to see greater information, including on the pipeline of debt. We further need to define clear parameters for reporting debt figures in Zambia to enhance clarity of what is under consideration.
2. Recognise that the impact of Zambia's debt is being felt by its citizens. We would like to move away from a debate about whether the debt is sustainable and instead prioritise mitigating the impacts of debt on ordinary Zambians. This means pursuing private sector-led growth, dismantling arrears and protecting spending that supports the poorest in Zambia. As

participants of the Indaba highlighted, regardless of the level of debt, the consequences of debt are being felt today, and arguably the benefits are yet to be realised especially with regards to infrastructure investments.

3. Build collaborative plans to tackle Zambia's rising debt, with a focus on negotiating an IMF deal that enables Zambia to protect key spending areas and manage debt repayments. As participants at the Indaba highlighted, we believe the chief challenge of Zambia's debt is affordability: debt service costs (including amortisation) are around 45% of revenue. These payments risk crowding-out spending on vital services and pro-growth policies. We would like to engage with the Government on spending plans but more importantly call on the Government to continue its engagement with the IMF with a view to securing balance of payment support and building momentum and confidence to adequately resolve payment of the Eurobonds.

4. Continue to consult with stakeholders to build strong plans to support growth. We applaud the transparent and consultative process of the 7NDP, but all parties need to recognise that as the economic situation evolves so must development plans. We would like to engage with Government to continue to develop policies and spending plans that will support private sector-led growth, create jobs and help reduce Zambia's high poverty levels.

Zambia has not yet edged into a debt crisis – there is still time to act – but we need to act cooperatively in the same patriotic spirit as the Jubilee Debt Campaign to ensure Zambia does not slide into a debt crisis.

Signatories:

Dr Caleb Fundanga

Civil Society for Poverty Reduction Policy Monitoring and Research Centre Zambia Association of Manufacturers

Development Finance Associates Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection Consumer Unity Trust Society

Centre for Trade Policy and Development

CUTS 
International



CENTRE FOR TRADE POLICY & DEVELOPMENT

CSPR
Zambia
CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION


ZAM
ZAMBIA ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS
WE ADD VALUE


DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE ASSOCIATES


PMRC
Policy Monitoring and Research Centre

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Former Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) Executive Director for operations Paul Siame has won the court case in which he sued the government investment portfolio and its shareholders for unlawfully terminating his contract of employment.

High Court judge Edward Musona ruled that Siame's dismissal was unfair and unlawful because no hearing was held, adding that when IDC terminated his employment without hearing him, they acted in breach of the rules of natural justice.

In this matter, Siame was claiming for a declaration that his contract of employment

IDC loses unlawfully dismissal case to Siame

was unlawfully terminated, a declaration that he was unlawfully dismissed, damages, payment of all accrued benefits and contractual entitlements, interest on all sums found due, costs and reliefs.

He claimed that although he was charged with insubordination, there was no disciplinary hearing for his case.

Siame further claimed that it was illegal for the IDC shareholders, who were the Minister of Finance and Secretary to the Treasury, to terminate his contract, when it was the IDC board which hired and signed his employment contract.

IDC was represented by Lubinda Linyama of Eric Silwamba and Company

while Siame was represented by former Attorney General, Musa Mwenye of Mwenye and Mwitwa Advocates. The IDC shareholders who were second respondents in the matter, were represented by Salome Chomba Sakala.

And in a judgement delivered, Friday, judge Musona said the facts of the case showed that

the dismissal of Siame was unfair because he wasn't given a hearing.

"Unfair dismissal is a dismissal where an employee is not given a hearing or where the hearing process was unfair. I have found that the complainant's dismissal was unfair because no hearing was held. What this means is that when the respondents

terminated the employment of the complainant, they acted in breach of the rules of natural justice and it is this breach which made the termination of his employment unfair," he said. Judge Musona further said, a scrutiny of Siame's letter of termination of employment revealed that no reason was given for terminating his employment.

He therefore declared that Siame's termination of employment was unfair and unlawful.

"This also made the termination of the complainant's employment unlawful. To dismiss an employee without according him an opportunity to be heard, as the respondents did in this case, is a blatant breach of the rules of natural justice and violates the principle of audi alteram partem. I declare that the complainant's termination of employment was unfair and unlawful," ruled judge Musona.

He ordered a block award of three months salary for Siame's unlawful and unfair dismissal.

"I have looked at the circumstances of this case and I am satisfied that a block award of three months salary for unlawful and unfair dismissal shall suffice," judge Musona ordered.

He however, dismissed Siame's claim for damages for mental distress and inconvenience, saying no evidence was shown to prove the degree of mental distress and inconvenience suffered, if any.

On Siame's claim for payment of all accrued benefits and contractual entitlements, judge Musona referred the item to the Registrar for assessment of what was due to him as terminal benefits.

"The complainant's main complaint is that when he was paid his terminal benefits the computations were wrongly done. I shall refer this item to the Registrar for assessment of what is due to the complainant as terminal benefits. The computation shall include all the contractual entitlements due to the complainant such as fuel allowance, talk-time allowance and the alike," he ruled.

"If after assessment it shall be found that the complainant was paid less than what was due to him, then, he shall be paid the difference. If, on the other hand, it shall be found that he was inadvertently paid more than what was due to him, there shall be no refund to the respondents because the computations were done by the respondents themselves and the complainant was not privy to it. Also, because the employer has a deeper pocket, it is not the interest of this division to burden workers with orders for payment of money to their former employers."

He said Siame's successful claims shall attract interest at the Bank of Zambia short term rate from the date the complaint was filed up to judgment date, and therefore, at the current Bank of Zambia lending rate.

Judge Musona further ordered costs in favour of Siame.

He granted leave to appeal.



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DANGOTE INDUSTRIES ZAMBIA TAKES A NEW NAME

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

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

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

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Works and Supply Permanent Secretary Agnes Musunga has told the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that some cabinet ministers and their former counterparts owe government amounts totalling K253,993.79 for furniture which they bought on offer in 2016 and 2017.

And National Road Fund Agency (NRFA) chief executive officer Wallace Mumba says reports that government wants to contract a different company to collect toll fees on behalf of the agency are false.

This was revealed on Friday when the controlling officer and her team from NRFA, RDA, and Government Printers appeared before PAC to respond to audit queries cited in the Auditor General's Report for the Financial ended 31st December, 2017.

Those owing include Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo, Former Community Development minister Emerine Kabanshi, Commerce Minister Christopher Yaluma, Former Defence minister Richwell Siamunene and his former deputy Christopher Mulenga, North Western Province Minister Nathaniel Mubukwanu and Muchinga Province Minister Malozo Sichone.

Others are Former Transport deputy minister Andrew Mwali, Dorothy Kazungu, former Chililabombwe MP Esther Banda, Former chiefs and traditional affairs minister Susani Kawandami, and Mkushi South PF MP

Some Cabinet, former ministers owe the government K253,993

Davies Chisopa.

"In 2016 and 2017, the Secretary to the Cabinet granted authority to thirty one senior officers to purchase furniture costing K455,834 from their official residences. However, as at 31st July 2018, only 18 officers had paid for the furniture while 13 officers still owed amounts totalling K253,994," the Auditor General's report read.

In response, Musunga said the owing ministers had been reminded to clear the balance.

"I wish to acknowledge the audit findings regarding the above matter the balance of the 13 transactions amounting to K253,994.00 is still not collected. You may wish to take cognizant that the affected officers are either serving or are former leaders. Enquiries were made to National Assembly and the Ministry of Finance to check if amounts in question were recovered from gratuities. The findings were that this was never done. With authorization from Secretary to the Cabinet, the Ministry wrote to the affected officers demanding payment," Musunga responded.

Chavuma UPND member of parliament Victor Lumayi then asked what the recovery plan was for those who were no longer serving.



"On the issue of failure to collect revenue from the same government furniture, law must be adhered by every citizen and yes, this furniture was sold to government officers and I may want to know whether the Secretary to the Cabinet had sanctioned the sold furniture to serving leaders on credit or it was cash basis? I also want to know from you the recovery plan knowing that you have given us a schedule [but] I will not mention all the

people involved here but they are all honourable members. For example, we have Honourable Malozo [Sichone with] a bill of K37,000, we have Honourable [Davies] Chisopa with] K14,000, we have Susan Kawandami MP [and] her bill is K7,800, we have honourable Esther Banda K14,000, we have Honourable Siamunene K12,000, others K25,000 [and] the list goes on and this money has not been paid from 2016. Most are

the times when we are pushing civil servants to pay, we are recovering from their payslips but when we look at the prominent leaders who are here who got this furniture, some have not even paid a single ngwee from the date they got this furniture. So what is your recovery plan now when others are no longer serving MPs and ministers?" Lumayi asked.

In response, Musunga said the delays in recovering the funds was due to

lack of reconciliation as some officers thought the deductions for the furniture they got were made on their salaries when in fact not.

She said some of them had already started coming forward to pay in cash.

Meanwhile, Committee Chairperson Howard Kunda asked the Ministry of Works and Supply officers to clarify whether or not it was true that NRFA was in the process of contracting a company to be collecting toll fees on its behalf.

"I have a question for you CEO, there has been an outcry in the public that people are overhearing. I don't know where but these are things that are in the public and it's being discussed that you are trying to give the collection of these funds (toll fees) from the toll gates to a different company when you have all the facilities that are there, and also in connection with the government (the Ministry of Finance). You have all the systems that are there to collect on behalf of the Zambian people. Would be in a position to confirm whether that is the true reflection of what the people are saying or not?" asked Kunda.

In response, Mumba said there were no such intentions.

"Chair I would like to mention that as management of NRFA and including the board of NRFA, we do not have that kind of intention in place. Essentially as an agency, we have continued collecting the revenues," responded Mumba.

Sinda scouts for 5,000 HIV positive locals who are evading ARV treatment

Zindikilani Banda

Sinda district health medical officer Dr Benard Chimungu says his office records show that out of the 11,000 local people who tested HIV positive, only 6,000 are on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART).

Speaking when commemorating world AIDS day at Kasamba primary school, Friday, under the theme "Run the last mile, leaving no one behind", Dr Chimungu challenged the communities to ensure that they got tested instead of putting the entire community at risk.

"This disease we are here for is not a joke but a serious challenge that we need to address. For your own information as the district we have about 11,000 plus persons who tested HIV positive and the rule is to enrol them on ART, but unfortunately out of this 11,000 people only 6000 are on ART according to our records. Meaning that 5000 are within our communities living with an untreated virus, a situation which risks everyone of us because HIV

can kill all of us if we don't join hands," he explained.

He also expressed sadness that some communities were discouraging their children from getting HIV drugs, a situation which he said was killing the innocent souls.

Speaking earlier, Kasamba health officer Grenda Sianatowe told the gathering that communities shunned drugs once tested positive.

"Indeed AIDS is a condition which is affecting each and every one of us in one way or the other. Guest of Honor, it's quiet saddening that even with free ART provision which is readily available, we are still experiencing death related cases to AIDS in our communities. We have babies who are denied the treatment by their caretakers not forgetting poor adherence to treatment by some people while others even stop taking the lifelong drugs, a situation which challenge the goal of the ministry to have zero new infections by 2030," she said.

Meanwhile, the district commissioner

Paradius Sakala, expressed sadness that some communities believed that traditional healers would cure HIV/AIDS.

"It makes a sad reading that we still have people who can't accept the condition they are found in. It's sad that we are still taking our relatives to Witchdoctors who have in turn continued to destroy and bring confusions in our families and communities, when health services are really available," he narrated. He challenged people to know their statuses and to start ART when found to be living with the virus.

And Neighbourhood Health centre chairperson Frank Banda told government to realise that community volunteers do a great job which needed to be supported.

"Am asking government to remember and think of community volunteers who are doing a great job because the district can't have data without volunteers. The province can't have quality data without a volunteer so we appeal

to government to remember and support us and reduce the challenges we are facing such as transport and other needs for quality operation," said Banda.

Meanwhile, Chile chief Mbangombe who was represented by induna Million Vincent Sakala called on government to supply more drugs to rural health centres which were closer to the people.

He also called on government to see to it that agricultural programs were monitored effectively to avoid hunger next year.

"It's good to have such platforms and we appeal to you the government to provide enough drugs to these clinics because if drugs are not enough of whichever illness then success won't be achieved. And we appeal to your government to see to it that agricultural activities are well monitored because mostly army worms hit us a lot but your interventions will help us as communities," said Mbangombe's representative.



PATRIOTIC FRONT



Why we deserve your vote *Leaving no one behind*

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PF IN SEVEN YEARS: FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF 7NDP AND VISION 2030

Part 1

By Hon Davies Mwila

INTRODUCTION

This is the first in a series of articles highlighting the performance of the Patriotic Front (PF) Government based on the 7NDP and its core components.

7NDP is underpinned by five strategic pillars namely:

1. Economic Diversification and Job Creation
2. Poverty and Vulnerability Reduction
3. Enhancing Human Development
4. Environment For A Diversified And Inclusive Economy
5. Reducing Developmental Inequalities

This particular article discusses the PF fortification of the first pillar. Subsequent articles shall highlight the performance of the PF Government under the ensuing strategic areas in chronological order.

However, because column space is likely to be constrained by the overwhelming exploits of the PF Government in its execution of 7NDP, we may at times be compelled to stagger the achievements gained under a strategic pillar over multiple articles.

As we begin, it is important to go through a brief review of where the PF is coming from in order to appreciate our passion for the development of our nation.

The PF came into office in 2011 under the capable leadership of its founding father and 5th Republican President, the late Mr. Michael Chilufya Sata (MHSRIP). In the aftermath of the unfortunate and untimely passing President Michael Chilufya Sata; the "baton of responsibility" to lead the PF as well as the reins to continue steering the nation towards actualizing Vision 2030 were given to His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, by the Zambians.

During both epochs – under the late President Mr. Michael Sata (MHSRIP) and currently under His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu – the national development agenda of the Patriotic Front (PF) has always been guided by three (03) strategic documents, namely:

1. The Patriotic Front Manifesto(s);
2. The National Development Plans (NDPs)
3. The Vision 2030.

For the PF, the aforementioned three documents are not mutually exclusive, that is; the effective implementation of one does not preclude the effective implementation of the other(s). For this reason, the PF continues to measure its "promises and intentions" (the Manifesto), against the "building block or stairway" (the 7NDP) to attaining the Vision 2030 goals.

THE PF MANIFESTO

The Patriotic Front (PF) Party Manifesto is centered on the people, the ordinary Zambians; and it stresses ways in which the PF intends to uplift the wellbeing of all Zambians.

For the PF, improving the lives of Zambians means, among other things, a Zambia that is: free from hunger and poverty; has a low disease burden and low mortality rate; a nation that is peaceful, tolerant, resilient and cohesive; without slums (shantytowns); a thriving democracy, and a culturally diverse, friendly people who are well-integrated into the African and international

community.

This is the Zambia we all want. This is the Vision 2030 where Zambia becomes a "prosperous middle-income country by 2030" and it is the Zambia the PF intends to bequeath to Zambians by the year 2030. The effective implementation of the PF Manifesto is a indeed a robust stairway to Zambia becoming a "prosperous middle-income country by 2030".

VISION 2030

The Vision 2030 is a long-term plan that expresses the aspirations of the Zambian people to live in a strong and dynamic, middle income industrial nation that provides opportunities for improving the wellbeing of all. It embodies values of socio-economic justice underpinned by the principles of: Gender-responsive, sustainable development; Democracy; Respect for human rights; Good traditional and family values; Positive attitude towards work; Peaceful co-existence; and Public-private partnerships (PPPs). A Zambia with stable social and cultural systems that support human capital formation. (The 7th National Development Plan, page 48).

THE SEVENTH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (7NDP)

The Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) for the period 2017-2021 is a sequel to the Revised Sixth National Development Plan, 2013-2016 (R-SNDP) following the latter's expiry in December 2016.

7NDP, like the three national development plans (NDPs) that preceded it, is aimed at attaining the long-term objectives of Vision 2030.

It builds on the achievements and lessons learnt during the implementation of the previous NDPs. As a result, 7NDP departs from sectoral-based planning to an integrated (multi-sectoral) development approach under the theme "Accelerating development efforts towards the Vision 2030 without leaving anyone behind".

The 7NDP is thus a building block formulated to meet the goals contained in the Vision 2030.

HOW ARE WE DOING SO FAR? (THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PF GOVERNMENT IN 7 YEARS 2011 – 2018)

As the Patriotic Front (PF) Government continues to work towards actualizing the Vision 2030 goals; it is imperative that its performance over seven (07) years [2011-2018] should be assessed against the "stairway or building block" to the Vision 2030 goal. It cannot be overemphasized that the stairway or chief corner stone to Vision 2030 is the 7NDP.

As highlighted in the introduction, the 7NDP for the period 2017- 2021 and its attendant development outcomes are underpinned by five (05) strategic pillars: Economic Diversification and Job Creation; Poverty And Vulnerability Reduction; Enhancing Human Development; Environment for A Diversified And Inclusive Economy; Reducing Developmental Inequalities.

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND JOB CREATION

The first development outcome based on this strategic pillar is:

A Diversified and Export-Oriented Agriculture Sector leveraged on Improving Production and Productivity from

Farm to Agro-Processing and Manufacturing

The PF Government is delivering "a diversified and export-oriented agriculture sector" as espoused in the 7NDP.

As a result, the Production and Productivity of multiple crops has significantly improved through intensified agricultural mechanization as well as increased land area under cultivation. The number of farmers participating in production has also increased significantly. (Central Statistics Office, Zambia in Figures 2018, page 16).

Further to that, various programmes aimed at significantly improving production and productivity from farm to agro-processing and manufacturing at sector and enterprise level are being implemented. These include the following:

The Farm Power and Mechanisation Enhancement Programme

Under this programme, the PF Government is currently establishing a US\$ 100 million tractor assembly plant in the Lusaka South Multi Facility Zone with the aim of helping farmers to access cheaper equipment in order to improve mechanization for all farmers countrywide.

The Irrigation Development Programme

The PF Government is currently implementing the irrigation development programme through the Irrigation Development and Support Project (IDSP).

The objective is to inter-alia increase yields per hectare as well as the value of diverse products marketed by smallholders benefitting from investments in irrigation in selected sites served by the project.

There are four components to this project including: (a) irrigated agricultural support services; (b) public infrastructure; (c) private and cooperate investment, and (d) management and coordination [cited from: www. agriculture.gov.zm].

The PF Government is also delivering several large-scale irrigation development and support services countrywide. Prime examples include the following:

The Mwomboshi Dam Project in Chisamba; A US Dollar 28.3 million Project funded by the World Bank. The Project will have the capacity to hold up to 65 million cubic litres of water, making it Zambia's largest irrigation dam.

The Kafulafuta Dam Project on the Copperbelt; A US Dollar 450 million project. The dam project is being funded through a loan secured from Exim Bank of China; one of the outcomes will be the provision of clean and safe water in Masaiti, Mpongwe, and Ndola and Luanshya districts.

CONCLUSION

In the next article, we shall continue highlighting the achievements of the PF Government through the lenses of the 7NDP. We will in this regard discuss some of the numerous success stories such as the Aquaculture Development Programme and others including Research and Development Promotion Programme (crops, livestock and fisheries). We will also discuss how the PF Government is aggressively Enhancing Agriculture Value Chains under the first pillar of 7NDP "Economic Diversification and Job Creation"

The Author is Patriotic Front Secretary General At the Patriotic Front Secretariat Lusaka

By Zondiwe Mbewe

National Restoration Party president Elias Chipimo says under when his party forms government, Zambia will be an energy superpower, adding that the goal would create a commercial basis for infrastructure development and reducing poverty.

In the party's weekly newsletter to News Diggers! Chipimo stated that the NAREP vision was to move Zambia from poverty and scarcity, to prosperity and shared opportunity.

"We see a prosperous country living at peace with itself and with its neighbours, that is able to project itself confidently in the world as a leader in its areas of strength. Under a NAREP administration, Zambia will be a country in which every citizen will have access to quality health care and education;

Under NAREP, Zambia will be an energy superpower – Chipimo

and whose freely elected government is committed to selflessly serving all of the people in order to facilitate the attainment of their full potential," he stated.

Chipimo further stated that the answers to the current economic difficulties lay, largely in the vast untapped human and natural resources that Zambia was blessed with.

"With respect to the development of the nation's human resource, it is expected that tourism and agriculture are the most likely mass employers and mass providers of the basics

for survival. NAREP has also identified a major opportunity in 'mass recycling' and 'green energy' industries. This will be spearheaded through a Zambia Sustainability Plan to be implemented over the next 20 years," Chipimo stated.

He stated that to create the qualified workforce to meet the demands of the new economy, NAREP would establish mass recruitment centres.

"To create the qualified workforce to meet the demands of the new economy, NAREP will establish mass recruitment

centres through public/private partnerships operating under the infrastructure owned by the Zambia National Service and through underutilised technical colleges around the country. These institutions will be substantially revamped with major re-investment to cater to this new drive to recruit the nation's otherwise idle youth," he stated.

Chipimo further stated that in order to promote home-based self sustenance, NAREP would ensure that Zambia adopted the 'Zambia Sustainability Plan for a

green economy'.

He stated that NAREP would ensure that imported technology was used as much as possible to assist in appropriate local technology development and would also revitalise the formal education sector, among others.

Chipimo stated that under NAREP's guidance, Zambia would be a country that would play its role as; an energy superpower, the continental breadbasket and a regional inland infrastructure and logistics hub.

"NAREP's vision foresees three outcomes which are built on three

pillars that draw their strength from eight core values. Hence "Vision 3:3:8". Under NAREP's guidance, Zambia will be a country that will play its role as: An energy superpower; This goal will create a commercial basis for infrastructure development and produce a more sustainable model for significantly reducing poverty in rural and urban areas. There will be extensive use of solar technology to power villages and towns. We will harness the nation's great potential to be a world player in the grand scale production of bio-fuels thereby reducing our dependence on imported petroleum and related products," he stated.

"The continental breadbasket; The natural and intended consequence of opening up the rural areas to new investments in clean energy production will be the development of the vast agricultural potential of the country. Policies to promote community farming on a commercial scale as well as to enhance ongoing commercial farming will also be introduced as part of the initiatives to develop Zambia's status as a major developer of bio-fuels."

Meanwhile, Chipimo stated that with correct political will and careful use of resources, Zambia could within 10 years, claim its place as the continent's 'foremost inland regional infrastructure and logistics hub'.

"A regional inland infrastructure and logistics hub; Zambia's unique geographical location has been preached about for many years. With the correct political will and careful use of resources, Zambia can, within 10 years, claim its place as the continent's foremost inland regional infrastructure and logistics hub. One example of how this would work is in the downstream processing of mineral concentrates out of the DR Congo. Zambia can lead the way as a centre for mining excellence in promoting innovative technologies for improved efficiency in the mining and mineral processing sectors," stated Chipimo.

Zambia has leadership deficiency - HK

By Tenson Mkhala in

Lukulu

Bahati PF member of parliament Harry Kalaba says Zambians are suffering because of a leadership deficiency.

Speaking when he visited Sitaka Holy Spirit Parish in Lukulu district, Saturday, Kalaba who is also Democratic Party 2021 aspiring presidential candidate, said Zambians lacked proper leadership.

"What people are lacking is not that they do not have good soil, it's not that they do not have enough rains. It's not that they do not have human capital. People have all these but the people are lacking leadership. We have leadership deficiency in this country and the biggest challenge again is, there is a disconnect between those that should be leading the people and those that are leading and because of this disconnect, poverty levels keeps on swelling and as they say swell, they say when two elephants are fighting, it is the grass that suffers. So our people are suffering and we need to do something," Kalaba said.

Kalaba wondered why government had failed to work on the Lukulu - Katuda road which he termed an economic road. "Lukulu - Katunda - Watopa, this is an economic road. This is the road which connects from Western Province to North Western Province. Imagine if the two provinces were



Bahaiti MP Harry Kalaba receiving the Eucharist during church service at St Sancta Maria Parish in Lukulu district in Western Province yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

connected, it would be easy for our people to trade from Western Province into North Western Province and vice versa and if this road is improved, even the traveling modalities will be easy for our people meaning trade also will be easy. The produce which is being grown from Lukulu coming to the town will be easier, but the way things are, this is really sad. It is extremely sad and I am happy that I have walked on this road that is why I am running for office of President because we need to correct these anomalies. We are all citizens of this country and there can't be an explanation on why the

Lukulu-Katunda road has not been done. This has to be corrected, honestly, and we cannot continue like this," he said.

And Kalaba said he was running for presidency in 2021 because he wanted to improve the welfare of citizens in rural areas.

"That is why I am running for president. It is because the rural populace has been neglected. People living in the rural Zambia are like they do not exist and for me, I want to insist on the rural areas because our wealth lies precisely in the rural areas. Because here in Lukulu, you have not only fertile soil but Lukulu has a lot of timba.

Lukulu here grows a lot of rice. Lukulu here has a lot of fish but how come the people here are still living below poverty lines? So for me, it's a question of leadership. You fix that, you fix everything," said Kalaba.

"Farmers are not receiving their fertilizer on time, they are not receiving their farming inputs on time. The FISP program has collapsed and what has happened now is that our people are surviving on the mercies of God. And there comes in the Church because it now continues to play a prophetic role to give hope where there is no hope and we want to

encourage them so that they may know that not all hope is lost."

And in welcoming Kalaba, Father Peter Sianga said the role of the Church was to welcome and give advice to everyone, including politicians.

"The church gives advice to everyone, including politicians hence the need to welcome everyone regardless of his or her status in the society. We are there to welcome everyone and give counsel to all who may need it," said Fr Sianga.

Kalaba is in Western Province to understand the challenges people face.

Let's start by saying that the new Minister of Gender has exceeded our expectations. Honourable Elizabeth Phiri is one such woman whom we felt got the position simply because President Edgar Lungu wanted to replace a deceased female minister from Eastern Province with another female from the same region. But it seems we were too quick to judge the book by its cover.

The Ministry of Gender seems to be awake now. It had been switched off for a long, long time, but we are glad that the new minister has started on a high. If we are wrong about Honourable Phiri's enthusiasm to work, then it means she has a really brilliant public relations team. Indeed, there are a number of government ministries which seem to be performing exceptionally well in the eyes of the public simply because their public relations wings know how to do their job. Whatever the case, our point is that we are happy that the Ministry of Gender has launched itself back into the national discourse circle at such an opportune time.

But there is a message coming from the minister's mouth that we do not agree with. Some organization calling itself "Men's Network" has proposed that sex offenders must be castrated. According to them, this gruesome measure will help deter

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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If you castrate male sex offenders, what penalty will you give to females?

would-be offenders. We are shocked that Honourable Phiri has welcomed this proposal.

This gender based violence debate is very broad and we wish the minister had been more sensitive in responding to this demand. Anyone can propose any silly idea that comes to their mind, but before a person in Honourable Phiri's position offers any solidarity to such calls, it is always advisable to exercise caution. It would have been very prudent for the minister to critically think of the implications of such a law and whom it may affect.

Castrating sex offenders sounds like a brilliant idea that would spell how serious government is in curbing the vice, but when you critically look at it,

you find that it has a one sided view. This proposal was definitely conceived by a mind that assumes that all sex offenders are men. Otherwise, can the minister explain what equivalent punishment her government would mete out on female sex offenders? We ask this because justice must not be selective.

And let's assume that Honourable Phiri is granted powers to castrate a male sex offender, and this culprit then repents or reforms, what does that man become after his set has been tampered with by the law?

Fellow countrymen, even as we observe the 16 Days of Gender Activism, we need to be very fair when dealing with matters which affect men, women and children. We must

not propose laws which would come back to haunt our very society, especially since we claim to be a Christian nation. We have seen that in this country, our female leaders have so much pressure to impress, and we can't blame them for trying to prove that they actually make better leaders; but our long held view has been that gender based violence and gender equality can not be won by women alone.

Those who defend Zambia's position on gender equality always start by recognising the fact that the country's key institutions are in the hands of women. The vice-president is female, The deputy Speaker of the National Assembly is female, the Chief Justice is female, the president of the Constitutional Court

is a female, the Director of Public Prosecutions is female, the Minister of Finance is female, the Chief Government Spokesperson is female, the acting Auditor General is a woman, the head of the Financial Intelligence Centre is a female; the list goes on...

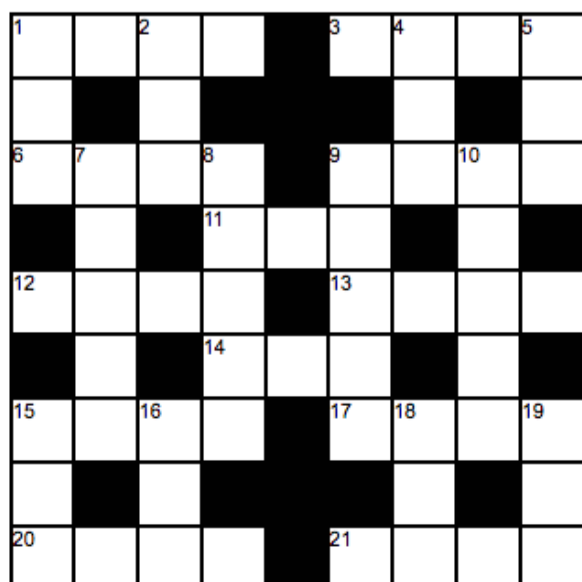
This is, no doubt, a perfect picture painted by a country that means business in appointing women into key decision-making positions. But the question we always want to ask those who are very proud about this record is; how much has changed in terms of protecting women and girls; in terms of giving equal employment opportunities to both men and women in the recruitment process of the civil service; in terms

of promoting women entrepreneurship? How much influence have these women, listed above, imposed on government to change this ugly picture of our struggling daughters, sisters and mothers out there?

In our view, and we say this with all due respect to the females who have been privileged to serve in senior government positions, the real influence that these appointees have is over their own status in society. Society respects them but it ends there. Having a female Vice-President has not changed the fate of the poor girls in Nalolo Constituency where madam Inonge Wina comes from, let alone in Chadiza District. Our argument is that appointing more women into decision-making positions is not enough; it doesn't immediately change the plight of women.

Realistically speaking, the social order of our society may not, anytime soon, defeat the ridiculous stereotype of women; and as such, the responsibility of protecting women's rights must never be left to the victimized gender. It must be a fight for all; men and women alike. Yes, appointing women like Honourable Phiri to Cabinet is good, but it will take the political will of the entire Cabinet to effectively deal with gender based violence.

Crossword puzzle 243



"A powerful vision has the therapeutic effect of numbing the cost of what it will cost you."
- Ikechukwu Onwukwe

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Military installation 3. Pallid 6. Picket line crosser 9. Make reference to 11. Employ 12. Bitter 13. Shipshape 14. Use it to catch butterflies 15. Hissy fit 17. Tool house 20. Doe or buck 21. Moved quickly | <p>Down</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City vehicle 2. Ocean 4. Boxer: Muhammad ____ 5. The night before an event 7. Jack broke it 8. Charred 9. Dollars and ____ 10. Make fun of 15. Unhappy 16. ____ got a feeling 18. Jump on one foot 19. Misfire |
|---|---|

Solutions to puzzle 242



Reader's feedback

Mushimba's justification of vehicle re-registration

Editor,

"Rubbish! What are you going to track if those plates are removed from the car? Car thieves are not as dull as you." - Anderson Kanyungu
 "How many cars get lost in Zambia for this to become a priority? SMH!" - Kaluwe Kelly

"This minister has also contributed to the misery motorists are currently facing in Zambia. You already have vehicles registered in the system, so why re-register and charge extra money to already over-burdened citizens? I think this now daylight robbery from this unthinking PF minister!" - Holyfield
 Bashi-Tasheni Mumba



Gender Minister's endorsement of proposal to castrate sex offenders

Dear Editor,
 "Let's start with those who steal our

resources!" - Mumba Mubanga

"Can't understand why no one wants to come out vicious on corruption!!" - Noah Shumba

"This is a non-starter. Running out of ideas on how to curb the vice. Involve the researchers; they will help you with measures, which can be put in place to bring an end to sex offences." - Micah Mutuba

"Don't just push for laws that will infringe on innocent people's rights for the sake of being seen by donors I am sure you can still find ways of punishing offenders and also putting in mind that there are those that are wrongly accused." - Kay Sandra

"I surely hope women who defile young boys will be put up for it as well!" - Khan Williams

"Sex offenders are not only male. Tell us also what you will do with female offenders and, where do you factor in Zambia being a Christian nation." - Petr Besa

"Sex offenders deserve stiff punishments. Yes, we do have a lot of miles to go in dealing with the issue in Zambia. However, I wonder if the proposed punishment is even humane. Surely no offense deserves such punishment. A human should not be deprived of his or her dignity as a punishment. If a person cannot change and if the crime is too big then a life sentence is better. Even a death sentence" - John

ND OPINION: Lungu, HH meeting has devastated warmongers

Editor,

"Excellent article! This is what the country needs; promoting peace and unity of purpose." - Mwenge Mulenga

"Excellent analysis!" - Kashweka
 Kash Kashweka

"News Diggers! you've hammered the nail on the head!" - Tobani Namiluko

"News Diggers! Your editorials are always on point! My comprehension of English improves every time; I read your opinions. Keep it up!" - Kahilu Sakambungo

"Well articulated, you deserve an award!" - Michael Mulelema

"A good piece and on point, you could also have mentioned that Mr. Vernon Mwaanga made this observation of PF and UPND having hotheads." - Tito Kalama

"The two leaders have nothing to

lose by reconciling. I am looking forward to the day when the nation shall watch on television live as the two leaders embrace each other as brothers." - Teddy Mafuleka

"Thugs never like sanity in society." - Maningi Dibili

"Could this be the reason why 'touch and go' has already resigned from his position...?" - Jones Samanenga

CTPD's view on re-launch of national airline not being prudent

Editor,

"Why can't we learn from South Africa? It's easier said than done." - Perry Iluki

"True. Look at how South African Airways is struggling! Relaunching the national airline was not a well-thought idea looking at our current debt situation and rampant rent-seeking. Poor institutions, bad governance and corruption will make it difficult for us to make any meaningful profit. Moreover, which routes are we going to operate with the Russian condemned planes?" - Kabaso Mulenga

"We need a national airline. But the national airline should not partner with Ethiopian Airlines because Ethiopian Airlines don't want to help, but rather expand their business." - Lutangu Wasilota

"Relaunch of the national airline not prudent, but someone goes ahead and buys a private jet. Lusaka City Market is still in rubbles; someone goes ahead and buys a private jet, which cannot even add value to the economy of our country. Zambians wake up!" - King Wisdom Sinkala

Church is involved in politics, not partisan politics, says Telesphore

By Mukosha Funga

The United Party for National Development on Saturday celebrated 20 years in existence, hosting a vibrant fundraiser at Hotel Intercontinental to reflect on its achievements.

Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu said whilst some people would tag him UPND for attending the event, he was allergic to partisan politics but realized that everything which affected the people's wellbeing was

political. "With my being here, I was told that tomorrow, they are going to brand you UPND. I am here because I am very alive to the teaching of the Catholic Church. And the social teaching

of the Catholic Church is very firmly rounded in the scriptures. In the meeting that Catholic Bishops from all over the world had in Rome in 1962 to 1965, there is one area where the bishops declared, that was in

1965, we call it Gaudium et Spes statement meaning the joy and hope of the people of this world. The church says it's the joy and hope... of those who are followers of Jesus Christ. So I come here not because I am a member of UPND, I am very much allergic to partisan politics but I am a politician myself," said Archbishop Mpundu.

"Quality education, not education up to basic, basic, what is basic education? That is a political issue. When you say more food on people's tables, that is a political issue. We want meaningful development, it is political, everything is political and the church is interested in whatever affects the people not as partisan politicians but as political politicians." And UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema, who was in high spirits, noted that the party had survived numerous storms, including possible extinction.

"Since its establishment 20 years ago, UPND has withstood various storms among them possible extinction," he said.

"However, due to the nation's faith in us, the party continues to thrive and this we owe to you, our people and the nation at large," Hichilema said. "We have gone from a party getting 29 votes in Kaputa of Northern

Province to now getting over 30,000 votes and having four councillors in the same constituency is not a mean achievement. From getting about 20 per cent of total presidential votes to now 48 per cent at the same level even amidst fraud and electoral malfeasance. This goes to show that our party, your party, UPND, is going forward and this is due to your hard work."

Hichilema said the UPND would keep forging ahead.

"Over the years, this party has continued to grow from strength to strength and together with the nation fighting divisive elements. This is why we insist there is more that unites than what divides us as people of this great nation," Hichilema said.

"Like we said when we were elected for the first time to the presidency of this party, we do not seek public office to plunder government resources but to offer service to the nation and this is why we say Zambia and Zambians first. This was the desire of our party's founding father, late Anderson Kambela Mazoka, whom we always thank for creating this platform for the people of Zambia as a unitary base for national development. Thank you Andy, how happy you must be to see this party grow from strength to strength and unite the people while placing development for all as a priority," said Hichilema.

"This is the only place we all call home, we have no other place to call home as Zambians. Therefore, let's work together, unite under the umbrella of the UPND and move our country forward. And thank you for your continued support for this party which does not belong to us but belongs to the nation as a unifying platform for national development. To our late party founding president Anderson Kambela Mazoka and other leaders now passed away, we say may you continue to rest in peace and ours is to take over the baton and continue where you left. People power! Our power! Our land!"

The event was also graced by leaders of other opposition political parties: Mike Mulongoti of People's Party, Elias Chipimo of NAREP, Sean Tembo of Patriots for Economic Progress and Fresher Siwale of New Labour Party.



US Ambassador to Zambia Daniel Foote speaks during World AIDS Day commemorations at Villa Grounds in Livingstone on Saturday

Lungu is not a liar, he's delivering his campaign promises - Banda

By Zindikilani Banda

Kapoche Constituency member of parliament Charles Banda says there should be no one accusing president Edgar Lungu of being a liar because under his leadership, promises are being fulfilled.

Speaking to residents of Kasomekera and neighbouring villages on Saturday after visiting the K80, 000 bridge construction, Banda said the president doesn't want parliamentarian to sit idle but to be in contact with the people to see the problems they are facing so that government can come in to help, as per promise.

"We promised during campaigns that you tell us what you need and you where mentioning bridges, water points and many more and today you are witnessing the progress of your long desired bridge being constructed. On water, so far we have drilled about 13 boreholes in about 5 wards and we are still coming

and this bridge and water points resources are from our pockets not from government or council," Banda who is also Minister of Tourism said. He expressed happiness that the community was very supportive in ensuring that they played their role in realising the construction of the bridge.

"I wish to thank you because on our own we can't do anything, but your commitment to this development excites me a lot. Look, let no one say that Lungu is a liar, president Lungu is on development no wonder we are being sent by him to come and see what people are suffering of so that we can take rightful steps to address those problems. That is the reason why we are frequently seen to understand your problems. So let's unite and cooperate for the benefit of ourselves," said Banda.

And headman Kasomekera Chailani Banda hailed the parliamentarian and his government for providing a

crossing point as it had affected them negatively during the rainy season.

"We are so happy for this. This problem was preventing our children from accessing education but we are now hopeful that the 130 plus children will be able to cross and learn at Chokato school. To be frank Bwana MP mwapulumusya Miyoyo yambiri ndi bridge Iyi mwatipangila. Telo tingoti ambuye akudaliseni (you have saved a lot of lives with this bridge, may God bless you)" said Chailani.

And District secretary Best Mwanza told the gathering at the bridge sight that the construction cost about K80, 000 from Banda's pocket.

The parliamentarian visited several projects in the area such as the Chikwalamba Bridge which is under reconstruction, Kapungwe Bridge and visited Kapungwe Secondary school construction sight.

And in interview after the day tour, the Minister said he wanted to

work on projects that would stay in operation for long time.

"We promised to work for the people and these personal sacrifices are some of the indicators that we are committed to foster development, we come in to supplement government efforts because communities don't understand government process of acquiring monies, so while waiting for government we better start acting because that is what we were voted for, to be creative. I desire to have 30 boreholes from my pocket plus those from the council and government," said Banda.

Meanwhile Chieftainess Nyanje's husband Pakeni Tembo thanked Banda for paying a courtesy call on the palace despite the traditional leader not being available.

"Am very happy that we have meet. We hear that you are doing this and that in your area and that is quiet good, keep up the work as that is your duty," he said.

By Mukosha Funga

PF media director Sunday Chanda says unlike Hakainde Hichilema, UPND founder president Anderson Mazoka would give credit where it was due whilst criticizing government.

And Chanda says after 20 years of being in existence, the UPND must reflect on the roles of an opposition party for it to be relevant.

Meanwhile, Chanda has advised the UPND to draft a proper manifesto saying their 10 point plan has been rendered obsolete by the PF's vigor.

Congratulating the UPND for clocking 20 years in existence, Saturday, Chanda observed that some of the positive things Mazoka used to do had been abandoned by the current UPND leadership.

"The current dispensation of rubbishing everything and anything the government does just for the sake of it is a far cry from the constructive criticism of the founding father of UPND. A mature Opposition political party understands that more often than not, it must rise to the challenge to play the role of a proposition party – there is a clarion call to politics of alternatives!

In the days of the late Anderson Mazoka, UPND would publish an alternative national budget and alternative policies to challenge the budget of the then government of the day. While being critical of government at times, the

Hakainde has failed to fill Mazoka's shoes - Sunday

UPND under Mazoka gave credit where it was due," Chanda recalled.

"However, since 2006 under the current regime that succeeded Mazoka, UPND has typically been hypercritical and rather pedantic of anything and everything under every administration- from President Mwanawasa to President Rupiah Banda, President Michael Chilufya Sata and the incumbent His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu. How is it that during the tenure of its current administration, the UPND has never said anything good or given credit where it is due regarding any of the fore-mentioned leaders' achievements? Can they really say that all the above-mentioned Heads of State never did or have never done anything right? How bizarre is it that they only give credit posthumously as in the case of President Mwanawasa and the late President Michael Chilufya Sata (albeit begrudgingly)? Does being in opposition also mean rejecting to work with Government

Departments to bring development to the people and expelling Party officials that are seen or rumoured to have been seen talking to government officials?"

Chanda advised UPND to reflect on its role as an opposition party.

"Perhaps as the UPND celebrates 20 years of its existence in Opposition, it needs to revisit its purpose and what it means to be an opposition party. As they do that, their leadership should also use this milestone in the Opposition to reflect on their intra-party democracy and internal dialogue," he stated.

Meanwhile, Chanda advised the UPND to draft a proper manifesto saying their 10 point plan had been rendered obsolete by the PF's vigor

"After 20 years, UPND is Still Without a Manifesto; how then can they move "Zambia Forward" Political Parties are essentially organisations that seek political power so that their philosophy and policy become public policy. It is therefore unbelievably strange that after 20 years the UPND still have no



UPND president Hakainde Hichilema with wife Mutinta Hichilema

manifesto- they instead have a one-pager wishlist with bullet points they call a "Ten Point Plan". It is a "plan" that raises more questions than answers. The crucial Who, What, Why, When and How is conspicuously missing. Nevertheless, since the said 10 point "plan" has been swallowed up by what PF is delivering, what alternative promises and policies can they offer?" he asked. "What new message does the UPND bring to the political equation besides singing

the empty "corruption" song? We therefore urge our brothers and sisters in UPND to find a new song because everything they sing about has either been delivered by PF or it is work in progress. They cannot reinvent the wheel! By the same token, we also exhort the brethren to develop a coherent detailed manifesto rather than a one-pager with bullet points. Statecraft is no simple matter!"

Chanda wondered whether the UPND considered itself

a democratic party.

"Can they really call themselves "democratic"? Apart from the obvious fact that their current leader is de facto Life President having unsuccessfully contested 5 elections without even so much as a sniff of internal opposition – have they ever held an elective convention? The basic question is -Do their structures even hold elections like the ruling party does? If so, how often? How responsive and representative is their top to bottom approach that has rendered them out of touch with the grassroots? These questions may be a bitter pill to swallow, but they are an elixir that will help them see how over the years they have evolved into an Aristocracy (a privileged class/person holding hereditary title) rather than a democracy," stated Chanda.

"Democracy and dialogue go together. Where there is no internal democracy, there is no internal dialogue. UPND should first get its house in order by taking a leaf from the ruling party in order to build internal democracy by conducting internal elections as well as dealing with intra-party dialogue before they can credibly talk about inter-party dialogue. Finally Brethren! May the 20 year be a watershed for the UPND in which they will consciously choose to engage in the edifying and nation building political arena of ideas and policy, rather than the retrogressive arena of calumny and misinformation. Hearty felicitations once again to Mr Hakainde Hichilema- the President of the UPND as well as the leadership and members as they celebrate this milestone."

PF should focus on the people, not opposition – PAC

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Abuse of state institutions to intimidate political opponents clearly shows the weaknesses of those in power; the more they create victims, the deeper they dig their ditch says PAC president Andyford Banda.

And Banda has appealed to the PF government to focus on Zambians and not the opposition, saying their insecurity on what will befall them once they leave government, is another reason they don't want to give their opponents a chance.

Meanwhile, Banda says when PAC forms government, they will tolerate those with different opinions, be; the opposition, activists, media and others.

In their weekly newsletter to News Diggers! Banda observed that Zambia's political system seemed to accept that opposition politicians could be arrested on fake charges and then released.

"Our political system seems to accept that it's okay for the ruling government to instruct police to stop opposition political parties from freely meeting with citizens to discuss what plans they have for the country, without due regard that they are stamping on the rights of the political parties and citizens," he stated.

Banda observed that during colonial times, freedom fighters

were intimidated and sent to jail for fighting for people's rights.

He added that the only reason why white minority rulers sent freedom fighters to jail on trumped-up charges, was for them to advance their hold on power.

"The only reason why white minority rulers sent freedom fighters to jail on trumped-up charges was for them to advance their hold on power, in order to continue abusing resources that belonged to the indigenous people. For example, during apartheid, the white minority rulers even created laws that legalised the abuse of the black majority," Banda stated.

He stated that Zambia had recently witnessed the happenings of the colonial times, citing an example of when UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema and Chishimba Kambwili were summoned by the police.

"In our country we have noticed all these happenings when recently, UPND leader Hakainde Hichilima was summoned in Ndola last week and this week, NDC Consultant Chishimba Kambwili was also summoned in Luanshya. As you may have guessed it, next week we have no idea who might be summoned and we don't know where. The point is these levels of intolerance must not be accepted in our democratic dispensation," he stated.

And Banda observed that most

governments that focused on intimidating their opponents, failed to deliver their promises.

"It's also a fact that opposition political parties do not have the freedom to have meetings without being disrupted by the police. Most governments that focus more on intimidating opponents actually fail to deliver promises made to the people and in fact abuse various institutions, from police to Judiciary, to state resources. They put their energies on fixing enemies as a strategy to hold on to power and a warning to other political opponents that this is the fate that awaits them should they continue speaking against those in authority," he observed.

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

Banda stated that Zambia should not accept such politics, adding that PF's insecurity on what would befall them

when they leave government, was why they didn't want to give their opponents a chance.

"As a country, we must not accept this kind of politics. We must know that any government that perpetrates this governance style must be given a straight red card. Insecurity on what may befall them should they leave government, is another reason why they don't want to give their opponents a chance. Because they know a number of illegalities that they have committed and what may befall them should there be change of government," he stated.

Meanwhile, Banda stated when PAC forms government, it would ensure an independent police service.

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

Banda appealed to the PF to focus on the people and not the opposition.

African Union warns Burundi after ex-President Buyoya arrest warrant

The African Union (AU) has warned Burundi against moves to jeopardise peace efforts after an international arrest warrant was issued for ex-leader Pierre Buyoya and 16 other officials.

They are accused of being behind the 1993 assassination of the country's first elected Hutu president.

The killing of Melchior Ndadaye triggered a brutal ethnic civil war.

There are fears that targeting Mr Buyoya, an ethnic Tutsi based in Mali, could reignite tensions.

More than 300,000 people died in a 12-year civil war between the minority Tutsi-dominated army and mainly Hutu rebel groups.

Mr Buyoya - who has seized power twice in the last three decades with the backing of the army - is respected diplomatic figure on the continent.

In the past he has reacted angrily to a suggestion that he may have been connected to Mr Ndadaye's assassination, which took place four months after the country's first democratic election. He has never issued a formal denial as he had not faced legal charges.

The 69-year-old was involved in the peace process that ended the civil war and saw the election in 2005 of former Hutu rebel leader Pierre

Nkurunziza as president. The current peace negotiations surround the political unrest sparked by Mr Nkurunziza's decision to run for a third term in office in 2015.

He was ultimately successful, but amid violent opposition protests and a failed coup attempt, hundreds of people died and many

of the 400,000 who fled their homes remain in neighbouring countries.

Ahead of a regional summit about the crisis on 27 December 2018, the African Union says that all sides should "refrain from any measures, including political and/or judicial, which may complicate the search for a consensual solution". **BBC**



Israeli police want Netanyahu, wife to be charged with bribery



Benjamin Netanyahu (right) and his wife Sara are suspected of awarding regulatory favours to a telecom firm

Israeli police have recommended indicting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara for alleged fraud and bribery. They are suspected of awarding regulatory favours to the Bezeq telecom firm in return for positive media coverage of the couple.

Mr Netanyahu rejected the allegations in what is known as Case 4000.

The Israeli attorney-general will now have to decide whether to bring charges in the case.

What are the latest allegations? On Sunday, the Israeli police and the Israel Securities Authorities said there was sufficient evidence for bribery, fraud and breach-of-trust charges to be brought against Mr Netanyahu and his wife.

They are suspected of interfering in regulatory decisions that favoured Bezeq and its majority shareholder Shaul Elovitch.

In return, the couple are alleged to have been given more positive coverage on Walla! news website, owned by Bezeq.

The police also said there was sufficient evidence to indict Mr Elovitch for giving bribes. Responding to the latest allegations, Mr Netanyahu tweeted: "These recommendations were determined and leaked even before the investigations began."

"I'm sure that in this case the relevant authorities, after examining the issue, will reach the same conclusion: that there was nothing because there is nothing." Mr Elovitch has so far made no public comments on the issue. **BBC**

Vibrations offer new way to track elephants

Researchers have come up with a new way of tracking elephants, via the vibrations that the animals make.

Scientists Dr Beth Mortimer and Prof Tarje Nissen-Meyer discovered that elephants generate vibrations through their normal movements and through vocalisations, known as "rumbles".

These can be measured by techniques usually used for studying earthquakes.

The Oxford academics spoke about their research at the TEDWomen conference currently under way in California.

They explained how they measured the seismic waves that could travel nearly four miles through the ground.

They recorded the vibrations generated by wild elephants in Kenya while walking and calling, using instruments known as geophones.

Seismological modelling software that incorporates the local geological information was combined with computer algorithms to produce accurate estimates of the seismic waves produced by elephants.

They filmed the animals during recordings and later synchronised the two to allow them to visually

confirm that the vibrations originated from elephants.

They found that other noise and soil type affected their ability to distinguish the patterns over long distances. Vibrations travel farther through sand than through hard rock and also when little other noise is present to interfere.

Finding out what elephants are doing, even when they are some distance away, could help fight poaching in real time as well as offering insights into their behaviour, they said.

Their findings were published in a paper for journal *Current Biology* earlier this year.

Save The Elephants' chief executive, Frank Pope said of the research: "Legends and folklore have long spoken about the way elephants cannot only communicate across long distances, but also detect other events that shake the ground like far-off thunder."

"This study marks a new phase in trying to understand the nature of the vibrations elephants produce and how they might be used by elephants themselves."

"Along the way it is opening our eyes to the challenges posed by human-generated noise in an increasingly crowded landscape."

BBC



50 Cent says he 'wouldn't have a bad day' if his son Marquise Jackson Got hit by a bus

50 Cent just made his estranged relationship with his son even more acrimonious.

On Thursday, the rapper, 43, posted a disturbing comment on an Instagram photo of his son Marquise Jackson hanging out with the son of his longtime rival, Kenneth "Supreme" McGriff.

"if both these little n— got hit by a bus, I wouldn't have a bad day," the "In Da Club" artist wrote.

The photo was first posted on Instagram by Kyle McGriff but was later reshared by a fan account, where 50 Cent (real name: Curtis Jackson) made the controversial comment about Marquise, 21, and his rival's son.

After many users criticized the Power star for saying such a horrifying thing about his son — whom he shares with ex-girlfriend Shaniqua Tompkins — 50 Cent responded to the backlash on his Twitter account and defended himself as a father.

"I have zero ill will towards anyone living on this Earth," he tweeted on Friday. "The people Shanquois [sic] son looks up to and associates with is a reflection of the negative energy he embraces towards me."

"I paid his mother \$1,360,000 in support to afford him opportunities I never had," he added. **Yahoo**

Egyptian actress Rania Youssef charged over revealing dress

An Egyptian actress who wore a revealing dress to the Cairo Film Festival is to go on trial on charges of "inciting debauchery",

reports say. Rania Youssef appeared in a lacy, black, see-through outfit that exposed most of her legs,

outraging many Egyptians, though some said she should be able to wear what she wanted. She could be jailed

for up to five years if found guilty, a judicial source told AFP.

Ms Youssef has apologised.

The 44-year-old said she would not have worn the dress if she had known it would cause such controversy.

The charges were brought by two lawyers Amro Abdelsalam and Samir Sabri, who are known for taking celebrities to court.

Ms Youssef's appearance "did not meet societal values, traditions and morals and therefore undermined the reputation of the festival and the reputation of Egyptian women in particular", Mr Sabri told AFP.

The Egyptian Actors' Syndicate also criticised the "appearance of some of the guests", which it said "undermined the festival and the union".

In a social media post, the actress said she had "probably miscalculated" in choosing to wear the dress.

"It was the first time that I wore it and I did not realise it would spark so much anger," she said.

"I reaffirm my commitment to the values upon which we were raised in Egyptian society," she added.

Last year an Egyptian court jailed singer Shaimaa Ahmed for two years - later reduced to a year - for appearing in a music video in her underwear while suggestively eating a banana.

Meanwhile in January prosecutors detained another singer, Laila Amer, after her music video, showing her dancing and making suggestive gestures, sparked controversy. **BBC**



Moms fakes daughter's death & holds funeral before her shocked, very much alive offspring finds out

A number of people gathered in Missouri to mourn the death of a woman named Brittany Johnson-Webster, only to find out she is still alive.

The funeral, allegedly planned by Brittany's mother, was held at the Ferguson Heights Church of Christ on Nov. 10, according to WTSP. Like most funerals, Brittany's consisted of a sermon, speeches and a repast.

Making the situation all the more awkward, Brittany told the news station that she found out about her "death" when she saw her photo on an obituary.

"They had pictures of me blown up into posters that said 'Rest in peace Brittany,' and my aunt eventually had obtained one of the obituaries and sent pictures," Brittany said. According to the obituary, "Brittany finished

her story on October 27, 2018. She was called to meet all the loving animal babies on the other side of the rainbow."

"I was kind of stunned. It was a whole rush of emotions," Brittany told WTSP.

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While Brittany was shocked to find out about what her mother had done, she was more upset with the fact that she manipulated so many people in the process. "My brother actually died and here my mom is faking my death. You know I was upset, I was angry, but more than anything, I was sad," Brittany told WTSP.

Brittany, who according to WTSP was raised

by her grandparents, also feels her mother's stunt has also brought her bad luck.

"She claimed I died in a car accident and the next day someone had pulled out in front of me and I slammed on my brake and spun out three times, and all I could think was 'I'm going to die, my mom's speaking my death into existence,'" Brittany told the outlet.

As for why Brittany's mom faked her death, she believes it was all for money.

"I apologize for her actions. It's messed up, but she ended up scamming you guys out of some money, you know just trying to make you feel bad."

At this time, Brittany's mother's identity and whereabouts are unknown.

Brittany told WTSP that she confronted her mother, but has not got a response. **Yahoo**

Pierre-Emerick

Aubameyang scored twice to help Arsenal to a thrilling 4-2 derby win over Tottenham at Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

The striker became the first Premier League player to reach 10 goals for the season before late strikes from Alexandre Lacazette and Lucas Torreira secured all three points for Unai Emery's rampant side.

Mauricio Pochettino's men, who saw Jan Vertonghen sent off late on, led 2-1 at half-time thanks to Eric Dier and

Arsenal overpower Spurs in north London derby

Harry Kane, but the result sees them drop out of the top four at the expense of their north London rivals. The Gunners' dominant start was rewarded 10 minutes in, when Aubameyang swept home from the spot after Vertonghen intercepted a

cross towards the six-yard box with a raised hand. Spurs found themselves level with half an hour played, though, when Bernd Leno failed to keep out Dier's near-post header from a Christian Eriksen free-kick, after which a melee ensued among the

Arsenal substitutes and Spurs' celebrating players. Dier looked to be marginally offside and referee Mike Dean was in the spotlight again four minutes later, when he penalised Rob Holding for sliding in on Son despite minimal contact, allowing

Kane to make it 2-1 from 12 yards. Lacazette and Aaron Ramsey came on at half-time and the latter helped the Gunners draw level, steering Hector Bellerin's pass to Aubameyang, who bent a sublime first-time finish past the static Lloris.

Chances came and went before Arsenal got the crucial fifth goal 17 minutes from time, when Ramsey robbed Juan Foyth and Lacazette's strike spun in off Dier's shin.

Torreira's first for the club followed three minutes later when he slotted past Lloris and celebrated with gusto.

Vertonghen was dismissed in the closing stages to compound a miserable day for the visitors.

What does it mean? Gunners clamber into top four

Emery's side are now ahead of Spurs on goal difference and the cushion to chasing sides Everton and Manchester United is eight points ahead of the Merseyside derby.

It is also only Arsenal's second win in nine league meetings with Spurs and comes after their fierce rivals so impressively dispatched Chelsea last weekend. If the balance of power had been shifting in north London recent seasons, this game showed there is little to split the teams.

Aubameyang setting new standards for clinical finishing

Aubameyang might not have been involved to a great extent in Arsenal's build-up play, but when you have a finisher as ruthless as he is, it matters little. The Gabon striker made it 10 goals from 10 shots on target in a row in the Premier League with his second in the derby. He then assisted Torreira's clincher.

Vertonghen loses his cool
Vertonghen's handball was a bizarre moment from the experienced defender, and a poor outing was compounded when a studs-up challenge on Lacazette in the 85th minute earned him a second yellow card.

What's next?
Arsenal head to Old Trafford to take on Manchester United on Wednesday, while Spurs are back at Wembley, where they face struggling Southampton. **Goal.com**



Wilder still hopes for Joshua fight as Fury eyes rematch

Deontay Wilder still hopes to face Anthony Joshua in a heavyweight unification bout but is happy to hand rival Tyson Fury a rematch following their epic draw.

Wilder retained his WBC heavyweight title belt on Saturday after a thrilling 12-round battle ended in a split decision draw at the Staples Center.

The result means Wilder is still in a position to achieve his dream of unifying the heavyweight division against Fury's fellow Briton, Joshua, who holds the WBA, IBF and WBO versions of the title.

But Saturday's thriller in Los Angeles, and the inconclusive

result, means that Wilder may have to wait before climbing into a ring with Joshua. The clamour for a rematch with Fury may well prove to be irresistible.

Asked which fight Wilder would prefer -- Joshua or Fury -- the 33-year-old replied: "I would love to go for the other titles."

"I've always spoken that there should be one champion, one face, one name. I always wanted to unify the division," Wilder said.

"I'll be satisfied with (either Fury or Joshua), to be honest. Me and Fury put on a hell of a performance. I'd love to go back to a rematch or I'd love to fight Joshua. I'm in a win-

win situation."

Wilder's handlers however are adamant that they believe a return with Fury, who came back from a devastating 12th round knockdown to hold on for a draw, is the more attractive fight.

"I believe the fight with Tyson Fury is the stronger fight," said co-manager Shelly Finkel. "Probably more logical to have that. He dropped the guy twice.

"Deontay will fight anyone. Deontay knows he would be better in the next fight. I don't think Fury can be better."

Wilder's promoter Lou DiBella agreed that the Fury rematch should

take priority, making the case that Wilder and Fury are the two best heavyweights in the division.

"This fight has energised the division," DiBella said. "We've got an American heavyweight champion that Americans can be proud of. And there's two guys in Great Britain that are great champions.

"I'm not denigrating anybody but I think the two guys tonight would beat the third guy (Joshua)."

- 'We want the fight' -

Fury's veteran promoter Frank Warren is also keen for a rematch, calling for an open-air duel in Britain sometime in 2019. **AFP**

By Alex Chilumbwe
Former World Boxing Council (WBC) Bantamweight champion Catherine Phiri has advised upcoming female boxers against venturing into the sport with a primary goal of making money saying one should be passion-driven. Phiri noted that there was need to communicate the basis of the sport to youngsters as a way of ensuring that they adhere to rules and maintain the discipline that it demands. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Phiri also noted that young boxers need to be put through mentorship programmes that would help them to assess if they have passion for the sport or simply want to use it as money

Catherine advises up-coming boxers follow passion not money

making venture. "I have been asked by a number of boxing coaches and academies to go and speak to their upcoming boxers and the reason is the same. They are concerned that most of them want to get into the sport for money. They do not even speak of their passion towards the sport but just making money. That is dangerous because they can be taken advantage of," Phiri noted. Phiri who is also set to fight Fatuma Zarika in

a WBC Superweight rematch on a date to be announced, further advised parents to have keen interest in their children's sports ventures especially if it is male-dominated. She stressed that parents should give guidance to their girl children in order to help them make informed decisions. "Parents should get interested in what their girl children do in sports. It is very important to monitor them and give them tips on how to



handle themselves in male dominated sports activities because girls are vulnerable and need protection," said Phiri.

Chipolopolo must work hard to improve on their FIFA ranking, says former defender

By Alex Chilumbwe

Former Zambia National team defender Hichani Himoonde says the national team players have a task to improve Zambia's FIFA ranking saying their loss to Mozambique in both home and away fixtures in the AfCON qualifiers contributed to the downward mobility in ranking. Himoonde also said that to successfully improve Zambia's ranking, players must not hold on to past failures and successes but work extra hard to make the new records for the country, as well as better

ranking.

In an interview with Goal Diggers! the former Power Dynamos defender noted that football comparisons only created rivalry as opposed to finding solutions in instances that the national team was not doing well. "It is the national team's duty to improve the country's football ranking. They are the ones playing and I am positive that they understand this. This does not mean that they should be miserable although the ranking dropped because of their home and away losses to Mozambique in AfCON qualifiers. Comparing current and former rankings cannot solve anything, in fact it can only create rivalry among players," Himoonde cautioned.

The Zambia national team dropped five places on the FIFA/Coca-Cola world rankings to rank 82nd in the world thereby recording its worst ranking for the year 2018. Statistics released by FIFA on Wednesday indicated that Zambia is 17th Africa and 82nd in the world. Meanwhile, Mozambique who beat Zambia in both AfCON qualifier encounters benefitted from their win and notably ascended on FIFA ranking and moved five places up the table.



Atletico Madrid's Spanish midfielder Koke challenges Girona's Spanish midfielder Pere Pons (R) during the Spanish league football match between Girona and Club Atletico de Madrid at the Montilivi stadium in Girona Yesterday. AFP

Zambia beats Malawi 2-0 in opening Mopani under20 COSAFA match

By Alex Chilumbwe

Prince Mumba opened his goal account with a brace to help the Zambia Under20 national team record a win in its opening match against Malawi in the ongoing Under20 Mopani Copper Mines COSAFA Cup tournament at Nkana stadium in Kitwe. Zambia was initially pinned against Democratic Republic of Congo for the opening match but there were last minute changes as DRC delayed to arrive for the tournament.

It was a goalless first half between the two teams with Zambia leading in the number of chances to change the game situation. Albert Kangwanda's ferocious shot got deflected for a corner kick in the 18th

minute while Klings Kangwa long shot got saved in the 26th minute.

The Young Chipolopolo did not relent in their attacking efforts as Lameck Banda worked himself off defenders in the 30th minute but to no fruition as his effort was saved by the Malawian goalie. As the tempo changed, time ran out and the teams went on a goalless break.

As the second half kicked off, coach Charles Bwale introduced Prince Mumba for Emmanuel Mwiinde and in the 55th minute, Chanda Mukuka replaced Albert Kangwanda. A more organized display was in order for the lads and in the 59th minute, a healthy substitute followed. Mwiiya Malumo replaced injured Lameck Banda.

Zambia found the back of the net in the 62nd minute through a substitute Prince Mumba who benefitted from Malumo's pass. Mumba scored a brace in the 85th minute from skipper Edward Chilufya's assist. There was no goal from the Malawian side and Zambia won 2-0.

Although the young Chipolopolo beat Malawi, coach Bwale had hoped for a better first half and early goals.

"A win is always a good one but I am not exactly happy with the way they played in the first half. They were quite disorganized and goals should have come earlier. It is something that I will have to discuss with them," said Bwale.

Zambia faces DRC in the second game on Wednesday.

Deontay Wilder hopes to face P 14 Anthony Joshua

Robben to exit Bayern Munich at end of season



Arjen Robben has confirmed he will leave Bayern Munich at the end of this season, ending a 10-year association with the Bundesliga champions.

Robben moved to the Allianz Arena in August 2009 after finding himself out of favour at Real Madrid following the arrivals of Cristiano Ronaldo and Kaka. The Netherlands international has gone on to enjoy a near decade of trophy-laden dominance with Bayern, winning seven Bundesliga titles and four DFB-Pokals. Robben's crowning glory in a Bayern shirt came when he scored an 89th-minute winner to down domestic rivals Borussia Dortmund 2-1 in the 2012-13 Champions League final, a year after they lost a penalty shoot-out against Chelsea on home turf in the 2012 showpiece. *Goal.com*



Arsenal overpower Spurs in north London derby. Story page 14

Mancini 'relieved' with Italy's Euro 2020 draw

Italy coach Roberto Mancini expressed his relief on Sunday after the former champions were given a favourable qualifying group for Euro 2020.

Mancini took over earlier this year after the four-time winners failed to qualify for the World Cup in Russia.

"The goal was to avoid Germany and it went well," said Mancini after Italy -- who won their only European title 50 years ago -- were drawn in Group J against Bosnia, Finland, Greece, Armenia and Liechtenstein.

"(It's) good, but you have to win on the pitch," continued the 54-year-old former Italy international who was present at the draw in Dublin along with the FIGC president Gabriele Gravina.

"Bosnia are an excellent team, with players we know and it will not be an easy game, but all the games must be played and won - on paper it is a good group, then it will depend on us.

"We have to qualify and remember all games must be played and won so we climb

the FIFA ranking and go into the next World Cup draw in a stronger position."

"Italy deserves to be on the top where it has always been. It might take a little while, but we are improving. The lads are playing well and on the right track.

"Having given enthusiasm back to the fans means that we are doing well and bodes well for the future."

Italy have won three matches, drawn four and lost two since Mancini took over in May, but have been knocked out of the Nations League.

The Italian capital Rome will host quarter-final matches for Euro 2020 which will be played across 12 countries in Europe.

"We hope it can revive the enthusiasm of the whole football movement," said Gravina, adding that Italy were hoping to host Euro 2028. *AFP*

ZAMBIA 2

MALAWI 0

