



# DIALOGUE DIES

## ...as ZCID, Lungu, CK pull out



President Edgar Lungu arrives for the Double Troika Heads of State Summit on the Congo election situation in Addis Ababa yesterday - Picture by Salim Henry

By Sipilisiwe Ncube, Mirriam Chabala, Thomas Mulenga and Mukosha Funga

The national dialogue process finally came crushing down yesterday after the Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue announced that they had resolved to pull out.

Chief Government Spokesperson also told journalists at a briefing that President Edgar

Lungu was not invited to attend the launch of the process which is slated for today.

Meanwhile, NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili announced that he had resolved to pull out of the process because he did not want to be used as a scapegoat for PF to shun it.

But the church says today's programme will go ahead as planned. *To Page 5*

## Mines are saying they can't wait for me to takeover - HH

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says the mines are telling him they can't wait for

him to get elected into office because he will clean up the mess in the sector.

And Hichilema has promised to

reduce Value Added Tax (VAT) from the current 16 per cent to around 10 per cent once elected into office. *To page 4*

## I'll sell all my clothes to sponsor LCC Football Club, pledges Sampa

By Stuart Lisulo

Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa says if the city council will run out of funds, he will sell all his clothes to sponsor the LCC Football Club so that it is elevated back to the Super League. *To page 12*

## Silencing dissenting voices killing democracy - CiSCA

By Stuart Lisulo

The Civil Society Constitution Agenda (CiSCA) says government's emerging trend of deliberately silencing voices in the country is dangerously undermining democracy.

In a media briefing on the end of the year 2018, Wednesday, CiSCA Publicity Chairperson McDonald Chipenzi said CiSCA observed that government attempted to silence critical voices by either dismissing their demands or aligning them to main opposition political parties in the country, citing student unions' activities being banned at the University of Zambia (UNZA) and Copperbelt University (CBU). *To page 3*

## Police pick up body of albino man at Kapiri Mposhi lodge

Story page 2

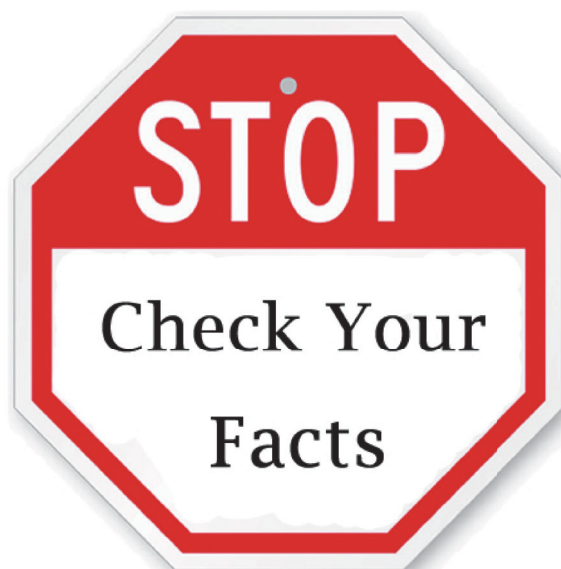


### FACT CHECKING COURSE

In a society where there is latest news every hour, nobody has time to check facts before sharing on social media, but a journalist must have the desired skill to investigate and verify before publishing.

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) in conjunction with News Diggers! is inviting applications from working journalists across Zambia to attend a digital investigative journalism training programme in February 2019.

- COURSE:** Investigative Journalism and Fact-checking
- WHERE:** Lusaka-Zambia
- DURATION:** One week (18-24 February, 2019)
- CHARGES:** Free (all expenses paid for; including transport, accommodation and food)
- APPLICANTS:** Must be working journalists between 18-30 years. Community Radio, television, newspaper and freelance reporters are encouraged to apply
- HOW TO APPLY:** Attach qualifications, reference letter from employer, two samples of published news articles/documentary
- CONTACT:** Send applications to editor@diggers.news Or via whatsapp on 0977708285
- DEADLINE:** Apply before January 31, 2019





# To end teen pregnancies, we must fight ancient cultural practices - Kasolo

By Mirriam Chabala

Eastern Province Permanent Secretary Chanda Kasolo says there is need to find a way of defeating the ancient traditional culture that usually leads to young people getting involved in early sexual practices. Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's Frank on Hot programme, Tuesday, Kasolo described the statistics of over 24,731 young girls who got pregnant in Eastern Province last year alone as a disgrace. "Unfortunately, I am presiding over a province that has the bad statistics. It's a disgrace! Chadiza got 1,419 (pregnancies); Chipata broke the record; it had 6,360, then Katete had 2,675; Lundazi had 4,898. Mambwe, 1,198; Nyimba had 1,481; Petauke had another high figure of 3,792; Sinda had 2,355 and Vumbwi came in with the lowest figure of 560. The actual total is 24,731 pregnancies. And these range from ages of 12 to 20, but primarily between 12 and 16, which is a worrying factor. Now, these statistics were what we captured using the Ministry of Health and also the Ministry of Education. However, I believe there are still a lot more that we didn't capture particularly in the very rural areas and some cases where the parents hide. They don't want to come out in the open about the statistics...Whatever the numbers are, I would call it 30,000, and it is really disgusting," Kasolo lamented. He, however, applauded some traditional leaders who were working selflessly to ensure that young girls were kept in school. "We need to do something, we need to find a way of defeating

ancient cultures that we have, which are the primary cause. If I tell you, there is amongst the Chewas a tradition where when a girl child comes of age, they find a man who goes to prove that she has come of age. He sleeps with her, it's unbelievable! However, our traditional leaders are following behind us and very recently, His Majesty Kalonga Gawa Undi came out in the open and actually condemned this practice, it's called 'Fisi', which translates to hyena or Chimbiwi. That's this thing of getting somebody to test the newly-matured girl child. So, he (Kalonga Gawa Undi) came out very strongly against it and said in his Kingdom, he does not want anybody to practice this. So, at least, we are starting to win. If you get traditional leaders behind you, you know that you have the chance to change the traditions," Kasolo explained. "There are two other champions I must mention, there is chieftainess Kawaza, a Chewa chief, she's a champion of the girl child and the leading



champion of the girl child is Chief Madzimawe of the Ngoni's. He's even got a centre, he has built at his own cost. He even grabs little children that are married off, he goes and gets the young, come to keep her and put her back into school as one of the measures and we as government we are really pushing behind him to help him." And gender activist Saboi Imboela also disagreed

with some of the traditional practices that were exposing young girls to sexual activities. "Apart from the traditional things that the PS has talked about, there is another thing, which we see normally in rural areas where when children become of age, they give them separate houses. In town, you find that everybody is in one house, but the village setup the way it is, everybody is in their small little huts. So, you

will find that seven and eight-year-old girls are being put in separate houses and they are one their own and men go into those houses without parents even knowing. So, this is one thing we've been telling people in the villages to say, can you start building bigger houses where everybody is under one roof? But you know how the mindset is, they even say: 'but where are we going to get the money from? It's too expensive,'

and yet they can use the same material they use to build the separate house. Just build one big house because it's even more expensive when the houses are separate. But if you are going to have one, you are reducing on the corners in terms of the material that you are going to use. I am happy that in some places they have started to do what we are advising them to do. So, these are some of the things that we are trying to change," said Imboela. Meanwhile, UK-based children rights activist Inutu Lubinda also featured on the same programme and regretted that children who got pregnant at a tender age were usually victimized. "Psychologically, the children who get pregnant at a very young age become marginalized. No one wants to be around you, you become isolated and lose your confidence; there is nothing else you can do, not even going back into education because you've already lost that confidence. So, what are going to do?" wondered Lubinda.

## Chola's mysterious death sends fears to Albinism Foundation

By Geoffrey Zulu

Police in Central Province have picked up a body of a 42-year-old UTH employee who was living with albinism, at MA 22 Lodge in Kapiri- Mposhi district. And Albinism Foundation of Zambia (AFZ) Director,

John Chiti has expressed sadness at the mysterious death of his organisation's member, saying his death has injected fresh fears among people living with albinism across the country, as they are targeted for ritual purposes. In an interview, Central

Province Police Commissioner, Chola Katanga confirmed that his office received a report of sudden and unnatural death of a person identified as Lewis Chola from MA 22 Lodge Manager, Morris Chewe to the effect that one of the guests, who booked a room on the

10th January, 2019 around 19 hours and the following day was found dead at 21 hours. "The police visited the scene and found the body lying, the body of a male Albino person age 42, lying on the bed facing upwards. The body was inspected and

no physical injuries were seen. When the room was inspected, some documents were found which included an ID [Card] of the same [dead body] as Lewis Kenny Chola, telephone operator, Ministry of Health, Cancer disease hospital at UTH, the body was then deposited into the mortuary," Katanga explained. He further explained that postmortem was done on Monday and it was found that Chola died from suffocation. "Preliminary finding are that he dead from acute respiratory failure due to suffocation" said Katanga. And AFZ Director, John Chiti said Chola's death was suspicious. "He used to work at Cancer department at UTH; he went missing a few days ago and was found died at a lodge in Kapiri. We [AFZ] wanted to know if it was a ritual attack but body was intact. It is a sad development that our members are living in fear because they are targeted for ritual purposes," Chiti said. He lamented that people living with albinism were losing their freedom of movements. "We are not enjoying human rights; some of our colleagues cannot go to school freely. People think by using albino body parts in rituals you can get rich. However, we are starting community sensitisation programs to raise awareness on albinism countrywide, starting this weekend," said Chiti who is a revered singer in Zambia.

## There's no money for officers who conducted NRC exercise - Registrar

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Department of National Registration, Passports and Citizenship Registrar-General Matthews Nyirongo says the unpaid officers who took part in the 2015-2016 mobile registration exercise will only get their dues when funds are available because the Treasury is currently stressed. About 700 officers who took part in phase three of the exercise have still not been paid their balance of K15,000 each, despite Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo promising in Parliament last year that they would be paid at the end of 2018. One of the affected officers seeking anonymity lamented that the officers expected to be paid their monies immediately after the exercise in 2016.

"I'm one of the government officers who took part in the 2015-2016 national mobile registration exercise, phase three. This exercise was for three months. Before getting in to this exercise, we were told it was funded and officers expected to be paid immediately after the exercise. But up to now, government is owing us K15,000 each and we were about 700 officers in phase three. Minister of Home Affairs, Honourable Steven Kampyongo, is on record to have mentioned in Parliament some months ago that we will be paid our monies before 2018 ends, but we are now in 2019! And in 2020, there will be another mobile exercise, which government is expected to use the poor officers again," the source said. "And you should know that the

officers worked under difficult conditions as they used to spend nights in school classrooms on the floor for three months! Some officers died on duty and some have died before getting their final allowances. The Ministry should also make sure that the deceased families get the departed family members' allowances." But in an interview with News Diggers! Nyirongo explained that the money was budgeted for in the 2018 budget, but was not released because the Treasury was stressed. He said he couldn't give out the exact date when the officers were likely to receive their pay, but added that government would announce when the funds were available. "That money was budgeted for in the 2018 budget except that the Treasury was stressed so it was not

released. For me, I push everyday except that the Treasury is stressed. We can't [tell the date when the funds will be released] because the problem is, I can tell the date, but the date I will give you, the Treasury will not be ready to give me the money. So, I will cause a lot of confusion and you see it's not good for us to lie. We can only comment on it when we have the monies, then we can announce that 'the money has been found now, so all those that were not paid should go to point A to get their money.' When the funds are available, yes, [we will announce] because that's the only way we will inform those that participated," Nyirongo said. Asked why the officers were not paid from 2016 till now, Nyirongo said: "Those things, you should ask the Treasury."



# Opposition alliance comprised of HH's lapdogs - Sunday

**By Thomas Mulenga**  
 PF media director Sunday Chanda says the opposition alliance is comprised of UPND president Hakainde Hichilema's lapdogs. And Chanda says claims by UPND that the ruling party wanted to buy off their Sesheke candidate is merely an excuse for their impending loss. Speaking when he featured on UNZA Radio's Lusaka Star program, Wednesday, Chanda said the opposition alliance was merely a group of Hichilema's useful idiots. "That alliance is [a] Hakainde Hichilema alliance, all the other opposition parties are his lap dogs, that's what they are, who else in that alliance has a councilor? Who else in that alliance has a proper executive committee? Those are just lapdogs," Chanda said. "Abanensu abasungu [our friends, the white people] describe such as useful idiots, it's not an insult, if you are pushing a political agenda, you don't understand, you are a useful idiot, someone is using you to push an agenda. So wakolongaka abaiche ati iseni tutembe [you ask] Edgar Lungu so that we win in 2021, it doesn't work that way. What that alliance tells you is that it exposes the UPND's desperation, because they know that on their own they, can't win an election, Hichilema knows. And the options he has are quite laughable, you can't go and pick 'nashala neka parties' ati we have a coalition of 10 political parties, that alliance is not going nowhere, it is a brought in dead case, that alliance is manyengwe (child's play)!" Chanda said. And Chanda challenged DP presidential candidate for 2021 Harry Kalaba to state if he is president of that party so that the PF can know what to do with him. "I am not sure if my

brother Harry (Kalaba) has pronounced himself as DP President. I know in some circles he is being quoted as DP presidential candidate for 2021 but we would want him to come out in the open and tell us that he is president of the Democratic Party and we will have no problems with that, we are going to look at what must follow in the aftermath. Any dialogue must be well structured, we are not going to have renegades, rebel MPs, because for me, that's what I call them. Mr Kambwili, the fact that he has gone to court, remains a rebel MP, Hon. Kalaba remains a rebel MP, however one wants to look at. You rebel against your own party and you can do whatever you want to do, abuse democratic processes, abuse the court processes, it doesn't change the fact that you are a rebel MP. You cannot hold on to a PF seat and yet insult the PF day in and day out," Chanda said. Meanwhile, Chanda refuted claims by UPND that the

PF wanted to buy their Sesheke candidate, saying that was merely an excuse for their impending loss. "The PF is the party of choice in Zambia at the moment, and when people come with conditions to join and arm-twist the PF so that they are given the adoption certificate, they will create all these stories. Just in Chilanga we heard of a candidate who disappeared before nominations and it was blamed on the PF, you have opposition candidates that won't show up during nomination and it is blamed on the PF. The UPND candidate in Kasenengwa disappeared, he didn't want to stand and the PF had nothing to do with his disappearance. If Mr Kangombe is making those claims that we have heard, that sounds like a broken record, that's the song that UPND will play repeatedly. It's either they are mourning about the loss that an election was rigged, or that we are trying to buy off their

candidate. We have no reason to buy UPND candidates, we have very capable members in the party," said Chanda. "We were in Mangango and the UPND were busy talking to Honorable Putu, they wanted him to be their candidate but he said 'no,

I can't stand on the UPND ticket, I want to contest on the PF ticket'. The UPND through Mr Garry Nkombo said they would take the matter to court, alleging that he has no qualifications, but when they were following him, didn't they realise that

he had no qualification? But when we looked at his papers, we were sure that the man was qualified and had complied with all the electoral requirements. So we have heard these cries from the UPND and we are accustomed to them."



# Silencing dissenting voices undermining democracy - CiSCA

**By Geoffrey Zulu**  
 The Civil Society Agenda (CiSCA) says government's emerging trend of deliberately silencing voices in the country is dangerously undermining democracy. In a media briefing on the end of the year 2018, Wednesday, CiSCA Publicity Chairperson McDonald Chipenzi said CiSCA observed that government attempted to silence critical voices by either dismissing their

demands or aligning them to main opposition political parties in the country, citing student unions' activities being banned at the University of Zambia (UNZA) and Copperbelt University (CBU). "We witness the denial of permits for political parties to assemble and we saw threats from the constitutional Court against citizen who would comment negatively on its judgment. Police brutality in the policing

of opposition assemblies was also witnessed," Chipenzi said, also citing issues of transparency, accountability and the fight against corruption as other major problems. "These events unsettled CiSCA and came to the conclusion that, if nothing was done, Zambia's democratic credentials would be completely eroded." Chipenzi noted that the ruling party enjoyed unlimited freedoms while the opposition and critics of the regime were vilified. Meanwhile, Chipenzi said CiSCA was saddened that the year 2018 ended without a definite roadmap on the conclusion of the

constitutional refinement despite numerous submissions from several sections of the public. "Of concern to CiSCA was government's continued dragging of its feet and shift of goalposts on when the refined draft constitution would be delivered to the public for scrutiny and later on for enactment," he said. He observed that it was no longer a secret that people's will for a transparent, accountable and responsive leadership was not realized in 2018, predicting that 2019 would follow the same trend. Chipenzi observed that at the moment, the nation was broken and needed national healing and reconciliation

through dialogue. He asked Zambians to support the church-led national dialogue and reconciliation process. "CiSCA condemns any hide and seek tactics being applied by some stakeholders towards this dialogue process. CiSCA believes in dialogue as one of the cornerstones of democracy and surest way of achieving national healing and reconciliation particularly in broken democracies," Chipenzi said. "We expect improvement in the same way things would be done by government, opposition, the church, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and ordinary citizens especially that 2019 is a build up to 2021 general elections...It is CiSCA's hope that the church mother bodies mandated to facilitate the dialogue will be magnanimous enough to include other institutions such as the Zambia Centre for Interparty dialogue (ZCID) to add its comparative experience to the process. Our cry is one land and one nation, dignity and peace in our land Zambia.

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

Former Foundation for Democratic Process (FODEP) executive director McDonald Chipenzi has sued his former employer, demanding payment of terminal benefits amounting to K453,750. In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, Wednesday, Chipenzi stated that he was at all material times employed by FODEP as an executive director. He stated that he entered into a contract of employment with FODEP for the period January 2011 to December

## McDonald Chipenzi sues FODEP, demanding K450,000 terminal benefits

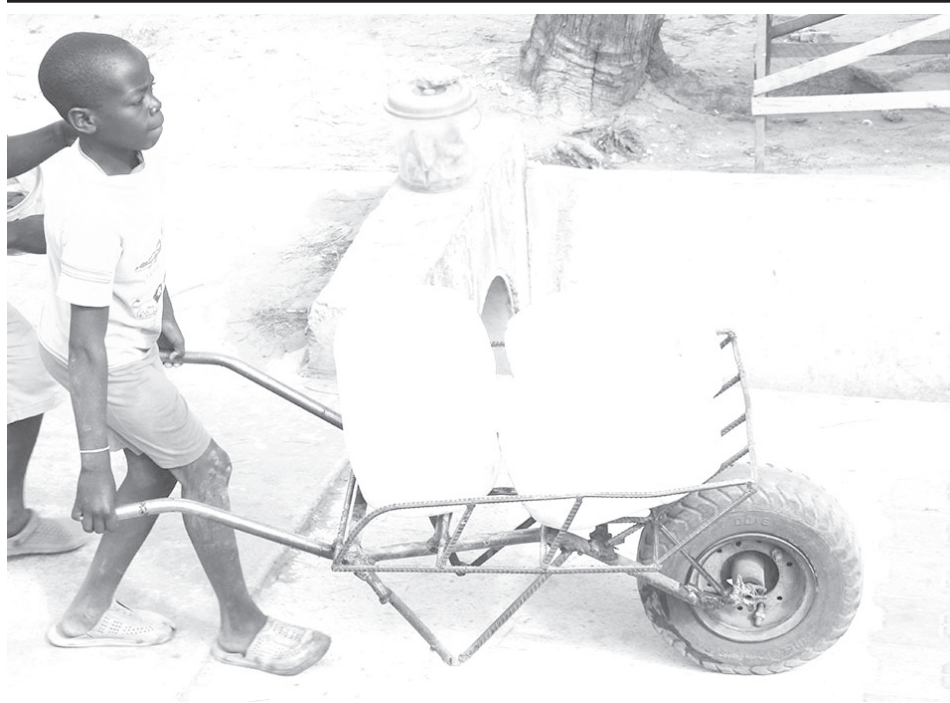
19, 2011, which contract was renewed every year with the last renewal being for the period January 2015 to July 31, 2016. Chipenzi stated that on February 13, 2016, five months before the end of the last contract, he was summarily dismissed. He stated that he was and is entitled to a separation package comprising; salary arrears,

personal to holder vehicle, leave days and school fees. "Chipenzi's salary arrears were partially paid for in cash and partially paid for through FODEP's giving him ownership on his personal to holder vehicle which vehicle, FODEP also pledged to put in proper road worthy condition at their expense,"

read the statement of claim. Chipenzi stated that he was not paid leave days for a period January 20, 2011 to February 2016. He further stated that FODEP also neglected or failed to pay back the balance on his school

fees for his master degree program at the University of Zambia as pledged by them on September 3, 2014. "Chipenzi from the date of dismissal to date, has tried to engage FODEP and impress upon them the need for them to

expeditiously pay him his dues, more so, taking into account the manner of his dismissal which did not afford him the time and opportunity to make alternative financial arrangements for his family but to no avail," read the statement of claim. Chipenzi therefore claims terminal benefits in the sum of K453,750 as at December 31, 2018. He is further claiming interest, costs and other relief the court may deem fit.



Water blues: A boy pushing a wheelbarrow with 20 liter containers of water in Lusaka's Mtendere Compound - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

By Mukosha Funga

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says the mines are telling him they can't wait for him to get elected into office because he will clean up the mess in the sector. And Hichilema has promised to reduce Value Added Tax (VAT) from the current 16 per cent to around 10 per cent once elected into office. Speaking when he featured on Radio Christian Voice's Chat Back programme, Thursday, Hichilema warned that the new mining tax regime would not only affect mining companies but Zambians at large. "We have already recommended ourselves that as UPND, our major [focus] will be to revert to VAT and then we will reduce the VAT rate from 16 per cent down to around 10 per cent. And you will see that the cost of goods arising from taxes will come down and when it comes down, it means your cost of living comes down as well. So many businesses are owed so much money by the PF arising from the abuse of the laws. They owe the companies as PF close to a billion dollars. One company alone is owed 400 million dollars [but] I shall not mention that company because they may get a sting. Now you collect money from people, the companies pay and you spend that money in by-elections, you spend it in flying around in different countries, everyday you are in the air. Then

# Mines are saying they can't wait for me to come - HH

when the companies fulfil their obligations, they now discharge the documentation and say 'refund us our money' and you say 'no you wait.' Where is the money? It has been eaten, it has been spent in travelling, it has been spent in corruption and spent in by-elections," Hichilema said. "Taxation is not affecting mining companies only. The tax changes that were made by the PF government wrongly do not affect mining companies only because this is the impression being created by the PF. The mining sector does not operate in isolation, the sector has suppliers of goods and services, companies owned by your cousins, your nephew, your uncles, Zambian citizens. It is true that the PF government has lost its ploy on the taxation. They have given Zambians a poisonous chalice of a gift of a high tax burden in 2019." He said the mines were telling him they couldn't wait for him to come into office. "By the way, we in the UPND are already ahead. We are ready to take over this country. We are already ahead [and] our planning is far much ahead and that

is why you are seeing me answering to your questions very clearly and quickly because we are clear in our minds [and] in our vision on what needs to be done in order to lift this country out of poverty that we are experiencing and the PF has brought us into [this]. Even the Mining companies are talking to us, they are saying 'HH we are waiting for you to come, we are waiting for you,' Hichilema said. Hichilema said when UPND forms government, it will refinance all the debt. He also insisted that he would sell the luxury presidential jet once elected into office. "They are starting an airline [but] airlines don't make money. South African airline is struggling, they don't make money, the Swiss airline was closed because Switzerland which is one of the richest countries in the world could not afford an airline because it's expensive [but] here that is when people want to start an airline. When we come in, we are going to restructure this debt, we are going to basically refinance it, we are going to stop borrowing recklessly, whenever we borrow, we are going to borrow at a

lower cost because they are getting Kaloba so that they get commissions, so that they can get corruption money out of borrowing, we are going to save money [and] we are going to sale unnecessary assets and the first thing we are going to sale within a few months of being in office is the presidential jet. And this is what we are talking about, PF has bankrupted this country. You cannot run a country like this where you found the reserves at US \$3 billion

in 2016 [but] now it's US \$1.6 billion," Hichilema said. Meanwhile, Hichilema said no past government had been as corrupt as PF. "There is no fight against corruption. The question is why? The levels of corruption in PF are unprecedented. We have never seen corruption like this. I am old enough to remember that there has never been any government that has been as corrupt as the PF. This is the worst ever. Secondly, there can't be a fight against corruption because

if the PF put a serious fight against corruption, they will be fighting themselves [and] that is why there is no fight against corruption. What is there is just symbolism. The problem today is that the president is interfering to cover friends and probably State House because of the corruption going on. But I want to say to you [that] the money that has been taken which belongs to Zambians will be returned to the people of Zambia through our new measures," said Hichilema.

## Solwezi court jails four for possessing illegal bushmeat

By Milimo Namangala

The Solwezi Subordinate Court has jailed four people for illegally possessing 166 kilograms of illegal Bush meat and a serval cat skin. In a statement, Ministry of Tourism and Arts Public Relations Officer Sakabilo Kalembwe said Charity Kaswende, 43, and Paul Jishebele, 62, were sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for being in possession of illegal bushmeat contrary to the law. "The court convicted Charity Kaswende, 43, and fined her K90,000 with three years imprisonment in default of payment, for illegal possession of 53 kilograms of dry heart beast meat," she stated. "In a related case, the Court convicted Jishebele and fined him K45,000 with 3 years imprisonment in default of payment, for illegal possession of government trophy, namely 66 kilograms of fresh impala meat, contrary to section 129 (1) of the Zambia Wildlife Act No. 14 of 2015." He also said Jonas Kalima, 48, and Biriati

Tombo, 48, received a three year jail sentence for possessing meat illegally. "In another charge, the Court convicted Kalima and fined him K90, 000 with three years imprisonment in default of payment, for Illegal Possession of Government Trophy, namely one Serval Cat skin, contrary to section 129 (1) of the Zambia Wildlife Act No. 14 of 2015," he stated. "The Court also convicted Tombo and fined him K90,000 with 3 years imprisonment in default of payment, for illegal possession of 14 kilograms bushbuck meat, 27 kilograms baboon meat, 3 kilograms warthog meat and 3 kilograms common duiker meat, contrary to section 129 (1) and unlawful hunting with traps, and 12 snares contrary to section 70 of the Zambia Wildlife Act No. 14 of 2015." The illegal bushmeat trade has been reported as the biggest threat to wildlife populations in Zambia and the region, even over and above the ivory and rhino horn trade.

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# Dialogue crumbles, as parties pull out

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

The national dialogue process finally came crashing down yesterday after the Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue announced that they had resolved to pull out.

Chief Government Spokesperson also told journalists at a briefing that President Edgar Lungu would not be available to attend the launch of the process which is slated for today.

Meanwhile, NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili announced that he had resolved to pull out of the process because he did not want to be used as a scapegoat for PF to shun it.

But the church says today's programme will go ahead as planned.

The Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue (ZCID) resolved not to attend the launch of the national dialogue slated for today.

And Mulonga says ZCID will go ahead with its political dialogue for party presidents. In a statement, Thursday, ZCID board chairperson Nathan Mulonga said refusal by the church to resolve the impasse between the two facilitators had forced the centre to pull out.

"Having written to the church to meet ZCID to resolve the current impasse, and the church having replied negatively herein turning down the proposed meeting. The ZCID Resolved the following: (i) That the Political Parties under the ZCID shall not attend the Launch on the 18th of January being called by the three church mother bodies. The reasons for the impasse between the ZCID and the Church Mother Bodies are; (a) Refusal by the three Church Mother Bodies to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ZCID; as agreed at a meeting between the ZCID and the three Church Mother Bodies Bishops held at EFZ secretariat on the 19th of December, 2018, (b) Refusal by the three Church Mother Bodies to agree on the Agenda with the ZCID; as agreed at a meeting between the ZCID and the three Church Mother Bodies Bishops held at EFZ secretariat on the 19th of December, 2018," Mulonga stated.

"The other reason is the refusal by the three Church Mother Bodies to agree on the Roadmap with the ZCID; as agreed at a meeting between the ZCID and the three Church Mother Bodies Bishops held at EFZ secretariat on the 19th of December, 2018; Refusal to structure the Secretariat as earlier agreed on the 19th of November 2018 through a communique that was signed by the three Church Mother bodies: represented by Bishop George Lungu and the ZCID as represented by Mr. Nathan Mulonga; The Unilateral

cancellation of the meeting of the 27th December, 2018 by the three Church Mother bodies which was to be held between the ZCID and the three Church mother to which all the above mentioned issues were to be concluded before the meeting of the 28th

## Lungu won't attend dialogue - Dora

By Mirriam Chabala

Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya says President Edgar Lungu will not be available for the Friday, January 18 dialogue process because his diary will not allow him to do so.

At a press briefing yesterday, Siliya said even if the President was in the country, he wouldn't have attended the dialogue meeting because he had not received an official invitation from the conveners.

"First of all, we must understand that the president of PF has a unique position, he is also the President of this country. And because he's the President of this country, there is a lot around the office of Presidency. As I am aware, as I spoke to the Secretary to Cabinet last night, the President of the Republic of Zambia, Edgar Lungu, had not received any official invitation, that's number one. Number two, even if an invitation came today, it is impossible for two reasons: one, the President is out of the country on national duty. But number two; even if the President was in the country, government does not move the President on an invitation that comes less than 48 hours before. That is standard government procedure for any President. government does not move the President from A to B on an invitation that comes less than 48 hours before, it's standard procedure for any President of the Republic of Zambia," Siliya said.

"And if we are talking about the summit of presidents, who is the president of the PF? It's President Lungu. But as of last night when I spoke to the Secretary to Cabinet, he was not aware that any invitation had been extended to the President of the PF, who's also the Republican President and that even if that came today, the Secretary to Cabinet cannot arrange for the President to move from A to B to an invitation that comes less than 48 hours before because the President's diary is a serious one. He has to meet international people, he has to meet local people, he has to go out of town and he has to go out of the country. That's why his position as president of PF is unique because he's also President of the Republic. So his calendar is not managed by him so cannot just wake up

December, 2018."

And Mulonga said ZCID would go ahead with its political dialogue for party presidents.

"Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue shall stick to the agenda as resolved by the 2nd National Democracy

Stakeholders Summit (NDSS) held on the 15th-16th May, 2018 and endorsed and agreed by Secretary Generals of all political parties with representation in Parliament and representatives of Forum for Political Parties outside Parliament (FPP) in

Siavonga as outlined in the communique issued on the 13th of June, 2018. That the broad thematic areas to be considered at the Summit of Presidents shall include the following: Constitutional and Institutional Reforms; Separation of Powers and

Judicial Independence; and Tolerance, Freedom of Assembly and Civility in Politics; Electoral Reforms," stated Mulonga.

Mulonga stated that the centre would soon communicate the proposed date for the Summit of Presidents.

and say 'me I am going to that meeting, no!'"

Siliya, however, said the President was eager to attend dialogue meetings with other political party leaders once he received an invitation on time.

"We in government are hoping that we can see the President attend a dialogue

where he will be given an invitation on time and that it will be a summit of political party presidents. We do know that that was the process that was begun and the first party of Secretary Generals has already happened and an agenda was agreed, signatures given by the PF, the UPND, MMD, the FDD and political

parties outside Parliament. So the next stage is the summit of Presidents. So we in government are saying the Zambians are tired of just hearing dialogue, dialogue, they want to see the Presidents meet so that this matter comes to a logical conclusion. So when an invitation is brought to the President and

he's in the country and he's been given due notice, I am sure that he will be looking forward to go into a summit with his colleagues, other political party leaders. And don't forget that it's President Lungu who initiated this dialogue in 2016," said Siliya, who also asked ZCID and the church to resolve their issues.

## Kambwili pulls out of dialogue

By Thomas Mulenga

NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili has announced that he will not attend the national dialogue meeting because he does not want PF to use him as an excuse to disrupt the process.

But Kambwili challenged President Lungu to attend the dialogue meeting and face Zambians for his sins.

At a press briefing yesterday, Kambwili said he did not want the PF Intercity Branch to disrupt the dialogue meeting if he attended it.

"You have heard sentiments from the PF saying that if Honourable Kambwili is going to attend the national dialogue, we are going to disrupt it...by sending their thugs from intercity. Some of them were saying 'no, our president will not attend if Hon Kambwili is going to attend. I have for the past weeks insisted that I am going to attend the national dialogue, but I want to announce today that I have reflected and I have come to the conclusion that the national dialogue is extremely important and that Zambia is bigger than Chishimba Kambwili, and that Chishimba Kambwili is not Zambia. For the sake of the dialogue going on smoothly, without any problems

from the corrupt coming to disrupt it using Chishimba Kambwili as a pone, I want to announce to the nation that I won't attend the launch of the national dialogue tomorrow. This has been done in the interest of the nation, because I believe that Zambia is bigger than me and I don't want the PF and ZCID to use me to sabotage the national dialogue," Kambwili said.

"I now challenge the PF to tell their president who was so scared to attend the national dialogue where Chishimba Kambwili was that Kambwili will not be there, go and face the Zambian people for your sins. Don't use Chishimba Kambwili as an excuse."

And Kambwili said it was regrettable that PF wanted to send its Intercity branch to go and disrupt the dialogue meeting.

"I know for sure that the PF does not want the dialogue to take place but they want to use my name as an excuse to disrupt it. It is regrettable that the PF want to take hooligans to go and disturb innocent people who will be attending the dialogue meeting, at a place of prayer, at a cathedral, it shows what criminals they are and how shallow minded they are. If you can think of bringing those

hooligans from intercity to come and cause violence, to come and mayhem people, to cause confusion at a church building, it clearly shows that you are not ready to be leaders," said Kambwili, who also said NDC would be represented by its vice-president and secretary general.

"I am sure you have been following the events that have been happening from the time of the last meeting at the Kapingila House on 28th of December 2018, when the Church mother bodies announced the launch of the national dialogue. At that meeting, I made it very clear that there would be no national dialogue without corruption being among the major issues to be discussed. And immediately this went to the ears of the corrupt, 'pompwes (thieves), they became agitated to the extent that they did not want the national dialogue to go on. You may wish to know that yesterday, ZCID called some opposition political parties and incited them to boycott the national dialogue, they had even written a communique in advance, which they wanted all political parties to sign that all political parties have decided to boycott the national dialogue. The whole idea was to sabotage the national dialogue."

## National dialogue launch will go ahead as planned - Church

By Mukosha Funga

Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops (ZCCB) secretary general Fr Cleophas Lungu says today's meeting will proceed as planned.

"From our side, the program goes ahead as planned," said Fr Lungu in a brief interview.

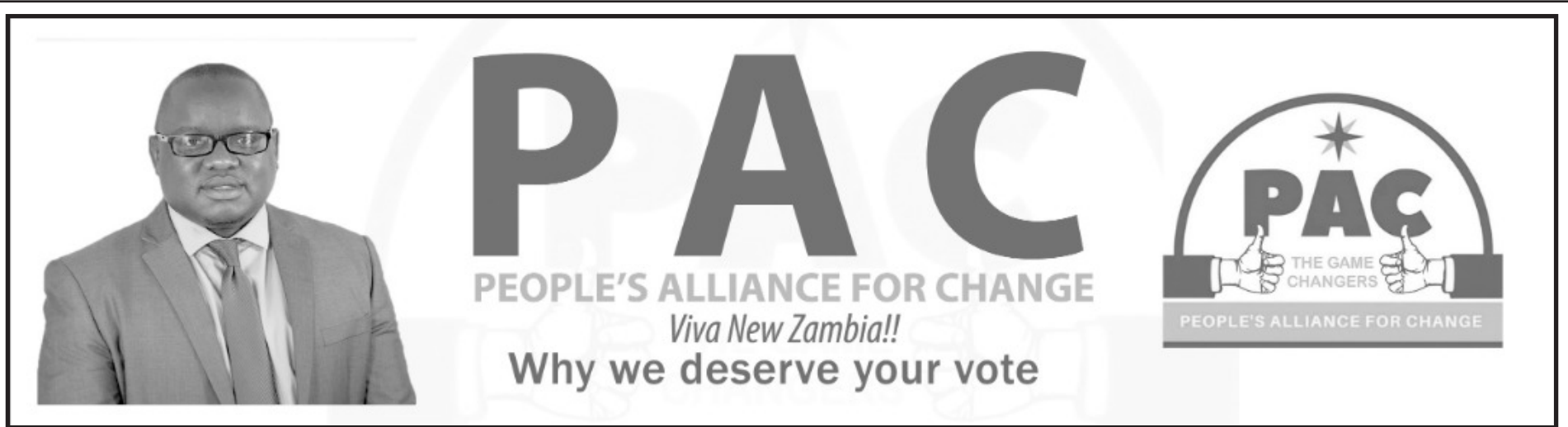
And UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema said ZCID had no basis to continue arguing because stakeholders had agreed that the church must lead the process.

"It's very crucial that we as citizens dialogue when we have issues that are affecting our citizens like we have many issues today that are affecting our citizens. We should stop debating inconsequential issues, we should stop arguing. ZCID has no basis to continue arguing because we as citizens [and] as stakeholders majority have agreed that the church must lead the dialogue process. They have the moral right to do that as a church, they have the experience, they have done it before. We are a Christian nation [and so] we must respect the body of Christ. And I think we must not forget that it's the church that assisted us to waver away through in the late 1980s into early 1990s to move from a one party state into a multi-party state. The church led us through the third term debate or anti-third term

debate which we as a nation succeeded. The church must lead through now in restoring human rights, liberties and freedoms which is under the PF, in restoring the rule of law which we have lost under the PF, in making sure that the judiciary functions for the benefit of all citizens [and] not for the few citizens under the PF, and to make sure that there is no violence in our country anymore which is really unacceptable, to make sure that we have a truly independent Electoral Commission that will deliver free, fair and credible elections and that elections will be a source of pleasures to choose visionary and capable leaders [and] not keep in office leaders without a vision," said Hichilema.

"The church must help us through to fight corruption which is endemic today, the church must help us through to re-unite this country so that we don't have ethnic discrimination. The church must help us to ensure that political prisoners, detainees, political refugees, those on the run can be released and those on the run can be returned to their homes. And therefore the contestation of who should lead the dialogue is unnecessary and ZCID really must behave themselves. You cannot slow the progress which affects millions of people because of a selfish interest of allowances. What is an allowance for in the faces of difficulties and challenges facing the citizens?"





## HIGER BUS EMPOWERMENT UNDER PAC'S JCC

*By Andyford Mayele Banda*

I am sure you are aware about the Higer Bus Empowerment Program with the so-called Public and Private Buses Association of Zambia (PPBAZ) where the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Child development entered into an agreement with Higer Bus Company to empower youths to venture into the transport sector. About 26 buses had been given to the so-called youths through PPBAZ but just last week, the Minister of Youth, Sport and Child Development announced that they have reposed these buses due to failure by the association to maintain them and pay back the loans.

The empowerment program had targeted 'selected youths' to run with the program. As PAC we have reiterated that no empowerment program will be sustainable if it's not structured. Also empowerment programs must target all Zambians where a competitive process is conducted in order for the best candidates with a passion for transport and business are selected to run the project. These candidates must not be empowered based on their political affiliations or based on who they know in the system but purely based on their talent and business acumen. Almost all empowerment programs have failed because of failure to target the right people but targeting cadres or children of people with influence in government. PAC will change this narrative and ensure that all Zambians have equal chance to opportunities.

Here is what we wrote in our newsletter on the restructured Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission and just see how the Higer Bus programme would have worked out if government would pay more attention to detail.

"In order for businesses to succeed the new CEEC will also need to put in place systems that do not favour or encourage nepotism and corruption. It is a well-known fact that a significant portfolio of the loans that have not been paid back at CEEC are as a result of giving loans to relatives, friends or close associates without merit. So, we will introduce systems that will favour every person as opposed to a few card-carrying members of the ruling party.

The new CEEC will ensure that start-up businesses are adequately structured before they can access loans and opportunities to grow their businesses. This is to ensure that their businesses are sustainable and can grow to be able to pay back loans.

We need to understand that if citizens don't grow their businesses it means that they won't

be able to pay back loans and if they are not able to pay back loans, it means other people won't have the opportunity to access these facilities. As a consequence these empowerment programs become more of a political rhetoric than a tool to improve people's lives. Hence the new CEEC will focus more on ensuring that businesses grow through:

1. Structuring of start-ups and restructuring of existing SMEs wanting loans.
2. Providing basic business administration training tailored to the needs of various sectors.
3. Creating opportunities through various partners from government and private sector.
4. Facilitating financing opportunities for the opportunities created from partner banks and financial institutions.
5. Monitoring of businesses under CEEC.

The CEEC will run a PAC government program called the Joint Citizen Company or abbreviated as JCC. The PAC believes in a fair sustainable empowerment program. The PAC always advocates for a system that favours everyone who wakes up to work hard every day, as opposed to a few individuals. Most government empowerment programs have failed due to partisan patronage. Most individuals, who are lucky enough to access opportunity, are affiliates of a ruling party. They end up getting facilities but cannot make any return on investment because they do not have the necessary skills to run a business. Apart from the fact that most of the time the beneficiaries are ruling party card-carrying members, the major problem is also the way the empowerment programs are structured.

The idea behind a JCC is to come up with a structured organisation that will have different skills necessary to run a business and also to deliver goods and services like any other Company. It is an organisation where citizens with various skill-sets and various professional backgrounds come together to form a company to pursue a particular opportunity and effectively run a business. It is an organisation that is exclusively run by its shareholders. This means that all employees or workers of a JCC are the owners.

Under the PAC government, the Higer Bus Empowerment Programme could have been structured in a JCC program. This would entail that all necessary skills to run a bus company are brought on board through a competitive selection process that doesn't look at party affiliation. The Higer Bus Joint Citizen Company would include individuals

selected professionally such accountants, bus drivers, mechanics, supply chain officers, human resources officers, conductors, just to mention a few. The restructured CEEC would be responsible to structure this business in order for them to be run as proper businesses, they will also be responsible for selecting and monitoring them until the loans are paid back.

A Joint Citizen Company (JCC) is a People's Alliance for Change (PAC) government initiative where the government will ensure opportunity is equally distributed regardless of party affiliation. It is a PAC government's call message of breaking a system that favours few people and coming up with a system that gives opportunity to everyone. The JCC is the master plan for wealth and job creation, getting people empowered using their various skills to contribute to the running of their businesses.

The JCC is the master empowerment plan because it is tailored for the many people that have various professions and skills-sets and yet are not employed. These diverse skills and professions can range from Accounting, Marketing, and Human Resource Management; to Auto Mechanics, Driving, Janitorial Work, Purchasing and Supply, Building and Construction, Foundry etc. It is designed to not only provide them with jobs, but to empower them as they run their very own businesses. Skills are critical to ensuring that a business is successful. This is because what strengthens or weakens a business is the application or lack of necessary skills to run that business.

In coming up with the Joint Citizen Company we had to come up with a sustainable empowerment model that would stand the test of time. We also had to come up with a program that would make it easier to deliver to the Zambian people once the PAC forms government. JCCs will be created for various sectors such as the transport, agriculture, manufacturing, service, tourism, mining etc.

The Higer Bus Empowerment Programme failed because of an appetite to empower cadres as opposed to giving opportunities to every Zambian. Lack of attention to detail by the government has proved to be a huge cost to Zambians through failed empowerment programmes. The PAC will put an end to this and ensure that all Zambians have equal access to opportunity.

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



# PF has been empowering cadres not all citizens - Andyford

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
PAC president Andyford Banda says the PAC government will ensure that all Zambians have equal opportunities, charging that

almost all empowerment programs under the Patriotic Front have failed because of targeting cadres. In PAC's weekly news letter to News Diggers! Banda

noted that empowerment programs should target all Zambians. He however added that the Higer Bus Empowerment Program under PF had failed

because of their appetite to empower cadres as opposed to giving opportunities to every Zambian.

"I am sure you are aware about the Higer Bus Empowerment Program with the so-called Public and Private Buses Association of Zambia (PPBAZ) where the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Child development entered into an agreement with Higer Bus Company to empower youths to venture into the transport sector. About 26 buses had been given to the so-called youths through PPBAZ but just last week, the Minister of Youth, Sport and Child Development announced that they have reposed these buses due to failure by the association to maintain them and pay back the loans," he stated.

"The Higer Bus Empowerment Programme failed because of an appetite to empower cadres as opposed to giving opportunities to every Zambian. The empowerment program had targeted 'selected youths' to run with the program. Empowerment programs must target all Zambians where a competitive process is conducted in order for the best candidates with a passion for transport and business are selected to run the project. These candidates

must not be empowered based on their political affiliations or based on who they know in the system but purely based on their talent and business acumen."

He stated that once in government, PAC would ensure that all Zambians had equal opportunities.

"Almost all empowerment programs have failed because of failure to target the right people but targeting cadres or children of people with influence in government. PAC will change this narrative and ensure that all Zambians have equal chance to opportunities," he stated. Banda stated that under the PAC government, the Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission would run a programme called 'Joint Citizen Company' where citizens with various skills would come together to effectively run a business.

"The CEEC will run a PAC government program called the Joint Citizen Company or abbreviated as JCC. The idea behind JCC is to come up with a structured organisation that will have different skills necessary to run a business and also to deliver goods and services like any other Company. It is an organisation where citizens with various skill-sets and various professional backgrounds come together

to form a company to pursue a particular opportunity and effectively run a business. It is an organisation that is exclusively run by its shareholders. This means that all employees or workers of a JCC are the owners," he stated.

Meanwhile, Banda stated that under the PAC government, the 'Higer Bus Joint Citizen Company' would include individuals selected professionally such as accountants, bus drivers, mechanics, conductors, among others.

"Under the PAC government, the Higer Bus Empowerment Programme could have been structured in a JCC program. This would entail that all necessary skills to run a bus company are brought on board through a competitive selection process that doesn't look at party affiliation. The Higer Bus Joint Citizen Company would include individuals selected professionally such as accountants, bus drivers, mechanics, supply chain officers, human resources officers, conductors, just to mention a few. The restructured CEEC would be responsible to structure this business in order for them to be run as proper businesses, they will also be responsible for selecting and monitoring them until the loans are paid back," he stated.

Banda further noted that the 'Joint Citizen Company' was PAC's initiative to ensure that opportunity was equally distributed regardless of party affiliation.

"A Joint Citizen Company (JCC) is a People's Alliance for Change (PAC) government initiative where the government will ensure opportunity is equally distributed regardless of party affiliation. It is a PAC government's call message of breaking a system that favours few people and coming up with a system that gives opportunity to everyone. The JCC is the master plan for wealth and job creation, getting people empowered using their various skills to contribute to the running of their businesses," he stated.

"The JCC is the master empowerment plan because it is tailored for the many people that have various professions and skills-sets and yet are not employed. It is designed to not only provide them with jobs, but to empower them as they run their very own businesses. Skills are critical to ensuring that a business is successful. This is because what strengthens or weakens a business is the application or lack of necessary skills to run that business."



President Edgar Lungu (r) accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Joseph Malanji arrives at Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 for the Double Troika Summit on the Democratic Republic of Congo - Photo by Salim Henry

# We are brainstorming on how to achieve Mayor's free WiFi dream - Mwale

**By Mirriam Chabala**

Local Government Minister Vincent Mwale says Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has approached him, requesting that his ministry helps him to realise his dream of providing free Wi Fi in the City.

And Mwale says government is aware that political cadres are collecting levies from markets and bus stations on behalf of civic centres and is working hard to change the status quo by introducing an electronic system of collecting levies.

Appearing on Hot FM's Hot Seat programme, Thursday, Mwale said the authority would do all it can to ensure that the Mayor's dream was achieved, but said the free Wi Fi may not be available in some places within Lusaka city.

"The Mayor requested that the Ministry comes to his aid when we were launching electronic platform for logging in papers for building and so on. He said 'please, we are happy with this but can you also help us with Wi Fi'. So we are trying to think with the Mayor over what we can do about providing Wi Fi. It may not be the whole Lusaka but we think that certain spots need Wi Fi to start with and there must be cost sharing.

Maybe people advertise in a certain area but they also pay for Wi Fi for people and you provide them with space for adverts. Something like that but the Mayor is brainstorming and we are also helping out to make sure that he can actually achieve his dream. It is his dream and we will help him achieve it," Mwale said.

Meanwhile, Mwale said government was working towards rolling out an electronic system for collection of bus station and market levies countrywide in order to stop cadres from taking charge of markets and collecting levies.

"We have engaged a company that has developed a system for us which is being used to collect the levies. This is the way we are going to go. The whole country, we are going to make sure that we collect levies from the marketeers electronically. We may have up to 3 million marketeers in this country, if each one of them just paid K1 a day, we will have K3 million which can be used to rebuild markets. In 10 days we will have K30 million and in a month we can have K90 million. It means we can rebuild all the markets that we have in this country, even just based on K1 market levy..." Mwale observed.

But these marketeers are actually paying

sometimes up to K10, but most of these monies go in people's pockets. I actually confess that this is happening, political party cadres are collecting levies. I am not going to point at a particular political party because all political parties are culprits to this. Go to Choma, I have seen elsewhere where a particular political party has a flag and they are controlling the levies, I have gone to Chibombo and I have been told by council workers that a particular party there is very popular and they are ones controlling the market. Come to Lusaka, you will find a party that is very popular controlling things."

He also reiterated that Lusaka City Market which was gutted in 2017 would only be reconstructed after the new Simon Mwewa market was fully completed.

"We are not going to rebuild city market now, until we finish Simon Mwewa because we will have another challenge if we want to reconstruct city market now. We will have a challenge of dealing with people that are trading in there. But once Simon Mwewa is complete, those people in city market will have to move to Simon Mwewa and then city market will have to open up for construction," said Mwale.



The opposition United Party for National Development (UPND) says President Edgar Lungu has failed to run the country, and therefore, must be impeached so that his running mate madam Inonge Wina can takeover the presidency. The biggest opposition party holds the view that President Edgar Lungu does not deserve to stay in office any longer.

“Edgar Lungu and his family must immediately be democratically impeached in order for Vice President Inonge Wina to complete his last term in office. Those who are close to Mr Lungu and love him will agree that stepping down is the most dignified exit he can do for now if he was to enjoy some bit of respect,” argued Patrick Mucheleka who is the party’s deputy secretary general.

“As UPND, we keep receiving and reading disturbing reports and news items of citizens in distress situations, while Edgar Lungu and his family are over-enjoying in the luxuries! Farmers in most parts of the country have not been paid their money for last season’s crop produce, while [the] majority have also not received fertilizer and other inputs for this farming season, which is almost coming to an

# UPND’s useless call for impeachment

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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end. Council, Zampost, National Housing and other workers are going months without salaries, retirees are languishing, and students in higher learning institutions are going without allowances...”

We find this impeachment call from the UPND useless for two reasons. But first we would like to outline a few areas where we agree with them.

It is true that our President has diverted from everything that he made Zambians believe he was. His promise to create jobs was fake, his promise to fight corruption was fake, his assurance that – as a lawyer – he would strictly uphold the rule of law was fake, his pledge to continue with Michael Sata’s vision was fake, his devotion

towards Christianity and upholding Christian values was fake. In short he is a fake President. He has lamentably failed to create wealth for Zambia, but he has succeeded to create massive riches for himself, his family and friends. On that score, we agree with the UPND that he doesn’t deserve to be in office.

We also agree with this biggest opposition political party that, with all her weaknesses, bo Ma Inonge Wina would make a better Head of State than Mr Lungu. Why do we think so? Despite her failure to exhibit the zeal of fighting corruption under President Lungu, the incumbent Vice-President of Zambia has no corruption record. In fact, we don’t

imagine that there is any Zambian who thinks Vice-President Wina sits in her office with crooks to plan on how they will steal public funds. We have not heard a relative of bo Inonge Wina implicated in a corruptly awarded government tender – and we don’t think such a relative would receive much protection from her. So that gives us confidence that a lot of corrupt contractors and state capturers would, not only be frustrated, but also hunted down.

But going back to the call from the UPND that President Lungu must be impeached; we find a couple of things awkward. This is the biggest opposition party calling for the President to be impeached. To whom are they making that call if

they are failing to do it themselves? UPND should not be making the call to the public, the public should be making the call to them. If they have solid grounds for impeaching the Head of State, the UPND should, without making noise, simply convene a meeting with its dwindling number of members of parliament and strategize on how they would solicit for votes to support the impeachment motion in the National Assembly.

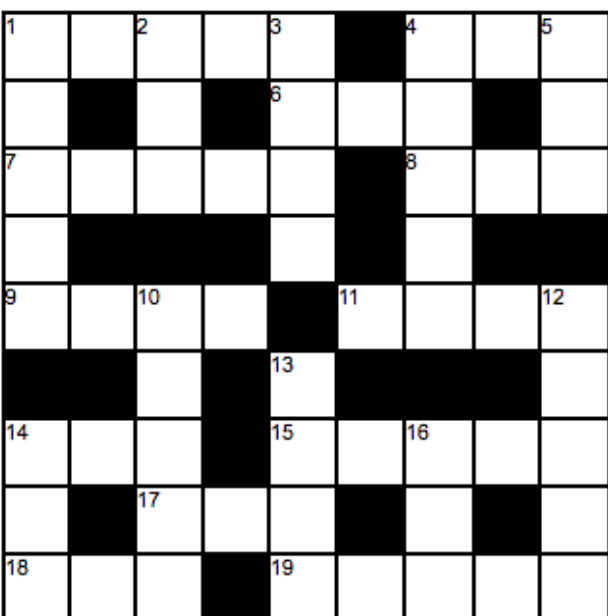
It is, in our view, useless to talk about impeachment if they have given up or they have been outplayed by the ruling Patriotic Front. The entire previous session of Parliament went down without the biggest opposition party

resuscitating the impeachment motion; one technical objection and everything went dead. Zambians don’t even know what happened. So what impeachment is the UPND leadership talking about?

And when you look at their complaints, they have even forgotten the argument basis on which they want President Lungu impeached. They are talking about farmers not getting their money on time, ZAMPOST employees going without salaries and university students lacking meal allowances. How is any of that a ground for impeaching the Head of State? A basis for being voted out of power is not the same as grounds for impeachment. Last year, the UPND said they had plenty of grounds on which they would insure that Mr Lungu is Constitutionally ousted before 2021, let them bring them forward and restart the process.

In the absence of that courage, our opinion is that the UPND must stop talking about impeachment for the sake of politicking. They are simply disturbing the economy, and quite frankly, annoying those citizens who are looking upto them for solutions to their problems.

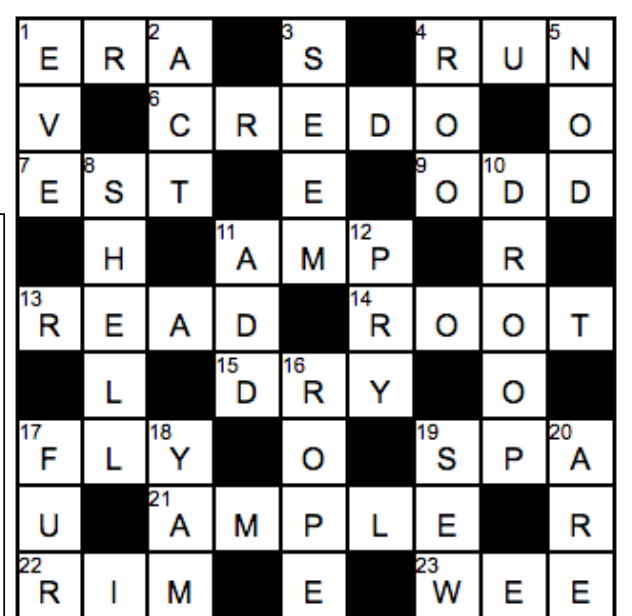
## Crossword puzzle 275



*“The world is a tragedy to those who feel, but a comedy to those who think.”*  
- Horace Walpole

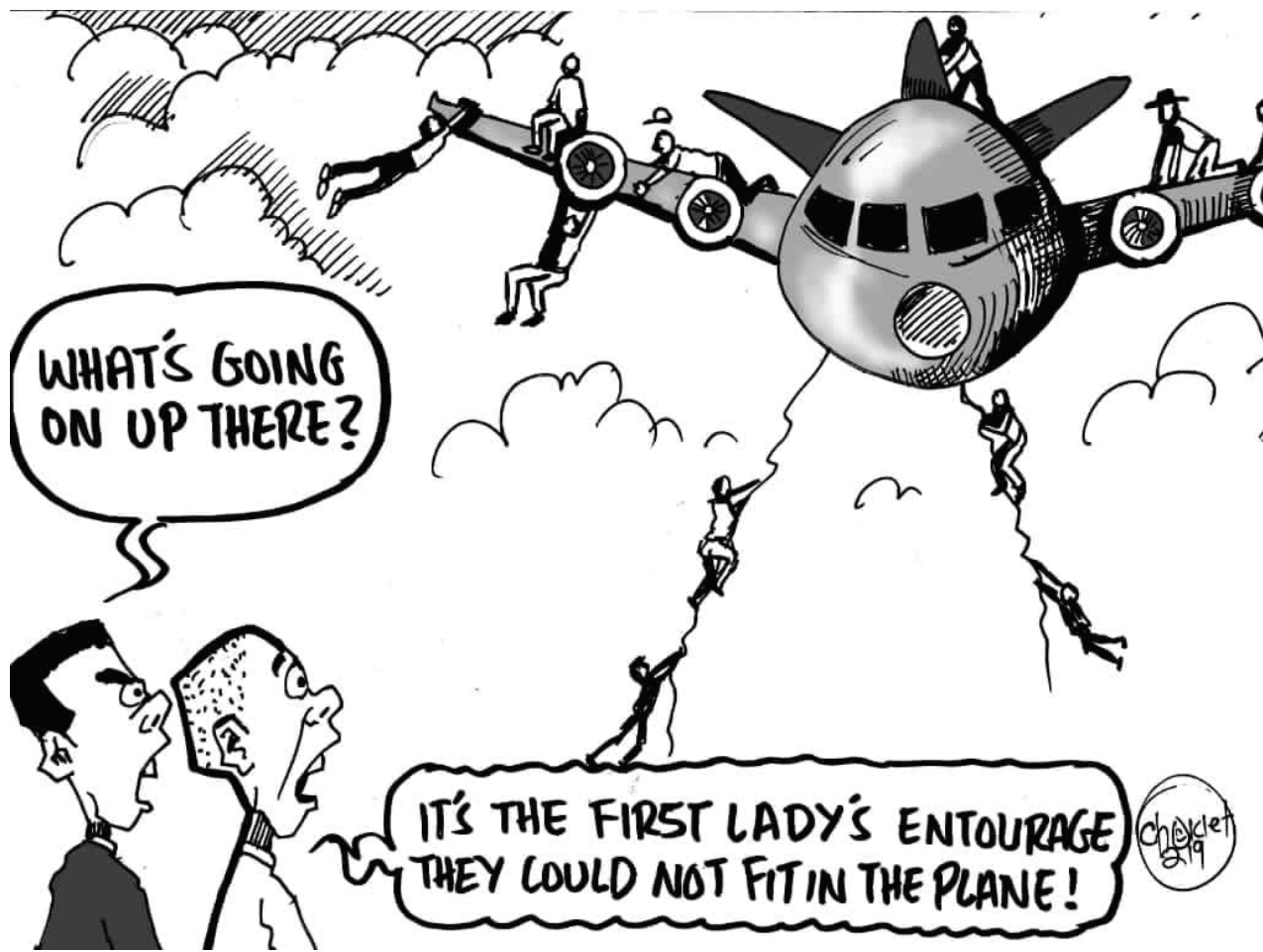
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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Diminished</li> <li>4. That man</li> <li>6. Gorilla or Chimp</li> <li>7. Lawn trimming tool</li> <li>8. Assist</li> <li>9. Embrace</li> <li>11. Worry</li> <li>14. Grazing ground</li> <li>15. Antiquated</li> <li>17. Chest bone</li> <li>18. Pig holder</li> <li>19. Slackened</li> </ol> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unspoiled</li> <li>2. Pooch</li> <li>3. Projectile for target board</li> <li>4. It pumps blood</li> <li>5. Furious</li> <li>10. Figure out</li> <li>12. ___ and dined</li> <li>13. Fleshy ear part</li> <li>14. Flesh under the nose</li> <li>16. Disk operating system</li> </ol> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Solutions to puzzle 274





# Reader's feedback



## Sunday's remarks that if Kambwili attends dialogue, PF will send its intercity branch

Editor,  
 "Thank you Sunday Chanda you have now told the world and country PF has a branch at intercity which is brutal," - Solomon Kabize Choombe

Without biasness and deception, Chanda's statement is very clear. He says if Kambwili insists on or actually attends the dialogue, then "PF will send it's intercity branch officials as representatives" at the talks. He hasn't said they are going there to

attack and beat Kambwili. Don't twist things here. of course he has said ECL's supporters would react and defend him from wanton attacks and insults. But Chanda didn't say the intercity branch would be sent to the dialogue for that purpose although they are ECL's supporters," - Jameson Munengo

"The intercity branch issue was unnecessary and just made the whole conversation foolish. If you bring "Commando" Kambwili will bring "Sky Joe" ask Commando about this guy. We don't need unnecessary bloodshed we are a peaceful nation, let's work towards a One Zambia One Nation. God bless Zambia," - Brighton B. Banda

## Msokotwane's warning for Zambians to brace for tough economy this year

Dear Editor,  
 "The problem we have as a country is lack of Management Accountants in all spheres of critical Decision making Government departments. For example, you will find that FRA has a Financial Accountant and not Management Accountant hence, confused maize marketing price year in year out. We need Management Accountants in most government institutions for reliability

of most statements issued by Mangers of these institutions," - Musonda David

"I don't cherish my government being arm twisted by anybody let alone foreigners. But I equally don't cherish my government lying to me about any national matter let alone that which borders on the state of our national economy. Let us not apply the same posturing "Boasting na Njala" that the PF is using in the National

Dialogue of trying to de-rail the launch if Hon Kambwili attends by sending Inter-City PF thugs to disrupt the launch. We have heard comments of the mining companies can close so that we bring in the Chinese. All this is in the face of the naked truth that Zambians in the current set up of ONLY two tribal groups being in control of everything which has resulted into a collapsed government system. The Australians, Canadians and Chinese KNOW that the tribalism and nepotism that they have seen in our Civil Service can't operate the mines successfully. But we expect the mining sector to contribute heavily to our foreign ex change earnings. Our agriculture sector is currently a disgrace. The only sector of meaningful employment is the Public Service which is over burdened by two tribes as a result enforcement of discipline has become problematic as some workers claim to be "well connected" to State House. For the first time since 1964 two tribes must accept the Socio-Economic Malaise this nation is currently facing," - Christopher Kalima

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

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## PAC's insistence to contest presidency alone

Dear Editor,  
 "Cracks already, Kambwili said the same thing unless he was the one to lead the alliance... This is the selfishness of African politics everywhere," - Akapondo Kansansa  
 "Our Zambian opposition leaders are self-centred. An alliance can't workout Even HH knows it well," -

Andy Chila  
 "Go go go Banda don't listen to weak minded jealous haters, yes u can," - James Scotch Phiri  
 "Cracks already, Kambwili said the same thing unless he was the one to lead the alliance... This is the selfishness of African politics everywhere," - Akapondo Kansansa

## Chanda's explanation that those in Esther's entourage are going to inspect fire trucks donation

Dear Editor,  
 "Since when did Esther become a fire truck engineer? And this Esther foundation, is it into fire truck business? Ba Amos! This is not only inappropriate but also laughable and embarrassing as it is misappropriation. The 10-year challenge simply shows that the PF government is working! Because thin, scrawny people, now look healthy, wealthy and good-looking ten years later. What's your say Sunday Chanda? Commission of enquiry please!!" - Martin Nyanjagha  
 "Amos don't defend things that are undefendable. Why assess the trucks given for free? So they will not accept them if they are not up to Zambian standard?" - Kamwambi James

"Including a cook? Ba Amos please let me bring my application through ala ndepika and know how to inspect things" - Naomi Tetamashimba Khumalo  
 "And out of the 42 wheelbarrows of fire tenders which conform to Zambian standards and terrain, close to 10 have been in accidents, toppling over on their own. So what difference will it make to send cooks, bedroom attendants, waiters and ba ZP to assess these four?" - Muhammad Fofanasia  
 "25 people to inspect 4 wheelbarrows. What are they inspecting? If they have a tank, a horse pipe and wheels. Joke of the day" - Kennedy S Malama



At least 890 people are believed to have been killed in ethnic violence in northwestern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) last month, the United Nations human rights office said on Wednesday, warning that the actual toll could be higher still.

This doubles an estimate provided on Monday by a local priest and a civil society activist who said that at least 400 people had been killed in bloodshed that led the government to cancel voting there in last month's presidential election.

"I have to emphasise that 890 is the number of people we know were actually buried," UN human rights spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani said after the release of a statement on the attacks.

"But there are reports that many others may have been killed and their bodies may have been dumped in the Congo River or they may have been burned to death," she said.

Communal fighting and widespread pillaging around the town of Yumbi led to an estimated 16,000 people seeking refuge by crossing the Congo River into the Republic of Congo, the UN rights office said.

"According to allegations from credible sources, at least 890 people were killed between 16 and 18 December in four villages in Yumbi territory, Mai-Ndombe province in

# Nearly 900 people were killed in a few days in DRC's ethnic violence, says UN

the west of the DRC, in what appear to have been clashes between the Banunu and Batende communities," the UN human rights office statement read.

It said 465 houses and buildings, including schools, a health centre, market and office of the national electoral commission, had been burned or pillaged.

The violence broke out

over a dispute linked to a tribal chief's burial, Shamdasani said.

While the bloodshed was not directly related to the election, a local activist told the Reuters news agency in December that tensions between the two ethnic groups had festered because Batende leaders were supporting the ruling coalition while Banunu leaders backed opposition candidates.

Voting was cancelled in three cities in the area during the December 30 presidential polls. The election was meant to lead to the DRC's first democratic transfer of power since it gained independence from Belgium in 1960 but the provisional results have been disputed by opposition groups and monitors.

"It is crucial that this

shocking violence be promptly, thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators be brought to justice," UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said in a statement.

The rights office said Wednesday that it had launched an investigation into the reports of violence. National judicial authorities are

also conducting a probe, according to the office.

Investigating the claims "is essential to ensure justice for the victims of these horrific attacks, but also to prevent new episodes of intercommunal strife, and to address the anger and feelings of gross injustice that may otherwise lead to repeated cycles of violence between communities," Bachelet said. *AL JAZEERA*

## US in criminal probe of China's Huawei

US authorities are in the "advanced" stages of a criminal probe that could result in an indictment of Chinese technology giant Huawei, a report said Wednesday.

The Wall Street Journal, citing anonymous sources, said the Department of Justice is looking into allegations of theft of trade secrets from Huawei's US business partners, including a T-Mobile robotic device used to test smartphones.

Huawei and the Department of Justice declined to comment on the media report.

However, Huawei noted that "Huawei and T-Mobile settled their disputes in 2017 following a US jury verdict finding neither damage, unjust enrichment nor willful and malicious conduct by Huawei in T-Mobile's trade secret claim."

The move would further escalate tensions between the US and China after the arrest last year in Canada of Huawei's chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou, who is the daughter of the company founder.

The case of Meng, under house arrest awaiting proceedings, has inflamed US-China and Canada-China relations.

Two Canadians have been detained in China since Meng's arrest and a third has been sentenced to death on drug trafficking charges -- moves observers see as attempts by Beijing to pressure Ottawa over her case.

Huawei, the second-largest global smartphone maker and biggest producer of telecommunications equipment, has for years been under scrutiny in the US over purported links

to the Chinese government.

Huawei's reclusive founder Ren Zhengfei, in a rare media interview Tuesday, forcefully denied accusations that his firm engaged in espionage on behalf of the Chinese government.

The tensions come amid a backdrop of President Donald Trump's efforts to get more manufacturing on US soil and slap hefty tariffs on Chinese goods for what he claims are unfair trade practices by Beijing. In a related move, lawmakers introduced a bill to ban the export of American parts and components to Chinese telecom companies that are in violation of US export control or sanctions laws -- with Huawei and fellow Chinese firm ZTE the likely targets.

"Huawei is effectively an intelligence-gathering arm

of the Chinese Communist Party whose founder and CEO was an engineer for the People's Liberation Army," said Republican Senator Tom Cotton, one of the bill's sponsors.

Democratic Senator Chris Van Hollen said in the same statement: "Huawei and ZTE are two sides of the same coin. Both companies have repeatedly violated US laws, represent a significant risk to American national security interests and need to be held accountable."

Last year, Trump reached a deal with ZTE that eases tough financial penalties on the firm for helping Iran and North Korea evade American sanctions.

Trump said his decision in May to spare ZTE came following an appeal by Chinese President Xi Jinping to help save Chinese jobs. *AFP*

Former Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo will stay behind bars after prosecutors appealed against his acquittal on charges of crimes against humanity.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague acquitted him on Tuesday and ordered his immediate release.

But on Wednesday prosecutors challenged the decision to release him, arguing that Mr Gbagbo might abscond.

They said he might not appear in court if his acquittal were to be overturned.

Mr Gbagbo had been charged with crimes against humanity in connection with violence following a disputed 2010 election that left 3,000 dead and 500,000 displaced.

He was captured in 2011 in a presidential palace bunker by UN and French-backed forces supporting his rival, Alassane Ouattara.

He is the first former head of state to go on trial at the ICC.

"Pending the decision of

## Ivory Coast ex-president detained pending appeal

the appeals chamber on this prosecutor's request [Mr Gbagbo] shall remain in ICC custody," a spokesman for the court said in a statement.

"There is a concrete risk that, once released, the accused will not appear for the continuation of the proceeding," prosecutors wrote in a filing.

A ruling on their appeal is expected on Thursday.

Image copyright Reuters  
The violence in Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa producer, came after Mr Gbagbo refused to accept that he had lost a disputed election run-off to Mr Ouattara in 2010.

The five months of violence that followed were described as some of the most brutal clashes the country had ever seen.

During the political stand-off there were bloody



clashes and targeted killings in Abidjan in the south, and several hundred were massacred in the western town of Duekoue. Prosecutors said Mr

Gbagbo clung to power "by all means" and charged him with four counts of crimes against humanity, murder, rape and other forms of sexual violence,

persecution and "other inhuman acts".

He denied the charges, which he said were politically motivated.

ICC judges ruled on

Tuesday that prosecutors had failed to demonstrate "the existence of a 'common plan' to keep Mr Gbagbo in power" which included crimes against civilians.

Presiding Judge Cuno Tarfusser said the prosecution had also "failed to demonstrate that public speeches by Mr Gbagbo constituted ordering or inducing the alleged crimes".

"Whenever a case involving mass atrocities essentially collapses at the ICC, it does damage to the perception of the court as a credible and effective institution of international justice," Mark Kersten, author of Justice in Conflict, told the BBC's Anna Holligan.

"Many are concerned that the court is emerging as an institution where only rebels can be successfully prosecuted," he added.

The prosecution at the ICC has also failed in its attempts to build successful cases against former DR Congo Vice-President Jean-Pierre Bemba, and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta. *BBC*



# Zambian clubs are not good travellers, says Kannemeyer

Former Kaizer Chiefs defender David Kannemeyer is confident Amakhosi will score and keep a clean sheet in their quest to reach the group stages of the Caf Confederation Cup. The Soweto giants need to overcome a 3-1 deficit against Zesco United of Zambia if they are to ensure their passage through to the lucrative stage of the tournament. "Look, it's a big one and they showed their quality against AmaZulu on Wednesday, and credit must go to the entire technical team and the squad," Kannemeyer told Goal.

In order for Chiefs to advance they must score at least two unanswered goals on Saturday night. "It's a big one again on Saturday against Zesco, but they just need to rectify their errors at the back and be confident," he explained. "Football is funny because they could not keep a clean sheet after beating Bidvest Wits 2-0. I am sure the coach has an idea on how to tackle that one, and he is experienced because he has been there and also knows how Zesco plays,"

he explained.

The Cape Town-based legend also suggests that Chiefs must build on their 3-2 win over Usuthu at King Zwelithini Stadium in the Premier Soccer League (PSL).

"I think the best thing is to get hold of the game as early as possible. The confidence is there, I am certain about that because they played very well against AmaZulu," he said.

"I know Zambian clubs are not good travellers and Chiefs must capitalise on that. They must be disciplined, and I am confident they can win because they have a good squad," he

continued.

"I think the fact Khama Billiat was rested against AmaZulu will provide more options because he played a good game in Zambia," said the legend.

"I am sure they will do well on Saturday and wish them all the best. The coach is right to call on the supporters because that will help to cheer the guys on because this is a big tournament," Kannemeyer expressed.

"They must just fight for a win because there is more money for the club, exposure for the players and experience for the youngsters to taste continental football," he concluded. *Goal.com*



## Mourinho engineered Man Utd exit perfectly: Scholes claims Portuguese didn't want to be there

Jose Mourinho "engineered his move away perfectly", says Paul Scholes, with a Manchester United legend convinced that the Portuguese "didn't want to be there" towards the end of his Old Trafford reign.

The Red Devils parted company with a high-profile manager in December after seeing a 3-1 defeat to

arch-rivals Liverpool drop them to a new low in what had already been a testing campaign.

Mourinho had faced plenty of criticism prior to being shown to the exits, with former United favourites such as Scholes among his many detractors.

The 55-year-old has, however, been accused of

bringing about his own downfall, with there a suggestion that he was always looking for a way out once the going got tough.

Scholes told TV2: "I felt he didn't want to be there.

"He engineered his move away perfectly in the end.

"His press conferences were embarrassing, so negative,

it was obvious in the end the players didn't want to play for him. The right thing happened in the end." While Mourinho had few admirers among those who once represented United with such distinction, he also clashed with those at his disposal on a regular basis.

Reports of a rift with star

midfielder Paul Pogba rumbled on until one of them was finally taken out of the equation, while the affable Antonio Valencia was also said to have incurred the wrath of an outspoken coach.

"He fell out with Antonio Valencia who is the nicest man in the world. It's impossible to fall out with Antonio Valencia," said Scholes.

"That was a big sign for me that something wasn't quite right."

Scholes also stands by everything he said about Mourinho and his underperforming United side before the axe was wielded, with the Red Devils having toiled for long periods under a manager full of excuses.

The ex-England international added: "I was just being honest about the questions put to me and what I was seeing from the manager.

"He started complaining very early on in pre-season, saying the kids weren't good enough, which I didn't like from the start."

With Mourinho gone, United have started to rebuild their season under the guidance of Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

He has overseen six successive victories in all competitions and has helped to haul the Red Devils back to within six points of the Premier League's top four. *Goal.com*

# Ghana journalist who exposed African football graft shot dead

Ghanaian police on Thursday opened an investigation after an undercover journalist who helped expose corruption in African football was shot dead.

"Our men are on the ground currently gathering information", said the director of the criminal investigations department, Maame Yaa Tiwaa Addo-Dankwa

"Everyone connected to this murder will be invited for questioning," he told AFP. Ahmed Husein was part of a team led by award-winning journalist Anas Aremeyaw Anas, whose probe led to the resignation of the head of the Ghana Football Association.

Dozens of football referees and officials in several countries were also banned, including Nigerian national team coach Salisu Yusuf, for receiving cash from undercover journalists posing as agents. Husein was shot in the neck and the chest by unknown gunmen on his way home Wednesday night in the capital Accra, police said.

Confirming the incident, Anas tweeted:

"Sad news, but we shall not be silenced. Rest in peace, Ahmed."

Husein had previously made a complaint to police after a Ghanaian lawmaker, Kennedy Agyapong, showed his photograph on a private television channel.

He promised payment for supporters who took retribution against Husein.

"That boy that's very dangerous, he lives here in Madina. If he comes here, beat him," he said, pointing to Husein's image.

In the undercover investigation into football corruption, Agyapong's name was mentioned by implicated sporting officials.

Husein's lawyer, Kissi Agyabeng, said the member of parliament had questions to answer.

"He invited the world to beat him up and said he will pay for it and now he has been killed," he said.

"How can you put pictures of someone out there and splash it on national TV and ask people to go after his life for

a reward? In law this is abetment of crime."

- Press freedom -

The Committee for the Protection of Journalists called for an immediate investigation and for Ghanaian authorities to "ensure that threats against the press are taken seriously".

Ghana ranked 23rd out of 180 countries in the Reporters Without Borders 2018 World Press Freedom Index -- an improvement of three places on the previous year.

RSF has previously condemned threats against Anas himself after he revealed "threatening calls, intimidatory messages and suspicious vehicles near his home".

The reporter, whose other exposes have lifted the lid on graft in the judicial system, is distinctive for wearing hats and face-coverings to conceal his identity.

He has also faced threats from Agyapong, who belongs to President Nana Akufo-Addo's ruling New Patriotic Party.

Ghana's national media regulator condemned the killing.

"It will be in the national interest to arrest the perpetrators of this crime," the commission's chairman Yaw Boadu Ayebofo said in a statement.

Ghanaian journalists condemned the killing of the 34-year-old reporter, who played a key role in last year's investigation.

Football's world governing body FIFA last October banned former Ghana FA boss Kwesi Nyantakyi for life and fined him nearly \$500,000 (439,000 euros) after he was seen on camera accepting bribes.

Nyantakyi was accused of requesting \$11 million to secure government contracts. Eight referees and assistant referees were banned for life while 53 officials were subject to 10-year bans. Fourteen officials were exonerated.

The revelations rocked Ghana, a country where football is the national sport and which prides itself as a stable democracy in an often turbulent region. *AFP*



### Ghana journalist who exposed African football graft shot dead



Anas Aremeyaw Anas, pictured here during an interview with AFP last June, led the investigation team that included Ahmed Husein - AFP. Story page 11



Montrezl Harrell #5 of the Los Angeles Clippers battles Rudy Gobert #27 of the Utah Jazz for a loose ball during the second half of a game at Staples Center on Wednesday in Los Angeles, California. The Utah Jazz defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 129-109

## If council fails to sponsor LCC...

**By Diggers Reporter**  
Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa says if the city council will run out of funds to support sports, he will sell all his clothes to sponsor the LCC Football Club so that it is elevated back into the Super League. Speaking when he visited the team at Nationalist Stadium on Wednesday, Sampa pledged maximum support to the team so that it play in the elite league next season. "I will give you all the maximum support. We don't want only Zanaco in Lusaka, we want Lusaka City Council to be in charge of Lusaka. So work hard, listen to your coaches. I will give you all the support. If the council doesn't have money to sponsor you, I will sell all my clothes to sponsor you so that you go in Premier Leagues" Sampa said. He added that he wants LCC football team to dominate in the Football

# I'LL SELL ALL MY CLOTHES - MILES

Association of Zambia (FAZ) Zone One South League, saying that was one sure way of attracting sponsors as well as give fans the morale to attend matches. The Mayor also urged players to work hard so that one day they can feature for big clubs across the word. "We want the morale to be in Lusaka and this will attract people to watch matches. This will also

make you players earn more money. I will make sure that once you work hard, you get noticed so that you play for big European teams. As Mayor, I will do my best to help you so that you excel in your careers," he said. Meanwhile, Sampa said he would liaise with the LCC management to ensure that the challenges the club was facing are addressed.

"I will talk to my team so that we attract sponsors and ensure that challenges you are facing are ironed out," said Sampa. And LCC coach Weston Mumba said he was happy that the Mayor took some time off his busy duties to attend the training match in a friendly encounter with Super League side, Nkwazi football club. LCC finished fifth last season in the FAZ Zone One South League.

