



# EL SHAKES GOVT

## ...kicks out Msiska, Mateyo, Malama, Pwete



President Lungu with diplomats and other foreign officials after they presented credentials to him at State House yesterday - Picture by Salim Henry

### Lupando Mwape dies in SA

*By Thomas Mulenga*  
Former Republican Vice President Lupando Mwape has died in a Johannesburg hospital in South Africa where he was admitted last week. Vice President Inonge Wina authorised the evacuation of Mwape to South Africa for specialised treatment after he was admitted to the University Teaching Hospital for nine days. Mwape, 68, served as Republican Vice President in the Levy Mwanawasa administration from 2004 to 2006. **To Page 4**

### Lungu lacks credibility as SADC chair, he can't solve Zambia's problems – Chipimo

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
President Edgar Lungu is undermining his credibility as chairperson for the SADC organ on politics, defence, and security by offering advice to other countries which he himself is failing to implement in Zambia, says NAREP president Elias Chipimo.

In an interview, Chipimo said it was unreasonable for President Lungu to purport to be a "problem-solver" for challenges faced by other countries when he was failing to solve problems of his own country. **Story page 4**

### Zesco sub-station fault grants Lusaka civil servants 'day off'

*By Stuart Lisulo*  
Some civil servants working in government institutions that are located around the

Lusaka Civic Centre were forced to leave work shortly after reporting, owing to a power blackout that was caused by a faulty Zesco sub-station transformer. Zesco spokesperson Henry Kapata said that several

areas surrounding the LCC have been experiencing a power outage since Sunday afternoon, including government wings such as the ZNS Headquarters, Civic Centre and Government Complex. **To Page 3**

### Bloomberg launches Financial Journalism course in Zambia

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Children of Lusaka's Ng'ombe Compound draw water from a nearby stream within the township over the weekend - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

### 'Miniskirt' juvenile, auntie plead not guilty to damaging property worth K70

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
Lusaka Magistrate Rachael Mwansa has advised the State to consider a 'plea bargain' or reconciliation in the matter in which a 16-year-old juvenile and her auntie are facing one count of malicious damage to property worth K70 as it is a misdemeanour. **To Page 3**

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
President Edgar Lungu will not be renewing the contract for Secretary to the Cabinet Dr Roland Msiska, which ends on February 20, 2019, State House has announced. In a statement containing various reshuffles at Permanent Secretary level, President Lungu's Press

# Msiska leaves Cabinet Office, as Lungu reshuffles permanent secretaries

Aide Amos Chanda stated that the Head of State has assigned Dr Msiska to head the Zambia Atomic Agency (AMATOM), while Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet in charge of administration Patrick Kangwa has been appointed to act as

Secretary to the Cabinet starting next month. "Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of General Education Dr Felix Phiri goes to Luapula Province in the same capacity, taking over from Dr Buleti Nsemukila who goes to Eastern Province. Permanent Secretary for Eastern Province Chanda Kasolo has since been transferred to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, taking over from Geoffrey Malama whose contract has not been renewed," Chanda announced. "Central Province Permanent Secretary Chanda Kabwe becomes National Coordinator for the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) under the office of the Vice-President, taking over from Ms Yande Mwape who becomes Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Chiefs and Traditional

Affairs. The contract for the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs Michael Pwete has not been renewed." He said the President has also sent Permanent Secretary for Management Development Division (MDD) at Cabinet Office Ndashe Yumba to the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, swapping with his counterpart Trevor Kaunda. "Permanent Secretary for Community Development and Social Services Dr Leah Mutale goes to the Ministry of Home Affairs, responsible for refugees in the same capacity while her counterpart at the Ministry of Home Affairs Ms Pamela Kabamba moves to the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. Dr Jobbix Kalumba, Permanent Secretary for Muchinga Province has been transferred to Ministry of General Education in the same capacity. In his place, deputy Permanent Secretary for Copperbelt Province Joyce Nsamba has since been promoted to head Muchinga Province as Permanent Secretary," stated Chanda. "Meanwhile, Director of Infrastructure at the Ministry of Health Mulalelo Kakulubelwa has been promoted to Permanent Secretary responsible for administration at the same Ministry. Permanent Secretary in charge of Technical Services at the Ministry of Health Dr Jabbin Mulwanda moves to Cabinet Office on holding position. And Deputy Permanent Secretary for Western Province Bernard Chomba has been promoted to Pemanent Secretary for Central Province. Deputy Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs Willies Manjimela becomes Permanent Secretary for North Western Province, taking over from Ephraim Mateyo whose contract has not been renewed. Mwinilunga District Commissioner Danny Bukali becomes Deputy Permanent Secretary for Western Province." In the Zambia Police, President Lungu has transferred Eastern Province Police Commissioner, Alex Chilufya to Police Service Headquarters in charge of operations. The President has also transferred Lusaka Division Deputy Commissioner Geoffrey Kunda to Eastern Province in the same Capacity, taking over from Sharon Zulu who moves to Lusaka in the same Capacity.

## Lungu's civil servants are failing to deliver in agriculture sector - Banda

**By Zindikilani Banda in Sinda**  
President Edgar Lungu should be vigilant enough to know that some of his civil servants are making his government fail to respond to the cries of the people, says Sinda politician Thaulo Banda. In an interview, Banda cautioned the Head of State to be alert because some civil servants are frustrating government's ability to deliver on its promises. Banda cited the continued failure of the electronic voucher system, which has not been working for farmers in the area. He explained that farmers in Sinda were angry and lamented the manner in which they have been treated by government through the Ministry of Agriculture

under the e-voucher programme. Banda, who contested the Ching'ombe ward election on the Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) ticket in 2016, wondered why government was still persisting on maintaining the e-voucher when it had failed to work. "Here in villages we can't say much but in our hearts, we have a lot to do action-wise. In this, case let the President be careful because the people he employs are not doing a good job for the government, and as the result, the blame goes to the government. So, he has to check and take action on the complaints of the people who elected him," Banda said. "Without beating about the bush, PF

has failed in this district, Sinda! I am talking of agriculture because we are using the e-voucher system, which has totally failed, but unfortunately, government can't reason that the programme is not ideal for the people. Imagine, up to now we don't have Urea fertilizer and others even D Compound, they don't have it. Where are we going with this government?" He explained that the old system of input delivery worked better for farmers. "The old system is doing good and better in other districts that is why you don't hear complaints from them. Now farmers are not happy with PF government and let it not wonder if tables turn upside down in the years to come," observed Banda.

## Reverend sues Chibusa Wabonse General Dealers over K230,000 debt

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
A reverend of Lusaka's Kamwala South has dragged a company in Central Province called 'Chibusa Wabonse General Dealers' and its director, Elias Kate, to Court for failing to pay back K230,000, borrowed in 2016. In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court recently, Rev Godfrey Mulenga, who is also a farmer, stated that in June 2016, the defendants approached him while he was at his farm in Katikulula resettlement Scheme, seeking to borrow from him K260,000 to buy a heavy truck motor vehicle for business purposes. He added that the defendants promised to repay the money by November that same year. Rev Mulenga stated that the defendants convinced him to lend the money to the company, assuring him that the company had secured a contract to transport farming inputs and crops from farmers to government depots, and inputs to farmers. He stated that he gave the defendants K230,000 to purchase the motor vehicle, but added that they had failed to pay back the money as promised.

"The plaintiff gave the defendants K230,000 and defendants purchased the motor vehicles and used them to conduct business, but failed to pay back the money as they promised. There is a breach of contract on part of the defendants," read the statement of claim. Rev Mulenga further stated that the defendants had been giving excuses about their failure to

repay the money, yet they had continued securing contracts to transport the farming inputs and crops, which contracts paid them enough money to repay the borrowed funds. He stated that he asked the defendants to give him the two trucks as payment of his money but they refused. Rev Mulenga lamented that the said money was meant for the continued

development of his farm and payment of workers, but the defendants had disturbed his plans. He added that as a result, he had failed to farm or pay his workers. "The defendants' action has caused the plaintiff to lose workers. And the 35 hectares of land he had cleared and used to farm on has now become a bush," read the statement of claim.

He is now claiming damages for breach of contract, payment of K230,000 being the money owed to him, damages for disturbing his plan to develop his farm and an order that the defendants immediately surrender the two trucks, or a house or the two shops situated in Chitambo District, Central Province in default of paying the K230,000.



**Solwezi trader Rodgers Mwewa (l) sorts beans on sale while giving his success story to Fortune World Investments chairman Andrew Kafuta (in suit) as administration director Patrick Matanda looks on - Picture by Claver Mutinta/SUMA SYSTEMS.**

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lusaka Magistrate Rachael Mwansa has advised the State to consider a 'plea bargain' or reconciliation in the matter in which a 16-year-old juvenile and her auntie are facing one count of malicious damage to property worth K70 as it's a misdemeanour. The duo were on Monday last week discharged of the offence of idle and disorderly conduct in connection with how the 28-year-old auntie allegedly responded to a police officer

# 'Miniskirt' juvenile, auntie plead not guilty to damaging property worth K70

over her niece's 'indecent dressing', but had remained in custody for allegedly damaging police padlocks. The circumstances that led to the arrest of the two last year has caused an uproar and different stakeholders have continued to express interest despite the previous

case being discontinued. Yesterday, various civil society organisations and youth activists gathered at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court to offer solidarity to the duo as they took plea to the new charge. In this matter, Mirriam Mwanza and her juvenile

niece are jointly-charged with the offence of malicious damage to property. Particulars of the offence allege that on December 22, 2018, the duo jointly and whilst acting together wilfully and unlawfully damaged two padlocks valued at K70, property of

the Zambia Police Service. And when the matter came up for plea before Magistrate Mwansa, Monday, the duo pleaded not guilty. However, Magistrate Mwansa advised the State and defence to consider a plea bargain and if that fails, go into reconciliation as she feels the offence the duo are charged with is a misdemeanour and they could not go into trial over K70. A plea bargain is any agreement between the prosecutor and defendant whereby the defendant agrees to plead guilty to a particular charge in return for some concession from the prosecutor. The matter comes up on February 11 for possible trial. And speaking after court, Action Aid Executive Director Nalucha Ziba said her organisation wanted to ensure that justice prevailed in the matter. "We just want to ensure that justice prevails in the case because there are quite a number of things; we have the juvenile and the youth in this case who are both female and we are trying to see how the judicial processes and systems are facilitating for them to have a fair hearing and trial at the end of the day," Ziba told journalists. And NGOCC executive director Engwase Mwale

said it was in their interest to monitor the proceedings of the case because it was testing the justice system. "As NGOCC, we are providing the solidarity to the young women. This is a case that is testing the justice system so it is in our interest as a movement to ensure that we monitor the proceedings. This is one case that will be of much focus for us especially with regards to justice for women and girls," Mwale said. Meanwhile, Zambia National Students Union (ZANASU) Finance and Investments Secretary Isiah Mambwe expressed sadness over the matter, saying the officer should have handled the case better than arresting the two. "As ZANASU, we feel this case wasn't well handled. There should have been a better way the officer should have done it. He should have probably spoken to the child and this shouldn't have reached this far. We express sadness over this," Mambwe said. He agreed with the Magistrate's suggestion for the parties to reconcile, saying reconciliation was the best direction. Last week, the State discontinued the matter in which the accused persons were charged with idle and disorderly conduct allegedly in connection with how the juvenile's auntie responded to a police officer over her niece's dressing. It was alleged that on the material day, the juvenile wore a short skirt and as she passed by Kamanga Police Station in the company of her auntie, and an officer asked her why she was wearing mini skirt. But her auntie challenged the officer for allowing another person who was dressed in a similar manner to pass through earlier. Her reaction to the police's question allegedly led to the apprehension of the two. P i c k e d Picked

## 5 perish in separate road accidents

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Five people have died on the spot while three others have sustained serious injuries in separate road traffic accidents in Kafue and Chisamba respectively. Police spokesperson Esther Katongo revealed in a statement that the first incident happened in Kafue on Sunday around 17:00 hours where four people died on the spot. Katongo stated that the accident happened when the driver of a Toyota Allion lost control after overtaking improperly and went and hit into another vehicle from behind and in the process was also hit by an oncoming truck. "Involved in the accident was a Toyota Allion registration number BAG7111, which was being driven by Himbala Hatembo, 31, of Lusaka driving from south to north with three passengers on board. Also involved was a motor vehicle Hyundai registration number BAF 2325 being driven by Beardmo

Grey Alice, 30, from south to north and Freightliner truck AJD 2883 being driven from north to south by Dennis Mweemba, 40. The accident happened when the driver of Toyota Allion overtook improperly and hit into a Hyundai from behind, lost control and was hit by a Freightliner truck, which was coming in the opposite direction," Katongo stated. She stated that the driver of the Toyota Allion identified as Himbala Hatembo aged 31 years and all his three passengers died on the spot. Katongo identified the three other deceased as Luciano Philipo Cebolo aged 29, Samuel Malcom Billington aged 26, and a female only identified as Twambo. In another development, a 49-year-old driver of a Toyota Ipsum died on the spot in an accident, which happened in Chisamba, Sunday. Katongo further revealed that the accident occurred when a driver of a Scania Truck was overtaking

improperly and in the process went to hit into the Toyota Ipsum. She stated that the driver of the Ipsum died on the spot, while his three passengers sustained serious injuries and are admitted at Liteta Hospital. "A driver of a Toyota Ipsum registration number BAJ 5034 identified as Paul Bwalya Mpange, aged 49, died on the spot in a fatal Road Traffic Accident, which occurred on Sunday, 20th January, 2019 around 20:00 hours in Chisamba on Great North Road. Involved in the accident was a Scania Truck registration number ALB 6507, a property of Mount Meru, which was being driven by John Meleki Simalambo aged 45 years of Zanimuone in Lusaka from the direction of South to North and a Toyota Ipsum registration number BAJ 5034, which was driven by Paul Bwalya Mpange aged 49 years of Meanwood Kwamena, Lusaka, driving from the direction of North to South," stated Katongo.

# Zesco subs-station fault grants Lusaka civil servants 'day off'

By Stuart Lisulo

Some civil servants working in government institutions that are located around the Lusaka Civic Centre were forced to leave work shortly after reporting, owing to a power blackout that was caused by a faulty Zesco sub-station transformer. Confirming the incident in an interview, Zesco Limited spokesperson Henry Kapata told News Diggers! Monday that several areas surrounding the LCC experiencing a power outage from Sunday afternoon until today, including government wings such as the Zambia National Service (ZNS) Headquarters, Zambia Police Headquarters, Civic Centre and Government Complex, among others. "We had some major fault at our Civic Centre sub-station on a transformer and now, that fault is something that we will have to approach with caution. So, we started working on

that fault the entire night [Sunday], but we had to abandon the works later on in the night, and started off this [Monday] morning. Apparently, some technical part of it will require that a major component be removed. The issue here looks quite challenging, but we are getting over it," Kapata said in an interview. He explained that power was not expected to be restored until Tuesday morning and outlined the various affected government departments. "We are now looking at the early hours of tomorrow (Tuesday) because the team has just been told now to do this thing overnight so [that] all works are complete. We are talking about ZNS Headquarters; some old wings of the Government Complex; Civic Centre; the traffic signals at the junction here, all the traffic and street lights," said Kapata, adding that other government offices like Force Headquarters had standby

generators to cushion the power disruption. By press time, some public

workers at Government Complex had to knock off before lunchtime owing to

the power outage, which also affected water reticulation and supply in the building.



Solwezi farmer Edward Makai (c) checks on maize plants for pests as Fortune World Investments chairman Andrew Kafuta (in a suit) with administration director Patrick Matanda look on – Picture by Claver Mutinta/SUMA SYSTEMS.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

President Edgar Lungu is undermining his credibility as chairperson for the SADC organ on politics, defence, and security by offering advice to other countries which he himself is failing to implement in Zambia, says NAREP president Elias Chipimo. In an interview, Chipimo said it was unreasonable for President Lungu to purport to be a “problem-solver” for challenges faced by other countries when he was failing to solve problems of his own country. “It is unacceptable and it undermines his credibility as his so-called mediator or advisor to other countries or other Heads of State and other stakeholders to be offering advice that he himself is failing to implement. People tend to follow what you say rather than what you do and it’s a very costly exercise to have our Head of State purporting to be a mediator or a problem-solver when in his own

## Lungu lacks credibility as SADC chair, he can’t solve Zambia’s problems - Chipimo

backyard, he is incapable of resolving the problems that we are experiencing, many of which can be resolved through a dialogue and unity reconciliation process. Now, if he has failed even just to attend a dialogue process and if he keeps putting up road blocks for that dialogue process in his own country, does he have any legitimacy whatsoever to be going

elsewhere proclaiming the prescription that he himself is failing to purchase and swallow?” Chipimo asked. “His credibility is very low if he is expecting to influence other countries into a reconciliation process that he himself is not prepared to take. So, if I am a salesman and I drive a particular car, but I spend my time trying to market a car, which I don’t drive

myself, will the customers take me seriously? I don’t think so. If I am a doctor and I fail to take my own advice and I die of a disease that I am claiming I have the cure for, will the people who are buying the advice and my medication take me seriously? I don’t think so. If I am a drunkard and I say: ‘I have a cure for alcoholism’ but I myself I remain an alcoholic,

will people really buy my products? I don’t think so. So, we need seriousness when it comes to looking at our own national reconciliation challenges, then we can be an example to other countries.” And Chipimo said Lungu’s position as chairman of the Troika organ should instead make him realise his responsibility back home and start

doing the right things. “Now that he has that responsibility as a chairman of a particular SADC organ, he must now start doing the very things, which he has responsibility for advising others to do. This should actually prompt him to realise that now this: ‘even me in my own situation I am not doing these things.’ That position should now make him realise his lack of commitment to the responsibility he has had all these years and start to exercise the right decisions and actions,” said Chipimo.

By Thomas Mulenga

Former Republican Vice President Lupando Mwape has died in a Johannesburg hospital in South Africa where he was admitted last week. And President Edgar Lungu says he is saddened with the death of Mwape and wishes the bereaved family strength during the mourning period. Vice President Inonge Wina authorised the evacuation of Mwape to South Africa for specialised treatment

## Lungu mourns Lupando Mwape

after he was admitted to the University Teaching Hospital for nine days. Mwape, 68, served as Republican Vice President in the Levy Mwanawasa administration from 2004 to 2006. He also served as member of parliament for Lukashya constituency of Northern Province and

was later appointed as Ambassador to China. In a statement issued by President Lungu’s Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda, President Lungu expressed sadness with Mwape’s passing and has since directed Cabinet office to prepare a State funeral in honour of the late former

Republican Vice President. “His Excellency Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu President of the Republic of Zambia has received the death of Mr Mwape with considerable regret and conveys his sincere condolences to the bereaved family. The President is deeply saddened and prays that God Almighty will grant the bereaved family solace and fortitude as they mourn their beloved,” read the statement. “Cabinet Office has since been instructed to proceed with the preparations for the State funeral in honour of the former Vice-President.” Meanwhile, veteran politician Vernon Mwaanga described Mwape’s passing as a great loss to the nation as he was a decent man who served the country with humility and integrity. “I am deeply saddened by the passing on of our former vice-president Honourable Lupando Mwape in [a] Johannesburg hospital. He was a decent man who served with humility and

unrivalled integrity. A deeply religious man who respected all people regardless of their status in society. Soft spoken, it was such a great honour to serve with him in government and admire at close range, his belief in the spirit of ‘One Zambia, One Nation.’ I have lost a friend who has left an indelible imprint of hard work, integrity and service to our country,” Mwaanga stated. He said he hopped young politicians would be inspired by Mwape’s commitment and wisdom exhibited as he served the country in different positions. “My deepest condolences go to his wife and family who have lost an icon and leader of immeasurable proportion. They have reason to feel proud of what he has been able to achieve in his life. It is my hope and prayer that his wisdom, commitment to the service of his country and hard work, will inspire many young politicians forward,” stated Mwaanga.



Minister of Information Dora Siliya poses for a photo with Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa Financial Journalism delegates after launching the project at Raddison Blu Hotel yesterday

By Thomas Mulenga

University of Zambia (UNZA) political science lecturer Dr Alex Ng’oma says Zambians must learn from the Zimbabwean situation that change of government leadership does not always yield positive results. And Dr Ng’oma says he cannot see regime change coming to Zambia in 2021 as there is nothing wrong with the current regime. In an interview with News Diggers! Dr Ng’oma said people should only change government when they are sure that the change would make them better than they were in the previous government. “People must understand the fact that, change can also be change for the worst! People always assume that change always happens for the better, but it doesn’t always happen that way. Zimbabweans are finding it difficult now to get the essential commodities that they so much need and,

## Change of govt doesn’t always bring good results - Ngoma

therefore, it is important that people are very careful even as they call for regime change anywhere, they should not call for change for the sake of change. When calling for change, people must have an understanding of the kind of change that they want and how they are going to affect that change. Zimbabweans wanted change, they got it, now see where they are, they are worse off! So, it is important to know what kind of change you want as a people in order to avoid having the kind of change that later causes you more pain than good, as the case is in Zimbabwe right now,” Dr Ng’oma advised. “If people are not careful,

political change can impact negatively on the economy and other sectors of the economy, we have to be very careful. Change must be well-calculated. Effective change would be when people change the regime and they end up better than they were before, that would be positive change. So, people must change only when they are very sure that they will end up better than they are because what happened in Zimbabwe is that things are getting worse.” And Dr Ng’oma said he could not see regime change in Zambia in 2021, arguing that there is nothing wrong with the current government.

“I am actually reluctant to say change would happen in Zambia. People are calling for change and they have the right to call for change, the opposition has the right to call for change because minus that, the opposition will become irrelevant. But it’s important that people look at what they have and what they are likely to get in future. The danger is that you may end up being worse off than you are, it’s dangerous and meaningless. I do not see anything bad in the current regime and so I wouldn’t see anything better later. You see, there are people who are heroes when they are in the opposition but when they go into government, they

are stranded, that’s what Emerson Munangagwa did; he said all sorts of things about Mugabe, he is put into government, he fails to function! So, people must be very careful!” Dr Ng’oma cautioned. He advised Zambians to treasure the peace in order to maintain a stable economy. “The mistake the Zimbabweans are making is that of failing to appreciate the fact that the damage that had been done to the country under Mugabe, cannot be sorted out under one year; it will take a lot of time to put everything back on track and so the people of Zimbabwe must be patient. The people of

Zambia should learn from the Zimbabwean situation that it is very important to guard jealously that which we have, because once it is lost, it is very difficult to restore. Remember, Zimbabweans used to trek to Zimbabwe to buy things to come and resell in Zambia, now it’s the Zimbabweans who are trooping to Zambia to come and order things to go and sell in their country. And so, it is important for us to treasure what we have because once the economy is destroyed, once the foundation is destroyed, it takes a lot of time to reconstruct it, that’s what Zimbabweans must learn from the Zimbabwean situation,” advised Dr Ng’oma.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Aspiring PF Lusaka Provincial chairman Emmanuel Chilubanama says his fellow contenders have nothing to sell because they have all failed before.

And Chilubanama says Kennedy Kamba is vying for a position that is beyond his capacity, adding that his other contender Geoffrey Chuumbwe has been in the position before and had nothing to show for what he did during his reign.

In an interview, Chilubanama argued that none of his contenders for the PF Lusaka provincial chairmanship position had anything to offer Lusaka residents because some of them had previously tried, but failed.

He also explained that he wanted to bring maturity and sanity in the ruling party's

# My contenders have nothing to offer Lusaka, says Chilubanama

provincial structures. "Emmanuel Chilubanama is coming and bringing into the provincial chairmanship vast experience [and] from my experience as an accomplished entrepreneur and also having served as a very high level as a civil servant, I will bring my vast experience and connections from the corporate world and also from the civil service. I wish to run programmes of empowerment for the youths and the womenfolk. The idea is also to work on reducing the

levels of poverty and creation of self employment since we cannot leave that only to government," Chilubanama said.

He said he would introduce training programmes for all provincial committees so that members could understand their job descriptions, among other things.

"I also want to streamline and sanitise the operations of the party at provincial level. We are going to introduce training programmes for all committees to ensure

[that] they know their job descriptions and what they are supposed to be doing. The programmes will border on campaign programmes, capacity-building programmes, resource mobilisation programmes and above all, I am a firm believer in what we call the four pillars; that of peace, love, unity and reconciliation, which we need to inculcate in the general membership of the party to ensure harmony thrives. And we have already started doing some of those things, we

believe in walking our talks," Chilubanama added.

"I am a self-proclaimed peace ambassador [and a] believer in zero tolerance to violence. We want to ensure [that] we eradicate violence in all the party ranks. Zambians are peaceful people [and] being peaceful people, we would like to preach peace, love, unity and reconciliation and zero tolerance to violence."

Asked if he felt the pressure of competing with three other powerful contenders, Chilubanama, a former State

House Permanent Secretary, said the other contenders had nothing to sell.

"The other contenders have been there before; Geoffrey Chuumbwe was provincial chairperson before and he has got nothing to show for what he did; my young man Kennedy Kamba failed lamentably and I think what he is vying for is way bigger than his capacity! If he did not deliver as a youth provincial chairperson, how do you expect him to deliver as a provincial chairperson? Nonetheless, I do not discuss what my colleagues did. I wish to base my campaigns and my discussions purely on issues, let the electorate judge. I am coming in as a new person with a track record of having worked with the party and empowered them so much. No one does not know Chilubanama, especially amongst the youth. So, I am bringing hope and a lot of encouragement to the general membership of the party. I am bringing maturity, and I am bringing experience, I am bringing sanity," said Chilubanama.

"I view myself as way ahead of the other three contenders. So, we definitely are carrying the day [and] that I can assure you. My dear colleague, when people resort to violence it means they have failed to reason with each other. I wish to promote the issue of dialogue very seriously, talking to each other and communicating effectively with all the membership and all the committees. The only solution to violence is dialogue, not only dialogue within ourselves but also dialogue with my counterparts in the other political parties."

# Bloomberg launches Financial Journalism course in Zambia

By Mukosha Funga

The Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa (BMIA) Financial Journalism Training Program to advance business and financial reporting has been launched in Zambia.

More than 50 delegates will take part in the first intake of the training that will be offered in partnership with the University of Lusaka Business School, and the University of Zambia's Department of Media and Communication.

Speaking at the event, Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services, Dora Siliya observed that journalism standards had dwindled in the country.

She said she was therefore excited that Bloomberg had invested in building capacity amongst Zambian journalists to better report on the local economy.

"As government, we have observed with great concern that journalism standards in the country have gone down. This is a paradox considering that the media industry is growing very rapidly. Government has also invested heavily in broadcast media with digital technology across the country. There are currently over a 115 radio stations, over 55 TV stations, over 11 newspaper publications as well as a number of online publications. But all this is over shadowed by the sometimes below par standards of journalism. Most of the journalism is restricted only to politics and it is usually the pitting of one political party against the other and as a result, there are not many stories of other issues of public interest. This is why I was overjoyed to learn that the Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa has extended the financial journalism training initiative to Zambia, to be facilitated by the University of Zambia and the University of Lusaka," said Siliya.

"We are pleased to be attending yet another BMIA milestone event in Zambia and be part

of the launch of the financial journalism training program in the country. The Zambian economy is constantly evolving and changing, so it is crucial that the press develops accordingly. I am confident that this program will support the continuous progression of the Zambian media by exposing them to leading financial journalism experts."

And BMIA Director Erana Stennett said it was time African journalists reclaimed the narrative about the continent by providing factual, well researched articles.

"We are excited to be back here in Zambia soon after the success of the African Business Media Innovators summit to launch the BMIA Financial Journalism Training Program. We have seen the positive impact the program had in other markets and hope the training helps further the development, quality, accuracy and impact of the financial journalism field in Africa," said Stennett.

University of Zambia Vice Chancellor Professor

Luke Evuta Mumba and his University of Lusaka counterpart Professor Pinalo Chifwanakeni both thanked Bloomberg for the initiative, saying they were confident it would enhance financial journalism in the country.

During the next six months, the delegates will spend 19 days in sessions led by prominent faculty at the two local educational institutions and will cover topics to strengthen their skills in data analysis, capital markets, accounting, public policy, economics and journalism. They will also have a free subscription to the global data, news and information provided on the Bloomberg Terminal.

The Training Program was previously offered in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, graduating more than 500 delegates. The program was also recently expanded to Ghana.

The Training Program is a core component of the BMIA, which aims to contribute to the advancement of business and financial reporting in Africa,

recognizing the important role the media plays in promoting transparency, accountability and good governance. The BMIA is a project of Bloomberg Philanthropies. The Training Program in Zambia will also receive support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

"We are very excited to see the start of this new phase of the Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa Financial Journalism Training program. The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) is proud to partner with Bloomberg in helping equip a global talent pool of journalists with the sort of specialist expertise that can drive them towards attaining a high level of professional excellence. This is the basis of a robust, ethical, independent press, which now seems to

be more critical than ever," said Andreas Dracopoulos, co-President of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

Since its launch, BMIA has reached more than 1,000 stakeholders in Africa, with delegates from 13 countries graduating from the BMIA Financial Journalism Training Program.

BMIA has also sponsored four annual conferences for media owners and senior leaders in business, government and civil society, with the most recent taking place in Livingstone last November; a Fellowship for editors and senior journalists and a fund to promote community media and citizen journalism. The Ford Foundation has also provided support for some of these activities.

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# INEQUALITIES IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

God has blessed us with a beautiful country, which is abundantly endowed. There are unique opportunities in literally every part of the country. Any Government is expected to facilitate the exploitation of such natural resources for the greater good of all citizens of this country. Just as all regions contribute to the national pool of resources, all provinces should also benefit from the national cake. There should be fairness in the distribution of resources across regions. Unfortunately, under the PF Government, there is rampant discrimination in the allocation of national resources to regions.

We are all alive to the historical circumstances that led to the current pattern of regional development. The colonial Government concentrated developments along the line of rail, which linked the mining region of the Copperbelt to the predominantly agriculture and commercial based areas of the Central and Southern parts. The major economic and social infrastructure were focused on these areas, resulting in skewed development. This was the genesis of the rural-urban migration, as we know it today.

In a quest to address the inequities arising from the biased colonial development process, the immediate independence Government implemented interventions aimed at improving infrastructure and social service allocation across all regions. It was because of UNIP policies that regional referral hospitals were built in every province and first level referral hospitals established in every district. Health centers and primary schools were constructed around the country, without discrimination.

Credit should be given where it is due! They may have had their faults, but the UNIP Government did us proud in terms of unbiased infrastructure development in all parts of the country. They were definitely adequate for the challenges of the time then.

Fast forward, 2011 and PF is ushered into power, we have seen the worst arbitrariness in the allocation of national resources. Anyone who has travelled the length and breadth of our country won't fail to be moved by the agony, the pain, the hunger that our people face. That man in Chiengwe knows the pain of losing a wife/daughter in labour due to lack of health services; the woman in Kalabo experience the anguish of helplessly watching her children go without food for days, the farmer in Chadiza sits helplessly without farming inputs while that old farmer in Lusitu watches hopelessly as his cattle are ravaged by disease. Countrymen and women, PF has killed service delivery! Health services have collapsed, hunger has ravaged our people, and agricultural extension services went with UNIP.

Our people in their diversity experience the same anguish. Poverty does not choose who to attack. Everyone in the country faces the same adversities and needs the same services! Alas, this Government has perfected the art of discrimination when it comes to allocation of resources. It is not a coincidence that opposition strongholds have the worst roads in the country! Driving from Lusaka to Livingstone, to Mwinilunga, to Mongu is a nightmare! This is totally unacceptable and must be stopped, henceforth! Despite collecting so much money through toll gates, the PF Government is misdirecting this money to non-priority areas, like unnecessary trips abroad for PF party cadets; and dubious trips, such as the reported trip of twenty five people to collect four second hand fire tender.

A UPND in Government will grow the economy, generate enough resources and prudently spend these resources on priority areas, such as road construction and maintenance. A UPND in Government undertakes to improve services delivery by doing the following:



Nurture and entrench a culture of extensive consultations and feasibility works before embarking on any public investment project; realizing the importance of infrastructure for sustained economic growth.

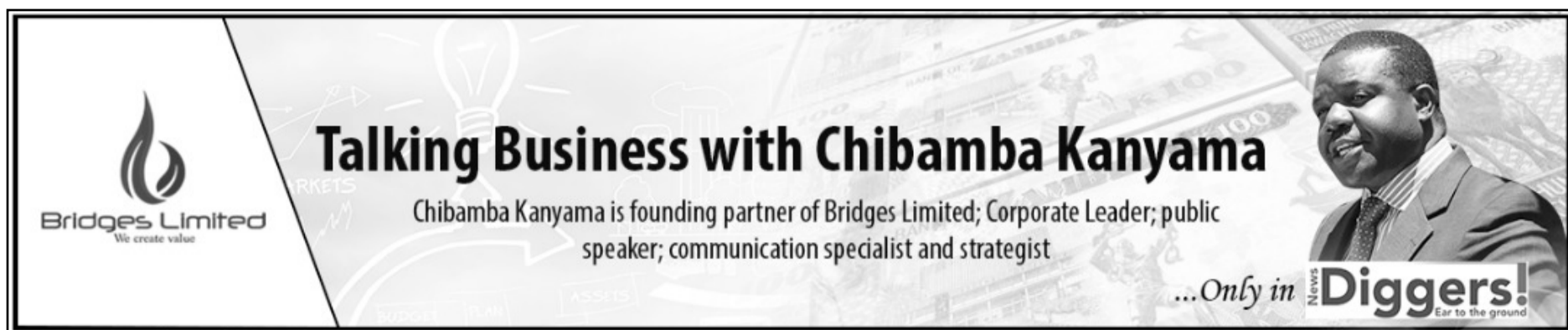
A UPND in Government will prepare and execute a comprehensive infrastructure development and maintenance plan; ensure equity in resource allocation towards infrastructure maintenance and development and ensure that regions share in these allocations; and

appoint competent personnel to run parastatal companies, so as to improve effectiveness in service delivery and efficiency in operations.

This is our resolve as a party to the people of Zambia across all regions. Ours shall be a national development agenda and this we shall achieve under the leadership of President Hakainde Hichilema working together with our hardworking people.

Power to the People!

*Issued by Dr Geoffrey Bwalya Mwamba  
Vice President-UPND*



**Talking Business with Chibamba Kanyama**  
Chibamba Kanyama is founding partner of Bridges Limited; Corporate Leader; public speaker; communication specialist and strategist

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Ear to the ground!

## ZESCO Human Capital Development Footprint

ZESCO Human Capital Development Footprint ZESCO is among Zambia's leading organisations and leads all parastatals in Zambia, not only for the size of its investments but also in terms of the quality of human capital. It is believed a ZESCO engineer, for example, can take leadership of any other power utility on the continent, a human capital footprint associated with the defunct Zambia Airways.

In the past one year, my company, Bridges Limited associated closely with ZESCO where we offered two sets of leadership programmes to nearly 200 of the management team and this done over a period of 13 months. It was during this process of engagement I discovered the robustness of ZESCO's human capital training programme that is worthy emulating by all Zambian businesses, big and small.

My initial impression after assessing the training needs of the business was that of admiration- that Zambian professionals have anchored a parastatal to be among the best in terms of human capital development (and it was this human capital that still managed the supply of power during one of Zambia's most difficult periods when water levels in Kariba went very low).

I once worked at Zambian Breweries, then a subsidiary of SABMiller PLC, and still believe, even given the muscle of most multinational corporations, that ZESCO has a well worked out capital development strategy. I need to emphasise that human capital development is critical towards the management of adaptation challenges, competition, quality standards and product differentiation. I, therefore, want to share to Zambian businesses why I believe the ZESCO human capital development footprint can help us manage profitable and successful enterprises. My views are based on observation and do not in any way reflect ZESCO's policies on human capital development.

**LEARNING ORGANISATION-** In the past three decades, the focus of organisations has shifted from vertical alignment of business growth

towards adaptation – you either stick to your (non-competitive) philosophy or change to survive! Companies that depend on the technical capabilities of the top management without adaptation towards diversity and learning are running out of business. The technological advancements leaning towards information technologies and automation are forcing companies to quickly change strategies in order to wade off competitors.

By the way, in learning organisations, that learning does not usually come from the top management. The learning is coming from across the business, at times down-up, and even from the business' customers.

*"It has actually been proved that the success of any business is 87 percent people knowledge and only 13 percent product knowledge"*

When a company becomes a learning organisation, management competencies get realigned very quickly. The focus is no longer profit alone but good customer care and employee empowerment. Such businesses invest as much in human capital development (including relationship and team building) as they invest in equipment and technologies.

There can never be a winning and competitive enterprise without ongoing training of staff, including the softer areas of management skills and people leadership. Show me a competitive and profitable business in Zambia and I will point you to its annual

budget: its most likely it has had a healthy allocation of money in favour of training.

**IN-COMPANY TRAINING:** Research on human capital development supports the view that companies that lean towards in-company training programmes tend to sustain operations and adapt to change much faster than those that entirely depend on externally driven training initiatives. It is not fair to my business for me to advise companies to embark on serious in-house training programmes because we are in training ourselves. However, being a business ourselves, we have discovered that we can only grow if we spend as much time mentoring ourselves as we do marketing and executing our training services.

Relying on external trainers to groom our staff is like a parent who depends on a teacher to coach and groom their kids. There is a limit to how this can produce the most competent and properly aligned tutee. It has actually been proved that the success of any business is 87 percent people knowledge and only 13 percent product knowledge. Larger companies like ZESCO take on several graduates every year and hugely rely on in-company training programmes to groom and reproduce highly competent staff.

In-company training programmes are not only about having a training center where there are facilitators sorely employed for this objective. The most efficient and productive in-company training programme relies on mentorship. Supervisors should have time for grooming subordinates. I know we are all too busy to sit down and show our subordinates how it is done. However, as long as you hire people in your business, have time to mentor them or do not hire them at all. Hardly any new employee will hit the ground running. They have to be mentored by you. Organisations have a culture and that philosophy germinates and re-germinates when business grows from within. It is this philosophy of human capital development that I observed as responsible for the success of ZESCO and this approach is worthy emulating.

*By Abraham Kalito*

Veteran Politician Vernon Mwaanga says Africa should generate modern measures to address conflict across the continent.

Mwaanga who is a former diplomat, former minister and former Intelligence Chief in Zambia said the source of conflict across the continent reflected Africa's complexity adding that there is need for realistic and achievable solutions

"We must all contribute momentum to Africa's renewed quest for peace and greater prosperity for all our people. We Africans must analyse and come up with realistic and achievable solutions to conflicts which have brought about so much human misery and suffering. We must always summon our political will to do what is right for all our people and to act when action is needed. Without this will, no degree of hope can make the difference between war and peace on our Continent," he said.

He observed that the severe cost to development on the continent was as a result of

## Thirst for power, wealth among African Presidents a source of endless conflict, observes VJ

the fact that Africa remained embroiled in never ending conflicts.

"In 1970, when I met that great son of Africa Kwame Nkrumah in Conakry, Guinea, after he was overthrown by the military in Ghana, I asked him to give me a perspective of where Africa was heading to and some of the challenges he foresaw going forward. I asked Mwalimu Julius Nyerere a similar question in 1980s in Dares Salaam in the late 80s after he had stepped down as President of Tanzania. Both of them expressed similar fears and concerns, to the effect that Africa would suffer from a crisis of leadership and that

the so-called new African leaders would let down the Continent and their people as they abandon the values left by the founding fathers. They both feared that the so-called new leaders would concentrate on amassing personal wealth which would be extended to their families and friends at the expense of their people. They also feared that they would do everything possible to overstay in power, narrow space for individual freedoms and muzzle the press," Mwaanga recalled.

"Many decades down the road, it is not difficult to see what these illustrious elder statesmen were talking about and how far sighted they

were. There is less time among our current crop of leaders, in building peace and our continent remains embroiled in never ending conflicts, which have been a severe cost to development and to uplifting the wellbeing of their people. Across Africa many military coups took place, alongside undemocratic, corrupt and repressive civilian regimes, some of them supported and sustained by competing super-powers in the name of their broader goals, which were inconsistent with Africa's best interests." He said African leaders desire to overstay in power and continue to amass wealth is the reason why the continent

remained in conflict.

"In early years, the conflicts in Africa were a sad reflection of ethnic divisions as can be seen to the terrible price paid in Rwanda where genocide was perpetrated in full view of the international community. We have seen conflicts in Mozambique, Somalia, Angola, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Sudan, Mali, Ivory Coast, Central African Republic, Lesotho, Libya, and DRC. In the recent past, many of the conflicts in Africa have arisen from disputed elections and the insatiable appetites of the new African leaders to overstay in power and continue to amass ill-gotten wealth. The credibility

of Electoral Commissions have come into question by stakeholders and citizens who have lost faith in some of these electoral bodies, whose credibility has suffered irretrievably," said Mwaanga. "What is even more, the legal avenues provided in Constitutions, such as Constitutional Courts have become rubber stamps of illegitimate elections largely due to the appointment of inexperienced Judges who owe their jobs to those in power. I should hasten to add that the Constitutional Courts in Kenya and South Africa have been a breath of fresh air. Some of the conflicts have been a direct result of the absence of any serious or meaningful dialogue among our political leaders. When grievances or disagreements arise, those in power and their opponents must not resort to violence. They must sit down and talk with a view to resolving their differences in a pacific manner. President Uhuru Kenyatta and Raila Odinga of Kenya have shown us the dividends of constructive dialogue."

# Congo, Zim crisis gives cause for saluting the tolerance of Zambians

It must be quite admirable to be a President of Zambia at a meeting with Heads of State from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe or any other neighbouring countries that have history of political turmoil or civil war like Mozambique and Angola. It must be pleasing and comforting for a Zambian President to leave State House for days or even weeks, knowing – with certainty – that he will find the country intact.

The President of Zimbabwe Emmerson Mnangagwa has had to cut short his foreign trips, saying he won't attend the World Economic Forum in Switzerland because he has to return home and restore peace to his country, which is currently on fire – literally. Twelve people have already been killed at the hands of the brutal military in the capital Harare and the civil strife is only getting worse, forcing authorities to impose a now famous drill in Africa of Internet shut down to control social media outrage.

When you are watching videos of the violent clashes in Zimbabwe, from the looting to the caning and actual shooting of protesters, you wouldn't help but count your blessings and thank God to be witnessing such scenes from this peaceful side of the border. There is no doubt that those Zimbabweans who had returned home to

start a new life after the fall of Robert Mugabe will soon be packing their bags to head back out into the diaspora – Zambia being a priority country where they are assured of no xenophobic attacks.

Up north, the Democratic Republic of Congo has erupted afresh, leaving millions homeless and hundreds dead. Thousands of Congolese had been cycling across the Kasumbalesa and Tshinsenda borders selling firewood and clay soil to pregnant Zambian women in Chililabombwe and Chingola as a source of livelihood, yearning for the elections to pass so that peace can return to their country. If their political leaders fail to resolve the electoral

differences, they too will prefer to migrate and survive in foreign territory than live in their own country under the barrel of a gun in the hands of brutal militia.

Meanwhile, Zambia is right in the middle of these two nations that are torn apart, enjoying the rains and jostling for agriculture subsidies to grow their grains. Indeed, it must be such an admirable thing to be a President of Zambia – a country which you can confidently leave on autopilot while you fly around the world boasting about the tranquility that is prevailing back home. It must be pleasing to be a leader of a country where there is nothing hostile you expect from your citizens apart from social media jokes; and

the only war you have to worry about from the opposition is nothing more than bickering over Dialogue.

This is not a feat that has been achieved by any President of this country. It all lies in the people. Peace and love is embedded in the DNA of Zambians. It should not surprise tourists who visit this country when they experience the friendliness. Today, we would like to salute the people of Zambia for their tolerance.

Yes, we are calling it tolerance because Zambians have not lived without provocations. The problems of exploitation that the Congolese are facing are not unique to Congo and the economic distress that Zimbabwe is undergoing is not

something that has never happened in Zambia. Yet the people of Zambia have weathered the storm and stayed the course.

It is not like Zambia has not had disputed elections, we have them all the time, but the citizens of this country are quick at stomaching pain for the sake of peace. The fuel hikes sometimes come as sudden as lightning, with the lying government having the audacity of justifying the increase when they were promising reduced commodity prices. But the people of Zambia just watch and accept their fate.

We recall that when reports of ritual murders were on the rise, the President deployed soldiers on

the streets of Lusaka to conduct night patrols and imposed a curfew. On just the burning of a market in Lusaka, the President had to declare a State of Threatened emergency, halting various economic activities as the military took charge of traffic movements. Traders in Lusaka had to endure beatings from soldiers who were ordered to clean up the city in the face of a cholera outbreak. But the people of Zambia remained calm and as loyal as a dog's tail.

Let the leaders of this country fly the world and boast that they preside over a peaceful country. But the peace that this country is enjoying cannot and should not be credited to them. Zambians are quick to adapt to the nonsense that is thrown at them by their leaders. Those are the people we want to salute today, for without their tolerance, Zambia would be in a worse situation than Congo and Zimbabwe.

Having said that, we want to warn our leaders that this peace must not be taken for granted. It will just take one extra-foolish decision for Zambians to say, 'we have been pushed for far too long'. When that happens, we pity the person who will be in State House because they will not escape the wrath and anguish that has been suppressed for decades. Long live Zambia!

News Diggers!

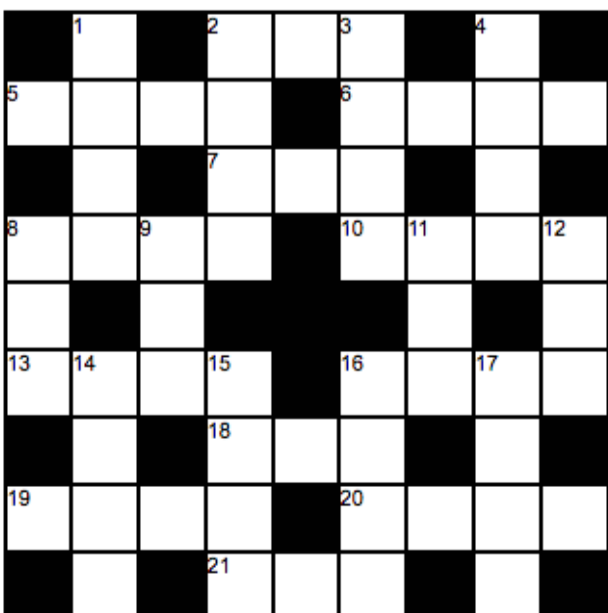
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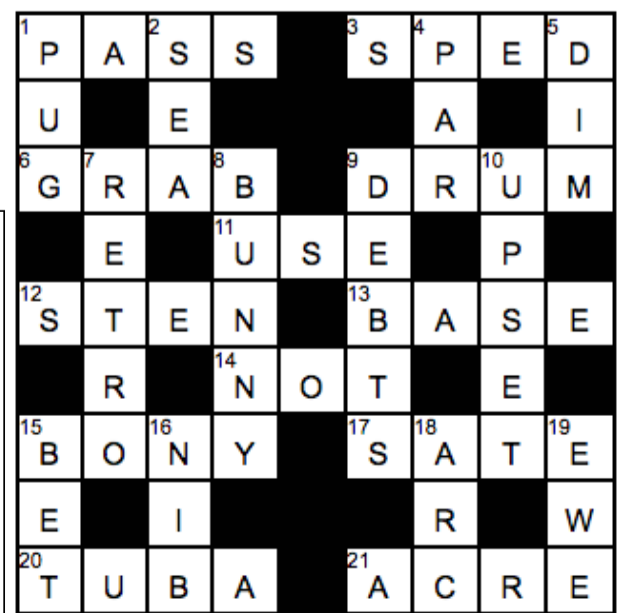
## Crossword puzzle 277



*“A conscious human is driven by their conscience, not popular opinion.”*  
- Suzy Kassem

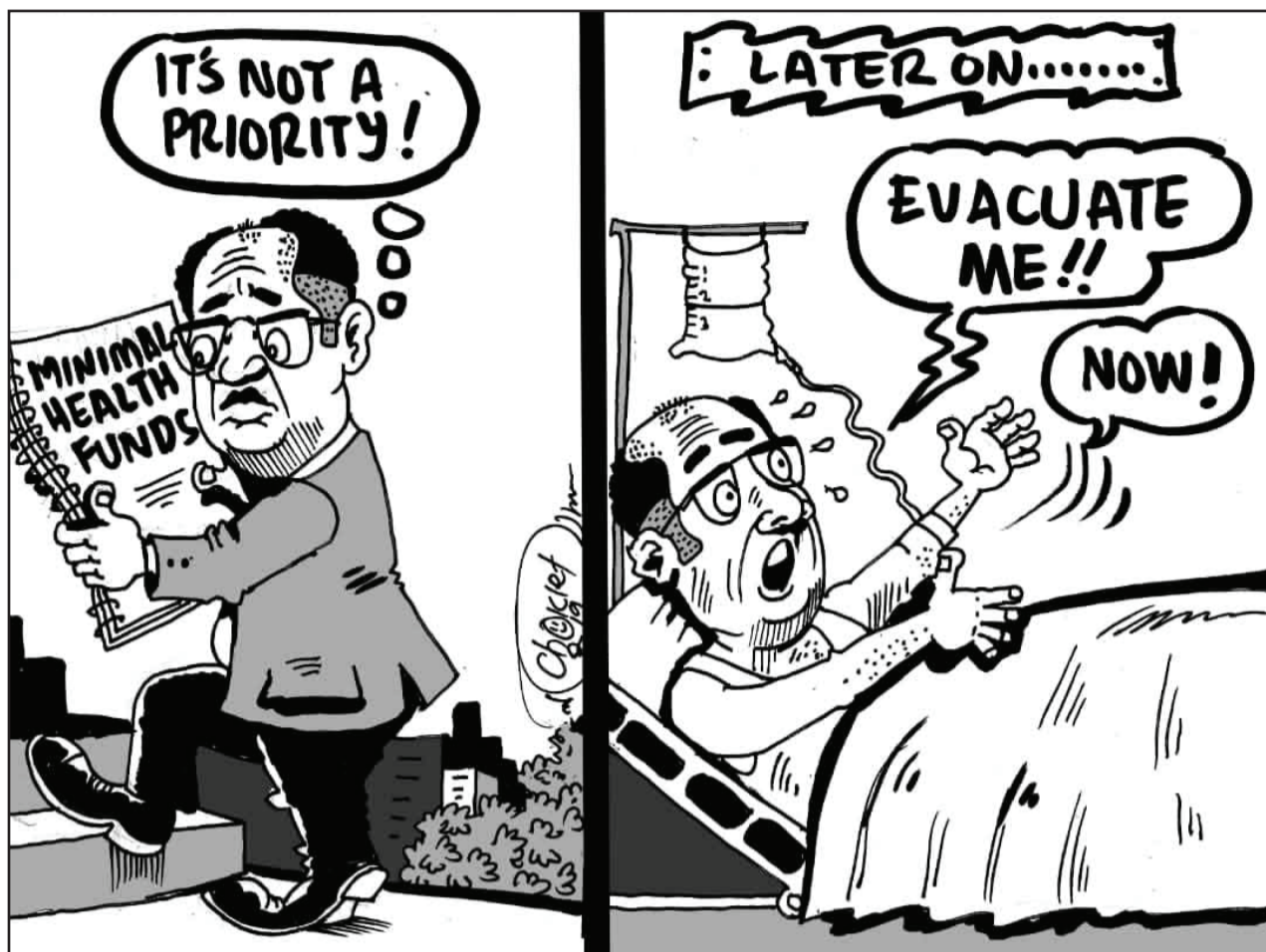
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Helium or neon</li> <li>5. Bloodsucking insect</li> <li>6. Watch</li> <li>7. Roman 3</li> <li>8. Cold annoyance</li> <li>10. Segment</li> <li>13. One and the other</li> <li>16. Yearn for</li> <li>18. Big clumsy man</li> <li>19. Crust on healing wound</li> <li>20. Partly open</li> <li>21. Rowing need</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blueprint</li> <li>2. Canter or gallop</li> <li>3. Stumble</li> <li>4. Quartet</li> <li>8. Weep</li> <li>9. Fall mo.</li> <li>11. Rainbow shape</li> <li>12. Deuce; even score</li> <li>14. Cry of pain</li> <li>15. Wanderer</li> <li>16. Off in the distance</li> <li>17. Above the neck</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

## Solutions to puzzle 276





# Reader's feedback



## 'Mini skirt' girl's malicious damage charge

Editor,

"How can a 16 years old girl in a mini skirt break a steel lock? The wrongful arrest of disorderly conduct because some overzealous cop couldn't restrain his emotions over some thighs lead to the fracas! How do the police effect an arrest and late come up with a charge? Where is the Women's Lobby in all this sexual harassment?" - Ben Kauzeni

"High time someone put these criminally-minded police to task! Lawyers, here is a case crying out for pro bono work!" - Kaluwe Kelly

"The police, too, ought to be cited for 'fishing around' for a case against the two ladies." - Grace Shankaya

"Our police officers can be petty, but so is every politician in the PF government!" - Chisala Nkandu

"I think this is now being petty and malicious. NGOCC should intervene in this matter for a final discharge." - Chigaboy Ammon Junior

## Lungu's claim that Zambia will be middle income country by 2030

Editor,

"...On the condition that another party will be in power..." - Andrew Munthali

"This country WAS a middle income country until a curse called PF

took over and decided that borrowing to steal is the best way to govern." - Suleman Limbada

"He has lamentably failed to create employment; even creating conducive environment for the business to operate. Sad thing is that he has killed

many businesses and sent thousands of people out of employment. But there he is, opening his mouth telling LIES after LIES without shame!!!!!!!" - Mushabati Tembo

"In which country does this man reside to come up with such wild hallucinations? As we speak, farmers have not been paid for the maize they supplied to FRA; most council workers have not received their salaries; local businesses are being overtaxed leaving them with nothing for reinvestment! If you belong to the opposition in Zambia, our current government will make it difficult, if not impossible, for you to do business! How can Zambia become a middle income country?" - Chisala Nkandu

"Please boss spare me, I beg. 2019 has just begun! With these levels of corruption in your government at middle income by 2030!!!! Anyway, since dreaming is free, I'll forgive you, sir." - Keith Moono

"We were already a middle income country under Mwanawasa!!!!!!!!!!!" - Mwimanenwa Kamona

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Note that we block facebook users who use abusive language

## PF's shunning of Church-led national dialogue

Dear Editor,

"What the Patriotic Front and its blind followers don't know is that this combination of the three Church mother bodies and the political parties involved in the dialogue can turn into some kind of a movement that can later oust them! Don't mess with the Catholic Church - ask KK!" - Ian Malekani

"PF thrive in disorder, hence shunning away the well-intended gathering." - Mwambwa Kwikoshi

"The PF are the beneficiaries of political violence. Peace and PF it's like water and oil." -

Dennis Tyson Phiri

"They have been found out. A party that thrives on violence, tribalism, nepotism and above all, corruption!" - Mubonda Kalumbilo Pascal

"I can feel for my mother Rev. Sumaili. I believe she was torn apart! Should I obey God or man?" -

"All Zambian democrats should applaud Chieftainess Nkomeshya for encouraging political party leaders to attend the national dialogue. Chiefs should not fear to condemn political leaders who are against the dialogue." - Chivunda Samusungwa

## Govt's excuse of no money for officers who conducted NRC exercise

Editor,

"The government workers left their comfortable beds and spent nights in schools in hasty conditions for 90 days. It's because of these officers that PF received a good number of voters during the 2016 general election because most youths who makes a good number of voters in this country by then were given NRC cards and, in-turn, obtained voter's cards to vote for this PF government in power & this is how you repay the officers? We will see who will vote for you in 2021!" - Mpundu Musonda

"This is how insincere politicians are. Kampyongo lied to the August House that monies were part of the 2018 budget and that funds will be released between October and December of 2018." - Benny Katongo

"The President said our economy was doing fine in 2018. What country was he talking about? NHA workers clocked over a year without salaries, Zampost workers are still crying, and now this!" - Mufalo Innocent

"Useless Treasury! Stressed, but they are busy funding new projects instead of paying for those who already did the job. Just pay them!" - Goma Benjamin

"Yes, there's no money for them, there is just money for Esther Lungu & ministers to traverse the globe in search of contractors & suppliers!" - Robby LM

"Who in their right frame of mind would trust the word of a greedy thief to honour a promise?" - Donald Oscar Phiri

# China's Annual growth slowest in decades

China's economy grew at its slowest rate since 1990, stoking fears about the impact on the global economy.

China expanded at 6.6% in 2018, official figures out Monday showed.

In the three months to December, the economy grew 6.4% from a year earlier, down from 6.5% in the previous quarter.

The data was in line with forecasts but underlines recent concern about weakening growth in the world's second-biggest economy.

China's rate of expansion has raised worries about the potential knock-on effect on the global economy. The trade war with the US has added to the gloomy outlook.

The official figures out Monday showed the weakest quarterly growth rate since the global financial crisis.

While China watchers advise caution with Beijing's official GDP

numbers, the data is seen as a useful indicator of the country's growth trajectory.

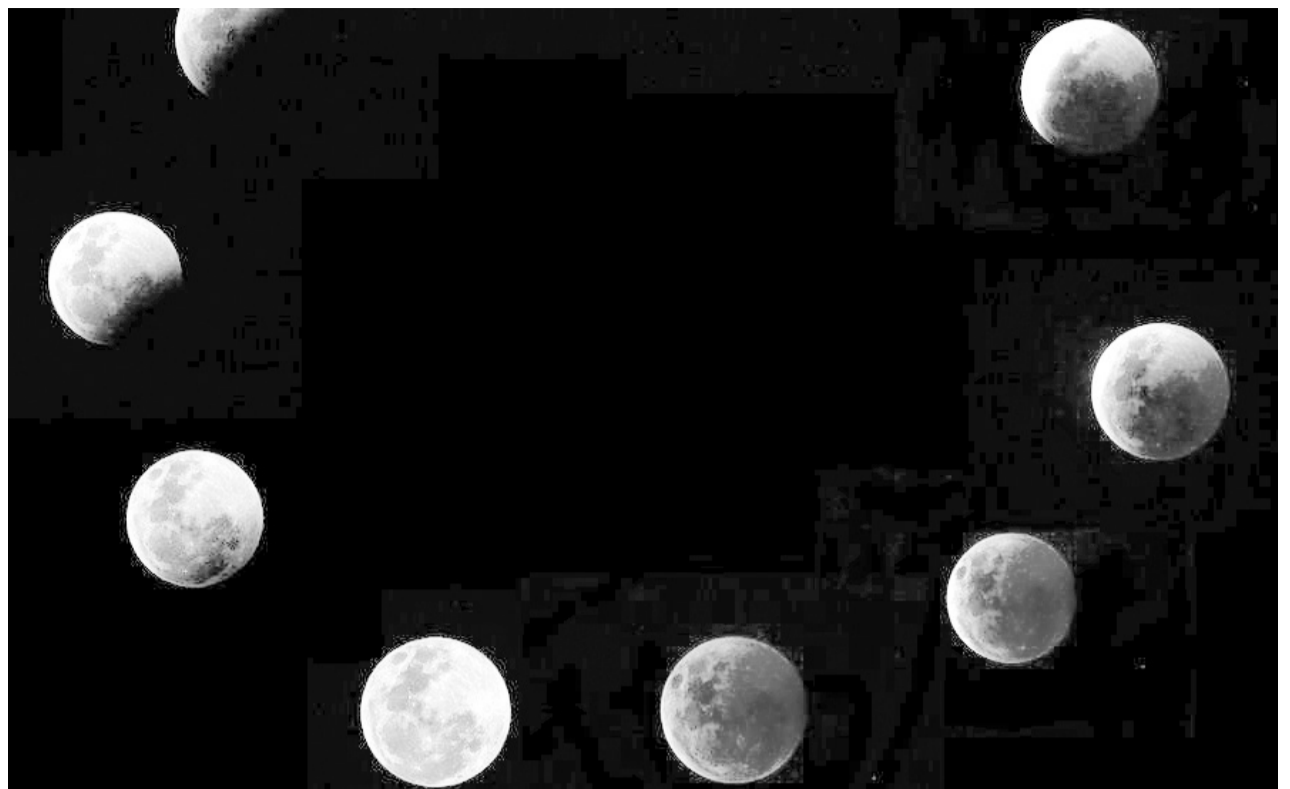
China's economic slowdown is not news in itself. Beijing has broadcast this for several years, that it's going to focus on the quality not quantity of growth. But still, we should be worried.

Slower growth in China means slower growth for the rest of the world.

It accounts for one-third of global growth. Jobs, exports, commodity producing nations - we all depend on China to buy stuff from us.

Slower growth in China also means it is harder for China to address its mountain of debt, even with the Communist Party's undoubted ability to be able to support the economy.

Growth has been easing for years, but concern over the pace of the slowdown in China has



*The start of the total lunar eclipse seen in San Diego, California . Stargazers have been scanning the skies for sightings of a highly unusual lunar eclipse, which began on Sunday night.*

*During the spectacle, known as a "super blood wolf moon", the moon appears to glow red while seeming brighter and closer to Earth than normal.*

*The event was initially visible from North and South America, as well as parts of western Europe. In parts of the UK some clouds obscured the view.*

*The next total lunar eclipse is expected in two years, on 26 May 2021*

risen in recent months as companies sound the alarm over the crucial market.

Earlier this month Apple warned weakness in China would hit its sales. Carmakers and other firms have spoken out on the impact of the trade war with the US.

China's government has been pushing to shift away from export-led growth to depend more on domestic consumption.

Policymakers in China have stepped up efforts in recent months to support the economy.

Those measures to boost demand include

speeding-up construction projects, cutting some taxes, and reducing the level of reserves banks need to hold.

Capital Economics China economist Julian Evans-Pritchard said the Chinese economy remained weak at the end of 2018 "but held up better than many feared".

"Still, with the headwinds from cooling global growth and the lagged impact of slower credit growth set to intensify... China's economy is likely to weaken further before growth stabilises in the second half of the year."

**BBC**

## DR Congo crisis deepens as top court rejects vote challenge

Congo's political standoff deepened on Sunday after the top court backed the contested presidential election victory of Felix Tshisekedi, then his main rival rejected the ruling, called for protests and declared himself leader.

As Tshisekedi's supporters celebrated the ruling in the streets of Democratic Republic of Congo's capital, runner-up Martin Fayulu said the decision had opened the way to a "constitutional coup d'etat", raising fears of more violence.

Following the court decision, the African Union postponed a visit by a high-level delegation to Kinshasa that had been scheduled for Monday to discuss the crisis. It has previously expressed "serious concerns" about the vote and called for the results to be delayed.

Last month's election was meant to mark the first democratic transfer of power in the vast central African country, where conflicts have regularly destabilised the region.

But monitors pointed to major flaws in the poll. Unrest over the vote has already killed 34 people, wounded 59 and led to 241 "arbitrary arrests" in the past week, according to the U.N. human rights office.

In the early hours of Sunday, the Constitutional Court ruled that a legal challenge to the result filed by Fayulu was inadmissible. "Felix Tshisekedi will become the fifth president of the republic," government spokesman Lambert Mende said as he welcomed the judgement. Fayulu issued statements dismissing the ruling. "The constitutional court has just confirmed that it serves a dictatorial regime ... by validating false results, (and enabling) a constitutional coup d'etat," he said in one. "I am now considering myself as the sole legitimate President of the Democratic Republic of Congo," he added in another statement. He called for people to mount peaceful demonstrations - though the streets of the capital were calm on Sunday afternoon.

# Breast cancer risk test 'game changer'

Experts have developed a potentially "game-changing" test to predict a woman's risk of breast cancer.

It combines information on family history and hundreds of genetic markers with other factors, such as weight, to give the most comprehensive assessment possible, says Cancer Research UK.

The test is not yet routinely available on the NHS - some GPs and specialists are trialling it first.

It is part of a push to spot cancers earlier through tailored screening.

Women at high risk could be given preventative treatments or offered more checks, say the researchers. Nearly 55,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. A large proportion of the cases occur in women who have risk factors.

Prof Antonis Antoniou, lead researcher at the University of Cambridge, said: "This is the first time that anyone has combined so many elements into one breast cancer prediction tool.

"It could be a game changer for breast cancer because now we can identify large numbers of women with different levels of risk - not just women who are at high risk.

"This should help doctors to tailor the care they provide depending on their patients' level of risk.

"For example, some women may need additional appointments with their doctor to discuss screening or prevention options and others may just need advice on their lifestyle and diet.

"We hope this means more people can be diagnosed early and survive their disease for longer but more research and trials are needed before we will fully understand how this could be used."

The Breast Cancer Now charity called it a "promising step" but cautioned that more research was needed to develop and test the tool before it could begin to change NHS practice.

"In the meantime, we'd encourage anyone who is concerned about their breast cancer risk to speak to their GP," spokeswoman Eluned Hughes said.

"While there are some factors that we can't change, there are steps everyone can take to reduce their risk of breast cancer, such as exercising regularly, maintaining a healthy weight and drinking less alcohol."

The test, which also assess ovarian cancer risk, is described in the journal *Genetics in Medicine*. **BBC**

# De Bruyne admits to being below his best during injury-hit season at City

Kevin De Bruyne admits he has been below his best for Manchester City but believes regular game time will help to rediscover his spark.

The Belgium international enjoyed a stunning 2017-18 campaign, in what was a record-breaking season for all concerned at the Etihad Stadium.

He delivered eight goals and 16 assists in Premier League competition, having posted six efforts and laid on 18 more in 2016-17.

The target has been found just once this term, but De Bruyne has been severely hampered by injury.

Ligament damage in his right leg kept him out for three months early in 2018-19, while a similar ailment in his left knee sidelined him in November.

He has been restricted to just two Premier League starts as a result, and told reporters of his form after the most recent of those against Huddersfield:

"I'm getting better.

"You need a run of games where you play a lot because I'm not used to playing every three days, but I'm getting there.

"I'm happy with the way I'm performing. It's not the same record as last year, but you can expect that because I've been out since the World Cup.

"To come back twice is not mentally not that easy, but I'm happy to be back playing football again."

De Bruyne concedes that the only way he is going to make the contribution expected of him is to take in more minutes. With that in mind, he is eager to figure as often as possible over the coming weeks.

City's next outing is set to come against Burton Albion in the second leg of a Carabao Cup semi-final clash that they already lead 9-0 on aggregate.

"I want to play every game," said De Bruyne.

"We know with Burton, we



should go through, but every game you need to show respect to the other teams. What they did is amazing for them. In the end, it is the manager's decision

who plays on Wednesday. "We want to go as far as possible and until now we have done well, so we will try to keep that going." *Goal.com*

## CAF pits Zesco against Nkana in Confederations Cup group

By Alex Chilumbwe

Top two Zambian clubs as of 2018 super division season ZESCO United and Nkana football club cannot get enough of each other and will meet in the CAF Confederations Cup group stage as the two envoys seek quarterfinals qualification. The two sides are also set to battle it out at Arthur Davies stadium on January 26 for the 2019 domestic super league curtain raiser cup, the Samuel 'Zoom' Ndhlovu Charity Shield Cup. The two sides last met in the 2018 FAZ/MTN super

league game and Nkana beat ZESCO United. On Sunday, ZESCO skipper Jacob Banda talked about how his teammates were determined to avenge their 2018 loss to Nkana in an interview with Goal Diggers!

"We lost to Nkana in the super league in 2018 and now we are all determined to avenge the loss this season. It is never an easy game against them but we will do our best," said Banda.

Meanwhile, ZESCO has stretched their unprecedented CAF Inter-club group stage record to a historic fourth successful campaign by a Zambian club. They are now set to play in five group stage campaigns overall since 2009.

The Ndola-based outfit beat Kaizer Chiefs 3-1 in the first leg match and 2-1 in the second leg of the pre-group stage of the competition to qualify for the competition's group stage.

For the 2019 CAF Confederations Cup group stage, ZESCO has been drawn in the same group (Group C) with fellow Zambian envoy Nkana, Al Hilal of Sudan and Ghana's Asante Kotoko.



Boateng (R) challenges for a high ball during Sassuolo's draw away to Inter in Serie A at the weekend. In a shock transfer rumour, Boateng is being tipped to sign for Barcelona in the coming days.

# Arsenal confirm departure of Mislintat after January transfer window closes

Arsenal announced on Monday that head of recruitment Sven Mislintat would be leaving the Premier League club next month.

In a statement on their website, Arsenal said the German, who has been in his position for less than 14 months, had "done a truly outstanding job".

Mislintat, who was appointed in the final months of Arsene Wenger's reign, will leave on February 8, the Gunners said.

"It's been an amazing experience to

work at a great club like Arsenal in what has been a big time of change," he said.

"I am excited about what the future holds for the club and am looking forward to new challenges for myself."

Arsenal hailed Mislintat as one of Europe's "most respected player recruitment experts" when he joined the club from Borussia Dortmund.

The club said he was credited with creating the pipeline of talent at

the Bundesliga club that developed Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, now with Arsenal, Shinji Kagawa and Ousmane Dembele.

Unai Emery's Arsenal beat Chelsea 2-0 on Saturday to close to within three points of their London neighbours, who are in fourth place in the Premier League.

Aside from Aubameyang other players to have joined Arsenal during 46-year-old Mislintat's spell there include Henrikh Mkhitaryan, another former Dortmund player,

who moved from Manchester United in January 2018 as Alexis Sanchez went in the opposite direction.

Defender Sokratis Papastathopoulos was another arrival from Dortmund, while Lucas Torreira, Bernd Leno and Matteo Guendouzi have all become integral members of Emery's starting XI.

Weekend reports suggested former Arsenal winger Marc Overmars could come into the club as Mislintat's successor. *AFP*

# Zambian clubs to battle it out for Confederations Cup...

*By Alex Chilumbwe*  
Top two Zambian clubs as of 2018 super division season ZESCO United and Nkana football club cannot get enough of each other and will meet in the CAF Confederations Cup group stage as the two envoys seek quarterfinals qualification. The two sides are also set to battle it out at Arthur Davies stadium on January 26 for the 2019 domestic super league curtain raiser cup, the Samuel 'Zoom' Ndhlovu Charity Shield Cup.

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# CAF PITS ZESCO AGAINST NKANA



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ear to the ground



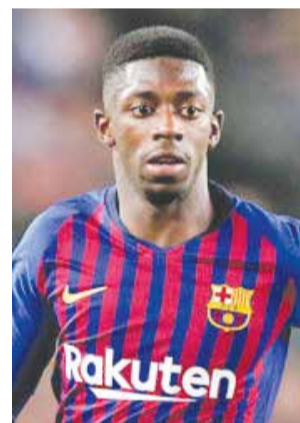
## FACT CHECKING COURSE

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





## Dembele to miss 2 weeks

Ousmane Dembele has been ruled out for at least two weeks as his Barcelona career suffers another injury setback. The France international played 69 minutes of the 3-1 win over Leganas on Sunday after going off with a sprained ankle. Subsequent tests have revealed a tear to the left ankle which will see him miss the next four matches. Dembele is expected to be absent for both legs of the Copa del Rey quarter-final against Sevilla and the La Liga games against Girona and Valencia. He joins an injury list which already includes Rafinha and Samuel Umtiti, both of whom have knee injuries. Since arriving from Borussia Dortmund, the 21-year-old's career at Camp Nou has been dominated by fitness issues. *Goal.com*