



# JAPANESE EMBASSY DISTANCES ITSELF

## ...we've not donated any bicycles to Zambia Police

By Julia Malunga

THE Japanese Embassy says it has not made any bicycle donations to the Government of the Republic of Zambia or to the Zambia Police.

The Embassy told *News Diggers* that the Ministry of Home Affairs might have made a mistake to allege that the bicycle donation came from Japan, saying "maybe it was another country".

Following a trending social media image of an officer posing on a police branded bicycle,

citizens demanded to know how the bicycles would be used and the cost for procuring them.

It was alleged that the bicycles were procured at a cost of US\$700, 000, a claim which both

the Ministry and the Zambia Police dismissed.

Responding to the allegation,

Ministry of Home Affairs public relations officer, Nephas Chifita said the 1,000 bicycles in question

were donated by the government of Japan through the Embassy in Lusaka. **Story page 2**

### We'll meet protesting youths head on - PF

By Julia Malunga

LUSAKA Province PF Youth chairperson Daniel Kalembe says youths planning to protest against various governance issues will be met head on by ruling party youths. **Story page 10**

### Zesco claims \$200m annual loss from BSA with CEC

By Natasha Sakala

ZESCO Limited says it was losing over US\$200 million annually to the "unfair and one-sided" nature of the Bulk Supply Agreement with Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) that expired on March 31, 2020. **Story page 7**



Livestock and Fisheries Minister Prof Nkandu Luo enjoys sugarcane shortly after the launch of the Munalu 5000 empowerment project in Chongwe - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

### Allow youths to protest - Fr Chikoya

By Julia Malunga

COUNCIL of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) general secretary Fr Emmanuel Chikoya says it doesn't make sense that government is blocking youths from protesting when they have followed the correct procedure.

And Fr Chikoya says the ruling Patriotic Front should stop taking advantage of COVID-19 to deny opposition parties their right to gather.

In an interview, Fr Chikoya said youths had a right to express themselves.

"The youths have the freedom to express themselves and a protest is enshrined in the Constitution not in the Minister of Home Affairs, not in the President's office, it is a constitutional provision. The police are supposed to protect the constitution of Zambia and not individuals..." **Story page 10**

## Siliya demands *News Diggers'* apology over editorial opinion

Story page 10



**By Tenson Mkhala**  
MUNALI PF member of parliament Professor Nkandu Luo has challenged young people in the country to work hard and stop blaming government for whatever they do not have.

And Prof Luo says the empowerment money she invested from 2011 when she became an area member of parliament in Munali has not born any fruit.

Speaking when she launched the Munali 5000 Family Empowerment System in Chongwe, Saturday, Prof Luo, who is also Livestock and Fisheries Minister, said young people should shift their minds from the way they think and do things differently.

She said the Munali 5000 Family Empowerment System was a great initiative that would empower the youths of Munali Constituency.

"I want to first of all thank Fr Lupupa, who is the patron of this great initiative in Zambia and also the chairman general,

# Don't wait for govt to do things for you, work hard, Luo tells youths

and also Fr Phiri who is also the patron for this project. Why am I saying thank you? It's because this project started like a dream. I remember the long hours we sat at my house to discuss this initiative of the Munali 5000 Family Empowerment System and you know when you put in something in discussion and on paper it looks great, but if you haven't implemented it, you don't see how good that is. For me, this is the beginning of the revolution in Zambia. This is the beginning of the shift from the way we think in Zambia and the way we do things," Prof Luo said.

"Unfortunately, when I compare when I was growing up and what is obtaining now, I sometimes wonder if I am in a different planet or I am still

in Zambia. Because when we were growing, we worked hard for whatever we had. As a young girl, I came from a relatively well to do family because my parents were teachers but my father taught us to do things during holidays. We didn't wait for him to give us pocket money. We did little assignments here and there that earned us pocket money. We worked for the pocket money but at the moment, what some young people say is that when is government going to do things for us? Where is government? Everything is blamed on government and this is why for me, when we sat to discuss this project, I fell for it because I knew that this can be a greater way of doing things differently in the Country."

She further said as member of parliament for Munali, she was happy that the area was moving forward in terms of development for the youths.

"As Member of Parliament for Munali, I am extremely pleased that we are moving forward and I want to contrast Munali in 2011 when I became an MP. I have tried to calculate the money that I have put in Munali for empowerment which has never born any fruit but in the last one year, I think we can see that the empowerment programme in our Constituency

is bearing a lot of fruits. What even made me happy is to visit New Mtendere and find that the teachers had the whole big pond of fish and they invited me and I hope I can also entice her Honour the Vice-President to come and see our first harvest of fish in Munali. So Munali is now an example of what youths can do for themselves. Munali now is the mother of goats. Munali now is the mother of goats, tomatoes and vegetables," Prof Luo said.

She has since invited youths in her constituency to

join the Munali 5000 Family Empowerment Project, saying it would change their lives.

"I would like to invite all those youths that we left on the streets to come and join the Munali 5000 family and maybe we need now to talk to our youths in Churches to come and join the Munali 5000 family because this is going to change the lives and Munali will never be the same. What we just need is to partner with more people, especially the people with land so that we do more things and do great things for the people of Munali," said Prof Luo.

And Kalumbila Multipurpose Cooperative Society chairman general Chilekwa Mambwe said he was happy that the Munali 5000 Family Empowerment System had been launched.



Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Professor Nkandu Luo shortly after launching the Munali 5000 family empowerment project in Chongwe picture by Tenson Mkhala

# Being in opposition isn't easy – Mwila

**By Julia Malunga**  
PATRIOTIC Front secretary general Davies Mwila says it is not easy being in the opposition.

And Mwila says new members that join the party should humble themselves because they do not know where the PF has come from.

Speaking when he met party officials in Mufulira, Saturday, Mwila said some of the old members of the PF had died without benefitting from their efforts when they were in opposition.

He said the new members

who were benefitting a lot from the party had no idea of the struggles the PF went through when it was in opposition.

"A b a s h i l e f w a y a ukuichindika bafume munshila (Those who want to misbehave should get out of our way.) Inchito twakwata (the job we have) is to bring members to the party. I heard the chairman saying 'we received one thousand members', we have to embrace all those people who have come. Politics is about numbers and membership is equal to old and new members. All of us are members but all those who are coming to the party must humble themselves and they should know that kwaba abaikala mu chilonganino (there are people that have been in the party) for a long time," Mwila said.

"Baichefyako, pantu kufika fye ulefwaya no ku toloka (they should humble themselves. There is no way that they can join the party and want to start calling the shots). You don't even know party ekoyafuma (where the party has come from). We were in opposition for ten years. It's not easy. Some people have died without benefitting from the party, some are still there alive and have not benefited. Some of the new people who have come have benefited a lot. So colleagues, we should not forget the mandate that we made to the people of Zambia, it is to work for them and deliver all the promises we made in 2016. The mandate is for five years and we have to renew our mandate next year; we have to be committed."

He emphasized that people that tried to undermine Cabinet Ministers and area members of parliament would be dealt with.

"I have come for two things here; to harmonize the relationship between the MP for Kantashi (Anthony Mumba) and the constituency and to find out why there is no good relationship. Who is causing that? I have to know...I have come here because the

Central Committee made a decision that no one is allowed to campaign now until such a time when the Central Committee will give a go ahead. And I want to find out who is in the forefront and I want to categorically tell you that my job is to protect the incumbent members of Parliament, including Cabinet Ministers," Mwila said.

"Anyone who is trying to undermine these three, including a Cabinet Minister, my job is to deal with them. That is why I am there. A Cabinet Minister cannot be harassed by a constituency official; it is only here in Mufulira. A presidential appointee? I have never seen where area members of Parliament are being kicked like I don't know. Yes, we are there in positions to work for the party but we have to protect the people who are in these offices. These issues have not started today, they have been going on and all of you are aware. But above all, we need to unite and move forward."

He further expressed sadness that some party officials took lies to Mumba that Yamfwa Mukanga wanted to stand in Kantashi Constituency.

"I have come with honorable Yamfwa Mukanga because some of the officials here are lying, cheating ukulatwala ubufi kuli ba Mumba ati ba Yamfwa balefwaya ukubwela ku Kantashi (some of the officials here are taking lies to honourable Mumba that honourable Mukanga wants to stand in Kantashi). Who has told you? Honourable Yamfwa is here, he has no interest of standing here. So efyo mu fwaya finshi? Mule leta ulupato opo mwikalile (so what are you trying to achieve? You are the ones bringing hatred). Ba Mumba bale mona kwati ba Yamfwa mulwani kanshi wakaye (honorable Mumba was thinking honorable Mukanga is an enemy yet he is innocent)," said Mwila.

# We've not donated any bicycles to Zambia Police – Japanese Embassy

**By Julia Malunga**  
THE Japanese Embassy says it has not made any bicycle donations to the Government of the Republic of Zambia or to the Zambia Police.

The Embassy told News Diggers that the Ministry of Home Affairs might have made a mistake to allege that the bicycle donation came from Japan, saying "maybe it was another country".

Following a trending social media image of an officer posing on a police branded bicycle, citizens demanded to know how the bicycles would be used and the cost for procuring them.

It was alleged that the bicycles were procured at a cost of US\$700, 000, a claim which both the Ministry and the Zambia Police dismissed.

Responding to the allegation, Ministry of Home Affairs public relations officer, Nephas Chifuta said the 1,000 bicycles in question were donated by the government of Japan through the Embassy in Lusaka.

"The Ministry of Home Affairs wishes to refute media speculations that government has bought one thousand bicycles at a cost of US\$ 700,000 breaking the cost of one bicycle to US\$700,00 which is equivalent to K700.00, as fictions, malicious and meant to mislead by Zambians. The accurate information is that these bicycles were a donation by the Government of Japan to the Zambia Police Service to facilitate policing in places that cannot be accessed using motor vehicles. The Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja after the donation directed that the bicycles be distributed to all provinces under the community services directorate to enable Victim Support Unit officers and other specialised units to carry out sensitisation programs," stated Chifuta.

"We wish to warn individuals and cliques with the habit of posting false and malicious articles on social media to desist from the practice as the act amounts to criminality. Furthermore, we wish to advise members of the public to disregard the information with the contempt it deserves."

The following day, Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja issued a statement to the effect that some of the bicycles were bought, while the rest were donated to the service and meant for use by officers under the Victim Support Unit (VSU) and the Community Services Division (CSD).

"This will enable the officers to respond to complaints in areas that are difficult to access by use of motor vehicles. Additionally, we have received donations of bicycles from various stakeholders which are meant for effective policing. I therefore urge members of the public to support the work that the Government is doing for the men and women in uniform and avoid dragging the Zambia Police Service into politics," said Kanganja.

But the Japanese Embassy distanced itself from the donation.

Responding to a press query, the Embassy clarified that at no point did they ever donate bicycles to the government of Zambia.

"It seems like the press release from the Ministry of Home Affairs is mistaken. The Government of Japan has not rendered any bicycle to the government of Zambia. It could be some other country, but kindly refer to the Ministry of Home Affairs for details," stated the Embassy.

News Diggers reverted to Ministry of Home Affairs Spokesperson to ascertain if there was a mix up on fact on the donation from the Embassy, but Chifuta insisted that the bicycles were a donation from the Japanese Government.

"The 100 bicycles were donated and nine have been distributed to each province. Don't believe what you see on social media that is the work of the opposition and their propagandist teams. That information is stale we don't repeat the same things. Things that were there last week, we don't repeat them this week. People will be laughing at you. Why should you be repeating things that are already in public domain? That is not news anymore," Chifuta said.

Asked if there was a handover ceremony where the Japanese Embassy made the donation, Chifuta responded in the affirmative, adding that the donation was made directly to the Zambia Police.

"The donation was made to Police service not to the ministry. I don't fall under the police service I fall under the Ministry of Home Affairs. And of course you see, whenever there is a donation, how does it get over to an institution if there is no handover ceremony? It is a must it was there, obviously the handover ceremony was there. How does the police get hold of the bicycles without a handover ceremony from the Japanese government? The handover was done between the police service and the donating institution. You need to understand that other institutions like you, there are some that wish to be publicise when they are donating, and others want to do it silently. But I am not saying that, that is how it was, no," said Chifuta.

Asked to state the date that the donation was made, Chifuta said he could not recall, but insisted that the handover ceremony took place where the Embassy made the donation.

Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo said he was not available for a comment as he was at State House at the time.

# THE ART OF DECEPTION FOR CORRUPTION



The PF Government has abused the Constitution  
Article 63 (2) (c) (d).

## There is corruption in Governement Procurement:

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Digital Migration         | 1. Over priced ambulances       |
| 2. Mukula logs smuggling     | 2. Over priced Presidential Jet |
| 3. Fire Tenders \$42 million | 3. Over priced Toll Plazas      |
| 4. Defence equipment         | 4. Over priced Infrastructure   |
| 5. Fuel                      | 5. Over priced medical supplies |
| 6. Fertilisers               | 6. Unsolicited loans            |

## MORE MONEY IN WHOSE POCKETS?



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# The consequences of 'expropriating' CEC's assets on tax revenue and capital investment

By **Maka B Tounkara**

IN January 2008, the Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) became the first privately owned power utility company to list on the Lusaka Stock Exchange (LUSE) in an attempt to boost appetite for local investment and increase ownership by Zambians. Within a short time after this move, a number of local companies successfully bought a stake in CEC. Among these were the ZCCM-IH, Public Service Pension Fund, National Pension Scheme Authority, Kwacha Pension, Workers Compensation, Co-operatives, and some Faith-Based Institutions. Besides, there are at least 4, 400 ordinary Zambians who have bought a stake in CEC, leading to a combined shareholding by Zambians of 52.1%. This mark CEC as a truly indigenous and Zambian majority-owned power utility company. However, the recent stalled negotiations between CEC and ZESCO over the Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) have adversely affected CEC's market capitalization value on the Lusaka Stock Exchange in addition to heightening concerns regarding the firm's ability to continue "operating as a going concern". What does the prolonged impasse over the Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) entail for Zambia's Tax Revenue Base and the appetite to invest in the capital market?

By far, CEC is one of the major tax payers in Zambia. There is clear evidence that CEC has significantly contributed to the growth of the tax revenue base and overall economic growth in Zambia. As a successful indigenous financial entity, CEC has contributed in the past five years an approximate total of USD112 million, USD32 million, USD8 million, and USD103 million in Corporate taxes, Pay As You Earn (PAYE), Customs duty, and Value Added Taxes (VAT) respectively to the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA). These are official figures of CEC's contribution to the government. In addition, a total of USD1.5 million was disbursed to the local authority in the form of council rates. With such a track record, one wonders why it is not in the best interest for the country that CEC stays afloat and continues to operate profitably. While ZESCO Limited is within its rights to advance the argument that it has the capacity to power the mines, it doesn't explain how it will efficiently provide the forgone tax revenues or fill the tax revenue gap that will result in the evident that CEC ceases to operate after the expropriation of its assets.

CEC has also immensely contributed to the cash flow incomes and capital investments for a number of businesses and institutions, and the move by ZESCO to enter into a long term agreement with Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) is regrettable because it jeopardizes the finance gap of these institutions. Case in point: in the past five years, CEC has disbursed approximately USD22.9 million, USD25.7 million and USD52.1 million in dividends to ZCCM-IH, Pension Fund, and Companies. The disbursement of dividends to shareholders such as pension schemes has not only ensured that pension funds continue to invest in capital projects around the country but also

guaranteed the sustained payout of pensions to an enlarged set of beneficiaries. Moreover, CEC has massively contributed to Zambia's development agenda through its disbursements to ZCCM-IH. At the micro level, CEC has disbursed an approximate total of USD7.5 million to over 4, 400 individual shareholders and thus supplementing government's efforts of improving household incomes. All the aforementioned benefits associated with the existence of CEC are at the brink of extinction, and potentially drift into the abyss if a new beneficial power supply agreement is not reached. As such, it is an optical illusion to think that the expropriation of CEC's assets will not affect CEC's massive contribution to tax revenues and the cash flow incomes of shareholders, the majority of whom are indigenous Zambians.

It is important that the CEC-ZESCO standoff is maturely handled and an amicable solution is reached. Despite the many documented positive contributions of CEC, one would expect ZESCO Limited to immediately strike a new beneficial deal with CEC. Besides, it is public knowledge that the foreign owned mines have ripped off the Zambian economy through capital flight and tax avoidance, yet ZESCO chooses to side with a mining company that will eventually be sold to a foreign entity, at the expense of CEC's financial stability and maximum tax revenue collections for the national coffers. We should not kill local investment this way. The ongoing constructive nationalisation of CEC should be halted because it has the potential to adversely undermine the promotion of local investment, especially when one considers the State's previous decisions to fatally kneel on the necks of other local companies like The Post newspapers and Prime TV.

Expropriations that are selfishly and hurriedly implemented are likely to disadvantage ordinary shareholders, who stand to lose out due to the loss of market value as has been the case for CEC. Moreover, the apparent nationalization of CEC's power infrastructure will dangerously affect local investors' appetite to invest in Zambia's capital market, and subsequently reduce the liquidity levels that localisted companies can tap into for expansion purposes. To this end, the move

by ZESCO to expropriate CEC's assets has the potential to negatively affect the growth of the Lusaka Stock Market and create unnecessary bottlenecks associated with the lack of capital injections as a result of the loss of investor confidence. Although ZESCO Limited can potentially buy off the stocks in the event that CEC is delisted on the Lusaka Stock Exchange, such a move would further reduce its liquidity levels and deny the sector the much needed investment. Therefore, stock buybacks may have dire consequences and drain ZESCO's treasury coffers, undercut essential investment, considerably weaken ZESCO's credit position and affect its ability to efficiently support the energy sector.

It is also disturbing that positive externalities such as social investments in education and primary healthcare that associated with CEC are on the verge of being wiped out. By all indications, CEC has positively supplemented governments efforts and one wonders how this imminent vacuum will be filled by ZESCO's move to expropriate CEC's assets. ZESCO's shortsightedness will surely choke CEC's ability to operate profitably, and in the long term adversely affect Zambia's tax revenues, cash flow incomes of shareholders and the growth of the capital market, all of which will combine to stifle Zambia's economic prosperity. As an adult in the energy sector, ZESCO should rise above its narrow, non-commercial and non-investment related interests and put the country first by returning to the negotiating table for a new beneficial power supply agreement that not only benefits ZESCO but also ensures that CEC retains its position as a buoyant and successful indigenous majority owned Zambian company. Hello ZESCO; hello government, is anyone listening? Over to you...

Short Bio:

**Maka Bunda Tounkara, a Rhodes Scholar and an Oxford graduate, is a lecturer at the University of Zambia in the Department of Economics. He is interested in, but not restricted to, the economic transformation and emancipation of Zambia. In his spare time, Maka enjoys listening to conscious and mind provoking music as well as watching football**







## CTPD'S MONDAY OPINION

This is a weekly column aimed at sharing CTPD's perspective and steering public debate on various issues pertaining to Trade & Investment Law, Public Finance Management, Extractives and Human Development.

**TODAYS TOPIC:**

CTPDs proposed Gold Game Plan with Webby Banda



# A PROPOSAL OF ZAMBIA'S GOLD GAME PLAN

IN LAST week's article, we looked at the recent developments in the mining industry. At the heart of that discussion was the Gold sub-sector. It was underscored that the country will need a national game plan to transform Gold into a strategic mineral. This week's article will focus on the details of the national game plan we are proposing. Before jumping into the plan we will give a synopsis of the recent undertakings by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) in the sector.

Recent undertakings by GRZ in the Gold mining sector

The recent undertakings by GRZ in the Gold mining sector seem to be undertaken in a non-coordinated fashion. This has merited the call on Government to craft a robust formidable plan. The plan proposed in this article advocates for a two-pronged approach of exploiting the Gold resource as a strategic mineral. Firstly, it is advanced that the Gold should be channeled to the Bank of Zambia (BoZ) to induce macroeconomic stability but at the same time, it must alleviate poverty levels through the vehicle of Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) cooperatives. Before the plan can be explicated let us unveil the recent undertakings by GRZ in the sector. The following are some of them:

(i) GRZ seems to be undertaking exploration works in Kasensel through Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Investment Holdings (ZCCM-IH) Ltd for its benefit, there are no deliberate actions to gravitate this information to the ASGM operators in communities hosting the gold resource.

(ii) GRZ through ZCCM-IH has partnered with Karma Mining Services and Rural Development (KMSRD) at the mineral processing stage in Rufunsa and Mumbwa. This has been achieved through a special purpose vehicle called the Consolidated Gold Company Zambia (CGCZ) Limited. Under this joint venture partnership, Karma and ZCCM-IH hold 55% and 45% stake respectively.

(iii) CGCZ Ltd has entered into a joint venture partnership with Array metals in a revenue split structure of 65% and 35%, respectively. Through this partnership, Array metals is to provide gold ore to CGCZ Ltd.

(iv) ZCCM-IH Gold company has been formed in which the Ministry of Finance and ZCCM-IH hold a stake of 49% and 51%, respectively. The mandate of ZCCM-IH gold company is to harness the gold sector in Zambia.

(v) ZCCM-IH Gold company has started buying gold from artisanal and small-scale miners pegged at a minimum price of K550/gram as a first step in the formalisation process of ASGM operations

(vi) ZCCM-IH recently bought equipment for artisanal and small-scale miners in Rufunsa

(vii) ZCCM-IH is providing technical expertise to

ASGM operators (i.e., a technical person is attached to aid miners with mining and processing)

The above developments in the sector although important seem not to be undertaken in a coordinated fashion. To this extent, a national GZZZold game plan has been proposed. If implemented the plan has the potential to organise the above activities in a manner that allows the exploitation of gold for the maximum benefit of all Zambians.

Description of the proposed ASGM plan

The main players in the ASGM plan include the Geological Survey Department (GSD), Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry (MCTI), Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development (MMMD), BoZ, University of Zambia (UNZA), Copperbelt University (CBU) and ZCCM-IH. The following steps explicate the proposed plan.

Step 1 – GRZ through MMMD to obtain a social license to operate

The first step of the ASGM plan is for GRZ through MMMD to obtain a social license to operate in communities hosting gold resources. This license should precede any exploration works to be undertaken in these communities. The process of GRZ obtaining the license should involve community engagements with various local stakeholders to uncover the government's plan for the sector. The government should demonstrate how it intends to use gold as a strategic mineral resource.

Step 2 – GSD to undertake geological mapping and exploration

After obtaining the social license to operate, GRZ through GSD needs to move into mining areas to undertake geological mapping and exploration. This exercise should be done to quantify gold resources both in tonnage and quality. This geological information is important because it leads to informed decision making. The government cannot begin to contemplate using gold as a strategic social-economic mineral if the reserves are not known both in tonnage and quality. Being cognizant that GSD is poorly resourced, the plan advances that 10% of monthly mineral royalty should accrue into its coffers as a bear minimum.

Step 3 – Developing efficient gold exploitation techniques by Universities

Once the reserves are quantified both in tonnage and quality, GRZ needs to engage UNZA, School of Mines and CBU, School of Mines and Mineral Sciences to undertake Research and Development (R&D) that aims at uncovering efficient mining and mineral processing techniques that lead to the economic exploitation of gold resources. The techniques to be applied in the ASGM sector should exhibit high technical efficiency and must be environmentally benign.

Step 4 – Formation and training of mining

cooperatives

The fourth stage of the plan is for host communities to form mining cooperatives. The cooperatives should integrate and organise community members into mining groups having the same social-economic interest. Once the cooperatives are formed, UNZA, School of Mines and CBU, School of Mines and Mineral Sciences can begin to offer technical and business training to these cooperatives in pursuit of building capacity. It is proposed that technical colleges offer education to mining cooperatives inform of craft training such as maintenance and operation of mine equipment. It is important to be cognizant of the fact that formalisation cannot exist without education. This is because uneducated ASM operators even when formalised will continue to use inefficient mining and mineral processing techniques resulting in widespread land degradation, pollution, and significant health impacts.

Step 5 – Establishment of Trade Hubs by MCTI in remote mining areas

The fifth step in the plan is for MCTI to establish trade hubs in remote mining areas. These trade hubs are to facilitate the buying and selling of gold between cooperatives and ZCCM-IH. The main objective of MCTI will be to facilitate the buying and selling of gold between the cooperatives and ZCCM-IH.

Step 6 – Cooperatives selling gold to ZCCM-IH

The production exploited by cooperatives should be sold to ZCCM-IH through established trade hubs by MCTI. The production can also be sold to the external market at competitive prices, this should only happen if ZCCM-IH cannot buy.

Step 7 – Selling of gold to BoZ through ZCCM-IH

ZCCM-IH has set up a gold mining company. The company will undertake exploration and mining activities in communities hosting the gold resource. It is proposed that the exploited production by the mining company should be sold to BoZ to act as a strategic reserve. The BoZ should be given the first refusal rights in the trading process. The production should only be sold to the external market at competitive prices if BoZ is not in a position to buy.

CTPD in collaboration with UNZA, School of Mines have finalised a study focusing on appraising the ASGM sector. Look forward to this soon to be launched study. This is it for this week. Look out for next week as we will be discussing issues around trade and development. Do reach out to us if you have any questions on this topic.

**About the Author**

**Webby Banda is a Senior Researcher (Extractives) at The Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) and a Lecturer with the University of Zambia, School of Mines.**

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
P.O. Box 50882, Lusaka, Zambia  
Plot 123, Kudu Road, Kabulonga  
Tel: +260 211 264409  
Email: info@ctpd.org.zm  
or nyimbilimwaka@yahoo.com

Centre for Trade Policy & Development

www.ctpd.org.zm

@CTPDZambia

+260975876038





# PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE

(PAC)  
Viva New Zambia!!!

*Why we deserve your vote*



# Youths we are in this Together !

**By Andyford Mayele Banda**

**T**HE youth are a formidable force. The youth are the future of the nation. The youths are future leaders. The youth.....there are many 'politically correct' statements made about the youth by our politicians yet there is little truth or meaning in these hollow statements. Now I must hasten to put a disclaimer here about PAC. PAC emerged fourth in 2016 as a party led by myself, Andyford Mayele Banda – a youth like the youth I often speak about. The definition of who is a youth varies depending on the body accepting the definition but it can be widely accepted to mean persons from the age of 18 to the age of 35 years. Looking at the current demographics in Zambia, this is by far the largest segment of the population, yet it is the most marginalised either by design or by omission by the PF government. Let us look at some of the recent matters since PF came into power.

On 22nd February 2019 we discussed Higher Education in Zambia. We talked about how because of lack of funds, the PF Government has been making emotional decisions about the welfare of students. At the time, the discussion had been centered around the 81 PF MPs who had in parliament voted against a motion to rescind Government's decision to abolish meal allowances.

On 3rd April 2019, President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, in responding to Journalists in Kitwe shortly after touring the renovated Zambia Institute of Business Studies and Industrial Practice -ZIBSIP Hostels, threatened to close the Copperbelt University and the University of Zambia "if students at the two institutions continued rioting and causing damage to public property." Two days later, our larger than life Minister of Higher Education, Professor Nkandu Luo announced the closure of the

Copperbelt University giving the students up to 18:00 hours the same day to leave the institution.

On 25th April 2019, Professor Nkandu Luo, at the 'Together We Remember' vigil, held in honour of Vespers Shimuzhila, who died when Zambia Police officers stormed University of Zambia Main Campus in October 2018, said she hoped that President Edgar Chagwa Lungu would decide to reopen CBU. We were at this point confused. The Honourable Minister of Higher Education needs to ask the President, who appointed her to oversee Higher Education, to consider reopening of the Copperbelt University? So perhaps then all this hype and accusation of students being behind the closure of the institution is all just hot air because the only reason the institution was closed was because on 3rd April 2019, in broad daylight, His Excellency, the President - the Emperor that has cloaked us in a coat of debt – ordered that CBU be closed. That is the only reason why Professor Nkandu Luo, notwithstanding her personal incompetence, cannot make a decision to reopen CBU!

We will not go further than those two incidents in highlighting the PF transgressions towards the youth in tertiary education.

We see youths being abused in times of election. We have seen how the youths of this country are continually denied education; the youth are denied a chance to have a job and make contribution to mother Zambia; the PF talk about the youth being enterpreneural yet there are no opportunities for a right minded and upright youth to get into the space largely due to government mismanagement and corruption – in fact, the youth as recent as 2020 are not even allowed to make comment on governance issues!

Several youth that are in the limelight of celebrity status of

Zambia have in recent times made comment on how they feel Zambia could be governed better and decisions regarding the country's natural assets could be better utilised for the betterment of Zambians. As PAC, we stand with the youth in this regard – things are very wrong in Zambia. There are too many corruption matrices that are taking away not only from the youths, but the majority of Zambians including those unborn. Zambia has accumulated debt that many unborn Zambians will one day have to grapple with yet there is nothing to show for this debt. Roads for which debt was acquired lie unfinished in some cases; other roads have already started crumbling. Many infrastructure projects lie unfinished yet funds borrowed for this have been consumed. Many projects are over priced and sub contracting that could have been targeted at Zambian youths, is given to political henchmen.

Further, when our God given resources are discovered and seen to have a potential to lift Zambia out of the doldrums of debt that the same PF has had us entrenched in, the resources are mismanaged or mishandled and clarity in what will happen is mired in murky deals that again end up disadvantaging the youths.

Honestly speaking, do the current happenings in our country's economy not warrant some kind of reaction from the youth, whose future and that of those behind them, lies in jeopardy due to PF recklessness? Should the youth – the voter that PF used to get into office – not cry at the dununa reverse played on them? Further, is it right to threaten the youth for speaking out in defence of their future? What is so wrong about exercising one's freedom of expression, speaking out on the reality of what surrounds us? The answer should ring loud and clear for all youth in Zambia – there is

nothing wrong. If things are going monumentally wrong as they are in the PF led government, speak out. This is the future many youth of yester years did not envision to be what it is now. No meaningful change will arise from silence. If the youth had not stood up at one point, UNIP would not have bowed out to MMD, and MMD would not have bowed out to PF and if the youth are silenced as is the intention by PF, then PF will be allowed to continue raping Zambia of its mukula; raping Zambia of its gold; raping Zambia of its land; raping Zambia of its free enterprise; raping Zambia of its freedom of expression; raping Zambians of their rights; raping Zambia's coffers with corruption. Youths stand up!

At the same time, it is disheartening to see youths recant their statements when either pressure is applied to them by the same PF that has marginalised them, or they are paid off. While we may not see actual evidence of these things, it is clear when those we have considered brave for standing up for many voiceless others, suddenly lose that voice and take back their eloquent and factual statements, to replace them with hollow nothings that speak for no one than themselves. History has shown how those that take the side of the oppressors lose face with their youthful compatriots.

PAC stands with the majority of Zambian youth that have borne the pain of PF brazen recklessness. PAC stands with the youth that have said enough is enough. Zambia is not for a handful of people but for everyone. Those that seek shelter in the oppressor, all the best. The majority always rule and those standing with the oppressor will fall by the wayside.

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



**By Natasha Sakala**  
ZESCO Limited says it was losing over US\$200 million annually to the “unfair and one-sided” nature of the Bulk Supply Agreement with Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) that expired on March 31, 2020.

And Zesco says CEC is the one that rejected the bid to renew the BSA as they did not agree to pay a higher tariff to Zesco for off-taking power.

In an interview, Zesco director of Strategy and Corporate Services Patrick Mwila further accused CEC of not being transparent in its metering process, hence benefitting an additional 50 to 100 megawatts (MW) that was not accounted for, leading to losses on Zesco revenues amounting to US\$67.2 million annually.

“As operators of its infrastructure, CEC did not grant or provide access to its meters or metering data to show the true consumption by the mines that showed the true peak on the ZESCO system. As such, CEC enjoyed the additional benefit from what is known as simultaneous maximum demand. This is a situation which occurs as a result of the mining companies reaching their maximum demand consumption at different times to the Maximum Demand readings at the ZESCO CEC bulk supply points. This then results in CEC’s summation of its capacity sales to the mines exceeding the actual capacity delivered by ZESCO at the bulk supply points. CEC derives this benefit singularly with no benefit to ZESCO and led to a difference of power readings between 50-100MW in any

# Zesco claims \$200m annual loss from BSA with CEC

given month. This meant that ZESCO was losing revenues on unaccounted for power ranging from 50-100MW monthly. This amounted to approximately US\$2.3m to US\$5.6m monthly or up to US\$67.2million annually,” Mwila said.

“There were many onerous terms and conditions that ZESCO had to simply endure during the more than twenty (20) years that the BSA ran. These onerous terms included the following issues: In 2017, a joint agreement between the Government, ZESCO and the mines agreed that the mines would pay an effective tariff of US\$9.3c/kWh. However, given the BSA, a challenge still existed on the final tariff that the mining companies paid to CEC. In recognizing the CEC asset on the Copperbelt, ZESCO agreed to charge CEC an effective tariff of US\$8.11c/kWh which was effected in two parts, a Capacity Charge and an Energy Charge. However, due to the use of an unrealistic Load Factor in determining the two-part tariff, the cash flow tariff to ZESCO was US\$6.8c/kWh, resulting in a further loss of approximately \$2.5million per month (or \$30million annually). Meanwhile, during this same time, ZESCO was purchasing expensive power to supply all consumers, including the mines from various IPPs (Independent Power

Producers) at prices ranging from US\$8c/kWh to US\$13.5c/kWh (Average of US\$11c/kWh) representing a subsidy of up to US\$6.7c to both CEC and the mines on every unit supplied.”

He added that the company was losing about US\$120 million annually due to the mismatch in price paid by CEC and the actual cost of producing electricity that was being sold to CEC.

“The largest beneficiaries to the Agreements by ZESCO and IPPs have been the mines as is evident through the drought seasons of 2014/15 and 2019/20. Mines have continued receiving a significant amount of power for their operations from ZESCO and the majority of the power in a drought season from IPPs. The average cost of power from IPPs is US\$11c/kWh against a selling price to CEC of US\$6.8c/kWh. The price to CEC does not represent ZESCO’s true cost of providing the power at the points where ZESCO delivers the power to CEC. If ZESCO was to add the cost of wheeling to the supply of power to the mines on the Copperbelt, it would cost in excess of US\$ 13.0c/kWh. The loss in monetary terms due to mismatch between the CEC price paid to ZESCO and the actual cost of supply (paid to IPPs by ZESCO) amounts to approximately US\$10m per month or \$120 million annually. This situation is completely unsustainable going forward,” Mwila said.

He said Zesco stuck to the agreement despite the mismatch but will not allow itself to enter into a similar arrangement.

“The previous governments

used to just surrender because they were so scared that if this guy lays off people, I will become unpopular. So mines have been playing that game, blackmailing of the government by corporate entities, that’s what’s been going on. So Zesco has to stand by the public, we are not going to allow that... We have respected the law, there was a contract which ran for 23 years. Because there was a contract, contracts are laws, we repeated the law, we stuck with government, we stuck with CEC, we said well, it was a done deal, we need to respect this but once that contract is over, people should have plan B,” Mwila said.

“...So they will select, it’s called cherry picking. It meant that CEC had the right to cherry pick then Zesco has to find money to supply the entire country and supply CEC at a loss. So how do you get out of this, if you are smart, it’s a Catch-22, you are caught in an agreement which is lose, lose, lose. Are you going to sign it again and renew it?...I think when they were signing, they thought they were signing something good, they didn’t know that the people they were signing with are cruel, these mines and all their friends, they are cruel.”

He further wondered why CEC, through the board chairperson, wrote a letter two days to the expiry date of the BSA that the people Zesco was negotiating with, including the chief executive officer, did not have the mandate of the company.

“I mean the guy I was sitting with across the table was their CEO...and their board comes and says last minute that these

guys didn’t have the mandate so we are withdrawing, no deal. So who said no deal? It’s not Zesco, it’s not government and now the talk there is they have not given them a deal. No, we are not going to give them the old BSA, it will never happen, that will never happen. Maybe because they think they have been oiling some people here

and there they think that maybe government is weak but there are people who are watching and nobody is going to allow that,” Mwila alleged.

Meanwhile, Mwila said the deal that Zesco has signed with Konkola Copper Mines is better than the one it had with CEC.

“...None of the mines want to go out in the public and give an exact figure but I can tell you that what we have signed with KCM is much, much better than CEC and for them, it’s better than what they had with

## Zambia isn’t a theocracy, church can’t lead constitution making process – Lubinda

**By Natasha Sakala**

JUSTICE Minister Given Lubinda says the church cannot be at the helm of the constitution making process because Zambia is not a theocracy.

And Lubinda says Mazabuka UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo’s complaint that he is breaching parliamentary privilege by debating Bill 10 on various media platforms is flimsy.

Meanwhile, Lubinda says government decided to gazette amendments to Bill 10 as a show of goodwill that it has no intentions of dribbling citizens as some stakeholders were insinuating.

Speaking when he featured on Diamond TV’s Diamond Live program, Friday, Lubinda said it was not in order for the church to lead the constitution making process.

“There is nowhere in the world today where there is a theocracy. Zambia is not a theocracy where the church must come up with laws, no. It is Parliament that comes up with laws, not the church. It can’t be done by the church and it also can’t be led by the church. You want Parliament to be governed by the church? The legislative power of Zambia derives from the people and is exercised by Parliament. The church are participants but they cannot be expected to legislate, no it’s not their role. The legislative function, according to the Constitution is exercised by Parliament, no one else, except the executive,” Lubinda said.

**Story Continues on P10**

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**L**AST Week, President Edgar Lungu posted his condolence message, expressing grief at the passing of President Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi. The Head of State listed what he described as significant roles that Nkurunziza played for his country and the African continent, adding that he was scheduled to democratically hand over power to the President-elect of Burundi, General Major Everiste Ndayishimiye. President Lungu ended his condolence message by stating that "on behalf of the government of the Republic of Zambia, the people and myself, I wish to convey sincere and deepest condolences to the government of Burundi and the bereaved family."

Then came the comments:

"Too bad it's a wrong country."

"Utunensu."

"Some countries are blessed, anyway God will answer our prayers too."

"Remember him just as government alone, not including the people, there is nothing good to remember about a dictator. Us the people are just waiting on whose [sic] next."

"The 'angel's' mission had not yet been accomplished."

"It's good that the angel is still roaming in Africa. The mission hasn't been accomplished yet."

"See what God is doing for other countries."

"Nkurunziza was a dictator who manipulated his country's constitution

to run for a third term just like the way [you want] to impose Bill 10 on us."

State House aides could not handle these seemingly hateful messages from the Zambian citizens; they were forced to delete President Lungu's condolence message for the late Burundian counterpart. We feel State House aides misunderstood the message from Zambians. It may appear that the citizens who commented on the President's Facebook posting were wishing our Head of State dead as soon as possible. Indeed, the messages were suggesting so, and they were very hateful, but in our opinion, the people of Zambia were merely expressing their deepest dislike for his governance and continued stay in

office.

There is a good reason for this. Like we have stated in our previous editorial opinions, Zambia has gone through some of the most heartbreaking experiences ever. Look at what happened during the gassing incidences! What started as almost nonsensical acts of criminality in Chingola spiraled into a national crisis that is not common in Zambia. What came to be known as gassing crimes covered a huge chunk of the country. And those reckless acts of criminal vandalism and terror soon changed the behaviour of our usually civil, peace-loving and law abiding citizens into angry mobs that we could not recognise.

We have stated previously that Zambia

has never before had the callous instant justice mobs burning fellow citizens on mere suspicion of crime. This is something that should make every Zambian, especially the President, to wonder. This is not who we are. We have our differences, but we are not blood-thirsty, we have never been! Zambians hate the sight of blood. There is nothing we value more than the life of a fellow human being. This is why when someone dies, communities normally join in collective grief, even the deceased person's enemies turn up to mourn and wish they had made up before that person died. This is how we are! This is nothing to be ashamed of. Zambians are good people.

President Lungu and his handlers must

therefore not get the wrong message from the reaction to the Facebook posting on Nkurunziza's death. No one is wishing the Head of State dead. What the people want is for the President to leave office in August, 2021 so that someone else can lead the country. That is all they are asking for. Unfortunately, this is the wish within the Patriotic Front too. It's just that members are afraid to speak their minds, but the truth is that they do not want this particular President to stay in office up to 2026.

What is causing people to wish President Lungu gone is the very fact that he is imposing himself on the citizens. They have rejected his third term bid, together with its Bill 10, but the Head of State insists that he is standing again in 2021. This is why people

are reminding President Lungu that the President of Burundi manipulated the Constitution, using similar amendments like the Bill 10, to stay in power longer than necessary.

We don't think that there is anyone who would take to the streets to celebrate the demise of President Lungu, no matter how deep the dissent for his governance may be. But we can bet him that if he steps down today, or declares that he will not stand in 2021, there would be jubilations in most parts of the country. People are tired of his leadership. There have been way too many scandals under his reign and his image has been damaged.

What shocks us is that despite all these sentiments, the man insists that he wants to rule the people who do not want him anymore. How can you govern by deleting disapproval messages from the citizens? Is that even sustainable? What will happen when citizens start booing your motorcade and carrying mock coffins? Will you shoot them?

Get the message President Lungu, people don't wish you dead. They just want you out of office at the earliest possible time. They want you to leave honourably. A wise actor knows that it is good to leave the stage while people are still clapping. On you, President Lungu, people stopped clapping a long time ago, they are now pelting objects at you. Just leave and retain some dignity!

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

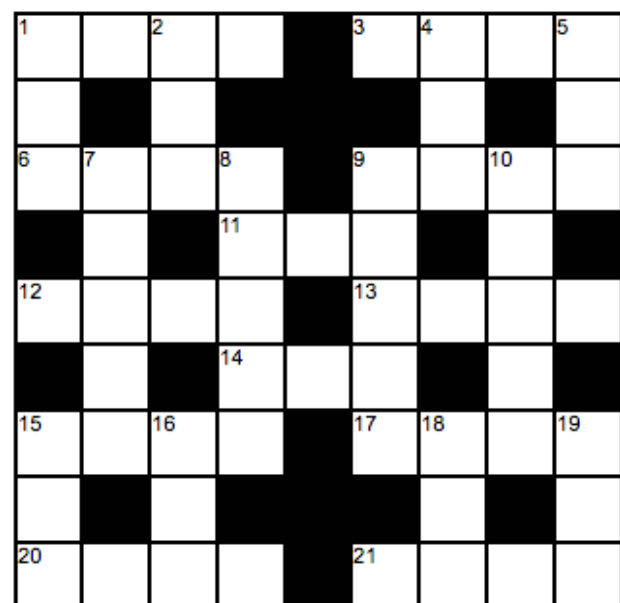
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# Sorry Mr Lungu; they don't wish you dead, they just want you out of State House

## Crossword puzzle No 624



*"Life as a defeated warrior with dignity is lot better than the king ruling without it."*  
- Vikrmn

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conceal</li> <li>3. Defendant's statement</li> <li>6. Wizard's stick</li> <li>9. Bratty talk</li> <li>11. A bread grain</li> <li>12. Fur loving pest</li> <li>13. Wind indicator</li> <li>14. Summer cooler</li> <li>15. Actor Clive</li> <li>17. Refusals</li> <li>20. Keg contents</li> <li>21. Frozen precipitation</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who, what, where, when, why, and ____</li> <li>2. Cozy room</li> <li>4. Grassland</li> <li>5. Abdominal muscles</li> <li>7. Permit</li> <li>8. Bathtub part</li> <li>9. Evening hour</li> <li>10. Blonde shade</li> <li>15. Globe</li> <li>16. Ram's mate</li> <li>18. Raggedly doll</li> <li>19. Do some tailoring</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## Crossword puzzle No 623





# Readers' Feedback

## ND! OPINION: 15 Qualities of a Dictatorship

Editor,

"All these are adada's qualities, we are in trouble". - Samuel Kash-k Nandopu

"And the people unwittingly fall into their trap by hero worshipping them, thereby condoning and supporting their evil schemes". - Grace Shankaya

"This is so true and painfully applies to Zambia today. Diggers I only hope they won't start following you". - Justin Sics

"We tick all the boxes! Those who don't have screens of conviniences on their faces, like in every system. You can look, but

cannot see and for good reasons too!" - Kanyata Mubita

"Not forgetting what happened to Gadaff and Mugabe next door. Ungraceful exit". - Muwema Kamalwa

"I am analysing the following 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 & 13. And there possibly applicable... Post Newspaper and Prime TV are catalysts in the analysis". - Simon Chinyama

"The beauty of dictators is that their end is bad". - Addwell Malenga

"Very true and I have counted 12 of all those 15

very applicable to Zambia". - Josh Godwin Musuku

"These are Lungu's 15 qualities". - Jack Solozzo

"16. Dictators don't know that they are dictators". - Adams Kambila

"This sounds familiar, I know one..." - Moonga Moonga

"Modern day dictatorship, how long can it be sustained without synchronizing with the gullible public? Also how large and deep is the gullibility? Let him who embarks on a plunder path abandon it and seek the right ways for his offspring's sake, time

is short for such vanity mission. Respect yourself and others if you are really humble". - Jombo Sapato

"African dictators have mastered the art of running dictatorial democracies which allow elections and institutions to operate just give an image of democracy, but in reality the whole system is compromised. When Lungu is questioned about biased state media, unfair elections and courts rulings. He simply has to deny his involvement and point at IBA, ECZ as being independent, even though just on paper. The foolishness of all dictators of course is the delusion that this will last". - Richard Waga



### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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## Pilato, B-Flow and Maiko's call to MPs to reject Bill 10

Editor,

"Bill 10 is an alleged path to 2nd full colonialism and it should be rejected. Anyone who will support bill 10 is supporting 2nd full colonialism and no apologies later will be accepted that it was done under collective responsibility. If we do not handle our independence very well colonizers will come back as colonizers - Simon

*mwansa Kapwepwe zambian freedom fighter". - Mwenya Kay*

"Bill 10 must fall at any cost!" - Gershom Habile

"Yes, people should use their influence positively". - Asa Amisi

"If palms are properly greased, one can even buy a politicians soul". - Nkole Jimmy

"Thank you artists". Ester Mwale

## Mumbi's claim that Lungu doesn't hold public gatherings, but people follow him

Dear editor,

"I thought some leaders were mature..... madam Mumbi... watch your ZNBC again because they are the ones who even said ECL went in Chirundu for example to work and also met PF party officials and members.... Same applies to Northwestern.... Why do you like exposing your ignorance in public?... you're just loosing your little credibility .... It's better you keep quiet like Tasila who doesn't retaliate to anything thrown at her... In fact Tasila Lungu is more mature than most PF elderly... I will leave it here!" - Mathew Chimbungule

"People have mercy on her. Her target audience wasn't intelligent Zambians. It was PF cadres". - Mike Phiri

"Let them follow him to state house. Foolishness at its highest level". - Josephine Ngulube

"But if we follow HH it becomes a problem.... Nonsense!" - Winford Mupaka

"And the police and health authorities have been allowing that? Why not summon Lungu for breaking the law? Should we also follow our Bally as Disgruntled youths?" - Mwindi Munyandi

## UPND on PF's use of mealie meal to bribe 'hungry' W/P voters

Dear editor,

"While that maybe true. It should worry the Opposition Parties that the rural folk can be swayed to vote based on a simple bribe of a chitenge, a teeshirt and chibuku or K50. These are people who survive on the barest of the minimum, they don't experience loadshedding, high youth employment or the high cost of living. Interestingly enough they also lend an ear to empty developmental projects or delivery of a simple ambulance which can be driven away after elections. The PF Party has mastered the act of playing on the vulnerability of the illiterate. The Party in power should worry that people in the urban areas see things differently the stark reality of poverty, despair, the squalor conditions people live in the compounds, the utter hopelessness of the unemployed youth and most importantly an economy that is on the down wards spiral. All things being equal take away the infamous Bill10, interesting times lay ahead". - Ben Kauzeni

"Are we ever going to have elections where people will not cry foul in Africa my advise to either sides mukaluza ma vote just accept and device ways of winning next time not this baby cry syndrome we see every time!" - Chileshe Mfunne

"Why not buy mealie meal and distribute too? This kind of crying should be left in 2020. We won't allow you to go with it in 2021. If you can't bear the heat, get out of the kitchen. What's the job of the Mobilization team of the party? Just to shoot down comments on FB? Go out there and talk to the people". - Brian Sichula





By Julia Malunga  
COUNCIL of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) general secretary Fr Emmanuel Chikoya says it doesn't make sense that government is blocking youths from protesting when they have followed the correct procedure.

And Fr Chikoya says the ruling Patriotic Front should stop taking advantage of COVID-19 to deny opposition parties their right to gather.

In an interview, Fr Chikoya said youths had a right to express themselves.

"The youths have the

# Allow youths to express themselves – Chikoya

freedom to express themselves and a protest is enshrined in the Constitution not in the Minister of Home Affairs, not in the President's office it is a constitutional provision. The police are supposed to protect the constitution of Zambia and

not individuals. I think there was a just a condemnation by the government spokesperson (Dora Siliya) on the people that stormed the radio stations who are actually criminals. They broke the law and they are still walking in streets

and nothing has been done to them. So what kind of law do we have in Zambia? A law that is used to intimidate people that have followed procedure, they have notified because it is a right to express themselves. Why is it that our leaders are so inclined to hearing or allowing people that speak their language to thrive and break the law?" Fr Chikoya asked.

"I think the problem that we have are the people that have the privilege of being stewards of leadership that are failing us. So I think it is not in order for people to be threatened because they want to express themselves. People should be able to go to parliament and be able to petition and not only have those that sing the songs that others want to hear, including those that will sing another song. We should be thriving to be democratic country. Looking at the young people's concerns for example, this is a fact, why should our mines be taken away? Why should we be repeating the same mistakes that we were having with all these other copper mines?"

And Fr Chikoya wondered why President Edgar Lungu held political gatherings over the weekend without adhering to COVID-19 regulations while the opposition was not allowed to gather.

"They are taking advantage of this COVID-19 scenario. I read in the paper the other day there should not be political gatherings, enough of this! This has to stop. Let other voices be heard. The President was present and there was no

social distance, this proves that you are denying other people to be heard. If really we have democracy that we have, we must make sure that all other stakeholders are allowed to work, they are allowed to meet. It is a lie that the PF are not meeting, they are. They should allow other political parties to meet even if they have small gatherings, let them have. I mean, what we saw on the papers, there was no centimeter even in between people and then you

are telling other people to abide by COVID regulations?" asked Fr Chikoya.

"The issue of do as I say and not do as I do is not going to hold water. Can our leaders wise up, can our leaders be honest and can our leaders be fair. They were crying foul when they were in the opposition and now they are in the transit seat, they should not forget and have a short memory of their experiences. We want to see a Zambia that is thriving economically, politically, spiritually, not a situation where I should not be looking over my back. There should be freedom of expression that must be there. Yes, we should respect the personalities that lead us but we should not live in fear of them we must always make sure that if they contradict the constitution, we guide them that is why we are there."



## We'll meet protesting youths head on - PF

By Julia Malunga

LUSAKA Province PF Youth chairperson Daniel Kalembe says youths planning to protest against various governance issues will be met head on by ruling party youths.

Speaking at a press briefing, Sunday, Kalembe said the PF youths would also protest.

"We know that Zambia does not only belong to Facebook bloggers. Zambia belongs to every Zambian youth. So we are saying that since now they have decided to take their protest from Facebook to come on the ground, they will come and meet us. Since we know that a lot of youths they do not even blog, so we are going to express ourselves because it is our freedom of expression. Since they are saying 'it is our right', even us it is our right," said Kalembe.

"So, 22nd of this month, we are going to participate and we are directing, urging all our leaders starting from the lower organ up to provincial level to mobilize and prepare themselves to come and support the policies of Patriotic Front and developmental trajectory under His Excellency Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu. And we are saying that 'no and abash!' because it is only when they are criticizing the leadership of this country and our Head of State, it is when they always mobilize themselves and come up with their freedom of expression to protest but we are saying now 'enough is enough!' We will be meeting them head on."

Some youths had planned a protest for June 22 but police denied them a permit, citing security concerns. They have since appealed to the minister.

## Zambia isn't a theocracy, church can't lead constitution making process – Lubinda

From P7

He wondered why the Zambia Council for Catholic Bishops (ZCCB) was crying foul when they did not make submissions both to the National Dialogue Forum (NDF) and the parliamentary select committee, despite being invited. "So is it our problem that ZCCB did not go to make their submissions at NDF, no it's not. And it's not only ZCCB, many people are complaining about the process and saying 'no, they are not listening to the committee of parliament, they haven't heard our views', but then you ask, did you make your views known? No. Did you make submissions to the Ministry of Justice? Did you submit to NDF? No. Did you submit to committee of parliament? No. But how did you expect us to delve into your thoughts to see this is what this gentleman or this lady is thinking about, or this is what this organisation is thinking about to build consensus? If you don't come to take part in preparing the dinner, don't condemn it. Don't, it's very cheeky to do that, once I invite you, please, you invited me come

to this program, come and explain and I refuse and then you misquote me, will I have any reason to complain? No, you will say but I gave you the platform," he said.

"Again, I want to ask you, is it consensus only when your view takes prominence, that's when it's consensus? When your view is not accepted it's not consensus? Is that your interpretation of consensus? No, that's a very thin way of defining consensus. People went to the NDF, was ZCCB invited? Yes, they were, did they come, no they didn't, and were they stopped from going, no they were not."

And Lubinda said nothing stopped him from debating Bill 10.

"Mr Gary Nkombo can knock all sorts of allegations but this particular one is totally flimsy. There is nothing whatsoever that stops me or any other person or any member of parliament from debating a matter because it is in parliament, nothing whatsoever. There is no law in this country that says because this bill is before parliament, don't debate it outside. Secondly, the issue of Mr Gary Nkombo going to

parliament on the 17th of March and raising a point of order and referring to a matter that was in court and asking Mr Speaker whether or not parliament should continue to debate Bill 10 is not an issue because Mr Speaker reserved his ruling. He didn't make a ruling and because he did not make a ruling, I am not compelled to assume that Mr Gary Nkombo's point of order is valid, no, what is valid is the fact that parliament had already started debating Bill 10 and nobody pronounced the curtailment of that process," he said.

Meanwhile, Lubinda said government only had good intentions on Bill 10.

"Today again, I decided to do an unprecedented act, I did this because I don't want anyone to say I didn't follow, I didn't know what was happening. Never in the history of Zambia has a Minister of Justice gazetted amendments, never. Why am I doing it, it is because I don't want to leave anyone behind, anybody saying 'they are going to manipulate', I want them presented to parliament, I said I am committed to these amendments,

they say no you will manipulate. Today I say alright, I am going to show you not only the blood on my palm, I will also show you the blood in my heart, I am going to gazette this thing so that you can hold me accountable, again they are saying, no he is going to manipulate. So let me make this clear, Constitution making is not about unanimity, no, it is about consensus, not unison," said Lubinda.

"And I can say here as an honest and sincere person, when I went through the gazette, I noticed they were some errors. And I want to make it very clear here, they were some errors, if people see that there is a retention of 14 days for the petition of the president, that's an error. What I meant to put in is 30 days, that's what the Nakacinda report says. That's how sincere I am, that is an error, we made a mistake, people who were preparing that document made that mistake. That is how sincere I can be, I have nothing to hide, this Constitution is not for me, this Constitution is not for President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, and this Constitution is not for PF it is for the people of Zambia."

## Siliya demands *News Diggers'* apology over its editorial opinion

By Natasha Sakala

Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services Dora Siliya says News Diggers has opened itself to attacks from youths for using the word "stupid" in its editorial opinion.

And Siliya says youths have the right to dance "Dununa" whenever they want without fear of being referred to as stupid.

On Friday, News Diggers! carried an editorial opinion with the headline "Stupid, disgruntled youths should think twice before dancing Dununa next time".

But in a letter dated 12th June 2020, addressed to News Diggers and copied to all media houses, Siliya stated that the rights of youths to

dance Dununa at their own will should be respected.

"I have noticed with grave concern the culture of derogatory language creeping back into our media. An example is Friday, 12th June 2020 editorial headline in the [News] Diggers! While government has no problem with an opinion that disagrees strongly with government, it has problems with the use of the word "stupid" against the youth of Zambia. This reference has been made by Diggers editors purely because of the youth having exercised their right to support a political party of their choice. If the Diggers wishes to claim the right of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, those freedoms must also respect the freedoms of the youth of Zambia and their choice to dance "dununa" in the past, now and indeed even in the future, without fear of being referred to as stupid," Siliya wrote.

And Siliya stated that media houses had exposed itself to attacks from the youths.

"Secondly, this derogatory remarks expose the Diggers to possibly all manner of retaliation which might invite the youths of Zambia to attack the media house if there is no recourse. It is my considered view that the Diggers editors will see sense in apologizing to the youths of Zambia. Government has a responsibility to advise media houses not to forget the political and cultural environment they operate in. It is not a vacuum but very real. Media houses are not advocacy institutions but are there to give editorials, of and on facts, on behalf of the people of Zambia. Editorials that begin with derogatory words just take away from professionalism, our culture, our Christian values and most of all, our very democracy we wish to preserve," stated Siliya.



# 'Lukonga' a standout goalkeeper worth the salt

By Tim Zulu

ONE can insist to argue but the plain truth is that Alpha Lukonga is arguably one of the best shot stoppers in the Eden University National Division One League.

Little wonder his signature is already being sought by other teams as far as the Mediterranean sea.

The imposing agile Indeni goalkeeper does not just stand between the sticks but keeps his marshals in front of him very alert, his ball distribution, insight and communication is a marvel to watch.

Simply put, Lukonga is but an elite, smart goalkeeper such many strikers are finding it hard to breach his net.

He defends his goal line with his life and his flexible pair of hands are a rare glove to fetch on the goalkeeper's shelf.

It took an eagle's eye for Indeni to land their now prized asset.

The Ndola based team made a good bait here when they lured the 22-year-old Congolese goalie from Masala's Ndola United across the rail line to Ndeke Complex.

The acrobatic former TP Mazembe junior net minder has been one of the fluid difference in the Oil men's 2019/2020 fascinating soccer season

campaign and since his move to Indeni in 2018, the man has been equal to the demanding task of the Eden league.

Lukonga admits that the Eden league hasn't been that rosy as the competition is very high with balanced chances.

He, however, told Eden Media that he relishes and loves the challenges that comes with it.

"I love such challenges, that is what brought me here to Zambia. I used to watch the Zambian league on TV," Lukonga said.

Asked what drives his game passion and why he gets so upset when scored, he said:

"Winning is in my blood, I love my job and I don't like taking chances no wonder I get so furious with my self if somehow I am beaten and allow the ball to go in. Yes, sometimes mistakes do happen but I personally enjoy keeping my game record clean. It uplifts my spirit and makes me look to the next game with more courage and confidence. So I enjoy leaving my office at the end of any football business with a winning smile. Anything less drives me crazy and my teammates are equally developing that winning mentality because that is the only way we shall



get the super league price, we have to win and win and keep winning matches until it's over."

He said as the last man in goal, he will always give it his best shot.

"...and for me to be at this great club that has invested a lot in the team, the management style of the club executive is top notch, so the football environment here is quiet conducive for any player to thrive and give his all, so why not give it your all too," Lukonga said.

The steady, comfortable net minder stands between qualifications to the super league or failure and Indeni's 3rd log standing (46 points) gives a clear picture that there will

be more to see in the remaining 10 games.

The skillful goalkeeper is surely living his dream at Indeni complex and any team with a desire to sign him on will not be

disappointed but should be ready to part away with a cheque worth a good number of zeros at the Ndola Oil Refinery plant to get hold of this firm goal protector.

## NSCZ elects new Board

By Abraham Kalito

THE National Sports Council of Zambia (NSCZ) has elected a vice chairperson and seven new Board members following a meeting held on Saturday in Lusaka.

Speaking prior to the elections, Sports Minister Emmanuel Mulenga announced that he will appoint other members to ensure that the board begins its operations quickly.

Mulenga urged the elected members to prioritise sport development across the country.

"First and foremost, I would like to convey my gratitude to the upcoming board, and appreciate the service of the outgoing board that served from 2017. The national sports policy most importantly identifies the national sports council of Zambia as a principal extended arm of government through the ministry and chief implementer of sport development programs and activities in the country. To this end, the council has an obligation to lead sports development in the country. Government attaches

great importance to the sport development in the country and therefore it is within my delegated authority to ensure that sport development structures such as the national sports council and its board are instituted and function. To this end, from 27 May 2020 I appointed the chairperson for the national sports council of Zambia with other council members," he said.

"In the past, elections of vice chairperson and board members were not guided by any rules. And unfortunately, elements of error characterised the elections. This is not withstanding the fact that chapter 142 of the laws of Zambia in part 2 section (9) (1) authorises you as councillors to do such acts. I would like to thank you for developing rules to guide the elections for the vice-chairperson and board members. Be ready to support the board. I will soon appoint a full board to optimally deliver sports development desires of nation Zambia. Ensure you elect three women in your board."

Meanwhile, newly

elected vice chairperson Charles Mwanza said the board will endeavor to address challenges faced by sports federations in the country.

"Obviously, I'm on the board elected with other members on the board. So, we are a team now. So, whatever we are going to do, we need to sit up and see where we are. We need a strategy in planning as a starting point. A strategy in planning will give us where we are now, where we hope to go and how we will get there. Because even when we ask for resources from our people, we need to know how we will apply the resources. We need to know the challenges faced by the sports associations. So as a council we will have to work very easy with these associations. We will work with the other members appointed by the minister," he said.

The elected board members include, Nakaonga Kakoma, Mwilima Phiri, Mmusunka Silungwe, Mabvuto Ng'uni, Josab Changa, Kamatumwa Chirwa and Harrison Sinkala

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# NAPSA STARS TRAINS

## ...as FAZ issues warning over breaking Ministry of Health safety guidelines

By Abraham Kalito

THE Football Association has reiterated that it will not hesitate to mete out punishment on clubs that have resumed training without the approval of the Ministry of Health.

On Saturday, FAZ spokesperson Sydney Mungala said the association was deeply concerned after it learnt that some clubs have commenced training.

“The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) wishes to advise its membership and stakeholders that it has

not issued any instruction for teams to start training. FAZ has learnt with deep concern that some clubs have commenced training despite the suspension of all football activities still in effect. FAZ General Secretary Adrian Kashala says the association has not yet been given the green light to commence football activities. The FAZ Chief

Executive Officer says punishment will be meted out on erring members with the docking of points being one of the options. Kashala has however assured the football family that engagements with the Ministry of Sports and Health have yielded positive results with a possibility of football returning soon.”

But in an interview

with the club’s media team, Napsa stars skipper Dickson Chapa confirmed that his side had resumed training and that players were being drilled in groups of five contrary to the association’s directive.

“I’m trying by all means to keep myself fit during this period. The technical bench has come up with a program where they have

divided us into groups, defenders, midfielders and strikers. So, they have been sending us programs on WhatsApp. And they have been sending us videos. This is a group where all the coaches are in and the President of the team is also in that same group. So, whenever we train, we are asked to send our training videos in that group so that

they are monitoring the way we are training. It’s effective and so far, so good. We have started going in groups so at least we will start seeing each other. It will bring that togetherness in a team. A team is all about unity and togetherness, the way we were training online, we were unable to see each other but now we are able to.”

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