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### MORE FUNDING TOWARDS AGRICULTURE SECTOR

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## ZAMBIA SCORES 92.6 PERCENT IN THE GLOBAL CYBERSECURITY INDEX FOR 2023

BY CECILIA CHILUBA

Minister of Technology and Science has disclosed that Zambia has recorded significant progress in the Global Cyber security Index (GCI)

2023, by scoring 92.6 percent. In a statement, Felix Mutati says this is compared to 68.8% in 2020, 43.6% in 2017,

29.2% in 2016, and 14.7% in 2014, thereby reflecting Zambia's commitment to enhancing its cyber security landscape and safeguarding its digital infrastructure.

Mr. Mutati states that Zambia's exceptional rise in the GCI demonstrates Government's robust approach to protecting the country's digital economy, critical information infrastructure, and safeguarding Zambian citizens from cyber threats.

He adds that this remarkable achievement is a testament to Zambia's consistent efforts over the past decade to prioritize cyber security, as the country has steadily advanced from a score of 14.7% in 2014 to an impressive 92.6% in 2023.

The GCI, launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), measures the commitment of countries to cyber security development across five critical pillars, which are legal

measures, technical measures, organizational measures, capacity building, and cooperation.

An Economist expects government to allocate adequate funds in the 2025 national budget towards key sectors such as agriculture and energy in a bid to revamp the economy.

Speaking in an interview with Money Daily, Yusuf Dodia says sustainable investments in the energy sector should

## ECONOMIST EXPECTANT OF MORE FUNDING TOWARDS AGRICULTURE SECTOR.

By Elias Mwenda

be one of the top priorities in next year's national budget to cushion the current power deficit that the country is facing, because load shedding has constrained the economy.

Mr. Dodia also points out that for the economy to bounce back in 2025, government should consider reopening

Indeni Company, an oil refinery firm to arrest the escalating prices of fuel pump prices.

He adds that government should allocate enough funds towards revamping the Tanzania - Zambia Railway (TAZARA) in the 2025 budget, as rail transport is cheaper compared to road transport.

Finance and National Planning Minister, Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane is expected to present the 2025 national budget on 27th September, 2024.

why the current public transport in Zambia does not attract demand is because of the cost associated with the end-to-end operations where the central business district acts as a centre for all routes. He adds that some buses that are being used as public transport vehicles (PSVs) were not designed for that purpose, thereby denying passengers the safety and comfort they deserve, therefore the need for government to expedite the process of looking at the recommendations and provide solutions.

## PTDSZ EMPLOYS GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO THE PROPOSAL ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM

By Elias Mwenda

Public Transport Drivers Association of Zambia says it is still waiting on government to respond to the

proposal on how to improve the public transport system, as the current one is very outdated.

the public transport system should respond to the needs of the commuters such as people with disabilities, the aged and pregnant women. Mr. Mbewe states that one of the reasons

Speaking in an interview with Money Daily, Association National Secretary Sydney Mbewe says

## IDC COMMISSIONS CHITAMBO CASSAVA PROCESSING PLANT

The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has commissioned Zambia's first cassava processing facility in Chitambo District, which is expected to benefit over 6,200 farmers in the district and surrounding areas.

IDC CEO Cornwell Muleya said the K86.5 million project was established with support from the African Development Bank's Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP).

Mr Muleya said the plant, which is 70% owned by IDC and 30% by the Chitambo District Cooperative Union, will process up to 120 metric tonnes of cassava per day into cassava meal, starch, and animal feed. The facility currently employs 29 staff, with total direct and indirect jobs expected to reach 86 and 4000, respectively.

This pioneering project aims to commercialize cassava production, serving industries

such as baking, textiles, and breweries. The plant is fully functional, with all products having been certified by the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS). Mr. Muleya emphasized that the initiative would promote inclusive economic development in the region, aligned with Zambia's industrialization goals.

"At IDC, we believe that this initiative will not only bring inclusive economic activity but will also

Nkulukusa added that the province's large cassava cultivation area had previously been underutilized due to a lack of processing infrastructure, and that the new factory would increase opportunities for farmers.

African Development Bank Country Manager Mr Raubil Duwoju stressed the significance of agro industrialization, highlighting how the new facility connects farmers to markets

and enables them to transform raw cassava into competitive products for both local and international markets.

His Royal Highness Chief Chitambo echoed the potential benefits for local farmers, encouraging increased cassava cultivation to meet the anticipated market demand.

## GROWTH IN MOBILE MONEY TRANSACTION VALUES NOT INDICATIVE OF PEOPLE TRANSACTING

By Elias Mwenda

Mobile Money Business Association of Zambia says the growth in mobile money transaction values as reported by Zambia Information and Communication Authority (ZICTA), might not necessarily mean a lot of people are using the services.

According to ZICTA's 2024 Mid-Year Market Report, Mobile money transaction values increased by 12% to K222.8 billion from K199.5 billion, with transaction volumes rising by 44% to K1.4 billion from K976 million between mid-

2023 and mid-2024. Speaking in an interview with Money Daily, Association President Pamfred Hasweeka has since advised ZICTA to unpack the figures because the same crop of people might have repeatedly contributed to the increase in the performance of the sector.

Mr. Hasweeka states that the Authority should reveal how much money and transactions went through mobile money agents, as the actual growth of the sector

cannot be measured on the overall and general performance.

He adds once unpacked, the figures will show what challenges have been faced by the sector, including poor network and the recently increased levy.



## ENGAGE ONLY QUALIFIED AND LICENSED CONTRACTORS IN INSTALLING SOLAR SYSTEMS- ERB

By Cecilia Chiluba

Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has urged the public to engage only qualified and licensed contractors in installing solar systems to help prevent potential risks associated with substandard installations.

Meanwhile, ERB Public Relations Manager, Namukolo Kasumpa reveals that preliminary investigations into a fire incident that was recently reported in a social media clip on Sunday 15th September 2024, indicate that the property in question did not have solar panels installed as purported in the clip.

Ms. Kasumpa says according to the social media report, a residential property in Lusaka's Libala South area, had caught fire

She explains that in response to the report, the Board constituted a technical team to conduct preliminary investigations into the incident, and it has since been established that the fire occurred on Wednesday, 11th September 2024 at approximately 12:00 hours and not Sunday.

Ms. Kasumpa adds that the suspected cause of the fire was an external ignition whilst the owner of the house and his family had left for work, and at the time of the incident, the area was experiencing load shedding, indicating that the property was not connected to the national grid.

## COCA COLA GIVING BACK

A beverage manufacturing company says it is currently running a competition as a way of giving back to the community in the face of the drought that has negatively impacted household incomes.

Coca Cola Zambia Commercialization and Trade Marketing Manager, Panji Banda tells Money FM News that the competition, dubbed "Wina na Kapendelo ka Coke," is also a consumer-driven promotion to reward loyal Coca-Cola customers across Zambia.

Mr. Banda says this is one way the company is expressing gratitude to its loyal consumers and a gesture of giving back to the communities that have been supportive through the years. One of the winners that have been selected in week 1 of the competition is Angela Mukuni of Mumbwa District, who has walked away with K25, 000, while Lutanga Masipili of Mongu, has won K20, 000.

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# MONEY EDITORIAL

## EXPLOITATION IN ZAMBIA'S ENERGY SECTOR: A LEGACY OF NEGLECT AND MISMANAGEMENT

Zambia is currently facing one of the most severe power crises in living memory, with many households receiving electricity for just a few hours a day, often at inconvenient times.

This is not merely a sudden calamity but the result of decades of poor planning and neglect in the energy sector. What Zambians are experiencing now is a direct consequence of decisions—or lack thereof—made by those in power over the last fifty years.

At the heart of Zambia's energy woes is an overreliance on hydroelectric power. Over 90% of Zambia's electricity generation comes from hydro sources, with the remaining sliver coming from solar and coal.

This overdependence on one source is not only shortsighted but disastrous in the face of climate change. The ongoing drought has slashed hydroelectric generation, leaving millions of Zambians in darkness.

Despite this vulnerability, there has been little diversification in the energy sector. This lack of foresight is a direct result of the failure to

invest in alternative energy sources over the decades.

Zambia's current energy shortages are not due to an unexpected rise in demand or a sudden crisis. Rather, they are the culmination of years of ignoring warning signs. After the construction of the Kariba and Kafue Gorge power stations in the 1970s, there has been little investment in new infrastructure, despite a growing population and increasing urbanization.

The country's industrial base remains small, yet Zambia is still grappling with power shortages. This underscores just how outdated the energy infrastructure has become.

The result? Even with adequate installed capacity, most of it dependent on hydro, Zambia's power supply has dwindled as water levels have plummeted. No serious consideration was given to how climate change might affect hydroelectric generation, despite years of evidence pointing to increasing weather volatility.

In the wake of the current power crisis, solar energy has emerged as a potential solution. However, for the average Zambian, the reality is much more complicated.

High-quality solar solutions are prohibitively expensive, leaving the majority of Zambians to turn to cheaper alternatives, primarily imported from China.

Unfortunately, many of these low-cost products are counterfeit, unreliable, and lack warranties. As a result, consumers are often left worse off, having invested their hard-earned money in faulty equipment that fails to meet their basic needs.

The influx of these substandard products exposes a deeper issue—one of regulatory failure. The Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) has not been vigilant enough in monitoring the quality of products entering the country.

As a result, ordinary Zambians are left vulnerable to exploitation, forced to rely on products that are not only inefficient but also unsafe.

The ongoing energy crisis exposes the deep exploitation within the sector. Zambians have long been taken advantage of by a system that has failed to prioritize sustainable development, accountability, and protection of consumers.

The ongoing energy crisis exposes the deep exploitation within the sector. Zambians have long been taken advantage of by a system that has failed to prioritize sustainable development, accountability, and protection of consumers.

Those in power have benefited from maintaining the status quo, while the public has paid the price, both in literal terms and in lost opportunities for development.

Despite these challenges, there is little sense of urgency from policymakers. The energy sector remains largely monopolized, and while there have been promises of reform, significant progress has yet to be seen.

The continued neglect of energy diversification and the failure to regulate the flood of substandard products into the market speak volumes about the priorities of those in charge.

Addressing this crisis will require more than just superficial changes. First

and foremost, Zambia must aggressively diversify its energy mix. Solar, wind, and geothermal energy should not be afterthoughts but must become key pillars of the country's energy strategy.

The government needs to attract investment in renewable energy infrastructure and encourage innovation that can provide affordable, sustainable power to all Zambians.

Secondly, there must be a concerted effort to regulate the quality of energy products being sold in Zambia. The Zambia Bureau of Standards must step up and ensure that only products that meet certain safety and efficiency standards are allowed into the country. In this, the protection of consumers should be paramount.

Lastly, this crisis highlights the need for a national conversation about the broader exploitation that has characterized Zambia's energy sector. For too long, decisions have been made without considering

the long-term impacts on ordinary citizens. It is time for transparency, accountability, and sustainable planning to take center stage.

Only then can Zambia hope to overcome its current energy crisis and build a future where access to electricity is a right, not a privilege.

Zambia's energy crisis is not just a result of nature's cruelty—it is a man-made disaster rooted in decades of exploitation, neglect, and mismanagement. For the nation to move forward, a fundamental shift is required in how the energy sector is managed.

The legacy of poor planning must be replaced with a vision for the future that ensures energy security for all.

### WiFi VIA EDUROAM TO THE KENNETH KAUNDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Zambia Research and Education Network (ZAMREN) has completed the connection of free Wifi via Eduroam to the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport and East Park Malls in Lusaka. Speaking at a ZAMREN media breakfast in Lusaka, ZAMREN Chief Executive Officer Stein Mkandawire, says this is an effort to give two public facilities free internet which the travelling Researchers and Students in public, small and medium enterprises and other stakeholders can use for their daily businesses.

Mr. Stein Mkandawire states that the connection of Kenneth Kaunda International Airport will give tourists, investors, and frequent fliers in Research and Education an opportunity for them to instantly communicate upon arrival in the country. He says Eduroam will give an opportunity for those travelling to connect with their families and business partners as they arrive in the country, adding that the internet is being provided at no cost, and everyone can access it.

### FUNDS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF MPOX VACCINES NOT SECURED YET.

Minister of Health says government has not yet mobilized funds for the procurement of Mpx vaccines as the country has not recorded any cases.

Delivering a ministerial statement in Parliament, Dr. Elijah Muchima says there is a global

shortage of Mpx vaccines and World Health Organization has given priority to countries that have recorded positive cases such as Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Africa.

Dr. Muchima states that SADC recently had a meeting and

they are considering setting up an institution to start manufacturing the vaccines within the region.

He reveals that 37 cases of suspected Mpx have been tested and all are negative, but government has enhanced cross border surveillance to prevent the possible outbreak of the disease.

## ZUPED IMPLORES GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF ENACTING MINERAL LOCAL CONTENT BILL INTO LAW

By Elias Mwenda

Zambians for Unity, Peace and Development (ZUPED) has implored Government to expedite the process of enacting Mineral Local Content Bill into law to compel investors to mandatory and offer business opportunities to Zambians.

Organization President Ronnie Jere, has also called on Mopani, Konkola Copper Mine, First Quantum Minerals (FQM) and

other mining companies to prioritize offering business opportunities to local suppliers and contractors.

He says will not just revitalize the domestic economy but will also enhance government revenue tax base and optimize generation benefits from the mining sector by Zambians.

And Mr. Jere notes that small business

enterprises such as saloons, welders, bakeries, butcheries, bars, media houses, and barbershops among others are collapsing due to the current energy crisis, therefore it will be difficult for Government to achieve the 6% 2025 economic growth projection.

## ZEHEST CALLS FOR THE TRANSLATION OF THE ZAMBIAN CONSTITUTION INTO MAJOR LOCAL LANGUAGES.

By Cecilia Chiluba

Zambian Empowerment hub for Entrepreneurship and Skills Training (ZEHEST) has called for the translation of the Zambian Constitution into major local languages.

Organization Executive Director, Clarence Muzyamba tells Money News that this is in a bid to promote national unity, foster shared ownership and responsibility among citizens, enable effective civic education and awareness programs.

Mr. Muzyamba notes that the Constitution, which was formally adopted in 1991 and amended in 2016, provides the framework for the country's governance but its English text limits comprehension for people who do not speak English as their primary language.

He says by making the Constitution accessible to all, the country can build a more informed, engaged, and inclusive society.

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## INTEREST RATES HELD AT 5% BUT 'ON THE PATH DOWN'

Interest rates are "now gradually on the path down", the Bank of England governor has said after borrowing costs were held at 5%.

Andrew Bailey said inflation had "come down a long way" but warned that the Bank would need to see more evidence that it will remain low before cutting rates further.

The decision to hold rates comes as prices continue to rise

slightly faster than the Bank's target, with inflation remaining at 2.2% last month.

Experts are predicting the Bank will cut rates further in November.

There are two more interest rates decisions this year.

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR HAS INITIATED A FOUR-DAY, MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL INSPECTION

JOHANNESBURG, – The South African Department of Employment and Labour has initiated a four-day, multi-departmental inspection blitz across restaurants in the country following widespread reports of worker exploitation in the hospitality sector.

The inspections, which began on Tuesday, will continue until Friday, targeting restaurants to ensure compliance with labour laws. The effort is being led by inspectors from the Department of

Employment and Labour, with support from the South African Police Service, the Department of Home Affairs, and the Bargaining Council.

Milly Ruiters, the department's chief inspector for occupational health and safety, said the initiative is part of routine inspections but noted that the restaurant sector has become a "problematic" area due to frequent violations. "As part of our strategy, we conduct both proactive and reactive

inspections. We've identified high-risk sectors like hospitality as a focus," said Ruiters. The crackdown follows a public outcry sparked by allegations of exploitative practices at Babel Restaurant in Menlyn. The issue was highlighted when a former employee, Mhlali Nobavu, took to social media to expose the restaurant's labour violations, prompting swift action from authorities. Inspections have since expanded to other eateries. During the blitz, nearly 2,000

inspectors will be on the ground to check for compliance with various labour laws, including the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the National Minimum Wage Act, and others. On Monday, it was reported that Babel Restaurant and Ocean Basket in Menlyn owe their workers over R1.3 million in unpaid wages. A joint operation conducted by the Hawks, the Department of Employment and Labour, and other authorities revealed significant non-compliance with the National Minimum Wage Act.



## Community Forum

AM 09:00 hrs

This is a radio program dedicated to amplifying the diverse stories and voices within our local communities. The program aims to serve as a platform for residents to share their experiences, discuss issues that matter to them, and celebrate the richness of our community's culture and heritage.

93.7 fm

## EXCHANGE RATES

9/19/2024 10:29:13 AM



### Indicative Foreign Exchange Rates

Rate Sheet no. 485

		International Cross Currency Rates			Kwacha Local Currency Rates			
		Buying	Selling		Buying (Cash)	Buying (TT/TCs/BN)	Selling (Cash)	Selling (TTs/TCs/BN)
United States Dollars	USD	1.0000	1.0000	USD	25.9800	25.9800	26.3854	26.3854
British Pounds Sterling	GBP*	1.2985	1.3454	GBP*	34.4300	34.4300	34.9672	34.9672
Euro	EUR*	1.0929	1.1320	EUR*	28.9742	28.9742	29.4263	29.4263
South African Rand	ZAR	17.1138	17.7283	ZAR	n/a	1.4876	n/a	1.5108
Swedish Kroner	SEK	9.9324	10.2885	SEK	n/	2.5632	n/	2.6032
Swiss Francs	CHF	0.8296	0.8594	CHF	a	30.6875	a	31.1663
Danish Kroner	DKK	6.5548	6.7893	DKK	n/	3.8841	n/	3.9447
Norwegian Kroner	NOK	10.2435	10.6117	NOK	a	2.4852	a	2.5240
Japanese Yen	JPY	139.9342	144.9420	JPY	a	0.18194	a	0.1848
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	CNY	6.9261	7.1735	CNY	n/	3.6760	n/	3.7334
Tanzanian shilling	TZS	2665.6000	2770.9500	TZS	0.00953	0.00953	0.00966	0.00966
Kenya Shilling	KES	125.9300	131.4425	KES	n/a	0.2014	n/a	0.2045
Botswana Pula	BWP*	0.0743	0.0771	BWP*	n/a	1.9719	n/a	2.0026

\*Base currencies

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# ZAMBIA SLIPS TO 93, WORST FIFA RANKING IN LAST FIVE YEARS

By Lucky Chama



The Zambia national team has dropped one place in the latest FIFA World Rankings released earlier today.

The Chipolopolo Boys have moved from 92nd to 93rd in the world while slipping out of the top 20 African rankings, where Morocco ranks first on the continent and 14th globally.

Avram Grant's side have attained their lowest World

anking in the last five years, with their highest ranking this year being at 86.

During the September international window, Zambia lost 2-0 to Ivory Coast before beating Sierra Leone 3-2 in Ndola in the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers.

Zambia's next matches will be against Chad in back-to-back AFCON qualifiers in October.

Meanwhile, Argentina have maintained their first position, followed by France, Spain, and England, respectively.

# NKWAZI COACH AGGREY CHIYANGI SATISFIED WITH A POINT AWAY TO ZESCO UNITED

By Lucky Chama



Nkwazi Football Club head coach Aggrey Chiyangi is elated with his team's performance in a 1-1 draw that halted ZESCO United's perfect start to the 2024/25 Super League in a rescheduled Week Two encounter played at the Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola.

Nkwazi broke the deadlock through striker Emmanuel Chabula, who beat the offside trap with only 21 minutes of play to give Chiyangi's side the advantage.

The home team's push for an equalizer was futile in the first half, with so many chances missed, including a one-one by Abraham Siankombo before the halftime break.

In the second, ZESCO kept their momentum in pushing for an equalizer, which eventually came through when David Simukonda found the back of the net from a long-range strike outside the 18-yard area in the 56th minute.

After conceding, Nkwazi came out of their blocks in search of the goal to put them in front once again, with Chabula denied in point blank range by Toaster Nsabata in the 65th minute.

Reacting to the result, Chiyangi said he was content with a point away, though he rued his team's missed opportunities that could have given them all three points.

# MUFULIRA WANDERERS QUEENS INTRODUCE TO PLAYER OF THE MATCH AWARD

By Lucky Chama



Women's National Division One —Northern Zone side Mufulira Wanderers Football Club Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Clement Nyirenda has announced the launch of the Player of the Match Award.

Nyirenda says the Player of the Match award has been launched to recognise outstanding performances by the Queens recorded nil-nil against Kansanshi Queens Football Club in their Week One match at Shinde Stadium.

The first recipient of the award was Carol Sakuwaha, who was instrumental in the season's opening match against Kansanshi Dynamos Queens. The CEO's Player of the Match award will be sponsored by Nyirenda for all games this season as a show of unwavering support for the Queens.

Nyirenda has urged the team to remain focused, work hard, and remain dedicated, stating that

"your efforts will yield impressive results." Mufulira Wanderers Queens next match will be on Sunday against Manyama Queens in Solwezi.

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For us it is a positive; if you see the way ZESCO has been playing, they have been winning all the three last games and coming here to get a point; the players have worked very hard.

Even though we had many chances to score, but this is football; there is nothing we can do; we are happy with a point," Chiyangi said.

"We failed to utilize the chances; we could have won, but I'm happy that the

team is improving in terms of fitness; we managed to defend very well," he added.

ZESCO United remains top of the log with 10 points, while Nkwazi are ninth with 5 points from four matches.