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NO MINING IN LOWER ZAMBEZI-TIZ

Transparency International Zambia (TI-Z) has opposed Government's decision to approve two large scale exploration licenses in the Lower Zambezi National Park.

Page 3

KCM INVESTS K2.2 BILLION IN LOCAL PROCUREMENT

Page 2

GOVERNMENT ANTICIPATES BUMBER HARVEST IN 2025

Page 2

CEEC DISBURSES OVER K153 MILLION UNDER MARKEETER BOOSTER LOAN FROM 2022 TO DATE

Page 4



KCM INVESTS K2.2 BILLION IN LOCAL PROCUREMENT

By Cecilia Chiluba



Konkola Copper Mines (KCM), a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Holdings Limited, has disclosed that it has invested K2.2 billion in local procurement this year, reinforcing its commitment to empowering Zambian businesses and stimulating economic growth.

KCM Chief Operating Officer Malcolm Mewett, said the substantial investment underscores the Mine's dedication to supporting

local entrepreneurship with 90% of procurement spending going to

Zambian suppliers and contractors, K2 billion for local procurement and an additional K190 million paid directly to local suppliers.

Mr. Mewett stated that this investment showcases Zambia's growing pool of capable local suppliers, enhancing the country's competitiveness in the global mining industry.

"The significant investment in local procurement underscores our dedication to enhancing Zambia's economic well-being."

"We remain committed to supporting local businesses and contributing to the country's growth," Mr. Mewett stated.

He added that KCM's local procurement strategy fosters strong partnerships with Zambian businesses, driving mutual growth

and success, marking a significant milestone in the mining firm's on-going journey to create a lasting value in the country.

"We believe in Zambia's economic potential and are dedicated to responsible corporate citizen."

Our investment prioritizes local empowerment, fostering growth and development in communities we serve," he added.



GOVERNMENT ANTICIPATES BUMPER HARVEST IN 2025

By Cecilia Chiluba

Government is confident that Zambia is headed for a bumper harvest in 2025 in view of the anticipated favorable rainfall patterns.

Speaking in an interview with Money News, Chief Government Spokesperson Cornelius Mweetwa, says when the rains are recorded as anticipated, a number of sectors that have been affected by the drought such as energy, water, and agriculture, will be mitigated.

Mr. Mweetwa, who is also Information and Media Minister, notes that with regards to the energy sector, it

may take two to three rainy seasons for hydro power generation to get back to normal.

He has reiterated the current challenges being experienced in the country such as the energy crisis which has affected several sectors, are as a result of the drought and not bad economic policies, as some stakeholders suggest.

In the 2023/2024 farming season, the country recorded a net deficit of 2.1 million metric tonnes of Maize needed for human consumption and industrial requirements against the anticipated 3.2 million metric tonnes.

According to recent statistics produced by Zambia Statistics Agency and Ministry of Agriculture, the country produced a total of 1.5 million Metric tonnes of Maize following the drought that affected the entire Southern African Region.

This is despite the country having recorded an increase in the number of hectares planted during the farming season which stood at 2.2 million hectares of planted maize with a big chunk recorded in Southern Province followed by Muchinga.



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TI-Z OPPOSES APPROVAL OF LARGE-SCALE EXPLORATION LICENSES IN LOWER ZAMBEZI NATIONAL PARK

By Cecilia Chiluba



Transparency International Zambia (TI-Z) has opposed Government's decision to approve two large scale exploration licenses in the Lower Zambezi National Park.

According to information published on the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development website, the Mining License Committee approved two large-scale exploration licenses, namely, licenses 38439-HQ-LEL and 38572-HQ-LEL located in the Lower Zambezi National Park.

TI-Z Executive Director, Maurice Nyambe said in a statement it is disheartening to learn that the Ministry of Mines' Mining License Committee granted two large scale exploration licenses in the National Park, in September 2024, less than a year after the decision to cancel the previous environmental approval for another mining project.

Mr. Nyambe stated that explorations and mining licensing as well as approvals, in addition to being conducted transparently, should not be approved or permitted to occur in protected areas such as national parks and forest reserves.

He further noted that prospects of mining in other protected areas remain an issue, with the Lower Zambezi being one of the most contentious preproposals in recent years.

As the public may recall, several environmental defenders, activists and civil society actors spoke out against the previous administration's decision to grant a mining license and environmental approval for a mining project in the Lower Zambezi National Park in 2014.

"It was only after much advocacy and engagement with the relevant government institutions and stakeholders that last year, the current administration cancelled the proposed large-scale mining project that was designated in the Lower Zambezi National Park, a decision that was aided by many environmental defenders, activists and concerned civil society actors, including TI-Z. Given this new development, TI-Z will continue to monitor developments with regards to these approvals, and will collaborate with other concerned stakeholders to vociferously oppose this and similar decisions relating to mining activities in protected areas," Mr. Nyambe noted.

He observed that currently, there is neither a law nor regulation that expressly bars mining in protected areas such as forest reserves, game reserves and national parks.

"The current Mines and Minerals Development Act 2015 that provides for the application and granting of mining rights and licenses, outlines provisions on mining and exploration in

environmentally protected and sensitive areas, with required conditions attached to mining rights and licenses including obtaining permission to exercise that mining right with the relevant government institutions and or agencies."

"Among the key requirements is the environmental approval through an Environmental Project Brief and Environmental Impact Statement submitted to Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), in addition to approval from other public institutions such as the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPWL) in this case," he noted.

He has reiterated the need for government to ensure that exploration and mining in ecologically and environmentally sensitive areas is aligned with the administration's aspiration to espouse development that prioritizes environmental sustainability and a green economy.

"Learning from the previous public outcry and environmental demerits of the previous proposed mining project, TI-Z had assumed that the issue pertaining to mining in Lower Zambezi National Park was a settled matter, and it is disheartening to see the current administration resurrect the issue and do the exact same thing for which the previous administration was condemned," Mr. Nyambe said.

MPOSHA CAUTIONS FORESTRY OFFICERS AGAINST ABETTING ILLEGAL CHARCOAL PRODUCTION

By Cecilia Chiluba



Minister of Green Economy and Environment has warned that Government will not shield any district forestry officers who are abetting illegal charcoal production.

Speaking during the official launch of the Eastern Province Jurisdictional Sustainable Landscape Programme (EP-JSLP) in Chipata, Mike Mposha said Government will not negotiate with district forestry officers who will be found wanting.

Mr. Mposha stated that traditional leaders and other stakeholders have approached his office to complain about forestry officers who are allowing illegal cutting down of timber.

"If we find you as a district forestry officer that you are the one abetting this illegal production of charcoal, you

are gone, that I will not compromise because our traditional leaders have been approaching us and asking about the trucks which are just having a smooth passage without being checked," Mr. Mposha warned.

He said Government has not banned charcoal production but is promoting legal and licensed activities in the forestry sector.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mposha explained that Eastern Province Jurisdictional Sustainable Landscape Programme is a successor to the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project (ZIFLP) that was successfully concluded on 29th February 2024.

"Under this programme, the Generated and Verified Emission Reductions will be

traded as certified Carbon Credits to the Biocarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscape (BIOCF ISFL) and other international carbon buyers to generate monetary benefits that will be transparently distributed to the local communities to motivate them to better manage their natural resources at a jurisdictional level," he explained.

He further said the launch of the programme demonstrates government's commitment to transform eastern province into a comprehensive low carbon rural development model that combines forest protection and the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices.

"Eastern Province is a region that is endowed with vast forests, agricultural and

wildlife offering vast potential for the development of sustainable, natural resource-based livelihoods. However, the forests are facing numerous challenges, including illegal encroachment into protected areas, habitat fragmentation,

and the effects of deforestation and uncontrolled charcoal production. together, these factors contribute to biodiversity loss and increased ghg emissions."

"To address the underlying causes of forest loss and degradation, and promote sustainable land management practices in Eastern Province, the Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment implemented the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project and now the Eastern Province Jurisdictional Sustainable Landscape Programme," he said.

The Eastern Province Jurisdictional Sustainable Landscape Programme (EP-JSLP), is a government initiative supported by the World Bank at a total cost of US\$63.9 million, out of which \$50 million is for purchasing verified emission reductions and \$13.9 million for supporting underlying investments under sustainable forest management, climate smart agriculture and wildlife management in eastern province.

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CEEC DISBURSES OVER K153 MILLION UNDER MARKEETER BOOSTER LOAN FROM 2022 TO DATE

By Cecilia Chiluba



Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) has disclosed that it has disbursed K153. 5 million to 74, 753 beneficiaries of the Markeeter Booster Loan countrywide, from 2022 to date.

Commission Public Relations & Communications Manager, Michelo Mukata, told Money FM News in an interview that the Markeeter Booster Loan was introduced in 2022 to ensure that marketeers have a source of affordable financing.

Mr. Mukata noted that when it comes to other providers of credit facilities such as commercial banks, marketeers tend to face several barriers as they are subjected to high interest rates that the Markeeter Booster Loan does not have.

"From the onset of the Markeeter Booster Loan in 2022 to date, the Commission has disbursed K153, 545,307 to 74, 753 marketeers countrywide." "For us as CEEC, the Markeeter Booster Loan was a game changing loan product that we introduced to ensure that marketeers have a source of affordable financing. Accessibility is as easy as can be, all that one has to do is just provide, the market where they are operating from and a valid mobile money number, with a photocopy of their NRC," Mr. Mukata explained.

He added that this facility is easy to access as it has zero interest rate and can be paid back over a considerable period of time.

And Mr. Mukata revealed that the Commission exceeded its 40 percent target for women and 15 percent for the men with regards to disbursement of the loan product, with 50 percent being the number of women that have accessed the funds, while 23 percent are men.

"Youths and persons with disabilities were below the target, for youths it was 40 percent and persons with disabilities its 5 percent and we find ourselves with 26 percent of the funds going to the youth and only a percentage going to persons with disabilities.

"We are having continuous engagements with marketeers in markets to make sure that they come forward to access the facility, and for those that have borrowed, the message is for them to repay the loans so that in turn, other people can benefit from what the Markeeter Booster Loan is all about, offering affordable financing to a segment of commerce and trade that is not usually serviced by commercial banks and other credit providers," he stated.

Meanwhile, one of the beneficiaries of the Markeeter Booster Loan, Moses Tembo, who sales secondhand clothes at Lusaka's City Market, said the K5, 000 he got from CEEC in 2022 has increased his capital, thereby improving the business.

A loan goes a long for us marketeers, it has increased my capital. I got a K5, 000 in 2022, so my business has improved. I would encourage my fellow marketeers who got the loan to pay back for others to benefit, for me I have already paid back."

"I would also love CEEC to increase the loan amounts to K10, 000 for the marketeers from K5, 000, and continue to give us the facility especially this time when the business is slow," Mr. Tembo said. Another beneficiary, Winnie Mwale, who sales electrical appliances and toys at Chelston market in Lusaka, is elated that the K3, 000 she got in 2023 helped her business which was almost collapsing to survive.

Ms. Mwale told Money FM News in an interview that she would need a bigger capital of up to K20, 000 from CEEC, for her business to benefit more. "It did not benefit me enough because I got a K3, 000. The business I do of selling electrical appliances and toys, needs a big capital. So, I would need a bigger capital like K20, 000. I'm sure it will really benefit me.

"But I would say the loan really worked for me because the time I was getting it in 2023 I was so broke, but my business survived. I managed to pay back because it was just a K3, 000," Ms. Mwale stated.

She also advised other beneficiaries to get loan amounts which they will keep their business afloat even after paying back. "It is up to the individual to get the money that they will be able to pay back and it will bring profit to you, rather than get a bigger amount then you start trying other businesses, the money will shrink," she added.

GOVERNMENT REMODELS TEVET SECTOR TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE

By Cecilia Chiluba



Minister of Technology and Science says Government is re-modelling the Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training (TEVET) sector to make the country stronger against any climate change effects on the energy sector, which is an enabler in the economy. Felix Mutati was speaking during the launch of 19 priority curricula for the TEVET sector which are responding to the current challenge of climate change.

The priority curricula include Irrigation Systems, Solar Energy for Agriculture, Ground Water Exploration, Mapping and Drilling Operations, Farm Management and Animal Husbandry.

Mr. Mutati, who was represented by Ministry of Technology and Science Permanent Secretary Dr. Brilliant Habeenzu, said the aim of re-modelling the curricula is to transform the country into a prosperous middle-income nation. He noted that some gaps were identified in the agriculture sector which have been addressed in the new curriculum.

"The launch of the 19 priority curricula is in response to President Hakainde Hichilema's call for policies that will make the country resilient to the effects of climate change," Mr. Mutati stated.

He said climate change has resulted in a drought that has caused food and energy insecurity.

And Technical Education, Vocational, and Entrepreneurship, Training Authority (TEVETA) Board Chairperson Ngoza Nkwabilo says the new curriculum has been aligned to the 8th National Development Plan to achieve the country's economic targets.

"The curriculum will provide skills to develop the country and make the nation more resilient," Ms. Nkwabilo said.

Meanwhile, TEVETA Director General Cleophas Takaiza disclosed that the authority is in talks with a number of colleges to start providing skills in solar energy as a response to the energy deficit.

Mr. Takaiza explained that a number of colleges have solar mini grids provided with the support of the German non-governmental organization GIZ.

"The training Institutions can provide training to youths interested in learning about solar energy."

"The colleges with solar mini grids are Saint Mawagali Trades Training Institute in Choma, Livingstone Institute of Business and Engineering Studies, Fountain Gates Craft and Trade School and the Zambia College of Agriculture in Monze," Mr. Takaiza revealed.

Michael Chilufya Sata, Zambia's fifth president, is a figure of stark contrasts—a leader who simultaneously inspired and polarized, whose tenacious pursuit of power and reforms has left an indelible mark on Zambia's political landscape.

Even in death, these attributes can be seen from the two memorial services held in his memory today in Zambia's capital Lusaka. One by the state, at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross and another by his party members and the Catholic Church at the Pope Square Cathedral of the Child Jesus.

As we mark his 10th memorial anniversary, the complexities of his legacy emerge in sharper focus, bringing forth questions of his contributions, controversies, and the consequences that echo in Zambia today.

Known widely as "King Cobra," a moniker that underscored his undisciplined style, Sata's political life was defined by his audacious approach.

With a background as a railway worker, police officer, and trade unionist, he brought to politics a deep understanding of Zambia's grassroots—a connection that would underpin his career and endear him to many Zambians.

Sata's populism was genuine, arising from his close identification with the working-class struggles, which he often echoed with humor and a sense of empathy. This grassroots connection positioned him as a leader for the people, a man who famously declared that he would "rather go to prison on behalf of the people of Zambia than keep quiet."

REMEMBERING MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA - A DECADE LATER

However, his rise and time in office were not without the significant controversies that still provoke mixed feelings about his legacy.

Sata's trajectory in Zambian politics was a journey marked by loyalty, rebellion, and the pursuit of an independent vision for the country. Originally a member of Kenneth Kaunda's United National Independence Party (UNIP), he left to join the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) under Frederick Chiluba, only to later break away and establish the Patriotic Front (PF) when his presidential aspirations were thwarted within the MMD.

His perseverance in the face of repeated electoral defeat (he ran for president four times before succeeding) speaks to his unwavering determination. His eventual victory in 2011 was seen as a vindication of his struggle—a validation of his relentless ambition to reform Zambia.

Yet, as president, his ambitions would be met by the formidable challenges of governance, leaving a legacy that is equally reflective of his achievements and his shortcomings. Sata's tenure as president brought a mixture of reformist zeal and autocratic tendencies.

Initially, he energized the Zambian populace with promises of anti-corruption reforms, job creation, and economic prosperity. Early in his term, he took steps to address corruption, an

endemic issue that had long plagued Zambian politics.

His populist appeal was real, and he embodied a departure from the elitism that many felt had characterized previous administrations. However, despite his early efforts, the promises of transformation faltered. Zambia's economy, already fragile, began to stumble as global commodity prices declined and his

gap between political rhetoric and the healthcare realities facing ordinary Zambians.

His absence during Zambia's 50th independence anniversary in 2014 was symbolic, marking not only his personal decline but also the unfulfilled promise of a leader who had pledged to be a voice for the Zambian people.

A decade after his death,

—issues that Sata passionately campaigned on but struggled to resolve fully. His life serves as a reminder of the complexities and challenges inherent in leadership.

Sata's legacy, seen in light of Zambia's ongoing struggles, underscores the need for leaders who not only capture the imagination of the people but also have the capacity to implement sustainable change.

MONEY EDITORIAL

administration's spending on infrastructure projects led to an unsustainable debt burden.

These economic woes became compounded by a political crackdown on opposition voices, which starkly contrasted his initial reformist image.

The irony of Sata's political career lies in his inability to complete the term he had so ardently sought. His deteriorating health became a painful public spectacle, with his absence from the country and his subsequent death abroad serving as a reminder of Zambia's frail healthcare system—a system that even the highest leaders preferred to bypass.

Sata's demise abroad, like that of his predecessor Levy Mwanawasa, brought Zambia's healthcare challenges into sharp focus, exposing the

the legacy of Michael Sata remains both influential and contested. The PF, which he founded, has experienced its own transformations, facing criticism for veering away from the populist ideals that initially defined it.

Sata's memory is celebrated by those who see him as a leader who brought the concerns of the common Zambian to the forefront, who connected deeply with ordinary citizens, and who took tangible steps, however limited, to address systemic corruption.

For his critics, however, Sata's legacy is one of unfinished reforms and a tenure marked by authoritarianism and economic missteps.

Today, Zambia's political landscape continues to grapple with issues of governance, economic stability, and social justice

Michael Chilufya Sata's 10th anniversary is a moment for reflection. It is an opportunity to assess the values that he brought to Zambian politics: his humor, tenacity, and his unique connection to the people. It is also a moment to critically appraise the pitfalls of his leadership and the unfinished business that he left behind.

Whether loved or loathed, Sata's impact is undeniable, and his life's story remains a powerful narrative of ambition, resilience, and the complexities of political legacy in Zambia.

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FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTION PROCESS AND OTHER FARMING INPUTS, NEEDS SPEEDY FACILITATIONS THIS SEASON!

By Kelvin Chisanga

As we draw closer to the next set of farming season which is just about some few days from today, I think it is quite important and very critical to consider speedy facilitations of farming inputs distributed to various points so that as a nation we can have farming items right on time, as opposed to some few years back which were highly characterized with the late distribution, that saw the country having to obtain poor output during the harvest time.

In as much as dramatic events of climate change is seriously at play with no mercy at all but even late distribution can put us into some low productive outputs, so I would like to urge ministry of agriculture to facilitate speedy distribution of farming inputs in order to guarantee a secured harvest.

At the onset of rains, it's high time we geared into



some serious business of delivery on all agricultural materials and equipments so that we don't repeat the case of having high risks on food security especially with the advantageous opportunity favoured by a good conducive weather patterns.

Agriculture sector in Zambia is key and very fundamental productive element in the local economy but lacks proper coordination despite having various forms of interventions even from private sector at different levels such as the likes of

Musika, African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP), USAID Edge project etc.

I think it will be important to depoliticize this sector in order to see its valuable benefits to the overall economy, and it's such an important aspiration to undertake with key stakeholders so that formidable and meaningful fusion of ideas can work between government and the private stakeholders.

As we advance into framing activities in this year, it will also be very cardinal to take note that there must be substantial plans of having positive surplus on key stocks which should then be used for strategic storage, and this can only come about after careful policy attention and interventions with a lot of comprehensive efforts drawn into this sector.

SINAZONGWE AMONG WORST-DROUGHT-HIT DISTRICTS

By Cecilia Chiluba



Government says Sinazongwe is one of the worst-drought hit districts, with devastating impacts on agriculture, water availability, and energy supply.

Speaking in Sinazongwe during commemorations to mark 60 years of Zambia's Independence, District Commissioner Nchimunya Siakole, hailed President Hakainde Hichilema for his response to hunger in his climate-stressed district following the severe drought resulting from El Nino. Mr. Siakole acknowledged the government's efforts in providing maize for community sales across the district.

He urged citizens to take full advantage of various government and non-governmental programs to improve their lives. Mr. Siakole also emphasized the importance of remembering government's vision and mission, which aims for a united and prosperous Zambia with opportunities for all, regardless of religion, gender, or generation.

He advised Zambians to harness the country's abundant human and natural resources for national development, further stressing the importance of maintaining peace, security,

and political stability to drive economic transformation.

And Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) Executive Director Maggie Mwape emphasized the importance of environmental and natural resource protection now that Zambia has attained 60 years of independence.

Ms. Mwape highlighted the need for coexistence with nature and the protection of natural resources, including forests.

"All Zambians should understand the importance of the environment and natural resources, and take it as a constitutional responsibility to protect and conserve nature," Ms. Mwape said.

She stressed the importance of accessible water and sanitation facilities in public places, and the need for disaster readiness and resilience to climate change in towns and cities.

Ms. Mwape acknowledged the establishment of a Ministry mandated to promote environmental sustainability and the green economy agenda, which she described as crucial for balancing economic growth and environmental protection.

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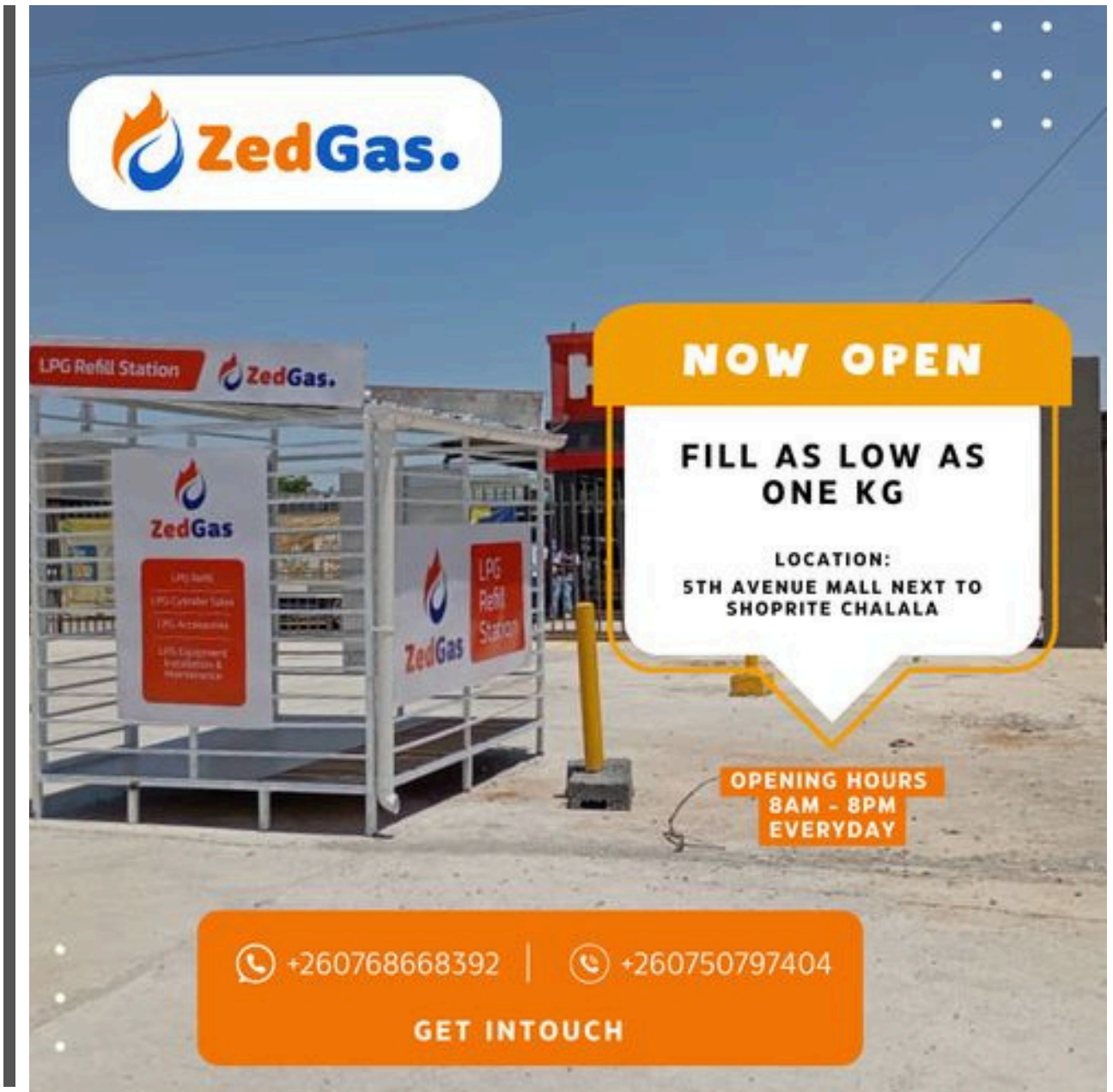
Solar Industry Association of Zambia (SIAZ) is urging government to expedite the process of coming up with a legal framework and policy to regulate the solar technology.

Speaking in an interview with Money FM News, Association President, Matanda Mwewa says the current legal framework does not speak to solar technology that is needed in the current situation.

And Mr. Mwewa says the Association is working with the Energy Regulation Board (ERB) in ensuring that all solar installations are done by certified professionals who are registered with Engineering Institute of Zambia (EIZ).

He adds that for anyone to be involved in the maintenance, installation and supply of solar panels, they are required to have an engineering certificate from EIZ.

Mr. Mwewa however acknowledges that there is an open market currently, which could compromise the quality of the solar equipment and installation.



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IMF WARNS KENYA AGAINST KSH193 BILLION UAE LOAN



President William Ruto's administration could run into debt problems after resorting to funding from the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned that the UAE loan could be expensive

and costly to taxpayers. According to Business Daily, the IMF argued that the loan from the Middle East would hurt Kenya's debt repayment.

In September 2024, Ruto's administration initiated talks with the

United Arab Emirates (UAE) to secure over KSh 193.5 billion for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

Abu Dhabi offered a seven-year loan repayment term at an interest rate of 8.25% per annum.

IMF Director for Africa Abebe Selassie noted during the World Bank and IMF Annual Meeting that countries should ensure that the loan-weighted average cost is healthy, or else they will run into a debt crisis.

GET READY TO FACE HARSH REALITY, STARMER TO WARN

By BBC



UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer will say in a speech ahead of Wednesday's announcement that the Budget will embrace the harsh light of fiscal reality but better days are ahead.

BBC reports that the prime minister is expected to warn of unprecedented economic challenges but will say the

government will run towards them as Labour prepares for its first Budget in almost 15 years.

The government is expected to announce a series of expected tax hikes, including a rise in the National Insurance (NICs) rate paid by employers which some claim breaks Labour's manifesto pledge not

to increase taxes for working people.

The Conservatives have accused Sir Keir of running a government of broken promises.

Speculation has been growing about the tax rises the chancellor will announce on Wednesday, with Rachel Reeves claiming that there is a 22 billion Pound hole in the public finances left by the Tories.

EXCHANGE RATES



Indicative Foreign Exchange Rates

Rate Sheet no.

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	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	26.5066	26.5066	26.9201	26.9201
British Pounds Sterling	GBP*	1.2697	1.3152	GBP*	34.3446	34.3446	34.8804	34.8804
Euro	EUR*	1.0578	1.0957	EUR*	28.6125	28.6125	29.0589	29.0589
South African Rand	ZAR	17.3272	17.9765	ZAR	n/a	1.4979	n/a	1.5213
Swedish Kroner	SEK	10.4102	10.7842	SEK	n/a	2.4950	n/a	2.5340
Swiss Francs	CHF	0.8511	0.8820	CHF	n/a	30.5112	n/a	30.9872
Danish Kroner	DKK	6.7736	7.0160	DKK	n/a	3.8348	n/a	3.8947
Norwegian Kroner	NOK	10.7735	11.1627	NOK	n/a	2.4107	n/a	2.4483
Japanese Yen	JPY	150.3320	155.7213	JPY	n/a	0.17278	n/a	0.1755
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	CNY	6.9866	7.2362	CNY	n/a	3.7180	n/a	3.7760
Tanzanian shilling	TZS	2660.7000	2776.0250	TZS	0.00973	0.00973	0.00986	0.00986
Kenya Shilling	KES	125.9300	131.4425	KES	n/a	0.2055	n/a	0.2087
Botswana Pula	BWP*	0.0729	0.0758	BWP*	n/a	1.9761	n/a	2.0069

*Base currencies

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COPPER QUEENS ACTIVATE AFRICAN NETBALL TITLE DEFENSE MOOD

By Lucky Chama

The Zambia women's national netball team is set to go and defend the title at this year's Africa Netball Cup to be held in Swakopmund, Namibia from 9th to 14th December 2024.

Netball Zambia Secretary General Pritchard Ngoma says the Association is excited for the team to go and defend the title.

Ngoma says the Coach has already been asked

to come up with the team that will go and compete adding that letters of release would be sent to the cubs this week.

Ngoma further says the association has started the process of engaging partners to support the team's preparations and participation at the tournament.

"We have already started engaging partners to support us

through various forms of sponsorship for the team to travel and compete, preparation is key so we are also focusing on resource mobilization to camp the team," Ngoma said

The Copper Queens defied all odds to beat Namibia in the final and lift the African trophy for the first time at a tournament held in Botswana last December.

MARCEL ZIMBA JOINS BULGARIAN TOP SIDE BOTEV PLOVDIV

By Lucky Chama

Atletico Lusaka attacker Marcel Zimba has signed with Bulgarian Premier League side Botev Plovdiv.

Zimba joins Botev, who are currently in second place in the Bulgarian Premier League, on an undisclosed fee and contract duration.

The club has disclosed that the transfer has been completed and he is expected to begin playing in January, as he has been sidelined recently due to personal reasons.

Zimba said he was delighted to join Botev, adding that the move to Bulgaria is a tribute to his late mother.

He has thanked Atletico Lusaka for shaping his football career and also expressed gratitude to his agent, Nir Karin, for facilitating the transfer.

"I am thrilled to join Botev. This is a tribute to my late mother. I want to express my gratitude to Atletico Lusaka for shaping my football career

and to my agent, Nir Karin, for facilitating this transfer."

Meanwhile, Karin said he is confident Zimba will succeed in Bulgaria because of his strong mental strength and maturity.

"He is a mentally strong and mature individual who inspires me. I am confident he will excel. His success both in domestic leagues and international tournaments will solely depend on his hard work, discipline, learning, and improvement," Karin said



TEN HAG SHOWN THE DOOR

By BBC Sport

Manchester United have sacked manager Erik ten Hag following the club's poor start to the season.

Ten Hag's final game was Sunday's 2-1 defeat at West Ham that left the club 14th in the Premier League with just three wins from their opening nine matches.

United are also 21st of 36 teams in the Europa League table, having drawn their three opening fixtures.

Ruud van Nistelrooy, who joined the club as Ten Hag's assistant last summer, has been named as interim manager.

The club said Van Nistelrooy would be in charge "while a permanent head coach is recruited".

Club sources have stressed this was a difficult decision but a unanimous one and Ten Hag was informed of the decision by the club's board on Monday morning.

"Thanks for everything, boss," United captain Bruno Fernandes wrote on Instagram.

"I appreciate the trust and the moments we share together, I wish you all the best in the future."

The club triggered a one-year extension in Ten Hag's contract following May's FA Cup final victory over Manchester City but just over three months later he has been dismissed.

United have their second-lowest Premier League points tally after nine games, with 11 points (they had 10 at this stage in the 2019-20 campaign).

The club are now seeking their sixth permanent manager since Sir Alex Ferguson retired in 2013.

