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DEBT EATS K5.5BN OF K15.8BN PUBLIC FUNDS IN MAY - TREASURY

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ZAMBIA HOSTS RESILIENCE DIALOGUE IN AFRICA TO TACKLE INCREASING NATURE CRIMES

By Cecilia Chiluba



Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) says Zambia, like many countries in the region, faces growing threats from nature crimes such as illegal logging and fishing, illicit mining, wildlife trafficking, and destructive land conversion.

It is in this vein that Zambia has hosted an international dialogue in Serenje District, Central Province to dissect nature crimes.

The Resilience Dialogue in Africa: Zambia Edition, was co-hosted by CEJ, Decisive Minds, and Centre4Zero Waste and Development.

CEJ Executive Director, Maggie Mwape acknowledged the support of the Resilience Fund and its partners, including the U.S. Department of State – Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, for enabling the dialogue in Zambia.

Ms. Mwape emphasized that confidence in local actors and frontline communities reaffirmed the shared belief that sustainable solutions must come from the ground up.

She noted that these activities weaken governance structures, fuel organized crime, and threaten communities dependent on natural resources.

Ms. Mwape said this in a speech delivered on her behalf by CEJ Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist Haggai Nyambe.

“The Resilience Dialogue is a deliberate effort to convene diverse stakeholders, including traditional leaders, civil society, community activists, and policymakers, to discuss practical ways to prevent and respond to environmental crimes while building long-term resilience.”

“The dialogue is part of a growing regional movement supported by the Resilience Fund, which has already taken shape in Tanzania and Kenya,” Ms. Mwape stated.

She outlined several objectives of the dialogue, including fostering a shared understanding of nature crimes and their impact on livelihoods, security, and social cohesion.

Ms. Mwape also emphasized identifying detection methods, exchanging local knowledge, capturing community perspectives, and amplifying voices to ensure inclusive policy-making.

She said Zambia was proud to be part of this effort and acknowledged CEJ’s collaboration with Decisive Minds and Centre4Zero Waste and Development.

“The strength of the dialogue lay in the voices of those living the realities of environmental challenges daily,” she said.

Ms. Mwape encouraged honest conversations to build a future where nature is protected, communities are empowered, and justice is upheld.

Meanwhile, Serenje District Commissioner Paul Masuwa emphasized the importance of strong policies in tackling environmental crimes.

“Nature crimes such as illegal logging, unauthorized mining, wildlife trafficking, and unsanctioned land conversion are pressing issues that severely impact communities, threatening livelihoods, security, and environmental sustainability,” he emphasized.

Mr. Masuwa highlighted the devastating effects of these crimes, particularly in rural areas, where illegal mining exploits youth, contaminates water sources, and renders land unsuitable for agriculture.

He commended President Hakainde Hichilema for his administration’s commitment to environmental protection and sustainable management of Zambia’s natural resources.

Mr. Masua was speaking in a speech delivered on his behalf by Serenje District Education Board Secretary (DEBS) Harry Silungwe.

CHINESE NATIONAL NABBED FOR OBTAINING OVER US\$50,000 BY FALSE PRETENCES

By Cecilia Chiluba



Police in Lusaka have detained a Chinese national for Obtaining Pretences, contrary to Section 309 of the Penal Code Chapter 87 of the Laws of Zambia.

The suspect, who is currently detained at Kanyama Police Station, has been identified as Liang Qi, aged 45 years, a businessman.

Mr. Qi, allegedly swindled his fellow Chinese national of the said amount, by falsely representing himself as a gold dealer.

According to Police Public Relations Officer Rae

Hamoonga, the suspect was apprehended in the early hours of Sunday, 15th June, 2025, in connection with a report filed by Sun Jun, 46 years, also a Chinese national residing in Lusaka’s Emmasdale area.

“The complainant reported that on Friday, May 23, 2025, at 10:00 hours, he was swindled out of US\$ 55,000 by an individual who falsely represented himself as a gold dealer.”

“Investigations are ongoing, and further updates will be provided in due course,” he added.

when, in fact, the minerals presented were counterfeit,” Mr. Hamoonga stated.

He explained that following the report, investigations were promptly instituted, which led to the apprehension of the suspect, but that no recovery of the stolen funds has been made yet.

“The suspect is currently in police custody and will appear in court soon.”

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TREASURY SPENDS OVER K5 BILLION ON DEBT SERVICING IN MAY

By Cecilia Chiluba



Minister of Finance and National Planning has disclosed that the Treasury spent K5.5 billion on servicing domestic and external debt, in May, 2025, out of the K15.8 billion released to finance public service delivery.

Of the K5.5 billion, K2.8 billion was for servicing domestic debt, K2.6 billion for external debt, while K80.7 million went towards dismantling arrears owed to various suppliers of goods & services.

Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane revealed that K1.8 billion went to transfers, subsidies & social benefits, out of which K98 million was given to the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) to facilitate payments for maize supplied under early and winter maize contracts, and K50 million to settle arrears under the Food Security Pack Programme, among other expenditures.

Dr. Musokotwane added that the Treasury released K1.9 billion to facilitate general government operations, out of which

K100 million was spent on mobile registration to facilitate for the issuance of the National Registration Cards, K11.9 million for By-Elections, and K193.2 million went to the Compensation and Awards budget line to facilitate payments for legal cases won against the Government, among others.

“In May 2025, the Ministry of Finance & National Planning released K15.8 billion to finance public service delivery. Of this amount, a sum of K1.3 billion went towards on-going capital expenditure projects, of which, K542.1 million was for road infrastructure, K280 million for public university and school infrastructure.”

“K350.9 million was for other infrastructure projects being implemented in various GRZ institutions, K81 million for on-going construction works related to provincial airports, and K18.3 million for the Rural Electrification Programme,” Dr. Musokotwane revealed.

He further disclosed that

the Treasury released K5.3 billion for the Public Service Wage Bill for May, 2025, to meet costs relating to remuneration of various public service workers.

Reflecting on the May, 2025, budget expenditure report, Dr. Musokotwane pledged Government’s commitment to improving public financial management, fiscal transparency, and tax administration.

He observed that the high level of global policy uncertainty and the resultant external environment, remain challenging.

“As Government, we will continue on the reform path to build resilience, create fiscal space, and crowd-in private investment through a conducive business environment and sustained promotion of partnerships in developing key economic sectors such as energy, mining, agriculture, manufacturing, tourism and transport and logistics.”

“We are committed to structural reforms in the

energy sector, strengthening governance, enhancing transparency in public procurement, improving the business environment by fostering a level-playing field for private sector-led growth, and creating job opportunities needed for Zambia’s rapidly growing youth population,” he said.

According to a statement issued by the office of the Secretary to the Treasury, the Minister further expressed confidence of strong growth - this year and beyond - supported by the rebound in agriculture and a rise in mining productivity, noting that the economy continues to show inspiring resilience despite economic shocks.

“We are monitoring progress in the power sector and are on high alert for any glitches.”

“Our development partners should rest assured of our commitment to sustained reforms in the energy sector, and our resolve to avert negative impacts on the economic rebound and transformation that is being witnessed,” Dr. Musokotwane added.

SENANGA PUPILS APPLAUD GOVT FOR BETTERING CHILDREN’S LIVES THROUGH PROGRESSIVE POLICIES

By Money Daily Reporter



Pupils in Senanga support to schools and impressive pupil-led District, Western the Children’s Code exhibitions in Senanga, Province, have paid Act are making it showcasing initiatives tribute to Government possible for many of in environmental for implementing us to dream again and conservation, policies that are attain an education in entrepreneurship, and positively conducive child rights awareness. transforming the lives environments,” she of children across said.

And Western Province He described the projects as evidence of the creativity and potential of the Permanent Secretary, Simomo Akapelwa, youth when empowered. the commemoration of who officiated at the event, reaffirmed the

the 2025 Day of the African Child, held Government’s “What I have seen under the theme commitment to today is nothing short of inspiring, These “Planning and promoting and of inspiring, These Budgeting for protecting children's pupils are showing us Children’s Rights: rights through what is possible when Progress Since 2010.” inclusive development children are empowered and planning and supported,” he said. budgeting.

Matauka Secondary School pupil, Mirriam Musiyalela, cited key “As government The event brought government through the 8th together school interventions such as National Development children, educators, the school re-entry Plan, we reaffirm our traditional leaders, policy, increased commitment to government officials, Constituency ensuring that every civil society, and Development Fund child has access to members of the public, (CDF) allocations to quality education, to highlight and schools, and the healthcare, and promote the role of Children’s Code Act opportunities for children in social and No. 12 of 2022. growth, Your dreams economic development. matter, your voices

“As a girl, I am count, and we will This is according to a especially grateful for work tirelessly to statement issued by the re-entry policy create a brighter future Western Province which gives a second for you,” Mr. Principal Public chance to those who Akapelwa stated. Relations Officer, would otherwise be left Mwakoi Njekwa. behind.”

At the event, Mr. Akapelwa also toured a number of

“The increased CDF

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COURT FINES SOMALI NATIONAL K60,000 FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY INTO ZAMBIA

By Money Daily Reporter

Kitwe Magistrate Court has fined a 22-year-old Somali national, K60, 000 or, in default, to serve one month simple imprisonment. for illegal entry and unlawful stay in Zambia.

Mohamed Ahmed Shikh's conviction was secured by the Kitwe Immigration Office on 13th June 2025.

Department of Immigration Chief Public Relations Officer Namati Nshinka said Mr. Shikh was apprehended on 21st May 2025 at a checkpoint along the Ndola-Kitwe dual carriageway.

"Mr. Shikh has since paid the fine and will be removed from the country. His conviction brings the total number of immigration-related convictions secured by the Department across the country on 13th June 2025 to 32," Mr. Nshinka said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nshinka revealed that the Kabwe Regional Immigration Office, on Saturday, 14th June 2025, conducted a large-scale operation that

resulted in the removal of 70 illegal immigrants of various nationalities from the country.

He said those removed included 59 Burundians, six Tanzanians, two Rwandese, two Ugandans, and one Congolese national.

"This mass removal exercise in Kabwe brings the total number of illegal immigrants removed from the country between 13th and 15th June 2025 to 104," he added.

He further disclosed that in Kafue district, the Immigration Office apprehended 19 suspected illegal immigrants on 13th June 2025, during an operation which covered Chilanga, Lilayi, and Kafue Central Business Centre.

Mr. Nshinka said the operation led to the apprehension of 18 Burundians and one Congolese national, who are currently in custody awaiting further screening and possible prosecution.

"Meanwhile, in Lusaka, the Regional Immigration Office on the same date apprehended four Congolese nationals, two males and two



females, aged between 18 and 35, for attempting to procure registration by false pretences, along with a 61-year-old Zambian woman suspected of assisting them."

"The five were intercepted in Mandevu during the ongoing mobile registration exercise, thanks to the vigilance of an alert Immigration Officer attached to the exercise. The suspects are detained pending prosecution," Mr. Nshinka added.

He also disclosed that in Mazabuka district, the Immigration Office on Friday, 13th June 2025, apprehended a 32-year-old Zambian identified as Aaron Malonda for impersonating an immigration officer.

ZACCO EULOGIZES LATE 6TH REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT FOR MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

By Money Daily Reporter



Zambia Association of Citizen Contractors (ZACCO) has hailed late former President Edgar Lungu for the massive infrastructure development the country witnessed during his tenure.

President Lungu, who led Zambia from 2015 to 2021, died in South Africa on Thursday 5th June, 2025 at the age of 68 and will be put to rest on Monday 23rd June, 2025.

Speaking in an interview with Money News, Association

President Mutale Mpepeo, said in the history of the construction sector in Zambia, massive infrastructure development started in the Patriotic Front (PF) era.

Mr. Mpepeo noted that before President Micheal Sata died, he started huge projects and when he passed on, President Lungu also decided to carry on with the development.

"The projects are there for everybody to see, talk of roads, bridges,

schools, hospitals, a lot of big projects were done during PF."

"So as a sector, we mourn the 6th President, we do remember all the projects that were done during his reign," Mr. Mpepeo said.

He expressed sadness that the country has lost the former President who had a heart for construction, we shall not fight and the desire to develop the nation.

"We mourn with the family. It is very

unfortunate that he has gone when we did not expect it, we expected him to be helping the current one where advice is concerned."

"Every country has former Presidents who work hand in hand with the sitting Head of State. It is unfortunate that we have found ourselves without any former President, everybody is gone but nature. We mourn with the nation," he added.

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GOVT URGES NEW WARMA BOARD TO CURB POLLUTION OF WATER BODIES, ENHANCE ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS

By Cecilia Chiluba



Minister of Water Development and Sanitation has urged the new Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) Board to to strengthen enforcement of water regulations, and curb pollution of water bodies, particularly from mining operations, agriculture, and industrial waste.

Collins Nzovu noted that recent pollution incidents on the Copperbelt Province, notably of the Chambishi Stream, Mwambashi River, and Kafue River, highlight the scale of the problem.

Eng. Nzovu implored the Authority to intensify its enforcement efforts to curb pollution from gold mining and processing countrywide including Nangoma-Mumbwa district, Solwezi and Kanchibiya districts, emphasizing that the ongoing amendment of the Water Resources Management Act No. 21 of 2011 must prioritize stiffer penalties for polluters.

He was speaking during the official unveiling of the sixth WARMA Board of Directors in Lusaka, that will serve a three-year term effective June 2025.

“I urge WARMA to work with stakeholders to strengthen monitoring, build compliance frameworks, and respond swiftly to pollution incidents. WARMA must not only react, but prevent.”

“Let me be clear: The era of leniency is over. The law must now speak and it must speak firmly. As a Board, you must ensure that such provisions in the Act are strictly enforced to deter any would be offenders,” Eng. Nzovu emphasized.

He observed that though the existing legal framework provides for penalties, enforcement remains weak, therefore, the Authority must become a robust regulator, and not a passive observer.

“I expect the Board to push for increased deterrence through stiffer penalties,

improved surveillance, and zero tolerance for illegal water abstraction and pollution. Those who break the law must face the full force of it,” he added.

Eng. Nzovu further underscored the urgent need for the Authority to declare critical areas as Water Resources Protection Zones, reduce the water permit issuance period from 60 days to not more than 30 days, and implement the Water Harvesting and Storage Regulations.

And speaking on behalf of the Board, Chairperson Dr. John Kunda acknowledged the realities of climate change, highlighting the urgent need to build national resilience through investment in water harvesting, storage infrastructure, and groundwater recharge.

Dr. Kunda also pledged the Board’s commitment to reducing the water permit processing period to one month by enhancing internal systems, digitizing operations, and improving service delivery.

“We will work towards ensuring that all permit applications are processed within one month. This will be done by improving efficiency, embracing digital platforms, and enhancing internal accountability. Those who seek to use water lawfully must be served in a timely and transparent manner,” he said.

He reaffirmed the Board’s focus on inclusive development, institutional integrity, and ensuring that water contributes meaningfully to national economic growth and improved livelihoods.

The newly appointed sixth WARMA Board of Directors comprises of Dr. John Kunda as Board Chairperson, Ms. Chilekwa Christabel Mibenge, Eng. Wesley Lwiindi, Chieftainess Muwezwa, Ms. Antonia Chisanga, Mr. Edson Nkonde, Mr. Alex Kabwe, Ms. Lynn Syanziba, and Mr. Joseph Jimu Daka.

ZAMBIA SECURES US\$40 MILLION SOLAR INVESTMENT FOR EASTERN PROVINCE UNDER PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE

By Cecilia Chiluba



Zambia has secured a US\$40 million solar investment for Eastern Province under the Presidential Initiative, which targets an addition of 1,000MW of solar energy to Zambia’s national grid by 2025.

This follows the formalization of a strategic partnership between Zambian firm Accura Logistics, and international investor Baker Global Capital Africa for the deployment of 50 megawatts (MW) of solar power across 209 public institutions in the Province.

The Presidential Solar Initiative, is a flagship programme championed by President Hakainde Hichilema to expand access to clean, affordable, and reliable energy, particularly in underserved areas.

Speaking during the signing ceremony in Lusaka, Energy Minister Makocho Chikote said the agreement reflects Government’s strong commitment to delivering practical results in the energy sector.

Mr. Chikote stated that the partnership between a local

Zambian company And Baker Global and a global financial institution is a clear sign of growing investor confidence in Zambia’s economy.

He said this is due to the stable, transparent, and accountable leadership of the Government, which has undertaken wide-ranging reforms to create a more predictable and investor-friendly environment.

“The solar installations will benefit essential public institutions, including schools and hospitals, enhancing service delivery and improving the quality of life for communities in Eastern Province.

“Under the UPND Administration, Zambia has moved from rhetoric to implementation, and that today’s signing was a testament to that progress,” Mr. Chikote noted.

He assured that his Ministry remains fully committed to supporting the success of this and all other projects under the Presidential Solar Initiative, through streamlined regulatory processes, coordinated oversight, and clear policy direction.

Meanwhile, Accura Logistics Chief Executive Officer, Chola Katai applauded the Government for its continued support to local investors.

“The enabling policy environment has made it possible for Zambian businesses to participate meaningfully in national development,” Mr. Katai noted.

He affirmed his company’s dedication to delivering quality service through its partnership with Baker Global Capital Africa.

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ANDD CALLS FOR FORMALIZATION OF ILLEGAL MINING

By Cecilia Chiluba



Advocates for National Development and Democracy (ANDD) has emphasized the need for government to empower illegal miners by giving them licenses for them to operate legally.

The Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development has been facilitating the formation of mining cooperatives to enable artisanal and small-scale miners to operate within a formal framework.

ANDD Executive Director, Samuel Banda noted that mining without proper guidance and regulation is dangerous, as it exposes miners to exploitation by foreign buyers, contributes to environmental damage, and can lead to fatal accidents.

Mr. Banda said illegal mining has become a growing concern in several parts of the country, especially around Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) on the Copperbelt, and in gold rich areas like Mufumbwe and Mumbwa districts.

He observed that many of the people involved in illegal mining are not criminals, but ordinary citizens, especially young people, looking for a way to survive amid widespread unemployment.

Mr. Banda noted that in many places, the gold rush has become one of the few means of earning an income, therefore, the need for Government to support efforts to legalize illegal community mining.

“Illegal mining activities must also work to raise serious safety risks, endanger lives, and pose a threat to key mining infrastructure and communities.” “Government can help by supporting efforts to legalize community mining, offering basic training, and providing tools and technical support to ensure safer and more productive operations,” he stated.

“In areas like KCM, unauthorized entry into mine premises creates a serious risk not only for those involved but for mining operations and investments,” Mr. Banda noted.

He added that the country has an opportunity to turn this challenge into a shared solution that brings dignity, safety, and prosperity to the people, while safeguarding Zambia’s future.

“This is why I am calling on Government to take a balanced and compassionate approach. While it is necessary to restore order and protect mining infrastructure, we

must also work to empower local communities.”

“Government can help by supporting efforts to legalize community mining, offering basic training, and providing tools and technical support to ensure safer and more productive operations,” he stated.

Mr. Banda further said mining should not divide the country but build the citizenry and improve livelihoods.

“Let us make mining safe, legal, and truly beneficial, not just for big companies, but for the communities at the heart of our mineral wealth,” Mr. Banda added.

Recently, the government restricted a gold rush which started few weeks ago at Chitambo’s Kanona forest in Central Province, with a caution to illegal miners to form cooperatives.

OMCAZ URGES GOVT TO EXPAND TAZAMA OPEN ACCESS FRAMEWORK

By Cecilia Chiluba



Oil Marketing Companies Association of Zambia (OMCAZ) has called for expansion of the Open Access Framework so that TAZAMA pipeline can carry and transport a number of petroleum products.

Government recently introduced an Open Access Framework to the TAZAMA Pipeline, allowing third-party access to the infrastructure for petroleum transportation, from Dar es Salaam to Zambia.

The framework aims to promote liberalization, improve efficiency, and foster a more competitive and resilient

energy sector.

Speaking in an interview with Money News, OMCAZ president Dr. Kafula Mubanga notes that the Open Access Regime is doing very well but there is need for government to consider expanding the facility which is currently being used to transport diesel only.

Dr. Mubanga stated that the policy framework is quite solid as it is internationally accepted.

“It is obviously a game changer in that space especially when there is a bit of review on the policies that looks better. But I think that

what is more important is that we begin to look at expanding the facility because we are just using it to transport diesel.”

“We have an experience with regards to utilization of oil pipelines, so it would be good to expedite expansion on multi-faceted pipeline that will carry quite a number of products. So far so good, the policy framework looks pretty good,” Dr. Mubanga stated.

The Ministry of Energy is currently reviewing the framework to strengthen it and better serve national goals..

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COULD ZAMBIA BE FORCED TO ACCEPT THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS AS A CONDITION TO BE CONSIDERED FOR USA VISAS?

The United States government is once again revealing its tendency to use immigration policy as an instrument of coercion, particularly against smaller and less powerful nations. An internal memo signed by Secretary of State Marco Rubio and circulated among U.S. diplomats has proposed a sweeping crackdown on visa access for 25 African countries, including Zambia. The memo gives these countries a mere 60 days to comply with new requirements or face full or partial visa bans. The details of the memo are as disturbing as they are telling. They signal a deepening of the Trump-era philosophy of transactional diplomacy and an intensification of America's exploitative relationship with the Global South.

One of the most dangerous elements in the memo is the suggestion that countries can avoid visa sanctions if they agree to accept third-country nationals who are being deported from the United States or if they sign a "safe third country" agreement. This is a deeply troubling development. It essentially means that Zambia and other targeted nations could be forced to accept migrants who are neither their citizens nor have any ties to their territory. These could be people from conflict zones or failed states who the U.S. deems unfit to stay, and now wants to discard like

unwanted cargo—dumping them into nations with fragile immigration systems and limited resources to manage such an influx.

What we are witnessing is not immigration policy. It is blackmail. The use of visa access as a bargaining chip is not only unethical, but it also represents a neocolonial mindset that views African countries not as sovereign equals but as pawns to be manipulated. The justification being offered by the U.S. includes vague and selectively applied criteria—allegations of weak civil registration systems, high rates of visa overstays, government corruption, and even accusations of antisemitic or anti-American activities. These sweeping and loosely defined accusations open the door for arbitrary enforcement and set a dangerous precedent for global relations.

Zambia, like many African nations, does not have the economic or diplomatic leverage to force the United States to back down, but that does not mean we should accept such conditions. Accepting third-country nationals as a trade-off for visa access is not only irresponsible, it is an affront to our sovereignty and national dignity. It

undermines our ability to determine who enters our borders and places the country at risk of becoming a repository for individuals with no legal or humanitarian connection to us.

The broader implication is even more sinister. This move follows a familiar pattern of U.S. foreign policy under right-wing administrations—one that prioritizes unilateralism, embraces xenophobia, and disregards the agency of other nations. The current list of targeted countries reads like a

international agreements must reflect our national interests, not those of a superpower seeking to offload its unwanted burdens. To accept third-country deportees under duress would be to open the gates to a cascade of unpredictable consequences—social, economic, and security-related. It would also signal to other powerful nations that Zambia's sovereignty is negotiable.

This is not just a Zambian issue. It is a continental one.

citizens of the world deserve to move freely, and who should be barred from doing so? The global visa regime is already steeped in inequality, and this memo only serves to make it more egregious. The power imbalance is glaring: while American citizens travel freely to most African nations, Africans must beg, prove, and wait for the privilege to enter the United States—often only to be denied.

This moment calls for courage and principle. Zambia must resist this overt manipulation. We must say no to neocolonial demands disguised as administrative reforms. Let the United States keep its visas if the cost is the surrender of our national sovereignty and the compromise of our internal security. Let us not betray our dignity for a few stamps in a passport. This policy is not about protecting America—it is about preserving its dominance. And Zambia must not be a silent accomplice in that agenda.

African leaders, through the African Union and other diplomatic channels, must collectively challenge this kind of coercive diplomacy. If they do not, they risk allowing an imperialist logic to take root again under new names and newer, more insidious tactics. If Zambia is punished today for refusing to serve as a dumping ground, what will stop similar threats from being made in the future, tied to aid, trade, or defense cooperation?

It is also important to ask why the U.S. feels entitled to police global mobility in this way.

Who gave America the authority to decide which

MONEY EDITORIAL

blacklist of Black and brown nations—most of them African or Caribbean, some of them long-standing partners of the U.S. The overwhelming racial and geographic bias is impossible to ignore. The Trump administration has made no secret of its disdain for immigrants from what it once infamously labeled "shithole countries," and this policy seems to be a continuation of that worldview, now dressed in the language of national security.

Zambia must not be bullied into compliance. We are a sovereign nation. Our visa policies, our immigration responsibilities, and our

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THINK BUSINESS

BOSSES WHO FAIL TO FIX LOCAL AUTHORITY BOOKS MUST BE SACKED, SAYS DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

By The Namibian



Deputy auditor general Goms Menette urges the firing of chief executive and revenue officers (CEOs and CROs) who fail to ensure proper financial management in local and regional authorities.

He said this at a public hearing with the auditor general and the National Council public accounts and economy committee at Swakopmund on Monday. This was in reviewing and validating auditor general reports on local and regional authorities with qualified, adverse and disclaimer audit opinions.

Menette said currently only Walvis Bay, Mariental and a few other local authorities are doing well.

“It’s not improving at all and this is concerning for us as the Office of the Auditor General. The issue is the system that has been designed so that people are not being taken to task, and I think that is probably where we should find a way to see how we can put punitive measures in place to force CEOs to deliver.

“If a CEO is not delivering an audit document then he/she

must be sacked and asked to leave. We should not try to be nice, because it is not helping us,” he said.

Menette said people are suffering and unemployment continues to increase because authorities’ books are not in order.

WHATSAPP TO START SHOWING MORE ADVERTS IN MESSAGING APP

By BBC Business

WhatsApp is launching three new ad features in a global roll-out across the messaging app.

The Meta-owned platform says the new ads will not be shown in the same place as people’s private chats, nor will the contents of their messages - which are encrypted - be used to decide which ads to display.

WhatsApp will instead use the country, city and language of the user, as well as how they interact

with other ads and which channels they follow, to drive suggested content.

But people who have chosen to link their WhatsApp account to Facebook or Instagram will see more personalised ads.

The new ad features will appear in a section called Updates, which is a separate tab at the bottom of the app.

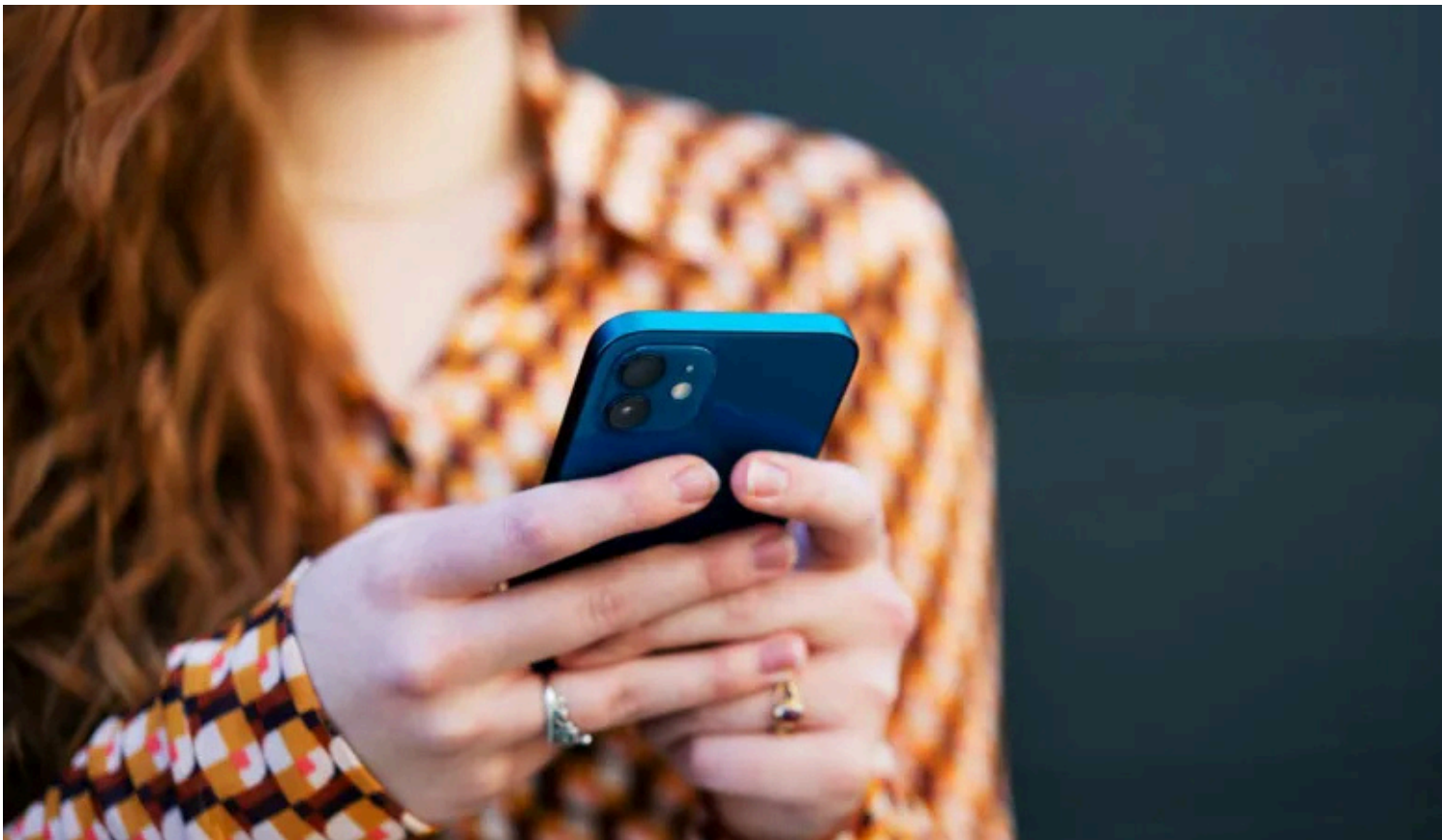
WhatsApp claims to have 1.5 billion users globally.

Businesses with channels will be able to choose to promote

ads in the Updates section to attract new followers, and also charge a subscription to access extra content.

WhatsApp will eventually take a 10% commission of that fee, and there may also be extra costs on top of that taken at the app store level depending on the size of the business.

Firms will also be able to advertise in the form of a status update, which looks similar to an Instagram story and will link through to start a chat if clicked on.



EXCHANGE RATES

Daily Commercial Banks Exchange Rates

📅 12-06-2025	09:30				12:30				15:30			
Bank Name	Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail Rates	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
ACCESS BANK ZAMBIA	24.8000	24.8500	24.7000	25.1800	24.8000	24.8500	24.6200	25.0500	24.6750	24.7250	24.5700	25.0500
BANK OF CHINA (ZAMBIA)	24.6500	24.7000	24.5025	24.9655	24.6500	24.7000	24.5025	24.9655	24.6500	24.7000	24.5025	24.9655
ABSA BANK ZAMBIA	24.6500	24.7000	24.5818	24.9906	24.6000	24.6500	24.5818	24.9906	24.5500	24.6000	24.4032	24.8091
CITIBANK ZAMBIA	24.8000	24.8500	24.5350	24.9500	24.7000	24.7500	24.5350	24.9500	24.7000	24.7500	24.4860	24.9000
ECOBANK ZAMBIA	24.6500	24.7000	24.6500	24.9700	24.6500	24.7000	24.5075	24.9500	24.6000	24.6500	24.5075	24.9500
FIRST ALLIANCE BANK ZAMBIA	24.7000	24.7500	24.7000	25.0000	24.7000	24.7500	24.7000	25.0000	24.6000	24.6500	24.6000	24.9000
FIRST CAPITAL BANK ZAMBIA	24.6500	24.7000	24.6010	25.0080	24.7000	24.7500	24.6020	25.0000	24.6500	24.7000	24.4810	24.9500
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ZAMBIA	24.8000	24.8500	24.8000	25.1100	24.8000	24.8500	24.8000	25.1100	24.5000	24.5500	24.4990	24.8070
INDO-ZAMBIA BANK	24.8000	24.8500	24.8000	25.2000	24.7500	24.8000	24.7500	25.1500	24.6000	24.6500	24.4500	24.9300
STANBIC BANK ZAMBIA	24.7500	24.8000	24.5310	25.0190	24.7500	24.8000	24.5800	25.0700	24.7000	24.7500	24.5800	25.0700
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK	24.7500	24.8000	24.4850	24.9700	24.7000	24.7500	24.4850	24.9700	24.7000	24.7500	24.3850	24.8700
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA ZAMBIA	24.7500	24.8000	24.5222	24.9594	24.7500	24.8000	24.6860	25.1210	24.7500	24.8000	24.6860	25.1210
ZAMBIA INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL BANK	24.7000	24.7500	24.6140	24.9980	24.7000	24.7500	24.6140	24.9980	24.6500	24.7000	24.5019	24.8959
ZAMBIA NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK	24.6500	24.7000	24.6400	25.0588	24.6500	24.7000	24.6400	25.0588	24.6400	24.6900	24.6400	25.0588
Market Average	24.7214	24.7714	24.6188	25.0271	24.7071	24.7571	24.6146	25.0274	24.6404	24.6904	24.5209	24.9484



DAILY MARKET NEWS

European markets rise ahead of German debt reform vote; QinetiQ down 20% – CNBC EU mulling duties on European scrap steel exports – Reuters U.S. stocks slightly higher - Reuters European currencies rise

European stocks started the new trading week in positive territory, although investors will be looking to see if global market volatility continues.

The pan-European Stoxx 600 index was up 0.75% by 3:15 p.m. London time, with most sectors moving higher.

British defense firm QinetiQ shed 20%, tumbling to the bottom of the Stoxx 600, after the company made a downward revision to its revenue outlook for the year.

European markets ended the week higher Friday after German lawmakers reportedly came closer to agreeing on reforming the country's so-called debt brake rule. Media reports said Germany's likely next chancellor Friedrich Merz had won support from the Greens party to hike public borrowing to allow an increase in defense spending.

The European Commission is considering proposing levies on scrap steel and metals exports, Reuters reported Monday, citing a draft plan.

CNBC has contacted the European Commission for comment.

The institution earlier this month launched a strategic dialogue on steel, seeking to support an industry which has been hit hard by higher energy costs, challenging raw materials access and — as of last week — U.S. import tariffs of 25%.

The EU will also investigate possible safeguard measures to counter the U.S. duties, which also target aluminum, Reuters reported.

The S&P 500 rose on Monday as the benchmark tries to continue its comeback from correction territory following a four-week rout on Wall Street exacerbated by President Donald Trump's chaotic tariff policy rollout and falling consumer confidence.

The broad market index gained 0.4%, while the Nasdaq Composite rose 0.2%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average advanced 163 points, or 0.4%

Europe's major currencies rose against the dollar on Monday, as jitters around the state of the American economy and U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs regime persisted.

The euro gained around 0.26% against the greenback by 10:47 a.m. in London, while the British pound was up by roughly 0.29% against the U.S. currency. The Swiss franc, widely seen as a safe haven in times of economic or geopolitical uncertainty, added 0.3% against the dollar.



FAZ NATIONAL LEAGUE PLAYOFFS DRAWS CONDUCTED, 10 TEAMS BATTLE FOR PROMOTION

By Lucky Chama

The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has officially conducted the draws for the eagerly anticipated 2024/25 National League Playoffs, with ten teams from across the country set to battle for promotion slots into the 2025/26 FAZ National League season.

The playoffs, scheduled to run from 17th to 21st June, will see Group A fixtures take place at Munis Stadium, while Group B matches will be staged at Edwin Imboela Stadium in Lusaka. The tournament will be played in a round-robin format, with each team facing all its group opponents once.

Group A consists of Chipata City Council (Eastern Province), TETA Football Club (Northern Province), Mathkat United (Luapula Province), Solwezi Academy (North Western Province), Muchinga Blue Eagles (Muchinga Province), and Machacha Soccer Academy (Central Province).

Group B features Bart's Football Club (Southern Province), Nangweshi Pirates (Western Province), Roan United (Copperbelt Province), and Makeni All Stars (Lusaka Province).

This year's playoffs promise intense competition as clubs from various corners of Zambia aim to secure their place in the country's highly competitive second-tier football league.

At the end of the group phase, the top two teams from each group will earn promotion to the 2025/26

FANS FOUND GUILTY OF HATE CRIMES AGAINST VINICIUS JR

By BBC Sports



Four people have been handed suspended jail sentences after being found guilty of committing hate crimes against Real Madrid forward Vinicius Jr.

Three of the group were sentenced to 14 months in prison, while one was given a 22-month sentence for distributing images of the act online.

However, the sentences have been suspended after all four signed a letter of apology to the Brazil international, Madrid, La Liga and the Spanish football federation (Rfef).

The sentence included a restraining order preventing the quartet from coming within 1km of Vinicius, his home or Real Madrid's training ground, as well as a blanket ban on attending La Liga or Spain national team matches.

The quartet were found guilty of hanging an inflatable effigy of Vinicius Jr over a bridge near Real Madrid's training ground in January 2023, shortly before Atletico Madrid's Copa Del Rey match at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

A banner above the effigy read: "Madrid hates Real".

MAEMA, MCCARTHY RETURN TO CLUB SET UP POST CHAN PERFORMANCES

By CAF Online

For most of the 2024/25 African Nations Championship after 12 years brought little fanfare at first, but for the sidelines as new signings and tactical tweaks pushed him further down the pecking order at Mamelodi Sundowns. It was a second chance. Under Helman Mkhalele, Maema thrived.

He looked free again, sharp again, important again. He played with rhythm, creating and combining like the player who had first lit up the PSL in Bloemfontein Celtic colours years earlier.

It was during that tournament that everything began to change. Maema's performances reignited belief. He came back to Sundowns different. Hungrier. Quicker. More decisive. Within weeks, he was back in the matchday squad. A few solid cameos followed. Then a start.

Then, against all odds, a call-up to Sundowns' final squad for the FIFA Club World Cup. He went from being an afterthought to representing the club on the world stage.

Over at Naturena, a similar story was unfolding. Aden McCarthy had been promoted to Kaizer Chiefs' senior side a while ago but hadn't

kicked a ball in the first team. On paper, he was part of the squad. In reality, he was nowhere near the XI. It wasn't lack of talent. The timing was never right. Coaches came and went, and McCarthy stayed stuck on the fringes.

But when the TotalEnergies CAF CHAN qualification rolled around, McCarthy got his shot. He impressed in camp, then impressed even more in the matches. What he showed for Bafana was enough for Chiefs to take another look. When they faced Marumo Gallants in a league clash not long after, McCarthy was thrown into the deep end. He didn't just survive. He shone.

UNITY SPIN OUT

Unity spin out for Mwila Kakana aka Goli Fingers

VENUE: MIKES CAR WASH

DATE: SATURDAY 24TH MAY 2025

CHARGES: K50 BEFORE 2PM AND K100 AFTER 2PM

TIME: 12-18HRS

SPINNERS
KING JAMES, SALIM, PICE, CHILE 24, PANDE, DALITSO, GODWIN, KONDWANI, BEN TEN, DIDI, GERALD, JERICHO, POACHER, PETHIAS, SIMON SANTOS, MINJOSKY, MAD CHIZO AND MANY MORE

FOR MORE DETAILS AND SPONSORSHIP PLEASE CALL: +260977644664