

# MONEY DAILY



#466

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# ZCCM-IH COURTS FRENCH INVESTORS AHEAD OF PARIS CAPITAL MARKETS DAY

By Cecilia Chiluba



ZCCM Investments Holdings Plc (ZCCM-IH), in partnership with senior personnel from the Zambian Embassy in France, have held a series of high-level engagements with leading French development, geoscientific and government institutions.

This is in an effort to deepen strategic cooperation between Zambia and France on critical minerals, sustainable energy and long-term investment partnerships.

In the lead-up to its Capital Markets and Investor Day, taking place in Paris today 19 June 2026, the delegation led by ZCCM-IH Board Chairperson Phesto Musonda, met with Expertise France and the French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement, AFD), the French Geological

Survey (Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières, BRGM), and the Political Advisor on Critical Raw Materials and the Energy Transition at France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Discussions centred on deepening cooperation between Zambia and France across the mining and energy value chain, with particular focus on the responsible development of the critical raw materials essential to the global energy transition.

According to a statement issued by the Zambian Embassy in France, the engagements underscored the strategic alignment between Zambia's ambition to expand its copper and critical minerals production and France's interest in secure, diversified and responsibly sourced supply chains. As Zambia advances its

target of significantly increasing annual copper output, ZCCM-IH continues to position itself as the principal investment gateway into the country's mining and energy assets.

Discussions with AFD and Expertise France explored opportunities for development finance, technical cooperation and capacity-building across ZCCM-IH's portfolio, including in sustainable energy.

Mr. Musonda said the engagements reflect the growing convergence between Zambia's resource ambitions and France's commitment to a secure and sustainable energy transition.

"As a company anchored in Zambia's sovereign interest and listed in Paris, London and Lusaka, ZCCM-IH is uniquely placed to bridge these markets and to channel international partnership

into responsible, value-creating investment," he said.

He added that France is an important strategic partner for Zambia and for ZCCM-IH.

"Our conversations with Expertise France, AFD, BRGM and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs have reinforced a shared understanding: that the minerals critical to the world's clean-energy future must be developed transparently, sustainably and to the lasting benefit of host nations," Mr. Musonda stated.

"We look forward to building on these foundations as we present our investment proposition to the market tomorrow."

The Zambian Embassy in France, played a central role in convening and supporting the engagements, reflecting the close diplomatic and economic ties between the two countries.

# ZESCO, KOREAN FIRM SIGN LANDMARK 500MW SOLAR POWER DEAL

By Money Daily Reporter



ZESCO Limited has signed a landmark Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with South Korean renewable energy company KS Eco Solutions Holdings Limited for the development of a 500-megawatt solar power project with battery energy storage, marking a major step in Zambia's drive to strengthen energy security and expand renewable electricity generation.

The agreement was signed in the presence of the Ministry of Energy, with Director of Planning and Information Sineva Kambenja, representing Permanent Secretary for Electricity Arnold Simwaba, witnessing the ceremony.

The Ministry described the agreement as a practical demonstration of Government's energy sector reforms, which seek to increase private sector participation in

electricity generation and accelerate investment in renewable energy.

ZESCO Managing Director Justin Loongo signed the agreement on behalf of the national utility, while KS Eco Solutions Holdings Limited Chief Executive Officer Prof. Ma Hong-il signed on behalf of the South Korean company.

Also present at the signing ceremony was Zambia's Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Andrew Bwezani Banda, who hailed the agreement as a milestone in bilateral relations.

Mr. Banda described the signing as "a defining moment and the beginning of a brighter and more productive relationship between Zambia and the Republic of Korea."

The 500MW solar project, which will incorporate battery

energy storage technology, is expected to make a significant contribution towards diversifying Zambia's energy mix, reducing dependence on hydropower and improving the reliability of electricity supply.

The initiative also aligns with Government's broader strategy of attracting foreign direct investment into the renewable energy sector while expanding generation capacity to meet growing domestic demand and support regional power trade.

The agreement comes as Zambia continues implementing reforms aimed at encouraging independent power producers to invest in large-scale renewable energy projects to help address power deficits and build a more resilient and sustainable electricity sector.

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# PUBLIC PROTECTOR URGES ELECTION CANDIDATES TO MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANLINESS PART OF CAMPAIGN AGENDA

By Money Daily Reporter



Caroline Sokoni

The Office of the Public Protector Zambia (OPPZ) has called on aspiring parliamentary, local government and presidential candidates to make environmental cleanliness and sustainable waste management a central part of their campaign commitments ahead of the August 13, 2026 General Elections.

In a statement, Public Protector Caroline Sokoni said candidates seeking public office should demonstrate leadership by committing themselves to protecting the environment before, during and after election campaigns.

"As the country

prepares to hold the General Elections on 13th August 2026, the Office of the Public Protector-Zambia (OPPZ) wishes to call upon all aspiring candidates at national and local levels to commit themselves to promoting environmental cleanliness and sustainable waste management before and after election campaigns," Ms Sokoni said.

Ms. Sokoni said environmental cleanliness should form part of the social contract between aspiring leaders and voters, urging candidates to clearly outline how they intend to tackle poor waste management, illegal

dumping, blocked drainage systems and pollution affecting communities.

The Public Protector noted that the state of the environment has a direct impact on public health, tourism, economic growth and the overall well-being of citizens, adding that environmental stewardship reflects leadership integrity and accountability.

She further encouraged political parties to incorporate environmental protection activities into their campaign programmes by actively participating in community clean-up initiatives.

Ms Sokoni also urged local authorities to identify public spaces that

political parties can adopt and maintain during the campaign period as a demonstration of their commitment to environmental responsibility and community service.

According to the Office, such initiatives would not only contribute to cleaner communities but also promote accountability, civic responsibility and active citizen participation in environmental management.

The Public Protector appealed to all candidates seeking public office to make environmental cleanliness "a central pillar of their developmental agenda and a binding social contract with the people they aspire to serve."

# ZAMBIA, MOZAMBIQUE ADVANCE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT TO BOOST REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

By Money Daily Reporter



Zambia and Mozambique (SAATM).

have taken a major step towards strengthening regional air connectivity after concluding bilateral negotiations aimed at aligning their air services agreement with continental aviation frameworks.

The negotiations were held in Lomé, Togo, on the sidelines of the African Air Transport Conference and Expo, where delegations from the two countries agreed to initial a draft Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) and a complementary Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The agreements are expected to be formally signed later by the respective Ministers of Transport.

The meeting brought together Civil Aviation Authority of Zambia Director General Captain Derrick Luembe and Mozambique's Director General of Civil Aviation Emmanuel Chaves, who reaffirmed their countries' commitment to the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD) and the Single African Air Transport Market

The two delegations agreed that the new BASA would harmonise bilateral air transport arrangements with the Yamoussoukro Decision, SAATM objectives and the latest standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The agreement will come into force after both countries exchange diplomatic notifications confirming the completion of their respective legal and constitutional procedures. Until then, the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Zambia and Mozambique in Jordan on December 4, 2019, will remain in effect.

Speaking after the meeting, Captain Luembe said the negotiations reflected both countries' commitment to implementing continental aviation reforms.

"This shows commitment by both States in promoting the Single African Air Transport Market. With what has been

done today, we expect to have closer integration of our air transport market, including the harmonization of regulations," he said.

Captain Luembe also noted that Zambia and Mozambique had recently signed another memorandum of understanding during the Southern African Development Community Aviation Safety Organisation (SASO) meeting in Eswatini to strengthen cooperation in the aviation sector.

The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), the executing agency for both the Yamoussoukro Decision and SAATM, has continued urging African countries to review and modernise bilateral air services agreements to remove market access barriers and promote seamless air transport across the continent.

According to AFCAC, harmonised agreements are critical to improving intra-African connectivity, facilitating trade and tourism, and accelerating regional economic integration.

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# ZAMBIA, UNITED STATES STRENGTHEN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP THROUGH CULINARY EXCHANGE

By Cecilia Chiluba



The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to promoting culinary tourism as a key component of Zambia's tourism strategy, describing food as a powerful tool for cultural exchange, economic growth and international cooperation.

Speaking during the SUNY Culinary Experience hosted at the Zambia Institute for Tourism and Hospitality Studies (ZITHS) in Lusaka, Ministry of Tourism Permanent Secretary Evans Muhanga said the programme represents more than a learning opportunity, but also celebrates the growing partnership between Zambia and the United States.

In remarks delivered on his behalf by Director of Tourism Dr. Chilufya, Mr. Muhanga welcomed visiting chefs from SUNY Schenectady County Community

College in the United States and commended the initiative for promoting cultural understanding, professional development and knowledge exchange within the hospitality sector.

"From the distinctive flavours of Chikanda and millet nshima to the rich tastes of Kapenta and other traditional dishes, Zambian cuisine tells a story of community, resilience, innovation and cultural pride," Mr. Muhanga said.

He noted that although Zambia is internationally recognised for attractions such as Victoria Falls, wildlife and its rich cultural heritage, the country's culinary traditions are equally important in shaping its tourism identity and enriching visitor experiences.

"Culinary tourism is rapidly emerging as one of the most dynamic segments of the global tourism industry. By promoting Zambian cuisine, encouraging innovation in our kitchens and continuously

improving hospitality standards, we create new opportunities for chefs, students, entrepreneurs, farmers and local communities," he said.

Mr. Muhanga added that the partnership will contribute to building a more competitive, inclusive and sustainable tourism sector through skills development, international exposure and capacity building for hospitality professionals.

Meanwhile, ZITHS Executive Director Anne Kaoma-Sibanda described the SUNY Culinary Experience as a major milestone in strengthening hospitality education and showcasing Zambia's culinary heritage to the international community.

"This programme is about much more than recipes. It is about building bridges between cultures, strengthening professional training and creating new opportunities for innovation and excellence within the hospitality

industry," Mrs. Kaoma-Sibanda said.

She said the exchange programme offers practical learning through culinary demonstrations, knowledge-sharing sessions and cultural interactions involving students, lecturers and industry professionals.

Mrs. Kaoma-Sibanda added that the visiting chefs will gain first-hand experience of Zambia's food culture while exposing ZITHS students to international best practices, helping prepare them for careers in an increasingly competitive global hospitality industry.

She expressed confidence that the initiative would strengthen long-term partnerships between educational institutions and hospitality professionals from Zambia and the United States while enhancing tourism and cultural relations between the two countries.

# LUNZUA ACQUIRES 27% STAKE IN NGONYE FALLS POWER PROJECT

By Money Daily Reporter



Lunzua Power Company Limited has signed an agreement to acquire a 27 percent equity stake in Western Power Company Limited, a move expected to accelerate the development of the 180-megawatt Ngonye Falls Hydroelectric Power Project in Western Province.

The transaction positions Lunzua as a strategic partner in one of Zambia's largest renewable energy projects while reinforcing the country's efforts to expand electricity generation and strengthen regional energy security.

Under the agreement, Lunzua will finance the project's development costs in exchange for a 27 percent shareholding, joining existing shareholders Africa Power Projects Limited (APP), InfraCo Africa Business Development Limited and the Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE), which will retain a combined 73 percent stake.

Lunzua will also join Western Power's Board of Directors and participate in the project's development, construction and future operations.

The Ngonye Falls Hydroelectric Power Project, located near Sioma in Western Province, is expected to reach financial close during the first quarter of 2027, with construction commencing shortly afterwards. Commercial operations are targeted

for the first half of 2030. Lunzua Chief Executive Officer Martin Kasemuka described the investment as a milestone in Zambia's energy transition.

"This investment reflects our conviction that well-structured hydropower will play an essential role in Zambia's energy future. By adding Ngonye's 180MW of clean, locally generated electricity, Lunzua strengthens Zambia's generation capacity and, alongside the broader investment underway in the sector, contributes to a more secure and resilient national supply," Mr. Kasemuka said.

He added that the additional generation capacity would help position Zambia as a reliable electricity exporter within the Southern African region. "Importantly, capacity of this scale helps move the country toward a surplus position, creating the headroom to realise Zambia's ambition to be a dependable power supplier for the region. We are proud to partner with Western Power in building that future," he said.

Western Power Executive Chairman Siphon Phiri welcomed the investment, saying it fulfilled the company's objective of maintaining significant ownership in the project. "As a Zambian-led

development, it has always been our object to retain as much equity as possible within Zambia and it is a momentous occasion that Lunzua, a Zambian company, is investing in an equity stake alongside APP, InfraCo, and the BRE," Mr. Phiri said.

He noted that the investment also demonstrated the success of early-stage development financing provided by InfraCo in attracting private sector participation.

"As we enter the final development phase of this project, we welcome Lunzua aboard," he added.

Western Power Managing Director Tom Younger said the partnership would provide both financial and technical capacity needed to advance the project.

"Our partnership with Lunzua is a strong vote of confidence in the Ngonye Falls project and in Zambia's power sector. Their capital, technical expertise, and long-term commitment bring the necessary impetus to ensure that we complete the development phase and move on to build and operate the project to the highest international standards," Mr. Younger said.

Ngonye Falls project is expected to generate approximately 830 gigawatt-hours of renewable baseload electricity annually



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# ZAMBIA REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO REFUGEE INCLUSION, DEVELOPMENT

By Cecilia Chiluba



Government has reaffirmed its commitment to integrating refugees into national development programmes as Zambia marked World Refugee Day 2026 commemorations.

Speaking during the commemoration, held under the theme; "Honouring Refugees as a Symbol of Zambia's Inclusive Development," Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security, Dickson Matembo said government views refugees as contributors to national development rather than passive recipients of humanitarian support.

"This year's national theme is significant because it recognises refugees not as passive recipients of humanitarian assistance, but as resilient individuals who continue to contribute to Zambia's social and economic development despite the hardships they have endured," Mr Matembo stated.

He said government remains committed to ensuring refugees are integrated into national systems and services to promote dignity, self-reliance and peaceful coexistence.

Mr. Matembo highlighted several initiatives being implemented under the National Refugee Policy, including a World Bank-funded US\$30 million Zambia Refugee and Host Communities Project aimed at improving infrastructure, livelihoods, refugee management systems and institutional capacity.

He also disclosed that government, working with the Democratic Republic of Congo and the UN refugee agency, has facilitated voluntary repatriation efforts, with 865 Congolese refugees having safely returned home.

Despite progress made, Mr. Matembo acknowledged challenges including reduced humanitarian funding, poor connectivity and limited access to markets for refugee and host community farmers.

"Addressing these

challenges will require increased investment, stronger partnerships and sustained commitment from all stakeholders," he said.

He called on the donor and international community to invest in programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, adding that collaboration remains key in ensuring safety and opportunities for displaced populations.

And UNHCR Representative, Helen Mebrahtu commended Zambia for continuing to provide refuge, protection and hope to people forced to flee conflict and persecution, even as global displacement remains near record levels.

Ms. Mebrahtu said Zambia was hosting about 115,000 refugees and asylum seekers, noting that the country's approach to displacement had become an example of solidarity and inclusion.

She stated that the right to seek safety, established under the 1951 Refugee Convention, remains a critical lifeline for millions around the world.

Ms. Mebrahtu emphasized that refugees should not be defined by displacement alone, saying they are capable of making meaningful contributions to society when given opportunities. "Refugees are entrepreneurs, teachers, doctors, artists, leaders, and friends. They strengthen economies, enrich cultures and help build more inclusive and resilient societies," she said.

She added that Zambia's whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach was enabling refugees to access essential services, pursue self-reliance and contribute to the socio-economic development of host communities.

Ms. Mebrahtu, however, called for stronger inclusive policies and greater international support, citing challenges faced by refugees including limited movement, barriers to employment and restricted access to services.

She urged development partners, financial institutions and the private sector to support Zambia's refugee response efforts.

# ZAMBIA, US SIGN AMENDMENT TO REALIGN \$458 MILLION MCC INVESTMENT TOWARD LOBITO CORRIDOR

By Cecilia Chiluba



Zambia and the United States have signed an amendment to realign a US\$491 million Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Compact Programme aimed at strengthening investments in agriculture, critical minerals and infrastructure development linked to the Lobito Corridor.

The compact comprises a US\$458 million contribution from the United States through the Millennium Challenge Corporation and US\$33 million from the Government of Zambia.

The revised investment framework is expected to support Zambia's agricultural and critical minerals sectors while strengthening regional trade and connectivity through infrastructure projects and governance reforms.

According to Government, the programme reflects a shared commitment between Zambia and the United States to

unlock economic opportunities and promote sustainable growth.

Under the Roads and Access Project, priority road segments identified for rehabilitation have now been aligned with the Lobito Corridor in the North-Western and Copperbelt provinces, which is emerging as one of Africa's major trade and logistics routes.

The programme will also support access to finance for electricity, irrigation systems, logistics, processing equipment and infrastructure for agricultural small and medium enterprises as well as project developers operating across agricultural value chains.

Additional reforms under the compact are expected to increase private investment in grain production and trade, strengthen governance in the mining sector, promote investment in mineral exploration and improve the operation and

maintenance of road infrastructure assets.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, Secretary to the Treasury Felix Nkulukusa underscored the longstanding ties between Zambia and the United States.

"The longstanding bilateral relationship between Zambia and the United States remains strong and is built on shared values, cooperation, and mutual respect," Mr. Nkulukusa said.

The realignment of the compact comes as Zambia seeks to leverage strategic infrastructure and investment partnerships to expand trade opportunities and support long-term economic transformation.

The agreement is expected to enhance Zambia's position within the Lobito Corridor while creating opportunities for economic growth across agriculture and mining value chains.



# CHINGOLA MAN JAILED FOR TRESPASSING AT ZESCO SUBSTATION

By Money Daily Reporter



A 30-year-old Chingola man has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour after pleading guilty to criminal trespass at a ZESCO substation in a case linked to the suspected theft of underground power cables.

Samuel Chungu, of Mikiloni Area, was convicted by the Chingola Magistrate Court for criminal trespass contrary to Section 306(a) of the Penal Code, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Zambia.

According to ZESCO, the offence occurred on March 10, 2026, when the corporation's security personnel, working together with Zambia Police officers during a

night patrol in Mwaiseni Industrial Area, discovered a freshly dug trench suspected to have been excavated in preparation for the theft of underground armoured cables.

During an inspection of Substation No. 28, the officers found Chungu hiding within the premises. He allegedly attempted to flee but was apprehended at the scene.

Security officers recovered a shovel, hacksaw and pick from the area where the suspect had been hiding, with investigators linking the tools to the attempted cable theft.

Chungu appeared before the Chingola Magistrate Court on June 10, 2026, where he pleaded guilty to the charge. The court subsequently

convicted him on June 17 and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment with hard labour, effective from the date of conviction.

Meanwhile, ZESCO has reported an increase in security-related offences targeting its infrastructure.

The utility company recorded 37 security-related cases between June 12 and 19, 2026, involving vandalism, theft, fraud, corruption, fraudulent appropriation of electricity and abuse of corporation motor vehicles.

The incidents resulted in estimated property losses of K1.65 million, while recoveries valued at K1.26 million were made, leaving a net loss of approximately K388,000.

The latest figures represent an increase from the previous reporting period between June 5 and 12, when ZESCO recorded 20 cases with a net loss of K344,029.

ZESCO commended members of the public for providing information that has assisted in recovering stolen property and protecting critical electricity infrastructure.

The corporation has urged members of the public to remain vigilant and promptly report suspicious activities around electricity installations to ZESCO, the Zambia Police Service or other security agencies to help curb vandalism and safeguard the country's power infrastructure.

# KITWE CITY COUNCIL SENSITISES HOSPITALITY SECTOR ON EBOLA PREPAREDNESS

By Money Daily Reporter



The Kitwe City Council (KCC) has intensified efforts to strengthen the city's public health preparedness by conducting an Ebola awareness meeting for operators of hotels, lodges, guest houses and apartment facilities.

The sensitisation meeting, organised by the Council's Public Health Department, was held in the Council Chamber and brought together stakeholders from the hospitality industry to enhance their understanding of Ebola prevention and response measures.

According to the Council, the meeting focused on raising awareness about Ebola prevention, preparedness and the early detection of suspected cases, particularly as hospitality establishments receive

visitors from different parts of the country and abroad.

Participants were also trained on infection prevention and control measures aimed at protecting both employees and guests from potential health risks associated with the disease.

Council officials stressed the importance of maintaining high standards of hygiene and sanitation in hospitality facilities, noting that the sector plays a critical role in preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

The operators were urged to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspected Ebola cases to the relevant health authorities to facilitate a timely response.

The awareness

programme forms part of ongoing public health preparedness initiatives being implemented by the local authority to strengthen disease surveillance and improve emergency response capacity.

The Council reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with the hospitality industry and other stakeholders to safeguard public health and ensure Kitwe remains adequately prepared to respond to any potential disease outbreaks.

Authorities have continued to encourage institutions and businesses to comply with public health guidelines as part of broader efforts to protect communities and strengthen the city's resilience against infectious diseases.



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# GOVERNMENT TO COMMISSION SIX NEW COMMUNICATION TOWERS IN LUAPULA

By Money Daily Reporter



Government will commission six new communication towers in Luapula Province by the end of July as part of efforts to expand digital connectivity, improve access to communication services and bridge the digital divide in underserved communities. The announcement was made during a courtesy call by Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority (ZICTA) Director General Collins Mbulo on Luapula Province Permanent Secretary Prudence Chinama-Kangwa.

The new towers are located in Chifunabuli, Nchelenge, Milenge, Mwansabombwe, Kawambwa and Mansa districts and will provide both 2G and 4G network services.

Eng. Mbulo said the project is expected to significantly improve communication, internet access and digital service delivery across the province. He further disclosed that ZICTA has already upgraded several existing communication towers from 2G to 4G in Nchelenge, Mansa, Chipili and Chiengwe districts, enabling improved access to online learning, telemedicine and internet-based communication.

Eng. Mbulo reaffirmed the authority's commitment to supporting Government's digital transformation agenda through continued investment in communication infrastructure, internet connectivity and ICT equipment.

He revealed that 11 schools in Luapula Province have already received computers, printers and projectors this year to enhance digital learning, while additional assistive ICT equipment for learners with disabilities will soon be delivered to Mwense District to promote inclusive access to technology.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Chinama-Kangwa said improved connectivity remains critical to accelerating development, enhancing public service delivery and expanding opportunities in education, healthcare and commerce, particularly in rural communities. She noted that Government's continued investments in ICT infrastructure, digital equipment and rural electrification are helping extend essential services to previously underserved areas.

Mrs. Chinama-Kangwa said the initiative aligns with Government's broader objective of building an inclusive digital economy and ensuring that no citizen is left behind in Zambia's digital transformation agenda.

# BUYZED CAMPAIGN URGES HOTELS TO PRIORITISE ZAMBIAN COFFEE, TEA

By Money Daily Reporter



BuyZed Campaign has emphasized on hospitality establishments across Zambia to prioritize locally produced coffee and tea in a move aimed at supporting local industries and strengthening the country's economy.

Campaign Chief Executive Officer, Evans Ng'oma urged hotels and lodges to embrace patriotism in their procurement decisions by placing Zambian products first.

"My appeal is simple — on every breakfast menu in this country, let there be coffee or tea produced in Zambia. We grow it here. We roast it here. Let's serve it here," Mr. Ng'oma

here," he said. He called on hotels and lodges to demonstrate patriotism by supporting local products. "Hotels and lodges, I call upon you to be patriotic. Serve Zambian," Mr. Ng'oma added.

The BuyZed Campaign has continued advocating for increased consumption and promotion of locally produced goods as part of broader efforts to stimulate economic growth and support domestic industries.

"When guests taste Zambia first, money stays here. Pride grows here. Industry thrives



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# CLEAN CAMPAIGNS MUST BECOME A PROMISE, NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT

As Zambia heads towards the August 13 General Elections, political debate will naturally revolve around jobs, the economy, healthcare, education and infrastructure. These are all legitimate priorities. However, one issue that rarely receives the attention it deserves is environmental cleanliness. The Office of the Public Protector is therefore right to challenge aspiring presidential, parliamentary and local government candidates to place environmental stewardship at the centre of their campaign agendas.

The appeal is not about making communities look attractive for a few weeks. It is about recognising that a clean environment underpins public health, economic productivity and sustainable development. In many respects, the state of Zambia's environment reflects the quality of its leadership.

Across the country, the signs of environmental neglect are visible. Illegal dumping sites continue to emerge in residential areas. Drainage systems are clogged with plastic waste. Markets struggle with poor sanitation. During the rainy season, blocked drains contribute to flooding that damages roads, homes and businesses. During the dry season, uncollected waste creates breeding grounds for disease and pollutes the air through indiscriminate burning.

These are not isolated

environmental problems. They are economic problems.

Every kwacha spent clearing blocked drains or repairing flood-damaged infrastructure is money that could have been invested in schools, health facilities or productive economic activities. Poor waste management also raises healthcare costs as communities battle preventable diseases such as cholera, typhoid and diarrhoea. Businesses suffer when customers avoid dirty markets or when floods disrupt commercial activity.

Environmental cleanliness, therefore, is not a luxury. It is an investment.

Tourism provides another compelling reason why political leaders should prioritise environmental management. Zambia continues to market itself as a destination blessed with natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage. Yet visitors judge a country not only by its national parks but also by the cleanliness of its towns, roads and public spaces. A country that projects cleanliness projects discipline, order and confidence. One that tolerates litter and pollution sends the opposite message.

There is also a direct link between environmental management and investment. Investors considering

manufacturing plants, commercial centres or tourism projects assess more than tax incentives. They also look at urban planning, sanitation, waste disposal systems and the overall quality of municipal services. Clean cities are generally more competitive because they are healthier, safer and more attractive places to live and do business.

expecting councils alone to solve every sanitation challenge.

Local government candidates, in particular, have an even greater responsibility. Councillors directly influence waste collection, drainage maintenance, public health enforcement and urban planning. Voters should therefore ask every aspiring

leadership should not begin after elections. It should begin during campaigns themselves.

Political parties should minimise plastic waste at rallies, ensure campaign posters are removed after elections, encourage recycling where possible and work with local authorities to keep campaign venues clean. Such actions would demonstrate that their commitment extends beyond words.

Ultimately, elections are about choosing the future we want. Citizens should expect candidates to present solutions not only for unemployment, inflation and economic growth but also for the cleanliness and sustainability of the communities in which people live, work and raise families.

A clean environment supports healthier citizens, stronger businesses, better tourism, lower healthcare costs and more resilient local economies. It is not separate from development—it is one of its foundations.

This election presents an opportunity to redefine leadership. The candidates who understand that environmental responsibility is an economic, social and governance issue will be better positioned to build communities that are not only prosperous but also healthier, more liveable and sustainable for generations to come.

## MONEY EDITORIAL

The Public Protector's suggestion that political parties participate in community clean-up exercises deserves serious consideration. Campaigns often involve thousands of supporters gathering in markets, stadiums and residential areas. Unfortunately, once rallies end, litter frequently remains. Plastic bottles, campaign materials, food containers and other waste become someone else's responsibility. Political parties should instead compete to leave communities cleaner than they found them.

Such practical demonstrations would send a powerful message that leadership is about service rather than slogans. It would also encourage citizens to view environmental responsibility as a shared obligation instead of

councillor specific questions. How will they improve refuse collection? How will they tackle illegal dumping? What plans do they have for recycling? How will they ensure markets remain clean?

These questions deserve space alongside discussions about roads and streetlights.

At the national level, environmental policy should equally become part of presidential debates. Climate change, urbanisation and rapid population growth mean environmental management can no longer remain a secondary issue. Government policies on waste recycling, green industries, plastic pollution, sanitation infrastructure and environmental enforcement will increasingly determine Zambia's long-term economic resilience.

Importantly, environmental

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# TC MOVES AGAINST TOBACCO SURPLUS

By The Nation



The Tobacco Commission (TC) has moved to tighten control over tobacco overproduction by delaying growers' licensing and introducing stricter quota allocations to address persistent oversupply on the market.

The decision comes after Malawi this season produced 197 million kilogrammes (kg) of tobacco against buyers' demand of 170 million kg, leaving an oversupply of 27 million kg.

The surplus has depressed prices, increased rejected rate, which hit 98 percent in

the first weeks of sale, weakened farmers' bargaining power and increased vulnerability among smallholder growers.

In a written response on Tuesday, TC spokesperson Telephorus Chigwenembe said the delayed licensing process is part of broader reforms being implemented to align production with trade requirements.

He said: "The grower licensing, which is supposed to start in June has been delayed as we are working on the quota limitations and on a Know Your Grower Project.

"The project is aimed at improving the traceability of Malawi's auction tobacco."

Chigwenembe said although the measures may not immediately raise prices, they are designed to correct structural imbalance in the market by preventing overproduction that leaves farmers with unsold tobacco.

The shift signals a stronger regulatory stance by TC as it seeks to cap output, improve market discipline and prevent a repeat of the 27 million kg surplus that has destabilised prices this season.

# ZIMBABWE TARGETS US\$1.56 BILLION TOURISM REVENUE IN 2026

By News Day

Zimbabwe's tourism sector is targeting US\$1.56 billion in revenue this year, buoyed by rising international arrivals and strong domestic travel growth despite persistent infrastructure and operational challenges.

According to the Zimbabwe Tourism Authority's (ZTA) first-quarter 2026 performance report, international tourist arrivals rose 11% to 384,515 during the period under review, up from 347,555 a year earlier.

Domestic tourism also recorded strong growth, with

an estimated 2.62 million local trips in the first quarter, compared with 1.94 million during the same period in 2025.

Speaking on the sidelines of the ZTA's first annual general meeting, chief executive officer George Manyaya said the sector remained on a positive growth trajectory and was on course to meet its annual targets.

"Our target this year is 1.87 million international arrivals and about 15.7 million domestic trips," Manyaya said.

"We are aiming to close the year with tourism revenue of US\$1.56 billion. Our performance indicators show we are moving in the right direction."

The outlook follows international recognition for Zimbabwe as a leading travel destination. Last year, Forbes listed the country among its top destinations to visit, boosting its global profile and investor confidence.

Manyaya said the recognition had strengthened Zimbabwe's tourism brand and created momentum for further growth.



## EXCHANGE RATES

Last updated: 19-06-2026

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING
ZMW / USD	17.8936	17.9436
ZMW / GBP	23.6625	23.7340
ZMW / EUR	20.5150	20.5741
ZMW / ZAR	1.0867	1.0901

[Download historical rates](#)



Source: Bank of Zambia (BOZ)

# FROM HEROES TO COACHES: WHY ZAMBIA'S AFCON LEGENDS STRUGGLE TO ELEVATE THE PREMIER LEAGUE

By Nchimunya Abishai Mweetwa



Zambia's football story is one of triumph, resilience, and heartbreak. From the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) final and semifinals in 1994, 1996, and 1998, to the unforgettable victory in 2012, the Chipolopolo have etched their name into continental history. These players carried the weight of a nation, performing under immense pressure and proving themselves against Africa's finest. Yet, a paradox remains: despite their pedigree, none of these AFCON veterans have gone on to win the domestic league as head coaches in the Zambian Premier League.

This article is focused specifically on those who played at AFCON tournaments. It does not dismiss the many former footballers who have achieved significant success in coaching and management. Rather, it highlights the unique paradox of AFCON veterans—players who thrived under continental pressure but have not translated that experience into domestic coaching triumphs.

## The Legacy of Experience

The players of 1994, 1996, and 1998, as well as the core group that matured through the 2006, 2008, and 2010 tournaments before lifting the trophy in 2012, were forged in the crucible of continental competition. They endured the pressure of knockout stages, the tactical demands of elite football, and the psychological strain of representing Zambia on the biggest stage. This experience is invaluable. It should have been harnessed to inspire, mentor, and elevate future generations.

## The Coaching Gap

Yet, when these same players transitioned into coaching, their impact has been muted. None have won the domestic league as head coaches, and few have built sustainable success at club level. The question is not about their talent or commitment—it is about the structures that surround them. Exposure alone does not guarantee coaching excellence. Without deliberate pathways, mentorship, and

institutional support, even the most experienced players can struggle to translate their knowledge into results.

## Lessons from the 2012 Core

The 2012 AFCON triumph was the culmination of years of growth, unity, and resilience. That group had played together through multiple tournaments, learning from setbacks and building chemistry. Their victory was not accidental—it was the product of continuity. Yet, when those same players stepped into coaching roles, the continuity was broken. The systems that nurtured them as players did not exist to support them as coaches.

## Systemic Issues

The reality is that Zambia's football development structures are not designed to convert player experience into coaching success. Former players often lack access to advanced coaching licenses, structured internships, or modern methodologies. While CAF coaching courses are a mandatory requirement for anyone venturing into coaching, they are still not enough. A license alone does not guarantee competence

or success. What is missing is a holistic system—one that combines formal training with mentorship, practical exposure, and institutional backing. Clubs, meanwhile, may not prioritize long-term development, focusing instead on short-term results. Without reform, the cycle repeats: heroes on the pitch, but struggles on the touchline.

## A Call to Action

Zambia cannot afford to let its football heroes fade into obscurity without passing on their wisdom. The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ), clubs, and academies must create deliberate pathways for ex-players to thrive as coaches. This means:

Establishing mentorship programs that pair former players with experienced tacticians.

Investing in continuous education and modern coaching courses beyond CAF's baseline requirements.

Integrating ex-players into technical departments to bridge the gap

between playing and management.

Building governance structures that prioritize long-term development over short-term gains.

## Conclusion

The paradox of Zambia's AFCON heroes is not a failure of talent—it is a failure of systems. Their experience under continental pressure is a treasure that must be harnessed. If Zambia is to rise again and dominate African football, it must elevate its heroes from players to successful coaches. Only then can the legacy of 1994, 1996, 1998, and 2012 truly inspire generations to come.

Let's use it.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

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*Former footballer and sports development advocate with a sports integrity mindset, focused on player welfare and sustainable growth of sport in Zambia.*



**ARSENAL START AGAINST COVENTRY, NEWCASTLE HOST LIVERPOOL**



**LWANDAMINA EXTENDS NCHANGA RANGERS STAY BY TWO YEARS**

By Lucky Chama

Nchanga Rangers Football Club have secured the services of head coach George Lwandamina for another two seasons after the experienced tactician agreed to extend his stay at the Chingola-based side.

The extension provides continuity for the club as it intensifies preparations for the 2026 Transitional League.

Club President David Mukumbuta Mukelabai

welcomed the development, describing Lwandamina's leadership as instrumental to the team's progress and reaffirming the club's commitment to supporting the technical bench.

"We are delighted that Coach George Lwandamina has committed his future to Nchanga Rangers Football Club. His leadership and experience have been instrumental to the progress of the team, and we remain fully committed to

supporting him and the technical bench as we prepare for the 2026 Transitional League," Mukelabai said.

Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) Corporate Social Responsibility Manager Brian Siatubi also expressed satisfaction with the coach's decision to remain at the club.

"As KCM, we are delighted that he has extended his stay at Nchanga Rangers.

We are confident that the community and all stakeholders will welcome this decision. As KCM, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting the club," Siatubi said.

He further called on supporters and stakeholders to continue rallying behind the team as preparations for the new campaign gather momentum.

Lwandamina, one of

Zambia's most accomplished coaches, assured management and fans that the technical bench would build on the progress made during the previous season as the club seeks to remain competitive in the upcoming transitional league.

The club has wished the coach and his technical team success ahead of the new season.

By ESPN - Arsenal will begin their Premier League title defence against newly-promoted Coventry City in north London, while Liverpool travel to face Newcastle in the pick of the 2026-27 opening-day fixtures. season will perhaps have Arsenal supporters thinking of last year when their team were faced with trips to Old Trafford, Anfield and St James' Park, as well as an early showdown with City, before the end of September.

Mikel Arteta's team ended the club's 22-year wait for the league title as they held off Manchester City's challenge to lift the Premier League trophy on the final day of last season at Selhurst Park. They kick off the new campaign on Friday, Aug. 21. The Gunners don't face City until the end of November this time around. In a break from the norm, Arsenal travel to face Tottenham in the first north London derby of the season at the beginning of December, before hosting their archrivals on May 1.

Arsenal face Aston Villa on the second match week of the new campaign before hosting Chelsea in north London the following week. The potentially tricky opening weeks of the new Frank Lampard's Coventry City are returning to the top flight for the first time since 2001, but Arteta's side will pose a tough challenge at the Emirates first up.

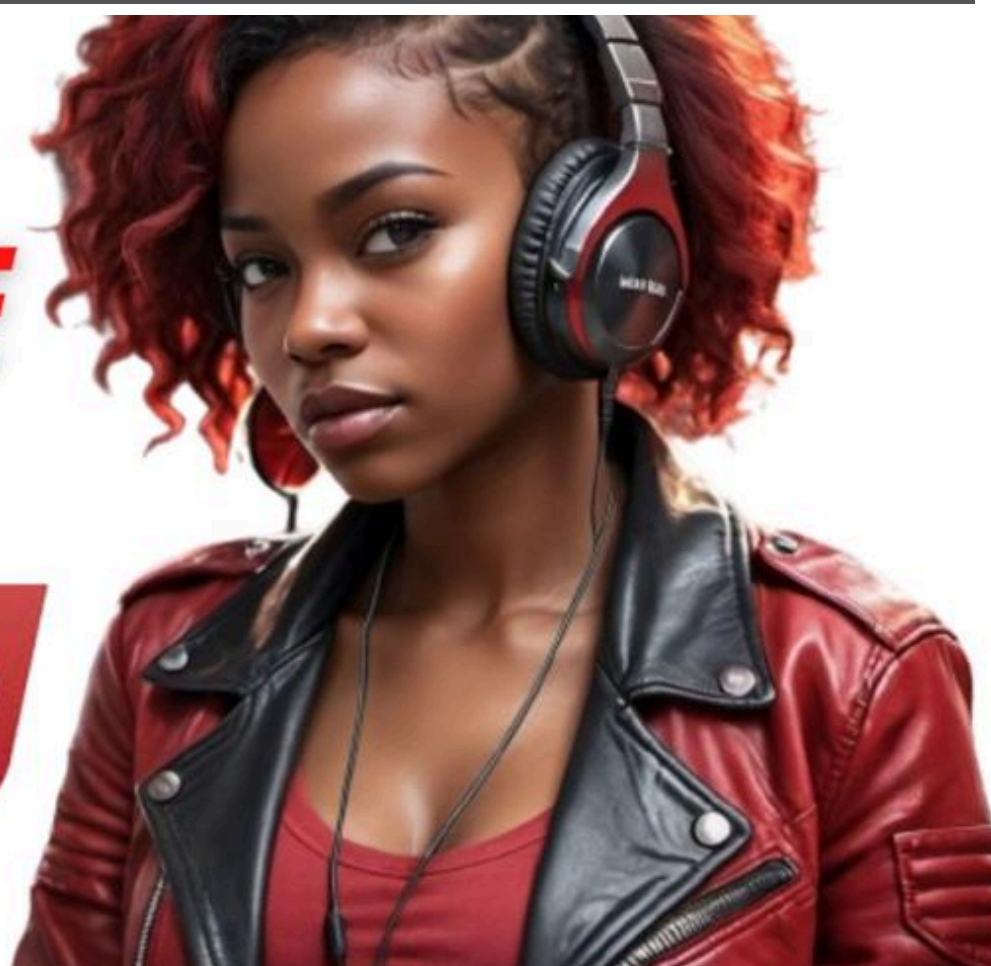


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THINK BUSINESS



**YOUNG OLYMPIC AMBASSADORS RETURN FROM GREECE AFTER INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY PROGRAMME**

By Lucky Chama

The National Olympic Committee of Zambia (NOCZ) has welcomed home two Young Olympic Ambassadors following their successful participation in the 66th International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors organised by the International Olympic Academy (IOA) in Greece.

Paul Mkandawire, a table tennis representative, and Charity Maseko, a basketball representative, returned to Zambia after completing the prestigious two-week programme, which began on June 6, 2026.

The international session brought together young people aged between 20 and 30 from across the world to promote friendship, cultural

exchange, cooperation and the core values of Olympism through education and dialogue.

Participants attended lectures delivered by distinguished professors, engaged in working group discussions and presentations, took part in cultural visits, sports and arts activities, and interacted with Olympians in a programme designed to strengthen leadership and international cooperation among young people.

NOCZ Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer Boniface Kambikambi congratulated Mkandawire and Maseko for representing Zambia at the global event.

Kambikambi commended the pair for embracing the opportunity to learn from



other young leaders, exchange ideas and establish lasting international friendships.

He expressed confidence that the knowledge and experiences gained during the programme would help advance Olympic values and youth leadership in Zambia.

Kambikambi further encouraged the two ambassadors to share the lessons acquired in Greece with fellow young people and continue serving as advocates of the Olympic Movement in their respective communities.

The International Olympic Academy's annual Young Olympic Ambassadors Session is one of the Olympic Movement's flagship educational programmes, aimed at developing future leaders who promote excellence, friendship and respect through sport while fostering global understanding among young people.

