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NATURAL MINERAL WATER

# PTAZ DEMANDS FULL ENFORCEMENT OF SI NO. 35 OF 2021 TO PROTECT LOCAL TRANSPORTERS

By Cecilia Chiluba



Petroleum Transporters Association of Zambia (PTAZ) has called for the full enforcement of Statutory Instrument (SI) No. 35 of 2021, as the regulation is critical to safeguarding the interests of local fuel transporters and promoting Zambian participation in the sector.

This legislation mandates that the transportation of specific heavy and bulk commodities by road must be reserved for local road transporters. For the import or export of these commodities, a minimum of 50% of the transport must be handled by local road transporters.

PTAZ General Secretary Benson Tembo, told Money News in an interview that government has already put in place laws aimed at empowering local transporters, but the main challenge remains regulations.

Mr. Tembo said SI No. 35 of 2021, which was enacted in June 2021, was specifically designed to support the growth of local Zambian transporters, yet nearly five years later, the law has not been fully enforced.

“The major challenge that transporters are facing is the enforcement of the regulations that have been promulgated to safeguard the interests of local Zambian citizens. Government has done well to put in place the laws that would develop local Zambians in the fuel transport system,” Mr. Tembo said.

He noted that despite the existence of SI No. 35 of 2021 and the more recent Local Content Statutory Instrument No. 68 of 2025, local transporters were yet to fully benefit from the protections and opportunities provided under the law. “You can imagine SI No. 35 of 2021 was done in

June 2021. Up to date, we are yet to see that law in full force,” he stated.

Mr. Tembo expressed concern that some companies are allegedly circumventing the spirit of the law by using Zambian citizens as fronts while maintaining foreign control of operations.

“What we have continued to see is that people are fronting their fellows who are purported to be Zambians when in fact they have no significant control in those companies or they have nothing to do with those companies,” Mr. Tembo said.

He urged responsible institutions to take decisive action against firms that disregard the law, including prosecuting offenders.

“These are issues which are within reach and a responsible institution can definitely pounce on these people who have no regard

to the Zambian law and charge them accordingly,” he stressed.

Mr. Tembo added that visible enforcement measures, including court action against offenders, would help ensure that the intended benefits of the law accrue to Zambian citizens.

“What we hope to see going forward is people being taken to court and it’s from such actions that we may begin to see the fruit going to the intended citizens,” Mr. Tembo added.

He warned that if the current situation persists, local transporters may seek legal redress to recover business opportunities they believe have been lost due to non-compliance with the law.

“For us, we cannot begin to talk about any other thing. The only elephant in the room is the enforcement of the laws that have been promulgated to secure the interests of the locals,” he stated

# COUNCIL COMPLETES WORKS ON K2 MILLION KANYAMA MINI CIVIC CENTRE

By Money Daily Reporter



Lusaka City Council (LCC) says it has completed the construction of Kanyama Mini Civic Centre at a cost of over K2 million.

The new facility is designed to improve service delivery for Kanyama residents and support the eCouncil system.

Council Public Relations Manager, Chola Mwamba said the facility is established as a service access hub to bring Council services closer to residents and support the rollout of the eCouncil digital system.

“The Kanyama facility is one of four mini civic centres delivered under Council’s K10.5 million decentralization

programme,” Ms. Mwamba said.

“Mini civic centres are designed to provide effective and efficient delivery of public services by decentralizing operations from the main Civic Centre.”

She noted that by operating at constituency level, the new centre will reduce travel time and congestion at the main Civic Centre.

“It will also strengthen the eCouncil system by acting as an access hub for digital services, providing staff training and technical support locally, and offering reliable connectivity points,” she added.

Ms. Mwamba said the move will enable residents to register,

pay rates, and submit applications online without traveling to the central office.

“The investment reflects Council’s commitment to taking development to the grassroots,” Ms. Mwamba said.

“Kanyama is one of Lusaka’s most populous constituencies, and this facility ensures residents receive services faster and with dignity.”

She thanked residents in the area for exhibiting high levels of patience during construction period and urged them to take ownership of the facility.

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# GOVT HAILS NHCC FOR EMBRACING QR CODE TECHNOLOGY IN INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

By Money Daily Reporter



Ministry of Tourism Permanent Secretary, Evans Muhanga has hailed the National Heritage Conservation Commission (NHCC) for embracing digital transformation through the introduction of Quick Response Code (QR Code) technology for information dissemination at heritage sites and public exhibitions.

Evans Muhanga described the initiative as progressive, environmentally friendly, and in line with Government's digital transformation

agenda aimed at enhancing efficient public service delivery.

Mr. Muhanga was speaking when he visited the Commission's exhibition stand at the ongoing Public Service Day commemorations in Lusaka.

According to NHCC, the Permanent Secretary personally tested the QR Code system by scanning one of the display cards using his mobile phone, and the system instantly provided digital information about the Commission's heritage

products and services, replacing the traditional use of printed paper materials.

"The transition from paper-based dissemination to digital platforms through QR Codes demonstrates the institution's commitment towards modernization, efficiency, and environmental sustainability," he said.

And NHCC Executive Director, Kagosi Mwamulowe, highlighted the Commission's ongoing efforts to integrate technology into heritage conservation, promotion, and public

engagement. "NHCC has continued to position itself as a forward-looking institution by adhering to Government's directive to go paperless by leveraging digital tools to improve accessibility to information on Zambia's cultural and natural heritage sites across the country," he added.

This is according to a statement issued by NHCC Manager – Information and Public Relations, Ndubi Mvula.

# NAQEZ CALLS FOR INCREASED EDUCATION INVESTMENT, NODS POLITICAL PARTIES' COMMITMENTS

By Money Daily Reporter



National Action for Quality Education in Zambia (NAQEZ) has called for increased investment in the education sector after the August 13 general election.

NAQEZ Executive Director Aaron Chansa, told Money News that the country needs major reforms and infrastructure expansion to improve education standards.

Mr. Chansa said Zambia would require a significant shift in the management of the education sector, including greater funding for schools, learning materials and facilities.

"We will need more investments in the sector in order to massively build more school infrastructure and decongest the few existing classes," Mr. Chansa said.

He stated that Zambia would also require unprecedented purchase of new textbooks, computers and equipment to effectively implement

the country's revised curriculum.

Mr. Chansa stressed that any political party that forms government after the elections would have a responsibility to improve learning conditions by constructing science laboratories, practical workshops and decent accommodation for teachers.

"It will be the duty of whichever party that will emerge victorious to build more science laboratories at schools, workshops for practical subjects and build decent houses for teachers," he said. "Without doing these things, no quality education will ever be offered in our schools."

He also expressed satisfaction with education commitments made by several political parties ahead of the elections, including promises to maintain free education policies.

Mr. Chansa said the organization was

encouraged by pledges from the ruling United Party for National Development, the Citizens First, the Socialist Party and the National Revolution Party United for Progress to continue offering free education.

He stressed that the proposals regarding salary scale upgrades and debt swap arrangements for teachers and other civil servants have also attracted attention because of their importance to education workers.

Mr. Chansa further welcomed the UPND's pledge to establish public universities in provinces that currently do not have such institutions.

"As an organization concerned about the current poor quality of education in Zambia, we will hold winning administration to account on the promises being made today," Mr. Chansa added.

# ECZ CALLS FOR RESPONSIBLE ELECTION REPORTING AS MEDIA TRAINING OPENS AHEAD OF 2026 POLLS

By Cecilia Chiluba



Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) has urged journalists to uphold accuracy, fairness and professionalism in election reporting as the country prepares for the 2026 General Election.

house's commitment to promoting informed, accurate and responsible Journalism during one of the country's most significant democratic processes," Mr. Hamulyata said.

strengthen cooperation between the Commission and the media in promoting transparency and public confidence in the electoral process.

contribute to peaceful, credible, transparent and inclusive elections that reflect the will of the Zambian people.

Speaking during the official opening of the Provincial Media Training Workshop in Lusaka, Provincial Education Officer Charleston Hamulyata said the media plays a critical role in strengthening democracy through informed and responsible journalism.

He noted that elections go beyond the act of voting and require citizens to have access to accurate and balanced information in order to make informed decisions.

"Through this training, we hope to strengthen the partnership between the Commission and the media in promoting transparency, credibility and public confidence in the electoral process," Mr. Hamulyata added.

And Lusaka District Electoral Officer, Oliver Muuka, urged Journalists undergoing the media training to remain attentive and ensure they disseminate accurate information to the public ahead of elections.

Mr. Hamulyata, who was represented by Senior Local Government Officer, Joshua Nkhole, said the training programme forms part of the Commission's broader efforts to equip Journalists with the knowledge and skills required to effectively cover the electoral process before, during and after the elections.

"Elections are not only about casting ballots; they are also about ensuring that citizens have access to timely, factual and balanced information," he emphasized.

Mr. Hamulyata reiterated the Commission's commitment to maintaining an open and collaborative relationship with the media built on professionalism, impartiality and mutual respect.

Mr. Muuka emphasized the importance of continuous learning and understanding of electoral procedures.

"Your presence here demonstrates your media

He added that the nationwide training initiative is intended to

"As we prepare for the 2026 General Election, let us all remain guided by the principles of accuracy, fairness, objectivity and responsibility in the dissemination of electoral information," he said.

"We should keep on revising the electoral processes and procedures. Let us take advantage of your participation so that you go out there and do the correct thing," Mr. Muuka said.

He noted that the growing flow of information, particularly during electoral periods, requires media practitioners to carefully distinguish between factual and misleading content.

He stressed that the collective efforts of the media and electoral stakeholders would

# GOVT INTENSIFIES EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

By Money Daily Reporter



Luapula Province Permanent Secretary says Government's continued investment in the health sector is enhancing access to medicines and improving healthcare delivery, with pharmacists playing a pivotal role in advancing the country's agenda of building a healthy and productive population.

promoting medicine safety, disease prevention, health education and emergency preparedness.

strengthening pharmaceutical services through the recruitment and deployment of pharmacy personnel, staff capacity building and the introduction of electronic systems for managing medicines and vaccines.

"Their contribution remains critical to achieving Universal Health Coverage and improving health outcomes for all citizens," she said.

Dr. Nkula noted that Government's continued collaboration with cooperating partners is helping improve medicine management, pharmaceutical care and healthcare service delivery, particularly in rural and hard-to-reach districts across the province.

Speaking during the commemoration of Pharmacy Awareness Week 2026 in Mansa, Prudence Chinama-Kangwa said the Government remains committed to strengthening healthcare systems through increased investment in health workforce development, pharmaceutical education, research, innovation and digital transformation.

She further applauded the Pharmaceutical Society of Zambia for championing responsible medicine use and public sensitization programmes aimed at combating antimicrobial resistance and enhancing community health awareness.

The Pharmacy Awareness Week commemoration was held under the theme, "One Health, One Pharmacy: Integrating Science, Practice and Education for Resilient Health Systems."

Mrs. Chinama-Kangwa noted that pharmacists are key stakeholders in

recorded progress in



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THINK BUSINESS



# MINISTRY OF FINANCE URGES NEW OFFICERS TO UPHOLD EXCELLENCE IN ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

By Cecilia Chiluba



Ministry of Finance and National Planning has challenged newly recruited officers to safeguard and strengthen the culture of excellence that has earned Zambia continental recognition for sound economic management.

Speaking during the official opening of a three-day induction workshop in Chilanga today, Permanent Secretary for Planning and Administration Prudence Kaoma, said every employee has a responsibility to uphold the high standards underpinning the country's economic reform agenda.

Ms. Kaoma said the Ministry's growing continental and international recognition reflects the collective efforts of Government and the professionalism of its workforce.

She cited the prestigious Minister of Finance award presented to former Minister of Finance and National Planning Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane, as

evidence of the Ministry's institutional excellence rather than an individual accomplishment.

Ms. Kaoma stated that every newly recruited officer was joining one of the Government's most strategic institutions, entrusted with formulating economic policy, mobilizing domestic and external resources, coordinating national development planning, preparing the National Budget, managing public debt and strengthening public financial management.

She stressed that such responsibilities demand a workforce that is technically competent, ethical and committed to excellence.

“The Public Service is the engine through which Government policies, programmes and development initiatives are implemented. As public servants, you are custodians of public trust and ambassadors of Government service delivery,” she added.

Ms. Kaoma emphasized that appointment into the Public Service is a call to national service and an

opportunity to contribute meaningfully to improving the lives of Zambians through effective public administration.

The Permanent Secretary urged officers to uphold the values of professionalism, integrity, accountability, patriotism, transparency and impartiality while embracing innovation, teamwork and continuous learning to enhance institutional performance and public confidence.

She further called on participants to familiarize themselves with the legal, administrative and financial frameworks governing the Public Service, stressing that compliance with Government regulations, financial procedures and institutional policies is fundamental to transparent, accountable and efficient public administration.

She said every assignment undertaken within the Ministry contributes directly to Zambia's National Vision, National Development Plans and the broader objective of maintaining macroeconomic stability, promoting sustainable and inclusive

economic growth, and improving citizens' welfare through prudent management of public resources.

“The standard has already been set,” she said. “Your responsibility is not merely to maintain it, but to raise it further through your conduct, your performance and your commitment to serving the people of Zambia.”

Earlier, Director of Human Resource and Administration, Nalituba Mwale said the induction programme was designed to familiarize newly recruited officers with the Ministry's functions, organizational culture, administrative systems and workplace procedures to enable them to integrate quickly and contribute effectively to institutional performance.

The induction programme, running from 22 to 24 June 2026, has brought together officers recruited into the Ministry since 2022 to deepen their understanding of the Ministry's mandate, institutional values, governance systems, operational procedures and expectations of public service delivery.

# CHIEF MAILO LAUDS AGRICULTURE POLICIES

By Money Daily Reporter



Chief Mailo of Serenje District has applauded the government for policies that support agriculture and trade.

The Traditional Leader stated that such policies are vital in driving development across communities.

He was speaking on behalf of other chiefs in Serenje District, Central Province, during the Serenje District Agriculture Show Society, held under the theme; Fostering Trade and Investment.

“I thank our

government for creating the policies and support systems that make agriculture and trade possible.

Your commitment to infrastructure, markets, and farmer support drives real progress,” he stated.

Chief Mailo observed that young people must be encouraged to take part in farming and entrepreneurship.

The Lala Chief said “All stakeholders should continue working together for sustainable development,” Chief Mailo said.

hub of agricultural trade.

He affirmed that cultural values must be preserved while embracing modern practices.

The Traditional Leader emphasized that education and skills training are key to unlocking opportunities for the youth.

potential to become a



# CONSTRUCTION OF LUSAKA-NDOLA DUAL CARRIAGEWAY REACHES 78 PERCENT

By Money Daily Reporter



Road Development Agency (RDA) says works on the Lusaka–Ndola Dual Carriageway have reached 78 percent completion.

The Lusaka–Ndola Dual Carriageway is one of Zambia’s largest road infrastructure projects and forms part of the strategic route linking Lusaka to the Copperbelt Province.

The highway serves as a key trade corridor connecting Zambia to neighbouring countries within the Southern African region.

The project involves upgrading the existing road into a modern dual

carriageway aimed at easing congestion, reducing travel time, and improving road safety.

Speaking during a media tour of the project, RDA Chief Communications and Corporate Affairs Manager, Anthony Mulowa expressed satisfaction at the pace of progress on the flagship infrastructure project.

Mr. Mulowa said significant progress has been recorded since construction commenced in May 2024.

“I am happy to report that we continue to record good progress on this transformative project. We are currently at 78 percent completion on the main

carriageway,” Mr. Mulowa said.

He noted that the benefits of the project are already being felt by motorists and other road users, as several completed sections have been opened to traffic.

“For instance, travel time between Lusaka and Kabwe has drastically reduced compared to when the road was in a poor state,” he added.

“On average, it now takes about one hour and thirty minutes to travel from Lusaka to Kabwe.”

Mr. Mulowa stated that the upgraded highway is expected to improve road

safety, reduce vehicle operating costs, and enhance the efficient movement of goods and passengers along one of Zambia’s busiest economic corridors.

Once completed, the road is expected to boost economic activity by facilitating faster transportation of goods, services, and people between Lusaka, Kabwe, Kapiri Mposhi, and Ndola.

Meanwhile, works to construct the 24 kilometre Kabwe Bypass Road have attained 50 percent completion rate.

Mr. Mulowa stated that the upgraded highway is expected to improve road

# GOVERNMENT ALLOCATES 222 MINING LICENCES AT KIKONGE GOLD SITE

By Cecilia Chiluba



Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development has disclosed that a total of 222 mining tenements have so far been allocated at Kikonge Mine in Mufumbwe District, North-Western Province.

According to the Ministry, the allocations are part of a targeted total of 674 mining tenements expected to be issued.

In a Facebook post monitored by Money News, the Ministry indicated that the number of allocated tenements is expected to rise further by the close of business today.

“This marks an important step forward

as we continue working towards empowering local communities and ensuring meaningful participation in the mining sector,” the Ministry said.

“As government, we made a promise, and we are delivering on that promise.”

The Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, ZCCM-IH, MMR, and the North-Western Provincial Administration are currently on the ground in Mufumbwe facilitating the allocation process.

Kikonge is a prominent gold-mining area located in Mufumbwe

District in North-Western Province.

The site recently underwent a major security operation involving the Zambia Army, the Zambia

Police Service and other security wings, which cleared illegal mining activities in an effort to restore public safety and state control.

Following the operation, the area has transitioned into regulated mining activities, with the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development commencing the allocation of lawful mining tenements to formalize mineral extraction operations.



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# GOLD, ELECTIONS AND TRUST — WHY TIMING AND TRANSPARENCY MATTER

The allocation of 222 mining licences at the Kikonge gold site in Mufumbwe is, on the surface, a positive development. Formalising mining activities, empowering local communities and bringing artisanal mining into a regulated framework are all commendable objectives. Zambia has long spoken about ensuring that citizens benefit directly from the country's mineral wealth, and creating legal pathways for small-scale miners is part of that vision.

However, the timing of this exercise inevitably raises legitimate questions. With the country heading towards the August 13 General Election, Government must appreciate that even well-intentioned decisions will be viewed through a political lens. The challenge is not merely whether the licences are deserved; it is whether the process is seen to be beyond reproach.

In election periods, perception matters almost as much as reality.

Government says the allocations are fulfilling a promise. That may well be true. Yet when significant economic opportunities involving hundreds of mining licences are distributed just weeks before voters head to the polls, questions about fairness, transparency and political influence become unavoidable. Such concerns should not simply be dismissed as opposition rhetoric. They deserve clear, factual answers.

The first question is whether all eligible Zambians had

equal access to these opportunities.

Were the application criteria publicly advertised? Were the procedures transparent enough for anyone meeting the qualifications to participate? Were independent observers involved? How were successful applicants selected from the many people likely to have expressed interest?

These are not minor administrative details.

They determine whether the exercise builds confidence or breeds suspicion.

The second issue concerns security.

Kikonge only recently emerged from a major security operation involving the Zambia Army, the Zambia Police Service and other security agencies. Illegal mining had reached levels that threatened public safety, state authority and economic order. Restoring control was an important achievement.

But formalising mining is not simply about handing out licences.

Has the Government fully secured the area? Are there sufficient police and mining inspectors to enforce regulations? Have environmental assessments been completed? Are emergency response systems available in case of accidents? Have boundaries been properly surveyed to minimise future disputes?

History shows that newly

opened mining areas can quickly become flashpoints if these safeguards are weak. Illegal miners may attempt to return. Conflicts over boundaries can emerge. Criminal syndicates often target areas where valuable minerals are discovered. Without continuous enforcement, today's orderly allocation can become tomorrow's security challenge.

these essentials, licences risk becoming pieces of paper rather than engines of economic transformation.

Government must therefore move beyond allocation towards genuine support. Training programmes, access to affordable capital, extension services and transparent mineral marketing systems will ultimately

whatsoever.

Such openness protects both Government and beneficiaries from unnecessary suspicion.

The Kikonge licences could become a model for citizen participation in Zambia's mining industry. They could demonstrate that local communities can benefit directly from their natural resources while operating within a legal, safe and environmentally responsible framework.

But success will not be measured merely by the number of licences issued.

It will be measured by whether the process is trusted, whether security is maintained, whether communities genuinely benefit, and whether future generations inherit both the gold and the environment intact.

In matters involving elections and national resources, transparency is not an optional extra. It is the foundation upon which public confidence is built. Only through openness, accountability and proper safeguards can Government ensure that Kikonge is remembered as an economic milestone rather than an election controversy.

determine whether these licences improve livelihoods.

Perhaps the greatest responsibility lies in protecting public trust.

Natural resources belong to every Zambian, not to whichever political party happens to be in power. Decisions involving national assets must therefore withstand the highest standards of scrutiny, particularly during election periods.

This does not mean Government should stop making decisions simply because elections are approaching. Governance cannot be suspended every five years. Development must continue.

But when decisions involve valuable public resources, extra transparency becomes essential. Authorities should willingly publish allocation criteria, disclose beneficiary information where legally appropriate, explain the selection methodology and demonstrate that political affiliation played no role

Environmental protection also deserves greater attention.

Gold mining, especially at small-scale level, carries significant environmental risks. Poorly managed operations can contaminate rivers, destroy farmland and leave dangerous open pits. North-Western Province depends heavily on agriculture alongside mining. The two sectors should complement, not undermine, each other.

Every licence holder must therefore understand that mining rights also come with environmental responsibilities.

There is also the broader economic question.

While 222 licences represent an important start, issuing licences alone does not automatically create sustainable wealth. Many small-scale miners struggle because they lack financing, geological information, equipment and access to formal gold markets. Without

## MONEY EDITORIAL

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# SKILLS GAP EMERGES AS BIGGEST THREAT TO AFRICA'S GREEN ECONOMY

By The Star



Industry leaders and policymakers are warning that Africa's push to become a major player in the global green economy could be undermined by a growing shortage of skilled workers.

This coming even as governments, investors and development partners channel billions of dollars into renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, electric mobility and green manufacturing.

The experts are warning that the continent's workforce is not expanding fast enough to meet the demands of

emerging green industries, creating a critical bottleneck that could slow investment, delay projects and limit job creation.

The concern has emerged ahead of the GreenWorks 4 Africa Forum, a continental Green Skills and Jobs Summit scheduled for August in Nairobi, where governments, investors, businesses and education institutions will seek solutions to bridge the widening skills gap.

"Across the continent, there is a growing recognition that Africa's green transition must ultimately be measured not

only by emissions targets or climate commitments, but by its ability to create decent jobs, strengthen skills, support enterprise growth, and improve livelihoods," said Jacob's Ladder Africa Co-Founder and chief executive officer Sellah Bogonko.

The urgency of the challenge received a boost this week after the African Union Commission, through its Department of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI), joined a growing coalition of organisations supporting the initiative.

# ZIM, UGANDA DEEPEN AGRICULTURAL TIES AT REGIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

By News Day

Zimbabwe and Uganda have strengthened agricultural cooperation following a high-level farmers awards and exchange programme hosted by Ngabo Agricultural Research Institute, which focused on innovation, youth empowerment and sustainable farming practices across Africa.

The programme brought together farmers, researchers, agribusiness leaders and youth representatives from both countries to share experiences on improving productivity, value addition

and climate-smart agriculture.

Director of Ngabo Agricultural Research Institute, Richard Rwabitwa, said Zimbabwe's agricultural reforms and innovation-driven approach had positioned it as a key reference point for regional learning.

"Zimbabwe has demonstrated strong commitment to transforming agriculture through innovation, research and inclusive participation. The progress made in youth involvement and agricultural development is highly

commendable," said Rwabitwa.

"Through such exchanges, African countries are building stronger systems that allow farmers to learn from each other and adopt technologies that improve productivity and resilience," he added.

Zimbabwe's delegation, led by the agricultural youth desk, used the platform to showcase ongoing initiatives aimed at empowering young farmers and strengthening agribusiness development.



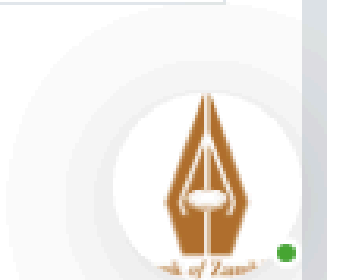
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## EXCHANGE RATES

Last updated: 22-06-2026

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING
ZMW / USD	17.8063	17.8558
ZMW / GBP	23.5809	23.6518
ZMW / EUR	20.3615	20.4199
ZMW / ZAR	1.0837	1.0872

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:

*Nchimunya Abishai Mweetwa*

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



## NKWAZI VOWS TO BOUNCE BACK AFTER ROAD ACCIDENT DISRUPTS MOPANI 7S CAMPAIGN

By Lucky Chama

Nkwazi Rugby Club has vowed to return stronger after its campaign at the Mopani 7s Tournament was disrupted by a road traffic accident that forced the team to forfeit one of its group stage matches.

The Lusaka-based side revealed in a statement posted on its official Facebook page that the team was involved in an accident along the Ndola-Kitwe Road while travelling to the tournament, resulting

in a walkover against Konkola Rugby Club.

Despite the setback, the club confirmed that all players and officials escaped the incident unharmed.

"We participated in the Mopani 7s tournament this past weekend, showcasing our skills and teamwork on the field," the club stated.

"Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances,

we had to forfeit one match against Konkola Rugby Club as our team was involved in a Road Traffic Accident along Ndola Kitwe road. Thankfully, everyone including all the Players and Officials were safe and we appreciate the support from our fans and the broader rugby community during the tournament."

According to the tournament results, Nkwazi lost the forfeited fixture 14-0 to Konkola before

recovering with a commanding 38-0 victory over Ndola Rugby Club. The Lusaka outfit narrowly lost 19-17 to Mufulira Leopards in their final group match before falling 12-0 to Red Arrows in the quarterfinals.

Reflecting on the tournament, the club praised the determination shown by its players despite the difficult circumstances.

"In the tournament, we

fought hard but were ultimately bowled out in the quarterfinals. Despite this setback, our players showed incredible resilience and spirit throughout the competition," the statement read.

Meanwhile, Green Eagles were crowned Mopani 7s champions after defeating Mufulira Leopards 24-14 in the final. The Zambia Air Force-sponsored side reached the final after edging Green Buffaloes 19-14 in the semi-finals.

## GERMANY DEFENDER SCHLOTTERBECK OUT OF WORLD CUP



By BBC - Germany defender Nico Schlotterbeck has been ruled out of the rest of the World Cup with an ankle injury.

already secured top spot in Group E and their progress into the last 32 before they face Ecuador on Thursday (21:00 BST), cannot call up a replacement as the tournament has started.

The 26-year-old left-footed centre-back suffered the problem in his side's 2-1 win against Ivory Coast on Saturday and was replaced by Antonio Rudiger at half-time.

Schlotterbeck had played the entirety of Germany's opening game at the 2026 World Cup - a 7-1 win against Curacao - scoring their second goal.

A Germany national team statement said Schlotterbeck "suffered an injury to the medial collateral ligament in his left ankle" and "will be out for several months". It added that the Borussia Dortmund player would "remain with the team in the USA for the time being".

"Schlotti will be greatly missed on the pitch as an outstanding defender, especially his excellent build-up play," said Germany manager Julian Nagelsmann.

"It could have been his World Cup. Yesterday, we all tried to lift his spirits - fortunately, he is a very positive character who is already looking ahead again.

Germany, who have



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## MWANSAPA NAMES PROVISIONAL ZAMBIA WOMEN'S SEVENS SQUAD

By Lucky Chama

Zambia Women's Rugby Sevens head coach Sydney Mwansapa has unveiled a provisional squad as preparations gather momentum for upcoming international assignments.

The provisional squad brings together players from leading clubs across the country, with Green Eagles, Green Buffaloes, Lusaka Rugby Club, Red Arrows and Mufulira Rugby Club all represented.

According to the Zambia Rugby Union, the announcement marks the beginning of a new chapter for the women's national sevens programme as the selected players begin the fight for places in the final squad.

"The future of Zambia

Women's Rugby continues to shine brighter with the announcement of the Provisional Sevens Squad. This milestone event signifies the start of a new journey, one that is filled with determination, discipline, and opportunity," the union said.

The union said the players have been presented with an opportunity to compete at the highest level while showcasing their talent in national colours.

"The selected players have been given a unique chance to rise to the challenge, compete at the highest level, and prove themselves on the national stage. As they embark on this exciting journey, they will be expected to demonstrate their skills, teamwork, and dedication to the sport," the statement read.

The Zambia Rugby Union urged the players to approach the call-up with commitment and professionalism.

"To every selected player, this is a momentous occasion, one that requires hard work, focus, and a deep sense of pride in representing their nation. The squad will be expected to uphold the values of Zambian rugby, both on and off the pitch, and to wear the badge with pride."

The union added that supporters would play a key role in inspiring the players as they prepare for future competitions.

"The nation is behind them every step of the way, providing unwavering support and encouragement as they strive for excellence. With the Provisional Sevens Squad in place, the stage is set for Zambia Women's Rugby to make a significant impact on the international rugby scene."

### Provisional Zambia Women's Sevens Squad:

**Green Eagles:** Jane Marise, Vimbai Sunga, Veronica Lungu, Prudence Chola, Christine Kunda.

**Green Buffaloes:** Leah Mbukwa, Mariana Kasonka, Biwalya Chibomba, Evelyn Njovu, Juliet Mwamba.

**Lusaka Rugby Club:** Mary Katontoka, Amanda Mulenga, Evelyn Kawaya, Jaqueline Tembo.

**Red Arrows:** Cecilia Kasonka, Jessy Juma, Dorothy Kasonka, Jessy Mwale, Carol Mitonga, Alice Phiri, Lushomo Liwena.

**Mufulira Rugby Club:** Ireen Mukelebai, Jennifer Chaonza and Beauty Hakaningi.

**ZAMBIA WOMENS SEVENS SELECTED PROVISIONAL SQUAD**

**EAGLES**  
JANE MARISE  
VIMBAI SUNGA  
VERONICA LUNGU  
PRUDENCE CHOLA  
CHRISTINE KUNDA

**LUSAKA**  
MARY KATONTOKA  
AMANDA MULENGA  
EVELYN KAWAYA  
JAQUELINE TEMBO

**ARROWS**  
CECILIA KASONKA  
JESSY JUMA  
DOROTHY KASONKA  
JESSY MWALE  
CAROL MTONGA  
ALICE PHIRI  
LUSHOMO LIWENA

**BUFFALOES**  
LEAH MBUKWA  
MARIANA KASONKA  
BWALYA CHIBOMBA  
EVERLYN NJOVU  
JULIET MWAMBA

**MUFULIRA**  
IREEN MUKELEBAI  
JENIPHER CHAONZA  
BEAUTY HAKANINGI