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LOWER INFLATION SHOULD EASE HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS

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FALLING INFLATION RAISES EXPECTATIONS FOR COST OF LIVING RELIEF, PUTS PRESSURE ON GOVT - ECONOMIST

By Cecilia Chiluba



Partner Siabutuba

An Economist says the continued decline in Zambia's inflation rate is increasing public expectations for a reduction in the cost of living while placing growing pressure on the government to ensure citizens begin to experience tangible economic relief.

According to Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats), the annual inflation rate for June declined to 6.5 percent from 6.6% recorded in May 2026, owing to price movements in both food and non-food items.

Speaking in an interview with Money News, Partner Siabutuba said while the trend reflects positive economic progress, citizens are now expecting lower prices for goods and services, particularly essential commodities.

Mr. Siabutuba stated that the reduction in inflation indicates that some economic fundamentals are beginning to stabilize,

but warned that managing public expectations will be critical.

"It is also putting pressure on both the citizens and the government. The pressure is in two ways; citizens are highly expectant that as inflation continues to go down, the cost of living is also going to become cheaper, commodities and services are expected to be cheap, and this expectation is what government now must manage.," Mr. Siabutuba said.

He explained that citizens expect to feel the impact of lower inflation through reduced prices of basic goods and services and that government will be expected to respond accordingly.

"So it is exerting pressure on government to now respond in line with inflation to ensure that once citizens are trying to access these services and goods, they must find them cheap," he said.

Mr. Siabutuba noted that

among the major expectations is the impact of Zambia's reported bumper harvest on food prices, especially mealie meal, which remains a key household commodity.

He acknowledged that some reductions in mealie meal prices had already been observed on the market but noted that the public expects further decreases.

"Of course, we have seen some reduction in mealie meal on the market, but citizens expect much more in general terms, going slightly lower than what we're experiencing now when inflation was high," Mr. Siabutuba stressed.

Mr. Siabutuba, however, cautioned that uncertainties remain regarding whether lower food prices can be sustained throughout the year.

He said several factors, including the price at which the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) will purchase maize from

farmers and market conditions later in the year, would influence future mealie meal prices.

"We are not very sure whether the cost of mealie meal is going to be sustained going lower even as we are going towards the end of the year," he added.

The Economist warned that if citizens do not experience visible improvements in their daily lives despite lower inflation figures, frustration could emerge.

Mr. Siabutuba stressed that while government has a role in managing the situation, citizens must also understand that inflation trends do not automatically translate into immediate price reductions.

He added that the economy ultimately needs to deliver broader relief by making essential goods and services more affordable for ordinary citizens.

COURT JAILS ZAMBIAN NATIONAL 24 MONTHS FOR AIDING PROHIBITED IMMIGRANT

By Money Daily Reporter



Livingstone Magistrate Court has convicted and sentenced a 44 year old Zambian national, to 24 months imprisonment with hard labour, effective from 26th February, 2026, for aiding and abetting a prohibited immigrant.

Moses Ndamba Nzenge, was apprehended on 24th February, 2026 after Officers at the Livingstone Passport Office became suspicious of a Congolese national who had presented himself to acquire a Zambian National Registration Card using the alias Brighton Kunda and alerted the Livingstone Regional Immigration Office.

Department of Immigration Chief Public Relations Officer, Namati Nshinka said further investigations established that the Congolese national had travelled from Lusaka to Livingstone in the company of Mr. Nzenge, who had knowingly facilitated the journey for the purpose of enabling him to fraudulently obtain Zambian identity documents.

"The investigations further revealed that the convict had received the prohibited immigrant in Lusaka before accompanying him to Livingstone, where both spent the night before proceeding to the

Passport Office the following morning. Following the expiry of his authorized period without applying for an extension of stay or any other immigration status. Mr. Nshinka said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nshinka revealed that on 29th June, 2026, the Nakonde Magistrate Court convicted an American national of Somali origin, on five counts under the Immigration and Deportation Act.

He said Mohamed Hassan Mohamed 58, was apprehended on 15th June, 2026 by an Immigration Officer manning the exit counters at Nakonde Border Control while attempting to leave Zambia.

Mr. Nshinka explained that during routine exit formalities, officers discovered irregularities in his travel documents, prompting further investigations.

"The investigations established that Mohamed Hassan Mohamed was in possession of four forged Immigration endorsement stamps, purporting to show that he had entered and exited Zambia through Nakonde Border Control on various occasions between September 2021 and January 2022," he stated.

He said investigators further established that the convict had

remained in Zambia unlawfully after the expiry of his authorized period without applying for an extension of stay or any other immigration status.

"He was consequently charged with four counts of possession of forged Immigration endorsement stamps and one count of remaining in Zambia after the expiry of his permit," Mr. Nshinka revealed.

"Upon conviction, the court sentenced him to two years imprisonment with hard labour on each of the four counts relating to possession of forged Immigration endorsement stamps, with the sentences running concurrently. On the fifth count of remaining in Zambia after the expiry of his permit, he was fined K3,000 or, in default, four months simple imprisonment."

Mr. Nshinka warned the public against aiding or abetting prohibited immigrants or participating in schemes aimed at fraudulently obtaining Zambian identity or immigration documents.

He also reminded foreign nationals to comply with the conditions of their stay and to refrain from using or being in possession of forged immigration documents or endorsements, as such offences attract severe penalties under the law.

COMESA URGES INCLUSIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION TO EXPAND REGIONAL TRADE

By Cecilia Chiluba



Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretary General says Africa must urgently harness digital technologies to bridge development gaps, strengthen regional competitiveness and create a more inclusive and sustainable economic future.

Speaking during the opening of the COMESA Institutions Awareness Forum in Tunis, Tunisia, Chileshe Kapwepwe said this year's theme; "Expanding Intra-African Horizons: Digital Innovation as a Driver for Inclusive and Sustainable Access to COMESA Markets," reflects the growing importance of digital innovation in shaping Africa's economic trajectory.

"Digital transformation must work for everyone not only large corporations, but also the small and medium-sized enterprises,

women and young people who remain at the heart of COMESA's regional integration agenda," Ms. Kapwepwe stated.

Ms. Kapwepwe stressed that the gathering formed part of COMESA's wider effort to bring the regional bloc closer to citizens while increasing awareness of opportunities created through regional integration.

She commended Tunisia for its economic transformation, stating that the country's location at the crossroads of Africa and Europe, its dynamic private sector and its strong commitment to innovation and digital development made it an ideal host for this year's Forum.

And Tunisia's Minister of Trade and Export Development, Samir Abid, said digital innovation had become central to Africa's trade

agenda and economic future through tariff liberalization, removal of trade barriers and modernization of trade systems.

"The future of African trade depends on our ability to modernize trade procedures, strengthen digital infrastructure and deploy smart solutions across logistics, customs and electronic payment systems," he said.

"These innovations are essential to reducing costs, accelerating transactions and making our enterprises particularly small and medium-sized businesses more competitive."

Mr. Abid described digitalization as a key driver of inclusive growth, noting that it creates greater access to regional markets for young people,," Mr. Abid added.

women and entrepreneurs while supporting the growth of e-commerce and more efficient cross-border trade.

He further reaffirmed Tunisia's commitment to regional integration, citing reforms aimed at improving the business environment through expanded digital trade services, simplified administrative procedures and a more attractive investment climate.

"These efforts complement the objectives of both COMESA and

the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), while drawing Tunisian enterprises more deeply into regional and continental value chains

Stressing the value of partnerships, he called on the private sector, financial institutions, business organizations, innovation hubs and specialized COMESA institutions including the COMESA Business Council and the Federation of National Associations of Women in Business (COMFWB) to keep fostering investment, innovation and enterprise development across the region.

The Forum forms the centrepiece of the third edition of COMESA Week being held in Tunis from June 29 to 30, 2026, and has attracted heads and chief executives of COMESA institutions, policymakers, representatives of regional and international organizations, business leaders and private sector stakeholders.

The event continues with technical discussions, networking engagements and business sessions focused on accelerating digital trade, strengthening regional value chains and promoting inclusive economic integration across Eastern and Southern Africa.

ZEMA GREENLIGHTS US\$1.1 BILLION CRUDE OIL REFINERY PLANT IN NDOLA

By Cecilia Chiluba



Ruth Kamwi

Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) has approved the establishment of a Crude Oil Refinery Plant by Zambia Petrochemical Energy Company (ZPEC) Limited in Ndola, at an investment cost of US\$1.1 billion.

The refinery, to be located adjacent to Indeni Energy Company Limited in the Bwana Mkubwa Area, is projected to produce three million metric tonnes of refined petroleum products per annum, marking a significant milestone in Zambia's pursuit of energy self-sufficiency.

The approval was granted among 77 projects, out of 87 considered, by the Environmental Assessments Committee of the 6th

ZEMA Board during its June sitting.

ZEMA Manager-Corporate Affairs, Ruth Kamwi said in a statement that the project is expected to transform Zambia's energy landscape by reducing the country's heavy reliance on imported refined petroleum products, which has long strained the national economy and exposed consumers to volatile global fuel prices.

"Once operational, the refinery is anticipated to add significant value to the energy supply chain, improve fuel security, and contribute meaningfully to government revenues through taxes and levies," she said.

She stated that other the approved projects span key sectors

including 30 mining and mineral processing projects, 15 energy projects, 11 infrastructure development projects.

Ms. Kamwi added that others include 14 manufacturing and processing projects, and 7 agriculture and forestry projects, while the Board rejected six and and deferred four.

"ZEMA reaffirms its commitment to upholding the law and all applicable regulations in the evaluation and approval of all projects, balancing economic growth with the protection of Zambia's natural environment and safe guarding human health," she added.

IMPROVED ANIMAL MOVEMENT REGULATIONS TO GENERATE K610 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR LIVESTOCK SECTOR

By Money Daily Reporter



Central Veterinary Research Institute says improved Animal Movement and Transport Regulations will attract a K610 million income to the Livestock sector annually.

This came to light when the Institute paid a courtesy call on Lusaka Provincial Administration Permanent Secretary, Engineer Joe Kalusa ahead of a consultative meeting by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock.

Institute Principal Research Scientist, Alikhadio Maseko, said the current Animal Health Act number 27 of 2010 requires further improvements regulation that govern livestock movement.

“Poorly regulated movement of livestock is not good. We need a strong regulatory framework. It will provide strong traceability system and a

cost benefit analysis has been done to this effect,” Mr. Maseko stated. And Eng. Kalusa applauded all stakeholders for their commitment to strengthening the livestock sector.

“The government has put up policies that have ensured the livestock sub-sector is a critical pillar of Zambia’s agricultural economy, contributing significantly to food and nutrition security, employment creation, household incomes, poverty reduction, and economic growth” Eng. Kalusa said.

He noted that livestock plays an important role in supporting rural livelihoods and supplying quality animal protein to the growing urban population.

Eng. Kalusa stressed that Lusaka province occupies a unique and strategic position within Zambia’s livestock value chain. “Lusaka is the country’s largest consumer market and a major destination for cattle, goats, sheep, pigs,

poultry and a wide range of livestock products originating from all provinces,” he added.

“Because of its central location and extensive road network, Lusaka serves as a major transit corridor through which thousands of animals are transported daily to markets, abattoirs, processing facilities and distribution centres.”

He said the revised regulations will help to strengthen animal disease prevention, surveillance and control, improve traceability and accountability in livestock movements, promote compliance with national animal health standards, reduce illegal and uncontrolled movement of livestock, protect consumers through safer livestock products, facilitate orderly livestock marketing and trade.

Eng. Kalusa added that sustainable livestock development requires a balance between increased production, animal health, environmental protection

and market access.

He expressed confidence that the meeting will produce practical recommendations that will strengthen the animal movement and transport regulations.

The Permanent Secretary emphasized that the revised regulations should enhance bio-security and disease control, improve efficiency in livestock movement and transportation, promote fair and transparent livestock trade, safeguard public health, contribute to increased livestock productivity and national economic growth.

“Government remains committed to creating an enabling policy and regulatory environment that supports a modern, productive and sustainable livestock sector for Lusaka province and Zambia as a whole,” he said.

This is according to a statement issued by Lusaka Provincial Administration Principal Public Relations Officer, Logic Lukwanda.

GOVT URGES AGRO-DEALERS TO SUBMIT COMPLETE DOCUMENTS FOR 2026/2027 FISP E-VOUCHER PROGRAMME

By Cecilia Chiluba



Balewa Zyuulu

Ministry of Agriculture said. He further urged the agro-dealers to ensure that all required documents are submitted in full and in the correct format to avoid delays or disqualification from the programme. “The Ministry further advises that incomplete or incorrect submissions will not be processed.” he added. Mr. Zyuulu encouraged all applicants to strictly adhere to the established guidelines and regulatory requirements as communicated through official channels governing the FISP E-Voucher programme, which will be implemented in all 116 districts across the country.

Ministry’s Principal Public Relations Officer, Balewa Zyuulu emphasized that submission of full and accurate documents is a mandatory requirement under the FISP E-Voucher programme, which will be implemented in all 116 districts across the country.

“This is essential to ensure proper vetting, approval, and seamless participation in the forthcoming farming season,” Mr. Zyuulu

dates to be communicated in the month of July 2026. The trainings will be conducted in all the Ten Provincial Headquarters across the country,” he said. He explained that the programme is aimed at strengthening the capacity of agro-dealers and relevant officers in preparation for the 2026/2027 farming season. “The training will focus on systems compliance, operational procedures, and improved service delivery within the FISP E-Voucher agricultural input supply chain,” Mr. Zyuulu added.

“The Ministry of Agriculture remains committed to supporting all stakeholders in the agricultural sector and ensuring a smooth and successful 2026/2027 farming season.”

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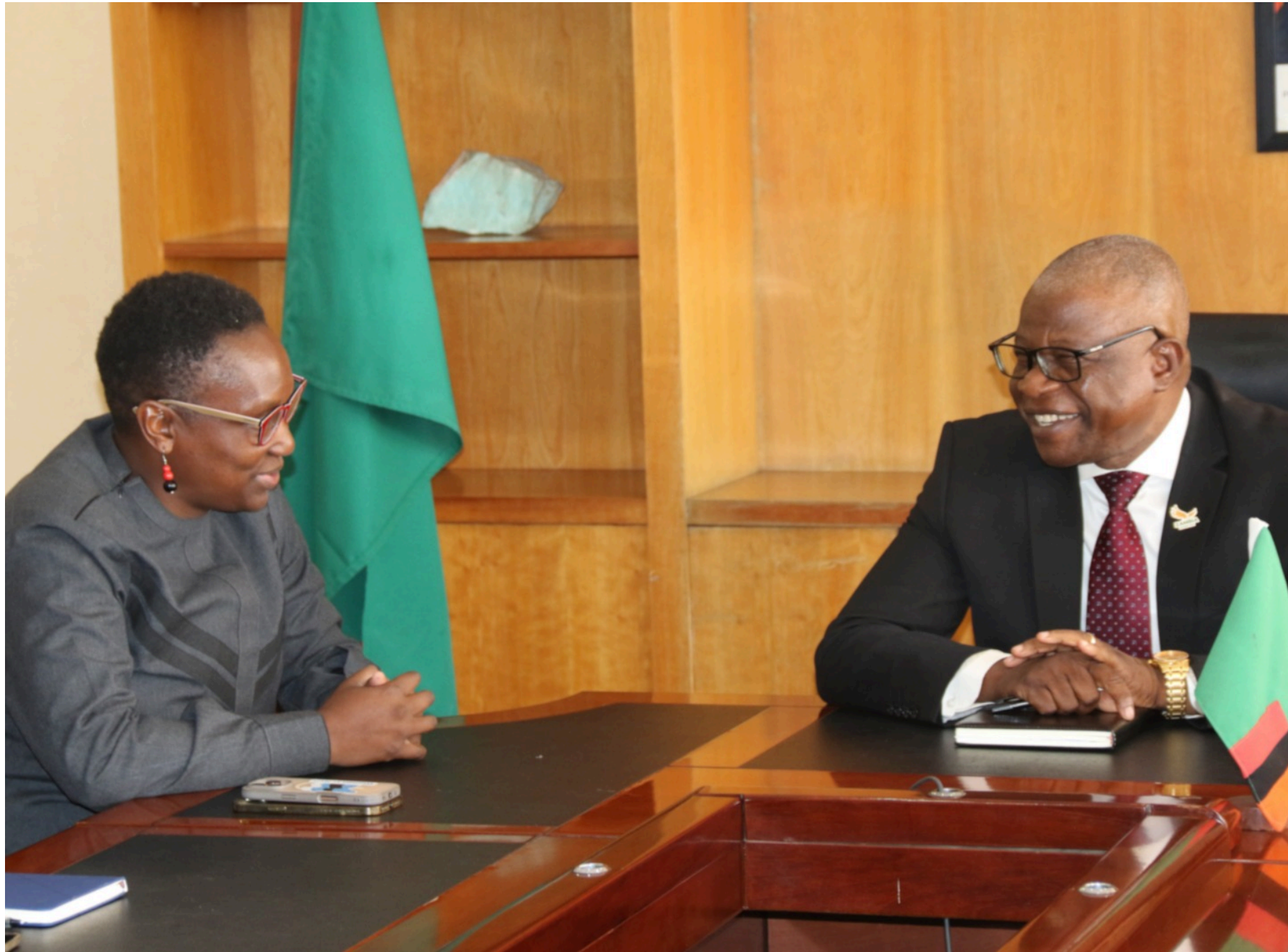
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MINGOMBA COPPER MINES SET TO EXPAND REINVESTMENT IN SOUTHERN ZAMBIA

By Cecilia Chiluba



Mingomba Copper Mines Project has announced renewed plans to expand its reinvestment programme into the southern part of Zambia.

The move is aimed at strengthening the mine's long-term production footprint and deepening linkages with the country's broader mining value chain.

Mingomba Mine is set to become Zambia's largest Copper Mine with projected production capacity of over 300,000 metric tons per year with an estimated investment of about US\$2.5 Billion.

Mine Chief Executive Officer, Mfikeyi Makayi said the reinvestment

drive will focus on enhancing exploration activities, infrastructure development, and preparatory works expected to support large-scale copper production in the coming years.

"The expansion into the southern region also forms part of the company's strategy to diversify its operational footprint and improve logistical efficiency within Zambia's mining sector," Ms. Makayi said.

Ms. Makayi made the remarks when she led a delegation from Mingomba Mine in paying a courtesy call on Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, Permanent Secretary Dr. Hapenga Kabeta.

She also introduced the company's new Vice President of Projects, Damian Rogers, who will oversee the technical and project development work for the Mingomba Mine.

Meanwhile, Dr. Kabeta reaffirmed Government's expectation that the Mingomba Copper Mines Project remains firmly on course to commence copper production in the early 2030s.

He described the timeline as critical to Zambia's mineral output growth strategy and broader economic transformation agenda.

Dr. Kabeta emphasized that while the Government welcomes continued reinvestment and project

development activities, the ultimate measure of success will be the timely commencement of production.

"Zambia's ambition to significantly increase copper output depends on major projects such as Mingomba progressing decisively from the development stage into commercial production within the agreed timelines," he stated.

He added that the Government will continue to closely monitor the project's progress, ensuring compliance with key development milestones while maintaining a stable, transparent, and predictable investment environment.

HELSEB AWARDS 273 STUDENT LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2026/2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

By Cecilia Chiluba



Higher Education Loans and Scholarships Board (HELSEB) has awarded 273 student loans and scholarships to eligible first-year students for the 2026/2027 academic year.

The awards include 249 student loans at Palabana University, 21 at Kapasa Makasa University (KMU), and three at Copperbelt University.

HELSEB Manager-Corporate Affairs, Chiselwa Kawanda said the awards were made in accordance with the Board's approved award framework.

Ms. Kawanda explained that the framework incorporates means testing, academic merit, provincial representation, and gender balancing to ensure fairness and equitable access to higher education financing.

She disclosed that at Palabana University, the Board received a

total of 639 applications for sponsorship, of which 567 applicants met the eligibility criteria.

"72 applications were found to be ineligible for the following reasons: completion of Grade 12 before 2021, submission of incomplete or incorrect documentation, exceeding the maximum age limit of 26 years, attaining more than 30 admission points, and applying as continuing students instead of first-year students," she explained.

"The geographical distribution of eligible applicants at Palabana University was as follows: rural: 467 applicants or 82%, urban: 100 applicants representing 18%."

Ms. Kawanda stated that provincial allocations were determined based on the proportion of eligible applicants from each province, with province-specific cut-off points

established separately for male and female applicants to promote equitable regional and gender representation.

She added that the Board has awarded 21 first-year students at Kapasa Makasa University.

"These awards are being provided under a cost-sharing arrangement following the University's commitment to provide a 50 percent tuition scholarship to the beneficiaries," she added.

Ms. Kawanda further revealed that three first-year students at Copperbelt University have been awarded student loans after meeting the prescribed eligibility requirements.

"HELSEB remains committed to expanding equitable access to quality higher education by providing financial support to deserving and financially vulnerable students across the country," Ms. Kawanda said.



FORMER CHIFUNABULI MP URGES BROADER DEBATE ON ZAMBIA'S AGRICULTURAL FUTURE

By Money Daily Reporter



Former Chifunabuli Member of Parliament has cautioned against reducing Zambia's agricultural agenda to what he described as campaign slogans centered on fertiliser distribution.

Ponde Mecha argued that the country needs a broader and more comprehensive strategy for agricultural transformation.

In a statement, Mr. Mecha said agriculture should not be viewed through a single issue but rather as a complete system that supports productivity and long-term growth.

He questioned whether Zambia's largest productive sector could be reduced to fertiliser distribution alone.

"Can the future of Zambia's largest productive sector really be contained in a fertiliser bag? That is the question every voter should ask before casting a ballot in this year's general election," he said.

Mr. Mecha stated that

while campaign messaging around fertiliser allocation may resonate with farmers who have concerns about the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP), such discussions risk shifting attention away from wider issues affecting agricultural development.

"One of the unfortunate developments in this year's campaign is the tendency to reduce agriculture to a single slogan: 'Fertiliser Pambale.' While such messaging resonates with genuine frustrations surrounding the FISP, it risks diverting the country from a much bigger conversation about how to transform agriculture into a competitive and prosperous sector," Mr. Mecha stated.

Drawing on his experience as an agronomist who has worked in Zambia's agricultural sector since 1994, Mr. Mecha said the practice of cooperative members sharing farming inputs due to limited allocations is not new and has existed under different administrations.

"Whenever a cooperative had more eligible members

than the input allocation it received, members frequently shared fertiliser and seed among themselves in the spirit of solidarity. It was never an ideal arrangement, but a practical response to limited allocations," he said.

He added that the focus should instead be on reducing long-term dependence on subsidies by improving productivity and strengthening key components of the agricultural sector.

"The real challenge is therefore not whether fertiliser has been shared. The challenge is how Zambia gradually builds an agricultural sector where farmers depend less on subsidies because productivity, irrigation, finance, markets and value addition have improved," Mr. Mecha stressed.

Mr. Mecha further argued that agriculture should be assessed through a systems approach, stating that a strong agricultural sector requires more than the supply of farming inputs.

"An agricultural system includes research, quality seed, irrigation, mechanization, extension services, affordable finance, storage, rural roads, agro-processing, commodity markets, exports, insurance, digital technologies and private investment. Fertiliser is an important input, but it is only one component of a much larger value chain," he said.

He also urged voters to critically assess political manifestos and examine proposed policies aimed at expanding irrigation, agricultural financing, mechanization and export competitiveness.

"The ultimate objective should be to build a modern agricultural economy that creates jobs, earns foreign exchange, guarantees food security and drives industrialization," Mr. Mecha stated.

He added that while campaign slogans may attract support, long-term agricultural development requires well-structured policy measures.

FUEL TAX RELIEF EXTENSION COULD STILL SUPPORT ZAMBIA'S ECONOMIC STABILITY

By Kelvin Chisanga



As Zambia's temporary VAT zero-rating and Excise Duty suspension on petrol and diesel expires today, there is a reasonable expectation that Government could extend the relief to safeguard recent macroeconomic gains.

With global oil prices remaining uncertain, an extension would help cushion households and businesses from higher fuel costs while limiting inflationary pressures.

Fuel is a key input across agriculture, mining and manufacturing, meaning any sharp increase in pump prices could raise the cost of living and production.

Zambia's stronger foreign exchange reserves, improved agricultural output, easing inflation and a relatively stable Kwacha provide policymakers with greater flexibility.

However, any extension must be carefully balanced against the need to strengthen domestic revenue and maintain fiscal discipline.

If implemented, it should remain temporary and targeted, preserving economic stability while supporting Zambia's long-term fiscal consolidation objectives.



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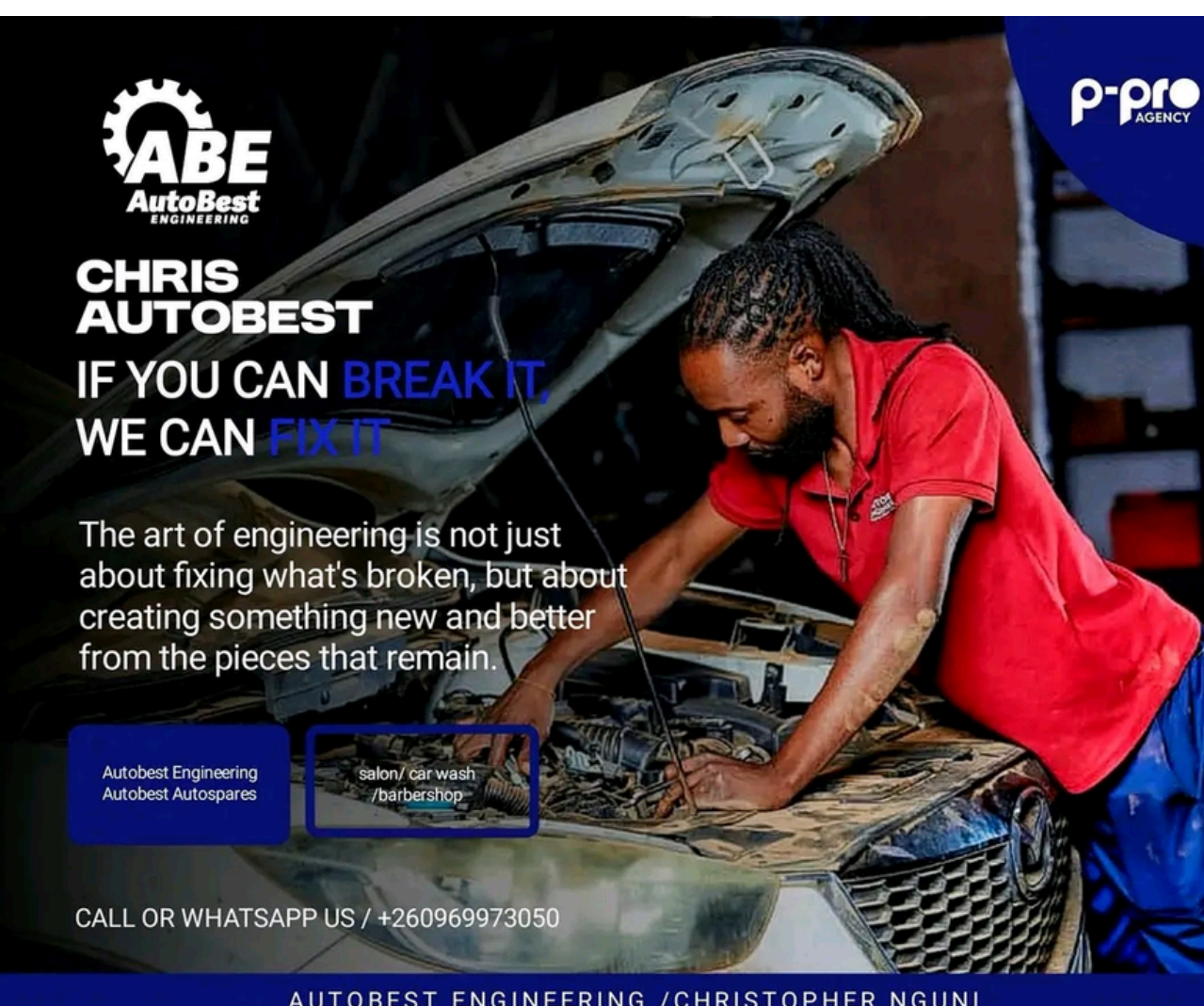
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ZAMBIA CAN BUILD A THRIVING BEEF INDUSTRY BY LEARNING FROM REGIONAL SUCCESS

The revelation that improved animal movement and transport regulations could generate an additional K610 million annually for Zambia's livestock sector should be viewed as more than just a regulatory reform. It is a reminder that the livestock industry, particularly beef production, remains one of the country's most underutilised economic assets.

Across Southern Africa, the beef industry has long demonstrated its potential to generate wealth, create jobs and earn valuable foreign exchange. Countries such as Botswana, Namibia and South Africa have built internationally respected beef industries through consistent investment in animal health, traceability systems, disease control and market development. Zambia possesses many of the same natural advantages, yet has not fully unlocked the sector's potential.

Botswana provides perhaps the clearest lesson. Despite having a relatively small population, the country has developed a globally recognised beef export industry. Strict animal identification systems, effective veterinary services and adherence to international sanitary standards have enabled Botswana to access premium export markets for decades. The country's beef sector supports thousands of farmers while contributing significantly to national revenue.

Namibia has followed a

similar path. Through rigorous livestock traceability, quarantine controls and investment in processing facilities, the country has established itself as a trusted supplier of high-quality beef to international markets. Farmers benefit not only from local sales but also from higher prices available through exports.

South Africa's livestock industry demonstrates another important lesson. Rather than focusing solely on cattle production, the country has invested across the entire value chain. Feedlots, abattoirs, meat processing plants, leather manufacturing, cold-chain logistics and retail markets all contribute to creating employment and adding value before products reach consumers.

These examples illustrate that successful livestock industries are not built by increasing cattle numbers alone. They require strong institutions, sound regulations and investment across the value chain.

Zambia already possesses many advantages.

The country has vast grazing land, abundant water resources in many regions and a growing domestic market. Rural communities have traditionally depended on cattle for income, food security and social status. Provinces such as Southern, Western, Central and Eastern have long histories of

livestock production.

However, recurring disease outbreaks, weak traceability systems and illegal livestock movements continue to undermine confidence in the sector.

This is why the proposed improvements to animal movement regulations deserve support.

be viewed as only the beginning. The wider economic gains could be much larger if Zambia succeeds in developing a competitive beef export industry.

The livestock sector also offers enormous opportunities for rural development.

Unlike some industries concentrated in urban centres,

encouraging private sector participation. Financial institutions, processors and exporters all have critical roles to play in building an efficient livestock value chain capable of competing regionally and internationally.

Zambia should not aim merely to satisfy domestic demand. The country's ambition should be to become one of Southern Africa's leading beef producers and exporters.

The experiences of Botswana, Namibia and South Africa demonstrate that this goal is achievable. They have shown that with disciplined regulation, effective disease control and long-term investment, livestock can become a major driver of economic growth.

The proposed animal movement regulations represent an important foundation. If combined with continued investment and effective enforcement, they could transform Zambia's livestock sector from one with untapped promise into one that generates sustainable wealth for farmers, creates employment for thousands and contributes significantly to national economic prosperity.

The opportunity is before us. The region has already shown what is possible. Zambia now has every reason to follow that path.

Government has already recognised livestock as a strategic pillar of agricultural development. The challenge now is ensuring that policy reforms are implemented effectively and supported by investment.

Farmers need better veterinary services, accessible vaccines, extension support and improved market information. Investments in modern abattoirs, cold storage facilities and transport infrastructure would further strengthen the sector's competitiveness.

Equally important is



An effective animal identification and movement tracking system allows authorities to quickly respond to disease outbreaks, protect healthy livestock populations and assure buyers that meat products meet acceptable health standards. It also helps reduce cattle theft, which remains a serious challenge for many farmers.

Beyond disease control, better regulation opens doors to international markets.

Global beef buyers increasingly demand complete traceability. They want assurance regarding where animals originated, how they were raised and whether they complied with veterinary requirements. Countries unable to provide such guarantees struggle to compete in premium export markets.

The estimated K610 million annual benefit from improved regulations should therefore

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RÖSSING HITS 10-YEAR HIGH WITH N\$1B PROFIT

By The Namibian



Rössing Uranium recorded its highest production of uranium oxide in more than a decade in 2025, generating over N\$1 billion in profit.

The mine in the Erongo region is the longest-running uranium mine in the world and is majority-owned by the China National Uranium Corporation.

The company's 2025 sustainability and performance report, released on Friday, shows the company paid N\$750 million in taxes, royalties, and dividends in Namibia. "The company recorded one

of its strongest operational performances in recent years, successfully processing 10 million tonnes of ore through its mills, achieving the highest mill throughput since 2013," spokesperson Daylight Ekandjo says.

Rössing produced over 3 000 tonnes of uranium oxide for the first time since 2010.

"Our 2025 performance reflects the dedication of our employees, contractors and stakeholders who continue to drive operational excellence while maintaining a strong focus on safety, sustainability and community development,"

managing director Joan Coetzee says.

Rössing decreased the number of injuries in 2025 compared to 2024, with one permanent disabling injury, according to the report.

The company also spent N\$27 million on skills development and N\$46 million in community development initiatives, most of which is channelled through the Rössing Foundation. Speaking at the launch of the report on Friday, minister of industries, mines and energy Modestus Amutse called Rössing a reliable partner for Namibia's development.

MALAWI TO BENEFIT FROM K354BN UN EL NIÑO APPEAL

By The Nation

Malawi is among countries projected to be hard hit by El Niño weather phenomenon and set to benefit from a \$202 million (about K354 billion) joint appeal by two United Nations (UN) agencies.

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) said apart from Malawi, others making the list are Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In the joint statement published through FAO page

on Saturday, the two agencies announced their first-ever Joint Anticipatory Action Appeal to help protect nearly 8.8 million people from the expected impacts of a strong El Niño weather phenomenon.

FAO deputy director-general Beth Bechdol is quoted in the statement as having said: "We have the data, the tools and the evidence to identify risks before they become emergencies. The challenge is ensuring that financing is available early enough to act."

On his part, WFP acting executive director Carl Skau said the tools to anticipate

such events are available, but what matters is how they act on that knowledge.

"We cannot afford the fallout of another food crisis. With El Niño on the horizon, we have a narrow window to act so families are not forced into impossible choices later," he said.

The required funding will support a package of anticipatory actions tailored to individual local contexts, including cash assistance, the distribution of drought-tolerant and/or flood-resistant seeds, livestock protection measures and water harvesting.



EXCHANGE RATES

ZMW/USD Commercial Bank Rates for 30/06/2026

Bank Name	9:30				12:30				15:30		
	Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy
ABSA BANK ZAMBIA PLC	18.0000	18.0500	18.0000	18.2559	18.0000	18.0500	17.9500	18.2559	18.0000	18.0500	17.9500
ACCESS BANK ZAMBIA LIMITED	18.0900	18.1400	18.0900	18.3000	18.1350	18.1850	18.1350	18.3000	18.1350	18.1850	18.1350
BANK OF CHINA (ZAMBIA) LIMITED	18.0500	18.1000	18.0500	18.2200	18.0500	18.1000	18.0500	18.2200	18.0500	18.1000	18.0500
CITIBANK ZAMBIA LIMITED	18.0750	18.1250	18.0500	18.3750	18.1000	18.1500	18.0500	18.3750	18.1000	18.1500	18.0500
ECOBANK ZAMBIA LIMITED	18.0500	18.1000	18.0000	18.2750	18.0500	18.1000	18.0000	18.2750	18.0750	18.1250	18.0000
FIRST ALLIANCE BANK ZAMBIA LIMITED	18.0500	18.1000	18.0000	18.2500	18.0500	18.1000	18.0000	18.2500	18.0500	18.1000	18.0000

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.

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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.



KASAMA SPORTS STADIUM VIP SECTION GETS MAJOR UPGRADE

By Lucky Chama

The rehabilitation of Kasama Sports Stadium has reached another milestone, with the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) Northern Province Executive Committee completing the installation of modern seating in the venue's VIP section.

football and other sporting events.

According to FAZ Northern Province, plans are also underway to install additional chairs and construct technical bench areas aimed at improving spectator comfort and enhancing the overall match-day experience.

FAZ Northern Province Chairperson Chikonde Mbalazi, accompanied by Youth Representative Donald Mwelwa and

Regional Secretary Leonard Nkhata, recently inspected the rehabilitation works. The delegation expressed satisfaction with the progress made and reaffirmed the Executive Committee's commitment to delivering the project to the highest standard.

The rehabilitation programme is in line with FAZ's broader vision of improving football infrastructure across the country and creating an enabling environment for

the growth of the game at all levels.

Once completed, the upgraded stadium is expected to provide a suitable venue for league matches, youth competitions and other sporting activities in Northern Province.

FAZ said the continued transformation of Kasama Sports Stadium represents another important step towards strengthening football development in the

region through improved infrastructure.

The association reiterated its commitment to investing in quality sporting facilities that will not only benefit players and officials but also improve the experience for supporters attending matches.

The facelift of the VIP section is one of several improvements planned as work continues to restore the stadium to full operational status.

COPPER QUEENS FIXTURE CONFIRMED



By Lucky Chama - The Morocco taking on Kenya in fixtures for the 2026 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) have been confirmed, with Zambia's Copper Queens set to begin their campaign against Egypt on July 28 in Rabat.

Zambia has been drawn in a competitive Group C alongside nine-time champions Nigeria, Egypt and Malawi.

The Copper Queens will open their tournament against Egypt before facing continental heavyweights Nigeria on August 1. Nora Häuptle's side will wrap up the group stage against Malawi on August 5, with all three matches to be played in Rabat.

The tournament will kick off on July 26 with hosts

the opening match, while defending champions South Africa begin the defence of their title against Tanzania on July 27.

The quarter-finals are scheduled for August 8 and 9, followed by the semi-finals on August 12. The third-place play-off will be played on August 15 before the final takes place on August 16.

The competition will also feature FIFA Women's World Cup qualification play-off matches on August 13.

- Zambia's Group C Fixtures
- 28 July: Zambia vs Egypt (18:00) – Olympic Stadium, Rabat
 - 1 August: Nigeria vs Zambia (21:00) – Al Madina Stadium, Rabat
 - 5 August: Malawi vs Zambia (21:00) – Al Madina Stadium, Rabat



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THINK BUSINESS



WELWITSCHIAS OVERPOWER ZAMBIA

By The Namibian

A new-look Namibian Welwitschias gave an impressive display as they overpowered Zambia for a runaway 71-12 victory on Sunday.

In Namibia's first match of the year, a few stalwarts turned out but an array of new exciting talent was fielded and they grabbed the chance with some sparkling attacking rugby, scoring 11 tries.

Fullback Jaylon Carew led the way with a hat-trick of tries, while eighthman Adriaan Booysen scored two and Ruan Ludick, Kistings Minyoi, Obert Nortje, Max Katjijeko, Aston Mukwiilongo and JP Campbell one each. Wiks Tromp added five conversions and Carew three.

Zambia scored two tries

through eighthman Rodgers Mukapa and prop Lawrence Lesa, while fullback Pery Mwape added one conversion.

Namibia came out attacking and took an early lead when Booysen crashed over from a maul and after a great run by captain Prince !Gaoseb, Ludick went over from a line-out maul, and with Tromp converting both, Namibia went 14-0 ahead.

Zambia regained the initiative as they camped on Namibia's tryline and finally opened their account when Mukupa went over from a forward maul.

Zambia continued to attack but Namibia defended superbly and took a decisive lead when they scored three tries in quick succession towards the end of the first half.



Lock Minyoi and hooker Nortje barged over from mauls, while Katjijeko rounded off a flowing attack and with Tromp converting two, Namibia took a commanding 33-5 lead at the half-time break.

The hard working Booysen extended Namibia's lead with a great try, running 70m to touch down, while Mukwiilongo went over in the corner to put them 45-5 ahead early in the second half.

Zambia fought back but Namibia kept them at bay with some ferocious tackles and the momentum gradually swung back to the home team.



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Catherine Mwape Boxing

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