

WHO TOOK THE FARMERS' MONEY?

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TBZ VERIFIES REPORTS OF UNAUTHORIZED LOAN DEDUCTIONS FROM TOBACCO SALES

By Cecilia Chiluba



Tobacco Board of Zambia (TBZ) says it has initiated a verification process following reports that some tobacco growers had loan recoveries deducted from their crop sales despite never contracting the loans.

TBZ Executive Director, Robert Mwale said the verification exercise is aimed at establishing the facts surrounding the reported cases and ensuring that affected growers receive the necessary assistance.

He emphasized that the exercise is intended to ensure that every legitimate complaint is investigated and resolved in accordance with the law and established procedures.

“The Board is aware that during the 2025/2026

tobacco marketing season, some growers had loan recoveries deducted from their sales proceeds on behalf of other individuals, despite having no knowledge of, or having never contracted, the loans in question,” he said.

Mr. Mwale called on all affected tobacco growers whose loan recoveries were deducted from their tobacco sales despite not having contracted the loans to urgently submit their tobacco sales reports together with copies of their National Registration Cards (NRCs) to the nearest TBZ Regional Office.

He assured growers that the Board is treating the matter with the seriousness it deserves and remains committed to protecting the interests of tobacco growers across the country.

“We wish to assure all affected growers that the Board is committed to resolving this matter fairly, transparently and expeditiously,” Mr. Mwale stated.

“We therefore urge all affected growers to submit their sales reports and copies of their National Registration Cards to our regional offices without delay to facilitate verification and enable the Board to take the necessary action.”

Mr. Mwale further directed all licensed tobacco buyers to immediately cease the practice of recovering loans from growers who neither contracted nor authorized such loans.

“The Board wishes to make it clear that loan recoveries must only be effected against the

rightful beneficiaries of the loan facility and in accordance with the applicable contractual and regulatory requirements,” Mr. Mwale emphasized.

He warned that the Board will not hesitate to take appropriate regulatory action against any buyer found engaging in practices that unfairly prejudice tobacco growers.

“The Board encourages all affected growers to submit the required documentation as soon as possible to support the verification process and expedite the resolution of their cases,” he added.

This is according to a statement issued by TBZ Corporate Affairs and Communications Manager, Lee Haamunji.

CAMFED BOOSTS GIRLS' EDUCATION WITH K1.6 MILLION DORMITORY AT LUI SECONDARY SCHOOL

By Cecilia Chiluba



CAMFED Zambia has invested over K1.6 million in the construction of a girls' dormitory at Lui Secondary School in Luampa District, Western Province.

Western Province Permanent Secretary, Simomo Akapelwa applauded Camfeed for its continued partnership with Government in expanding access to quality education for the girl child through infrastructure development and learner support.

Mr. Akapelwa was speaking during the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the dormitory, and Matron's House, among other facilities at the school.

“The project, valued at K1,679,694, demonstrates CAMFED's commitment to complementing Government efforts to improve education, particularly in rural

communities,” Mr. Akapelwa said.

He noted that CAMFED currently supports 10 of the 14 secondary schools in Luampa District, while the dormitory will accommodate more than 60 girls and is expected to be completed before the start of Term One in 2027.

“Lui Secondary School is among the 22 secondary schools under construction in Western Province with support from the World Bank,” he said.

Mr. Akapelwa reaffirmed Government's commitment to increasing access to secondary education across the Province.

And CAMFED Zambia Board Chairperson, Enita Hamatumbika reaffirmed the organization's commitment to ensuring that every girl has the opportunity to complete her

education.

“The dormitory project reflects CAMFED's dedication to creating a safe and conducive learning environment that will enable girls to remain in school and realize their full potential,” Ms. Hamatumbika said.

Meanwhile, Western Provincial Education Officer, Peggy Chilema expressed gratitude to CAMFED Zambia for its continued support to the education sector, describing the dormitory project as a timely investment that will improve learner retention, enhance academic performance and provide a safe learning environment for girls.

She urged the school and the local community to take ownership of the facility and ensure it is well maintained for the benefit of future generations.



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NUPPEZ URGES GOVT TO PRIORITIZE TEACHERS' WELFARE, BETTER CONDITIONS

By Cecilia Chiluba



National Union of Public and Private Educators of Zambia (NUPPEZ) has urged the Government to continue prioritizing educators' welfare by improving conditions of service, ensuring timely payment of certain allowances, providing adequate teaching and learning materials, and creating safe, secure, and conducive working environments.

NUPPEZ Executive President, Dr. Charity Kampamba said the although acknowledges government's continued commitment in strengthening the education sector through sustained investment in infrastructure, teacher recruitment, curriculum reforms, the long-term success of the reforms will largely depend on the welfare, motivation, and professional support accorded to educators.

"As NUPPEZ, we acknowledge government's continued commitment in strengthening the education sector through sustained investment in infrastructure, teacher recruitment, curriculum reforms, expansion of the school feeding programme, and the successful enactment of the Free Education Policy into law," she said.

"These interventions have greatly improved access to education and created opportunities for thousands of learners, particularly those from vulnerable communities."

Dr. Kampamba stated that expanding access to education must be complemented by deliberate investment in the educators who remain at the heart of the teaching and learning process.

"Every profession begins in the classroom, and quality education can only be achieved through motivated, competent, and committed teachers," Dr. Kampamba stated.

She further implored government to give special attention to teachers serving in rural and hard-to-reach areas.

Dr. Kampamba noted that many educators continue to make enormous sacrifices despite inadequate staff housing, limited access to electricity, clean water, healthcare services, internet connectivity, reliable transport, and essential teaching resources.

"The Union believes addressing these challenges will improve the welfare of educators, enhance morale, and contribute greatly to improving the quality of education in rural communities where the need remains greatest," she added.

"As NUPPEZ, we reaffirm our commitment to working collaboratively with Government and all education stakeholders to advance practical, sustainable, and forward-looking reforms that strengthen both access to and the quality of education in Zambia."

Meanwhile, the Union encouraged all teachers to remain professional, ethical, and politically neutral as they continue serving the nation during the current politically active period.

CHITAMBO, CHIPATA COUNCILS RECEIVE FUNDING FOR CASH FOR WORK PROGRAMME

By Money Daily Reporter



Chitambo Town Council says it has received over K1 million from Government to facilitate implementation of the July 2026 Revised Cash for Work Phase II Programme.

Council Public Relations Officer, Rodrick Nyirenda said Government has disbursed a total of K1,082,916 to pay 1,638 beneficiaries who will participate in the 10 day work schedule.

He stated that beneficiaries will receive K600 each after completing 10 days of work.

"The financial assistance has come at the right time as several Chitambo residents are facing financial hardships," Mr. Nyirenda stated.

According to Mr. Nyirenda, Chitambo residents have thanked Government for people-centered policies that continue to benefit communities.

Meanwhile, Chipata City Council has received K1.9 million from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development for implementation of the revised Cash for Work Program for the month of July, 2026.

Council Assistant Public Relations Officer, Grace Lungu, said the funds will support key administrative activities, including the recruitment and verification of beneficiaries, supervision of public works, attendance management, payments of beneficiaries and data entry clerks and other programme implementation activities.

"The disbursement marks the commencement of the full implementation of the Revised Cash for Work Phase II Programme in Chipata District," Ms. Lungu stated.

"Chipata City Council remains committed to ensuring that the approved implementation schedule is strictly adhered to and that beneficiary allocations are implemented accordingly."

She assured the public that under this phase of the programme, all the challenges experienced in the previous cash for work programme have been addressed.



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DEC DISMISSES CLAIMS OF POLITICAL ARREST ORDER AGAINST NRPUP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

By Money Daily Reporter



Theresa Mawere

Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) has dismissed social media claims alleging that its Director General, Nason Banda, has directed the arrest and detention of National Reconciliation Party for Unity and Prosperity (NRPUP) Presidential candidate, Brian Mundubile, for political reasons.

Commission Deputy Public Relations Officer, Theresa Mawere said DEC does not initiate or undertake investigations, or arrests based on political considerations, directives or affiliations.

Ms. Mawere stated that any investigative process undertaken by the Commission is guided

solely by credible evidence and the provisions of the law.

“DEC is a professional law enforcement agency established under the laws of Zambia and discharges its mandate independently, impartially and strictly within the confines of the Constitution and other applicable laws,” Ms. Mawere stated.

She stressed that decisions relating to investigations and arrests are made through established legal procedures and are not influenced by any political interests or speculations circulating on social media.

“The allegations suggesting that the Director General has instructed officers to

arrest or detain Mr. Brian Mundubile in order to influence the political landscape are therefore false, irresponsible and intended to mislead the public while undermining confidence in the integrity and professionalism of the Commission,” she said.

Ms. Mawere said the Commission will not allow itself to be used as a platform for political contestation or as a tool by ill-intentioned political players seeking publicity or attempting to create sensational narratives that have no basis or facts. “Such conduct not only misleads the public but also undermines the credibility of institutions entrusted with upholding the rule of law,” she added.

She cautioned the public against the deliberate publication and circulation of false information capable of causing public alarm, damaging individual reputations and eroding public confidence in State institutions.

Ms. Mawere said the Commission will continue to uphold the rule of law and will not be distracted by unfounded allegations intended to politicize its work or compromise its mandate.

“The Drug Enforcement Commission remains steadfast in executing its statutory mandate professionally, impartially and without fear, favour or prejudice,” Ms. Mawere said.

COUNCIL REPORTS 90% PROGRESS ON KAFUE ROUNDABOUT REHABILITATION PROJECT

By Money Daily Reporter



Lusaka City Council (LCC) has reported 90 percent progress on the rehabilitation works at the Kafue Roundabout.

The project is being undertaken by Wonderful Group of Companies Limited as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

Council Public Relations Manager, Chola Mwamba said the works are being supervised by the Local Authority’s Department of Engineering and Infrastructure Development.

Ms. Mwamba stated that the initiative is

intended to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the city and improve road infrastructure for the benefit of residents.

“The project is at an advanced stage and is nearing completion. Upon completion of the Kafue Roundabout, the Council, in collaboration with Wonderful Group of Companies Limited, will commence similar rehabilitation works at Kabwe Roundabout,” she said.

She urged motorists and the public to adhere to traffic guidance and observe all safety measures in the area as final works are

concluded.

Ms. Mwamba also implored the public to safeguard public infrastructure and refrain from acts of vandalism in order to preserve the lifespan and integrity of public assets.

“LCC remains committed to partnering with stakeholders to deliver quality infrastructure that supports economic growth and enhances the quality of life for residents,” Ms. Mwamba added.



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GOVT UNVEILS US\$49.9 MILLION FIRIP TO EXPAND RURAL FINANCIAL INCLUSION

By Cecilia Chiluba

Government has launched the Financial Inclusion for Resilience and Innovation Project (FIRIP), a seven-year initiative valued at approximately US\$49.9 million, aimed at improving access to financial services for poor rural communities while strengthening climate resilience and promoting sustainable economic growth.

FIRIP has been designed to strengthen the entire rural finance ecosystem through innovative financing windows, climate and green investments, digital financial services, insurance solutions and institutional capacity building.

The project targets to reach 370,110 unique beneficiaries through improved access to financial services and employment opportunities generated under FIRIP. With an average household size of five, the total 4 number of beneficiaries expected to be reached is approximately 1.8 million rural household members.

FIRIP will work with financial service providers to design client-centric financial services that respond to the specific needs of rural women, youth, smallholder farmers, and micro, small, and medium enterprises.

Speaking during the Stakeholder Sensitization Workshop for FIRIP in Lusaka, Ministry of Finance and National

Planning Permanent Secretary for Economic Management and Finance, Mulele Mulele, said the project, being implemented with support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), seeks to improve rural livelihoods by expanding access to inclusive financial services.

“The project development objective is to support improved access to and use of financial services in order to strengthen the resilience and green growth of rural production systems, value chains and livelihoods of poor rural men, women and youth facing high levels of vulnerability to climate change, health-related risks and other shocks,” Mr. Mulele stated.

He stressed that the project will ensure that at least 40 percent of beneficiaries are women and 30 percent are youth, as these groups remain central to Zambia's agricultural value chains despite facing significant barriers to affordable financial services.

Mr. Mulele added that FIRIP will work with financial service providers to develop client-centred financial products through an Innovation and Outreach Facility, while a blended finance facility will mobilize private capital for agriculture, climate resilience, digital financial services and other green investments in underserved rural communities.

He further said the interventions are expected to create an estimated 145,430 new jobs through expanded financial services and called

on banks, fintech firms, investors, agribusinesses, cooperatives, youth organizations as well as development partners to collaborate in implementing the project.

financial challenges that have affected payment timelines, significant interventions are being implemented to improve claims processing, enhance verification procedures, and accelerate reconciliations.

“Through such engagements, NHIMA continues to strengthen partnerships with healthcare providers while promoting efficiency, accountability, and improved service delivery under the National Health Insurance Scheme,” he added.

“At the policy level, I encourage the various policy actors to collaborate and establish partnerships that will guide policy actions and create an enabling environment for the effective execution of the project,” he added.

And IFAD Country Programme Coordinator, Dr. Brian Kapotwe, emphasized that access to financial services remains a key driver of agricultural transformation and inclusive economic growth.

Dr. Kapotwe, said while increasing agricultural production is important, the sector can only be transformed when farmers have access to finance that enables them to invest, manage risks, adopt new technologies and access markets.

“Agriculture transforms when farmers can invest,

manage risks, access markets, adopt new technologies and continuously innovate. All of these depend on one critical ingredient— inclusive and accessible financial services,” Dr. Kapotwe said.

He welcomed Zambia's progress in expanding financial inclusion, citing the 2025 FinScope Survey, which showed overall financial inclusion rising from 69.4 percent in 2020 to 80.1 percent in 2025, with formal financial inclusion increasing to 76.4 percent.

Dr. Kapotwe stated that the achievements demonstrate the impact of collaboration between Government, regulators, financial institutions and development partners, but stressed that greater efforts are needed to ensure financial services translate into productive investments and sustainable rural enterprises.

He acknowledged that agriculture continues to be viewed as a high-risk sector due to climate change, recurrent droughts and floods, price volatility, weak collateral systems and high transaction costs, making many financial institutions reluctant to lend to the sector.

Dr. Kapotwe said the focus should be on reducing the risks associated with agricultural financing rather than simply encouraging financial institutions to increase lending.

NHIMA ASSURES ACCREDITED HEALTH PROVIDERS OF PROMPT, TRANSPARENT PAYMENTS

By Cecilia Chiluba



National Health Insurance Authority (NHIMA) has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring timely and transparent payments to accredited healthcare providers.

NHIMA Director General, Dr. Michael Njapau, said this is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and improve healthcare service delivery across the country.

Speaking during the official opening of a week-long Claims Protocol and Reconciliation Sensitization Workshop for accredited healthcare providers, Dr. Njapau emphasized that healthcare providers remain indispensable partners in delivering quality healthcare services to NHIS members.

“Through this workshop, NHIMA is engaging representatives from accredited private, public and faith-based healthcare providers from across Lusaka Province to strengthen understanding of claims management procedures, reconciliation processes, and the application of claims protocols aimed at improving efficiency, accuracy, and accountability in claims administration,” Dr. Njapau stated.

“Healthcare providers are at the heart of the National Health Insurance Scheme. Our success depends on the strength of our partnership, and NHIMA remains fully committed to honoring its obligation to pay accredited healthcare providers for services rendered to our members.”

He said through

this continuous dialogue, capacity building and strengthened claims management systems, NHIMA is working to improve efficiency and ensure sustainable service delivery.

Dr. Njapau acknowledged that while the Authority has faced operational and financial challenges that have affected payment timelines, significant interventions are being implemented to improve claims processing, enhance verification procedures, and accelerate reconciliations.

“Through such engagements, NHIMA continues to strengthen partnerships with healthcare providers while promoting efficiency, accountability, and improved service delivery under the National Health Insurance Scheme,” he added.



INVESTRUST LIQUIDATION WILL FOLLOW LEGAL PROCESS - BOZ

By Cecilia Chiluba



Bank of Zambia (BoZ) has assured creditors and former employees of Investrust Bank Plc (In Liquidation) that all claims arising from the bank's liquidation will be settled strictly in accordance with the law.

Ms. Mwanza stated that claims will be settled strictly in accordance with the statutory order of priority prescribed by law and no category of claims will be prioritized outside that framework.

She further disclosed that some former employees have commenced legal proceedings relating to their claims.

“As these matters remain before the Courts, the Bank will await their determination in accordance with due process,” Ms. Mwanza stated.

Ms. Mwanza added that any distributions to creditors would depend on the availability of funds and would only be considered after all legal, administrative and accounting procedures had been completed.

She said the Central Bank continues to pursue the realization of Investrust Bank’s assets to maximize recoveries for creditors.

“However, it should be noted that existence of assets does not necessarily mean that cash is immediately available for distribution. Recoveries are also affected by market conditions, legal requirements, ownership disputes, title verification, and other factors that may delay conversion of assets into liquid funds,” she said.

Ms. Mwanza also stressed that assets must be disposed of in a manner that preserves their value, warning that selling them prematurely at heavily discounted prices could reduce the amount ultimately available to creditors.

She further reiterated that the Central Bank took possession of Investrust Bank because it was insolvent under the provisions of the Banking and Financial Services Act.

“This means that the bank did not have sufficient assets to meet its obligations as they fell due. The funds provided by the Government were primarily for supporting depositors, particularly the small depositors to safeguard financial system stability,” Ms. Mwanza explained.

Ms. Mwanza reaffirmed the BoZ’s commitment to ensuring that the liquidation process is conducted transparently, fairly and in accordance with the law, while thanking all affected stakeholders for their patience, understanding and cooperation as the process continues.

ZEMA TO VERIFY CLEAN-UP OF AREA HIT BY SINO METALS POLLUTION INCIDENT

By Cecilia Chiluba



Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) says it will verify the clean-up exercise of the area affected by Sino Metals Leach Zambia (SMLZ) Limited’s February 18, 2025 pollution incident.

“The report is currently under review by the Agency,” Ms. Kamwi said.

She added that the Agency will conduct a site verification inspection of the affected environment and thereafter, feedback will be provided to the mine, as part of the review process.

Ms. Kamwi reaffirmed ZEMA’s commitment to ensuring that remediation of the affected environment is carried out to the required standard.

She said the Agency will also ensure that the interests of the affected communities in Chambishi and surrounding areas are safeguarded.

“ZEMA confirms receipt of SMLZ's June 2026 Progress Report on the clean-up exercise and order to independently assess the extent of remediation works completed and confirm



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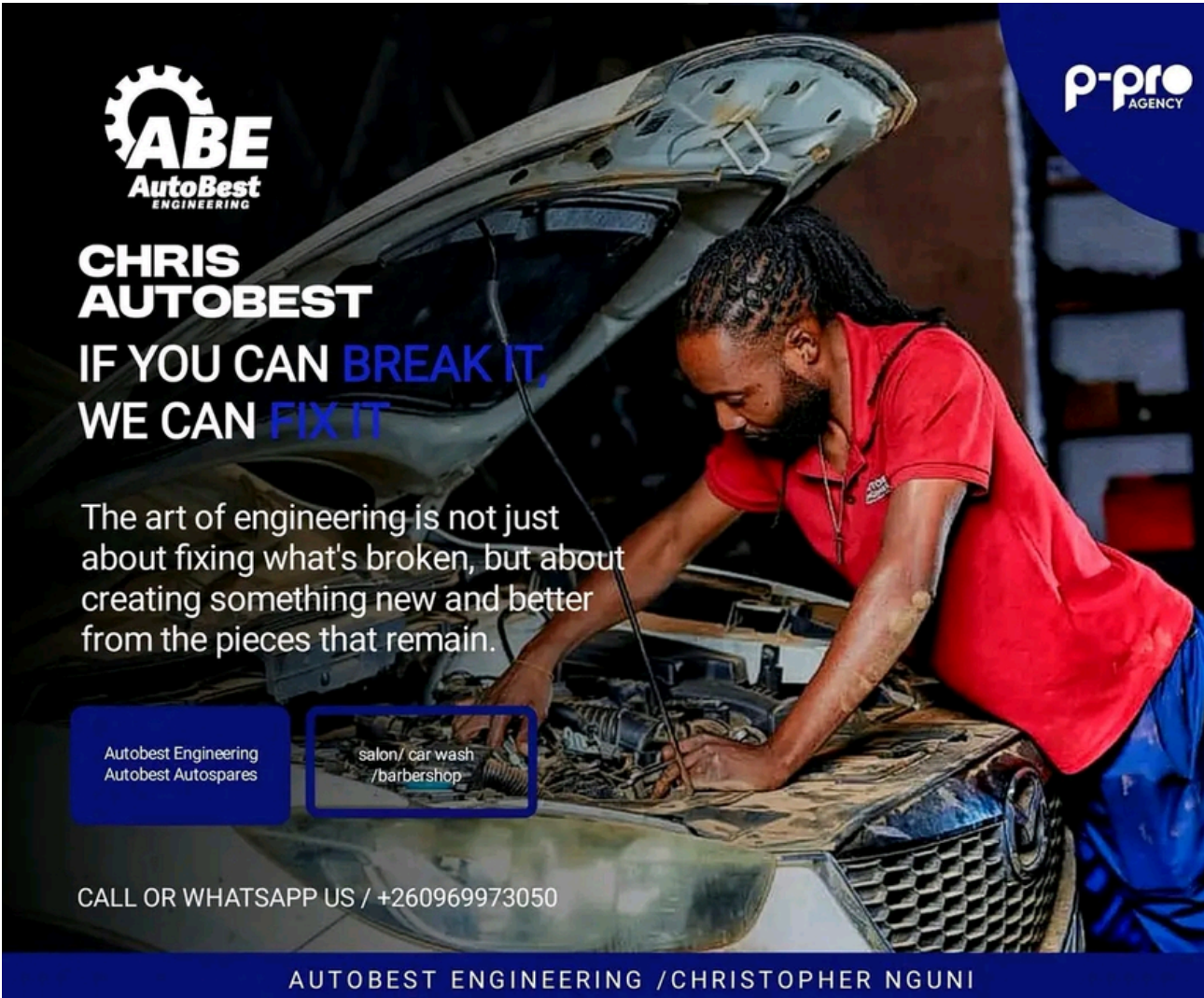
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TRUTH ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH: WHY DEC MUST WIN THE COMMUNICATION BATTLE TOO

The Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) has moved swiftly to dismiss social media claims that its Director General, Nason Banda, ordered the arrest of National Reconciliation Party for Unity and Prosperity (NRPUP) presidential candidate Brian Mundubile for political reasons. In a strongly worded statement, the Commission reaffirmed its independence, insisting that all investigations and arrests are based on credible evidence and the law, not political influence.

The response was necessary. In today's information environment, silence can easily be interpreted as admission. However, the incident exposes a much bigger challenge facing public institutions: maintaining public confidence in an era where misinformation spreads faster than official facts.

The problem is not unique to the DEC. Across the world, law enforcement agencies, electoral bodies, courts and other public institutions are increasingly finding themselves defending their credibility against rumours, manipulated narratives and politically motivated disinformation. Zambia is no exception.

The Commission correctly states that it operates independently and does not act on political directives. That constitutional principle is fundamental to the rule of law. But constitutional

guarantees alone are not always enough to convince a public that consumes information largely through Facebook, WhatsApp, TikTok and X, where sensational claims often travel much faster than official statements.

This is where one of the communication gaps becomes evident. Too often, institutions communicate only after misinformation has already gained traction. By the time an official statement is issued, thousands of people may already have formed opinions based on false claims. Correcting misinformation is always harder than preventing it from taking root in the first place.

The solution lies in more proactive communication.

Institutions like the DEC should not only respond during crises. They must consistently educate the public about how investigations are initiated, what legal thresholds are required before arrests are made, and what safeguards exist to prevent abuse of authority. When citizens understand the process, they become less vulnerable to manipulation.

Another challenge is accessibility.

Official statements are frequently written in formal legal language that satisfies institutional requirements

but does not necessarily connect with ordinary citizens. Social media rumours, on the other hand, are often short, emotional and easy to understand. This creates an uneven contest where facts struggle to compete with emotionally charged misinformation.

The Commission could therefore complement its

sensitive evidence.

There is also a broader responsibility that extends beyond the DEC itself.

Political actors must exercise restraint when making allegations against public institutions. Democracy thrives on accountability, and law enforcement agencies should always be open to

professional journalism remains one of the strongest defences against misinformation.

Ultimately, the DEC's statement serves as an important reminder that institutional integrity depends on more than lawful conduct. It also depends on public perception.

The Commission may indeed be acting independently and professionally, but maintaining that reputation requires continuous engagement with citizens, not only during controversies but throughout the year. Building trust is a long-term exercise that combines transparency, consistency, professionalism and effective communication.

In the digital age, institutions cannot afford to win only in the courtroom or through legal processes. They must also compete successfully in the marketplace of public opinion. Facts remain the strongest foundation of democracy, but facts must also be communicated clearly, promptly and consistently if they are to overcome the growing influence of misinformation.

scrutiny. However, accusations without evidence risk weakening institutions that are essential for the functioning of a democratic state. If every investigation is automatically labelled political, genuine anti-crime efforts may lose public support before facts are even established.

Similarly, social media users must recognise that sharing unverified claims carries consequences. False information can damage reputations, create unnecessary public anxiety and erode confidence in institutions whose effectiveness depends heavily on public trust.

Traditional media also have a crucial role to play. Responsible journalism requires verification before publication, balanced reporting and careful distinction between allegations and established facts. In a highly polarised environment,

MONEY EDITORIAL

formal press statements with simplified explanations, short videos, infographics and question-and-answer sessions that directly address public concerns. Communication should not merely be legally accurate; it must also be understandable. Transparency also remains an important ingredient.

Naturally, ongoing investigations cannot be discussed in detail. Law enforcement agencies have legal and operational limitations. However, whenever possible, institutions should provide sufficient procedural information to reassure the public that decisions are being made according to established legal standards rather than political considerations.

This does not mean compromising investigations. Rather, it means explaining the process without disclosing

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THINK BUSINESS

KENYA DEEPENS ETHIOPIAN POWER IMPORTS IN FRESH SUPPLY DEAL

By The Star



Kenya has expanded its electricity trading relationship with Ethiopia after Kenya Power signed a new electricity supply agreement with Ethiopian Electric Utility (EEU).

This reinforces a cross-border energy partnership that is increasingly becoming central to the country's strategy of securing cheaper and more reliable electricity.

The agreement, signed in Addis Ababa on Friday, provides a fresh commercial framework for electricity exports from Ethiopia to

Kenya through the 500-kilovolt Ethiopia-Kenya High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) interconnector.

This is one of Africa's largest regional power transmission projects.

Under the new agreement, Kenya Power will purchase electricity at 24.07 Ethiopian birr (about \$0.15 or roughly (Sh19.50) per kilowatt-hour, alongside a demand charge.

While Kenya Power has not publicly disclosed the total value of the contract or the volumes covered under the

renewed arrangement, the deal is expected to sustain and potentially expand electricity trade between the two neighbours.

The latest agreement builds on an existing long-term power purchase arrangement that has seen Kenya import 200 megawatts (MW) of mainly renewable hydropower from Ethiopia since November 2022.

The original 25-year agreement provides for imports to rise to 400 MW after the initial three-year period, making Ethiopia one of Kenya's largest external electricity suppliers.

WORLD BANK HAILS MALAWI'S SOCIAL PROTECTION INITIATIVE

By The Nation

The World Bank Group has described Malawi's Social Cash Transfer Programme as a model for social protection, saying it demonstrate how the initiative can help vulnerable households withstand shocks and promote long-term resilience.

World Bank Group director for climate Jamie Fergusson said in a statement that the programme has provided emergency support to nearly 300 000 households affected by recurring droughts, helping families have food security, recover from disasters and strengthen their ability to cope with future climate-related challenges.

"In Malawi, a social cash transfer programme has helped to protect food security and speed recovery from shocks," he said.

Fergusson said climate-smart development requires investments in sectors such as agriculture, transport, healthcare and infrastructure that not only meet immediate needs, but also build resilience and deliver long-term benefits.

He noted that the World Bank Group provided \$50.8 million (about K90 billion) in development financing with climate co-benefits during the last fiscal year, including \$33

million (about K58 billion) for projects aimed at reducing emissions across various sectors.

The Bretton Woods institution said its active projects worldwide by June 2025 had strengthened climate resilience for 136 million people, improved food security for 208.8 million, expanded energy access to 214 million, and were expected to reduce carbon emissions by 331.8 million tonnes annually.



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Last updated: 15-07-2026

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING
ZMW / USD	18.1742	18.2242
ZMW / GBP	24.4007	24.4805
ZMW / EUR	20.7695	20.8302
ZMW / ZAR	1.1123	1.1157

Download historical rates



Source: Bank of Zambia (BOZ)



NKANA SIGN TEENAGE MIDFIELDER, PROMOTE THREE ACADEMY STARS ON LONG-TERM DEALS

By Lucky Chama

Nkana Football Club has reinforced its commitment to youth development after completing the signing of teenage midfielder Jerosic Zulu and promoting three academy graduates to the senior team on long-term contracts.

The seven-time Zambian champions announced the acquisition of 19-year-old Zulu from Morkved Sportsklubb, a club competing in the FAZ Lusaka Division Two Men's League. The promising midfielder has signed a four-and-a-half-year

contract with the Kitwe giants.

Nkana Chief Executive Officer Mwansa Kapyanga said the move reflects the club's long-term strategy of investing in emerging talent. "Jerosic is a talented young midfielder with tremendous potential. We have been impressed by his qualities, attitude and willingness to learn and we believe Nkana Football Club provides the ideal environment for him to continue his development," Kapyanga said.

"Offering him a long-term

contract demonstrates our confidence in his ability and our commitment to building a team that will not only compete today but also secure the future of the club."

The club has also rewarded three standout performers from the Young Nkana side with promotions to the senior squad.

Midfielder Joseph Witika, 22, who captained the junior team and scored six goals last season, has earned promotion alongside 20-year-old defender Gift

Kapambwe and 19-year-old striker Chama Banda, who finished as the academy's top scorer with 11 goals. All three players have signed four-and-a-half-year contracts.

Kapyanga said the promotions demonstrate Nkana's commitment to nurturing homegrown talent. "The promotion of Joseph, Gift and Chama is a proud moment for the club. They have worked hard, shown commitment and earned the opportunity to be part of the senior team," he said. "By offering them long-term

contracts, we are demonstrating our belief in their potential and our commitment to developing homegrown players. Developing our own talent remains a key pillar of Nkana Football Club. We want our young footballers to know that there is a genuine pathway from the academy to the first team if they continue to perform and embrace the values of the club."

The CEO added that the club is continuing to monitor several promising players within the Young Nkana ranks.

SPAIN OUTPLAY FRANCE TO REACH WORLD CUP FINAL



By FIFA - Spain frustrated France at one end and punished them at the other to deservedly win their FIFA World Cup 2026 semi-final at Dallas Stadium. La Roja limited Les Bleus' chances though some flawless defending, and scored thorough Mikel Oyarzabal and Pedro Porro.

Spain will now face the England-Argentina victors at New York New Jersey Stadium on Sunday. They emerged triumphant in their only previous appearance in the fixture, Andres Iniesta sinking the Netherlands at Soccer City in 2010. France started as the slight favourites and, though Kylian Mbappe threatened on the break, Lamine Yamal gave Luis de la Fuente's side the game's first big chance. The winger, a day after his 19th birthday, got to the ball before Lucas Digne and was clipped inside the box. Oyarzabal struck the resulting penalty past spot-kick-saving specialist Mike Maignan. The advantage was amplified when Porro played

a palatial one-two with Dani Olmo, taking the return impeccably and burying the ball in the bottom corner.

France, with Desire Doue and Rayan Cherki on, pushed to get back into a game, but goalkeeper Unai Simon acted astutely as a sweeper-keeper and Marc Cucurella made an excellent challenge on Mbappe.

The final whistle sparked ecstasy for the Spaniards and agony for the French. Didier Deschamps' team will have a shot at bronze on Saturday, when Mbappe could boost his hopes for another adidas Golden Boot.

"We started almost four years ago with an idea, and we've been faithful to that idea and it's brought us here. Today we faced one of the best national teams in the world, but in front of them they had the best team in the world. That is the difference. These players deserve everything. Day after day, they've showed their commitment, solidarity, generosity, talent. They make the difficult look easy." Luis de la Fuente, Spain coach, to RTVE



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WAFCON NUMBERS HIGHLIGHT NIGERIA'S DOMINANCE, CHEBBAK'S GOALSCORING BRILLIANCE

By Lucky Chama

Nigeria's dominance and Moroccan captain Ghizlane Chebbak's impressive goalscoring exploits have emerged among the standout statistics from the last three editions of the TotalEnergies CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON).

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has released a statistical review of the 2018, 2022 and 2024 tournaments, highlighting the performances that have shaped the growth of women's football on the continent.

Defending champions Nigeria enjoyed another successful campaign in the 2024 edition, lifting a record-extending title after finishing as the tournament's highest-

scoring side with 14 goals in 26 matches that produced a total of 66 goals. The competition averaged 2.54 goals per game.

Morocco captain Ghizlane Chebbak finished as the tournament's leading scorer with five goals in six matches, while Nigeria's Esther Okoronkwo emerged as the leading playmaker with six assists.

The 2022 tournament, won by South Africa for the first time, featured 28 matches and produced 63 goals at an average of 2.25 goals per game. South Africa and Nigeria shared the distinction of being the highest-scoring teams with 10 goals each.

Chebbak, Nigeria's Rasheedat Ajibade and South Africa's Hildah Magaia jointly claimed the



Golden Boot after each scored three goals. Morocco's Fatima Tagnaout finished as the tournament's top assist provider with three assists.

The 2018 edition remains the highest-scoring of the three tournaments, with 51 goals scored in just 16 matches for an impressive average of 3.19 goals per game. Although Nigeria were crowned

champions, South Africa finished as the competition's highest-scoring team with 11 goals. Banyana Banyana forward Thembi Kgatlana claimed the Golden Boot with five goals, while South Africa's Jermaine Seoposenwe and Nigeria's Francisca Ordega shared the assist honours with two each.



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