



Exporters have started routing proceeds through banks in Zambia – BoZ

By Mubanga Mubanga
The Bank of Zambia (BoZ) has said exporters have started routing their export proceeds

through bank accounts domiciled in Zambia in line with the Export Proceeds Tracking Frameworks directives. (To page 5)

By Patson Chilemba
The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) director general Thom Shamakamba is ignoring the Board's resolutions ordering him to pursue cases involving Copperbelt minister Elisha Matambo, Solicitor General Marshal Muchende and permanent secretaries Thabo Kawana and Milner Mwanakampwe among others, the Daily Revelation has been informed. (To page 2)

PURSUE GOVT OFFICIALS, BOARD DIRECTS ACC BOSS

... ACC sources say DG Shamakamba has been ignoring board's resolutions



FILE PICTURE: President Hakainde Hichilema with Kenyan President William Ruto

There is no official instruction to summon Ndola mayor - Copperbelt police chief

By Agness Changala
Copperbelt police commissioner Peacewell Mweemba says there is no official instruction from the police to summon Ndola mayor

Jones Kaliati for allegedly taking former president Edgar Lungu to worship at Jesus Rock of Ages Church in Chifubu. (To page 2)

Govt justifies HH's crucial participation at Soil Health summit
(Story on page 5)



Pursue Govt officials, board directs

ACC Boss

(From front page)
Impeccable sources have revealed that Shamakamba has left the ACC Board frustrated because of his failure to act on several resolutions that have been passed for the ACC management to pursue and finalise all corruption cases involving several senior government leaders.

Sources have said the Board also felt frustrated with the feeling of 'impotence' over indications that Shamakamba's inactions had the blessings of State House.

"You ask the Board and Shamakamba himself over the many resolutions

that have been passed," one of the sources said. "The Board has passed several resolutions to management, instructing management to pursue cases involving government officials as it appears that the DG has been sitting on them. Actually the DG has stopped giving briefings to the Board. They are actually in the dark on a number of matters that are being carried in the Commission."

Upon his election in 2021, President Hakainde Hichilema vowed to fight the past, present and future corruption, something the ACC Board is said to be

trying to enforce.

But sources have said that apart from failing to inform the public on the investigations, the ACC probes have actually stalled as there had been no tangible action from the time the investigations started.

"The Board has passed resolutions for matters to be pursued including investigations against Copperbelt minister Elisha Matambo over suspected accumulation of wealth. Resolutions have also been launched over K3 million in Information permanent secretary Thabo Kawana's bank accounts and the alleged US \$500,000 to Muchende from a named former liquidator, something which led to one of his properties he bought for the mother at \$100,000



The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) director general Thom Shamakamba

being placed under a restriction order," the source said. "There has also been an investigation against Central Province permanent secretary Milner Mwanakampwe who was actually reported by his minister then,

Credo Nanjuwa, for alleged corrupt practices. These are matters the Board has passed several resolutions on."

Efforts to get a comment from Shamakamba failed as his phone line was

unreachable.

But when reached for comment, ACC spokesperson Timothy Moono, responded: "Thank you. I will send the information for verification."

There is no official instruction to summon Ndola mayor - Copperbelt police chief

(From front page)

And Kaliati says he agrees with Mweemba that there is nothing official but added that there is something in a 'junkie form' to intimidate him.

On Monday, Kaliati said he was reporting himself to the police, after he was summoned last week.

Daily Revelation reached out to Mweemba to confirm information on Kaliati's alleged summoning, but the police commissioner said he could not confirm nor deny as there was official communication.

"Us ... As we have got nothing. I won't say no he has been to the police station because there is no official instruction from us as the commanders. Yes! So basically, if at all they could be able to tell me the place, the one who has summoned them, then I could be able to find out and give you the information," Mweemba said. "I think just go by my advice because we are the people who are in charge and if at all the instructions are given, I can confirm to you and say that he has been summoned but if I am not aware then that is something."

And when contacted on Mweemba's response, Kaliati said he did not report himself to the police as earlier indicated because his lawyer asked officer commanding, a Mr. Bwalya, to make the summon official by way of writing to his employer rather than for the police to be texting him on their personal phones.

He said the officer Zokoto who summoned him

is under Police Intelligence Office (PIO) and he reports to Bwalya.

Kaliati said on Friday, he also posted on his Facebook page Zokoto's text call out where he was asking him to go to the police.

"So when you listen to Mr. Peacewell Mweemba, Mr. Peacewell Mweemba says there is no official communication. The word is official underline it.

It means that it is there but these people are not being official, not being professional, they are being caderistic. You understand," he said. "To me that's what it means and if you want me to describe it, I will tell you that yes, Mr. Mweemba is right because we also don't take it as official. My lawyers said no, give him an official call out so they want to use intimidation, maybe Mr. Zokoto is a good

example of a junkie police officer. What he did was junkie. That was a junkie call out that he sent me."

He said the officer he talked to told him that he was wanted.

"And I told him that that's a foolish call out. You can't call me like that because my government has official means of communicating to citizens not the way he did and that is how I didn't go,"

Kaliato said. "My lawyer instructed that they should give me a formal call out and yes we are waiting for a formal communication from them. You will realize that Mr. Mweemba has also not refuted the fact that they are calling me. What he has said is that there is nothing official but there is something unofficial, something junkie."

Kaliati said on Thursday and Friday last week, he did not go to his office because the police were harassing him and wanted to arrest him.

He said there was an officer by the name Ernest Zokoto who sent him a text asking him to report himself to the police.

"The issue is that I brought Edgar Lungu to come and attend Church in Chifubu and he has given me a case ati unlawful assembly," he said.

Kaliati said he has been running away from the police since Thursday last week.

Kaliati who is also a district chairman accused a friend Ignatius Chilangwa, from Masaiti, of pushing the police to arrest him and others.



Mr. Peacewell Mweemba,

Chipoka's warning to businesses

By Daily Revelation Editor

Commerce minister Chipoka Mulenga says the government will be forced to put in place measures to stop consumer exploitation by traders.

Mulenga decried the practice by traders to quickly adjust prices upwards whenever there was an increase in fuel prices but never adjusted to correspond with the decrease.

"When we reduce, they never reduce," he said. "Government is not in the interest of putting price controls and regulations, but in the best interest of the Zambian public to serve them to get things cost

reflective as they are, government will be made to put in measures to stop exploitation. This is a serious concern that we have taken upon as Ministry of Commerce where the sellers and traders are taking advantage of price adjustment to increase and never reduce when we reduce. We need to be responsible, we need to be reasonable and also act in a very moral way."

What Chipoka is saying is the correct behavior of businesses in this country, where they are very quick to increase prices whenever there is an upward adjustment in fuel prices and depreciation of the Kwacha, but literally do nothing when fuel prices

trend downwards or when the Kwacha appreciates.

Businesses have actually taken advantage of the very weak consumer protection in this country.

To hear Chipoka say that the government might do something about it is actually heartwarming. However, it is easier said than done, especially in this country where politicians are more proficient in making proclamations or declarations without any motivation to follow up on their words.

Politicians in this country have made it a custom to promise heaven and actually deliver hell. We hope

that Chipoka has gone through some proper deliverance from the 'spirit' that has possessed politicians, and will ensure that he follows up on his word into action. Because clearly, Zambians have been exploited. Just consider the subscriptions for DSTV for instance, every year MultiChoice ensures that the prices for subscription packages are increased. Oftentimes they use the Kwacha depreciation as an excuse to effect the changes. There has never been a time when they have had to reduce the prices in times when the Kwacha has appreciated.

But compounding Chipoka's statement and why his actions might actually not see the light of day is the fact that he is serving under an administration that

is actually market oriented, favouring business ahead of consumers. He serves under an administration that believes that everything must be left to the market forces.

Going forward actually the UPND may need some rethink on its market orientation, especially in a country like Zambia where the majority are poor.

It will therefore be a more than welcome gesture to see Chipoka following through on his words and acting on behalf of the people, especially during this very harsh

period Zambians are going through.

But further to that, this time calls for Chipoka and his colleagues in government to work their socks off more than ever to change the dynamics in the country, because clearly Zambians are complaining. Once Chipoka and our leaders in government put their act together everything will move along seamlessly including a reduction in the very high cost of living which has necessitated Chipoka to utter the words he uttered.

We are praying for them to actually make it work so that the suffering could be mitigated.

Editorial

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Work together to achieve a lot, US journalist urges media

By Agness Changala
US journalist Bashar Jarrar says a journalist should be a person of integrity and impartiality to present all facts to everyone.

During a discussion event organized by the US Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the United States Embassy to mark the journalist's regional tour celebrating World Press freedom, Jarrar also encouraged journalists to read more of books and newspapers to keep themselves informed.

He said a journalist should be inquisitive and investigative before they can write about any information. Jarrar also urged media

institutions to partner with each other and benefit from business, reputation and rating.

He said when organisations work together, it was easier to achieve a lot.

Jarrar added that working together was so profitable.

"When you work together, your business, your reputation, your rating and everything is connected to each other. I would encourage you to do it if you can you will profit from it," Jarrar said.

He said this after a concern was raised during a discussion of how Zambian media organisations do not work together for the common good.

It was heard that there was too much self centeredness and media

houses wanting to outdo each other so that they could get the credit for leading.

The journalist also warned against paying people in custody of certain information or documents relating to the stories they worked on, as it was unethical and should be avoided at all cost.

The discussion which was held at NIPA in Lusaka on Monday was centered on investigative journalism and it's role in promoting transparency, developing, engaging content strategies for audience growth and strengthening media resilience against corruption and malign influences.

Caption: US journalist Bashar Jarrar during his engagement with the Zambian media

Top 10 richest people in the world as of May 1, 2024



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg L, Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton Group M, Tesla product architect and CEO Elon Musk R

Bernard Arnault, CEO of LVMH, the world's leading luxury goods company, continues to dominate as the world's wealthiest individual as of May 1, 2024.

Forbes' real-time billionaires list confirms Arnault's ongoing reign at the top, a position he has held since February 2024, closely trailed by Elon Musk, the visionary behind Tesla.

In a recent turn of events, Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon, briefly surpassed Musk in April 2024, securing the second position. However, Musk swiftly regained his status after a remarkable 15 percent surge in Tesla's stock on April 29, 2024, bolstering his net worth by \$14.5 billion, as reported by Forbes.

Musk's recent exploration of the electric

vehicle landscape in China underscores his relentless drive for innovation. Despite trailing behind Arnault, Musk has narrowed the wealth gap, with Arnault's fortune currently standing at \$209.4 billion, approximately \$10 billion more than Musk's.

Nevertheless, Arnault's LVMH faced a setback in the past month, experiencing a decline in its stock value, resulting in a \$17 billion decrease in its fortune. Despite this, Arnault's position as the world's

richest individual remains unshaken.

In addition, Amazon Founder, Jeff Bezos, fell to the third place with a net worth of \$193.3 billion, while Mark Zuckerberg's Meta recorded a net worth of \$151.2 billion for the period

Microsoft founder, Bill Gates, who reigned as the world's richest person for about three decades, saw his worth at \$128 billion, making him the ninth richest person in the world, down from the seventh spot a month ago.

As of May 1, 2024, Françoise Bettencourt Meyers of France was the richest woman in the world. She is estimated to be worth \$95.4 billion and is the world's 15th richest person

According to Forbes, Françoise's fortune lies in her ownership stake in cosmetics giant L'Oreal, which she inherited from her late mother. Her grandfather was the founder of L'Oreal, Eugène Schueller.

1. Bernard Arnault

Net worth: \$209.4 billion Source: LVMH/ luxury goods Age: 75

Residence: Paris Citizenship: France
2. Elon Musk Net worth: \$199.6 billion Source: Tesla, SpaceX, X (Twitter) Age: 52

Residence: Austin, Texas Citizenship: U.S.
3. Jeff Bezos Net worth: \$193.3 billion Source: Amazon Age: 60 Residence: Miami, Florida

Citizenship: U.S
4. Mark Zuckerberg Net worth: \$151.2 billion Source: Meta (Facebook) Age: 39 Residence: Palo Alto, California

5. Larry Ellison Net worth: \$142.8 billion Source: Oracle Age: 79 Residence: Woodside, California Citizenship: U.S.

6. Larry Page Net worth: \$135.4 billion Source: Google Age: 51 Residence: Palo Alto, California

Citizenship: U.S
7. Warren Buffett Net worth: \$131 billion Source: Berkshire Hathaway

Age: 93 Residence: Omaha, Nebraska Citizenship: U.S.
8. Sergey Brin Net worth: \$129.9 billion Source: Google

Age: 50 Residence: Los Altos, California Citizenship: U.S

9. Bill Gates Net worth: \$127 billion Source: Microsoft, investments

Age: 68 Residence: Medina, Washington Citizenship: U.S.
10. Steve Ballmer Net worth: \$117.1 billion Source: Microsoft, Clippers, investments

Age: 68 Residence: Hunts Point, Washington

Citizenship: U.S
Additional sources • Forbes

Police arrest 2 for impersonating as immigration officers

By Isaac Zulu

Police arrest 2 for impersonating immigration officers

The police have arrested two people who impersonated immigration officers and detained a worker from a foreign national run shop after he refused to give them an undisclosed amount of money.

Deputy police public relations officer Danny Mwaale stated the suspects were identified as Timothy Kampamba, 26, of Soweto B in Kapiri-Mposhi District and Abraham Mulenga 30 of Lilanda Compound in Lusaka.

Mwaale stated that yesterday, around 09:00 hours, the duo presented themselves as officers from the Department of Immigration and arrested a worker at a shop owned by a foreign national in the Barlastone Park area after refusing to give them an undisclosed amount of money

which they demanded.

"Mr. Kampamba was in full Department of Immigration uniform while Mr. Mulenga was in a suit. They later managed to have their suspect detained at Lilanda Compound Police Post," Mwaale stated.

He stated that while at the Police Post, Police officers immediately interrogated the two and later discovered that they were not employed by the Department of Immigration.

Mwaale stated that investigations further revealed that they threatened to arrest another salesman near Eden University in the same area.

He stated that officers from the Department of Immigration were informed and confirmed that the suspects were not employees of the Department of Immigration.

Mwaale stated that the duo are now detained in Police custody yet to be formally charged.

Corrupt actors typically target land belonging to persons with disabilities - TIZ



TI-Z executive director Maurice Nyambe speaking during the launch of the beautiful land, corruption and discrimination in land rights in sub Saharan Africa report at Grand Palace Hotel in Lusaka

By Mubanga Mubanga
Transparency International Zambia (TI-Z) executive director Maurice Nyambe says corrupt actors at different levels typically

target land belonging to Persons Living with Disabilities (PWDs).

And Nyambe says corruption is a global problem, which affects many different sectors of people

living in Africa.

Speaking during the launch of the beautiful land, corruption and discrimination in land rights in sub Saharan Africa report at Grand Palace Hotel in Lusaka, Nyambe said corruption was denying people access to land and natural resources which they relied upon for survival.

"As you may be aware, corruption is a global problem that affects many different facets of people's lives in Africa," Nyambe said. "The natural resources are typically the worst affected by this scourge and has continued to bear the brunt which has continued to deny people access to land and natural resources which they rely upon for survival, at the same time, both direct and indirect discrimination on grounds ranging from disability to ethnicity and from gender to religion has led to denial of land rights for some marginalized members of society across the African continent, including here in Zambia."

He said according to the research findings by TI-Z,

persons with disabilities face difficulties in obtaining State land, due to their weak social- economic position.

Highlighting some of the key findings from the Zambia case study which focused on access to land for persons with disabilities (PWDs), TIZ established a range of challenges linked to their status.

He said with regard to the manifestation of corruption in the land sector and specific reference to PWDs, TIZ found that corrupt actors at different levels typically targeted land belonging to PWDs.

Nyambe said the the results further established that bribes were required to obtain State land.

"With several affected community members indicating that they had received requests for facilitating payments from administrative officials at different levels. A lack of access to financial resources means PWDs are less likely to be able to meet the demands of corrupt actors," said Nyambe.

Copper up 17% in 2024

By Staff Reporter
Copper prices have risen by 17 percent in 2024 with the

commodity now trading at almost US\$10,000 a tonne on the London Metal Exchange yesterday.

According to Mining.com, the escalated price comes amid signs of recovery in global factory activity

as well as flashes of supply tightness, especially for raw materials shipped to smelters.

“Still, skeptics have pointed to soft indicators in China, from falling import premiums to buyers holding off purchases,” Mining.com argued. “The metal’s gains have been primarily driven by speculation, and may fade as high prices discourage

consumption and spur aluminum substitution, Duan Shaopu, a director at China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association, said at a recent press conference, according to a script posted on the group’s WeChat account.”

Copper was 0.9% higher at \$9,992.00 a ton on the London Metal Exchange as of 3:13 p.m. local time, as all metals except nickel gained ground.

Copper briefly traded through \$10,000 a ton as investors raised bets

on United States Federal Reserve rate cuts, and Goldman Sachs Groups Inc. warned of intensifying supply stress.

Metals joined a wider rally in risk assets after soft US jobs data triggered renewed speculation that the Fed will move to lower rates this year. Copper initially rose as much as 2.1% — returning to five digits again after a brief period in late April — before paring gains as trading got underway in Europe.



Chief executive officer, of Absa Bank Zambia Plc, Mizinga Melu takes to the cooking stick during matebeto for her husband

Govt justifies HH’s crucial participation at Soil Health summit

By Daily Revelation Reporter

The government has justified President Hakainde Hichilema’s participation on the official visit he will be undertaking to Kenya tomorrow to attend the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health summit.

In a press statement, acting minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mulambo Haimbe argued that the convening of the Summit was timely and aligned with Zambia’s ambitious Economic Transformation Agenda.

“President Hichilema’s participation in this meeting is therefore crucial in order to shore up the Government’s ongoing efforts to create opportunities for joint

ventures and partnerships in the Agriculture sector, which serves as a primary source of livelihood for the majority of Zambian citizens,” Haimbe stated.

Haimbe stated that President Hichilema would embark on the visit at the invitation of Kenya’s President Dr William Ruto for the event scheduled tomorrow.

Haimbe stated that the President would engage other heads of state and high-ranking government officials, senior policy makers and development partners.

“The Summit serves as a platform to assess soil health across Africa and deliberate on innovative policies, financing mechanisms, and investments geared toward boosting agricultural

productivity,” Haimbe stated. “The Summit will aim to highlight the crucial role of fertilizer and soil health in stimulating sustainable pro-poor productivity growth in African agriculture, and to forge consensus on an African Fertiliser and Soil Health Action Plan.”

The summit would be preceded by experts session and joint ministerial sessions for minister of Foreign Affairs and ministers of Agriculture.

“The decision to convene the Summit was endorsed by the 40th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2022,” stated Haimbe. “On the margins of the Summit, the President is scheduled to hold bilateral meetings with other leaders and heads of key international organisations, leveraging the opportunity to discuss pressing regional and global issues.”

Exporters have started routing proceeds through banks in Zambia – BoZ

(From front page)

And BoZ has said the Export Proceeds Tracking Framework (EPTF) has not stalled.

Economist Yusuf Dodia earlier expressed disappointment that the implementation of the EPTF by BoZ seemed to have stalled.

BoZ assistant director communication, Besant Mwanza, in response to a *Daily Revelation* query, stated that the framework had been implemented and came into effect at the beginning of January, 2024.

Mwanza stated that exporters had started routing their export proceeds through bank accounts domiciled in Zambia in line with the EPTF directives of 2023.

“The Framework has not stalled. The Export Proceeds Tracking Framework has



Bank of Zambia - Ms. Besant Mwanza, Assistant Director - Communications.

been implemented and came into effect on January 1, 2024,” Mwanza stated.

And commenting on concerns about the continued weakness of the Kwacha against other major convertible currencies, Mwanza argued that the depreciation was unrelated to the implementation of EPTF as exchange rate movements were determined by several other factors. She

stated that it was not correct for Dodia to conclude that if the EPTF was implemented, the Kwacha could by now be trading below K20 against the US Dollar.

“This implies that the presence of the Framework does not automatically lead to an appreciation in the manner you are putting it in the question,” Mwanza stated. “On whether the Kwacha should be trading

below K20 per US Dollar, it is important to note that the movement in the currency is influenced by several factors, which all impact the balance between the demand and supply of the currency.”

Mwanza stated that the EPTF was intended to improve external sector statistics to better inform liquidity and exchange rate management policies. She stressed that over time, with the increased flow of foreign currency through local bank accounts, the EPTF was also expected to support the stability of the exchange rate.

Dodia had earlier told the *Daily Revelation* that the continued depreciation of the Kwacha against the US Dollar was due to the lack of implementation of EPTF by BoZ. He said if the EPTF framework was implemented, the Kwacha by now could be trading below K20 against the US Dollar.

| Average Exchange rates: 07-05-2024 | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Currency | Buying | Selling |
| USD | 27.1651 | 27.2151 |
| GBP | 34.1085 | 34.1822 |
| EUR | 29.2786 | 29.3433 |
| ZAR | 1.4719 | 1.4750 |
| View more | | |

Togo's president signs law expected to extend his decades-long rule

Togolese President Faure Gnassingbe has signed a controversial new constitution that eliminates presidential elections, a statement from his office said late Monday. It's a move that opponents say will allow him to extend his family's six-decade-long rule.

Under the new legislation, parliament will have the power to choose the president, doing away with direct elections. The election commission on Saturday announced that Gnassingbe's ruling party had won a majority of seats in the West African nation's parliament.

Crackdown on Civic Freedoms

Ahead of the vote, there was a crackdown on civic and media freedoms. The government banned protests against the proposed new

constitution and arrested opposition figures. The electoral commission banned the Catholic Church from deploying election observers.

In mid-April, a French journalist who arrived to cover the elections was arrested, assaulted and expelled. Togo's media regulator later suspended the accreditation process for foreign journalists.

Ruling Party Secures Overwhelming Majority in Parliament

Provisional results showed the ruling Union for the Republic (UNIR) party won 108 out of 113 seats in parliament, and 137 out of 179 positions in the senate.

The new constitution

also increases presidential terms from five to six years and introduces a single-term limit. However, the almost 20 years that Gnassingbe has already served in office would not count toward that tally.

The West African nation has been ruled by the same family for 57 years, initially by Eyadema Gnassingbe and then by his son. Faure Gnassingbe took office after elections that the opposition described as a sham.

Concerns Over Constitutional Amendments

The political opposition, religious leaders and civil society say the proposed new constitution makes it likely that Gnassingbe will stay on



when his mandate expires in 2025.

They also fear that the creation of a figure similar

to a prime minister, to be selected from the ruling party, could become another avenue for Gnassingbe to

extend his grip on power even beyond that new term.

africanews.com

Israeli forces take control of the Gaza side of the Rafah crossing with Egypt

An Israeli tank brigade seized control Tuesday of the Gaza Strip side of the Rafah border crossing with Egypt, authorities said, moving forward with an offensive in the southern city even as cease-fire negotiations with Hamas remain on a knife's edge.

The move comes after hours of whiplash in the Israel-Hamas war, with the militant group on Monday saying it accepted an Egyptian-Qatari mediated cease-fire proposal. Israel, meanwhile, insisted the deal did not meet its core demands. The high-stakes diplomatic moves and military brinkmanship left a glimmer of hope alive — but only barely — for an accord that could bring at least a pause in the 7-month-old war that has devastated the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli 401st Brigade entered the Rafah crossing early Tuesday morning, the Israeli military said, taking "operational control" of the crucial crossing. It's the main route for aid entering the besieged enclave and exit for those able to flee into Egypt. Israel fully controls all access in and out of Gaza since the war began.

Footage released by the Israeli military showed a tank entering the crossing. Details of the video matched known features of the crossing and showed Israeli flags flying

from tanks that seized the area.

The Israeli military claimed it seized the crossing after receiving intelligence it was "being used for terrorist purposes." The military did not provide evidence to immediately support the assertion, though it alleged the area around the crossing had been used to launch a mortar attack that killed four Israeli troops and wounded others near the Kerem Shalom Crossing.

The military also said that ground troops and airstrikes targeted suspected Hamas positions in Rafah.

Wael Abu Omar, a spokesman for the Palestinian Crossings Authority, acknowledged Israeli forces had seized the crossing and had closed the facility for the time being. He said strikes had targeted the area around the crossing since Monday.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesperson declined to immediately comment on the Israeli seizure. Egypt previously has warned any seizure of Rafah could see Palestinians fleeing over the border, a scenario that could threaten a 1979 peace deal with Israel that's been a linchpin for regional security.

The offensive again raised the risks of an all-out Israeli assault on Rafah, a move the United States strongly opposes and that aid groups

warn will be disastrous for some 1.4 million Palestinians taking refuge there.

Egyptian officials said the proposal called for a cease-fire of multiple stages starting with a limited hostage release and partial Israeli troop pullbacks within Gaza. The two sides would also negotiate a "permanent calm" that would lead to a full hostage release and greater Israeli withdrawal out of the territory, they said.

africanews.com



Putin inaugurated for fifth term as Russian president

Vladimir Putin's fifth term as president of Russia has begun, following his inauguration in Moscow on Tuesday.

The ceremony was held at the Grand Kremlin Palace, after the 71-year-old leader took a short car ride to the location from his workplace. The current protocol was first used in 1996, when Boris Yeltsin assumed his second term in office.

The oath to serve the nation and its people is taken while placing one hand on a special copy of the constitution used during inaugurations. The document used on Tuesday was updated to reflect amendments adopted in 2020 and the inclusion of four former Ukrainian regions which

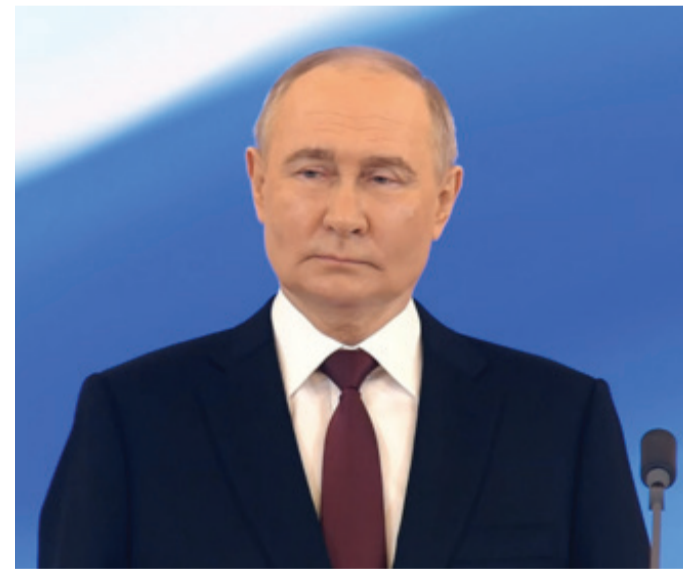
voted in referendums in 2022 to join Russia.

Putin orders tactical nuclear weapons drills

Read more Putin orders tactical nuclear weapons drills

Lawmakers from both chambers of the nation's parliament and justices of the Constitutional Court were present. Following the oath, Chief Justice Valery Zorkin confirmed Putin's fifth presidency, which will last for six years.

Putin's previous inaugurations took place in 2000, 2004, 2012, and 2018. This year stands out, as a number of Western nations and the EU chose to boycott the event. Their governments claim that this year's presidential election



Russian President Vladimir Putin

in Russia, which Putin won with a record 87.28% of the vote, was not free and fair.

Russia's relations with the West are at one of their worst points in history. Moscow has accused the US and its allies of waging a proxy war against Russia. Sanctions,

diplomatic pressure, and supplies of military aid to Ukraine are meant to contain Russia's development, its leadership has said. The West claims it is reacting to "unprovoked aggression" by Putin and his government.

RT

'I don't trust anyone' - How trolling hurt Kipchoge

Two-time Olympic champion Eliud Kipchoge says he feared for the lives of his family during a campaign of online abuse that wrongly linked him to the death of fellow Kenyan marathon runner Kelvin Kiptum.

Kiptum, the world record holder who looked set to challenge Kipchoge's dominance over 26.2 miles, died aged 24 in a car crash in February.

Some social media users began to speculate that Kipchoge was part of a conspiracy to kill Kiptum, who had lowered the world best to two hours, 35 seconds last October in Chicago.

"I was shocked that people [on] social media platforms are saying 'Eliud is involved in the death of this boy'," the 39-year-old told BBC Sport Africa.

"That was my worst news ever in my life.

"I received a lot of bad things; that they will burn the (training) camp, they will burn my investments in town, they will burn my house, they will burn my family.

"It did not happen but that is how the world is."

Kipchoge's initial reaction when he saw the abuse and false rumours was to check whether his family were safe.

"I don't have power to go to police and tell them

my life is in danger. So my concern was actually to tell my family to be extra conscious and cautious," he said.

"I started to call a lot of people.

"I got really scared of my children going to school and coming back.

"Sometimes they bike around, but we had to stop them because you never know what will happen. We started to drop them [off] and pick them [up] in the evening.

"My girl was in boarding school - that was positive that she had no access as far as social media is concerned - but it's tough for my boys to hear 'Your dad has killed somebody'."

Kipchoge was overtaken by emotion during a candid interview at his home in Eldoret when discussing the impact the campaign of abuse had on his mother.

"My worst moment was (when) I tried to call my mum," he said.

"She told me 'Just take care' and 'A lot has been going on'.

"Where I come from is a really local area. And with the age of my mum, I really realised that social media can go everywhere.

"But she gave me courage. It was really a tough month."

However, Kipchoge,

who became just the third person to win successive Olympic marathons when he defended his title in Tokyo in 2021, decided not to take precautions over his own safety.

"I saw no meaning to change training venues because my life is open," he explained.

"Our sport is not training in the gym, it is going outside to run. I walk in the streets freely."

Kipchoge claims he "lost about 90%" of his friends amid the wrongful link to Kiptum's accident and online abuse.

BBC



Kipchoge says the online abuse caused sleepless nights and hindered his performance in March's Tokyo Marathon

'Norris win a popular one as end-of-empire feeling swirls around Red Bull'



Lando Norris' victory came in his 110th grand prix

Norris' qualities doubted him.

"I wasn't worried," Norris said, "and I knew my time was coming."

Norris is the son of a millionaire stock market trader. But his talent has been obvious from a very early age, and the closer he got to F1 through his junior career, the more it became obvious he was marked out for great things.

Aged 18, early in 2018, Norris was team-mate to Alonso at the Daytona 24 Hours sportscar race. It was hardly the point of their appearance, but Norris set himself a private target of leaving the event with a faster lap time than Alonso - and did it.

At the time, Norris was McLaren's F1 reserve driver and Alonso was racing for them. Later that year, after McLaren had said they would promote Norris from reserve driver to their race team for the 2019 season, the Briton generated a few laughs in a wet practice session at the US Grand Prix in Austin by playing the boy and taking Alonso a cuppa while everyone waited for the track to dry.

But it did not take long once he was into a full-time F1 seat for Norris to shed the image of an apprentice. He went toe-to-toe with Carlos Sainz in their two seasons together and gave nothing away.

He came close to a win in Russia in 2021, when he put the McLaren on pole and led most of the race confidently before mistakenly choosing to stay out on dry-weather slicks when it rained late on.

BBC

Making sense of Bayer Leverkusen's historic unbeaten streak



It wasn't enough for Bayer Leverkusen to win the German Bundesliga. And not just to win the league, but to win the league for the first time in the club's 119-year

history, to win the league by ending Bayern Munich's 11-season reign as defending champs, and to win the league by overcoming a team with a wage bill more than

four times the size of theirs.

It wasn't enough just to do any of that, and it wasn't enough to reach the final of the DFB-Pokal cup, or the German Cup. And it wasn't

enough to beat AS Roma 2-0 in the first leg of the Europa League semifinals, either.

All those accomplishments are great -- congrats to Leverkusen on doing all of those things. But rather, Leverkusen under coach Xabi Alonso have defined themselves by avoiding doing another thing: losing.

We're 48 games into Bayer Leverkusen's season. Provided they avoid a collapse at home against Roma this Thursday, there are five games left in their campaign, and no one has beaten them.

Just how unlikely is Leverkusen's run? Where does it rank in the history of the greatest seasons of all time? And what are the chances that they take this streak all the way?

ESPN

Lando Norris had not even taken his helmet off after securing his maiden Formula 1 victory at the Miami Grand Prix before the great and good of the sport began taking turns to congratulate him.

Max Verstappen, the man who Norris has become the first to beat in a straight fight this year, was the first. He was quickly followed by third-place man Charles Leclerc, two-time champion Fernando Alonso, Mercedes' George Russell and more.

By the end of the afternoon, the list was long. This was a popular victory for a popular driver but also one that everyone recognised had been too long in coming, and was well deserved.

Heading into the Miami weekend, he held the all-time record for podium finishes without a win. Inevitably, then, there were those who were beginning to utter doubts as to whether Norris would ever stand on the top step. But only people who didn't properly recognise



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THERE'S COORDINATED EFFORT TO SOIL FAZ, CLAIMS KAMANGA

By Mubukwanu Kaingu

FAZ President Andrew Kamanga says Football House's subdued character in the latest episode of an impasse, should not be taken as a sign of weakness by the association.

A court injunction filed by two non-FAZ members Damiano Mutale and Mabvuto Phiri a week ago against Football House halted the holding of its' Annual General Meeting (AGM) over money laundering allegations that have left Zambian football facing the prospect of a FIFA ban due to third-party interference.

Kamanga reiterated in his weekly column that the scheme had nothing to do with one's moral corporate standing in football but to promote alternative candidates for the 2025 FAZ elections.

"We cannot sign off without laying bare our anxieties about the ongoing indefinite postponement of the FAZ Annual General Meeting instigated by a court action by two non-members. We have stayed compliant with the court process and made an appearance last week where the matter was adjourned to Thursday this week," Kamanga said. "While we have more than impressed on all reasonable followers of our beautiful

game that football disputes can never be resolved through the courts of law as prescribed by FIFA in its statutes, we have remained open to finding a solution to the ongoing impasse."

Mutale and Mabvuto filed an injunction stopping the 2024 FAZ AGM from taking place on April 30 at the Government Complex in Lusaka.

"FIFA has more than provided guidance on the matter at hand and will no doubt provide a position in the next few days. They have, however, been magnanimous enough to give Zambia leeway to resolve the ongoing impasse," Kamanga said.

"We have also sadly taken note of a growing trend of some non-members finding solace in disrupting the game through the use of

third parties.

"We are aware of a well-coordinated plan to soil FAZ and its leadership through the use of some institutions as part of propping up some candidates for next year's elections.

"Everyone knows that elections in FAZ are not due until next year and therefore the leadership must be allowed to run the game without any undue influence. While we have remained respectful and compliant throughout this ordeal, we should not be taken for being weak."

Meanwhile, the third inter-partite hearing on whether the FAZ AGM, which was halted on April 30 following an injunction by Mutale and Zulu should finally go ahead, will be heard tomorrow at the Ndola High Court.



FAZ President Andrew Kamanga



Shepolopolo u17 coach Carol Kanyemba

Head coach Carol Kanyemba has urged the U17 girls to make a good record when the Copper Princesses play the Teen Cranes of Uganda at the National Heroes Stadium.

Zambia will take on Uganda in the 2024 U17 FIFA Womens World Cup, first leg third round at the National Heroes Stadium on Sunday.

The U17 squad has been training for more than two weeks in anticipation of what pundits predict would be a difficult match for the Princess.

Zambia will be hoping to carry on their strong

play against Uganda after defeating Tanzania 5-1 in the previous round.

Speaking to FAZ media ahead of the match, Head Coach Carol kanyemba said so far, she is happy with the team's preparation.

She went on to say that the girls have a great chance to build their own history by especially playing at the gigantic Heroes Stadium.

"We would like to set a trend we have never played in that Stadium as Copper Princesses, playing in that pitch is really an honor because it's a memorable Stadium.

"The aim is to get a positive result in the first game and that will set a good trend for our future games

that we will be playing on that pitch," she said.

Bolanews.com



Shepolopolo u17

