



The paper that reveals truth

No.106 K10 Thursday, June 7-9, 2024 www.dailyrevelationzambia.com

Zambia, World Bank sign financing agreement to improve resilience of energy sector

By Mubanga Mubanga

Zambia and the World Bank yesterday signed a financing agreement that will see \$700 million going towards the NEAT programme aimed at increasing the financial and operation resilience of the electricity sector in the country. (To page 5)

HH IS FATHER OF TRIBALISM - NAWAKWI

By Patson Chilemba

DD leader Edith Nawakwi says Hakainde Hakainde is the father of tribalism in Zambia. And Nawakwi said she was denied medical attention during her over one week incarceration in police cells over seditious charges.

(To page 2)

Mabonga out of Chimbokaila on K150,000 bail

By Agness Changala

Mafuwe member of Parliament Maureen Mabonga yesterday left Chimbokaila Prisons where she spent seven days, after the Lusaka Magistrate's Court granted her bail pending trial in a case she is charged with two counts of seditious practices.

(To page 6)



... You can't make a certain section of a community more important than another

HH is now a lawmaker and judge - Munir



Munir Zulu

By Agness Changala
Hakainde is now a lawmaker and judge, says Lumezi independent member of parliament Munir Zulu has said

(To page 2)

Lundazi Council worker loses child after genset ran out of diesel at Lundazi General Hospital

By Patson Chilemba

Lundazi Council police officer and his wife are mourning the death of their 3-month old daughter

having agonizingly watched her struggle to her death after the genset at Lundazi General Hospital ran out of diesel.

(To page 4)

I bought Range Rover from late Wilson Banda - Bowman

... His inlaw Chipoka Mulenga knows about this

By Agness Changala

Former Lusaka Province minister Bowman Lusambo says the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) will be embarrassed over the vehicle seized as he is not the absolute owner. (To page 4)



HH is father of tribalism – Nawakwi

(From front page)

Speaking with *Daily Revelation* yesterday, Nawakwi charged that President Hichilema was talking about stiffening laws on tribalism in order to cover his own flaws on the matter.

“He’s the one who introduced tribalism. He said you don’t want me to be president because I am Tonga,” Nawakwi said, adding that President Hichilema could not claim to be leading a united country where only one group of people was being punished.

She said while Lumezi member of parliament Munir Zulu was arrested, the UPND cadre he was responding to for saying Southern Province was a no go area for people from certain regions, had been left to go scot-free.

Nawakwi said President Hichilema and those in the UPND were creating the problems going on in the

country through their divisive policies and limiting the freedoms of the other citizens, where machete wielding UPND thugs recently worked with the police to stop an opposition rally.

She said it was up to President Hichilema to change his ‘world view’, rather muzzling people from talking about the regionalism they had noticed under his administration.

“You can’t make a certain section of a community more important than another section,” Nawakwi said.

On the President’s threat that he was going to involve the army if the police had failed to ensure stability in the country, Nawakwi said President Hichilema should have first started by firing Musamba to qualify his position, but his failure to do showed that he too had failed as he was Musamba’s boss.

“Like in the case of Jay Jay (Petauke-Central member of parliament Emmanuel Banda), the President has thrown himself into the fray. Where has he been all this time? Just because Jay Jay has complained about certain people at State House then he has committed a crime? How about the killing of (former PF North Western Province chairman) Kenneth Kungo by UPND cadres, is he also going to look into that?” Nawakwi asked.

The President said that the government was looking at reopening the case where Banda and the other PF cadres beat up police officers at Central Province in 2020.

But Nawakwi told President Hichilema to stop behaving like a head boy “at Namushakende Primary School”, where he wanted to make it a habit to bully other citizens.

“This is called the broken windows theory in criminology.

Vyonse (Everything) I will punish you. Are you a prefect bro?” Nawakwi said. “We are in deep trouble as a nation. Even in Pharaoh’s time when children of Israel were going to be released, Pharaoh created so many problems. He even pursued them to the Red Sea. But what did God do? He buried them together with Pharaoh.”

She said there was no instability in the country to draw in the military, wondering whether he understood the consequences of having men and women from the barracks on the streets.

Nawakwi said police could perform their duties without undue pressure from State House to arrest political opponents.

“If he wants to declare a state of emergency, what is there to declare a state of emergency for, except for UPND cadres? Like those



Edith Nawakwi

who said don’t come to our province. If you want to discipline a group or community you start with your own,” she said.

Nawakwi further said as opposed to President

Hichilema’s claims that police cells and prisons were now stocked with mattresses and beds, what she experienced during her incarceration was totally different as people were sleeping on the floor.

(From front page)

And Zulu says he was abducted from Maina Soko Hospital where his colleague Independent Petauke Member of Parliament Emmanuel Jay Jay Banda has been hospitalised.

Zulu also urged President Hichilema to remember that when he dies, he will leave everything he has on earth and there is no need to torture fellow human beings.

Speaking to *Daily Revelation* after he was released from jail where he spent 11 days, Zulu said there was no call out when police picked him.

He said eight police officers with guns picked him along with another citizens who were seen greeting him.

“I was abducted from Mina Soko Hospital where Jay Jay was being admitted and that is one thing we should put correct. I was abducted from Mina Soko

HH is now a lawmaker and judge - Munir

premises. There was no callout. Eight police officers with guns came and gun pointed at me to accompany them and there was a guy called Jackson Jere who was greeting me, they picked him along,” Zulu said.

He said after three days, Jere was charged with insulting language and was made to pay K84 or K89.

Zulu said as far as he was concerned, Jere was just an innocent person who had arrived to see Jay Jay at the hospital.

“I asked them who he insulted because this guy was just at the car park at Maina Soko and they told me don’t worry.

He explained that after he was abducted, he was taken to Central Police station where he was detained from Monday and charged on Thursday and Friday.

“From Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday I did not know why I was detained. I was taken in around 05 hours from Maina Soko, because I didn’t sleep the previous night as I was trying to assist Jay Jay’s family at Medlands, he was removed from Medlands to Maina Soko,” Zulu said.

He said he had never said he hated a particular tribe.

“And there are people that have called for cessation and I have never called for cessation. I have never been treated the way I have been treated. Never have I said I

hate Bembas, I hate Lozis, I hate Tongas. If anything, my best friend at Parliament is Lozi Imanga Wamunyima. He is my best friend at Parliament. Just like Jay Jay’s best friend is Binwell. So how do you say I hate a particular tribe?” he asked. “In all my press briefings, I have never said I hate this tribe. Never, so I am left to wonder, are they putting words in my mouth or what? I have never said I hate this tribe or I hate this person.”

Zulu said he could dislike someone’s character but he did not think he was that heartless to hate a tribe.

“When he talks of tribalism, hate speech, it’s only him looking at it from that speck. Some of us don’t even see it and we don’t know it. To be very honest, I

don’t see it but I came to one conclusion that he is the law himself. Everything he said yesterday had prejudiced a lot of people,” Zulu said. “That’s what I picked in a nutshell. He is a law maker, he is the law and he is the judge. Those he wants to rot in jail, he sentenced them okay,” he said.

Zulu said the President proudly said he had bought more mattress but he was sleeping on the floor at Central Police as there were no mattresses.

He said his family and friends took him a mattress but they were told they could not take mattress there.

“So which mattresses? I slept on the floor,” he said.

Zulu said there was no resting for him as he was aware that it was going to be rough.

He however said, he would rather side with the oppressed than the oppressor.

Zulu said when he was born 36 years ago, he did not know that he would drive, have a wife, a house and have a bit of money or that he would have a diplomatic passport.

He said all the things he had acquired, he found them on earth and when he goes to the graveyard, he would leave them.

“So these are material things which the President should know that even him when he was born, he didn’t know he would be President and he didn’t know that he

was going to punish people,” he said.

“The only difference between him and myself is that he will be buried in a casket and I will be buried in a cloth. I will be buried same day I die. Me I will be buried as a Muslim same day in a cloth no casket white material wrapped buried end of story. I will leave everything I found on earth. He will be buried at Embassy Park whether it will be after 7 days 14 days, but for me even if I ascend to the office of president, the instruction is that I should be buried according to the Muslim faith.”

He said this should come out clearly, saying people think that they would go with their things when they leave earth.

He said he was not bothered, not injured and sought no revenge about what happened to him but shall fight for a better society.

On Tuesday, the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court granted Zulu K250 bail in his own recognizance in a matter he is charged with two counts of seditious practices.

Zulu along with FDD leader Edith Nawakwi, civil rights activist Brebner Changala, and Mfuwe Member of Parliament Maureen Mabonga and Christian Party leader Dan Pule were arrested last week and slapped with seditious practice, hate speech and tribal war.



Munir Zulu

Don't use military, law to cover flaws

By Daily Revelation Editor

President Hakainde Hichilema says if the police fail to ensure stability in the country, he would involve the army to do so.

He also says that Cabinet has resolved to enact the law to introduce stiffer punishment tribalism and hate speech convicts.

Hakainde has also directed the police to arrest the UPND thugs who ran amok last Tuesday, terrorising people in Lusaka's Bauleni area.

We don't think any sane person would oppose any moves aimed at strengthening the

laws to punish hate speech. But we don't think Hakainde is doing so genuinely. We feel he wants to take that path in order to cover his own flaws in the manner he is going about handling national affairs under his administration.

When Hakainde justifiably voiced concerns over how public appointments were being handled by his predecessors - Rupiah Banda, Michael Sata and especially Edgar Lungu - which he felt were more tilted in favour of some regions in the country, no law was introduced to curtail his freedom to speak on what he thought was wrong.

When Zambians are now raising genuine concerns about how he is governing the country, the

punishment.

The police, on the other hand, are playing double standards. Only



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President should not come up with laws to muzzle them and threaten to bring the military upon them. Instead of introducing laws to punish the complaining Zambians, the UPND government should instead listen carefully to such complaints and propose solutions; not stiffer

members from the opposition are being arrested for alleged hate speech or tribal remarks while those from the ruling party making same or similar statements are ignored with impunity.

It is, therefore, irresponsible for Hakainde to start threatening citizens

with arrests using the Zambia Army. The President is clearly attempting to silence the complaining masses against the dictates of democracy. He is now introducing dictatorial tendencies in the country.

What does Edgar Lungu's walk in the Lusaka Central Business district or Chishala Kateka's plan to hold, or even Danny Pule's move to host fellow opposition leaders at his Church have to do with the supposed break down in the rule of law? How many times did he himself talk about early elections during his time in opposition? Why should the same become a

problem now that the opposition are using similar language to the one he used?

In our view, Hakainde and his administration have largely contributed to the complaints and noise going on in the country. It was not the opposition parties which, the other day, armed those machete wielding thugs to run amok, hands and glove working with the police to stop Chishala Kateka's planned rally. It is not the opposition that are making appointments in public service.

Just do the right thing and stop involving the army and the law to cover your flaws.

Apologise for lies, urges Lungu

By Staff Reporter

Former president Edgar Lungu has asked President Hakainde Hichilema to apologise to Zambians for lies, poor governance and economic challenges people are being subjected to as opposed to more self-praise.

In a statement yesterday, Lungu stated that there was need for genuine and open apologies regarding high cost of mealie meal, electricity shortages, expensive transportation, food and expensive fuel as this was part of good governance.

He stated that the country experienced load-shedding which extended beyond 12 hours and the indiscriminate selling of the nation's mining assets and contraction of new debt without parliamentary approval.

He stated that these policy misdeeds required public apologies to Zambians too!

"The ongoing assault on our democracy including denying of opposition parties

their constitutional right to hold public meetings, the numerous and arbitrary pre-trial arrests of opposition leaders and civic activists on fake charges," Lungu stated. "The constant violation of human rights and the rule of law, the criminal behaviour of panga yielding ruling party cadres, the deep regional divisions instigated by the executive, and...yes, the LIES. All these need public apologies from the President himself!"

He stated that the above are the issues the government needed to address and not more self-praise.

"Not telling people that we are spying on them. Not the false claims of "I was put on death row" when the matter never touched any court trial and judgement after regional and global mediation," Lungu stated.

He stated that any lawyer would easily tell someone that a person was only put on death row after they had been tried, convicted, and sentenced to death.



Edgar Lungu

"Fyalungula! Next time, we will be told "I even died," Lungu stated.

He stated that as president, he kept quiet whenever he had nothing significant to say than waste people's time with meaningless addresses.

"As leaders, let us stop wasting people's time with meaningless, hour-long addresses. Let us learn to keep quiet and stay away from the press if all we can muster is our pathological pursuit of personal interests,

political bitterness and hatred at the expense of the interests of the majority poor and unemployed Zambians that can barely eat a meal a day," Lungu told President Hichilema.

He stated that if leaders had failed to govern, it was better to step down and resign, so that other competent Zambians could take over, saying this was normal political practices worldwide.

He stated that if people complained about tribalism,

the solution was not to enact laws that would result in stiffer punishment for those complaining but to correct the situation.

He stated that in civilized societies, governments did not punish the victims or complainants of visible bad policies but democratic governments listened to their voters and change the bad attitude and policies to address citizens' complaints.

Lungu stated that there no need to threaten Zambians with mass arrests when they complained against tribalism and regionalism.

"Let government demonstrate policy shift against tribalism and most people will stop complaining. In a true democracy, people must have the freedom to express themselves freely without fearing an arrest and punishment, that only happens in a dictatorship. The last time I checked as former president, Zambia was a democracy, NOT a dictatorship. No threats will silence Zambians," Lungu stated.

And Lungu stated that he recently read from The Mast Newspaper reporting

that President Hichilema had formally apologized to the Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops over the recent inappropriate incident in Kabwe where police halted a private meeting between the Bishop of Kabwe, the Rt. Rev Clement Mulenga, and himself.

He stated that if what the unnamed minister quoted by the newspaper was saying was true, he commended the President for being magnanimous when wrong.

Lungu however stated that there was no reason to mark routine government correspondence to citizens and civil society as "secret" unless one was attempting to hide an embarrassment or to placate the Church but avoid doing it publicly.

"This is unprofessional and unpresidential because the wrong was done in public view to the extent that most of our citizens are equally still offended. Or maybe the minister is lying about President Hichilema's reported secret apology to the Catholic Bishops over the Kabwe incident, otherwise, why classify the information?" Asked Lungu.

K330 per 50kg bag as FRA starts 2024 maize marketing season

By Mubanga Mubanga

The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) has commenced buying maize for the 2024 maize marketing season at K330 per 50kg bag.

In a press statement, FRA executive director Mwansa Chamatete reminded members of the public that the set price was not a floor price but an offer price for FRA under the principle of willing seller and willing buyer.

He stated that the buying of maize would be done on cash basis and would be done in all the FRA satellite depots around the country.

“The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) has with immediate effect commenced buying Grade A non-genetically modified white maize from all the small scale farmers in all satellite depots countrywide. The Food Reserve Agency is buying a 50kg bag of white maize at K330 or K6,500 per metric tonne. The agency has endeavoured to analyse the cost for maize, current market among others and set price therefore, reflective of such consideration,” Chamatete stated.

He stated that the agency would buy the maize cash on the spot upon delivery of maize by the farmers at the different satellite depots around the country.

He further appealed to farmers to be patriotic by selling maize to FRA,

because of the drought the country experienced.

“Due to the uniqueness of this year’s marketing season because of the dynamics drought brought into play by drought, farmers are encouraged to be more patriotic and support government efforts of sustaining National Food

Security. In this regard, the agency is appealing to farmers to prioritise national and household by selling excess maize to the country through FRA. By doing so farmers will be playing their role in making Zambia food secure and in sustaining the status,” stated Chamatete.



FRA executive director
Mwansa Chamatete

I bought Range Rover from late Wilson Banda - Bowman

(From front page)

Commenting the ACC’s seizure of his vehicle, Lusambo said the vehicle did not belong to him.

Lusambo said he was travelling to Ndola for a funeral last Monday when he found people who stopped him and grabbed the vehicle.

He said they told him that the vehicle was a subject to the proceedings in Lusaka but he had been using it.

“That vehicle was bought some time back. It is not absolutely my vehicle no! It is not my vehicle and they will be embarrassed. I bought that vehicle from the late lawyer Wilson Banda and I have not even finished paying for that vehicle. I was just playing slowly,” he said. “All the documents, even the white book, are in Wilson Banda’s name. He is the owner, the wife of Wilson Banda, she is in Chingola and she is the one who started administering Wilson Banda’s estates.”

Lusambo also said the

in-law to late Wilson was commerce minister Chipoka Mulenga who he also said is aware of the said vehicle.

“Not the way the ACC are putting it that we have seized Lusambo’s vehicle no!” he said.

He said it was normal to buy a vehicle on hire purchase, adding that the vehicle had no complications.

Lusambo said the ACC should not just be doing things for the sake of making news but should have facts on what they wanted to do.

He said after the vehicle was grabbed from him at Mayumbi, a well-wisher gave him another vehicle to use.

Lusambo said he was upset because they wanted to embarrass him and disturbed him but he was happy because the vehicle had no

issues.

“When I was in court I was told they had blocked Chisamba, they had blocked Manyumbi and I said I will go. They thought that vehicle had no papers and I was the absolute owner. Let them ask Mulenga Chipoka. I am just in the process of acquiring it. I pay slowly and I am not yet done,” he said.

Lusambo said the owner of the vehicle even went to court and told the court that this was her vehicle and she was the one who sold the vehicle to him on hire purchase and he had not even finished paying.

“I have even stopped talking but they keep provoking me,” said Lusambo.

ACC stated that they had seized an unregistered vehicle belonging to Lusambo.

Head corporate communications Timothy Moono stated that the seizure came in the wake of investigations that the commission was conducting against Lusambo.

Moono stated that Lusambo was facing a number of cases in the courts of law relating to possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime.



Bowman Lusambo

Lundazi Council worker loses child after genset ran out of diesel at Lundazi General Hospital

(From front page)

Narrating the incident to *Daily Revelation* yesterday, council employee Stephen Nkole Zulu said he and his wife watched their child “deteriorating” after the oxygen machine that had been administered to aid with her breathing failed, following electricity failure after the genset the hospital uses during the daily load shedding ran out of diesel.

Zulu said his daughter had earlier on Monday been diagnosed with pneumonia

and was aided by the oxygen machine throughout her hospitalization.

“On Monday around 18 hours my daughter was given a hospital bed but was not attended to until the following day on Tuesday around 11 hours the following day, very late. After being attended to, she was immediately placed on oxygen having been found with pneumonia,” Zulu said. “So she stayed in hospital and was unable to breastfeed until the following day when I received a phone call that

the situation is not okay. So I went there, by then in Lundazi we had no electricity but they were using a genset. But around 06:10 the genset ran out of fuel.”

Zulu said fearful that the diesel had run out, so he asked the nurse about the next course of action, but was told that they had no option and did not even know the time they were going to buy the fuel.

“So now look at the situation here, so there was no option. I was just crying watching my baby struggling

to breath, just watching my wife and saying ‘what can we do?’” Zulu said.

He said they were told that the authorities were aware of the situation and that the place where fuel could be purchased was not even far, about just two kilometers from the hospital.

“The nurse said they will come and buy when those in charge come, the time they did not know. So no option,” Zulu said, saying the deceased was their 7th child. “So sad watching the baby struggling.

We buried her yesterday.”

And Mrs Zulu said she was told that the child could not be attended to on the first day she was admitted because someone had gotten the keys for the storeroom where medicines were kept.

She said the child was only administered with panado the following day in the morning, until the Doctor passed through the wards around midday and immediately placed her on the oxygen machine.

“But in the night the male

nurse on duty who looked drunk confessed saying he was drunk on account of the pressure from his mother who was hospitalized. He said he had asked someone to work on his behalf but the person he asked had not come,” she said. “So he only wrote something on the paper and left and I rushed to another ward where I found another nurse who helped me place the machine properly on my child’s nose. At that time we were using the electricity from the main national electricity grid, but around 05:00 hours electricity went and then they switched on the genset. But it went off after some time.”

(From front page)

ceremony in Lusaka at Inter Continental Hotel in Lusaka yesterday, between Finance minister Dr Situmbeko Musokotwane and World Bank country director for Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Tanzania Nathan Belete, the first phase of the program will be implemented from 2024 to 2026, providing a \$100 million grant to improve Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation (ZESCO's) financial performance and operational reliability and to support the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) with strengthening the implementation of the rural electrification fund.

Zambia, World Bank sign financing agreement to improve resilience of energy sector

The fund will also enhance Zambia's procurement processes of non-hydropower renewable energy projects.

The NEAT program demonstrated the World Bank's commitment to supporting Zambia's energy policies in alignment

with the 8th National Development Plan (8NDP), Vision 2030, and National Energy Policy (NEP).

"By enabling access to reliable and sustainable energy sources, the program supports the foundation of a private sector driven and inclusive economic growth and therefore fully aligns with the World Bank's goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity on a habitable planet," the agreement indicates. "Additionally, \$150 million financing agreement has been signed for the Girls' Education and Women's Empowerment and Livelihoods for Human Capital Project (GEWEL 2). Its development



World Bank country director for Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Tanzania Nathan Belete

the Ministry of Information stated. "Livelihoods support through Supporting Women's Livelihoods intervention has increased overall consumption by 38%, household income by 62%, business profits by 80%, and savings by 234%."

The ministry also stated that systems had been built forming strengthened beneficiary management, effective and accountable delivery of support, leading to gradual scale up of the digital payment modalities and GBV-sensitive grievance redress.

"GEWEL 2 will build on these successes as well as introduce a new focus on improving the nutrition outcomes among children and women in selected districts," the Ministry of Information stated when giving highlights of the agreement.

objectives are to deepen human capital growth and promote the productivity of the poorest and most vulnerable Zambians for longer-term development outcomes."

The agreement will also cover the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) program of about 39 percent of the population and 82 percent of the extremely poor,

representing one of the most pro-poor safety net coverages in Africa.

"Going forward, SCT will be leveraged for a large-scale drought response in the 84 affected districts. Financial support to vulnerable adolescent girls through the Keeping Girls in School intervention has enrolled over 155,000 girls in secondary schools,"



Finance minister Dr Situmbeko Musokotwane

Miners negotiating huge upfront payments as competition for copper hits up - Bloomberg

Heated competition for copper among some of the biggest commodity traders is creating opportunities for miners to negotiate favorable terms ranging from huge upfront payments to extra-long contracts.

Recent moves by cash-flush energy traders including Mercuria Energy Group Ltd. to expand in metals — a market long dominated by Glencore Plc and Trafigura Group — are raising tensions and sparking a scramble for contracts, at a time when the industry is already facing an unprecedented supply squeeze in copper ore.

And mining companies are seizing the moment. One producer, Eurasian Resources Group, is seeking upfront payment for as much as \$1 billion of its copper and aluminum production, in deals that have already drawn interest from bidders including Trafigura and Mercuria, according to people familiar with the matter.

Other firms have recently inked ore-supply contracts stretching well into the second half of this decade, at

firmly attractive terms for the miners.

The competition in part reflects the impact as energy-focused traders seek to build out their metals businesses. Mercuria in particular has been jostling for copper deals, and is in talks to hire one of the biggest names in the market — Trafigura's former co-head of metals Kostas Bintas.

It also shows how the industry is dealing with a series of dislocations and contradictions: the world has enough refined copper but is desperately short of concentrates — the semi-processed ore needed to feed a fast-growing network of smelters.

And while copper demand is relatively tepid for now, both physical and financial players are positioning for widening deficits and soaring prices in the coming years.

The copper deals being signed with miners don't generally involve speculation on the price of copper — but they nonetheless would likely deliver big profits for the traders if the forecast copper shortages come about.

The big metal prepayment

deals being offered by Kazakh producer ERG have drawn strong interest from traders, according to the people familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified because the information is private. The company is offering about a year's worth of the uncommitted production from copper assets in the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as aluminum from smelters in Kazakhstan, they said.

The deals could cumulatively raise cash in the high hundreds of millions, and as much as \$1 billion, the people said, adding that Mercuria and Trafigura have both held talks with ERG about the offers. ERG's Metalkol operation and Frontier mine produce around 200,000 tons of contained copper a year combined, while its JSC Pavlodar Aluminium Smelter has the capacity to produce 250,000 tons of LME-branded metal per year.

Glencore already has a contract to offtake cathodes from ERG's Metalkol facility and is increasing the size of the prepayment under that

deal.

ERG operates on several continents and sharing details of every counterparty engagement is unproductive as it can result in speculation and spreading of misleading information on discussions that may never materialize," the company said in response to questions.

"As such it is our policy to not share partial information until we can communicate accurate facts on finalized agreements and/or our partners." Mercuria, Trafigura and Glencore declined to comment.

Traders paying cash upfront to secure supply is not unusual in commodities, but the size of the deals being offered by ERG are surprisingly large, indicating how the market has turned heavily in favor of sellers.

It has also become easier for traders to raise money from banks to make advance payments to ERG since a long-running investigation by the UK's Serious Fraud Office into its subsidiary Eurasian Natural Resources Corp. was dropped last year.

Other recent deals suggest that traders are expecting

the extreme supply squeeze in copper concentrates may continue for some time. Several mining companies have clinched contracts at favorable terms that would have been unheard of just months earlier, stretching out as far as 2028, according to people familiar with the matter.

The deals include a contract for Capstone Copper Corp. to sell about 380,000 tons of copper concentrates from a mine in Arizona, to be delivered from 2025 to 2027, while Hudbay Minerals Inc recently offered some production from Peru even further forward — from 2025 until the end of 2028.

6th June 2024

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South African President joins key party meeting on new government formation



South African president Cyril Ramaphosa, center, meets with senior officials of his African

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa met with senior officials of the African National Congress on Thursday to decide how to go about forming a government after the party lost its 30-year grip on power and left a post-election

deadlock.

The party's National Executive Committee was meeting in Johannesburg to work through a split within the party's ranks over which direction to take. ANC lost its long-held majority in last week's vote but remained the biggest party, and now needs

some form of agreement with others to run Africa's most industrialized country.

ANC has indicated it's leaning toward a government of national unity that would bring together many of the political parties in a broad agreement, rather than a direct coalition with the main

opposition, the Democratic Alliance, or DA.

"We want to bring everybody on board," ANC Secretary-General Fikile Mbalula said before Thursday's meeting, which was likely to last all day. Mbalula said a government of national unity was being proposed to the NEC to decide on, but he expected there to be debate and disagreement.

ANC is the party that was once led by Nelson Mandela and freed South Africa from the apartheid system of white minority rule by winning the country's historic first all-race vote in 1994. It had seen a gradual decline in its support over the last 20 years as South Africa struggles with high levels of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The National Executive Committee that includes more than 80 of the ANC's

top officials is expected to be the body to decide on which direction it will take.

There's no guarantee that all the other parties will accept the idea of a government of national unity, even as South Africa's political leaders are under some time pressure to decide on the way forward as the newly elected Parliament must sit for the first time by June 16, with one of its first priorities to elect a president.

The South African president is seeking a second term in office, and the agreement being sought will also decide if Ramaphosa is reelected. South African elections decide how many seats each party gets in Parliament and lawmakers then elect the president. Because ANC only won 40% of the vote and lost its parliamentary majority for the first time, it needs others to join with it to reelect

Ramaphosa for his final term.

A coalition between ANC and the centrist DA had been touted as the likeliest option to co-govern South Africa as the two would hold a clear majority after DA won the second biggest share of the vote with 21%.

But that has met resistance from grassroots ANC structures as well as some of its political allies, like South Africa's congress of trade unions.

DA could also be opposed to a wide-ranging agreement involving many political parties given it has insisted it will never work with two of them — the new populist MK Party of former President Jacob Zuma and the far-left Economic Freedom Fighters. They won the third and fourth biggest shares of the vote.

africanews.com

Zelensky rejects Indonesia's peace plan — media

Jakarta's proposal included an immediate ceasefire and the creation of a demilitarized zone



Ukraine President Vladimir Zelensky

Ukraine's Vladimir Zelensky has rejected a peace plan proposed by Indonesia aimed at settling the conflict with Russia, the Antara news agency reported on Thursday, citing Indonesian President-elect and Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto.

The minister proposed a peace plan to end the Ukraine conflict at the Shangri-La Dialogue defense summit in Singapore on Saturday, calling for a demilitarized zone and a United Nations-run referendum in what he described as disputed territory.

Speaking to reporters following his meeting with incumbent President Joko Widodo on Thursday, Subianto said he had met Zelensky in Singapore and outlined Indonesia's plan to achieve a ceasefire with Russia.

"[Zelensky] did not agree [with the initiative], however, we will continue to try," he said.

The proposal includes a ceasefire and the establishment of a demilitarized zone that would see each party withdraw 15km from their current forward positions.

RT

Mabonga out of Chimbokaila on K150,000 bail

(From front page)

Mabonga was granted K150,000 bail in her own recognisance with two working sureties in the likesum.

Taking plea before Lusaka Magistrate Trevor Kasanda, Mabonga who is being represented Makebi Zulu, Jonas Zimba and Leon Lemba pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Passing ruling on a bail pending trial application, magistrate Kasanda said Mabonga was not a flight risk and granted her K150,000 bail in her own recognisance.

"I have taken into

consideration both sides and taking note of what the defence counsel said that she is a member of Parliament and of fixed abode, I see she's not a flight risk. Accused is granted bail of K150,000 in her own recognisance with two working sureties in the like sum and she should surrender the passport to the Clerk of Court," Magistrate Kasanda ordered.

Magistrate Kasanda adjourned the case to July 3, 2024, for commencement of trial.

In count one, it is alleged that Mabonga on a date unknown but between May 25, 2024 and

May 28, 2024, in Lusaka, uttered seditious words to wit: "Do you want us to be moving with guns? Start killing each other? Is this where we are going? Is this what we want as Zambians? Because we can do it. Today it is Jay Jay that has been abducted. Tomorrow it is another person and you want us to sit back and relax... " to incite violence or any offence prejudicial to public order or in disturbance of the public peace.

In count two, It is called that Mabonga, between the same dates, in Lusaka, uttered seditious words to wit: "Every

Bemba speaking is a criminal according to them and they must not leave even people from Eastern Province... They hate him because he is from the Eastern Province. They hate him because he is close to Edgar Chagwa Lungu. The man they hate for doing nothing. So, they hate Jay Jay Banda because he is also from PF. So, it is okay for Jay Jay Banda to die because he is PF. We are not going to lose our people like that. We are not going to lose our people like that and we sit back just like that..."

PF members led by Secretary General Raphael Nakachinda received Mabonga after she came out of prison.

Putin warns Russia could arm enemies of Western nations supplying weapons to Ukraine

Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned Western countries they're taking a "very serious and dangerous step" by supplying weapons to Ukraine, which could result in Moscow arming their enemies.

Ukraine has relied heavily on arms supplied by Western allies to beat back Russian forces since Putin's full-scale invasion began more than two years ago. And last week, US President Joe Biden for the first time gave Kyiv permission to use American munitions

to carry out limited strikes inside Russian territory, after several European nations removed restrictions on how weapons they supply can be used.

"Supplying weapons to a conflict zone is always a bad thing," Putin told editors from international news agencies on the sidelines of the annual economic forum in St. Petersburg on Wednesday. "Especially if this is linked to the fact that those who supply them are not only delivering weapons but managing them."

Putin also warned that

Russia could retaliate if Western countries are deemed to have become directly involved in the Ukraine conflict.

"In the end, if we see that these countries become involved in a war against us, what they are doing makes them directly involved in a war against the Russian Federation, we reserve the right to act the same way," he said. "Overall, it leads to some serious problems."

And he raised the prospect of retaliatory action by asking why Russia would "not have the right

to supply our weapons of the same class to those regions of the world where there will be strikes on the sensitive facilities of those countries that are doing this against Russia?"

The Ukrainian military has started using US-supplied HIMARS rocket systems to hit Russian air defense systems, weapons depots and other military targets on Russian territory, a member of the Ukrainian Parliament told CNN on Wednesday.

CNN

Eto'o implodes, Salah and Auba return, Nigeria sweat on Lookman; key stories in African World Cup qualifying

African international football returns this week, with the continent's biggest sides looking to take major steps towards the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

As ever, there are plenty of fixtures to look forward to -- with Nigeria squaring off against South Africa, and Algeria taking on Guinea among others -- while numerous continental heavyweights are desperate

to get the attention back on to the pitch after a bruising and controversial few months.

Here are the main storylines to keep tabs on during gameweek three of CAF's World Cup qualifying.

Can Eto'o and Brys co-exist?

Cameroon's preparation for this international break has been utterly disastrous, with footage of FECAFOOT president Samuel Eto'o's hostile reception of newly

appointed head coach Marc Brys going viral.

The Belgian coach departed from his role two days after his appointment, in light of the ugly exchange with Eto'o, but he was reinstated shortly afterwards -- after the Indomitable Lions legend issued an apology.

"Your mission may not be easy, despite your qualities and experience, but you must know that you have [the federation's] support," Eto'o wrote in a statement, as seen by ESPN.

It's been a chaotic affair, with Brys issuing one list

of players called up for the international break before his short-term successor -- the interim head coach Martin Ndtoungou -- issuing another only for the Belgian to return to his post.

Don't expect Eto'o's unhappiness to die down, as he is still smarting after the Cameroonian sports ministry appointed Brys apparently without the federation's knowledge.

It also remains to be seen how Brys, a late arrival in the role even ignoring his brief dismissal, will cope, having had little time to familiarise

himself with the players and the task at hand.

Training didn't take place on Monday, amid accusations that FECAFOOT officials had removed the bus containing the team's equipment, and we can only wonder about the state of the five-time African champions when they face Cape Verde Islands on Saturday.

Africa's latest Champions League winner in action

Less than a week after becoming Morocco's fourth UEFA Champions League winner, Brahim Díaz is set to return to action when the Atlas Lions host Zambia in their third qualifier.

Díaz was an unused substitute in Real Madrid's 2-0 victory over Borussia Dortmund at Wembley, but he featured nine times for

Carlo Ancelotti's side en route to the final -- notably scoring the winner against RB Leipzig in the round of 16.

Victory for Los Merengues means Díaz follows in the footsteps of Morocco teammates Munir El Haddadi, Achraf Hakimi and Hakim Ziyech in winning the Champions League, and the second -- after Hakimi in 2018 -- to do so with Real.

Attention now turns to his nascent international career, with Díaz's switch from Spain being validated only in March, and the 24-year-old landed in Rabat on Monday ahead of joining his teammates at the Mohammed VI training centre in preparation for their qualifiers.

ESPN

Lakers preparing massive offer to UConn's Dan Hurley

The Los Angeles Lakers are targeting UConn men's basketball coach Dan Hurley as the franchise's next coach and are preparing a massive, long-term contract offer to bring the back-to-back NCAA national champion to the NBA, sources told ESPN.

The Lakers have had preliminary contact with Hurley and the sides are planning to escalate discussions in the coming days, sources told ESPN. Hurley has been at the forefront of the Lakers' search from the beginning of the process, even while the organization has done its due diligence interviewing several other candidates, sources said.

Lakers vice president of basketball operations and general manager Rob Pelinka and governor Jeanie Buss are eager to formally discuss with Hurley their vision of marrying his dominant program -- built upon his tactical acumen and his elite player development -- with the storied Lakers brand, sources said.

Hurley, 51, has often described his ambition to one day coach in the NBA and has expressed to the Lakers a desire to explore the full picture of a partnership with one of basketball's winningest franchises, sources said.

The pursuit of Hurley comes on the 20th anniversary

of the Lakers trying to hire then-Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski to a record-breaking contract in 2004. Krzyzewski elected to remain with the Blue Devils, but the climate has dramatically changed in college athletics. The demands of NIL fundraising for non-power-football schools such as UConn are an especially relentless grind -- and are expected to become even more difficult.

As for the Lakers' stars, LeBron James has been impressed with Hurley's sophisticated offensive actions. Assuming James returns to L.A. in free agency, the possibility of using the

Dan Hurley

55th pick in this month's NBA draft on USC freshman guard Bronny James makes Hurley an even more intriguing candidate. If that happens, James gets a chance to play with his son and the benefit of Hurley and his staff becoming responsible for Bronny's pro development.

In a social media post responding to a podcast interview with JJ Redick, James posted on X about Hurley: "He's so DAMN GOOD!!! Along with his staff. Super creative with their [offense]. Love it."

ESPN



Guinea hope Serhou Guirassy can continue his stellar club form on the international stage.

Perez signs new two-year deal with Red Bull

Sergio Perez has signed a new two-year contract to stay at Red Bull in Formula 1 until the end of 2026.

The world champions have decided to stick with

the Mexican, who joined the team in 2021, rather than switch him for Carlos Sainz, who is available following Lewis Hamilton's decision to move to Ferrari from 2025.

Team principal Christian

Horner said: "Continuity and stability are important for the team and both Checo and Max [Verstappen] are a successful and robust partnership."

Horner's decision comes

despite a dip in form for Perez in the past three races in Miami, Imola and Monaco, where he finished fourth, eighth and crashed out on the first lap after qualifying 16th.

Horner said: "The past few races have been tough, there is convergence on the grid, but we are confident in Checo and look forward to his return to proven form and performance, that we so often see."

Perez said: "I am delighted to be staying here to continue our journey together. Being part of the team is an immense challenge and one I love."

"We have a great challenge this year and I have full trust in the whole team that the future is bright here, and I am excited to be part of it."

Verstappen won three of the first four races of the season and took pole position

at the first seven grands prix.

But the Dutchman, who produced the most dominant season in F1 history in 2023, has won only once in the past three races as Red Bull have faced a renewed challenge from McLaren and Ferrari.

McLaren's Lando Norris beat Verstappen in Miami and the world champion could finish only sixth at the last race in Monaco, where Charles Leclerc won for Ferrari.

Perez has not won a race since the Azerbaijan Grand Prix in April 2023, despite Red Bull winning all but one race last season.

He went into this season under pressure to provide more consistent back-up to Verstappen.

Perez managed to do that in finishing second to Verstappen in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Japan early in the season.

But he failed to step up

when his team leader retired in Australia, where Sainz won for Ferrari, and could finish only third, behind Norris, in China, before his recent slump.

Horner said: "Last year was a unicorn season and we will need to work hard to retain our titles."

"But we are assured in our line-up and with the team as a whole, which is imperative in what is shaping up to be a close-fought championship this year."

Horner's decision to stick with Perez means Sainz will have to look elsewhere for a seat. He is said to be deciding between offers from Sauber, which will become Audi's works team in 2026, and Williams.

And keeping Perez comes despite the possibility that Red Bull could lose Verstappen in 2026.

BBC



Sergio Perez signed for Red Bull in December 2020



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MORE EFFORT NEEDED - GRANT



Avram Grant

By Mubukwanu Kaingu
Chipolopolo this evening resume their 2026 FIFA World Cup quest when they visit Morocco in Agadir on match day three of their Group E qualifying campaign. The match comes six months since the two sides met at the Cote d'Ivoire 2023 AFCON in their final Group F fixture in San Pedro. Morocco won that match 1-0 to advance to the knockout stage while

Zambia bowed out from the tournament they had just returned to after a nine-year absence. Chipolopolo now are back to competitive action this time hoping to keep alive their elusive target of FIFA World Cup qualification in 55 years of heartbreak to book a ticket to the Mundial. Coach Avram Grant admits that Chipolopolo head into the match as underdogs but added that Zambia had taken some lessons from that

AFCON encounter. "They are very good team but our target was to be a team hard to beat and I think you saw in the game against Morocco at the AFCON. We came close to getting a good result against them," Grant said. "I know, at their home ground it will be more difficult, but as I always say if it's more difficult, you put in more effort, so we will try to do it. We have difficulties but difficulties are part of my

job as coach to deal with it." Key to Zambia's objective will be Leicester City striker Patson Daka who has so far scored three goals in two Group E qualifiers including on match day two when Zambia lost 2-1 away to Niger. That match was also played in Morocco, up north in Marrakesh because Niger's venues have failed the FIFA stadium tests. Tonight's game could see the qualifiers debut for Italian based prospect Kingston Mutwanda. Mutwanda arrives riding a wave of hype with his one goal in five Serie A appearances for his club Cagliari.

Should Grant gamble on starting Mutwanda with Daka, he has fairly sizeable boots to fill in the absence of Fashion Sakala who remains on a forced exile from Chipolopolo following his modest display at 2023 AFCON. Chipolopolo are a side struggling for goal scorers where the burden has unfortunately been heavily placed on Daka's shoulders. Goalkeeper Lawrence Mulenga should start, but away from the observant eye, he has mysteriously missed Power Dynamos last three games of the season. A fever was the reason the Power bench gave for Mulenga's absence three

games ago on May 17 when the goalkeeper watched from the stands his team clobber Forest Rangers 5-0 in Kitwe. Grant's midfield will also be an issue of concern after it limped through in San Pedro and so the jury is still out on Kings Kangwa, Emmanuel Banda and company again against the quality of the Atlas Lions. Meanwhile, Chipolopolo need a point from this game to avoid the prospect of back to back Group E defeats with Tanzania coming to Ndola in five days time at the midway point of the qualifiers where four teams minus Congo Brazzaville are all tied on 3 points.

ZPL announces two new cup competitions

The excitement that comes with cup football is set to triple next season with the Zambian Premier League (ZPL) announcing two new cup competitions. For several years now, the Zambian football landscape has been starved of many cup competitions, with the ASBA Cup being the only elite cup competition. However, starting next season, clubs will have to brace themselves for more cup action with the introduction of the Champion of Champions Cup and the ZPL Challenge Cup. This will bring the number of cup competitions to three. "As ZPL, we are also

excited to announce the introduction of two more cup competitions," ZPL CEO Joseph Chimpampwe said at a media briefing, "The Champion Champions and the ZPL Challenge Cup. I can also mention that the ZPL Challenge Cup will be the most lucrative cup we shall have." **Who will qualify for these cup competitions?** While the format has not yet been outlined, Chimpampwe revealed that the ZPL Challenge Cup will see all teams from the Super Division and the National Division One participate. The Cup will also have a women's version. For the Champions of Champions Cup, it

will be an end-of-season competition that will pit winners of the ABSA Cup, the Super League, the ZPL Challenge Cup, and the National Division One. Meanwhile, ZPL has also unveiled 2024-25 season fixtures, scheduling the league to start on August 17. Speaking during a media briefing at Football House, ZPL CEO Joseph Chimpampwe said the men's and women's leagues will kick off on August 17. "As ZPL, we are excited to unveil the 2024/2025 MTN Super League and the Women's Super-Division fixtures that were ratified by the board. The two leagues will run concurrently starting on August 17," Chimpampwe said. **BOLANEWS**

