

MONTHLY BUSINESS NEWS MAGAZINE

SOLWEZI

T O D A Y

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**Zanaco now number one
Bank in Zambia**

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Zanaco now number one Bank in Zambia



ZANACO TRANSFORMATION SPILLS ONTO THE STREETS

It is not very often that financial institutions in Zambia report comfortable profits, meaningful tax returns, an expanded customer base and on top of all that, thousands of new jobs across the country.

It will therefore be music in many ears to hear that Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO) closed the year 2021 having created new jobs. For such reasons, the bank has now nestled in the top position as the country's strongest and most reliable bank.

That is no mean feat, given that some of the banks plying the financial sector are international and have lofty pedigrees.

Apparently the bank's strategic transformation has propelled it to the summit of the sector, which says a lot about

responding on time to changing seasons. Certain established strategies will have worked, and possibly for decades, but it takes courage to change direction when occasion demands.

The transformation of a large institution is as difficult as navigating a change of direction with a truck towing two loaded trailers. ZANACO have negotiated that road from 2020 when the idea of strategic transformation was mooted; the goal was to accomplish the recast and reset by 2025. Now the finishing line has been reached earlier.

We congratulate and salute ZANACO Managing Director Mukwandi Chibesakunda and the management team for an achievement that not only makes their balance sheet look good; but has also spilled into the streets by way of empowered young agents.



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Apple first company to reach \$3 trillion in valuation

BY ALVIN R. CABRAL

Company shares rose to \$182.88 on first day of trading in 2022 before closing at \$182.01

Apple's stock-market value briefly rose above \$3 trillion, shattering yet another record and underscoring how the Covid-19 pandemic has turbo-charged Big Tech's decades-long rise.

The world's most valuable company is the first to reach the milestone as investors bet that consumers will continue to shell out top dollar for iPhones, MacBooks and services such as Apple TV and Apple Music.

Demand for iPhones is expected to remain strong in 2022, as Apple leads China's smartphone market and more consumers subscribe to its services.

The unprecedented demand for tech devices and services played a huge role in the success of Apple, one of the few companies that emerged a winner during the pandemic and posted impressive financial results. Apple's revenue rose 47 percent from the previous year during its last quarter.

Apple's march from \$2tn to \$3tn in market value took about 16 months. At present, it is only one of six companies in the highly-elite trillion-dollar market cap club, alongside Microsoft, Alphabet-owner Google, Saudi Aramco, Amazon and Tesla.

The company was the first to achieve this milestone, although it failed to hold above the level until the end of the trading day. It closed 2.5 percent higher at \$182.01 and was flat in after hours trading, with a market capitalization of \$2.99tn.

The advance came on a broadly positive session for stocks, where Apple and Amazon both contributed to the Nasdaq 100 Index outperforming.

The iPhone maker also set a record in midday trading when its shares rose to \$182.88.

"It's a fantastic accomplishment and certainly worthy to be celebrated," said Jake Dollarhide, Chief Executive of Longbow Asset Management. "It just shows you how far Apple has come and how dominant it is seen as in the majority of investors' eyes."

Its shares have jumped 38 percent since the beginning of 2021. As it accounts for a significant percentage of holdings for



major indices, Apple's gains have mirrored those of the broader market during a time of economic and technological change, according to Investopedias.

"The market is rewarding companies that have strong fundamentals and balance sheets, and the companies that are hitting these sorts of huge market caps

The advance came on a broadly positive session for stocks, where Apple and Amazon both contributed to the Nasdaq 100 Index outperforming.

have proven they are strong businesses and not speculation," said Scott Wren, Senior Global Market Strategist at Wells Fargo Investment Institute.

The broader market was set to extend a recovery from the pandemic shock,

led by Tesla and followed by Apple and Nvidia.

Recently, Morgan Stanley analyst Katy Huberty bumped the company's price target on Apple shares to \$200 from \$164, saying that analysts have failed to price in the impact of future product releases and particularly its augmented and virtual reality products.

Apple's shares have climbed around 5,800 percent since co-founder and former chief executive Steve Jobs unveiled the first iPhone in January 2007, far outpacing the S&P 500's gain of about 230 percent during the same period.

Under Tim Cook, who became chief executive in 2011 following Jobs's death, Apple has sharply increased its revenue from services like video streaming and music.

The diversification has helped the company reduce its reliance on the iPhone, which accounted for just about 52 percent of its total revenue in fiscal 2021 from more than 60 percent in 2018. This soothed investors who were worried that the company relied too much on its top-selling product. thenationalnews / Solwezi Today.

Minister of Youth, Sport, and Arts Elvis Nkandu with red tie franked by his Permanent Secretary, Kangwa Chileshe left speaking during a media briefing.



Fuel trucks rolling out to youth cooperatives

BY JOHN CHOLA

Minister of Youth, Sport, and Arts Elvis Nkandu says the youth empowerment programmes that will address challenges faced by youths across Zambia have commenced.

Nkandu says one of the empowerment programmes commencing is the distribution of 50 fuel tanker project aimed at benefiting over 50 cooperatives from across the country.

Speaking at a media briefing, Thursday, Nkandu assured the country that the New Dawn Government will ensure the fuel tanker trucks project was done differently from the “poorly managed” format by the previous administration.

He explained that the fuel tanker project will target youth registered cooperatives across the country, guiding that those who would benefit from the project will have to apply and be approved by the provincial administration as provided by the new empowerment guidelines.

“Cooperatives will get application forms from the ministry headquarters and applications should be backed by endorse-

The Ministry of Youth, Sport and Art has also scheduled meetings at which it will be reviewing the implementation of the fuel tanker truck project.

ment from the provincial administration.

“And cooperatives that will benefit from this second phase of the 50 fuel tanker trucks will be entered into business incubation through a memorandum of understanding between our Ministry and the existing oil marketing company that will assist in managing the fuel

tankers on behalf of government and the cooperatives, and subsequently, mentor youths into the oil transportation business.”

The ministry would ensure that capacity was built in the youths to run the tanker trucks on their own after settling loans.

The Ministry of Youth, Sport and Art has also scheduled meetings at which it will be reviewing the implementation of the fuel tanker truck project.

Nkandu announced that provinces will receive five fuel tankers each and the number will increase as the ministry intended to procure another set of 50 fuel tankers this year.

“We also remind artists that benefited from the Youth Empowerment Loans to start paying back with immediate effect. We stated that failure to pay back as agreed will result in the Government taking measures that will compel them to repay the loans. The Government’s decision through our ministry to direct the immediate repayment is not targeting artists that had political affiliation but is necessary as the grace period has elapsed.”

Inflation decline assures economic stability

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Zambia has started 2022 with a record low 15.1 percent inflation rate, the lowest since October 2020.

After being elected in August against the backdrop of a strong campaign message to fix the economy and restore fiscal stability, President Hakainde Hichilema's Government has hit the ground running.

Barely five months into office, the Hichilema administration secured a staff level agreement for a \$1.4 billion economic structural adjustment programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Arguably, the dividends of Zambia's macroeconomic stabilization programme have started yielding positive results and one such critical fundamental that has so far responded positively is the inflation rate, which has reduced to 15.1 percent in January 2022 from 16.4 percent recorded in December 2021.

"The continued reduction in the inflation rate is supported by the stability in the price of many goods, stable exchange rate, and the confidence stakeholders have in our capabilities to manage the economy and bring normalcy. The situation where people's incomes or salaries every month are buying fewer goods and services each time the rate increases will soon be over," President Hakainde Hichilema recently posted on his Facebook page.

The Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) says the decrease of inflation by 1.3 percentage points means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 15.1 percent between January 2021 and January 2022.

"The slowdown in annual inflation was mainly attributed to favourable price movements in food items," said ZamStats Interim Statistician General Mulenga Musepa.

The fiscal space is now on the mend with a considered aim to achieve a single-digit inflation rate by the end of the year, bringing about manageable lev-

els in the cost of living.

OVERALL INCREASE

A critical analysis of the month of December 2021 shows an overall increase in the prices of essential items.

For instance, the cost of living for a family of five in Lusaka as measured by the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) Basic Needs and Nutrition Basket (BNNB) for December 2021 stood at K8, 359.80, a K214.52 increase in comparison to the November basket that stood at K8, 145.28.

According to JCTR's monthly bulletin, the increase in the prices of fuel also appears to have had an impact. While justified especially in view of key variables such as the exchange rate and the price of crude oil per barrel on the international market, its impact on the cost of living is undeniable.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Recently, the Energy Regulation Board (ERB) reduced the pump price of petroleum products by K1.32 for petrol and K1.22 per litre for diesel.

In a statement, ERB Board Chairperson Reynolds Bowa said that according to the market fundamentals for the month of December 2021, international oil prices for petrol and diesel recorded a notable decline with the Kwacha also appreciating against the United States Dollar.

Bowa noted that the petrol prices declined by 11.56 percent from \$96.39 cents per barrel recorded in October 2021 to \$85.25 cents in December 2021 while Diesel Prices also declined by 10.64 percent from \$93.27 cents per barrel to \$83.35 cents per barrel.

The local currency, the kwacha, has opened the year with a gain of nearly seven percent against the US dollar, with the central bank projecting inflation to average 15 percent next year

and 9.3 percent in the first three quarters of 2023.

Economic analysts observe that the IMF Staff Level Agreement with the Zambian Government and sustained supply of foreign exchange, particularly from mining companies and foreign investors in Government securities, has contributed to the rebound of the Kwacha.

Despite the recent hike in transport fares of 18 to 34 percent early this year, the USD-ZMW pair opened the forex market with a bullish Kwacha and as at January 31, 2022, the local currency traded at 17.23/18.89 against the US dollar.

PRICING CARTELS

In this context, the Zambian Roads and Highway Safety Group (ZRHSG) has urged the Zambian Government to stop the pricing cartels within the public passenger bus sector and allow each bus operator to determine their own bus fares.

The Highway Safety Group has noted with concern the continued existence of this pricing cartel for many years that benefits only the bus owners and tend to hold to ransom public bus passengers who have no choice but to pay the fixed bus fare.

The ZRHSG believes that the pricing cartel has always left passengers disadvantaged as they have no choice when it comes to bus fares as all fares are pegged at the same cartel price and bus fare regardless of the type and standard of bus services being provided.

"The Highway Safety Group looks forward to safer, efficient and cheaper modes of passenger transport as better and newer models of buses are introduced on our roads," ZRHSG Group Admin Mthoniswa Banda said.

For this reason, it is envisaged that the long-term odds for the country's economy remain bright, especially if the New Dawn administration sticks to its campaign promise of rooting out Government corruption and prudently spending public resources.

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Mobile money increases financial inclusion

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

The African mobile money story is known to have started in Kenya in 2007 when Safaricom launched its MPESA solution for peer to peer money transfer.

Before that, due to a low rate of banking, sending money from point to point used to be a big issue.

In Zambia today, the dawn of digital payment technologies is opening doors to a whole new generation of clientele whose very first bank account is accessed purely through their mobile phones.

“With just my mobile phone, I can now be able to transact at low cost. For me, this is a real deal unlike before where access to an existing bank account was hectic,” says Joe Mutemwa, a mobile money account holder from Sioma District in Western Province.

Thelma Chinyama, a Lusaka based en-

According to Zambia’s National Financial Inclusion Strategy Paper for 2017-2022, more than 40 percent of Zambian adults have no access to quality financial products, and about 60 percent of adults who have such access do not use it.

trepreneur, echoes Mutemwa: “My mobile money account is cost effective because it has enabled me to save my cash flow and grow my enterprise with ease and at less costs unlike a bank account that attracts monthly charges.”

According to Zambia’s National Financial Inclusion Strategy Paper for 2017-2022, more than 40 percent of Zambian adults have no access to quality financial products, and about 60 percent of adults who have such access do not use it.

In vast areas of Zambia, especially remote rural regions, people still rely on the barter system (the use of unregulated and unsecured channels, to make payments and store savings).

The main reasons for this poor showing are lack of funds, time-consuming travel to a bank branch, high bank charges, and lack of trust in the financial sector, according to a 2017 World Bank study titled Enhancing Financial Capability and Inclusion in Zambia.



Therefore, the onset of mobile money technology is helping transform economic sectors in the Southern African country, hence it being flaunted as a revolutionary tool that is expanding access to financial services in low-resource environments.

“As a farmer, my mobile money account is a game-changer to me because each time I need farming inputs such as fertilizer or seeds, I just transact with some agro-dealers in town and they send me my commodities on time. This is unlike before when it used to be cumbersome to do business via the now defunct Lima Bank,” says Clement Tembo, a renowned tobacco farmer from Petauke District in Eastern Province.

INCREASED USAGE

In this context, the Bank of Zambia recently disclosed that mobile money platforms had recorded increased usage in 2020, with numbers growing to 8.6 million users by December 31 compared to

around 4.85 million in 2019.

The central bank further hinted that higher mobile money usage in Zambia has coincided with increased financial inclusion over the two corresponding years, by 10.1 percentage points last year.

“Zambia has continued to make significant progress in the digital transformation agenda, especially in the area of digital financial services. For example, the number of active MNO (Mobile Network Operators)-based mobile money users increased by 77 percent from 4,852,040 as at December 31, 2019, to 8,607,461 as at December 31, 2020,” BoZ Deputy Governor for Operations,” Dr Francis Chipimo states.

As recounted by Nyagaka Anyona Ouko, a Kenyan man who is alleged to be the innovator of the mobile money solution, the idea came as a ‘Eureka’ moment which has remained effective to the informal sector and has the potential of reaching out to the whole population.

It is estimated that in Uganda, 43 percent of people have a mobile money account while in Kenya, the numbers have reached 72 percent.

ADVANCEMENTS

In Zambia, some enthusiastic mobile money agents say life in the world of financial inclusion has now been made easier, thanks to technological advancements.

“The mobile money solution has undoubtedly created jobs for youths, including myself, and we depend on this sector for survival,” says Sara Chola, a mobile money agent based at Lusaka’s sprawling Kamwala market.

Undoubtedly, just as the Internet has changed the way people search for information and shop for products, cellular phones are gadgets that are equally transforming many industries ranging from finance and travel to advertising and retail.

According to telecommunication experts, the mobile money App is installed

in the SIM card of the device and can be used on regular and smartphone devices. Users can receive, withdraw, and send money without being connected to the formal banking system.

The FinScope Survey of 2020 stated that the financial inclusion increase of 10.1 percentage points to 69.4 percent from 59.3 percent in 2015 was mainly attributable to mobile money transactions.

With approximately 100,000 plus agent lines officially registered in Zambia, according to the Mobile Money Business Association of Zambia, the sector is contributing to the national treasury in terms of taxes.

UNBANKED

Lusaka-based economist Mambo Haamaundu has observed that there is a realization of very low financial inclusion as there still remains a high unbanked population in the country, especially among informal sector players.

“For me, mobile money services are tapping into the unbanked population and as a result play a complementary role with traditional banks. For instance, cash can now easily be transferred from one bank account to a mobile money account with ease,” says Haamaundu.

In view of the global outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, most businesses in Zambia have been crippled with some left gasping for breath.

Hence Airtel Networks Zambia Plc, one of the major telecommunication firms in the country, is on course to provide the Zambian business sector with digital transaction solutions in light of the negative impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Airtel Network Zambia Enterprise Business Director Lindiwe Banda announces: “We would like to be the partner of choice for any SME customer, so that we grow with them and they grow with us; such that at the point where they are moving from small to medium organizations into large corporates, we can proudly look back with them and say we did it together.”



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Zanaco now number one Bank in Zambia

With more than 25,000 new jobs by end of 2021

BY JOHN CHOLA

Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO) closed the year 2021 having posted K1 billion in profit after tax.

The bank created more than 25,000 jobs by registering more than 15,000 ZANACO Express agents across the country.

ZANACO Managing Director Mukwandi Chibesakunda revealed February 3, 2022 that part of the successes during 2021 arose from an expanded customer base which against all odds grew to 2.5 million.

Today I am pleased to announce that we have been able to achieve the number one position in the banking sector ahead of our strategic timeline.

The bank's strategic transformation has propelled it to the apex of the banking sector.

"We have been on a strategic transformation journey to become number one bank in Zambia. This is a journey we started to aggressively drive in 2020, to achieve this ambition by 2025. Today I am pleased to announce that we have been able to achieve the number one po-



sition in the banking sector ahead of our strategic timeline,” Chibesakunda said.

In its published prudential results for 2021 performance, ZANACO recorded the highest profit after tax ever in the history of the bank and in the sector, of K1 billion.

“These are remarkable results for our home-grown bank and a proud moment for our team. Our revenue increased to K3.9 billion from K2.9 billion recorded in the financial year ended December 2020. This was achieved on the backdrop of a strong balance sheet and focus on the execution of our strategy.”

By the close of the same period 2021 ZANACO’s balance sheet grew to K26.4 billion from K19.5 billion. Notable in this development were loans and advances, which rose by 31 percent to K9.8 billion from K7.5 billion in 2020.

Ms. Chibesakunda highlighted that during the period under review ZANACO earned K 19 billion from loans issued to clients while the bank raked in K1.6 billion from overdrafts obtained by clients

In its published prudential results for 2021 performance, ZANACO recorded the highest profit after tax ever in the history of the bank and in the sector, of K1 billion.

and an extra K1.1 million was realised from issuance of securities through the Central Bank.

“As a bank we will endeavour to remain number one bank in Zambia by continuing to grow our revenue, profits, transactions and client base. Customer experience and enhancing our efficiencies through innovation will remain critical for the bank going forward,” vowed Chibesakunda.

In 2021 ZANACO signed a 30 million Euros agriculture finance facility with the

European Investment Bank to support the local agriculture sector.

ZANACO was the first bank to launch a green outcomes fund in partnership with the World wide Fund for Nature and Mukula Capital, whose implementation would include direct funding towards green business initiatives of up to K15 million.

On the future outlook, Chibesakunda said ZANACO was well positioned to embrace digital and sustainable developments to compete strongly and transform the face of banking in Zambia.

“We are banking on delivering a future ZANACO that our customers will be proud to be associated with and that people will simply view as remarkable.”

Chibesakunda also celebrated the various awards ZANACO received such as from Euro Money, International Banker and Global Finance that recognized the financial institution’s resilience amid the pandemic, its innovation in retail banking and well tailored trade finance solutions for businesses.

Nvumabaranda Group of Companies CEO, Kennedy Nduna, explains his company operations to Minister of Green Economy and Environment Collins Nzovu while FQM Trident Mine General Manager Sean Egner looks on.



FQM Trident opens opportunities in Kalumbila

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

FQM Trident Mine General Manager Sean Egner has stated that the setting up of FQM Trident Mine, formerly known as Kalumbila Minerals Limited (KML), has created new opportunities for economic growth in Kalumbila District of North-Western Province and beyond.

The influx of migrant employees and subsequent increase in population has created a demand for new projects, business activities and infrastructure. This has ultimately improved the quality of life for the rural community.

“With support from Government line ministries and through collaboration with the community, FQM Trident Mine through Trident Foundation Limited (TFL), has undertaken various initiatives to promote sustainable development that meets the locally defined social, environmental, and economic goals over the long term.”

The company has invested heavily in education, infrastructure, wildlife, farming and health in order to promote and uplift the living standards of the local people.

“While some local people are employed to work on the mine; FQM is committed to reduce dependence on the mine alone and has been promoting local business development to enable community members to have sustainable livelihoods at the end of the mining life.”

With the existing resourceful environment, businesses have tapped into

the multiplier effects that have been brought about as result of increased cash flow and skills development after the setting up of FQM Trident Mine. One such business is Nvumabaranda Group of Companies.

Recently, during the official opening of Nvumabaranda Hospital in Kalumbila, FQM Trident Mine General Manager, Sean Egner said when FQM embarked on the audacious vision to establish a green mine and town in the little known part of Zambia, there were many doubts about how the company would develop a town with amenities such as schools, markets and clinics.



Medical staff for newly opened Nvumabaranda Hospital.

“We fully understood that our operation presents a significant conducive socio-economic environment that extends from local to regional scale. The opening of this private hospital symbolizes the growth of our town, that has been developed in an environmentally conscious manner, fostering green initiatives and responsible environmental management,” explained Egner.

Egner commended Nvumabaranda Group of Companies for building a hospital and setting up various businesses in Kalumbila. He encouraged other small and medium enterprises to seize the available opportunities and work with other stakeholders to grow into viable business houses.

CEO for Nvumabaranda Group of Com-

We fully understood that our operation presents a significant conducive socio-economic environment that extends from local to regional scale. The opening of this private hospital symbolizes the growth of our town, that has been developed in an environmentally conscious manner, fostering green initiatives and responsible environmental management.

panies, Kennedy Nduna, appreciated FQM Trident mine for creating an enabling environment for other businesses to thrive in Kalumbila.

He intimated that he has received tremendous support from the mine which has made it possible for him to expand his business in hospitality, cleaning services, catering, conference facilities and health service provision.

Nduna has called on more businesses to emulate his efforts and contribute to the economic development of Kalumbila District.



Minister of Green Economy and Environment Collins Nzovu (second from right) confers with FQM Trident Manager Sean Egner and Kalumbila Council Deputy chairperson Shadrack Munjunga (far left) as Nvumabaranda CEO Kennedy Nduna looks on (far right).

Congratulations to the AS Level Students of 2021



We are very pleased with our AS level results for the class of 2021. This cohort of 46 students achieved a remarkable pass rate of 93% and 70% of their grades were C and above. The students below are our twelve top performers, half of whom achieved A grades in all four subjects! We expect another bumper set of results from these young people in their final year in 2022. Congratulations to the year 12 pupils of 2021.



VITUMBIKO KABANDAMA
4x A grades



MBAWEME KANSEMBE
4x A grades



CHILOMBO KASWEKA
4x A grades



MWANGO KAYAYI
4x A grades



KUWUNDA ADRICK LUWAYA
4x A grades



TWALAINI MUTAMBO
4x A grades



ABEL MULONGA
3x A grades & 1x B grade



MUTALE MUSONDA
3x A grades & 1x B grade



RENEE SUSAN DU TOIT
3x A grades & 1x B grade



MWILA NYONDO
3x A grades & 1x B grade



BWALYA GEORGE MUSAKANYA
3x A grades & 1x B grade



TIONECHI KILEMBE
3x A grades & 1x B grade

Trident is committed to providing students with a broad, value based education. To balance our outstanding academics, our co-curricular programme emphasizes the care for our environment and leadership skills development. Students have the opportunity to learn a broad range of sports, and also take part in outdoor education, the Arts and cultural activities. Community Service is a key pillar of a Trident education. For more information Call: +26096 883 8404 or Email: gladys.mofya@trident-college.com or visit our website www.trident-college.com.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATION CLASS OF 2021

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The Trident College class of 2021 has done it again, with exceptional AS and A level results just released. As usual, every student passed every exam, and more than 30% of results were A*s or As. A third of this group attained a straight run of As and A*s; simply fantastic news for the College and for our brilliant students. This is an exceptionally strong set of results which keeps Trident College among the top schools in southern Africa.

Students did especially well in Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Business, with more than half the class attaining grades of excellence. We would particularly like to congratulate Mapalo Mulwe and Kyabu Kapijimpanga for securing 3 A*s in their subjects. Overall, we are hugely proud of all our students on their 100% pass rate again this year.

These results are a testimony to how hard our teachers and pupils have worked to overcome the difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, and we can't wait to see what our amazing students will do next. Congratulations, class of 2021.

Indicator	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of candidate	21	41	30	31
Distinction Rate (A+)	16%	35%	44%	34%
Band of Excellence (C+)	78%	76%	90%	79%
Subject Pass Rate (E+)	98%	98%	100%	100%



Name: MAPALO MULWE
Results: 3 A*s 1 A in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics & Physics
Destination & Degree: USA or Canada. I hope to obtain a BSc in Biology before studying medicine

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

I enjoyed the numerous opportunities & activities run by the school that enabled me to grow in all aspects of my life & discover personal attributes that were previously unbeknownst to me. I had the privilege of interacting with people from different backgrounds, forming lasting friendships & making beautiful memories.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

Furthering my studies in the field of neurosurgery or cardiology or both! I hope to conduct innovative research in the various concentrations in the medical field.



Name: KYABU TUKIYA KAPIJIMPANGA
Results: 3 A*s in Biology, Chemistry & Mathematics
Destination & Degree: UNZA, Bachelor of medicine, Bachelor of surgery.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

I really enjoyed my new found independence. I got in touch with myself and expressed my individuality. I got comfortable with self study and trying new things. The staff were very encouraging and never let me down. I also loved the scenery of Trident College.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

Practicing medicine and working towards being heart surgeon or cardiologist. I would also like to travel the world.



Name: MULENGA CHISELEBWE
Results: 2 A*s & 1 A in Chemistry, Mathematics & Physics
Destination & Degree: Computer science and sports management at Skidmore college USA or UNZA

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

Being part of a tight knit community where teachers turned to parents and friends to family. Trident wholly embraced and encouraged all aspects of my student life: academics, sports, spirituality and music.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I hope to have gained a masters degree in my field and spearhead the merge of sport development and management with ICT.



Name: TEZA KAMPHASA SIKASOTE
Results: 2 A*s & 1 A Chemistry, Mathematics & Biology
Destination & Degree: Sweden to study Medicine

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

The ability and freedom to be able to discover myself and the exposure to different aspects of life

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

Saving lives and enjoying life.



Name: NADOROFIYA CHIKOYE
Results: 1A* & 2 As in Chemistry, Mathematics & Physics
Destination & Degree: UK to study Computer Science

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

I particularly appreciated the inclusive cultural aspect of my Trident experience. Alongside challenging academics there was a chance to exercise and grow other talents and passions in Art, Singing, Drama etc.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I hope to be doing research intensive work at a top name company within the private sector and working towards a PhD in chosen area of specialization.



Name: LUSHOMO KONI
Results: 1A* & 2As in Business, English Language & Mathematics
Destination & Degree: England to study Law

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

Creating meaningful relationships with lifelong friends and try out many activities in a beautiful environment.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I would like to have my masters degree in the field and a prominent advocate for legal fairness in businesses



Name: BWALYA MUMBOLE MULENGA MIKALILE
Results: 1A* & 2As in Economics, Business & Mathematics
Destination & Degree: Bsc International Economics and Management at Bocconi University, Italy / Bsc Economics and Finance at University of Manchester, UK

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

I was challenged to step out of my comfort zone and participate in various activities. I was able to accomplish things that I never thought were possible before and I also made amazing friends on the way.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I see myself operating in global marketing and running an enterprise offering translation services.



Name: CHISOMO PHIRI
Results: 1A* & 2As in Mathematics, Chemistry & Physics
Destination & Degree: UNZA, Civil Engineering

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

Exposure to different cultures and new ideas.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

Hopefully running my own engineering startup.



Name: CHIKWANDA CHISHA
Results: 1A*, 2As & 1B in Mathematics, Chemistry Physics & Further Mathematics
Destination & Degree: UNZA to study electrical engineering.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

Trident has a very supportive community in which one can blossom into a better version of oneself. At Trident, I was exposed to many opportunities. From basketball to dance and community service, Trident has helped me grow in many ways I never thought I could in those two years.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I hope to end the educational inequalities in Africa and run an art centre for the less privileged.



Name: NYANGU SICHONE
Results: 1A*, 1A & 1B in Business, Economics & Mathematics
Destination & Degree: Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident?

What I enjoyed the most was interacting with my teachers. They were available even beyond classroom time and offered help not just in their subject areas, but also in counselling, mainly about university choices, self esteem, and life in general.

What would you like to be doing in ten years time?

I'd like to be working as a Financial analyst in a stock exchange market then after, open my own Financial institution.

Trident is committed to providing students with a broad, value based education. To balance our outstanding academics, our co-curricular programme emphasizes the care for our environment and leadership skills development. Students have the opportunity to learn a broad range of sports, and also take part in outdoor education, the Arts and cultural activities. Community Service is a key pillar of a Trident education. For more information Call: +26096 883 8404 or Email: gladys.mofya@trident-college.com or visit our website www.trident-college.com.



CEC settles \$2m Zesco lawsuit costs

BY STUART LISULO

THE Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) has paid out US \$2 million to Zesco Limited for the costs incurred by the national utility in the arbitration proceedings it instituted against the former.



In a cautionary withdrawal notice issued recently, CEC Company Secretary, Julia Chaila, disclosed that CEC had paid a final sum of US \$2 million to Zesco, covering costs and expenses, in accordance with the Final Award issued by the sole arbitrator and as agreed by the parties.

This is in a matter where Zesco took action against CEC in 2019, pursuant to the now-lapsed Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) and the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, for determination of matters surrounding payments by Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) and relating to the tariff adjustment of 2011 and the impact of Statutory Instrument No. 33 of 2012, which outlawed charging and/or paying in any currency other than Zambian kwacha.

Zesco had made a demand claim of US \$51,620,063 plus interest but upon hearing the matter, the arbitrator ordered CEC to pay US \$4,246,666.42 as the full principal sum plus interest of US \$12,246,555 accrued over the years, which CEC has already settled.

“The amount due has accordingly been paid. This being the Final Award, the arbitration has effectually concluded and in this regard, the cautionary is hereby withdrawn and discontinued.”

DISAGREED

Zesco also disagreed with a statement in CEC’s 2018 annual report relating to the contingent liability arising from the 2014 Energy Regulation Board (ERB) electricity tariff increase which the mining companies have legally contested and were granted a stay pending determination of the matter in the High Court for Zambia.

In a cautionary withdrawal notice issued via the Lusaka Securities Exchange (LuSE), January 10, Chaila announced that the sole arbitrator had issued the

Final Award on December 22, 2021, following the Interim/Partial Award of July 21, 2021, and Second Partial Award by consent on November 2, 2021, that determined the matters under dispute.

“The shareholders of Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) are referred to the cautionary announcement dated 27th September, 2019 and subsequent announcements wherein the Company advised of the action taken by Zesco Limited against CEC, pursuant to the Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) and the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The Board of Directors of CEC wishes to inform shareholders that the sole arbitrator has issued a Final Award in the arbitration, following the Interim/Partial Award dated 21st July, 2021, and the Second Partial Award by consent dated 2nd November, 2021, whose details were all provided in earlier announcements on the matter,” said Chaila in the notice.

“The Board, therefore, wishes to inform shareholders that on 22nd December, 2021, the sole arbitrator issued a Final Award, in relation to the remaining issues in the dispute on the matter of costs and interest on costs. Following agreement of the parties, the sole arbitrator has consequently ordered, awarded and declared that CEC pay to Zesco the sum of US \$2 million as full and final settlement of Zesco’s costs in the arbitration within 14 days of the Award and that interest accrue and be payable day to day on any amount remaining unpaid thereafter.

“The amount due has accordingly been paid. This being the Final Award, the arbitration has effectually concluded and in this regard, the cautionary is hereby withdrawn and discontinued. In relation to this matter, shareholders are no longer advised to exercise caution in dealing in the Company’s securities.”

MTN Launches 5G Cellular Network

New communications opportunities assured

BY JOHN CHOLA

MTN Zambia, one of the leading telecommunication providers in the country, has launched its pilot 5G cellular network.



MTN Chief Executive Officer Bart Hofker

The development makes Zambia one of the first 10 African countries with this advanced network.

The MTN 5G network pilot platform will enhance connectivity speed and offer ultra-low latency and greater bandwidth.

MTN Zambia Chief Executive Officer Bart Hofker said during the launch on January 11, 2022, that 5G cellular networks were at least 10 times faster than 4G which creates never seen before opportunities for people and businesses in Zambia.

"5G technology can connect virtually everyone and everything, including machines, objects, and devices. We are moving into an era of ubiquitous connectivity. MTN Zambia will be rolling out 5G pilot demonstration sites in Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces and we are eager to set up specific and relevant use cases together with our Zambian customers and partners to expand social and commercial horizons, alongside the

rest of the world," Hofker stated.

Technology and Science Minister Felix Mutati who officiated at the launch described the unveiling as the most effective New Year present for the people of Zambia which would end customer frustration with speed delays.

Minister Mutati said the 5G pilot launch by MTN Zambia had the capability to enhance social, cultural and commercial participation amongst the citizens of Zambia and also the global community.

He observed that through the pilot launch lessons would be used to deploy connectivity to the rest of the country, resulting in cost effectiveness and affordability to the end user.

The New Dawn Government had been clear on its drive towards achieving digital transformation whose key pillar is was adequate digital infrastructure.

Government was on a path to transform the digital space in the country, adding



Minister Felix Mutati speaking at the launch

that Zambia becoming one of the first 10 African countries with 5G meant that other countries would now come to learn from Zambia.

"We are one of the first ten African countries that have got 5G. We are in the big league as a country. We are among the big boys in Africa. The others will have to come and learn the experience from Zambia. As the New Dawn Government, we are not just talking, we are actually delivering things that we have committed ourselves to."

Once the network was rolled out and more 5G equipment arrived, general Internet access in Zambia would increase alongside enhanced broadband penetration.

The 5G technology is believed to have the potential to aggregate much of the capability that currently sits across the different telecommunications archetypes such as 2G, 3G and 4G fibre.

In light of this, Mutati directed the Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority (ZICTA) to revise the service provision licensing framework. The Minister said within the second week of January 2022 ZICTA should have launched its revised licensing framework to make it easy for businesses.

"As we deploy technology, you have got to create the regulatory environment, particularly the licensing environment that captures this opportunity given. We cannot run this sector under the same licensing environment. DG, this week, lets launch the revised licensing framework" he said.



Airtel Africa Joins FTSE 100

BY JOHN CHOLA

Airtel Africa Plc has as of Monday, January 31, 2022, joined the Financial Times Stock Exchange (FTSE 100).

The FTSE Group, owned by the London Stock Exchange (LSE) is a financial organization that specializes in the management of asset exchanges and creating index offerings for the global financial markets.

Airtel Africa CEO, Segun Ogunsanya, made the announcement adding that through its mobile telecoms and mobile money services, Airtel Africa Plc is transforming lives of more than 122 million people across the 14 African markets in which it operates.

The Group floated on the London Stock Exchange in June 2019, and has since demonstrated significant growth in its customer base, revenues, profits, margins, and cash generation, as well as strengthened its balance sheet through reduced leverage.

Ogunsanya said the Airtel Group con-

“We look forward to growing the Company further as we continue to sustainably bridge the digital divide, expand financial inclusion and meet the evolving needs of our customers.”

tinues to execute its growth strategy to deliver on the significant market potential afforded by the demographics and market dynamics across voice, data and mobile money services.

“We continue to invest in our infrastructure and distribution networks across the countries where we operate, sup-

porting their economies and communities. Sustainability is at the core of our strategy, driven by our guiding purpose of ‘Transforming lives’ across Africa, with people, businesses and governments seeking access to more and better connectivity and improved financial inclusion,” Ogunsanya said.

Airtel Africa joins the FTSE 100 only two and a half years after its listing on the London Stock Exchange, an achievement Ogunsanya is immensely proud of.

He said this achievement had been realized on the back of all the hard work and success achieved by everyone at Airtel Africa.

“We look forward to growing the Company further as we continue to sustainably bridge the digital divide, expand financial inclusion and meet the evolving needs of our customers.”

Government releases K1.46 billion social protection funds

BY JOHN CHOLA

The Ministry of Finance and National Planning has released another K1.46 billion towards social protection programmes with K1 billion going to paying off arrears of pensioners under the Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF).

Minister of Finance Situmbeko Musokotwane has announced that K217 million will be used to purchase drugs and medical supplies while an additional K169 million is for the Social Cash Transfer Programme and K40 million for the Food Security Pack Programme.

This is barely a month after the Minister announced, December 28, 2021, the first release of K837 million towards the same programme.

In a statement, Monday, Musokotwane said the released funds are part of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Special Drawing Rights (SDR); aimed at ensuring sustained and continued protection of the poor and the vulnerable in Zambia.

Musokotwane added that the K1 billion

released to PSPF for pensioners was to safeguard their livelihoods and ensure that the money that they laboured for during their time of service was in their hands.

Government's objective for the year was to dismantle all historical pension dues owed to retired public service workers and curtail any accumulation of pension arrears, going forward.

"This year, the Social Cash Transfer has been scaled-up, for government and foreign financed portions, by increasing the number of beneficiaries to over one million from less than 885,000 as at end August 2021. The transfer value per household has also been increased from K150 in 2021 to K200 per month in 2022, and from K300 to K400 per month (in the case of households that have severely disabled members," said Musokotwane.

With regard to the Food Security Pack Programme, Musokotwane emphasized, the number of beneficiaries had been increased to 290,000 households from less than 264,000 as at end-August 2021.

The programme, he said, is for the benefit of vulnerable but viable farming households.

Other social protection interventions to be scaled up this year include the Girls Education and Women's Empowerment and Livelihood Programme, the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme, Public Welfare Assistance Scheme, and Child Welfare Programme.

He said the need for the country's health facilities to constantly have drugs and other medical supplies could not be over-emphasized hence the released K217 million. Government would continue to do so in line with the 2022 National Budget.

Dr Musokotwane reiterated Government's steadfast commitment to utilization of IMF SDR funds and all other public and donor funds in accordance with prudent fiscal management regulations and guidelines.

To ensure effective checks and balances, special accounting and reports on the utilization of the proceeds will be undertaken.

Government was confident that in the long run, the resources from the IMF would assist in realizing economic stabilization and positive growth, in line with the spirit in which the SDR finance was allocated such as to counter the effects of Covid-19.

He urged all implementing agencies of the social protection and pensions funds, to ensure that transparent payment systems were deployed so that Government alleviated the hardships endured by citizens, especially unpaid retirees, the poor, and the vulnerable.



Minister of Finance Situmbeko Musokotwane

Delayed payments threaten national food security – ZNFU



BY STUART LISULO

FARMERS may no longer be able to produce maize bumper harvests at the end of farming seasons if delayed payment for their maize persists, the Zambia National Farmers' Union has warned.

Recently, Secretary to the Treasury Felix Nkulukusa announced that Government had released K960 million which was only 59 percent of what farmers were owed by the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) for maize supplied to the Agency during the 2021 marketing window.

There remained a balance of K670 million.

Commenting on the long overdue payment from the Treasury, ZNFU Media and Public Relations Manager, Calvin Kaley, has said that while the funding was commendable, the continued practice of paying farmers late had demotivated farmers to the extent that maize bumper harvests would no longer be achieved, thus endangering national food security.

Zambia has recorded two successive bumper harvests in the last two seasons of more than 3.3 million metric tonnes of maize, but mainly after the country

received good rainfall for two consecutive years.

“This is in the middle of the farming season. Maybe the situation may look a bit okay because the rainfall pattern was not very good at the beginning. But this is in middle of the farming season, how do you pay farmers in the middle of the season? The planning has already been done; the buying of seed, fertilizer and chemicals has already been done so where did farmers get the money from? We are saying, if you don't pay farmers on time, it is going to affect productivity and national food security,” Kaley cautions.

“Is it really fair that farmers should be paid in the middle of the farming season? Let's not cause harm to ourselves. Agriculture is a business. So, if we are going to continue at this rate, definitely, we should forget about bumper harvest going forward!”

Kaley warns that the situation will af-

fect food security at household and national level.

“That's why we are saying the FRA and the Treasury should plan meticulously so that farmers do not get demoralized. And the payments are ongoing, meaning not all have been paid yet.”

And Kaley has called for an increased purchase price per 50Kg bag maize from the K150 offered by the FRA last year.

“Before we even come to the 2021-2022 marketing window, looking at the K150 (per 50Kg bag) that was offered by the FRA, if we look at it now, there are a lot of things factored: transport costs, all those things. It's not the same money. Going into the 2021-2022 marketing window, let's pray we are going to have a reasonable harvest, obviously compounded by the poor rainfall pattern. We expect a price that is going to factor in all these things, transport costs, because we do not expect the price to be at the same level when other things have gone up.”

Fertilizer Plant Construction Gathers Speed

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) is elated with the speed at which United Capital Fertilizer Zambia Limited is constructing its fertilizer plant.



The US\$308 million plant whose capacity is about 300,000 metric tonnes per annum is expected to reduce the cost of fertilizer on the local market as the key raw materials for production will be sourced locally.

Speaking during a familiarization tour of the construction works, ZDA Acting Director General Albert Halwampa said the Agency is happy with the progress and that it will continue to support the project till its fruition.

“We want to make sure together we create wealth and employment for the people of Zambia,” Halwampa said.

Halwampa added that the Agency is also pleased that the company is not only looking at servicing the local market but is also looking at the export market which will increase the country’s foreign exchange reserves.

He further stressed that the Agency does not want to see the project fail as the country was waiting for the commissioning of the project.

The ground breaking ceremony of the United Capital Fertilizer Zambia Company Limited was graced by Vice President Mutale Nalumango in November 2021.

The ZDA chief said what makes the project more appealing is the fact that it is environment-friendly and without carbon emissions and makes it eligible for the Green Fund.

And United Capital Fertilizer Company Limited Board Member Roy Mwamba said the company is way ahead of the planned schedule.

Mwamba said the test operations of the plant are expected to start in June this year and the plant is scheduled for official launch in July this year.

The company intended to manufacture fertilizers that are customized to cater for the specific needs of the soils in the three agro-ecological regions of the country.

The company has created 450 jobs for local Zambians and will need an additional 150 workers by March this year.

Mwamba hoped that the reduced cost will ensure that local farmers are able to easily access affordable agricultural inputs.

The ground breaking ceremony of the United Capital Fertilizer Zambia Company Limited was graced by Vice President Mutale Nalumango in November 2021.

The company, which is part of the Wonderful Group of Companies, acquired an Investment Certificate from the ZDA in 2021 for the construction of a fertilizer plant at a projected cost of USD 308 million and already they have hit the ground running in constructing the Plant.

Grizzly Mining Company Clocks Seven Years Fighting Lufwanyama Army Worms

BY JOHN CHOLA

Seven years of pesticides donations by Grizzly Mining Ltd against army worms in Lufwanyama have won the hearts of traditional leaders in six chiefdoms.



GML Mine Manager Langson Mukuma second left hands over pesticides to Chieftainess Shimukunami right and government officials. Pictures by John Chola.

Chieftainess Shimukunami of the Lamba-speaking people of Lufwanyama has called the mining company an all-weather friend to the six chiefdoms of the district.

The traditional leader has cited the company's consistently swift response towards army worm crises as one of the many commendable gestures worth acknowledging.

Chieftainess Shimukunami was speaking at Lufwanyama Council on January 25th when GML donated a consignment of pesticides to local farmers in the area.

"Today once again we have gathered

"To you, Grizzly Mining, please continue with this same spirit of being an all-weather friend and supplementing Government efforts to empower farmers so that Zambia remains self-sufficient with food."

here at Lufwanyama district council premises to receive a gift from Grizzly Mining. This company has come a long way with us, responding to so many of our challenges in the area. This is a true

friend, a true corporate citizen who has held us closely," the chieftainess said.

For more than seven years, farmers' crops have been ravaged by army worms, but the company's kind response with pesticides has averted widespread hunger in Lufwanyama.

Chieftainess Shimukunami said she too had been able to record high yields from some of her fields hence encouraging the subjects to double their efforts.

"To you, Grizzly Mining, please continue with this same spirit of being an all-weather friend and supplementing Government efforts to empower farmers so that Zambia remains self-suffi-



GML Mine Manager Langson Mukuma speaking during the donation of pesticides in Lufwanyama.



Chieftainess Shimukunami speaking during the donation of Pesticides by Grizzly Mining Limited. Pictures by John Chola

cient with food.”

All the chiefs in the district were available to work with the company to resolve any operational difficulties it may encounter in Lufwanyama.

“It is our prayer as traditional leaders that this land is blessed with a lot of minerals so that Grizzly Mining stays here and continues supplementing Govern-

ment efforts in empowering people, especially farmers,” the Chieftainess said.

Mine Manager Langson Mukuma said the company was aware that the maize crop was not only the staple food but also a source of income for many farmers, especially the small scale farmers.

He noted that many peasant farmers depended on the crop for food and in-

come, and to provide for the education and health needs for their children.

“This donation is in line with another strong commitment that our firm made a few years ago, to support farmers whose fields are ravaged by fall armyworms. It is, therefore, imperative that urgent measures are taken to protect whatever crop is available in areas where there have been good rains such as Lufwanyama,” Mukuma said.

The pesticides were destined for all the chiefdoms in Lufwanyama area namely Chief Lumpuma, Chief Nkana, Chieftainess Shimukunami, Chief Fungulwe, Chief Shibuchinga and Chief Mukutuma.

“We will always ensure that we contribute to the fight against poverty and enhance food security. It is company policy to interact with hosting communities and provide necessary intervention where possible in our quest to better the living standards of the local people,” Mukuma said.

Lufwanyama District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO) Sekanayo Ng’ambi said on the average 3000 hectares of maize came under yearly attack by army worms, threatening the wellbeing of more than 6,500 households.

Flight Schedule

Effective 3rd February 2022

LUSAKA

	Depart	Arrive
Monday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Tuesday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Thursday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Friday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00

JOHANNESBURG

	Depart	Arrive
Monday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Tuesday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Thursday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Friday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30



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01

Mask up, and make sure your mask covers your nose and your mouth.



02

Frequently clean your hands with soap and water, or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.



03

Maintain at least a 1-meter distance between yourself and others.



04

Avoid large crowds and crowded places, and limit social gatherings.



05

Proper nutrition and hydration are vital. A well-balanced diet strengthens your immune systems and lowers the risk of chronic illnesses and infectious diseases.



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Tourism in Dubai 'back on track', with emirate well placed to overcome challenges

The emirate is continuously striving to become one of the preferred destinations for all tourists, says Dubai Economy and Tourism chief

BY DEENA KAMEL

Dubai's tourism sector is "back on track" as the emirate continues to implement high standards of hygiene, health and safety measures throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and the emirate is well positioned to adapt to the future of travel in the post-Covid era, the chief executive of Dubai Economy and Tourism said.

The emirate hosted six million visitors in the 11 months from January to November 2021, sold 9.4 million room nights for domestic tourists alone and reopened 736 hotel establishments with around 135,000 rooms and recorded occupancy levels of 60 percent, underscoring the global demand for travel and Dubai's role in the recovery, said Issam Kazim, through video conferencing at the Dubai Accessible Tourism International Summit on Wednesday.

"Tourism in Dubai is back on track and this is the result of strategic measures

taken... that enable our city to safely navigate and accelerate out of this unprecedented global challenge," Mr Kazim said. "The citywide safety measures provide a strong position to overcome any current or new challenges."

Dubai remains one of the few international tourism hubs still open for travelers during the peak holiday period that was disrupted globally by the Omicron variant of the Covid-19 virus.

In December, Dubai International Airport retained its position as the world's busiest for international passengers,

overtaking major hubs such as London's Heathrow, as passenger traffic surged during the busy travel period. The emirate held on to the top spot with 3.54 million seats, about one million more than the next busiest airport, Heathrow, according to aviation consultancy OAG.

"As one of the first destinations to successfully open to international tourists, we are continuously striving to achieve the goal of becoming one of the preferred destinations for all tourists, including people of determination," Mr Kazim said.



People of determination, people with special needs or disabilities, who comprise 15 percent or one billion of the world's population, represent a massive market opportunity to boost the global travel and tourism sector. However, further improvements are needed in legislation, facilities and staff training to tap into this potential, according to experts and stakeholders at the summit.

This figure is expected to double to two billion people by 2050, according to the World Health Organisation, making it even more crucial for businesses to address the inclusive travel segment. About 50 million people with special needs in the Middle East look forward to visiting cities and tourist destinations with appropriate services that meet their needs.

"I don't know why they're not looking for this money, we're 15 percent of the total population, we're a big business



for tourism," Majid Usaimi, a member of the Higher Committee for Protection of Rights of Persons with Disabilities at Dubai Executive Council, told reporters on the sidelines of the summit. "It's big money... make it accessible to everyone so you have tourists the whole year, it's good for you."

Coordination between stakeholders in the travel and tourism industry from airlines, airports, hotels, entertainment venues, transport and others is necessary to ensure seamless facilities for people of determination during their travels, he added.

The lack of adequate facilities and services causes the global economy to lose about €142 billion (\$162.10bn) each year and 3.4 million jobs annually, Anna Grazia Laura, president of the European Network for Accessible Tourism, said.

"Accessibility, whether physical access or providing information, is likely to be an area of interest", she said. "So the tourism sector will need to adapt

to changing trends and the adoption of innovative approaches to accommodate the new demands and needs and preferences of emerging markets, according to their characteristics [and] behaviour."

In a panel in which people of determination from various sectors gathered to provide their insights for more inclusive travel, they concluded the discussion with recommendations for about 20 initiatives for smoother journeys.

These included professional staff who are skilled in dealing with travellers of determination with their various needs at check in points, security checks, passports and other points inside the airport facilities.

Other recommendations included providing guiding plates in sign language, providing sign language interpreters at airports to assist passengers with hearing impairments and providing bathrooms on board planes that are better equipped for special needs.



January highlights



Loyce Saili Appointed New ZANIS Director.

Veteran Journalist, Communications and Public Relations practitioner Loyce Saili has been appointed Zambia News and Information Services (ZANIS) Director. She becomes the first female to head the institution.

Cleo Ice Queen signed by music record label Def Jam Africa.

She will be joining other African giant artists including South African rappers Cassper Nyovest & Nasty C, female artists Boity & Nadia Nakai, among other lucky superstars.



Trident Foundation Limited donates New Year birth hampers to babies born on the day in the health centers around Kalumbila Minerals catchment area.

The health centers include Morris Rowe rural health center in Kachiwezhi, Musangezhi, Mukila wa Ntambo, Kalumbila North, Shinengene, Kisasa Clinic, Musele, Chitungu Clinic, Jihundu Clinic and Kankonzhi rural health centers.

Visitors throw printed money in the air while getting their photos taken at the Gaki Hip exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan.

Interactive installations featuring everyday objects - such as bubble tea, claw-machines and pineapples - aim to encourage visitors to reconsider the definition of Taiwanese culture. ANN WANG / REUTERS





First Quantum Health team in Kalumbila town has opened a public outdoor Gym in Kalumbila Park. The gym equipment was fabricated in Kalumbila from recycled materials from construction sites.

First Quantum Health and Wellness Manager, Kylie Van der Merwe, says the gym is designed to withstand all weather conditions with little to no maintenance.



Abiy Ahmed, the Ethiopian prime minister (L), is pictured on Friday with the crown prince of Abu Dhabi, which is part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that has supplied Ethiopia with armed drones to use in the civil war. Getty Images.

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- Increase Flexibility And Tensile Strength

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

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- Non-traffic Dust Control
- Mine Haul Roads And Tailings
- Parking LotsSolar
- SitesRunways And Helipads
- Military Roads
- Bmx Tracks
- Landfill Cover
- Farm Access Roads
- Pothole Repairs
- Erosion Control, Guard Walls And Sediment Control



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www.k31.org



Alliance Française de Lusaka dishes out K100,000 prizes at youth talent show

BY ANDREW-KNOX KANIKI

The 2021 Alliance Française de Lusaka Talent Show ended with young talents sharing more than K100,000 in prizes which would see them start the New Year with access to resources and workshops.

The event attracts more than 300 applications and brings together close to 500 people annually from the rural and urban areas of Zambia to showcase their talent towards the end of each year at the Alliance Française de Lusaka.

With six slots and five categories namely dance, theatre, music, visual arts, and spoken word, the winners walked away with K4000 cash each and K2000 for the Jury Special Prize.

Along with those offers came an opportunity to learn French, free workshop and mentoring, as well as an opportunity to exclusively use the

Alliance Française de Lusaka facilities for a show at any time valid up to November 30, 2022, bringing the total value too close to K20,000 each.

On account of Covid-19 restrictions, the numbers dropped to 17 final contestants and a little more than 100 guests.

This year's edition saw the 2019/2020 Talent Show's prolific artist Praise Kanganjo, replaced by Emmanuel Mwanza 'Ukwimi'.

Kanganjo, aged 20, performed an exceptional one-person theatrical stage act, of a young girl called 'Kelvin' who dies in a road accident and immedi-

ately loses her soul after she finds herself in hell, without notice.

She had won for the past two consecutive years in the theatrical category, and was aiming for a third, but was outdone by a duo Ukwimi who performed *Where Is God?*

Among the winners was Zatu Cultural Group, with a very aggressive and breathtaking fiery act showcasing a Zambian western traditional dance that kept the audience and judges at the edge of their seats.

A fire-eating act performed with someone pounding three bricks on the belly of a man lying flat on the

Talent Show Winners from different categories: Left to right: Vanessa Chilufya, James Mudenda Wezi Banda, Emmanuel Mwanza 'Ukwimi' and Kelly Zulu



ground seemed like a casual fire battle between two dancers while their ladies danced around them, singing and chanting local village rhythms.

“We are proud to host you at our third Talent Show, as we welcome both new and old talent from across Zambia and not just Lusaka. This show would not be made possible, let alone successful without the support of our sponsors, but most importantly the talent that brings us all here today, and of course you, our valued guests here to watch, support, and encourage such great talent,” said the Director of Alliance Française de Lusaka, Nail Muniglia.

Muniglia noted that it had been a difficult two years for artists, and institutions, with the Covid-19 taking a toll on many things including such displays of talent, skill, and any form of performance.

He stated that with institutions such as the Alliance Française continuing to promote safe social and cultural events within strict Covid-19 guidelines, it was likely that such talent would attract continued support.

The other winners were: Dani Musiwa (folk music), Vanessa Chilufya (spoken word), Ukwimi duo, Wezi Bota (theatre) and Kelly Zulu (visual

arts realistic drawing) who were all below the age of 30.

In his vote of thanks, Muniglia commended the winners and teams involved in the project pointing out that ‘with such talent, Zambia has a bright present and future, and thus everyone needs to recognize their value, foster training, and inspire collaborations more than ever.

The Alliance Française de Lusaka continues to promote formidable cross cultural exchange and has in the last three years spent more than K300,000 in prizes and supported of end of year talent shows that attract people from all walks of life.

“We believe in Zambian Talent”, Muniglia said as winners in each category walked away with cash prizes and vouchers in the form of incentives valid for a year.

The Alliance Française de Lusaka has continued to champion formidable cross-cultural exchanges in a bid to promote end-of-year talent shows that shape various artistic genres from all walks of life.

A key part of the Alliance Française cultural policy, the event gives visibility to local talent and fosters artistic collaborations.



Director Alliance Française de Lusaka, Nail Muniglia with Jury Prize Winner Kelly Zulu

Trade Kings Group Head - PR & Corporate Affairs, Bridget Kambobe (l), presents a 'dummy' cheque worth K350,000 to signify the company's sponsorship package to Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions manager, Christopher Malunga (r) in Trade Kings' boardroom in Lusaka.



Trade Kings, Oriental Quarries seal boxing deal

BY STUART LISULO

TRADE Kings Group has provided Oriental Quarries Boxing Promotions (OQBP) K350,000 to sponsor a boxing tournament slated for February 26, 2022.

And OQBP Manager Christopher Malunga has saluted the Trade Kings Group for sponsoring the boxing tournament where Zambia's Catherine Phiri faces Kudakwashe Chiwandire of Zimbabwe in a World Boxing Council (WBC) female super bantamweight world title fight.

Speaking during a packed press briefing in Lusaka, January 27, Trade Kings Group Head of Public Relations and Corporate Affairs, Bridget Kambobe, explained that funds handed over to the OQBP would help boost the tournament's profile and provide the required branding support.

"From 2017, we have nurtured a very strong partnership, and the purpose of this partnership has been to create our visibility for sport, specifically boxing in this case. As a business, we know that sport is the only universal language of cooperation as well mutual respect and competition, and boxing is not an exception to that," Kambobe told journalists in the Trade Kings boardroom.

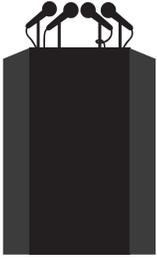
"We have supported five international tournaments, of course in which our very own Catherine Phiri has been (participating in) because without having a fighter such as Catherine Phiri, we wouldn't be proud to say that we,

as Big Tree brands of the Trade Kings Group, have supported five international tournaments. So, we are here to announce our support and sponsorship to the tune of K350,000.

"That K350,000 will not only include branding and all the communication of the tournament and everything that goes along with it being successful."

She added that Trade Kings recognized boxing potential to galvanize Zambia's youth and placed value on three pillars.

And Malunga commended the Trade Kings group for the sponsorship.



HICKS SIKAZWE ON THE PLATFORM



Enhanced Constituency Funding Should Benefit Ordinary Citizens

Unless the ordinary citizens benefit from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) which has been increased from K1.6m to a whopping K25.7m, the windfall gain will not serve the intended purpose.

As Finance Minister Situmbeko Musokotwane admitted during the presentation of the 2022 budget, the cash infusion in the regions is a motivating boost.

“Madam Speaker the increased allocation to constituencies, especially rural ones is unprecedented in the history of our country. A significant amount of money will now get into communities for them to identify their priorities.”

He added, “In addition to the traditional community-based projects, empowerment schemes that were previously funded through relevant ministries such as youth and gender they will now be funded under CDF. Bursaries, for secondary schools and skills development will also be administered through CDF. This will ensure equity.”

Unlike in the past, the minister emphasized, rural communities will benefit immensely and reap results from the facility.

GOOD CONCEPT

Decentralization, wherever it has been adapted and properly implemented is a good concept. It takes development to the people. It is supposed to make everyone not only active but access income for livelihood.

Some of the tasks the central government is supposed to be undertaking will be the baby of constituencies. If for example three schools, a clinic, and a granary are being constructed, the local people must build the structures.

Some of the citizens will make blocks others will build the units. Carpenters will roof, plumbers will install piping, electricians will wire the buildings, painters and other will take their bit.

If in that constituency, teachers will begin to teach in the new schools. Similarly, if there were health workers pending in the community they will find jobs within the setting. The benefits continue.

In short the development will encourage entrepreneurship among many people in Zambia. The more projects the constituency initiates, the more the wealth that will go to the ordinary people.

BUILD CAPACITY

The major assignment for government as the minister explained is to build capacity among the citizens. That means various groups have to be trained to attain skills that will help them contribute to the development of the constituency.

The immediate skills include those in financial literacy, human resources, financial management and others. Already the constituency will need trained personnel to manage the new fund, as K25 million is a lot of money.

Again, if a public notice is to be issued, priority will be given to competent applicants who are resident in the particular constituencies.

It was also good to hear the minister remind people with long fingers that Government will not tolerate abuse of the people’s funds. Culprits will need to face the law regardless of who they will be connected to; that is what equity translates into.

ENDEMIC CORRUPTION

Since 1991 when MMD came into power Zambia has built a bad name as a country replete with endemic corruption. It is a scourge that has seeped from one administration into another. It is likely that even in the current dispensation there



are individuals who may be tempted to stick to old ways.

If the managers of the fund opt to be corrupt because they are connected to those in the ruling class or are members of the party, then the ordinary people will not benefit from the money. It will remain a case of new wine in old bottles.

Should those in charge begin to look at faces and not skills with competence, and award jobs and tenders to relatives, party colleagues or friends, the whole exercise will be empty, fruitless and will not benefit those at the bottom of the ladder.

It is not a secret that the previous Government was several times publicly attacked over corruption and thefts, though any culprits are yet to be arraigned before courts of law. The New Dawn Government will be a disappointment if some of the people in charge slide into the same trap. If that happens, there will be no difference between the New Dawn and the old darkness.

Further, it is clear that in more cases than one, constituency development funds have been stolen diverted or simply misapplied. And because of politics the country is yet to see how many people have been prosecuted for openly abusing what was meant for the people including the most vulnerable.

BE FIRM

Government will therefore need to be firm over the administration of the K25.7 million if the country is to be transformed. At the moment, the CEO in every constituency is the local MP, therefore

It was also good to hear the minister remind people with long fingers that Government will not tolerate abuse of the people's funds. Culprits will need to face the law regardless of who they will be connected to; that is what equity translates into.

safe guards are needed to ensure that Members of Parliament do not exert undue influence over the funds.

Measures are also needed to ensure that MPs are not transformed into demigods who will have the monopoly to hand pick who should be where in the structure or who should benefit.

The minister was very clear during the presentation of the budget. The money must benefit all Zambians whether or not they belong to the party in power, whether or not they are Christians, non Christians. Development does not choose who should participate and who should not.

It is not a secret also those in previous administrations have been accused of favouritism in all spheres from recruitment of policemen, soldiers and other civil servants to posting them into jobs.

Even now thousands of teachers and health workers who completed training even five or six years ago are still languishing in the streets while peers they left behind have been posted; just because they have connections to those in power who simply pay their way into the postings.

For decentralization to succeed there is need for change of mindset, by those in charge and the intended beneficiaries as well.

While Zambia badly needs rapid development, for many years unemployment figures have kept soaring. If well-implemented and executed the initiative would reduce joblessness in the country.

What the initiative needs is political will among those in power.

Hicks Sikazwe is a former Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Times of Zambia, now Media and Communications Consultant based in Ndola. Comments: hpsikazwe2017@yahoo.com, hpsikazwe2010@gmail.com or 0955/0966 929611.



Small Solwezi fish trader weighs options for expansion

BY JOHN CHOLA

Looking back into some distant past, K1000 cash in hand may have covered some domestic expenses for Hilda Lambakasa, and for some people it may have been mere change.

Months after enrolling into the Fortune World Investment Ltd (FWIL) business development course which she commenced in January 2020, Lambakasa, 34, has transformed into an individual that sees business opportunities even with an amount that insignificant.

Armed with knowledge from the Kansanshi Mining Plc (KMP) sponsored business development training, Lambakasa in September 2021 decided to invest her K1000 in a fish business.

Today, Lambakasa is one of the main traders selling seven different varieties of small to medium size dry fish at Solwezi's Kazomba Market.

Lambakasa previously was a charcoal trader ordering her bags from Kyan-sununu and Mitukutuku areas of Solwezi for resale at the market.

She told a FWIL mentoring team which visited her recently that the charcoal business was going very well but she decided to stop it because of new Government laws aimed at safeguarding forests from deforestation.

“With an initial investment of K1000, she made a profit of K700 within two and a half months. This business has already been used to finance her farming project where she invested K600 to prepare two limas of land, and also spent K200 on maize seed. Her expected yield from this farming season is about twenty 50 kilogrammes bags of maize,” narrates FWIL Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta.

Lambakasa plans to trade in bigger sizes of fish varieties which are more profitable.



Ms Hildah Kambakasa attending to her customer.

She told a FWIL mentoring team which visited her recently that the charcoal business was going very well but she decided to stop it because of new Government laws aimed at safeguarding forests from deforestation.

Lambakasa requires a total capital of K1,500 and aims to raise the funds before the end of 2021.

The business development training has impacted Lambakasa with useful knowledge in managing money, and an ability to diversify her business.

Kafuta notes that Lambakasa saves her earnings in MTN mobile money, demonstrating an ability to manage money prudently.

She expressed praises and gratitude for the mine for bringing such an important training programme to the local communities.

The Fortune World mentoring team were impressed with her ability to start and sustain her business with little capital and urged her to continue working hard.

Kafuta advised Lambakasa to carry out a survey to determine how much she really needed for her business expansion for a possibility of linking her to financial resources through various chamber of commerce partners offering various financing options to business start-ups.

Bwalya Temba: Doing business with a roving eye for expansion

BY JOHN CHOLA

When the Fortune World Investments Limited (FWIL) team first visited Bwalya Temba of Zangamenu area of Solwezi in 2019, his poultry house only had 100 chickens.



Mr Bwalya Temba

Fast forward to 2022, Temba's poultry business has birthed a grocery shop and vegetable garden.

Temba, 42, today smiles at a grocery business worth about K4000 in cash and stock, and a vegetable garden valued at K1000. Temba has in one year grown a quarter Lima of mixed vegetables at his garden, using watering cans for irrigation.

According to him, among the challenges faced in this business is periodic flooding of the market with garden produce during some months, therefore compelling him to lower the prices of commodities. Temba however feels that with good timing, the gardening business can be very lucrative.

During a mentoring visit by FWIL, Temba described the grocery business as

“good” especially when there are high sales volumes. The shop stocks a variety of essential products such as soaps, toothpaste, sugar, salt and other fast moving consumer goods.

“Apart from managing to open a grocery and gardening business from proceeds made out of poultry business, Temba has also bought a plot worth K7,500. He currently has 100 chickens in his poultry house. The number of chickens has been maintained at 100 due to the size of the poultry house. He expects to make K7000 from his current stock within the next six weeks, with a profit of about K3000,” reported FWIL Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta.

Kafuta noted that the Kansanshi Mining Plc (KMP) funded business development training programme has accorded Temba financial management skills and was now able to sponsor his children to

school and look after household needs.

Temba intends to buy a farm where his poultry business would be enhanced and enable him to diversify into piggery business, with an eye on bricklaying and carpentry course to help him boost his business.

The Fortune World mentoring team advised Temba to quickly register his business and position himself for possible opportunities with other institutions from the year 2022 onwards.



Fortune World training rekindles retired teachers' passion

BY JOHN CHOLA

Retirement after several years of service can either lead to an existential crisis or present an opportunity to experience a renewed sense of purpose in life.



Mr Mathew Mungochi (left) and Mr Oscar Machayi in the school office.

For Matthews Mungochi and Oscar Machayi, it was all about resting after teaching for many years until January 2019 when they enrolled for the Kansanshi Mining Plc (KMP)-sponsored business training workshops and saw their teaching passion rekindled.

Mungochi and Machayi started a school business in January 2021 which they took over from an entrepreneur who was about to close the facility.

Today Emmanuel Academy located at Mulemba Villa Park near Solwezi Airport stands out as one promising facility running classes from baby to Grade Twelve.

The two business partners are both trained teachers and the KMP-funded business development course motivated them to come out of retirement to start a business in their field of expertise.

Recently, Fortune World Investments Limited (FWIL) paid a mentoring visit on the dual during which they described their school business as “good and

fast-growing” as a result of the quality of education being offered.

The two told the mentoring team that learners benefitted greatly from the proximity of the school to their residential areas, and from the good quality of services being offered.

The school has employed 12 teachers that have been given signed contracts with a caretaker to look after the institution.

As is the norm for every business setup, the institution has its own challenges such as late payment of school fees, the high cost of training materials and problematic payment of teachers' salaries due to income uncertainties.

“The duo explained that payment of teachers was dependent upon the collection of school fees which are pegged at K300 per term. Their major expenses were mostly on stationery. There are 297 pupils recruited at the school, giving them potential to collect about K89,000 per term if fees were collected at a 100 percent rate,” narrated FWIL Managing

Director, Mukumbi Kafuta who led the mentoring team.

Kafuta further noted that the school also played host to a number of vulnerable pupils who were on a bursary programme, hence reducing the amount of school fees collected.

“Another challenge that affected the school's business was regular closures owing to the outbreak of Covid-19, hence reducing income during the first term. Expenses for term three were estimated at K12,000 with a projected profit of K15,000,” the duo informed the mentoring team.

Since the business development training had helped the pair to acquire relevant business skills in marketing, they had been able to grow their business from 40 pupils to 297 within a year.

“The idea of running a school was born from the training, therefore making this business a success story. Knowledge acquired during the training also gave them the ability to run the school as a business. They have since been exposed to benefits of partnerships, transparency, financial discipline, records management and customer relations management.”

The teachers have praised KMP for the training programme which was brought closer to the people.

The mentoring team advised the school proprietors to create a business model that would be profitable and sustainable to enable them acquire their own land and build their own school in the near future.

The FWIL team promised to link the business to donor institutions through the North-Western Chamber's partners such as Prospero who specialize in grant funding and special loans



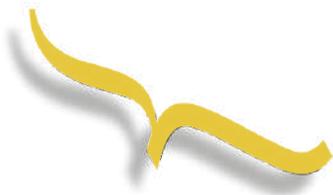
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