

SOLWEZI

T O D A Y

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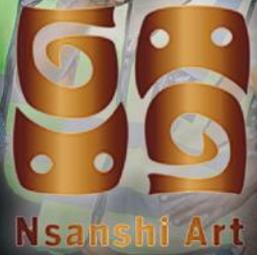


MTN Business putts on mining industry turf

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Nsanshi Art

Nsanshi Art Studio is an all women run jewelry workshop that is adding value to local minerals, providing employment and raising funds for vulnerable women and girls in the community



“

Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or concept but in **lowliness of mind**, let each of you lookout not only for her own interest, but also for the **interest of others**

”

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SOLWEZI TODAY

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Government says it has laid down plans for community projects aimed at improving the livelihood of Zambian citizens.

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MTN Business: Impacting business, mining with digital solutions

The development of digital solutions for the business and mining sectors is a must if Zambia's economy is to leapfrog common communications hurdles that slow the flow of information and transactions.

MTN has waded into deep waters with its telecommunications formulae for the two sectors, and given its vast technological infrastructure and competencies, MTN will meaningfully impact connectivity and enhance connections within and beyond Zambia's borders.

In light of the mining industry riding on the back of numerous auxiliary sector players, small and medium enterprises too would be a necessary consideration for similar benefits. If the digital advantages offered by MTN will see big industry golfers swing into higher gear, to borrow from the language of the recent MTN Business-sponsored Golf Day at Kansanshi Golf Club in Solwezi, the caddies will need to be able to keep up.

Similarly, the whole business ecosystem would do with some digital communication injections, given that the pace of business is changing within changing business spaces. Big and small enterprises alike need viable communications systems such as those offered to the mining arena.

Notably, while there are financial transactions that can be performed without physical movements of cash, there are business players and dealers who still move cash in bulk. This is because digital solutions are still not seen as dependable or workable in the eyes of many industry movers.

We therefore believe that not only should telecommunications corporations venture into novel industry spheres, but they should additionally make such digital attractions more visible to all levels of business, mining, manufacturing, agriculture and others.



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Provincial Education Officer, North Western Province Mrs Jennipher Banda and Kansanshi Mining Plc Corporate Affairs Manager Mrs Kyansenga Chitoshi sampling the 20,000 books.



Solwezi teachers grasp leadership, management skills

BY MWANSA MAMBWE

At the end of a ten-month training programme, nearly 60 school managers and teachers of Solwezi recently graduated with certificates of completion from Kansanshi Mining Plc.

A total of 18 school management staff learned education leadership and management while 43 teachers were exposed to teaching for the 21st century.

At the same ceremony the company handed out more than 20,000 books to various schools. The company sourced the books from Books2Africa in the UK.

At the same ceremony the company handed out more than 20,000 books to various schools. The company sourced the books from Books2Africa in the UK.

At a event whose theme was A Better Teacher for a Better Zambia, held at Kansanshi Community Centre in Solwezi, Kansanshi Mining Plc Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi said education is one of the areas of the company's strategic CSR interventions.

The enhancement of the capacity of teachers and school management staff



Provincial Education Officer, North Western Province Mrs Jennipher Banda (left) and Kansanshi Mining Plc Corporate Affairs Manager Mrs Kyansenga Chitoshi (middle) hand one the teachers a certificate.

through training with the provision of educational resources were approaches of the company's CSR in education.

“As Kansanshi Mining Plc we are proud to be partners with Government in its continued efforts to provide accessible and quality education. The quality of leadership in schools and the quality of the teacher in the classroom are pivotal factors in the search for an education that adequately prepares learners for the demands of the 21st century. Research on factors affecting quality of education in schools consistently puts leadership and teacher quality at the top of the list.

“Our investment in the training of school management staff and teachers, cohorts of whom are graduating today, is ample testimony of our commitment to being a responsive partner to Government development efforts. Today we are awarding certificates of completion to forty-three teachers and eighteen school management staff who have invested seventy-two hours of their time towards improving their job competencies. The content of their training was specifical-

ly selected to take them to the next level in their performance of duty,” said Chitoshi.

Six schools in Solwezi also received prizes for excellent early childhood education (ECE) classroom displays in a

“As Kansanshi Mining Plc we are proud to be partners with Government in its continued efforts to provide accessible and quality education. The quality of leadership in schools and the quality of the teacher in the classroom are pivotal factors in the search for an education that adequately prepares learners for the demands of the 21st century.

competition meant to encourage the creation of lively and educative ECE classrooms.

And North-Western Province Education Officer Jennipher Banda who was Guest of Honour said “we need to maximize on public awareness and engagement of people to begin to participate in education as this opens doors for greater opportunities for members of the community.”

Banda further said that for all this to be actualized there was need for quality teachers capable of teaching for 21st century learning outcomes.

She saluted Kansanshi Mine for investing in uplifting the local teachers to become quality teachers.

Since 2013, Kansanshi Mining Plc has been involved in raising the quality of education in Solwezi, providing more than 200,000 academic and leisure books, more than 3000 desks to schools, daily nutritional support to 6000 pupils, and reintroducing sports activities in schools among other programmes.

Pay up to Environmental Protection Fund, State tells mines

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Government invites mining companies to contribute to the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) which should meet costs of rehabilitating the environment after a mine has ceased.



Mines and Minerals Development Minister Paul Kabuswe

Mines and Minerals Development Minister Paul Kabuswe said this in a speech read for him by Mines Safety Department Acting Director Malfred Moolela at the 6th National Conference on Occupational Health, Safety and Environment in Ndola on the Copperbelt.

“I urge mining companies to comply with all environmental regulations and contribute to the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) so as to protect Government from bearing the cost of reha-

“I wish to state that Government remains supportive of the industry and will continue with its resolve to build a competitive business environment to ensure sustainable mining and national development.”

ilitating the environmental after mine closure.”

Government has further recognized the efforts of Kansanshi Mine Plc and other mining companies in the country to use technology to transform the industry while increasing productivity, safety and sustainability.

The Ministry of Mines was aware that methods and practices in mining had evolved and was elated that Kansanshi was among the mines that had acquired



technology systems that made mining friendly towards the environs and the community.

The Minister called on operators in the mining and quarrying industry to ensure they conducted their operations



“As for the commissioning of two major projects in the Country, the S3 Expansion at the Kansanshi Mine in Solwezi and the Enterprise Nickel Project in Kalumbila, these two projects are in line with Government policy in terms of increasing copper production and also to make mining a big player for our economy.

in an environment-friendly manner to guarantee safety and healthier lives for current and future generations.

He reiterated Government’s desire to see zero-fatalities in the mining sector, adding that the target to reach three million tonnes of copper production per annum over a decade would be done in a more sustainable manner.

“I wish to state that Government remains supportive of the industry and will continue with its resolve to build a competitive business environment to ensure sustainable mining and national development.”

The 6th National Conference on Occupational Health, Safety and Environment was held under the theme Achieving Excellence in Health, Safety and Environment Systems through Institutional Linkages and Networking.

And Chamber of Mines President Dr Godwin Beene said sustainable growth in the industry was becoming more urgent by the day as mines strove to achieve three million metric tonnes of copper production per annum. “This must be achieved with improved occupational health, safety and environment systems and an obligation to ensure that workers are guaranteed of a safe work environment and that the mining industry lives in harmony with their immediate communities and nature.”

And speaking during the presentation, FQM Trident Limited Safety Manager Atkins Sitwala said the company was positioning itself well in line with Government’s vision to increase copper production.

“As for the commissioning of two major projects in the Country, the S3 Expansion at the Kansanshi Mine in Solwezi and the Enterprise Nickel Project in Kalumbila, these two projects are in line with Government policy in terms of increasing copper production and also to make mining a big player for our economy.

“In addition to the Enterprise Nickel Mining Project it is going to put our country on the world map as one of the top producers of Nickel especially in Africa. As a business we do understand that these projects do come with their own risks because of the number of people who will be involved in these projects,” he stated.

Sitwala emphasized FQM commitment to ensuring that the safety of people and equipment involved was upheld. He underscored the company’s approach to safety through innovations such as THINK and My Reason to THINK which were aimed at making safety more behaviour-based and more of a lifestyle.

“THINK for us means giving time to highlighting any hazards, identifying what will go wrong, taking necessary actions to eradicate any risk identified, and above all keeping safety first. Additionally, to this we recently launched My Reason To THINK.”

Solwezi Mayor Remmy Kalepa (right) MTN EBU General Manager Mildred Chica (left) presenting K7,500 cash prize to the nearest pin winner



MTN Business putts on mining industry turf

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

MTN Zambia Limited is geared to lead the development of digital solutions for the business and mining sectors, says General Manager Mildred Chica.

Speaking during the recent MTN Business-sponsored Golf Day held at Kansanshi Golf Club in Solwezi District, Chica said digital solutions were critical especially for the mining industry, where operational efficiency and safety were of paramount importance.

She noted that reliable digital solutions, operating on a resilient connectivity base were key to the success of the mining industry.

“Our goal is to lead the development of digital solutions for the progress of Zambia’s business world. The commu-

nication and digital solutions that we develop are crafted with the mining sector in mind. MTN Business is therefore the mining industry’s partner of choice,” Chica said.

The telecommunication giant has developed business solutions relevant to the

(L-R) Club captain Blair Kuhn, one of the prize winners Andre Pretorius, MTN EBM General Manager Mildred Chica and the Solwezi Mayor Remmy Kalepa.



mining industry and its partners, resilient, efficient, future-ready and sustainably scalable.

She stressed that following the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, the management of businesses both big and small had drastically changed.

“We bring various solutions to the sector to ensure that the mines have the ability to achieve the full digitization of the operational ecosystem, through dedicated private networks made possible via

MTN Zambia Ltd and FQML have enjoyed a cordial relationship for over 15 years and for this reason, the telecommunication giant chose to support the event at Kansanshi Golf Club.

high-speed LTE and 5G capability,” Chica said.

Given MTN’s efficient and reliable communication systems with their local, regional, intercontinental offices and business partners world over, the mining industry could facilitate bulk payments to their partners via MTN’s Fintech Platform interfacing with traditional banks.

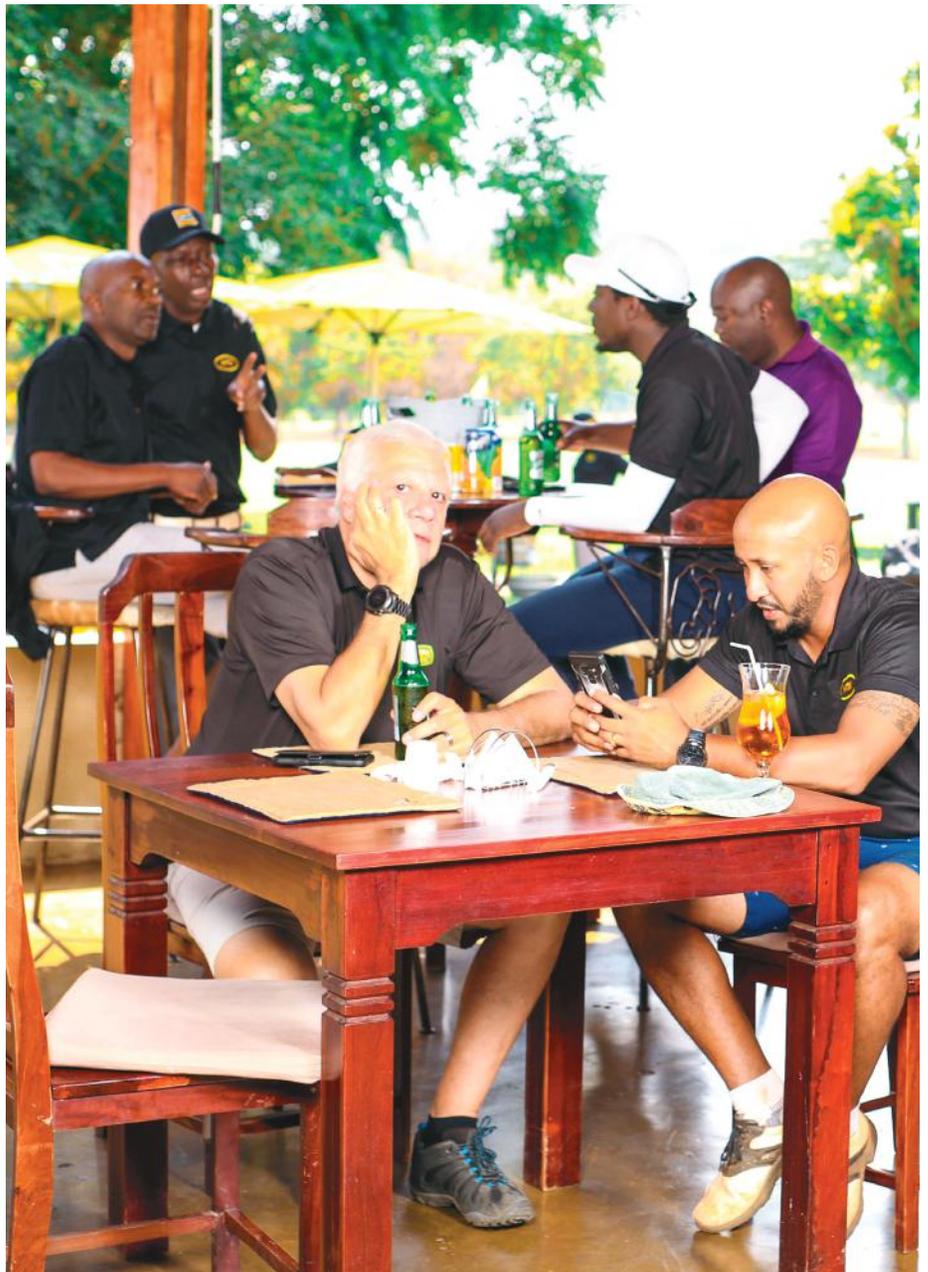
MTN Zambia Ltd and FQML have enjoyed a cordial relationship for over 15 years and for this reason, the telecom-



munication giant chose to support the event at Kansanshi Golf Club.

“We understand the contribution that the mining sector makes to the growth and development of the national economy. It contributes circa 12 per cent towards the country’s GDP with potential to upscale. MTN Business is delighted to partner with the mining industry and its partners in support of this great cause,” she added.

Speaking in a telephone interview after



Participants cooling off with some beverages after an action packed golf day

the event, FQML Kansanshi Mine Technical Manager Jacobus Nienaber hailed MTN Zambia for its continued partnership with the mining company.

Nienaber further applauded the telecommunication giant’s support towards the Golf Day event describing it a morale booster to the Kansanshi Golf Club and the golfing community of Solwezi District.

“The MTN Business Golf Day sponsorship meant a lot for us. We welcome the sponsorship and look forward to the company’s annual sponsorship especially that few sponsors show up each year to support the event,” Nienaber said.

Nienaber added that the Golf Day was a success as response from participants was overwhelming such that total par-

ticipants numbered 70 from a target of 90 players.

And Kansanshi Golf Club Captain Blair Kuhn bubbled with gratitude that one of the big benefits of the tourney is the commitment from MTN Business to further sponsor junior golf and potentially, in the near future, the tournament which has a big impact on the community and country at large.

“We are really grateful to MTN Business for coming on board as a sponsor for one of our corporate golf days this year. It’s the first MTN Business Golf day at Kansanshi in many years and one of the big benefits of that was the commitment from MTN Business to further sponsor junior golf and potentially the tournament in the near future.”



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Mwami-Mchinji One-Stop Border Post to Boost Regional Trade

BY STUART LISULO

THE long-awaited Mwami-Mchinji One-Stop Border Post between Zambia and Malawi was finally commissioned on December 7 by presidents Hakainde Hichilema and Lazarus Chakwera following a €5.31 million grant by the European Union (EU).



Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema (L) with Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera during the commissioning of the Mwami-Mchinji One Stop Border Post

The aggregate €48 million Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP) is financed under the 11th European Development Fund (11 EDF) with the objective of improving inclusive regional economic growth and enhancing the competitiveness of the COMESA region.

The programme supports the implementation of key pillars of One Stop Border Post (OSBP) operations.

Some of the major activities implemented under the programme include upgrading the customs e-management system and bandwidth; improving inter-agency connectivity; implementation of the Trade and Transport Corridor Management System; capacity-building, training and sensitization of National Trade Facilitation Committee and Border Agencies, among others.

In January, 2021, the COMESA Secretar-

iat and the Government of the Republic of Malawi signed a 3.54 million Euros (€) agreement that sub-delegated the implementation of coordinated border management activities under the broader trade facilitation programme with COMESA at Mchinji border post between Zambia and Malawi on the Malawian side.

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Trade, Malawi, Christina Zakeyo,



President Hakainde Hichilema interacting with EU Ambassador Jacek Jankowski (R), COMESA Secretary General, Chileshe Kapwepwe (M) and Zambian Ambassador to Malawi Col Panji Kaunda during the commissioning of the Mwami-Mchinji One Stop Border Post

and COMESA Secretary-General Chileshe Kapwepwe separately signed the sub-delegation agreement in Lilongwe and Lusaka that same month.

Prior to that signing of the sub-delegation agreement, the Zambian Government signed a similar agreement to upgrade its side of the border post at Mwami back on November 27, 2020.

INTEGRATION

Commenting on the commissioning, EU Ambassador Jacek Jankowski, who attended the official launch of the Mwami-Mchinji One-Stop Border Post commended Zambia and Malawi for enhancing regional integration.

The EU envoy cited the completion of the post as a manifestation of COMESA's regional agenda.

“This is yet another milestone in our relations based on the Joint Africa-European Union Strategy principles of ownership, partnership and solidarity. What we are witnessing today is the actualization of the COMESA's regional integration agenda through the concrete steps taken by Zambia and Malawi to facilitate trade between them and among regional partners.

“It is also an example of how COMESA has been honouring, since its creation, its promise to be a driving force for economic integration in Africa. This advance in Trade Facilitation will obviously support the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area and determine the success of the Tripartite

The new, state of the art facility is expected to accelerate regional economic integration, significantly ease the cost of doing business and boost trade volumes between the two countries following several decades of static traffic and prolonged delays at the border post.

Free Trade Area.”

He also highlighted the EU's commitment to help COMESA realize the benefits of the regional agenda.

He, however, observed that formal COMESA intra-regional trade remained low at 10 per cent of total trade of the region, as more needed to be done to address trade barriers and accelerate the pace of economic integration in the COMESA region.

And the COMESA Secretary-General expressed confidence that the new facility would expedite the flow of goods and services across the two countries, and lower transaction costs.

“As COMESA, we look forward to a changed environment for travellers

and commercial stakeholders using the Mwami/Mchinji OSBP. Large and small-scale traders alike would now be able efficiently clear merchandise at immensely reduced transaction costs, thereby, be able realize greater sales and increased incomes,” said Kapwepwe.

ACCELERATE

The new, state of the art facility is expected to accelerate regional economic integration, significantly ease the cost of doing business and boost trade volumes between the two countries following several decades of static traffic and prolonged delays at the border post.

In addition, and as part of the Nacala corridor support, the EU also made a €44.8 million contribution for the construction of the Great East Road from the Luangwa Bridge to the Mwami Border.

This is in line with the EU's objective under the Global Gateway to support Africa to accelerate digital transition and sustainable growth and decent job creation.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia had in 2021 received financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) in various currencies towards the cost of Nacala Road Development Project Phase IV.

It was intended that part of the proceeds of this loan be applied to eligible payments under the Works Contract for the Construction of the Mwami/Mchinji OSBP: Works Package 2: Zambia OSBP facilities, according to the AfDB.

First business clinic rounds up Kalumbila names

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

Trident Foundation Limited has collaborated with the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) to host the first-ever business clinic in Kalumbila District.



Zambia Bureau of Standards representatives explaining their role in the Zambian industry to Kalumbila locals

tum Minerals' collaboration with various stakeholders to offer support for business growth, agriculture, education, infrastructure and health in order to promote home grown solutions to the challenges faced by the local communities.

The institutions present at the clinic include PACRA, Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC), Workers Compensation Fund, National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA), National Council for Construction (NCC), Zambia Bureau of Standards, Kalumbila Chamber of Commerce and Industry and First National Bank (FNB) among others.

The five-day business clinic opened on November 28 and was set to close on December 2.

The business clinic themed Promoting Sustainability Through Business Linkages was organized to offer local businesses an opportunity to access all the critical services required to be compliant with all legal requirements.

Speaking during the official opening at Kalumbila Civic Centre, ZDA Director for Enterprise Development Gabriel Musentekwa said the platform gave the local business community an opportunity to familiarize themselves with various services beneficial to them.

Council Chairperson Shadreck Munjunga said Government had created an enabling environment for SMEs to thrive, hence the increasing level of economic activity which showed that Kalumbila District was on an upward journey.

He urged local entrepreneurs to take the business clinic seriously and learn to develop ways of adding value to their products.

Trident Foundation Manager Joseph

Ngwira said the theme for the business clinic was consistent with First Quan-



Council chairperson Shadreck Munjunga making a point of emphasis during the business clinic

Eight companies in joint mine rescue training

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

Kansanshi Mining Plc successfully hosted mine rescue response teams from eight companies for a joint training session.

The session held on November 11 drew teams from Konkola Copper Mines, Mopani, NFCA, Lubambe Copper Mines, Nka-

na, Mabiza, Mufulira and Luanshya who spent an hour underground.

All mine rescue teams in Zambia are

trained through the Zambian Chamber of Mines at various nominated mines on a quarterly basis to expose them to emergency control requirements.

The training was coordinated by Eric Cousins who is Kansanshi Mine Safety and Industrial Hygiene Manager with Zambia Mine Rescue executives in attendance.

Although mine rescue response gear, training, and techniques have improved over the past century, miners need upskilling to survive during a disaster.

To this end, underground mine safety teams can help to improve mine rescue response by clearly identifying escape routes, placing rescue stations in key locations, and ensuring there is adequate ventilation.

The main areas that the teams were tested on were: Map reading, emergency procedure adherence, leadership and teamwork, and physical fitness and endurance.

Training consists of the following scenario as a brief to the Mine Rescue Teams who are taken in batches of four:

Workers are leaving the decline work areas at 05:00 hrs in the morning at the end of shift. An electrical substation explodes causing a fire and power cut underground

Workers then have to be rushed to the surface due to the nature of the event.

Access to the entry of the mine is filled with smoke but there are three missing workers that need to be rescued.

The Kansanshi Mine Management team was led by Kansanshi Mining Plc General Manager Anthony Mukutuma, Safety Manager Teza Kasengele and Chief Mining Engineer George Nzoma. Kansanshi Mining Plc General Manager Anthony Mukutuma thanked the mine rescue teams for taking their time, showing commitment and passion for saving people's lives and for show-casing their skills.



Mine Rescue team displaying their skills in an underground scenario



Priority - Mine Rescue team moving on the next crisis exercise



**FQM TRIDENT GETS CHAMBER OF MINES BEST
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We remain committed to the continuous improvement of our approach to responsible mining by ensuring that each aspect of our operation meets the increasing environmental performance standards.



FQM Trident Limited

FQM Trident scoops the Emergency Response competition

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

FQM Trident Scoops the 6th Inter-mine Emergency Response Competition held at Lubambe Copper Mine on the 14th November, 2022 The best of the best in the Mining Companies emergency response rescue teams put their skills to the test to demonstrate that the Mining sector is in safe hands.



FQM Trident emergency response team pose for a photo after their win.

The Six-member team earned the overall title by winning two of the three surface events, which included High Angle Ropes manoeuvres, Vetter Bags Rescue and Team Relay by scoring 240 points, followed by Lubambe Copper Mine who came with 212 points, third position went to Lumwana Mine with 209 points, whilst at the tail end was Kansanshi Mine with 150 points.

The winners of the 6th Inter-mine Emergency Response Competition reflect the industry commitment to emergency response training.

It gives teams the opportunity to test their skills in the field through simulated emergency situations in preparation for real-life emergency events. Scenarios are designed to be the closest teams will get to the real thing, while putting

teams under pressure of being judged by seasoned professional adjudicators and watched by their peers, colleagues, family and the general public.

Lubambe Copper Mine General Manager Mr Daniel Chihili said the competition was a great display of mateship, learning and professionalism, he also thanked the teams and everyone who supported the event.



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A background image showing a group of four business professionals in a meeting. A man in a green sweater is pointing at a whiteboard covered in yellow sticky notes. Other people are looking at him attentively.

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Mr. John Humphrey, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner for Africa and Mr. Sam Waldock - Deputy High Commissioner and Development Director, BHC, observing the smelting process



British delegation tours Kansanshi Mine

BY KAUSA MBASELA

UK Trade Commissioner for Africa John Humphrey led a delegation from the British High Commission on a tour of Kansanshi Mine, a subsidiary of First Quantum Minerals (FQM) in Solwezi, North-Western Province as part of a three-day familiarization of the country.

"The greatest takeaway from our visit was to appreciate the level of investment required, difficulties around logistics, long-term nature of investments and how you need stability in terms of government policy and economics in order to be able to make mines successful," he said during the tour in mid-November.

Humphrey praised the Mine for its initiative to train local people, saying that would ensure a steady flow of skilled labour is available for employment.

"The importance of local support and training that Kansanshi Mine is doing is very important. You need people to run and maintain these mines over time. It's not just a question of building them;

they're actually long-term features. First Quantum has been here since 2001 so that gives perspective into how long these sorts of projects can last."

Earlier Kansanshi Mining Plc General Manager Anthony Mukutuma gave insight into how the mine had grown, supporting local communities and contributing to the country's Gross Domes-



Mr. Paul Maschrenhas - Smelter Manager, KMP, explaining some of the intricacies of the operations at the smelter to the delegates

tic Product (GDP) in the process. “From the time of acquisition of the mine, we have grown our copper production to our current levels now. We have had to use innovative ways to maximize our production.”

Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi said through the Kansanshi Foundation, the company’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) finances have gone into education, health, social welfare, water and sanitation as a part of the Foundation’s Seven-Pillar Strategy to improve the lives of people in and around communities from where the Mine operates.

The British delegation included Deputy High Commissioner Sam Waldock,

The FQM team included among others FQMO Project Manager Colin Du Plessis, Kansanshi Mine Metallurgical Manager Crosby Chongo, Chief Mining Engineer George Nzoma and Assistant Finance Manager Matt Hind.

Country Director (UK Department of International Trade) Vichaya Chungu, Network Support Manager Marissa Thring, Climate Lead, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office Tremayne Stanton Kennedy, Economic Advisor Suman Gamin, Communications Officer Jonathan Siame and Regional and Political Officer Tresford Mumba.

The FQM team included among others FQMO Project Manager Colin Du Plessis, Kansanshi Mine Metallurgical Manager Crosby Chongo, Chief Mining Engineer George Nzoma and Assistant Finance Manager Matt Hind.



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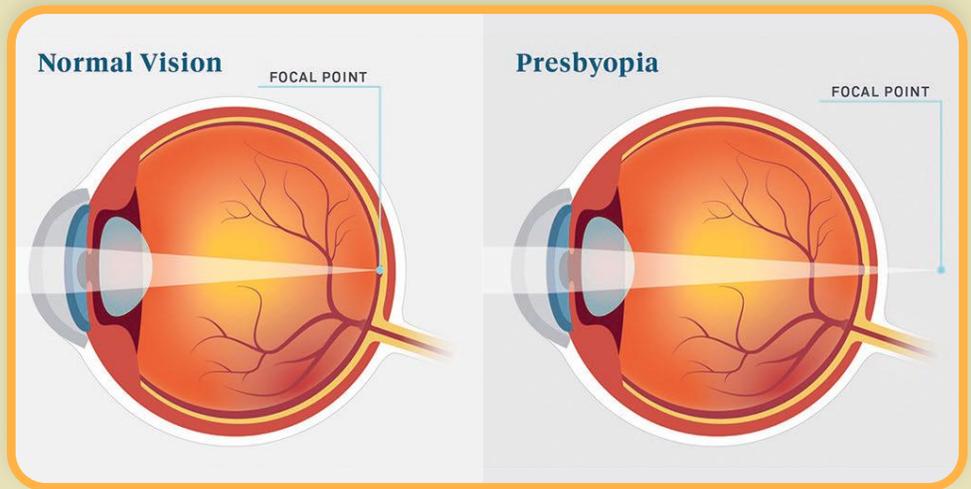
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PRESBYOPIA

Presbyopia is when your eyes gradually lose the ability to see things clearly up close. It is a normal part of aging. You may start to notice presbyopia shortly after age 40. You will probably find that you hold reading materials farther away in order to see them clearly.

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- Difficulty reading small print
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- Eyestrain
- Requiring more light to read

CAUSES

Presbyopia is caused by changes in the lens inside the eye. As people age, the lens becomes harder and less elastic, making it more difficult for the eye to focus on close objects.

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR PRESBYOPIA

There's no cure for presbyopia. Treatment consists of wearing eyeglasses or contact lenses, or possibly getting a corrective surgery. Several types of eyeglasses are available for presbyopia, including:

• Reading glasses

These are worn only when reading or doing close-up work.

• Office progressives

You'll also generally only wear these for reading or using a computer and remove them when you're out and about.

• Bifocals

These glasses correct your distance vision when you look through them at eye level, and they correct your near vision when looking through the lower part of the lens.

• Progressive multifocals

These glasses have corrections for near, middle, and far vision.

PREVENTION OF PRESBYOPIA

Presbyopia isn't considered a disease — it's a natural part of aging that affects the eye. That means there's no way to prevent presbyopia. But there are steps you can take to keep your eyes healthy and prevent other more serious eye problems, like macular degeneration:

- Reduce eyestrain by keeping your home and workplace well-lit.
- Get regular eye exams to make sure your prescription is up-to-date and to look for signs of other eye conditions.
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from damaging ultraviolet (UV) rays.
- Support your overall health by eating a balanced diet that's rich in vitamins A, C, E, and lutein.
- Limit alcohol.
- Exercise regularly.
- Don't smoke.
- Control chronic conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure. Left untreated, they can impact your vision.
- See your doctor right away if you have double vision, see flashes of light or black spots, have suddenly blurry vision, or suddenly lose vision in one eye, as these symptoms may indicate a serious condition.

The author is a Senior Optometrist And Contact Lens Practitioner at Vision Care Opticians Cephass Sicalwe.

Visit any of our stores for further treatment and eye care assistance

"You have one pair of eyes, look after them."

Preserve life, 60 Luanshya graduates told



Luanshya DC Onesimus Ngonomo (middle) and Mayor Charles Mulenga (right) congratulate a graduating student.

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

Sixty nurses and clinical officers graduated from Premium School of Health Sciences in Luanshya in October with Dr Kautemba Phiri urging the graduates to do all they can to preserve life.

Guest of Honour Dr Phiri, who is Chairman at Carewell Oasis Medical Services in Kitwe, told 18 graduate nurses and 39 clinical officers (3 graduated in absentia) that the health arena was no longer as clear as it used to be, as in many countries the medical profession was being steered towards terminating life rather than preserving it.

“We are trained to bring healing to the physical body and the psychological aspect of a person. Hence the encourage-

“We are trained to bring healing to the physical body and the psychological aspect of a person. Hence the encouragement to all of you graduating today—preserve life. Life does not start at birth; it starts in the womb—preserve it.”

ment to all of you graduating today—preserve life. Life does not start at birth; it starts in the womb—preserve it. Like the Psalmist said in Psalm 139:13, ‘For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.’”

Dr Phiri was speaking on October 28 in the presence of Premium School Executive Director Grace Mshanga, Dean of the UNZA School of Medicine Dr Elliot Kafumukache, Luanshya District Commissioner Onesimus Ngonomo, Luanshya Mayor Charles Mulenga, Pre-



Dean of the UNZA School of Medicine Dr Elliot Kafumukache (right) presenting and awarding diplomas with the Premium School faculty.

mium School Board Chairman Charles Kachikoti, Premium School Head Principal Robert Chisupa, Nursing and Midwifery Council of Zambia (NMCZ) Kitwe Inspector Beatrice Mwewa, Roan School of Nursing Representative Rose Kangomu and Apostle Dr Aaron Mwale.

Dr Phiri was accompanied by his wife Dr Antoinette Chileshe Phiri who is Executive Director of Carewell Oasis Medical Services in Kitwe.

The Guest of Honour recalled that the first graduation in 2020 saw 40 students graduate, being eight nurses and 32 clinical officers; while the second graduation last year had 89 graduates with 52 nurses and 37 clinical officers.

Urging the graduates to study to show themselves approved according to Scripture, Dr Kafumukache said it was very costly and very exacting to train medical staff. As such the graduates should be ever willing to learn.

“Our patients see us as ‘Gods’. They take our words as Gospel truth. In other words, we must be careful with the words we speak to our own patients. The fact that someone has a particular illness doesn’t mean you tell them they will die, or there is no hope.”

Dr Phiri, also Overseer of the Oasis of Love Ministries International in Kitwe, quoted Colossians 4:6 which states, “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”

CONSULT

Dr Phiri encouraged them to consult seniors and consultants, but recognize



that the most important consultant was God, the Great Physician without whom there was no healing.

“Listen even to that cleaner who has been there twenty years; they may tell you something that will save life.” He added that patients were human beings, not mere files or documents. Each person was special in their own right.

Dr Kafumukache observed that life starts from the seed of the man, but these days abortions were carried out by medical practitioners. “This has diluted the Hippocratic Oath. We need to get back to preserving life.”

He counselled the graduates to cherish

their country of birth as the best place to be. “It is not by chance you are here; God placed you here. This is where you should run your race.”

Dr Kafumukache said while technology was useful, nurses and clinical officers could not be trained virtually. There was need for the learning process to frequently handle patients and touch them to differentiate between soft tissue and hard body parts.

Urging the graduates to study to show themselves approved according to Scripture, Dr Kafumukache said it was very costly and very exacting to train medical staff. As such the graduates should be ever willing to learn.

“If the nurse fails; the clinical officer fails. This lowers and tarnishes all medical professionals. Go and make the mark just as your lecturers made the mark.”

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

NMCZ Inspector Beatrice Mwewa called for a positive attitude among health care providers. “You are expected to exhibit a positive attitude in the provision of care each and every time you are in contact with clients and patients. Demonstrate the highest level of respect, courtesy, care and honesty to your clients and patients.”

She said professionalism was expected of the graduates in the field. “Zambians are waiting to be treated with the highest professional and ethical standards that you have acquired during your training. You are expected to uphold the professional standards by giving love, compassion and care to the clients entrusted to you.”

Mwewa pressed her audience for competence, care and cleanliness as principles of health care delivery in all health facilities. “You have just started your professional journey as a nurse. I would like to encourage you to set your priorities right as nursing requires constant updating yourself with the latest knowledge and information.”

She told student nurses still in training to assess their individual performance “and focus on where you need to be from where you are. Keep your eyes on your goal and refuse to be distracted until you have attained the reward.”

UNIQUE

Mayor Charles Mulenga was delighted that Premium School graduates were heading for the professional world with unique skills and abilities. The mayor saluted Premium School for its accomplishments, and looked forward to seeing it transform towards into a university. The college has introduced an abridged nursing programme and other short courses.

The major concerns such as the lack of electricity and the poor state of the Old Ndola Road were of interest to the municipality which would intervene.

The Candle-lighting Session and Nurses’ Pledge was led by Principal Tutor Nursing Yvonne Banda, while the Hippocratic Oath was administered by Programme Coordinator Clinical Medicine Bright Mumba.

The Premium School of Health Sciences has opened a Medical Centre which is offering a wide range of health services at Plot Number 34, Buteko Avenue, Luanshya.



Kansanshi Sprints Regatta 2022 stirs the waters at FQMO dam

The FQMO Kansanshi recreational dam burst to life with three squads topping the 2022 Kansanshi Sprints Regatta at the Kansanshi Rowing Club.

FQMO Roads scooped the Kansanshi Corporate Eight Challenge trophy while Sentinel Kabitaka scooped the School Staff Eight, with Trident College bagging the Overall Points Trophy.

The event organised by the Kansanshi Sports Foundation was an intra-party event which attracted 11 crews from within the Kansanshi mine operation.

The crews included Sentinel Kabitaka students and staff, Trident College students and staff, FQMO roads, FQMO production, mobile maintenance, support services and the optimization department.

Kansanshi Rowing Club Head Coach Devin Cripwell said Kansanshi was interested in growing the sport which he said was not common in Zambia. It called for corporate involvement to grow the sport.

The event was unique as the crews were subjected to row on a marked course which was the first of its kind in Southern Africa.

“So, it’s really a phenomenal achievement for us especially when you look at the crews that participated,” said Cripwell.

He said the objective of holding the event was to bring communities together and grow the sport in Solwezi and beyond. The mining company was interested in the growth of the sport just



Rowing teams in action during the regatta

like other sporting activities.

He disclosed that plans were underway to hold the event twice from next year instead of once.

“This race only happens once a year, but come next year we are looking at hosting it twice. And our first event we hope will take place in March next year before schools close so that it is in tandem with the Zambian School Rowing Championship.”

He disclosed that more local schools would be incorporated in the sport as a way of giving school-going children an opportunity to showcase their talents.

And FQMO Roads Captain Shane Roomer who spoke on behalf of his crew expressed happiness on scooping the trophy.

Roomer said the trophy meant a lot to the team who had the “bragging rights” especially that the event involved a number of experienced crews.

“This trophy means a lot to the team and we have all the bragging rights to be honest, especially that we just put up our team a few days before the event. We only had two practising sessions

before the event, and we managed to scoop the trophy.”

Roomer was happy with the sponsors for coming up with an event which he said encouraged team-building and collaboration.

An elated Trident College Captain Renee Toit said her team would train hard in preparation for the next event.

“We will continue to row this coming year, and hope the club will continue to grow, develop and gain more experience for future events.”

Sentinel Kabitaka Crew Captain Joseph Bwalya said the event was a great opportunity for not just his crew but others who participated in the event as it fostered team-building and wellness.

“They have provided all the equipment we have used, even for the training. So, this is great and a good opportunity for my crew,” said Bwalya who is also a teacher at Sentinel Kabitaka.

Rowing is a sport that involves racing boats using oars, which distinguishes the sport from paddling which is also called ‘crew’ in the United States of America.



FIFA WORLD CUP
Qatar 2022



Zambia tackles Qatar in paragraphs

BY JACK MWEWA

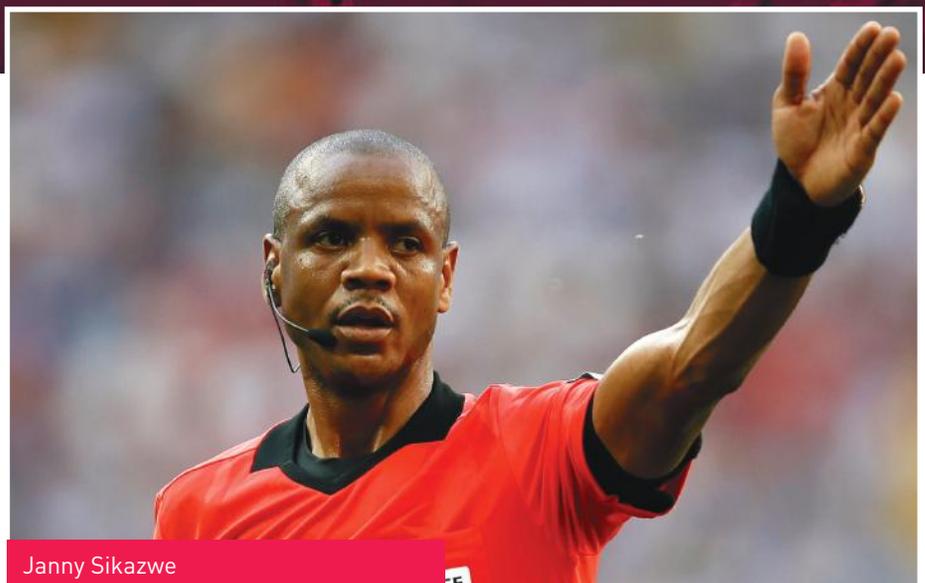
CHIPOLOPOLO, Zambia’s national football team may not be part of the Qatar 2022 World Cup finals, but however, the nation’s name is ringing loud in most commentaries.

Janny Sikazwe, Zambia’s top-notch Federation International Football Association (FIFA) referee and Saudi Arabia’s national team coach Frenchman Herve Renard are among the reasons.

Sikazwe, being Zambia’s first and only Zambian referee to officiate at the highest football showpiece, carries the ‘prefix’ of ‘Zambian Referee’ each time commentators, analysts and writers make reference to him.

He was at the centre of the pitch during the match between Belgium and Canada, taking full control, making split-second accurate decisions throughout the encounter.

Sikazwe, a teacher by profession, was not shy to make the correct decisions, awarding Canada a penalty in the 11th minute after consulting Video Assistant Referee (VAR) and giving cautions whenever necessary. He continues to play a part in the matches, though behind the scenes.



Janny Sikazwe

Sikazwe is actually not a stranger to the World stage, having handled other matches of international repute where his name was prefixed by Zambia adjective. Going into this year’s World Cup, Sikazwe is among the eight African whistle men.

His achievement caught the attention of President Hakainde Hichilema who later posted on his Facebook Page, “We are proud of you Janny Sikazwe. This is what we want, Zambians putting in their best. You are our ambassador at the Qatar Soccer World Cup.”

Sikazwe is actually not a stranger to the World stage, having handled other matches of international repute where his name was prefixed by Zambia adjective. Going into this year’s World Cup, Sikazwe is among the eight Afri-



Herve Renard

“I have a Zambian tattoo inside my heart, I am always sad whenever Chipolopolo is absent at AFCON,” Renard once said.

One of the players from the 2012 African Championship crop who is now retired defender, Nyambe Mulenga, is all praises for Renard whom he says motivated him and the team beyond expectation.

“That man (Renard) is one of the best football coaches in the World. I still remember how he sat me down and told me how I was to handle Ivory Coast’s deadly winger Gervinho in that encounter; and I managed to do that,” Mulenga recalls.

ANALYST

Former Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) President and soccer icon Kalusha Bwalya is also participating in the World Cup, but as an analyst from his base in South Africa.

Kalusha, with his wealth of knowledge in football is one of the experts that Super-Sport has assembled to give expert analysis of the matches played from Qatar.

Like he was referred to during his footballing career, Kalusha too carries a Zambian tag wherever he shows up.

Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) Television also took part by showing some games live, while Radio One brought it even closer home with running commentaries in local languages.

COMMENTARIES

ZNBC sports presenter Matimba Nkonje, also Supersport presenter and commentator is yet another Zambian actively involved in commentaries at the Qatar World Cup games.

Those who have followed Matimba would remember that he too, has had such engagements at the world stage before.

There are, however other Zambians who are in Qatar in their individual capacity to watch matches while donning the national colours in scarf and other clothing.



Kalusha Bwalya

star-studded Ivory Coast in 2012 Africa Cup of Nations in Gabon.

Like Sikazwe, apparently, Renard has been to the World Cup before when he took Morocco to the 2018 edition which was held in Russia.

Renard was talk of the tournament after his charges beat the much fancied star-stated Argentina 2- 1 in their opening match at this year’s finals.

From an video that went viral, Renard, like he did with the Chipolopolo lads, is heard motivating his Saudi Arabian charges who were at a time goal down at half time, never to give up, that they keep calm and to go out and attack.

Interestingly, it was with similar motivation lines that Renard speaks in one of the advertisements that is still running on Zambian television screens while donning his traditional white shirt.

Fondly referred to as ‘mulamu’ (brother-in-law), being father to a Zambian girl and once declared freeman of Lusaka, Renard has never hidden his attachment to Zambia.

can whistle men.

As for Renard who has coached other African teams like Ghana, Ivory Coast and Angola, it was while with Zambia when he first recorded his major success as head coach.

Zambians will never forget him for fulfilling the country’s dream of becoming African champions, having laboured for decades without success. It was Renard who guided Chipolopolo to their maiden win after beating then

Kalumbila farmers win Trident Foundation support for 2022/23 season

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

A total of 1,300 farmers in Kalumbila will enjoy logistical support for the 2022/2023 farming season from the Trident Foundation Limited.



North Western Province Permanent Secretary Col Gladson Katambi (R) with Trident Foundation Manager Joseph Ngwira (M) and Provincial Agriculture Coordinator Muyobo Shimabale (L) and other officials at the Zamseed stand

The Foundation in Kalumbila District of North-Western Province is set to support the farmers with inputs and equipment according to a farmers' support initiative unveiled during the 2022 Kalumbila District Agriculture Expo.

The Expo attracted seed marketing companies, agriculture equipment suppliers and the surrounding community.

Trident Foundation Manager Joseph Ngwira explained that the farmers' support initiative was part of FQM Trident's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to ensure food security and income generation.

"This year, we have mobilized resources to support 1,300 farmers for this farming season. This support is limited to

communities around the mine area," Ngwira said at the Agriculture Farmer Field School Demonstration site in Kalumbila District recently.

The initiative was unveiled held under the theme Smart Farming the Way to Increased Agricultural Productivity and Incomes.

Trident Foundation Manager Joseph Ngwira explained that the farmers' support initiative was part of FQM Trident's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to ensure food security and income generation.



North Western Province Permanent Secretary Col Gladson Katambi

North-Western Province Permanent Secretary Col. Gladson Katambi hailed the Trident Foundation's continued support in the agricultural sector.

"To the companies present here, kindly ensure that our farmers are given appropriate information about your products and services so that they are able to make informed decisions," he said.

District Farmers' Association Chairperson Nsubula Hachipabeenda said farmers in the area remained in dire need of machinery to boost production.

"Farmers in the district are disadvantaged because of a lack of machinery, hence resulting in low production. Help farmers to market their crops by providing platforms for farmers to sell," said Hachipabeenda.

The event, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in partnership with Trident Foundation and other stakeholders, was convened to kick-off the farming season.

Also in attendance were Kalumbila District Commissioner Brenda Sankisa, Kalumbila District Council Chairperson Shadrack Munjunga, Provincial Agricultural Coordinator Muyobo Shimabale and other senior Government officials.

At the same function, 21 local farmers graduated from a 12-months conservation farming field school.



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Junior golfers moving from one hole to the next



Kansanshi junior golf tournament draws 90 kids

BY JACKSON MAPAPAYI

More than 90 children took to the Kansanshi golf course to compete in a one-day junior championship tourney organised by Kansanshi Mining Plc (KMP) in November.

The event had four competitor categories, namely Under-7, Under-10, Under-13 and Under-16 for boys and girls from Solwezi, Nkana, Mufulira as well as Trident in Kalumbila.

Among participants were children from an orphanage sponsored by KMP within Solwezi.

KMP Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi who graced the event on behalf of management said the event was held for talent identification and to foster inclusion.

“It’s a mix of children from different



KMP Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi (far right) and Tarisai Sembezeya Superintendent Estate and Services (far left), posing with the junior champions

backgrounds, meaning we have children from the schools that we support as well as an orphanage; and those from other schools who have just developed an interest in golf.

“So what we are trying to show is inclusion and diversity by including a wide range of children in the tournament,” said Chitoshi.

She revealed that the mining firm intends to make the event annual.

Apart from golf, Kansanshi Mining Plc sponsors other sporting activities such as football, netball, cycling as well as bowling.

The event was sponsored by Kansanshi Mining Plc(KMP), African Mining Services Inc (AMSI), Buks Haulage Limited(BHL), JAIDS Wholesalers and MTN Business Zambia.

Estate and Services Superintendent Tarisayi Sembezeya described the tournament as “a huge opportunity for our juniors to compete with the best in the country and for the orphans to feel part of the family sharing the same opportunity.

All children must be given a chance to live their dream. Thanks to all our partners for making this idea a reality.”

Brooklyn Nets point Guard Kyrie Irving.



Nike cuts Kyrie Irving off over anti-semitic remarks

BY MARTIN MUSUNKA JR

The National Basketball Association's projected hall of fame point guard Kyrie Irving has lost a partnership with Nike over an alleged anti-semitic social media post.

A Nike spokesperson told NPR that "Kyrie is no longer a Nike athlete," officially ending the endorsement agreement that was scheduled to expire on October 1, 2023.

The social media post that set social me-

dia and the corporate world ablaze was a documentary called *Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America*, which is based on Ronald Dalton's book series of the same name which aims to prove the Black Hebrew Israelites belief that certain people of colour, including Black Americans, are the true descend-

ants of the biblical Israelites.

After a five-game suspension, Kyrie Irving resumed playing with the Brooklyn Nets on November 20 following up an apology to the Jewish community and admitting that he did not handle the situation well.

In a post on his Instagram account, Irving apologised for tweeting the documentary.

"To all Jewish families and communities that are hurt and affected from my

Minister Louis Farrakahn, the leader of the Nation of Islam.



post, I am deeply sorry to have caused you pain, and I apologise,” he wrote. “I initially reacted out of emotion to being unjustly labelled Anti-Semitic, instead of focusing on the healing process of my Jewish brothers and sisters that were hurt from the hateful remarks made in the documentary.”

The decision to terminate Kyrie Irving’s contract followed Nike’s rival Adidas’ decision to drop Kanye West after what was labelled as an ‘anti-semitic rant,’ costing him \$2 billion in a day. Kanye West accounted for 7 percent of Adidas’ revenue and their collaboration brought relevance to the Adidas brand, but the sportswear giant kept their decision to completely terminate their alliance.

Kyrie Irving’s anti-semitic remarks are dubbed as ‘alleged’ in this article because they are not as blatant as American rapper Kanye West’s comments on a podcast called Drink Champs.

After Kanye West expressed how the Jews controlled the media and all major corporations, West proceeded to say “I can say anti-semitic things and Adidas can’t drop me, now what?” The episode featuring the Grammy award-winning artist was later on removed by Revolt TV and its host N.O.R.E apologised by saying “I had no idea that he was going to speak on those things.”

Coming to Kyrie Irving’s defence, Minister Louis Farrakhan who is the leader

“You took our language, culture, history and our minds and put in our minds your minds through your systems.” Farrakahn kept up his stance that Irving’s remarks were harmless by saying, “He is not thinking of hating somebody but thinking about learning more about himself.”

of the nation of Islam said that Kyrie is “searching for himself... he is searching for who he is and who he belongs to and what his root is in this world.”

Minister Farrakahn also said that the same people persecuting him are the same people that took away from him and from ‘us’ (referring to black Americans) the knowledge of self.

“You took our language, culture, history and our minds and put in our minds your minds through your systems.” Farrakahn kept up his stance that Irving’s remarks were harmless by saying, “He is not thinking of hating somebody but thinking about learning more about himself.”



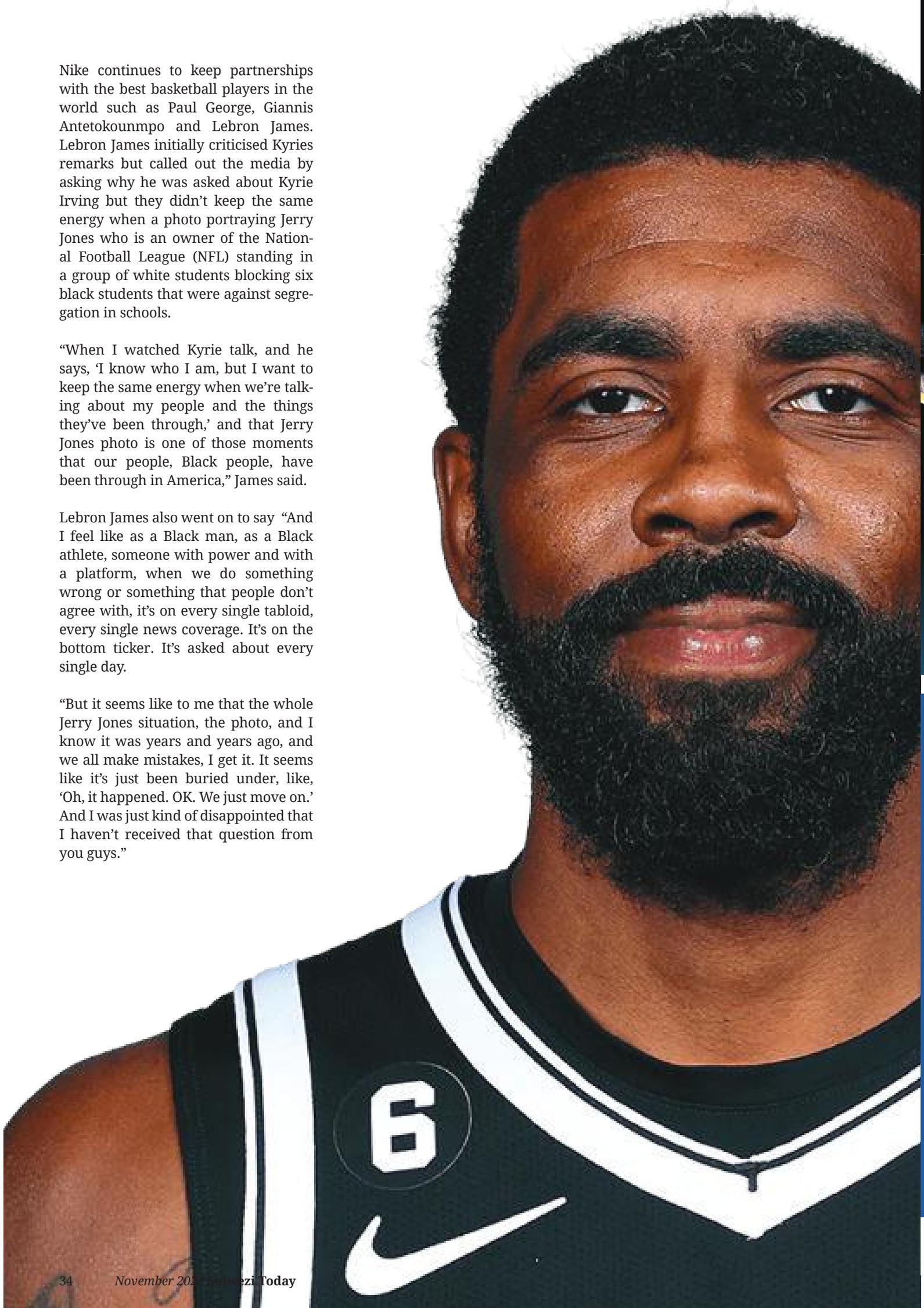
Kyrie Irving's signature shoe.

Nike continues to keep partnerships with the best basketball players in the world such as Paul George, Giannis Antetokounmpo and LeBron James. LeBron James initially criticised Kyrie's remarks but called out the media by asking why he was asked about Kyrie Irving but they didn't keep the same energy when a photo portraying Jerry Jones who is an owner of the National Football League (NFL) standing in a group of white students blocking six black students that were against segregation in schools.

"When I watched Kyrie talk, and he says, 'I know who I am, but I want to keep the same energy when we're talking about my people and the things they've been through,' and that Jerry Jones photo is one of those moments that our people, Black people, have been through in America," James said.

LeBron James also went on to say "And I feel like as a Black man, as a Black athlete, someone with power and with a platform, when we do something wrong or something that people don't agree with, it's on every single tabloid, every single news coverage. It's on the bottom ticker. It's asked about every single day.

"But it seems like to me that the whole Jerry Jones situation, the photo, and I know it was years and years ago, and we all make mistakes, I get it. It seems like it's just been buried under, like, 'Oh, it happened. OK. We just move on.' And I was just kind of disappointed that I haven't received that question from you guys."



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Planned projects to enrich Zambian communities

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

Government says it has laid down plans for community projects aimed at improving the livelihood of Zambian citizens.

Speaking during the fundraising event for Mrs Zambia Networking high tea, Lusaka Province Minister Sheal Mulyata said the contest, globally known as Mrs World contest, was about community work and the change that each participant brought to their communities.

“This prestigious event will host a Panel Discussion and Talk Table Exhibition for 100 business owners, which we believe will create room for discussion and a great networking platform with

a total of 300 business owners present,” she said.

Women made up a significant portion of the labour force in Zambia, and their contributions to entrepreneurship had made a huge difference in creating employment and contributing to income at household level.

Mulyata further added that the prestigious event was hosted to help fundraise for Mrs Zambia contestant Mrs Zindaba Hanzala who is scheduled to represent

the country at the Mrs World event to be held in LA’s Vegas Nevada, United States of America.

“On the road leading to this upcoming event, Mrs Zambia is hoping to use her experience to carry out community projects with a focus on the following thematic areas: Agriculture and Climate Change, Education and Entrepreneurship, and Tourism and Arts,” the Minister said.

And Mrs World Zambia Zindaba Han-



Mrs. World Zambia Zindaba Hanzal delivering her keynote speech

zala said the event was aimed at celebrating women and raising finances to sponsor her trip to Las Vegas for the upcoming Mrs World fashion show.

She added that the event was a platform designed to bring together female entrepreneurs in Zambia's business ecosystem to share ideas, network and celebrate excellence among other achievements.

DeVere Zambia Director and Wealth Consultant Maureen Nabulyato called on women to embrace financial literacy and good financial practices.

Nabulyato stressed the importance of saving, budgeting, investing and debt management as well as planning for retirement.

Sylvia Group of Companies Managing Director Sylvia Banda advised women to attain resilience in business as that was important to grow the business

and enable them to avoid stagnation.

She added that the evolution of business helped to keep business going. Banda, citing her own experiences, said her enterprise started out as a meal served to a few people out of personal resources; which in time grew and expanded into a catering training school and onwards into a university.

“Currently we are involved in activities where we dry and process food for use and for sale,” she said.

She further gave insight on how to keep a business running, including that children should be involved in the daily business operations.

Banda added that she had taught her children good business practices in or-

der for the business to continue even after her retirement.

The Mrs World 2022 contest is scheduled to kick off in December, and Mrs Hanzala is the current Mrs Zambia, representing Zambia.

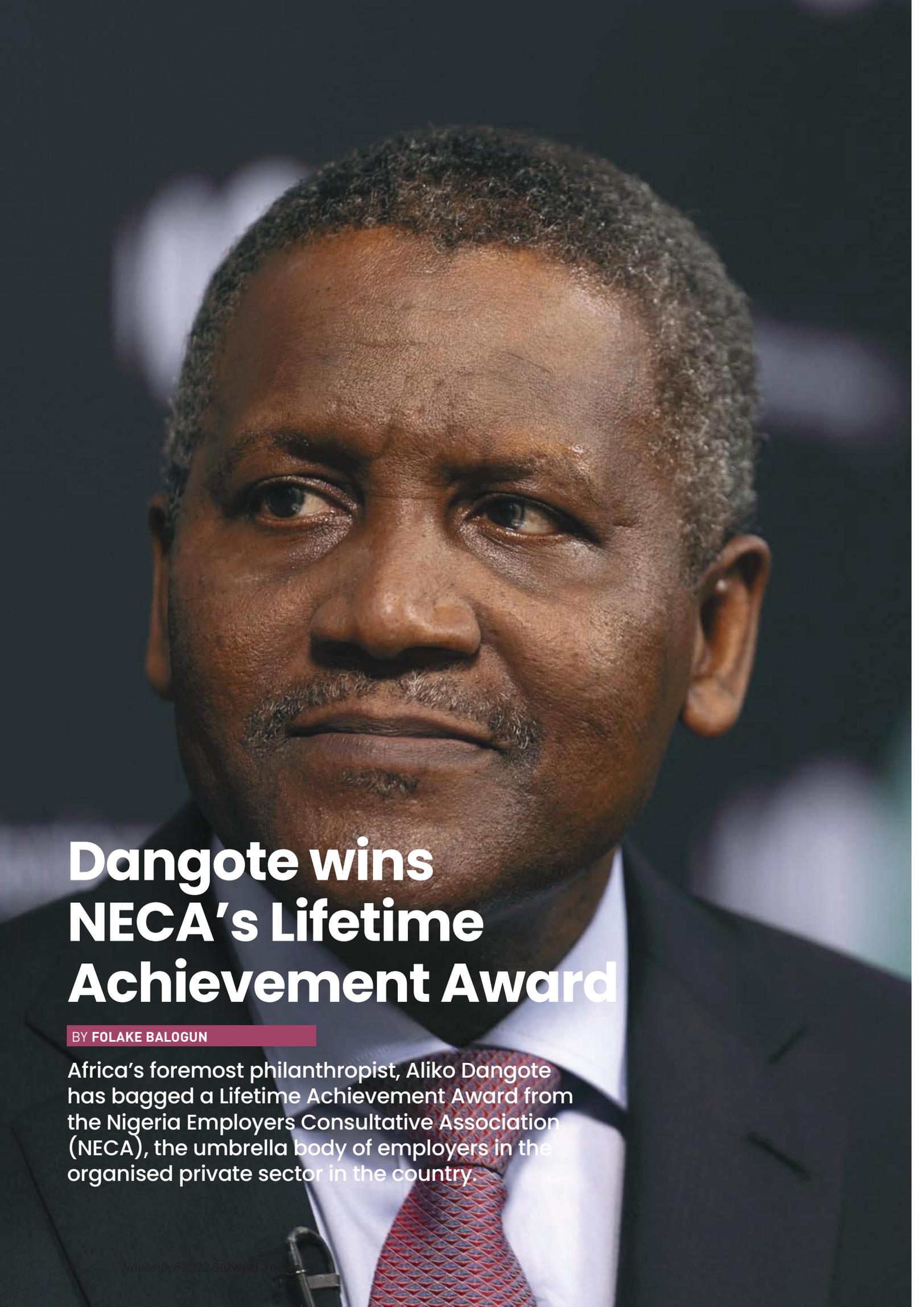
Zindaba Hanzala is a gender equality advocate, farmer and award-winning entrepreneur who runs an agriculture social enterprise called Mulimi.

The organisation aggregates financial services, insurance, market and technical support with a mandate to service 60 percent of small-holders and farmer female-led households.

Mrs World is the first beauty pageant for married women and was conceived in 1984.



Mrs. Zindaba Hanzala poses for a photo at the Swiss Arabian stand during the high profile business networking high tea



Dangote wins NECA's Lifetime Achievement Award

BY FOLAKE BALOGUN

Africa's foremost philanthropist, Aliko Dangote has bagged a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nigeria Employers Consultative Association (NECA), the umbrella body of employers in the organised private sector in the country.

It was indeed a night of honour for Dangote during the 2021 Employers Annual Excellence Award held in Lagos as his pan-Africa Conglomerate, Dangote Industries Limited (DIL) was named the “Best Company in the Chemical and Non-Metallic Products Sector.”

The awards were received on the industrialist’s behalf by a team of top management officers led by the Group Executive Director, Strategy, Portfolio Development & Capital Projects, Devakumar Edwin.

NECA President, Taiwo Adeniyi said Dangote was being recognised for his huge contributions to nation building and economic development through his various investments and the attendant job creation opportunities.

He described the business magnate as a torch-bearer in the private sector and commended his doggedness in investing in sectors that are capable of improving the nation’s economic wellbeing and transition from importers to net exporters.

Adeniyi explained that the Employers Excellence Awards meant to celebrate outstanding contributions of enterprise to national development are geared towards promoting and encouraging best practices in Corporate Performance, People Management and Industrial Relations practises amongst employers in Nigeria.

According to him “The annual award provides a platform for identifying, ranking and celebrating the resilience, doggedness and outstanding performance of employers in Nigeria.

“It is to recognise and publicly award enterprises that have exhibited excellence in Leadership, Governance, Innovation, Corporate Performance and Human Resource Management (HRM) amongst others and provide a platform for discussion and agenda setting on the need to embrace best practices in Corporate Performance, People Management and Industrial Relations through a well branded, presented, and organised event.

“This annual event equally provides feedback to participating employers on their status regarding attainment of best practices in Corporate Perfor-



He described the business magnate as a torch-bearer in the private sector and commended his doggedness in investing in sectors that are capable of improving the nation’s economic wellbeing and transition from importers to net exporters.

“mance, People Management and Industrial Relations,” he added.

The Group Executive Director, Edwin while receiving the award described NECA as a dispassionate organisation that promotes leadership, good governance, innovation, productivity and corporate performance, and “therefore Dangote cherishes the award coming from a quarter like NECA.”

He said: “NECA continues to remain a partner in progress, rewarding deserving companies for their contribution

to national development. The Dangote Group will continue to contribute its quota to nation building and promote responsible business in all sectors we operate.”

Edwin stated that the Dangote Group’s effort in addressing Africa’s agricultural and energy crisis included the bold step in constructing the second largest fertiliser complex in the world, a 1,100km sub-sea gas pipeline, and the multi-billion dollar 650,000 barrels-per-day refinery.

Minister of Finance, Zainab Ahmed, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Nebolisa Anako, praised the employers’ body for providing a platform for identifying, ranking and celebrating the resilience, doggedness and outstanding performance of employers in Nigeria.

Other winners in various categories include British American Tobacco (BAT) in Food, Beverages and Tobacco sector; TGI Group in Agro & Agro Allied Services; Cadbury in Food and Beverage Food Sector; while Nestle won the Award for Innovation and People Centric Culture; Fidson won an award for the Pharmaceutical sector, and Nigeria Foundry won in the Metallic/ Steel Sector. Businessday.ng

Consistency elevates body hygiene products agent

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Mary Mpongo from Solwezi's Kandundu extension area is one among many Zambians cashing-in on her trade and distribution of Longrich hygiene (body) products.

At 64 years of age, Mpongo against all odds is an agent of Longrich, a renowned Chinese manufacturer of products such as soaps, panty liners, pads, and mouth fresheners among others.

"I paid K1,500 to become a distributor and this qualified me to get products on wholesale to resale at a profit. I supply small packets of soap (Eva brand) to some lodges here in Solwezi for use in their rooms," Mpongo says.

For a K350 box of soap that contains 200 tablets, Mpongo says her cash flow has improved as most of her clients pay on cash basis while others pay within a week. On average, she sells 10 boxes every month.

Since January 2021 when she launched out, armed with a K5000 as her initial capital, Mpongo has seen her business grow to its present value of K8000.

Mpongo discloses that her cash flow has improved because of sound financial management principles she learnt in 2019 during the business training course courtesy of the Kansanshi Mining Plc (KMP) and Fortune World Investments Limited.

"I did all the 24 topics and after that, I began to follow the training on the radio. The knowledge from the training has helped me to mature, employ finan-



Mary Mpongo poses with her hygiene products

cial discipline, bank all the proceeds on a daily basis, keep time and care for customers."

Mpongo further hints that her record-keeping skills helps her determine the number of items sold amid business expenses, as well as to measure the business performance and the rate of growth.

Despite the fact that dealing in Longrich products is a lucrative venture, the unstable dollar exchange rate fluctuates, hence affecting imports of her products from Tanzania where she uses an agent who procures and send the cargo through logistics companies.

"On average, I make about 80 per cent profit margin and my future plans are to increase product range and stock for greater volume sales. If all goes well in future, my business is projected to be worth over K30,000."

Mpongo belongs to an association called Mbunda Royal Establishments in Kabompo District, and explains that the 10-member group owns extensive tracts of land where fundraising activities include beekeeping, fish ponds and crop farming.

"I have started the process of formalizing my business in fulfillment of the business training objectives. Thank you KMP for teaching the communities how to grow their businesses," she added.

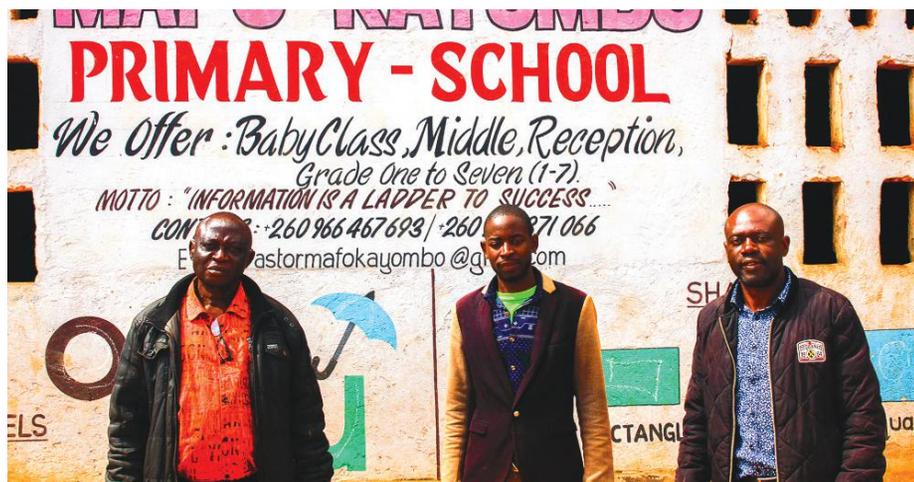
The Fortune World mentoring team led by its Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta were pleased that Mpongo is able to fervently put what she was taught into practice.

"I urge your group to apply for Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and also formalize your business by coming up with a business plan," Kafuta said.

Kayombo: Growing business in all directions

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

At Mafo Kayombo is a rare breed of small entrepreneurs who in May 2021 opened two schools in Solwezi alongside his real estates agency, driving school and natural food supplies.



with Fortune World Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta (right) and other Fortune World representative (left)

At the Mafo preschool and primary school in Kazomba of Solwezi, Kayombo has enrolled more than 90 children. His other school in Kyawama has 143 pupils and four teachers.

“I got recruited for the training in January 2021 and at this time, I was not doing much except running a small barbershop. But the training helped me to start thinking big and has led me to having tangible investments that are bringing better returns,” he says.

Kayombo discloses that topics such as Identifying Market Opportunities helped him open his mind for greater business ideas.

“I started the school business in May 2021 after attending the Kansashi Mining Plc-sponsored Fortune world business training. The idea of starting a school was inspired by the training I recently acquired.”

The young proprietor said his pupils pay K300 kwacha per term and five teachers have been employed permanently at the one-class-per-grade

school.

Kayombo rents the school building at K1,800 and makes about K10,000 in terms of revenue with about K4000 in monthly profit.

He noted that thanks to the knowledge he acquired, his business is registered with PACRA, and the Ministry of Education came to inspect and gave advice to have the windows placed for better ventilation in classroom blocks.

Apart from running both schools, Kayombo explains that he is also a real estate agent and supplier of natural foods.

“Real estate business is lucrative with commission sold for every house at 10 per cent of the house sales value. With constant sales of houses, this business has a turnover of K50,000 per month especially that the area I live in (Kazomba) lacks a trades school and is looked at as one of the gaps of the community which is good to invest in,” Kayombo states.

With his driving school business plan already in place, Kayombo hinted that

fees will be as follows; Class C1 will be at K2000 for 21 days while Class B will be pegged at K1,200 for 21 days.

He narrated that the driving school is very lucrative because it has less overheads and the training period is not lengthy.

“I have two instructors here who I have already identified. We will be paid K2,500 per month each. My idea of a driving school also came up after attending the KMP-sponsored training,” he affirmed.

He thanked KMP for the knowledge acquired as it would take him far in life. He urged supporters to continue helping the community so that more people in the community can benefit from the same privileges he enjoyed.

Kayombo has equally applied for Constituency Development Fund (CDF) for his driving school to a tune of K100,000 to buy a light truck.

The Fortune World mentoring team led by its Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta urged Kayombo to reinvest in the business to make it grow and was encouraged to affiliate his businesses to the North-West Chamber of Commerce.

In a bid to diversify his business, Kayombo considers having an agro shop as another opportunity which he would use to service the large farming population in the area.

“I have also registered a driving school in my area and am working on identifying a partner who can invest in a class C vehicle for now. This school would train drivers that will be licensed and prepare them for possible employment in the public or private sector,” he noted.

A marketer and her vision

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Mitech market, home to approximately 2000 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), is one of Solwezi's most affordable consumer markets, offering a diverse range of goods and services ranging from fresh and dry foods to clothing and hardware.

For Mary Mbanza Lufupa, 53, Mitech market is her base for most consumer goods that are on demand in the area.

"I started with a K200 as my capital selling vegetables (tomatoes, onions) and chickens in 2008 after I realized the need to make profit from both business ventures and earn a living," Lufupa says.

Upon a further need to sharpen her entrepreneurial skills, Lufupa got recruited for the Kansanshi Mining Plc-

"I started with a K200 as my capital selling vegetables (tomatoes, onions) and chickens in 2008 after I realized the need to make profit from both business ventures and earn a living," Lufupa says.

sponsored monthly business training

project in January 2021. Greetings DO, serve from the number of topics by following on radio from home in Solwezi's Saviye area.

"The training has helped me in terms of managing money properly and being able to reinvest in business for sustainability. Due to the training, I was inspired to invest in a fish pond but the fish was washed away by the rains due to poor pond banks which succumbed to pressure," she narrated.

She disclosed that her capital has now grown to over K1000 due to good financial practices and that her vision is to enlarge the poultry house to accommodate over 250 birds.

In 2015, the Kansanshi Foundation used to give her and her colleagues 25 chicks and feed to raise these birds for sale, adding that the capital raised through this grant is in use till this date.

"I have put the poultry business on hold and will resume latter this year with 150 chickens," Lufupa stated.

She thanked KMP for the training and the grant which had empowered her permanently as her capital for the poultry business project is now at K3000.



Mary Mbanza Lufupa



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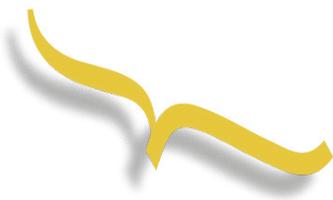
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