



The Standard

Mt Kenya is in government to stay, MPs say



NATIONAL PAGE 7

21 killed, 83 injured in Russia attack

WORLD PAGE 23

Health & Science



Work at Kip Keino stadium stalls, again

SPORTS PAGE 32

Gold, money deals



WEB OF INTRIGUE Sudan's crisis deepens as Darfur buries over 150,000 of its people, yet shadowy gold deals thrive amid the chaos. Kenya hosts RSF warlords accused of fueling the bloodshed. Sudan has accused the United Arab Emirates at the International Court of Justice of violating the Genocide Convention by arming the RSF. There's little doubt that Nairobi's silence and missteps are bound to invite global scrutiny, raising questions about complicity in a tragedy driven by profit. **PAGES 4, 5, & 6**



Curtains fall early on drama festival, social issues tackled

► The festival, which was scheduled to run until April 18 will close ahead of time and the gala dinner will be held today.

► Student performers delivered powerful performances tackling Kenya's most urgent social issues.

CAROLINE CHEBET, NAKURU

The 63rd edition of the Kenya National Drama and Film Festival in Nakuru City will wrap up ahead of schedule.

Originally slated to run until April 18, the festival was restructured for an earlier conclusion, prompting adjudicators and officials to work through late nights and early mornings to review all the presentations.

Despite the tight schedule, organisers confirmed that the gala dinner will be held today, with the State Concert taking place two days later, on April 16, at State House, Nakuru.

Students delivered powerful performances tackling Kenya's most urgent social issues.

Yesterday, among the standout performances was *Makutano*, a choral verse presented by students from the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication. The powerful piece tackled the devastating health impacts of unregulated gold mining—particularly its effects on fertility and birth rates in a fictionalised rural community.

The women are experiencing miscarriages, men are having fertility issues, and others are dying as a result.

The narrative opens with a haunting funeral scene: a pregnant woman being buried on a Thursday—one of many such ceremonies.

"Kila siku saa Tano tunazikana. Tumezika mara kumi," the narrators said.

The story exposes a clandestine gold mining operation in Makutano that flouts national regulations by using toxic chemicals and discharging waste into rivers relied on by the local population. While the mine has created jobs, women—whose families bear the brunt of the consequences—demand its closure.

The presentation echoes real-life controversies from mining zones such as Taita Taveta, laying bare the double-edged nature of extractives. While mining can offer employment and infrastructure in its early stages,

poor enforcement of policies like Kenya's 2016 Mining Act can lead to devastating public health outcomes.

In the narrative, women rise in defiance, calling for safer working conditions for their husbands, many of whom are also suffering from infertility. They demand a sanitary and regulated approach to mining in order to curb the alarming rise in miscarriages, illness, and death.

Writer Ronald Marotso said Makutano sheds light on many issues in the mining and extractives sector that are often overlooked.

"The narrative centres women as the visible faces of communities devastated by mining operations that flout regulations. Despite the existence of laws, their weak enforcement allows a tragic rise in fatalities, ultimately compelling the affected society to resist and demand change," Marotso said.

Real life issues

According to Marotso, the narration illustrated a common pattern in numerous businesses extending beyond the extractive sector, where the health of communities is jeopardised by a failure to adhere to proper environmental guidelines.

"The root cause is simply greed. The suffering of communities doesn't deter many businesses from continuing operations that jeopardise well-being through environmental negligence," he said.

The performance closes on a hopeful note. The women of Makutano take matters into their own hands, developing a mercury-free method to extract gold from sand—culminating in a symbolic birth scene that represents innovation, survival, and renewal.

Bilha Wangare, one of the narrators, said, "As artists, it's our



Kitale National polytechnic performing a Narrative titled Coffin seller. [Kipsang Joseph, Standard]



Kenya Institute of Mass Communication performing a Kiswahili Choral Verse titled Makutano during the National Drama and Music festival at Menengai High School in Nakuru on April 12, 2025. [Kipsang Joseph, Standard]



Shamberere National Polytechnic from Western presents a choral verse during the National Drama and Music festival. [Kipsang Joseph, Standard]



As artists, it's our duty to bring these stories to light. We use art to defend the rights of society. So much suffering stems from unchecked exploitation.

Bilha Wangare, Makutano Choral Verse Narrator

duty to bring these stories to light. We use art to defend the rights of society. So much suffering stems from unchecked exploitation."

Other performances at the festival also took bold aim at national issues.

Corruption in sports sector

Students from Shamberere National Polytechnic delivered a blistering indictment of entrenched corruption in Kenya's sports leadership and its exploitative consequences on athletes in the

country.

Through dynamic choreography and arresting visuals, their piece highlighted the frustrating reality faced by many talented individuals—disillusionment of athletes whose careers are stifled by greed, favouritism, and underinvestment.

Despite the wealth of talent across the country, the students portrayed a reality in which many athletes struggle to access basic resources such as quality training facilities, equipment, and support systems.

Meanwhile, Taita Taveta Technical and Vocational College tackled youth unemployment in a choral verse that resonated deeply.

Their narrative depicted the harsh plight of desperate graduates who, in the absence of viable opportunities, fall prey to fraudulent job-swapping schemes that exploit their vulnerability.

With powerful language, evocative visuals, and unflinching honesty, this year's festival proved once again that Kenya's students are not only storytellers—but frontline witnesses to the fractures in society. Their art calls out injustice, mourns neglect, and dares to imagine a different future.

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Khwisero from Western region performing Modern Dance. [Kipsang Joseph, Standard]



Karumo TTI from MT Kenya East performing a Modern Dance titled The Shift Within. [Kipsang Joseph, Standard]

Man, 49, loses bid to know father using DNA test

► Despite a 99.95% DNA match with his alleged uncle, the 49-year-old Kuria's attempt to prove paternity failed

► The court cited insufficient evidence and closed the door on his long-standing plea for a father's acknowledgment.

KAMAU MUTHONI, NAIROBI

The High Court recently dashed the hopes of a 49-year-old Kenyan living in the United States who sought to be legally recognised as the son of a man he claimed to be his biological father.

In his case filed before the High Court, John Arthur Kuria claimed that Wangendo had refused to give him a name and parental recognition despite knowing he carries his genes.

Justice Bahati Mwamuye dismissed the case filed by Kuria, who had asked the court to compel Stanely Wangendo Waruimbo to undergo a DNA test to confirm paternity.

The judge ruled that a compelling body of evidence is required before such an order can be granted.

"Consequently, the court finds

the petitioner has not established a prima facie case (on the face of it) to warrant an order for DNA samples from the respondent, and the same is hereby denied. The petition is hereby dismissed, and each party is to bear its own costs," Justice Mwamuye ruled.

Kuria appears to have what many might envy—a life abroad and possibly a good job.

However, he claims he has always lacked one fundamental thing: a father's recognition, which led him to sue.

In his petition, Kuria stated that Wangendo refused to acknowledge him as his son, despite knowing, according to Kuria, that they share a biological connection.

Kuria further noted that he was suing a man he had never met, but who, he alleged, had always known of his existence.

He claimed that growing up with a single mother and without a father figure had amounted to mental torture, effects of which he continues to suffer even in adulthood.

"Since I was born, the respondent in this matter has been an absentee father. We have never met or interacted to address the issue and seek a solution. He has never taken any responsibility in my upbringing



“

Consequently, the court finds the petitioner has not established a prima facie case (on the face of it) to warrant an order for DNA samples from the respondent, and the same is hereby denied,”

Bahati Mwamuye, Judge of the High Court of Kenya

from childhood to adulthood,” Kuria stated.

He added: “He has denied me the opportunity to know him as a father and forced me to grow up without paternal support, even though he is my biological father. This has caused me significant mental anguish, both during my childhood and now as an adult.”

According to court documents, Kuria was born in 1975 from a relationship between Wangendo and his mother, Maryanne Wambui.

He claimed he only learned the identity of his alleged father in 2023, prompting him to reach out.

Kuria said he went as far as contacting Wangendo's brother, who also lives in the United States, and requested a DNA test.

He claimed that the results showed a 99.95 per cent probability of a biological relationship.

“I have endured mental torture and emotional distress my entire life due to the absence of my father, the respondent herein. I have also faced discrimination and ridicule from relatives because of the strained relationship between my parents,” Kuria said.

In support of his case, Kuria submitted messages from his mother, who recounted that Wangendo allegedly abandoned her while she was pregnant, leaving instructions that the child should not bear his family's name.

She claimed he wrote this on a torn piece of ruled paper. When her water broke, she said she had to take a bus to the hospital alone.

Kuria claimed his mother wrote to Wangendo after the child was born, but the letters went unanswered.

According to court records, Wangendo's brother, who also bears the name Wangendo Waruimbo, lives

in Seattle.

He confirmed meeting Kuria in the US and said that after Kuria explained who his mother was and when he was born, he was confident they shared a bloodline.

“The petitioner asked if I would allow a DNA test using my sample to determine his paternity. Knowing the relationship between my brother—the respondent—and Maryanne Wambui, I agreed to the test,” Waruimbo stated.

He confirmed that a paternity test was conducted on December 3, 2023 using his sample, and the results showed a 99.95 per cent probability of a biological connection.

“I allowed the DNA test with my sample since I am the respondent's biological brother. Having known the petitioner to be genuine, I volunteered. The paternity test confirmed a strong biological link,” Waruimbo said.

He added that Kuria had been honest in his attempts to contact and identify his father, and insisted that Kuria did not seek inheritance or legal claims—only recognition as a son.

In court, Kuria asked for a supervised DNA test to be ordered and for the court to find that Wangendo had denied him parental care and subjected him to emotional distress and social ridicule.

However, Wangendo asked the court to dismiss the case, arguing that it was improperly filed. He pointed out that Kuria and Waruimbo were both in the US, yet the documents were commissioned by a lawyer in Kenya.

He argued that any affidavit sworn outside a Commonwealth country must be commissioned by a notary public for it to be admissible in Kenyan courts.

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The Standard
KENYA'S BOLD NEWSPAPER

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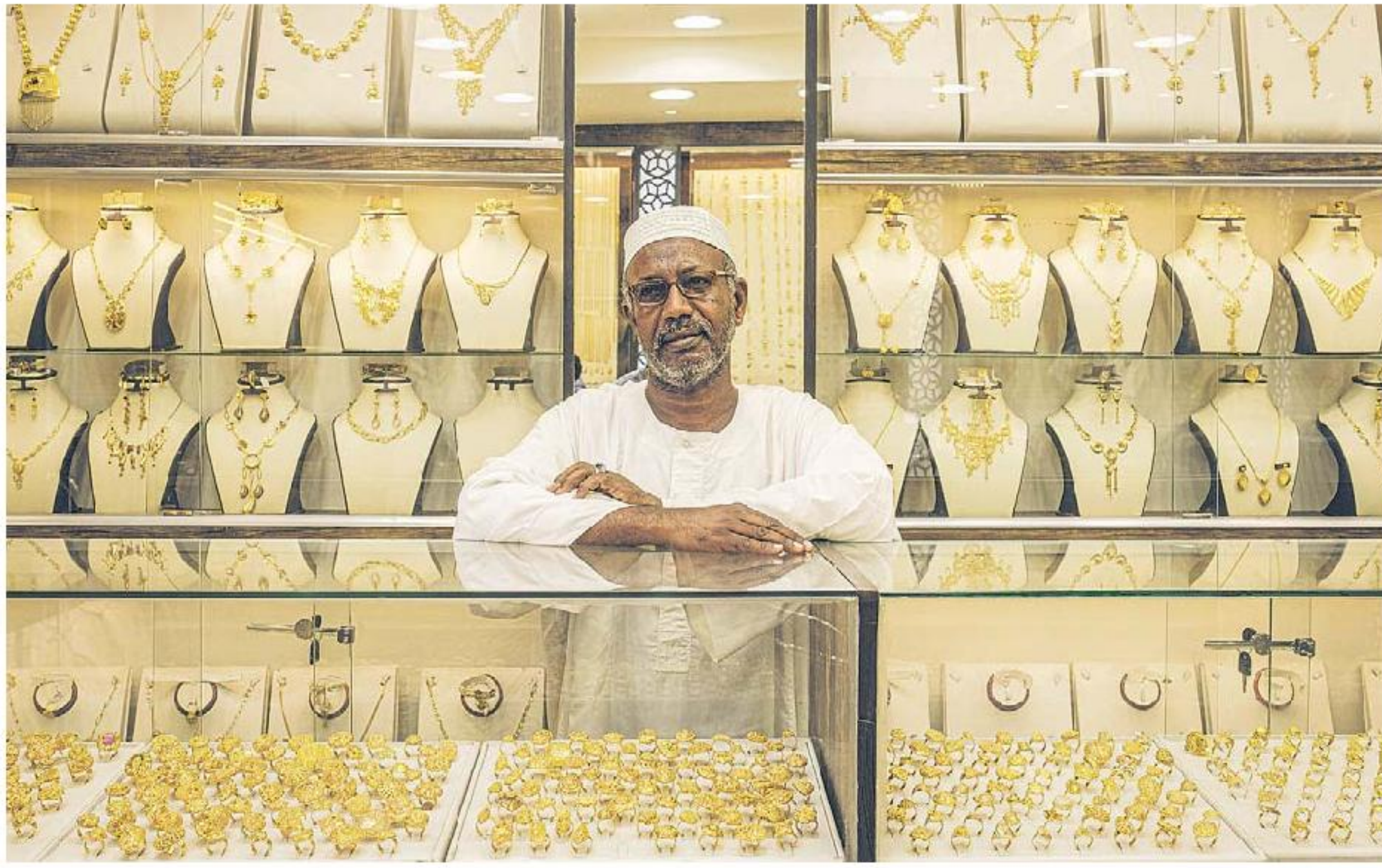
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A jeweller stands behind a counter at a shop in the Sudanese capital Khartoum's gold market in its downtown district on June 20, 2019. [Yasuyoshi CHIBA, AFP]

Are Kenya-RSF 'golden ties' fuelling the war in Sudan?

► Gachagua claims that Ruto is enabling illicit flow of gold from Sudan to global markets.

► The UN Security Council has expressed concern about Kenya's involvement in the Sudan war.

STANDARD TEAM

Accusations of gold smuggling involving Sudanese militias and Kenyan officials have cast a harsh light on Nairobi's murky relationship with a group accused of committing atrocities in Sudan's ongoing civil war.

The scandal gained traction after former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua claimed that President William Ruto is enabling illicit flow of gold from Sudan to global markets, a charge that has ignited a political firestorm and raised serious questions about Kenya's role in the conflict.

Gachagua has gone so far as to call for international sanctions, directly linking Ruto to the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a Sudanese paramilitary group accused of widespread human rights abuses. The RSF, in February, signed a charter in Nairobi to form a rival government in Sudan, a move that has further inflamed tensions between the two nations.

Gachagua claims that President Ruto is actively supporting the RSF due to his personal business ties with Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, the RSF commander, also known as Hemedti. Dagalo stands accused of orchestrating genocide in Sudan, and Gachagua

alleges that their operations are intertwined with a gold smuggling network that uses Kenya as a transit point to funnel gold to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

According to Gachagua, gold is trafficked from Sudan through Nairobi and then onwards to Dubai with the president's tacit approval, which in turn fuels the RSF's arms purchases and money laundering activities.

"The president has put his personal and commercial interests ahead of the country's interests," Gachagua told reporters in a recent press conference.

Transit hub

The gold smuggling reports have emerged at a particularly sensitive time, as the Kenyan government itself has identified the UAE—particularly Dubai—as a major conduit for illicit financial flows into Kenya. The Financial Reporting Centre, a National Treasury agency, has reported that suspicious transactions originating from Somalia, the UAE, and South Africa dominate flagged cross-border activity. Other sources of concern include Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and North America.

Kenya is described as both a destination and a transit hub for these illicit funds, with over \$1 billion (Sh129 billion) exiting the country in 2023—more than double the amount that entered.

"In 2023, the total number of Cash Transaction Reports received was 11,079, representing a 9.1% increase compared to the previous year, which had 10,159," the agency's report stated.

Adding to the intrigue, President Ruto held talks with Dagalo at State House, Nairobi, on January 3, 2024. Just

over a week later, on January 13, 2025, the President flew to Dubai, where he signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. This was after Emirati ruler Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan reportedly declined an invitation for a State visit to Kenya.

While it remains unclear whether these meetings were related, the timing and sequence of events have raised eyebrows and fueled speculation about the nature of the relationship between Kenya, RSF, and UAE.

Ruto's allies have dismissed Gachagua's accusations as reckless. However, Gachagua has doubled down on his claims, insisting that he facilitated Hemedti's 2023 visit to Kenya at Ruto's personal request, only to be excluded from their private meeting.

"I introduced him, and I was told to leave because it had nothing to do with Kenya," Gachagua said. "If it had anything to do with the country, I would have sat in that meeting."

Joseph Mugachia, a governance



No parallel government for Sudan was formed in Nairobi. Kenya abhors the balkanisation of sovereign states and supports a unified Sudan for the people of Sudan."

Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary

expert, observes that Kenya has experienced a series of diplomatic challenges since President William Ruto's election in 2022, which have tarnished its reputation on the international stage.

"The Ruto administration is making Kenya look like a warmonger, and we could face sanctions for promoting violence in another country at any time," Mugachia warned.

The central question remains: Why would Kenya's ruling elite align themselves with a group accused of committing war crimes?

Blood gold

According to numerous reports on the conflict in Sudan, the answer lies in the lucrative gold business. The RSF effectively controls a gold empire, holding sway over a country that ranks as the third-largest gold producer in Africa. The militia group controls some of the country's richest gold mines.

In 2022 alone, Sudan exported over \$2 billion worth of gold, much of it allegedly smuggled out of the country through illicit networks to the United Arab Emirates.

Many observers believe that Kenya's ruling elite now seek a share of this "blood gold," which explains their willingness to host the RSF.

While Sudan burns, Kenya has rolled out the red carpet for warlords accused of genocide, an act that has drawn international condemnation.

This alleged gold smuggling syndicate is believed to be financing the civil war in Sudan, which has already claimed the lives of an estimated 150,000 people since the conflict erupted on April 15, 2023.

The RSF's activities in Nairobi marked early steps in the militia group's move towards establishing its own breakaway government, a development that has further destabilized the region.

The United Nations Security Council has expressed concerns about Kenya's involvement in the Sudan war.

Neutral platform

Sudan followed suit with a statement regretting the Kenyan government's disregard for its obligations under international law, the charter of the United Nations, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Khartoum accused Nairobi of hosting the signing of a "political agreement" between the Janjaweed militia—which it considers a terrorist group responsible for ongoing acts of genocide in Sudan—and its affiliated individuals and groups.

Although President Ruto has yet to respond directly to these claims, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has defended Kenya's role in hosting the RSF and Sudanese civilian groups for talks, asserting that these discussions align with Kenya's commitment to providing neutral platforms for conflict resolution.

Mudavadi, who also heads the Foreign and Diaspora Affairs docket, was quoted in a section of the media saying that Sudanese groups have

previously sought peace solutions in neighbouring countries, making Kenya's involvement neither new nor partisan.

"Indeed, in January 2024, parties and stakeholders of the Sudanese conflict met in a neighbouring country to chart a way forward on inclusive dialogue and a return to civilian rule," Mudavadi said.

However, Kenya is being drawn deeper into the geopolitical firestorm surrounding Sudan's bloody civil war, as a landmark case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) threatens to expose Nairobi's quiet engagements with a militia accused of genocide.

Sudan's military-led government has accused the United Arab Emirates (UAE) of "support and complicity in genocide," alleging that Emirati support enabled RSF to commit atrocities against the non-Arab Masalit people in West Darfur.

In February, the paramilitary group held a press conference in the Kenyan capital, unveiling plans for a rival Sudanese government.

The move outraged Khartoum, which recalled its ambassador, banned Kenyan imports, and accused Nairobi of legitimizing a group it blames for war crimes.

Mudavadi denial

While President Ruto's government has defended the meetings, the optics are troubling. Analysts warn that Kenya's perceived openness to RSF figures could erode its image as a neutral peace broker in a region.

"It complicates Kenya's diplomatic posture," said Mugachia. "By allowing the RSF to operate on Kenyan soil, even unofficially, Nairobi risks being seen as complicit or, at the very least, partisan."

Mudavadi denied allegations that RSF established a rival administration after holding meetings in Nairobi in February.

"It is important to reiterate that no parallel government for Sudan was formed in Nairobi. Kenya abhors the balkanisation of sovereign states and supports a unified Sudan for the people of Sudan," he said.

Sudan's military regime, however, saw the Nairobi meeting as an implicit endorsement of the RSF's political ambitions.

The Sudanese government responded by banning all Kenyan imports, including tea, through a directive issued by acting Trade Minister Omar Ahmed Mohamed.

"The import of all products coming from Kenya through all ports, crossings, and airports will be suspended until further notice," the statement declared.

As Sudan's army regains territory from the RSF, Nairobi finds itself in a precarious position.

The RSF, led by Hemedti, insists it is a legitimate political force representing civilian interests. Its leaders say their Nairobi-based "government-in-exile" will push for democratic transition in Sudan.

But critics argue the initiative is a calculated attempt to whitewash the group's wartime record.

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Hemedti, Bashir and rise of merciless militia

► RSF is the former Janjaweed militia, which played a key role in the 2003-2020 war in Darfur.

► In 2013, President Bashir renamed the group the Rapid Defence Forces.

ALEX KIARIE, NAIROBI

Dwarfing President William Ruto when he made his first public visit to Kenya in January 2023, Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, popularly known as Hemedti, oozed credence that sought credibility. For a man whose squinty smile paced by glinty eyes, underestimating him could be a jaundiced judgment.

Underneath the mask lies intemperate man who has risen from a lowly background to be a key player in one of Africa's most convoluted regional conflicts.

He leads a military outfit that began as a non-state armed group before becoming a tolerated appendage of the Sudanese army, which was absorbed within the country's military ranks, before bolting out to be a gritty rebel force.

Despite having links to the Su-

danese military, the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) often chose to operate as a quasi-unit of the army.

RSF is the former Janjaweed militia, which played a key, yet deadly, role in the 2003-2020 war in Darfur.

It was blamed for the murder of around 300,000 people, and displacement of millions of others both in Darfur and South Kordofan states of Sudan.

According to a Human Rights Report published in September 2015 titled *Men with No Mercy*, RSF carried out a targeted and systematic murderous campaign on villages in Darfur. Part of the report reads, "Many civilians were killed by the RSF when they refused to leave their homes or give up their livestock, or when they tried to stop RSF fighters from raping them or members of their family."

UN reports have also linked the group to various human rights abuses. Former Sudanese president Hassan Omar al Bashir, who is in detention, has an arrest warrant from ICC over the massacres.

But as manacles of ICC dangle over the heads of the perpetrators of the war crimes and other human rights violations, the history of RSF is too entrenched in the spiralling civil war in Sudan, but which is now sucking



Abdul Rahim Hamdan Dagalo (R), Sudan's RSF deputy commander and brother to Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, and the chairperson of the Sudan People's Liberation Army Abdelaziz al-Hilu in Nairobi on February 18, 2025. [SIMON MAINA, AFP]

in regional players, including Kenya.

RSF's history is steeped in the aftermath of the Toyota War of 1987, which pitted Chad against her then powerful neighbour, Libya, in which Muammar Gaddafi suffered a devastating defeat.

Some elements in Chad that had supported Libyan forces in the war, under the leadership of Acheikh Ibn-Oumar, retreated into Darfur, where

they were received and granted accommodation by a local senior Baggara Arab chief called Musa Hilal. The Baggara are a group of dark-skinned Arabs found mainly in the Sahel.

The Janjaweed, whose local meaning translates to 'Devils on Horseback' or 'Horsed Demons', would engage in conflicts with local Zaghawa and Fur tribes over grazing land and control of minerals.

Some would later be part of the larger agenda of converting local mainly Christian and animist Sudanese communities to Islam under the Arabisation agenda that was supported by Khartoum.


Years of conflicts and what has been termed by historians as Arab Apartheid led to an uprising by the local tribes, under the Justice and Equality Movement, Sudan Revolutionary Force and the Sudan Liberation Army rebel groups, from 2002. They inflicted heavy losses on the Sudanese army, which had been deployed in 2003 to quell the riots.

Bashir, turned to Janjaweed to boost his chances. He armed and built their capacity by sending senior officials of the Sudanese military to take command of the fighters. One of the fighters who had made a fortune in camel and gold trading was Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo aka Hemedti.

In 2013, amid calls for accountability over the Darfur pogroms, President Bashir renamed the group the Rapid Defence Forces, and charged Hemedti with handling the dissipating war in Northern Darfur and South Kordofan. He also made it part of the Sudanese army.

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Why Kenya's name could come up in Sudan's case against UAE

► Sudan has expressed anger at Ruto's alleged interference in its internal affairs.

► The President started his diplomatic missteps immediately he was sworn into office.

BIKETI KIKECHI, NAIROBI

Kenya is likely to be mentioned in a case filed by Sudan at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over alleged complicity in crimes against humanity committed by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Darfur.

Two months ago, Sudan lodged a strong protest, accusing Kenya of supporting the RSF and its activities, including the alleged establishing a parallel government in Nairobi.

Malik Agar, the deputy chairman of the Sudanese Sovereignty Council, expressed his anger at President William Ruto's alleged interference in Sudan's internal affairs.

"The actions taken by President Ruto represent a disturbing trend of external interference that threatens to divide Sudan. Why is Kenya intervening in Sudan's internal matters while expecting no repercussions?" Agar asked.

Historian and international relations scholar Prof. Macharia Munene told The Standard that Sudan is likely to cite Kenya, a close ally of the UAE, as one of the countries supporting the alleged genocide in Darfur, which is allegedly being financed by the oil-rich Middle Eastern nation.

on Friday, former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua accused President Ruto's government of being complicit in the killing of children in Sudan.

"The situation in Sudan is dire because we have allowed their gold to be illegally processed in Kenya, and guns are being smuggled through Nairobi to kill children in that country. What is this bitterness that this government has against young children?" Gachagua said at the Second Mwai Kibaki Memorial Lecture in Nairobi.

Arms deals

Munene suggested that there may be activities taking place in secret that ordinary Kenyans may not be aware of, but someone like Gachagua, due to his former privileged position, may know about. He also noted that there have been numerous rumours about alleged arms smuggling to the RSF.

"General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the de facto ruler of Sudan, seems to be unhappy about the alleged arms passing through Nairobi, but the question remains: How do they get



Muawia Osman Mohamed Khair (L), Sudan's acting Minister of Justice, and Sudanese ambassador to the Netherlands Omaima Alsharif wait for the start of a hearing before the International Court of Justice in The Hague, on April 10, 2025. [AFP]

to Sudan? Is it through Ethiopia or South Sudan?" asked Munene.

Should Sudan make claims against Kenya at the ICJ, these may include accusations of interference in Sudan's internal affairs, although the primary focus will likely remain on the UAE's alleged role in the genocide and killings that continue in Darfur.

"The main accusations will concern external interference, with evidence readily available due to the alleged sponsorship of RSF activities. Kenya's name could continue to surface as the case progresses," said Munene.

To strengthen its case against the UAE, Sudan may seek to tie Kenya into the web of evidence.

On the diplomatic front, Kenya's reputation, already waning in the region, could suffer further if it finds itself embroiled in another high-profile case involving war and killings in a neighbouring country.

Munene believes that Kenya is no longer the diplomatic regional powerhouse it once was. Its standing was further weakened when former Prime Minister Raila Odinga lost the African Union Commission chair election to a candidate from Djibouti.



The main accusations will concern external interference, with evidence readily available due to the alleged sponsorship of RSF activities."

Macharia Munene, Historian

Munene also warned that Kenya's relationship with the UAE could be exposed, as there have been claims of top leaders signing unexplained deals in the UAE.

Former Attorney General Justin Muturi recently claimed he declined to sign an agreement with Russian oligarchs in Dubai, which President Ruto had allegedly asked him to.

Moi legacy

Under President Daniel arap Moi, Kenya enjoyed an undisputed position as a champion of peace in the region, a legacy that continued under the presidencies of Mwai Kibaki and Uhuru Kenyatta.

Munene believes Moi succeeded because he was seen as a peacemaker. This reputation allowed him to mediate peace talks in Somalia and South Sudan, with warring parties trusting his neutrality.

"Kenya's position was respected in the region because Moi was considered fair, and so all parties allowed him to mediate. Kibaki enjoyed similar success, including facilitating the birth of South Sudan in Nairobi," he said.

"Even Uhuru did not face many challenges, as he succeeded in Somalia, and after retiring, he was appointed by his peers to lead talks in Ethiopia and the DRC," added Munene.

However, he believes that unlike his predecessors, Ruto has generally failed in regional diplomacy, often creating enemies instead of building friendships.

Munene suggests that Ruto has rubbed other countries the wrong way, which is why he was rejected by both sides when IGAD leaders asked him to mediate in Sudan.

He was immediately rejected by both the Sudanese Army and the RSF after the IGAD proposal. The

army claimed that Ruto was not a neutral mediator, as he appeared to be siding with the RSF.

Ruto also angered both sides when he publicly told the generals, Burhan and Hemedti, to "stop this nonsense."

"His language is inappropriate. He needs to improve his diplomatic tone," said Prof. Munene.

Ruto's diplomatic missteps began shortly after he was sworn in, when he invited the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic to his inauguration and later expelled them when Morocco's Minister for Foreign Affairs protested.

Awkward situation

This fallout created an awkward situation for Kenya, as it, along with other African Union members, had recognised the independence of the Sahrawi Republic years earlier.

Despite recognising and hosting the RSF and its leader, Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Hemedti), the group is now on the back foot, having been recently routed from the capital by the army. It is uncertain how Sudan will continue to trust Kenya.

Munene argues that the losses suffered by the RSF are detrimental to President Ruto and his government unless he publicly explains why Kenya supported the militia group.

"He could come out and say, 'Yes, we are supporting the RSF because we want to see change in Sudan.' But countries rarely do that nowadays, unlike in the apartheid era in South Africa. They avoid such admissions to prevent hostility," he said.

He warned that it is damaging for Kenya's reputation when its leaders are mentioned negatively, as it undermines the country's standing internationally and its image as a neutral mediator.

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POLITICS

President's friends are beneficiaries of money laundering, says Wamuchomba

Githunguri MP Gathoni wa Wamuchomba has accused some of President William Ruto's allies of being beneficiaries of money laundering and theft.

Wamuchomba yesterday alleged that the amount of cash Ruto allies such as Kapsaret MP Oscar Sudi are dishing out in churches every weekend can only be proceeds of money laundering.

"There is no Member of Parliament who can go around dishing out Sh2 or Sh3 million every weekend in churches. The only explanation is that this kind of money is ill-gotten. I can only afford Sh20,000 in a weekend, and yet my counterpart is dishing out millions," she said.

The MP alleged that the Social Health Authority money, about which Kenyans are complaining about, is likely to have been diverted to fundraisers as a way of buying public support.

"Kenya is notorious for money laundering."

"We saw on the news how even our President has been implicated. This is 'wash wash' money, and the Church should rise and take a strong stand against this dirty money."

Wamuchomba, who was speaking during a fundraiser for PCEA Gathaiti in Githunguri, attended by several Ruto-allied MPs led by Sudi, took a swipe at the MPs, saying it was a ploy by her detractors and the powers that be to cut her down to size.

"It is a shame that all those men who came here had one agenda — and that is to cut me down to a certain political size. Kiambu Woman Rep Ann Wamuratha should be ashamed of her role in this political gimmick," she said.

Wamuchomba told the press that the love the people of Githunguri and the Mount Kenya region had for UDA is long gone and cannot be revived.

"These people want to poke fingers in my eyes."

"They want to provoke the public, and the scheme here was to have these residents boo or shout at people. Unfortunately for them, it did not happen, our people remained calm."

She questioned why Wamuratha would bring men to a function who only gave Sh2 million.

"They have come here with a lot of money, and yet they cannot give a children's home next to this church even one packet of unga."

"Their agenda is to repackage someone politically," Wamuchomba said.

Earlier in the church, MPs Sudi and Elijah Kururia, Uasin Gishu Governor Jonathan Bii, former Murang'a Woman Rep Sabina Chege, and former Githunguri MP Kago wa Lydia were denied a chance to speak politics inside the church.

The lead pastor stated that there would be no politicking inside the church, and that the politicians' donations would not be announced.

[George Njunge]

MPs: Mt Kenya is in government to stay



Deputy president Kithure Kindiki (centre) with Uasin Gishu Governor Jonathan Bii, Kiambaa MP John Njuguna, Mogotio MP Reuben Kiborek, Kiambu Woman Rep Ann Wamuratha and National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung'wah at a fundraiser in Kiambaa, Kiambu yesterday. [Edward Kiplimo, Standard]

► Kindiki said Uhuru Kenyatta was not to blame for the state of economy when Ruto took over.

► Several UDA politicians raised more than Sh10 million within minutes in Kiambaa.

IRENE GITHINJI, NAIROBI

Just over a week after President William Ruto's visit to the Mt Kenya region, politicians allied to him are back, splashing millions of shillings in what they describe as economic empowerment initiatives.

The leaders yesterday insisted that the Mt Kenya region was firmly in government, asserting that President Ruto's administration had delivered on its campaign promises to residents.

"When you see us supporting this government, it is because Kiambu played a pivotal role in bringing it to power and we are here to stay," said National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichung'wah.

He was speaking during a fundraiser held at Karuri High School grounds in Kiambaa Constituency, attended by Deputy President Kithure Kindiki and several MP and a governor.

Kiambaa MP John Njuguna had invited the leaders to the event, which aimed to raise funds for boda boda operators and women's groups. Within minutes, at least Sh10 million was raised, with leaders saying the government's economic empowerment agenda was progressing in line with pre-election commitments.

Kindiki also defended former President Uhuru Kenyatta from blame over the country's economic state, saying the situation President Ruto inherited was largely due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Many believe we blame Uhuru for the economic state we found, but the primary cause was the Covid-19 pandemic, which shut down the economy for nearly two years. No businesses were operating; people were not working. Such a shutdown inevitably leads to the situation we encountered in 2022."

He added: "When we sought votes, we made promises—among them to empower small business owners through the bottom-up economic model. We committed to uplifting women in markets, boda boda riders, public service operators and other small-scale traders, enabling them to run sustainable businesses."

Kindiki highlighted Kiambu's large population as justification for the development initiatives being undertaken, including the construction of 25 modern markets valued at approximately Sh22.1 billion.

"We are on track to meet the promises we made to Kenyans—supporting communities, groups, and individuals at the bottom of the economic pyramid," he added.

He said the economy had since stabilised, enabling the government to mobilise funds to complete all stalled development projects.

"Many roads had stalled due to economic shocks from the pandemic. But now, with the economy stabilised, the government has sufficient resources to resume and complete road-works across the country," he noted.

Kindiki urged residents to disregard critics of the government, assuring them that development was ongoing.

Ichung'wah reiterated that the Mt Kenya region remains integral to the government.

"The Kiambaa initiative marks the pilot phase of our empowerment programme—the foundation of the Kenya Kwanza campaign. We held an economic forum and signed the Kiambu Economic Charter, outlining agreed development priorities, many of which are being implemented," said Ichung'wah.

He cited key ongoing projects in the county, including 10 affordable housing schemes worth Sh24.6 billion, 25 market developments valued at Sh22.1 billion, and 105 kilometres of the 218-kilometre Mau Mau Road, with regional road projects totalling Sh157 billion.

Ichung'wah further noted that Mt Kenya had benefited significantly under the current administration, not only through infrastructure and development projects, but also through political representation—having secured the Deputy President's position, seven Cabinet Secretaries, 15 Principal Secretaries, and numerous parastatal appointments.

Also present at the event were Senate Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot, Uasin Gishu Governor Jonathan Bii, and MPs Oscar Sudi (Kapseret), John Machua (Kiambu Town), Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika Town), Reuben Kiborek (Mogotio), Njoroge Kururia (Gatundu North), Gabriel Kagombe (Gatundu South), Jane Kagiri (Laikipia Woman Rep), and Anne Wamuratha (Kiambu Woman Rep).

The leaders urged residents to be patient and give President Ruto time to deliver on his promises, noting that development takes time.

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THE NATIONAL TREASURY & ECONOMIC PLANNING SUPPORTING ACCESS TO FINANCE AND ENTERPRISE RECOVERY (SAFER) PROJECT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Credit No. 7018-KE
Project ID No: P175017

The Government of Kenya (GoK) in conjunction with the World Bank is implementing a five-year Supporting Access to Finance & Enterprise Recovery (SAFER) Project whose overall development objective is to increase access to financial services, enhance the capabilities, and support the COVID-19 recovery of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Kenya. This objective will be achieved through (i) Innovation and Liquidity Support to MSMEs; (ii) De-risking Lending to MSMEs; and (iii) Technical Assistance and Project Management. The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) is looking for a highly motivated individual, on full time basis, to fill the position of **Project Officer** for a period of one (1) year renewable based on performance.

PROJECT OFFICER

Ref: SAFER/PIU/PO/2024-25 - 1 Post

Objective

The main functions of the Project Officer will be to manage, administer and coordinate project activities. More specifically, the Project Officer will: (a) provide the requisite administrative support to the PIU to enable it carry out its mandate; (b) provide PIU Professional Staff with a productive working environment through the optimal use of physical, material and support staff resources; (c) overseeing project implementation activities by the implementing agencies; (d) provision of procurement support; (e) provision of M&E support; and, (f) providing periodic project progress reports during the project implementation period.

The PIU Project Officer is expected to meet the above objective by performing, without limitation, the following tasks, split into two categories:

Project Management

- Assist in the preparation and implementation of project work plans and the timely preparation of periodic progress reports;
- Provide project M & E support that includes generating and assessing information required for monitoring, evaluation and reporting on key operational and performance indicators and outcome objectives established for the project as detailed in approved work plans and results framework;
- Assist in coordinating and participate in meetings with beneficiary agencies, development partners and stakeholders to articulate and disseminate the Project objectives and implementation progress;
- Arrange and coordinate special projects and events, conferences, workshops, office activities and committees;
- Contribute to preparations of Terms of Reference for planned activities;
- Work closely with the Procurement Specialist in the preparation of the procurement evaluation reports; monitor timely execution of contracts; help prepare necessary documents for payment and follow up on payments due under procurement contracts;
- Contribute to the preparation of presentation materials, newsletters and website contents for communication of Project objectives and implementation progress.

Administration

- Assist the Project Coordinator / Manager to make and implement administrative decisions based on operational requirements at the PIU;
- Supervise the work of support staff (drivers, messengers, and security);
- Schedule use of vehicles, meeting room and office equipment;
- Prepare and follow-up all travel arrangements for PIU staff members and SAFER beneficiary agencies.

(a) Qualification

- A minimum of a first degree in relevant field (e.g. project management, economics, banking, finance, commerce, business administration).
- Relevant post-graduate qualifications will be an added advantage.

(b) Experience

- A minimum of 3 years' relevant experience;
- Experience in the public service and donor - funded projects is preferable.
- Knowledge of financial sector reform issues will be an added advantage.
- Excellent organizational, communication and report writing skills and ability to work in team.
- Experience in personnel supervision.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

CVs will be evaluated taking into account the following criteria: Academic and professional qualifications; Relevant experience; Professional and work experience; Communication skills; interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team.

Interested candidates fulfilling the required qualifications should submit their application documents (curriculum vitae with details of qualifications, experience, daytime telephone numbers, email address and names of three referees) **clearly indicating the position applied for and vacancy Reference No** via email or to the address below **on or before Wednesday 30th April, 2025**.

Postal Address:

Project Implementation Unit
Attention: Project Manager
P.O. Box 21190-00100
Nairobi, Kenya.

Physical Address:

Project Implementation Unit
Attention: Project Manager
7th Floor, Anniversary Towers, North Tower.
Building No.19 Monrovia Street/University Way
Nairobi, Kenya.

Telephone No.: 254 - 20 - 2210271/4

E-mail: procurement.safer@piu.go.ke

NOTE:

- The appointment is for a one (1) year contract term and renewable subject to performance;
- Only shortlisted and successful candidates will be contacted.
- Shortlisted candidates** shall be required to produce **originals** of their Identity Card, academic and professional certificates and transcripts during interviews
- The successful candidate will be required to provide clearances from KRA, DCI, EACC, HELB and CRB

PROJECT COORDINATOR (SAFER)

FOR: PRINCIPAL SECRETARY/NATIONAL TREASURY



Catholic faithful of Kakamega's St. Joseph Cathedral, led by Bishop Joseph Obanyi Sagwe, carry palm leaves in a procession through Kakamega town on their way to yesterday's Palm Sunday service. [Benjamin Sakwa, Standard]

Respect Kenyans' right to speak freely, State told on Palm Sunday

► Echoing the humility of Christ, clergy urged political leaders to lead with service and compassion

► They warned that suppressing differing views threatens democratic ideals, urging the government to embrace tolerance.

FLAVIER MOMANYI AND DANIEL CHEGE

Christians across the globe marked Palm Sunday yesterday, with clergy in Kenya calling on the government to uphold citizens' rights to free expression.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and commemorates the day Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, greeted by crowds waving palm branches.

At Nairobi's All Saints Cathedral, Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit of the Anglican Church of Kenya condemned last week's use of teargas on unarmed Butere Girls High School students in Nakuru during the National Drama Festivals.

He stressed the importance of freedom of speech and democratic values, reminding the nation that every Kenyan holds the right to express themselves. "Our young daughters from Butere Girls were denied a platform and were intimidated. They couldn't perform at the festival. The use of teargas was unwarranted. These are innocent, talented girls—we ought to

treat them as our own children," said Archbishop Ole Sapit.

The Cathedral was filled with children, youth, and the elderly, who turned up in large numbers to take part in the joyous procession, singing songs of praise while waving palm branches.

"This week offers a moment for self-reflection—to allow Jesus Christ to enter our hearts, transforming us into individuals capable of contributing positively to our nation," the Archbishop added.

He encouraged the faithful, and Kenyans more broadly, to show generosity to the needy in keeping with the spirit of Christ's sacrifice.

The Archbishop also appealed to national leaders, urging them to become ambassadors of love and peace during the Easter season and to avoid rhetoric that incites division, particularly at public events and political rallies.

Among the congregation was 27-year-old Moffat Murithi, who encouraged his peers to attend the Holy Week activities and engage in the upcoming stage performances planned for the week. "This is the most sacred period in our Christian calendar—a time to draw nearer to God and honour Christ, who died on the cross for us," he said.

In Nakuru, during a separate Palm Sunday Mass, Catholic Bishop Cleophas Oseso echoed calls for restraint and urged the government to adopt a more tolerant approach toward its citizens as Easter approaches.

He expressed concern that rising frustration among the public was



Catholic faithful from Holy Family Basilica, Nairobi, raise palm branches to celebrate the first day of Holy Week. [John Muchucha, Standard]



Wiper Party Leader Kalonzo Musyoka (centre), Matungulu MP Stephen Mule (left) and Mwingi Central MP Gideon Mulyungi attend Palm Sunday service at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Mwingi. [Denish Ochieng, Standard]

“

Our young daughters from Butere Girls were denied a platform and were intimidated. They couldn't perform at the festival. The use of teargas was unwarranted.

Jackson Ole Sapit, Archbishop

eroding the peace and stability of the country, especially in the wake of recent confrontations involving journalists and schoolchildren.

"Now is the time to root out corruption and ensure every Kenyan feels secure, protected, and economically supported. The government must show understanding towards those who are disillusioned," said Bishop Oseso.

He reminded his congregation that Kenya is a Christian nation and urged both leaders and ordinary citizens to live out the values of their faith by upholding moral integrity and national unity. "We must reform our values and emulate Jesus Christ in all we do. Citizens and leaders alike must realise that, without Christ, we are nothing," he stated.

The bishop urged leaders to adopt a servant leadership mindset rather than acting as overlords. He emphasised the need for humility and the importance of listening to the voices of the people.

"Kenyans must stay united and preserve peace. Let us love one another and intercede in prayer for our country," he said.

The celebration drew hundreds of worshippers, many of whom voiced frustration over recent state actions. They called on the government to prioritise the welfare of the people.

Among them was George Tanui, who said he was appalled by the events in Nakuru during the 63rd National Drama and Film Festival, where students were allegedly harassed and denied their moment to perform. "It's heartbreaking to see such brutality. Teargassing defenceless schoolgirls and attacking journalists? The government has truly crossed a line," said Tanui.

Cecilia Njambi, another worshipper, urged Kenyans to stand in solidarity with the oppressed and applauded the media for consistently reporting the truth.

"It's time for Kenyans to support Generation Z and hold our leaders accountable. Enough is enough," she said.

"As we celebrate Easter, we dream of a country governed with justice, where our leaders care for their citizens, and where Kenyans are employed, safe, and healthy," she added.

The day's events signalled the beginning of Holy Week, which culminates in Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and the celebrations of Easter Sunday and Easter Monday.

Ruto: ‘Echoes of War’ play was a plot to corrupt children’s minds

► He claimed the performance sought to manipulate children into defying authority.

► His remarks come amid a storm of criticism over artistic repression.

STEPHEN RUTTO, ELGEYO MARAKWET

President William Ruto has claimed that the Butere Girls High School play “Echoes of War” was a choreographed plot designed to brainwash the country’s children against their leaders.

It was the first time the Head of State addressed the State’s controversial decision to stop the performance during the National Drama and Film Festivals in Nakuru last Thursday.

The police action—lobbing teargas at students and halting the play at Kirobon Girls High School—sparked national outrage and drew international attention. Traumatized and in tears, the students sang the national anthem and exited the



President William Ruto and Keiyo Marakwet African Inland Church Bishop David Kipsoi cut a ribbon to officially open AIC Kapng’etik in Keiyo South. [PCS]

stage.

Speaking yesterday during a Sunday service at Kapng’etik African Inland Church in Keiyo South, Elgeyo Marakwet County, President Ruto said individuals with no role in managing schools and guiding students should not brainwash learners.

In a veiled attack at the play’s writer, former Kakamega Senator Cleophas Malala, Ruto said the production was misleading students

and encouraging them to disrespect authority.

The President vowed to shield children from what he described as dangerous influences.

“We must equally protect all our children from paedophiles, drug peddlers and those who want to corrupt our children and teach them to hate their parents, their leaders or their nation,” Ruto said in what appeared to be a defence of the State’s decision to block the

performance.

He urged teachers and school managers to ensure children are offered opportunities in their areas of interest but must be protected from people he said were corrupting their minds.

He said the country was investing heavily in education and its children, and the education system should shape them into responsible citizens.

“The most critical asset that we have as a country is our human resource. Sh650 billion every year is spent on education. We are investing in education because it sharpens our human capital,” Ruto said.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, who had accompanied the president, criticised what he termed as failure by teachers to protect their students as selfish. “To those of us given the responsibility to guide children, let us be mindful of their moral integrity,” Murkomen said. He said children should be left to teachers, and other Kenyans keen to promote art should engage national theatres.

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EDUCATION

Butere Girls suffer emotional toll after play ban, aftermath

Students of Butere Girls High School returned to their school visibly shaken and emotionally drained after being barred from performing their play, “Echoes of War”, despite a court order reinstating them.

Anglican Church Butere Diocese Bishop, Rose Okeno, who serves as the girls’ spiritual guardian, said the students remained deeply traumatised and would undergo counselling.

“What is paining is how the government handled these young angels. How do you even start fighting small girls by lobbing teargas at them? That should not have happened,” said Okeno.

Speaking after leading a special prayer session at the school, Bishop Okeno noted that many students broke down in tears during the service. She expressed hope that the prayers would offer some emotional solace.

“The girls were demoralised and heartbroken. They had worked so hard, and to be treated that way in Nakuru was extremely unfair, but however ugly it might look, they are children and need moral support.”

Kakamega Governor Fernandes Barasa condemned the use of excessive force by police officers who stopped the girls from performing the play.

[Benard Lusigi]



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REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF UASIN GISHU
COUNTY TREASURY

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE PREPARATION OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FY 2025/2026

The County Government of Uasin Gishu wishes to notify the general public that it will be holding public participation forum in all the thirty wards for the preparation of the Budget Estimates for the FY 2025/26 pursuant to Article 201 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Section 125(2) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, which requires public participation in all financial matters. The CECM for Finance and Economic Planning therefore, invites all residents to the forums on **23rd and 24th April 2025**, beginning at 10:00 a.m. as scheduled below:

| S/N | Ward | Venue | Dates | S/N | Ward | Venue | Dates |
|-----|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Kaptagat | Kaptagat Ward Office-Naiberi | 23 rd April 2025 | 16 | Kamagut | Sugoi Gaa ECDE | 24 th April 2025 |
| 2 | Ainabkoi/ Olare | Kapkeno Primary | 23 rd April 2025 | 17 | Tembelio | Tembelio Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 3 | Simat/ Kapseret | Kapseret Sub County Office | 23 rd April 2025 | 18 | Soy | Soy Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 4 | Kipkenyo | Kipkenyo dispensary | 23 rd April 2025 | 19 | Kipsomba | Kipsomba Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 5 | Kuinet/ Kapsuswa | Kuinet Ward Office | 23 rd April 2025 | 20 | Langas | New Langas Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 6 | Megun | Megun ward office | 23 rd April 2025 | 21 | Moisbridge | Town Manager's Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 7 | Cheptiret/ Kipchamo | St Thomas catholic church | 23 rd April 2025 | 22 | Sergoit | Ward office -Kapnyangi | 24 th April 2025 |
| 8 | Racecourse | Racecourse Ward Office | 23 rd April 2025 | 23 | Ng'enyilel | Ng'enyilel Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 9 | Kiplombe | Kiplombe Ward Office | 23 rd April 2025 | 24 | Ngeria | Kipsamo Trading Centre | 24 th April 2025 |
| 10 | Tapsagoi | Besiebor Centre | 23 rd April 2025 | 25 | Moiben | Moiben Sub County Office | 24 th April 2025 |
| 11 | Kapsoya | Kapsoya chief's office Cheboin cattle dip | 23 rd April 2025 | 26 | Segero/ Barsombe | Ng'eny trading centre | 24 th April 2025 |
| 12 | Tulwet/ Chuiyat | Chuiyat Centre | 23 rd April 2025 | 27 | Kapkures | Chukura Trading Centre | 24 th April 2025 |
| 13 | Tarakwa | Tarakwa Ward Office | 23 rd April 2025 | 28 | Ziwa | Anne's catholic church | 24 th April 2025 |
| 14 | Karuna/ Meibeki | Ward Office- Karandil | 23 rd April 2025 | 29 | Huruma | P.C.A Church | 24 th April 2025 |
| 15 | Kimumu | Kimumu Ward Office -Ainaptich | 23 rd April 2025 | 30 | Kapsaos | Kapsaos Ward Office | 24 th April 2025 |

Written submissions may be sent to email: coplanning@uasingishu.go.ke, or delivered at the Office of Economic Planning at the County Headquarters or Sub County and Ward Offices.

County Executive Committee Member
Finance and Economic Planning
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF UASIN GISHU

Abducted MCA links his ordeal to fallout with Wajir governor

► Ahmed claims he was tortured and repeatedly interrogated over his opposition to the county budget

► He alleges that even after his release, he continues to face legal and police intimidation.

EMMANUEL KIPCHUMBA, NAIROBI

The Dela Ward MCA, Yussuf Ahmed, who was abducted and held in captivity for six months, has now directly accused Wajir Governor Ahmed Abdullahi of orchestrating his abduction, claiming he was tortured and repeatedly questioned over his opposition to the county budget.

While addressing the media on Sunday, Ahmed alleged that his abduction was politically motivated, linking it to his vocal stance against the Wajir County administration's financial decisions and governance.

"I am alive, conscious, and fully aware of everything that transpired during my illegal confinement," he said.

He recounted a harrowing experience of repeated interrogation and intimidation.

He was abducted on the night of September 13, 2024, along Enterprise Road in Nairobi. The MCA was released and reunited with his family on the evening of March 8, 2025.

According to the Ahmed, during his six-month ordeal, he was subjected to the same line of questioning every morning and evening, with interrogators allegedly demanding to know why he opposed the Governor, the county budget, and why he was pushing for the settlement of pending bills.



Dela Ward MCA Yussuf Ahmed talks to the media on his abduction yesterday. [Benard Orwongo, Standard]



Security is a national government function, and I do not direct or interfere with security-related investigations,"

Ahmed Abdullahi, Wajir Governor

"Throughout my captivity, I was repeatedly tormented and interrogated. Until the evening I was finally released under firm instructions to leave the Governor alone," said Ahmed.

This comes just a day after Governor Abdullahi denied any involvement in the MCA's disappearance, dismissing the claims as baseless and politically motivated.

"The only difference that the MCA alleges is that of Budget estimates for the 2024/25 financial year, where nine out of 45 MCAs opposed, while

36 supported. In a democracy, the minority have their say, but the majority have their way. Why were the other eight members who opposed the estimates not targeted?" the Governor posed.

Further, Abdullahi suggested that the claims by Ahmed are part of a broader political scheme to tarnish his name, pointing fingers at an unnamed politician whom he accused of orchestrating a long-running campaign of sabotage against him.

"Security is a national government function, and I do not direct or interfere with security-related investigations," he said.

The Governor, while denying involvement in the alleged abduction, said he is ready to take legal action to protect his reputation. He urged the Ahmed to table evidence to support his claims.

But the MCA, who has served as the Minority Leader in the county assembly, insisted the threats to his life are ongoing.

He claimed that even after his release, he continues to face legal and police intimidation, which he attributes to the office of the Governor.

"The Governor must take responsibility for subjecting me to unimaginable suffering for six months, and for continuing to threaten me with lawsuits and police action. I have had enough," he said.

He called on the Inspector General of Police to provide him with adequate security, stating that he fears for his safety and well-being.

Ahmed stated that he will not relent in his fight against what he described as poor governance, embezzlement, and misuse of public resources in the county.

"I have no intention of ceasing my advocacy," he said.

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INVESTIGATIONS

Five Mandera chiefs grilled over their captivity in Somalia

The five Mandera chiefs released from captivity were yesterday interrogated over their 62-day harrowing experience inside Somalia.

They appeared before Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) detectives, who did not extract much information from them, as they appeared stressed and require counselling before further interrogation and statement recording.

They told investigators that they were confined in a single room for the entire duration of their captivity.

They are Senior Chief Adawa Abdi Mohamed of Wargadud Location, Senior Chief Mohamed Hassan Kulmiye (Wargadud East), Senior Chief Mohamed Noor Hache (Dachabole), Chief Abdi Hassan Suraw (Qurac Madow), and Assistant Chief Ibrahim Gabow of Wargadud sub-Location.

They were received in Elwak sub-County on Saturday and were expected to record statements immediately, but this did not happen due to the prevailing celebratory mood. The chiefs were abducted in February by Al Shabaab militia, who drove them to the Jilib region of Somalia.

Also interrogated were the 20 Kenyan elders who negotiated for their release. It emerged that the elders were also held in captivity for two weeks, during which their phones were confiscated.

A source told *The Standard* that the Al Shabaab insurgents initially did not trust the elders sent to negotiate for the freedom of the chiefs.

"They are not in the right frame of mind. From our assessment, they are really stressed, and it will take a long time before they recover. At this moment, what is needed most is counselling, since they are not willing to open up," said the source.

The chiefs have complained that the Kenyan government neglected them and praised elders for securing their freedom.

[Hudson Gumbihi]

TRAGEDY

Body of man buried alive in collapsed Mombasa building retrieved, interred

The body of Yusuf Abdi, which was retrieved from the rubble of an 11-storey building at Bondeni in Mombasa, was yesterday buried at Kikowani Cemetery.

On April 2, Abdi was captured by CCTV entering the building before its first two floors sank, burying him alive.

His family said he was a prospective buyer of an apartment in the building.

The accident triggered a flurry of reactions that culminated in Wednesday's demolition of the building off Abdel Nasser Road in

the Kilifi area by the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF).

The family denied claims by the developer's spokesman, Irshad Sumra, that Abdi was a mentally disturbed person who unknowingly wandered into the building on the day it tilted and buried him.

The body was retrieved from the debris on Saturday morning after the controlled demolition of the building by KDF.

Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Nassir confirmed Abdi's body was lying in the rubble, discounting Sumra's claims that the man was

mentally unstable.

"The deceased was in the building before it tilted and never came out after the first floor sank. We tried to rescue him, but we could not proceed further as it would have endangered the lives of others on site," said Nassir.

He said the delay in recovering Abdi's body had caused distress to his family, who had camped at the site for many days hoping for a breakthrough.

Nassir has formed a task force to investigate the cause of the collapse. [Willis Oketch]

KILGORIS

DP Kindiki condemns tribal and divisive politics targeting Ruto's administration

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has criticised leaders who incite Kenyans against President William Ruto's administration.

He urged critics of the government to avoid engaging in divisive and tribal politics, advocating instead for peace and unity.

Speaking at Mutenkuar Primary School in Kilgoris Constituency during an interdenominational Sunday service, Kindiki reaffirmed the Kenya Kwanza Administration's commitment to enhancing development and improving the livelihoods of all

Kenyans.

"This is a development-orientated government," Kindiki stated, emphasising that the administration serves all citizens. For those intent on dividing Kenyans, we want to make it clear that we are not interested in tribal or divisive politics," Kindiki said.

He highlighted that Ruto's administration prioritises key economic sectors such as agriculture, livestock, fishing, and mining to create employment.

[Kiprono Kurgat]



Firm sues KPC over Sh4.9b tender rules

- Kenya Pipeline Company’s plan to upgrade oil flow systems faces legal hurdle after a local firm moved to court.
- The firm alleges it was locked out of the multi-billion shilling tender due to rules barring foreign collaboration.

KAMAU MUTHONI, NAIROBI

A local firm has taken legal action against the Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) over a Sh4.9 billion tender for the construction of tanks aimed at enhancing oil flow at its Western Kenya depot.

Leah and Moses Ltd, in a case filed before High Court Judge Bahati Mwamuye, claims the tendering requirements are restrictive and designed to exclude Kenyan companies from partnering with international firms to undertake the large-scale project.

The company’s lawyer, Gordon Abuja, told the court that KPC’s tender documents stipulate that any subcontracting must be done exclusively with local companies.

According to Abuja, this requirement is both illegal and unfair, as it infringes on the constitutional right to freedom of association. He further argued that KPC’s condition discriminates against contractors who wish to engage foreign firms for the project.

“The petitioner’s constitutional right and freedom of association has been curtailed by the respondent without justification. This is likely to prevent the petitioner from submitting a competitive bid,” Abuja submitted.

In March this year, KPC advertised for bids concerning the engineering, procurement, and construction of tanks, along with the enhancement of interflow rates at its Western Kenya depots.

Bidders for the first lot were required to provide Sh10 million as bid security, while those

bidding for lot two had to submit Sh8 million, and lot three bidders were to provide Sh2 million.

However, Abuja told the court that for companies intending to partner with foreign firms, bidding would be a futile exercise due to the restrictive conditions, effectively locking them out of the process.

He said that Leah and Moses Ltd had raised the issue with KPC, requesting a revision or removal of the contested clause in the tender documents. However, KPC allegedly ignored the plea. “The respondent’s failure to amend the tender document despite being requested to do so by the petitioner only confirms its intention to proceed with an unlawful and unconstitutional procurement process.

“If not halted by this Honourable Court, the respondent’s actions will amount to an unfair and unlawful public procurement process that violates fundamental rights and freedoms under Article 36 of the Constitution,” Abuja added.

In his supporting affidavit, Leah and Moses Ltd director Jordan Kiprono stated that allowing partnerships with both local and international companies strengthens bidders’ financial and technical capacity. He argued that KPC’s position unjustifiably limits this right.

According to Kiprono, the directive essentially prevents any bidding company from subcontracting to either local or foreign entities.

“The petitioner maintains that it has at all times been ready and willing to submit its bid. However, such a bid would be reduced to a mere academic exercise,” he stated.

“The respondent’s refusal to allow the petitioner to enter into joint ventures or subcontract foreign companies, without any justification, is in violation of Section 55 of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, as well as Regulation 53 of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Regulations.”

Leah and Moses Ltd is seeking a court order to stop KPC from proceeding with the tender and to nullify the scheduled closing date.

jmuthoni@standardmedia.co.ke

WEF denies misconduct claims, says Sh27.9 billion disbursed

The Women Enterprise Fund (WEF) has strongly defended its operations following anonymous allegations of financial impropriety shared on social media platforms.

WEF’s leadership urged the public to rely on credible sources and avoid being misled by unverified online claims.

The organisation described the accusations as baseless, malicious, and a distortion of facts aimed at damaging its reputation and that of public officials.

EF CEO Racheal Musyoki and Board Chairperson Jane Lang’at condemned the claims, calling them misleading and bordering on defamation.

“The Fund, being a semi-autonomous Government



agency, operates independently from the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, where PS Anne Wang’ombe has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication in her role as administrator,” WEF clarified in a statement.

It insists that it welcomes scrutiny and will appear before the Parliamentary Special Funds Accounts Committee, as part of routine public audit procedures. With over Sh 27.9 billion disbursed and millions of women supported, WEF maintained its dedication to transforming the lives of Kenyan women. **[Mike Kihaki]**

WEF Chief Executive Officer Racheal Musyoki.



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Popo Road, Off Mombasa Road, P O BOX 67839-00200, Nairobi, Kenya.
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ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 15000MT LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS TERMINAL ON PLOT L.R NO.MN/VI/3711, CHANGAMWE AREA, MOMBASA COUNTY

Pursuant to Section 59 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act 1999, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The proponent, **Focus Container Freight Station Limited**, proposes to develop a bulk Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) storage facility on a 5 acre piece of land with a total storage capacity of 15,000 metric tonnes, installation of 6No. Mounded LPG spheres, each with 2500 metric tonnes, loading gantry with 6No. truck loading bays, hydrant locations, internal piping, piping to the common user manifold at Kipevu Oil Terminal 2, a weigh bridge 5000m² water storage tank and an administration office in Changamwe, Mombasa County.

The following are the anticipated impacts and proposed mitigation measures:

| IMPACTS | PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES |
|---|--|
| Noise & Vibration | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Clear lines of communication will be developed between the project team, contractors and any affected premises.Construction work will be carried out during daytime only, where possible. If night working is required, the contractor should inform and agree with local area residents and concerned agencies.All vehicles and mechanical plant used for construction should be fitted with effective exhaust silencers, and regularly maintained.Compressors and pumps should be positioned so as to cause minimum noise disturbance. If necessary, temporary acoustic barriers or enclosures should be provided. |
| Increased Solid & Effluent Waste Generation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Segregate waste at point of generation.Any hazardous waste material will be sited on an impervious base within an oil-tight bund with no drainage outlet.Liquid waste, including solvents and oil, will be securely stored in banded compounds prior to collection by a registered waste handler.Hazardous waste storage areas will have an impermeable floor and bunding, of capacity to accommodate the anticipated waste streams.In the event of a spill, immediate clean-up will be undertaken. It is recommended that appropriate spill kits or absorbent materials are held on site.Waste water (sewage) from the construction camp will be channeled into the existing sewer trunk. |
| Occupational Safety and Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The site must be fully fenced (hoarding) to prevent unauthorized access onto the site.Potentially hazardous areas must be demarcated and clearly marked.Design suitable documented emergency preparedness and evacuation procedures to be used during any emergency.Ensure that adequate provisions are in place to immediately stop any operations where there is an imminent and serious danger to health and safety and to evacuate workers.Provide measures to deal with emergencies and accidents including adequate first aid arrangements & provision of emergency telephone numbers. |
| Increased Traffic | <ul style="list-style-type: none">A Driver Code of Conduct will be implemented stipulating and governing safe driving behavior, which will include no use of cell phones whilst driving.All vehicles should not exceed the mandated speed limits of 30km/h.A Traffic Management Plan will be developed and implemented, with at least the following provisions included: -<ul style="list-style-type: none">All drivers will be sensitized to potential accident risks;All drivers will be periodically checked for alcohol consumption.All vehicles will be regularly checked and maintained in good condition.Vehicles will be correctly and safely loaded to avoid accidents, and all loads are secured and covered where they pose a risk of windblown dust or material spillage.If required, alternative arrangements and routes for abnormal loads will be agreed in advanced with the relevant authorities and the appropriate permits will be obtained for the use of public roads. |
| Fire, Explosion (LPG leaks) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Install continuous gas detection systems that monitor for LPG leaks in critical areas such as tanks, pipelines, and valves.Use flame arrestors and explosion-proof equipment in areas where leaks might occur.Install deluge or water spray systems in areas of high risk, such as tank farms and loading/unloading areas.Apply foam-based fire suppression systems in areas with high flammability risks (such as storage tanks) to suppress fires quickly and prevent LPG vapor ignition.Place portable fire extinguishers near critical areas (both class B – for flammable liquids, and class C – for electrical fires).Design LPG tanks with explosion relief vents to prevent overpressure in the event of an internal fire or explosion.Install automatic pressure relief valves on tanks and pipelines to avoid overpressure conditions that could lead to ruptures and explosions.Implement emergency shutdown systems that can quickly isolate sections of the terminal in the event of a fire or explosion. These systems should be automated and manually operable.Ensure appropriate safety distances between LPG storage and other critical infrastructure, such as power sources or other industrial facilities, to reduce the risk of cascading explosions.A permanent warning sign must be installed at the entrance to the site.The Emergency Evacuation Procedure aimed at workers and visitors must be updated at least annually in collaboration with the Mombasa County, VTTI, KPC, KMA and KPA emergency services.The LPG Road tanker must be inspected on entry to the site, for possible overheated tyres, smell of heated rubber, LPG leaks or other defects that could place the site at risk.All materials to be used at the site must meet both the manufacturers and Kenya Bureau of Standards specifications and standards. |

A full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

- 1. Principal Secretary**
State Department for Environment and Climate Change,
Ministry of Environment
Climate Change and Forestry,
NHIF Building, 12th Floor
Ragati Road, Upper Hill
P. O. Box 30126 – 00100,
NAIROBI.
- 2. Director General**
National Environment and Management Authority (NEMA),
Popo Road, off Mombasa Road
P. O. Box 67839-00200,
NAIROBI.
- 3. County Director of Environment,**
MOMBASA COUNTY.

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded at www.nema.go.ke

NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA to assist the Authority in the decision making process for this project. Kindly quote ref. No. **NEMA/EIA/5/2/2318**

Comments can also be e-mailed to info@nema.go.ke

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Raymond Omollo, Interior Principal Secretary



EDITORIAL

Mosiria needs to do more to end noise in Nairobi

Nairobi County Government has promised to step up efforts to fight noise pollution in the central business district (CBD). The move, initiated by Chief Officer for Environment Geoffrey Mosiria, is worthy of support. Notably, the CBD has been turned into a disorderly marketplace with shops playing loud music, ostensibly to attract customers. The availability of cheap music systems aggravate this problem by the day.

Needless to say, Mr Mosiria is doing a good job fighting noise pollution. In September last year, he held talks with church leaders in the city in a bid to end noise pollution, including in the middle of the night in the so-called *keshas*. That has borne fruit but not fully as some churches, some of them illegally established in residential areas, still disturb the peace of city residents.

So even as we laud Mosiria for opening a new battle-front against noise pollution, we him to cast the net even wider. His efforts should extend to residential areas where some churches, bars and nightclubs still don't give residents peaceful nights after a tiring day.

The county government must also crack the whip on matatu. Most matatu are a constant source of irritation and play deafening music in total disregard of the well-being of their customers, most of whom have no need for the music.

That said, it is wrong for Mosiria to order matatu to only lower music while in the CBD and and raise it after they leave the zone as he did early this year. That can only be a good decision if such noise is not harmful to the eardrums of those in the vehicles and the neighbourhoods where they pass.

To make matters worse, some of the matatu play dirty videos and the county government pretends that all is well. Finally, Mosiria and his team should also take action against touts and conductors who shout and whistle loudly to attract customers as they also contribute to the noise pollution.

The problems highlighted here are not restricted to Nairobi. Other county governments should emulate Mosiria to end noise pollution.

Probe TSC letters' claim

While appearing before a parliamentary committee recently, Teachers Service Commission (TSC) CEO Nancy Macharia denied allegations of politicians distributing TSC employment letters. Ms Macharia claim is unconvincing as some MPs have confessed to have received the letters.

Murang'a Woman Rep Betty Maina recently said 20 MPs got 11 TSC employment letters at State House recently. Naivasha MP Jane Kihara who complained in January that her government-friendly were handed the TSC letters. In addition, former Education CS Ezekiel Machogu was caught on camera giving someone a TSC letter at a funeral in Kisii. It is curious that EACC has not shown interest in this matter yet.

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'Echoes of war' isn't an innocent play; it's incitement to violence



BENEDICT TOROITCH

Kenya sits precariously on a fragile pedestal, struggling to contain tribal violence and long-standing balkanisation fueled by hate speech and unpatriotic narratives. The 'Echoes of war' play is laced with rebellious undertones that cannot be permitted. Our democratic framework is so loose that ethnically-charged rhetoric and entrenched tribalism will quickly plunge Kenya to chaos.

As the 2027 election campaigns gain momentum, drum-beats of war have been beaten and political incitement is rife. We have forgotten the post-election violence of 1992, 1997, and 2007.

As much as the Constitution gives freedom of expression which includes freedom to seek, receive or impart information or ideas; freedom of artistic creativity; and academic freedom and freedom of scientific research, this right does not extend to propaganda for war; incitement to violence; hate speech; or

advocacy of hatred that constitutes ethnic incitement, vilification of others or incitement to cause harm.

The Kenya Schools Drama Festival must not be used to violate these rights. Instead, it should be a platform for artistic expression, cultural identity, and national unity while also serving as a training ground for future talents in Kenya's creative industries.

Drama and play should serve to foster creativity, communication, and critical thinking, while also promoting social skills, empathy, and cultural understanding through performance and role-playing not as tools to indoctrinate students against the government by those in the Opposition. Let us separate our political disagreements with curriculum activities in schools. Schools are for learning not opposing the government. Teachers don't teach students how to rebel against the government.

As an erudite Literature scholar, I dare ask, how is 'Echoes of war' relevant to the secondary curriculum? Is this education or subtle indoctrination? Using our schools to teach war and rebellion against government cannot work in today's modern world.

Even if we are opposing the government, which is allowed by our Constitution, using school children is unacceptable. Politicians must not be allowed to interfere with extra-curricular activities in schools.

At this level of education, our schools should prioritise teaching critical thinking, civic engagement, and respect for democratic processes, rather than promoting conflict or rebellion against the government.

To begin with, the play in question is neither dramatic nor creative. It is way off tangent in as far as the national goals of education with respect to co-curricula activities are concerned because it doesn't foster creativity in the learners. You cannot be creative by using the exact words of a politician in your play. You cannot be creative by scripting a play full of political sloganeering and manifestos, unless the writer has been commissioned to do just that. On this account alone, investigations should be conducted to ascertain how the play reached the national stage.

But do not get me wrong. There is nothing wrong with having a work of art that is wholly based on the political situation and happenings of the society. Indeed apart from the pure entertainment function, a good work of art should be a true reflection of the society.

"Reflection" and not a Jua Kali crass copy and paste of the society. Plato says as much in Chapter 14 of his "Republic" titled, 'The myth of the dark cave'. Writers have used art to creatively reflect and critique their societies using a plethora of literary tools at their disposal. Here I am talking of Ngugi wa Thiong'o and his, *I will marry when I want*, Shabaan Robert's and his *Kusadikika*, Henrik Ibsen's *An enemy of the people* and Nicolai Gogol's *The government inspector*.

When politicians start using children as human shields, hoping that their opponents will hesitate or look bad for pushing back, it's not art, it's manipulation. And they must be held accountable.

Mr Toroitch is a communication lecturer and researcher

PALAVER

Chief Justice Martha Koome's announcement of the establishment of Court Integrity Users Committees in courts to combat corruption is a welcome step, says George Ndeto [kyambigeorge.2004@gmail.com]. "Persistent allegations of bribery, facilitation fees, and delayed justice have long tarnished the image of our judicial system and eroded public confidence. These committees, bringing together judicial officers, advocates, and EACC representatives, hold the potential to be effective agents of change. However, their success will hinge on their independence and transparency."



The success of the Competency-Based Curriculum depends on informed parents who can support their children's learning, yet many remain unaware of their role, according to Collins Nguma [collinsskinyili@gmail.com]. "The government must launch awareness campaigns, organise school workshops, and provide accessible resources to educate parents about CBC. Without proper guidance, parents may struggle to assist their children, undermining the curriculum's intended benefits."

Five electricity meters, says Victor Likokole [victorlikokole@gmail.com], were stolen from her rental building at Saika-Obama, along Kangundo Road in Nairobi last year. "I reported the matter and followed the procedure, from acquiring a police abstract to paying Kenya Power Sh20,000 in November 2024. The meters have not been supplied to date, and Kenya Power is playing games with me. Why should my tenants stay in darkness? When will Kenya Power do the needful?"

KRA also expects me to pay taxes from that rental income. My account number is 66215987."



Development should not depend on a presidential visit to any given area, says Richard Otieno [richotieno21@gmail.com]. "President Ruto should not focus on visiting constituencies and counties for development to be attained. This is the mandate of MPs, senators, MCAs, governors and CSs responsible for various dockets. Development and sharing of national resources should depend on equity and population density. Instead of Dr Ruto moving across counties, he should leave the work to the CSs and other public service servants."

Write to us:
Oped@standardmedia.co.ke

Should Ruto resign over allegations of corruption?



PATRICK KIMANI,
SALESMAN



President is supposed to set good example

It might sound odd for Wiper party leader Kalonzo Musyoka to challenge President William Ruto to resign in the wake of grave accusations of corruption levelled against the Head of State. But the President should be gentleman enough and heed to this call. For a long-serving senior government official like Justin Muturi, who recently served as the Attorney General and later Cabinet secretary, to bring out such

claims, is an indication that there might be a serious integrity problem with the President. In any civilised society, any senior state officer implicated in scandals should do the honourable thing and step down from their position. As citizen number one, and having been contracted by Kenyans to lead the country in the capacity of president and the commander-in-chief, he has an obligation to set a good example to the rest of the citizens on matters integrity. Corruption is the greatest plague facing our country and must be dealt with by all means, including calling out those in powerful positions engaging in the vice.



CHRISTOPHER MUTINDA,
CRIMINOLOGIST



He cannot quit due to mere claims

I find Kalonzo Musyoka's call for the resignation of President William Ruto over corruption allegations made by former Cabinet Secretary Justin Muturi far-fetched, ridiculous and hypocritical. A leader of the stature of the President cannot resign just because some politician has suggested so. Presidents the world over do not resign over baseless claims made by people who are merely out to seek cheap publicity.

First of all, Kalonzo should address allegations of corruption by some of his close allies in the counties. In order to be taken seriously, Kalonzo must rise above 'selective justice.' Secondly, if former CS Justin Muturi knew the President was a corrupt as he claimed, he should have been bold enough to decline the offer to join his government in the first place. It cannot be that a legitimately elected president can be hounded out of office over claims that cannot be proven. Kalonzo and others who think like him should focus on persuading Kenyans by way of selling their manifesto ahead of the 2027 general elections.

Text and photos: Erastus Mulwa

HINDSIGHT

Why 1965 sessional paper on African Socialism is still relevant to date

Some documents outlast others and become sources of inspiration or reference. They are results of serious people giving thought to pressing issues of the day. Many documents, whether religious or secular, refer to governance and are used to justify conflicting arguments. Invoking the divine, a practice that goes back to the beginnings of organised living in which people agree to be 'civil' to each other, helps rulers to rule without questioning. It happened in Kenya in both colonial and post-colonial times.

In post-colonial Kenya, documents tended to emphasise creation of the Kenyan nation. The national anthem, for instance, asks God to show his blessings on Kenyans as they go about building the nation. The 2024 Gen Z tax uprising and the 2025 Butere Girls' 'Echoes of War play' had accusatory messages that the government had failed to adhere to the spirit of the national anthem. The most important post-colonial document, however, was the 1965 Sessional Paper Number 10 on African Socialism and its Application to Planning in Kenya. It remains relevant to policymakers for 60 years.

The context of the document was the ideological confusion that prevailed as Kenya attained independence and republican status. While many of the leaders wanted to remain in the Anglo-American camp in the Cold War, a few talked of restructuring the state and adopting 'socialism' to counter dominant Western influence. Joseph Murumbi wanted to anchor Kenya's foreign policy on its revolutionary Mau Mau legacy but President Jomo Kenyatta feared that such policy orientation would scare remnants of the



Macharia Munene
Historian

white settlers and the West and might create chaos as had happened in Congo.

The word 'socialism' was populist and seemingly threatened entrenched interests in post-colonial Kenya. Subsequently, Kenyatta instructed his Minister for Planning, Mr Tom Mboya, to respond to the socialistic demands. Mboya, assisted by Mwai Kibaki and a Ford Foundation-seconded economic expert, Edgar Edward of Rice University in Texas, drafted an appropriate response. They used the word socialism to mean releasing the individual African spirit of acquiring wealth which the colonial state had restricted during the Mau Mau War. This made the document part of the effort to 'decolonise' the economy without destroying existing structures. The main government would worry about general policy and big projects that were beyond small groups of people. In that document, Kibaki declared in a 1997 presidential debate, Kenya rejected 'socialism'.

Although Kenyatta ordered an end to the debate on socialism because he had defined it, the debate continued for decades. It became a Kenyan ideological defence of neo-colonialism especially when compared to the ravages in the surrounding states that talked socialism and generated millions of refugees. After Somalia's irredentist doctrine destroyed its state, the Somali elite seemingly adopted a winning strategy of penetration, integration, and control of the state of residence; Kenya included. Ethiopia lost stability when 'Marxists' overthrew Haile Selassie and plunged it into chaos. Civil war ravaged Sudan which advocated Arab-Islamic socialism. Uganda went through gyrations of chaos under Milton Obote, Idi Amin, and Tanzania-trained Yoweri Museveni. The main challenge to Kenya came from Tanzania where, two years later in 1967, Julius Nyerere countered with his Ujamaa doctrine which tried to impose socialistic restructuring. Tanzania became the hub of 'socialistic' thinking in Africa. Nyerere's admission that Ujamaa economics had flopped left Kenya's 'Sessional Paper' looking good.

Kibaki had his Vision 2030 document to supplement but not replace Sessional Paper Number 10. His Foreign Minister Moses Wetangula termed it a document that always guides Kenya's foreign policy. Although both Uhuru Kenyatta and William Ruto issued some documents, they could not match Sessional Paper Number 10's reach and ideological thrust. While ideological purists consider the paper defective, it was part of Kenya's decolonisation effort which, 60 years later, still arouses debate on who gained or lost.



ESTELLE M SIDZE,
LEAD RESEARCHER ON MATERNAL,
NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH, APHRC

Africa should boost investment in maternal and newborn health

The birth of a child should be a joyous occasion, yet for many women across Africa, it remains a time of uncertainty and great risk. According to the World Health Organisation, sub-Saharan Africa alone accounts for nearly 70 per cent of global maternal deaths, with Kenya ranking as one of the top five countries with the highest deaths. However, for every woman who dies, many more suffer severe complications that affect their health, livelihoods, and families.

In spite of progress made in reducing maternal and newborn mortality over the past two decades, too many lives continue to be lost to preventable causes. Many of these deaths result from complications that arise during pregnancy and are exacerbated during and in the immediate period following childbirth.

In Kenya, maternal mortality remains high at approximately 342 deaths per 100,000 live births, with newborn deaths making up 35 per cent of all under-five deaths. These statistics underscore a critical truth: the current status quo cannot remain and a lot more needs to be done.

Improving maternal and newborn health is not just an ethical matter; studies show that poor maternal health has a knock-on effect on child health, the healthcare system as a whole, and great economic difficulty for their families. It also negatively impacts national economies due to lost productivity and increased healthcare costs. Most of the complications mothers face can be picked up and addressed during antenatal care clinic visits and delivery attended by skilled birth attendants at well-stocked healthcare facilities.

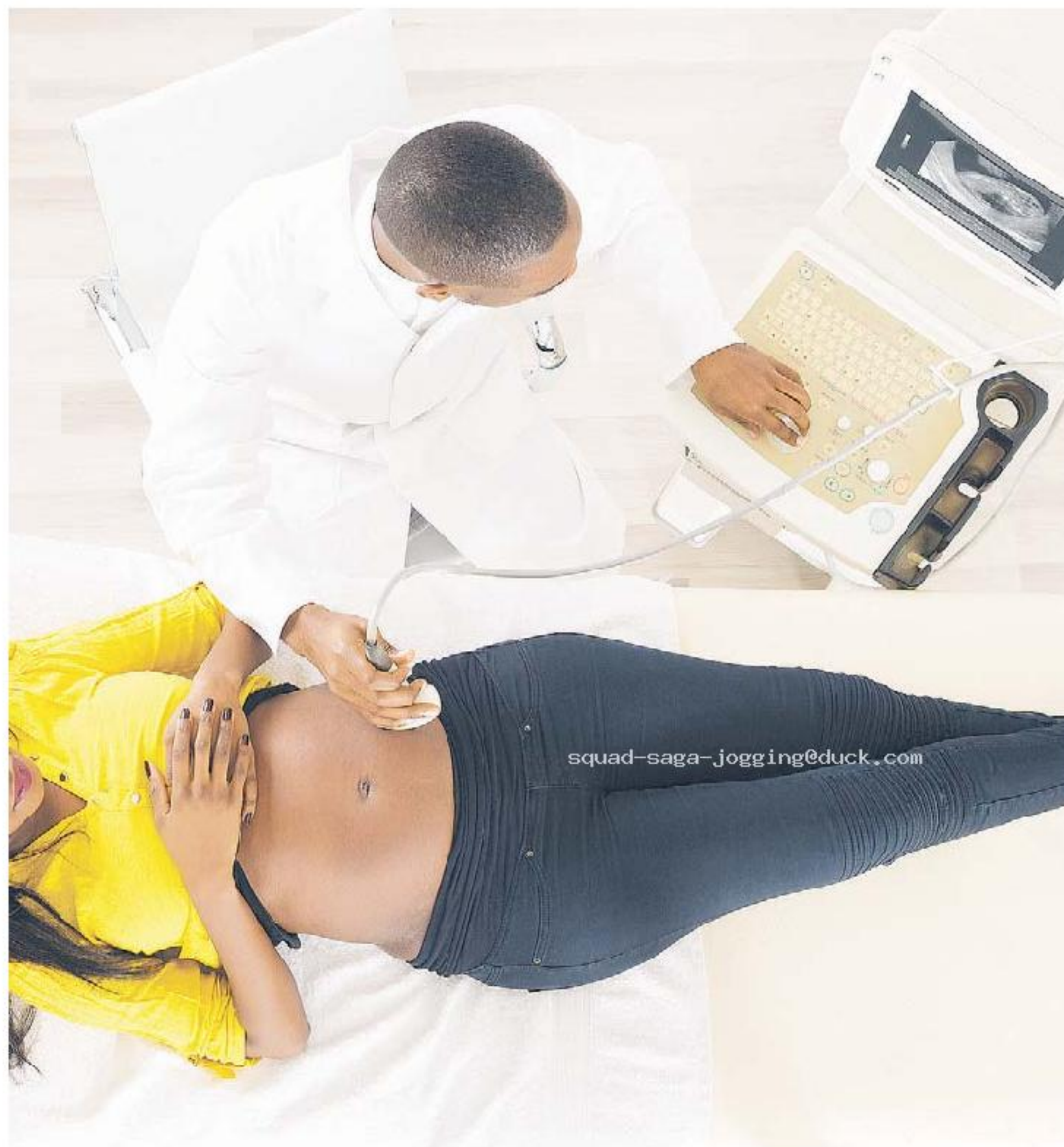
Mothers also require postnatal care and support to monitor progress and also in the interest of optimum maternal mental health which though often overlooked, is essential to both mother and child. In contrast, every shilling invested in maternal health services yields significant returns. Countries prioritising maternal health often have reduced healthcare expenditure in the long term and enhanced human capital development.

Informal settlements

Investing in maternal and newborn health also has inter-generational benefits, which, if sustained, create healthier communities and a more productive citizenry.

Inadequate access to quality maternal healthcare services, a shortage of trained health professionals, and weak health systems contribute to the high number of maternal and newborn deaths. For women living in informal settlements or remote areas, access to essential maternity services remains a significant challenge due to government prioritisation, financial constraints, distance to health facilities, and cultural limitations.

Governments must address these gaps through targeted policies and interventions, all of which require increased healthcare funding. As we count down towards the deadline of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), expanding national health coverage to include comprehensive maternal



and newborn care is essential.

Programmes such as Kenya's Linda Mama initiative, which provided free maternal healthcare services, are a step in the right direction, even as they require intensive investment. However, at a time when foreign support for health services, including maternal care, is substantially reduced, it is time for African governments to look inward and translate commitments into action by making maternal and newborn health a top priority and intensifying domestic investments.

Beyond physical health, maternal well-being encompasses mental and emotional support. Many young mothers, particularly

those in under-served communities, struggle with postnatal depression, yet mental health services remain scarce. Studies highlight the urgent need for integrated maternal health programmes that incorporate mental health.

Governments should invest in community-based programmes that provide psychological support, parental education, and social networks for mothers.

While the onus is majorly on the government to ensure that no mother or newborn dies from preventable causes, it requires a collective effort. As the Executive prioritises maternal and newborn health in the generation of national and sub-national budgets in contexts such as Kenya, policymakers must enact and monitor the implementation of supportive legislation, and development partners must provide technical support. The private sector and civil society organisations, in turn, have the duty of complementing government efforts and advocating for better healthcare provision.

As we join the world in this year-long campaign to urge governments and the health community to ramp up efforts to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths and to prioritise women's longer-term health and well-being, we must remember that a woman cannot thrive unless she survives. Investing in maternal and newborn health today is an investment in Africa's future.



Programmes such as Kenya's Linda Mama initiative, which provided free maternal healthcare services, are a step in the right direction, even as they require intensive investment.

Budget making

Stop misinforming people on social media about Finance Bill 2025



KIDI MWAGA

When Mark Twain remarked that "a lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is still putting on its shoes", he probably had moments such as these in his mind. Our governance, both processes and institutions are under serious assault as the citizens are inundated with half-truths and outright lies. The bulk of it is calculated to inflame anger and despondency in a manner that would make the populace unsettled. I say this with reference to the budgeting process. A year ago we almost lost our country when a lack of reading of the socio-economic and political climate, matched with the vigilance of the people birthed the now popular Gen Z protest which shook the foundations both of state and the political class.

The management of our public spending has not been one of the best this side of the tropics. Former Auditor General Edward Ouko once dismissed our budget-making process as budgeted corruption. He said this in reference to how the cost of doing projects would be massively inflated to include kick-backs for the fat cats in the corridors of power and the attendant tender barons. The result of what Mr Ouko was decrying manifests itself in a debt legacy that has in many ways upended our economic vitality and the runaway pending bills.

When angry young people chant their hearts out, it's a reminder that the attitudes and actions of those holding positions of responsibility should be people-centric to extinguish the anger and frustration of those still without opportunity; those whom our economic structure has condemned to the margins. For all the efforts made to alleviate human suffering, still so many people are anxious as they don't have a roof over their heads and don't know where the next meal will come from. This budgeting process, therefore, is a critical tool to assure the people that government still is a force for good.

But in midst of all these, we must guard against online misinformation calculated the people tools for political outrage. If you skim through popular social media sites, there is a lot of talk that we already have the Finance Bill 2025 and that its more punitive than the 2024 one. Some of the popular bloggers have been caught up in that frenzy and are sharing generously on areas that the government is targeting to tax.

We need to understand the budget-making process to put to rest the lies and propaganda by folks who think that ours should be a chaotic society at all times. Once described as an oasis of peace in a troubled region, Kenya should not become the volcano of rage without reason.

The budgeting process starts with programmes' performance review, which is a structured assessment of programmes' effectiveness, efficiency and impact. This is then followed by Budget Review and Outlook Paper, which is a comprehensive analysis of the previous year's budget performance and an outlook for the upcoming year.

This is followed by Medium term Expenditure Framework which guides line ministries in preparing their budget proposals. Then comes the public sector hearings which is followed by the Draft Budget Policy statement. Right now, draft budget estimates are being prepared.

Therefore, we still do not have Finance Bill. It's not on Parliament's website or even the National Treasury's website. When its published, it must go through the usual legislative processes. Meanwhile, let us all guard against online manipulators and propagandists.

Mr Kidi is the convener of Inter Parties Youth Forum. kidimwaga@gmail.com



READERS' CORNER

The Standard

Take part!

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HOT ON TWITTER

Bobi Wine to vie for presidency in 2026

@C_NyaKundiH: Robert Kyagulanyi Ssentamu, popularly known as Bobi Wine, has confirmed his intention to run for president in Uganda's 2026 elections, challenging incumbent President Yoweri Museveni, who has been in power since 1986.

Nganga@MwathaNga: People will vote for him, but it's Museveni who will count the votes, you know the results.



@Frankgudo: Let Bobi challenge Kainerugaba in a ring fight first before challenging Mzee.

@DamaKalume: There's no harm in trying.

@mugai_vi: Why can't he form a coalition with Besigye?

@joywaw: He usually has an online aura just like Julius Malema, Peter Obi and Martha Karua. We know the results.

@Jimakach: Ugandans adore Kaguta Museveni.

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FROM THE WEB

Ruto promises to give school Sh20m

Standard Digital: President Ruto pledges Sh20 million to upgrade Ramba High School in Ndori, Siaya, in honour of Raila Odinga's bodyguard, George Oduor.

Evans Nyagaka: Everywhere you go, you make pledges. Where is that money coming from?

Titus Wafula Mukhebi: When will he deliver all the pledges he makes every other day?

Sam Opiyo: Good, Mr. President. You will deliver. We have no doubt in our minds.

Emmanuel Oduor: That's a good move to honour a loyal servant.

Edward Koyo: Pledge! Pledge! Pledge! He should have come with that money like he did for the Catholic Church.

Monicah Odawa: Another roadside declaration!

Charls Obonyo: That's another roadside promise, we know you Sir.

Yassin Okabo: Has the school he promised during Chebukati's funeral been done?



HEALTHCARE

Disburse health sector funds to counties on timely basis to reduce Kenyans' suffering

Article 43 of the Constitution guarantees the highest attainable standard of health for every Kenyan citizen, including emergency and reproductive health. This is further supported by Articles 27 and 28, which promote non-discrimination and the inherent right to human dignity. However, our health sector faces an alternative reality.

Recent incidents highlight the dire state of healthcare in Kenya. Students who were involved in an accident a few weeks ago in western Kenya were piled on a hospital floor for lack of adequate emergency facilities. In other counties, health workers have been vocal on prolonged delay of their stipends, blaming county authorities who, in turn, shift responsibility to the national government for slashing and withholding funds.

Senators in various counties have also called out their county leadership on the sad state of hospitals and health facilities, which are constantly understaffed, lack prerequisite infrastructure, and often have drug shortages. Concurrently, public hospitals have rejected patients covered under the Social Health Authority (SHA) scheme, citing a lack of reimbursement from the government.

Instead, these hospitals prioritise private insurance holders, leaving a vast majority of Kenyans at the mercy of an already overwhelmed and underfunded healthcare system on the backdrop of shocking revelations about where SHA payments are made.

Despite the shock withdrawal of the USAID and the need to adjust to the path of self-reliance, our strained health sector requires urgent intervention to restore its ability to provide quality care to citizens. Sadly, in place of the needed health reforms in the health sector, the political class is distant from the struggles of ordinary Kenyans, choosing to fly out for specialised treatment at the expense of improving public health facilities.

In contrast to the argument of lack of funds,



the extravagance shown by some public offices tells a different story. The recent request by the State House for billions to renovate residences is difficult to justify when hospitals lack essential medicines, equipment, and personnel. Rebuilding the healthcare system requires more than just financial investment. It demands citizen-led accountability.

The government must prioritise the health sector by ensuring the timely disbursement of funds to county governments, investing in emergency response systems to prevent cases of delayed medical intervention, paying workers on time, and improving their working conditions, addressing systemic corruption and revamping the SHA (or reverting to NHIF) to ensure that public insurance is made efficient and reliable. **Onyimbi Nelson, NAYA Kenya**

Stop intimidating Muturi and Gachagua

Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and former Public Service Cabinet Secretary Justin Muturi have become fierce critics of the Kenya Kwanza government. Gachagua and Muturi have been on the forefront condemning the government for corruption, forced disappearances and extrajudicial judicial killings.

On several occasions goons have attacked Gachagua. These attacks are carried out by people who are discontented with his stand, a move that is aimed to silence him. Muturi's guards were recently removed after he branded the Head of State irredeemably corrupt and unfit to lead. The court has however restored his security.

Muturi has said he will not stop exposing the government. The attack on Gachagua and withdrawal of Muturi's security undermine their rights. Ruto's administration should accept that the country is in a mess since forced disappearances, extrajudicial killings and corruption have become a norm. The health sector is limping with most Kenyans missing medication in public hospitals. Ruto should focus on fixing the nation, delivering his promises and stop trying to silence the opposition. **Allan Kyaka, Kwale**

RAINS

Put plans in place to deal with expected flooding

The ongoing rains in many parts of the country hint at a possibility of floods. Last year, the country experienced severe floods, leaving thousands homeless and property worth millions destroyed. The government should by now have put in place measures to counter floods by identifying areas that are at risk of being flooded and identifying safe areas for shelter, among other disaster-management measures.

From previous experience, the government has always portrayed a picture of unpreparedness

when disaster strikes. Often, there are challenges in dealing with the disaster whenever floods strike. This results in the loss of lives and property, which could have been avoided if due preparations were done.

Flooding should no longer be considered an abrupt disaster since heavy rainfall is expected every year, meaning there should always be plans in place to encounter floods. By now, the Ministry of Environment should have drawn contingency plans to deal with flooding in any part of the country. **Kelly Barasa, Busia**



ECONOMY

Ongoing global tariff wars will hurt Africa the most

US President Donald Trump is writing a new script in global politics dominated by events taking place in the Middle East and Eastern Europe, which is a scramble for spheres of influence between the US, China and Europe. These tariff wars have a history. It is a replay of the mercantilist policies that emphasize trade restrictions and fly in the face of World Trade Organization's intentions.

The McKinley Tariff of 1890 raised duties on imported goods to nearly 50 percent, with the intention of shielding US industries from foreign competitions. The Smoot-Hawley Tariff of

1930 under President Herbert Hoover, raised tariffs on over 20,000 imported goods with the intention of protecting American farmers and manufacturers but unexpectedly led to retaliation and worsening of global trade conditions.

History is repeating itself. Global markets are already plummeting as a result of the US tariffs. Developing countries will be the most unfortunate victims of this economic supremacy war. The AU should hold an urgent consultative meeting of its economists to identify how best to navigate the muddled financial market. **Otieno Nyabola, Kisumu**

Courts clearing cases, but not the backlog as Judiciary grapples with funding promises



DENNIS KABAARA
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT



An advantage the Judiciary holds over the rest of public sector is its impressive data, information and knowledge warehouse of service delivery-level output data such as caseloads. And it has taken steps to leverage this data into budget arguments.

“Our Judiciary is now, without doubt, Kenya’s biggest constitutional dividend”.

Do we remember this quote? It comes from President William Ruto’s inauguration speech of September 13, 2022, in which he also referred to devolution (and sharing of power and resources) as “not just a national value and principle of governance in the Constitution, but...the crown jewel of our Constitution and the proudest achievement of the citizens of Kenya”.

This was our heady post-2022 election moment, when the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission was also praised in the address for “the courage to do the right thing in difficult circumstances...(setting) a new standard in public service that is uncompromising, professional and exemplary (and) raising the bar of integrity of our public officials and institutions”, while our security services were especially commended for their “service and heroic sacrifices... beyond the call of duty”.

Many promises, or commitments, were made in that speech, but recent media attention has focused on those made to the Judiciary, and specifically, its budget. To again reference that presidential address: “my administration will scale up the budgetary allocation to the Judiciary by an additional Sh3 billion annually for the next five years to support the bottom-up scaling of justice”.

This resource boost targeted an increase in the number of Small Claims Courts from 25 to 100, new High Courts in the remaining seven of Kenya’s 47 counties and new Magistrates Courts in the remaining 123 out of our 300-odd sub-counties and ongoing support to digitisation. Towards impartial, expedited justice regarding corruption cases, commercial disputes and other matters.

The timing of recent press is as interesting as it is appropriate. Interesting as it comes at a time when the Judiciary faces tough individual and institutional accountability questions while dispensing justice and delivering judgements, and rulings in line with the constitution. Appropriate as we finalise the 2025/26 budget, with the second supplementary budget of 2024/25 just passed.

And both interesting and appropriate as a reminder of those commitments of 2022. Though it is worth remembering that it is the Constitution (hence, the institution of Parliament), and not the President (or National Treasury) that drives people-led resource allocation and budget-making.

Nevertheless, the core Judiciary received a Sh2.5 billion mid-2022/23 financial year increase to Sh21.1 billion – from Sh18.6 billion in 2021/22 – immediately this administration assumed office. So, with further raises as promised, we should be looking at roughly Sh27 billion in current 2024/25 and Sh30 billion in forthcoming 2025/26. However, Supple-



President William Ruto promised to scale up budgetary allocation to the Judiciary by Sh3 billion annually. [File, Standard]

mentary II estimates for 2024/25 show an allocation Sh22.7 billion, while the Budget Policy Statement allocation for 2025/26 is Sh25.9 billion. This data refers to the core Judiciary, excluding its oversight Judiciary Service Commission (JSC).

Beyond the correct call for leadership accountability on promises or commitments not delivered, the immediate temptation here is to engage in the usual “Judiciary is underfunded” conversation, while drawing public notice to the perennial ritual of budget cuts that interrupt planned Judiciary investments in human capital (judges, judicial officers and judiciary staff), infrastructure and ICT.

Yet the reality everywhere is that public budgeting and resource allocation is as political as it is technical, institutions notwithstanding. It is also true that the political horse-trading that informs the budget process – especially ours – tends to be far more allocative (sharing the cake) than generative (baking the cake). How do we change, even elevate, the Judiciary budget conversation?

The first step might be to understand history. When the Constitution was promulgated in 2010, the Judiciary was running a budget of Sh3 billion (0.5 per cent of the national government budget).

Through astute technical work and determined political engagement led by Judiciary leadership and JSC, the first post-constitution budget (2011/12) doubled to Sh8 billion, then doubled again to Sh16 billion the following year (2012/13). This was Kibaki’s legacy – a Judiciary budget over one per cent of a national government budget that had also expanded with a new constitution.

In the following Jubilee decade before the aforementioned 2022/23

adjustment, this budget basically flat-lined in nominal terms and fell in real terms, even as hundreds of new Judges and other officers were hired, trained and deployed, courts were built and supporting infrastructure acquired – the latter items essentially through the support of international development partners.

It is no surprise that, technology notwithstanding, justice and service delivery has come under the greatest pressure when you have a significantly higher capacity in the Judiciary operating with large funding shortfalls. As a case in point, the estimated resource requirement for forthcoming 2025/26 is Sh40 billion – a third (Sh10 billion) above where it would be if 2022 promises were kept.

That political engagement is important cannot be gainsaid, but what is the incentive? This is where the philosophy behind the Judiciary budget conversation emerges. The idea that justice is not just a public good in the way that education or health or security are, but that it actually underpins them is where this conversation begins. It is tempting to compare the Judiciary – as an arm of government – with Parliament, whose Sh49 billion 2025/26 budget allocation (from a Sh64 billion request) is almost double theirs even without another Sh26 billion in CDF (down from Sh54 billion in 2024/25 which MPs want reinstated even though CDF ends in June 2026).

But better conversations might ask why we must spend twice as much – Sh52 billion on intelligence than justice in a human rights protecting and respecting state; or a third more – Sh38 billion – on corrections in a restorative not retributive justice system. That’s your 2025/26 test!

Once we deal with these political

and philosophical questions of national and public interest, then the third conversation is mostly technical. This is about budget methodology and mechanics.

A key advantage the Judiciary holds over the rest of public sector is its impressive data, information and knowledge warehouse of service delivery-level output data such as caseloads which are within its control. And it has already taken steps to leverage this data into budget arguments. For example, in its 2023/24 State of the Judiciary and Administration of Justice report, the cost per case estimate of its optimal funding is Sh64 billion based on that year’s caseload.

But here is where the method matters. The caseload on which this funding is calculated is based on a 98-99 per cent case clearance rate (cases cleared versus cases filed) when pending – unresolved – cases amount to 120-150 per cent of cases filed of which backlog is 40 per cent. In simple math, to make real progress clearing backlogs, cases cleared must far exceed cases filed.

We also know that at current caseloads, the Judiciary has 50 per cent staffing shortfalls across judges and magistrates in an overall 30 per cent shortfall. Surveys and studies further show that one or two of every three formal cases are filed in the formal courts, and the Judiciary only handles 10 per cent of the estimated total of seven million legal problems requiring justice resolution every year, including problems handled through informal or alternative justice systems.

Throw in all of these variables and we are looking at a different Judiciary budget. But it needs a conversation that respects history and understands politics.

The Standard Counties

World. Tanzania opposition barred from polls. Page 23



Scan here for more stories, photos, videos and audio clips.

Kenya sets sail through history with first maritime museum

► It anchors a legacy of maritime innovation and trade that stretches back to 500 BC.

► It honours a rich coastal legacy long overshadowed by terrestrial histories.

PHILIP MWAKIO, MOMBASA

Sylvan Mghanga grips the ancient wooden helm of a ship as he leans forward to peer into a vast aquarium depicting a shipwreck, complete with floating fish and submerged relics.

With the finesse of a seasoned captain, he turns the helm—the ship's steering wheel—backwards, metaphorically transporting his audience to the 15th century, when marine life and maritime trade flourished along Kenya's coast.

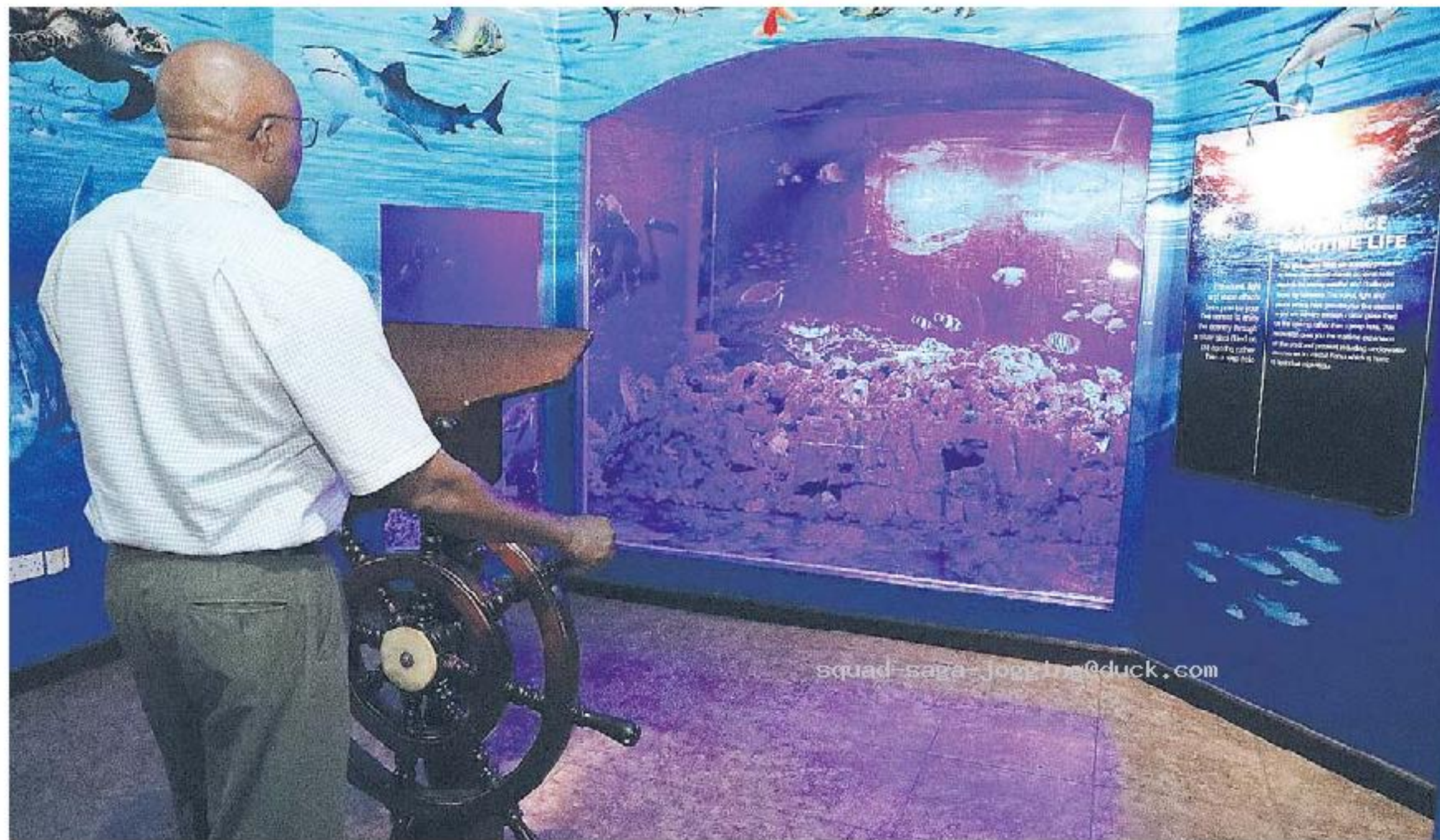
The helm, symbolising leadership and control, is among the centrepieces of the newly unveiled Maritime Museum, offering visitors a glimpse into Kenya's historical dominance in East Africa's marine sector.

At the heart of the museum lies the *Mtepe*—a traditional dhow crafted entirely from hardwood and sewn with rope made from coconut husk fibre. Displayed in a sunken exhibit that mimics a water environment, the vessel provides a vivid and immersive maritime experience.

The museum also showcases ancient tools once used by coastal communities for boatbuilding—some dating back to the 15th century—accompanied by detailed explanations of their materials, function, and cultural significance.

Also on display are navigational instruments, exhibits on ports and harbours, and traditional sea vessels used in maritime trade before and after the 15th century, such as the *Dau la Pate*, *sambuk*, and *ngalawa*. A panoramic image of the Port of Mombasa from 1972 adds a touch of modern maritime memory.

"In a country where inland and terrestrial histories have long dominated, the museum rebalances the narrative, placing the sea at the heart of Kenyan identity, history, and future aspirations," said Andrew Mwangura, veteran



Underwater life on display at the new maritime museum. [Robert Menza, Standard].

mariner and former Secretary-General of the Seafarers Union of Kenya (SUK). He hailed the museum as a transformative space.

"It marks a pivotal moment in the nation's recognition of its maritime heritage—an overdue homage to the sea's profound influence on our past, present, and future," Mwangura added.

Kenya's maritime story spans millennia, with sophisticated seafaring activities dating as far back as 500 BC, according to the National Museums of Kenya (NMK).

Yet the museum's journey began in fits and starts. The idea was first proposed by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) in 1984 and revisited in 1992. It wasn't until 2008 that momentum gathered. On April 29, 2009, the building—originally constructed between 1913 and 1915—was gazetted as a historical monument via Gazette Notice No. 5025.

Preserving work

In February 2010, KPA signed a formal agreement with NMK to preserve the brickwork and façade of the maritime building, ensuring its historical character remained intact.

"The aim was to create a space dedicated to preserving marine artefacts and memorabilia unique

to KPA's history, for the benefit of future generations," KPA stated.

The museum guides visitors through a curated storyline, beginning with a tunnel that simulates the experience of crossing the Likoni Channel. Other exhibits highlight the evolution of port management in East Africa and the development of modern sea vessels, enhanced by interactive touchscreens, pictorial displays, and documentaries.

KPA officials noted that a minimal entry fee has been proposed—pending approval—to support maintenance and public programming. Once open to the public, the museum will serve KPA staff, scholars, students, East African citizens, and cruise ship tourists.

Located within the Port of Mombasa, near Berth 1 and adjacent to the Marine Watch Tower, the museum spans approximately 800 square metres and includes exhibit spaces, a souvenir shop, offices, and storage for artefacts.

"The museum will provide a space to showcase indigenous innovations like the *Mtepe* vessels—engineering marvels that could transport up to 40 tonnes of cargo using coconut fibre cord rather than nails. By preserving these technological achievements, Kenya

reclaims a narrative of innovation that predates colonial contact," said Mwangura.

He said the museum stands poised to document the 600-kilometre coastline's ancient landing sites and natural harbours that supported thriving maritime communities before modern ports came into being.

"Archaeological evidence from sites like Manda, Shanga and Gedi will find proper context within an institution dedicated to maritime heritage," he said.

Changing narrative

Mwangura, at the same time, sought to explain that the timing of setting up the museum is crucial as traditional shipbuilding knowledge faces extinction.

It is expected that the museum will meet the objectives of preserving marine artefacts and memorabilia unique to the port and the sea coast for future posterity, form part of the circuit of activities for the cruise tourists as an added attraction and serve historical and research purposes.

The building where the museum is located, according to KPA, was originally used to store ivory. It is believed to have been the first office of Kenya Cargo Handling Services (KCHS), the predecessor of KPA.

NAKURU

Contractors on the spot for delayed government projects

The government has put on notice contractors who have undertaken several projects but ended up delaying their completion.

In response to a growing number of stalled developments across the country, the State has pledged to introduce limits on the number of projects a single contractor can undertake.

Among the worst affected are markets built under the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), many of which have stalled after contractors became overwhelmed by the volume of work.

This concern came to light during a visit by Deputy Chief of Staff Eliud Owalo to Gilgil—one of the constituencies impacted by delayed completion of the ESP markets.

Owalo said the government was addressing a worrying trend in which contractors were overextending themselves by taking on more projects than they could feasibly handle.

"Some of these contractors have taken on numerous projects without the necessary capacity, thereby delaying their completion. We shall be forced to blacklist such firms," he said.

According to Mr Owalo, several contractors, after securing multiple contracts, failed to deliver within the stipulated timelines despite having received milestone-based payments.

He noted that this inefficiency not only undermined the government's commitment to timely service delivery, but also eroded public trust.

"We are not going to allow a situation where the government has made payments and yet the contractors cannot meet their obligations in terms of delivery within the stipulated timelines," he said.

On his part, Naivasha Deputy County Commissioner Josiah Odongo called on members of the public to support on-going government projects. [Antony Gitonga]



Deputy Chief of Staff Eliud Owalo is taken through various development plans at Special Economic Zone in Mai Mahiu [Antony Gitonga]

Githurai traders protest 'illegal' eviction order

► The Sh400 million Jubilee market was officially opened by President Ruto last year

► However, it had been completed during President Uhuru Kenyatta's administration.

ESTHER DIANAH, NAIROBI

Tensions have erupted at Jubilee Market in Githurai, Kiambu County, as traders protest a 30-day eviction notice they say was issued without warning or an alternative relocation plan.

The traders have accused Governor Kimani Wamatangi of neglecting their concerns and reneging on promises made during previous political campaigns.

They are now demanding an audience with their elected leaders, including the governor, to chart a

way forward.

According to a vacate notice seen by *The Standard*, the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) has directed market occupants to demolish their structures and vacate the premises within 30 days. Failure to comply, the letter warns, could lead to a fine of up to Sh100,000 or imprisonment for one year.

The eviction notice, dated April 3, and delivered by area chief cites illegal occupation of road reserve land and unauthorised encroachment. But traders have raised questions about the document's authenticity, as it bears no official stamp or signature.

Following the protests, traders claim that live bullets and teargas were fired in an attempt to disperse them. Lucy Njeri, a long-time vendor who has traded at Jubilee Market, said President William Ruto—while serving in the previous administration—had promised they would not be evicted until



Githurai 45 market traders show bullets shot at them after they protested against evictions on March 11, 2025. [Jenipher Wachie, Standard]

an alternative market had been built. "The President came with our governor and said they have released funds for the construction of phase two of Githurai Jubilee market. But the market has not been constructed," Njeri said.

Jubilee Market is part of the Githurai 45 Market, which comprises of six other major sections including Migingo/Muiguithania, Post Bank, Kwa Nyanya, New Jubilee, Gateway

and Pamoja Market.

On August 4, 2023, President Ruto officially opened the Sh400 million market, with a capacity of 1,200 stalls, over a year after its completion under President Uhuru Kenyatta's administration.

The opening followed uproar from traders who accused officials of political interference and attempts to manipulate the list of beneficiaries for Phase One of the project.

KIRINYAGA

Ngirici slams leaders for turning funerals into political arenas

Kenya Seed Company (KSC) chairperson Wangui Ngirici has urged politicians from Kirinyaga County to refrain from inciting chaos at funerals and to show respect to grieving families.

"Stop bringing shame to our beloved county. It is shameful that almost every funeral you attend ends in chaos. Respect the bereaved families," she said. "We have very many grounds and fields where political meetings can be held. Hold your meetings there, stop waiting for funerals for you to hijack," she added.

Her comments follow a confrontation between Kirinyaga Senator Kamau Murango and Mathira MP Eric Wa Mumbi during the funeral service of Ann Wanjiru, the chairlady of Mathira Nyakinyua group, held in Gathithi.

The clash reportedly began when Wa Mumbi accused former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua of abandoning the late chairlady during her illness—despite her unwavering loyalty and frequent performances at national events.

The remarks incensed Murango and other supporters of the former DP, who responded by forcefully ejecting Wa Mumbi from the funeral, with mourners joining in the commotion.

[Jane Mugambi]

KUCCPS PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

THEME: 2025 UNIVERSITIES & TVETs ADMISSIONS

The Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) has opened the Online Application System for the placement of students to universities, public TVET institutions, and TTCs from **March 28th to April 30th, 2025.**

TVETs, public and private universities are required to provide sufficient information about their programs to enable potential students make informed choices on their career pathways.

To create awareness, **The Standard Newspaper** will publish a **Special Education Intake Pullout** showcasing the placement opportunities available at various institutions ahead of the deadline.

As one of the institutions, you are invited to participate in this publication by showcasing placement opportunities available.

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Plastic spills at sea spark global push for stricter laws, firm action

► Plastic pellets, small but highly damaging, have become a global problem.

► The IMO summit's proposed action plan could be the breakthrough needed to curb this alarming trend before it's too late.

MACTILDA MBENYWE

The battle against plastic pellet pollution has received a significant boost at the ongoing International Maritime Summit in London.

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response has agreed on a draft 2025 Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships. The plan now awaits approval at the end of this week by the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 83).

Plastic pellet pollution is not just a problem for wealthy nations; it is already affecting communities worldwide. In Mombasa and other coastal towns in Kenya, local fishermen have reported tiny plastic pellets, known as nurdles, floating in the water or washing ashore. Most are unaware of what these pellets are.

These lentil-sized pellets are used to make everyday plastic products. When they spill into the sea, they cause lasting damage.

IMO, the UN body that regulates global shipping, held a high-stakes summit in London last week where delegates from 176 countries, including Kenya, discussed how to tackle plastic pellet pollution.

If approved, the IMO's 2025 Action Plan will target key sources of marine plastic litter from ships and fishing vessels. It calls for stricter controls to reduce gear and waste loss from fishing vessels and to minimise

plastic discharge during shipping operations.

The plan also emphasises education and training. Seafarers will receive specific instruction on waste handling, while ports will be required to improve reception facilities to handle plastic waste more effectively.

The plan prioritises better data and international coordination. Member states will work together to better understand the scale of plastic pollution generated by ships and commit to stronger global cooperation to tackle the problem comprehensively.

This comes in the wake of major incidents, such as the X-Press Pearl disaster in 2021 off Sri Lanka, when a cargo ship caught fire and spilled billions of plastic pellets into the Indian Ocean. The pollution killed marine life and disrupted fishing for months. The economic damage was estimated at over Sh5.2 billion (US\$40 million).

Now, the IMO wants stricter rules. They have proposed that pellets be packed more securely and labelled clearly. They want shipping containers carrying pellets to be stowed below deck. Most importantly, they are considering whether to classify plastic pellets as hazardous substances.

If pellets are classified as hazardous, ships would face stricter handling rules. Spills would trigger mandatory reporting and cleanup responses. This could prevent disasters before they reach our shores.

IMO Secretary General Arsenio Dominguez explained the urgency of this issue in interviews, stating, "The urgency of preventing ship-source spills of plastic pellets." He stressed the importance of finalising and approving provisions and instruments under the IMO to address this issue. He urged delegates to prioritise the finalisation of recommendations for the carriage of plastic pellets by sea in freight



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containers and draft guidelines for the clean-up of plastic pellets from ship-source spills.

Kenya is not immune. The Indian Ocean currents do not respect borders. A spill off India or Sri Lanka could reach our coastline within weeks.

Kenya has over 1,400 kilometres of coastline. The blue economy, including fisheries and tourism, contributes more than Sh400 billion to the national GDP. Any plastic spill puts that revenue at risk.

Artisanal fishermen in Lamu, Kilifi, and Kwale depend on clean waters. A 2023 study by Moi University found

microplastics, including nurdles, in 17 per cent of fish samples from Kenyan waters. This threatens food safety and public health.

Beach tourism, a lifeline for coastal communities, also suffers. Tourists avoid beaches littered with plastic. Nurdles are hard to clean; they blend with sand and persist for decades.

Volunteers are already responding. In 2024, local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), such as Eco World Watamu and Flipflop, organised nurdle hunts along Kenyan beaches. In Diani, one clean-up collected over 3,000 pellets in just two hours. These efforts raise awareness, but cannot keep pace with pollution.

Yet Kenya still lacks a national policy on plastic pellet handling or spill response.

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) oversees shipping regulations, but there are no rules on how pellets are transported or what happens when spills occur.

Kenya is a voting member of the IMO. We have a seat at the table in London this week.

Our delegation must push for mandatory rules on plastic pellets. Voluntary guidelines are not enough, said John Omingo, a maritime expert.

"We should support classifying pellets as hazardous. We must also demand that ship operators report spills immediately and face penalties

for negligence," Omingo said.

The government must develop a national spill response plan. The Kenya Ports Authority and Kenya Coast Guard Service should have the equipment and training to respond to pellet spills.

He suggested that we can learn from the EU, which recently adopted rules requiring all pellet handlers to use best practices. The regulation covers ports, shipping companies, and plastics manufacturers.

Beyond international rules, Kenya needs domestic reforms.

The Ministry of Environment should require companies handling plastic pellets, such as manufacturers in Nairobi and Athi River, to install containment systems. Regular inspections and penalties for non-compliance are essential.

He stated that ports, such as Mombasa must track pellet shipments more carefully. Container loading and unloading need stricter oversight.

Data collection is key. "We don't know how widespread nurdle pollution is in Kenya," he revealed. A national survey of pellet presence on beaches and in marine species would guide policy and inform the public.

Omingo added that plastic pellet pollution is not just a shipping problem. It's a public health, food safety, and economic issue.

Microplastic pollution

17%

PERCENTAGE

OF fish samples from Kenyan waters contain microplastics, including nurdles, posing a significant threat to food safety and public health, according to a Moi University study.

Global study: CEOs prioritise environment before profits

► Four in 10 of the executives ranked reducing pollution or emissions as their top priority.

► The 2015 Paris climate conference target agreement is to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

JAMES WANZALA, NAIROBI

Positive environmental impact is the number one ranked legacy priority that businesses are focused on.

This is according to the latest YPO Global Impact Report, published this past week.

Around four in 10 of the chief executive respondents to YPO's report in Asia, Africa, South America, and Europe all ranked positive environmental impact and reducing pollution or emissions as their top priority.

The YPO is an organisation of 35,000 members worldwide, representing \$9 trillion of combined revenues and 22 million employees.

With the climate and biodiversity crises accelerating, and the next climate COP 31 taking place in the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil, November this year, this global impact report shines a useful light on where the gaps are on the road to net zero in terms of businesses' contribution.

The YPO research revealed that South America leads the way, with 54 per cent of businesses having short-term carbon reduction targets.

This compares with 47 per cent of businesses surveyed in Europe, 46 per cent in Asia, 38 per cent in Africa, and 20 per cent in North America.

Next generation

"As we gather for the YPO Global Impact Summit in Vietnam, our latest annual Impact Report shows YPO business leaders care deeply about the next generation. In Hoi An, we will be working with business leaders from across the world to share best practice on net-zero strategies, carbon emissions measurement, and target setting," said YPO Global Chairman Sofyan Almoayed.

He added: "Businesses are a force for positive action when it comes to tackling climate change. Although around four in ten chief executives in Asia, Africa, South America, and Europe ranked positive environmental contributions and

reducing pollution or emissions as the top priority for their organisation's legacy and impact, we know there is still a lot more work to do."

Sofyan said the intersection of legacy and positive impact is a key driver of the day-to-day actions of member companies, and they believe this trend will continue to accelerate.

Angel Lance, Founder of Motive Power and 10/6 Professional Services, said they believe the path to net zero is not just a necessity but a business opportunity for innovation and growth.

"As chief executives, this survey shows we don't outsource our environmental approach—we keep it in-house, as it is important to us. The findings of the latest YPO Global Impact Report give me heart. Despite diverse political and regulatory landscapes, YPO members want to leave a positive legacy, do the right thing, and accelerate their efforts towards achieving net zero," said Lance.

Le Thuy, vice chairperson of Vingroup, headquartered in Vietnam, said that while it is pleasing to see nearly half of businesses in Asia and Europe with clear carbon reduction targets, there is a need to redouble their efforts.

Among the survey's key findings per continent is that Africa's top legacy priority is positive environmental impact/reduction in pollution or emissions at 40 per cent, Asia at 42 per cent, South America at 40 per cent, and Europe at 38 per cent.

The percentages of YPO survey respondents with a decarbonisation strategy by continent are as follows: South America with 70 per cent, Asia and Europe with 60 per cent, Africa with 43 per cent, North America with 24 per cent, and Oceania with 22 per cent.

On short-term greenhouse gas

Findings

40%

PERCENTAGE of African firms that prioritise pollution reduction above other legacy aims.



The YPO research revealed that South America leads the way with 54 per cent of businesses having short-term carbon reduction targets.

(GHG) emissions targets, survey respondents in South America, Europe, and Asia were more likely to have a short-term GHG reduction target.

They scored 54 per cent, 47 per cent, and 46 per cent respectively, compared with respondents in Oceania, North America, and Africa at 10 per cent, 20 per cent, and 38 per cent respectively.

Overall, 68 per cent of YPO companies surveyed reported that they did not yet have a short-term (five-to ten-year) GHG reduction target in place.

A total of 17 per cent responded that they had a target, but it was not aligned with the 2015 Paris COP climate target agreement (to limit global warming to 1.5°C, with greenhouse gas emissions peaking before 2025 at the latest and declining 43 per cent by 2030).

Larger companies with 500 or more employees were most likely to have a short-term reduction target—60 per cent of respondents—compared to 34 per cent of those with 150 to 499 employees, 21 per cent with 50 to 149 employees, and 21 per cent with 0 to 49 employees.

Consumer goods companies were most likely to have a short-term reduction target at 56 per cent, followed by the renewable energy sector at 44 per cent, and resource transformation at 40 per cent.

Healthcare sector companies were least likely to have a short-term reduction target, with only 16 per cent of respondents reporting that they had such a target.

In terms of having a net-zero goal, 39 per cent of YPO companies reported they did not have one and did not plan to do so (for example

due to lack of a viable pathway).

Thirty per cent of respondents did not have a net-zero goal but planned to establish one in the near term (in fewer than five years).

Overall, 21 per cent reported that they had a net-zero goal. This compares with 8 per cent of companies globally.

Zero emissions

Of those with a net-zero goal, 11 per cent reported it was not fully aligned with a net-zero pathway net-zero emissions by 2050 or sooner).

Larger companies with 500 or more employees were most likely to have a long-term goal: 58 per cent had one, of which 32 per cent had a goal aligned with the net-zero pathway.

In contrast, only 18 per cent of companies with 0 to 49 employees had a long-term goal.

By continent, respondents in South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa were most likely to have a long-term goal aligned with the net-zero pathway—45 per cent, 30 per cent, 29 per cent, and 29 per cent respectively—compared with Oceania and North America, both at 11 per cent.

The YPO businesses with a decarbonisation strategy by continent: South America at 70 per cent, Asia (60), Europe (60), Oceania (22), North America (24), and Africa at 43 per cent.

The YPO businesses with a full-time sustainability leadership position by continent: South America led with 61 per cent, followed by Asia (29), Europe (47), Oceania (14), North America (19 per cent), and Africa (24 per cent).

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LEGISLATION

New law empowers communities to lead climate action

Vihiga County has stepped up efforts to address environmental challenges following the adoption of the Vihiga County Climate Change Act, 2025.

The Act, endorsed by Governor Wilber Ottichilo, establishes a comprehensive framework to mobilise climate financing, strengthen collaboration among stakeholders, and integrate climate action into the county's development agenda.

The law also places communities centre stage as key players in tackling climate change effects such as prolonged drought, drying water sources, and mudslides.

"The new law clearly outlines the responsibilities of public institutions, private entities, and communities in safeguarding Vihiga's natural environment," Ottichilo remarked after signing the law.

At the heart of the county's climate strategy is an inclusive governance model, allowing public participation in climate planning and decision-making.

This community-driven approach was first institutionalised through the Climate Fund Act of 2019, which laid the groundwork for climate resilience investments.

Through this legislation, Vihiga pioneered the creation of Ward Climate Change Planning Committees—localised bodies responsible for spearheading climate action at the grassroots level.

The mandate of the committees includes facilitating citizen participation, improving accountability, and supporting effective monitoring and evaluation of environmental initiatives.

Vihiga allocates two per cent of its annual budget to climate-related projects, which demonstrates a strong political will and financial commitment to sustainability.

Current adaptation measures already underway in Vihiga include large-scale reforestation programmes, fencing of wetlands, removal of invasive eucalyptus trees, and a range of water conservation initiatives—all aimed at restoring ecological balance.

Ottichilo, who also chairs the Environment and Climate Change Committee at the Council of Governors, emphasised the urgency of climate action and called on other counties to adopt comprehensive measures to protect the environment.

[Brian Kisanji]



Vihiga Governor Wilber Ottichilo (left) hands over County Climate Change Act to Environment and Climate Change Executive Mulongo Onzere while Deputy Governor Wilberforce Kitiezo looks on. [Brian Kisanji, Standard]

The Standard • Business

World. Russian attack kills 21 in Ukraine's Sumy. Page 23



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TRAINING FOR JOBS

Germany Deputy Ambassador to Kenya Alexander Fierley (right), Centurion Systems CEO Kevit Desai (second right) and Ensinger Group Managing Director Björn Schneekloth are taken through a new machine by Solomon Kiboi (left), a CNC trainer during the unveiling of the new CNC training partnership at PC Kinyanjui Technical Institute in Nairobi, recently. The training aims to equip the youth with specialised machining skills for industrial growth and employment. [Boniface Okendo, Standard]

PENSIONS

RBA eyes policy reforms to up contributions

Pension regulator, the Retirement Benefits Authority (RBA) has set its eyes on the informal sector as it seeks policy reforms to increase contributions, amid an improved pension assets to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio.

Latest numbers show the pension assets to GDP ratio slightly went up to 14.6 per cent in the year ended December 2024, from 12.2 per cent for the year ended December 2023.

Amid the increase, which can largely be attributed to enhanced National Social Security Fund (NSSF) contributions that came into force in 2023, RBA notes this ratio is still low.

"Kenya's ratio is still lower than that of most middle-income economies, indicating a need for policy reforms aimed at increasing pension coverage and encouraging savings," says RBA in the industry brief published April 7.

A higher pension assets to GDP ratio shows that an economy pays retirement benefits with ease. The Netherlands, Australia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States are some of the economies with high pension assets to GDP at 100 per cent and above.

Industry brief

While argued to be low, Kenya's pension assets to GDP is higher than its peers on the continent among them Uganda which stands at nine per cent and Rwanda which is 12.7 per cent. The RBA industry brief shows that pension contributions have steadily been growing from Sh70.26 billion in the year ended December 2022, to Sh118.8 billion in the 12 months ended December 2024.

Statutory contributions to NSSF have grown from Sh14.73 billion in 2020 to Sh15.92 billion in 2022 before a sharp increase to Sh25.39 billion and Sh59.25 billion in 2024 due to the enhanced contributions as per the NSSF Act, 2013.

President William Ruto's goal has been to improve pension contribution to GDP to 25 per cent over 10 years, which informed the enactment of the NSSF Act 2013, in 2023, that had stalled for a decade due to court cases.

This increased contributions from the maximum Sh200 per employee, which is matched by their employer, to the current Sh4,320.

As such, assets under management by NSSF have also shot. "Contributions to NSSF have been on a steady growth over the last three years. The increase in contributions is attributed to the continued implementation of the NSSF Act of 2013," the industry brief says.

"The total net assets held by NSSF as of December 31, 2024, were Sh476.8 billion, translating to a growth of Sh74.8 billion over the last half year from Sh402.0 billion as of 30 June 2024." RBA in an earlier document published in February 2025, sees an opportunity in improving coverage by targeting the hard-to-reach informal sector economy, which it says are the majority.

[Graham Kajilwa]

Trump taps Kenya for pacts in agriculture despite tariff spat

► US will provide support to Kenya, Ethiopia and Ghana through its "food for progress programme."

► Decision comes despite the recent 10 per cent reciprocal import tariff slapped on Kenyan goods by Washington.

BRIAN NGUGI, NAIROBI

The Trump administration is now prioritising Kenya for food and agriculture agreements despite having imposed tariffs that have strained the trade partnership between Nairobi and Washington.

Under the new initiative, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will provide support to Kenya, alongside Ethiopia and Ghana, through its "Food for Progress Programme."

The decision comes despite the recent 10 per cent reciprocal import tariff slapped on Kenyan goods by Washington, a move that has sparked alarm among Kenyan manufacturers and officials, who fear shipments en route to the US will be locked out and stranded.

President Trump has temporarily frozen the 10 per cent tariffs he imposed on Kenya, with local officials warning of a potential Sh12.9 billion (\$100 million) hit to Kenya's export earnings from the newly imposed US tariffs.

The Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) has been vocal in its opposition to the tariffs, urging for a transitional clause to protect ongoing trade.

However, a USDA internal planning document identifies Kenya as a priority country for the Food for Progress Programme in fiscal year 2025. This programme aims to help develop-

ing countries modernise and strengthen their agricultural sectors through the commercial sale of US agricultural commodities, with the proceeds supporting agricultural, economic, or infrastructure development.

Sources familiar with the Trump administration's strategy indicate a keen interest in positioning Kenya as a gateway for US agricultural imports into East Africa, particularly its genetically modified (GM) maize or corn.

American firms are also reportedly eager to gain a substantial share of the potential GMO market in Kenya. Washington has been actively pressuring Nairobi to ease regulations and allow access to its GM food and crop products, presenting a significant market opportunity for US agribusiness.

Kenya recently lifted a decades-old ban on GM crops in response to a severe drought affecting the East African region, hoping the technology will improve crop yields and bolster food security.

However, this decision has been met with skepticism from local farmers and health advocates. The USDA initiative also aligns with ongoing efforts to strengthen Kenya's food safety regulations.

SH64.5

MILLION

AMOUNT that the USDA has invested to support Kenya in drafting a comprehensive food and feed safety policy and bill.

A recent workshop, backed by the USDA through the Food and Agriculture Export Alliance (FAEA), focused on developing a roadmap for industry capacity building in food safety.

This comes at a time when public demand for safer food products in Kenya is rising, prompting the government to draft the Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill, which is currently in the National Assembly.

The USDA, through FAEA, has invested over Sh64.5 million to support Kenya in drafting a comprehensive food and feed safety policy and bill.

Despite the anticipated increases in local production for the 2025-26 harvesting season, a recent USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) report projected that Kenya will remain a net importer of essential staples, including maize, wheat, and rice, highlighting the persistent challenges hindering Kenya's food self-sufficiency.

The report also noted that the ongoing restrictions on genetically engineered products limit Kenya's access to advanced agricultural technologies that could enhance productivity.

Analysts say while the Trump tariffs on Kenya have upset the established trade partnership and raised concerns about the immediate future of Kenyan exports, the focus on food and agriculture pacts signals a longer-term strategic interest in Kenya's role within the East African region and its potential as a market for American agricultural products, particularly GMOs.

The success of these new pacts will likely depend on navigating the current trade tensions and addressing the concerns of Kenyan stakeholders regarding food safety and agricultural practices, analysts said.

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Primrose Management Ltd General Manager Mapreet Kalsi (left) joins the firm's Managing Director Jitesh Upadhyay (second left), Customer Service Executive Milka Lusega (second right) to mark the completion of a Sh400 million revamp of Nairobi's Prestige Plaza.



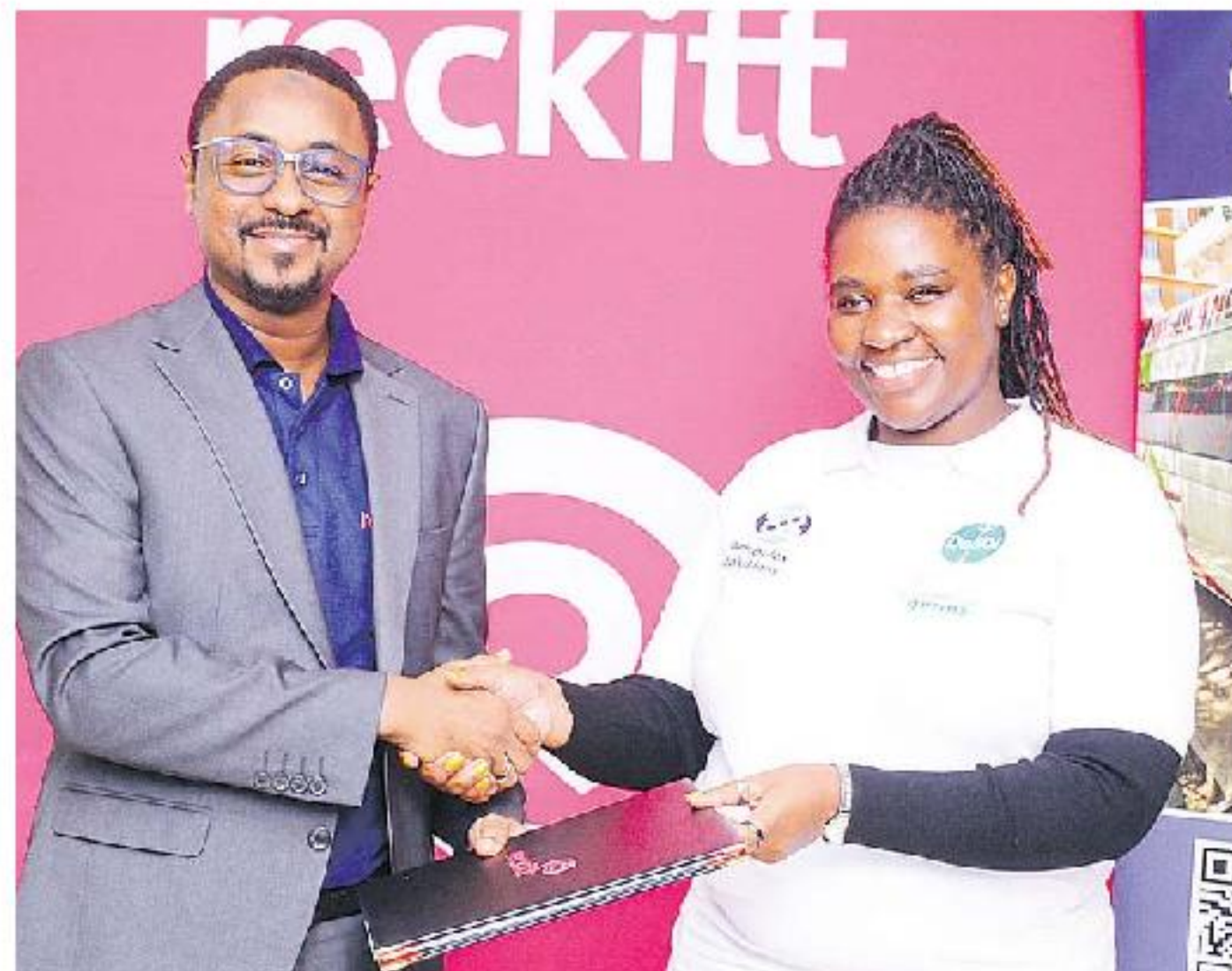
National Bank of Kenya Managing Director George Odhiambo (left), presents a gift to Comesa Business Council CEO Teddy Soobramanien during a courtesy call to discuss key areas of partnership.



MultiChoice CEO Nzola Miranda, Chief Financial Services Officer at Safaricom Esther Waititu and Moment Kenya CEO Joel Yarbrough during a meeting at Safaricom offices, aimed at strengthening collaboration between the three entities.



APA Life Assurance CEO Eric Wanting with Absa Bancassurance Intermediary Principal Officer Julia Shisia and APA Insurance CEO Dr Dipankar Acharya during the bancassurance masterclass hosted by APA Life Assurance in Nairobi.



Reckitt Kenya Country Manager Mustapha Bugaje exchanges documents with Founder and CEO of Ambulex Solutions Ltd Judith Oketch in a pact aimed at enhancing hygiene standards in emergency medical care.



LG Electronics EA Home Solutions Assistant Product Manager Seungwoo Oh, Opalnet MD Rakesh Singh and LG Electronics EA Home Solutions Product Director KH Jeong during the LG brand festival draw where LG awarded Sh500,000 worth of home appliances.



Old Mutual Women's Network EA Patron Anne Nyamu, Head of Customer Experience Christine Sogomo, Old Mutual Investment Group MD Executive PA Michelle Gathu and Faulu Bank Business Analyst Roseline Bosire at a forum to celebrate women.



Afri Fueling Expo Convener and Petroleum Outlets Association of Kenya CEO John Njogu presents a certificate of sponsorship to Dover Fueling Solutions Regional Service Manager Jeremiah Mungai as AfriFueling Expo Sales Director Florah Mumbua looks on.



NamibRe MD Patty Karuaihe-Martin, Commissioner of Insurance at Ghana National Insurance Commission Dr Abiba Zakariah and ICEA LION Group CEO at the Africa Sustainable Insurance Summit in Accra, sponsored by ICEA LION.



Travelers Beach Hotel and Spa MD Nicky Dhanjal at the newly opened fitness centre during its official launch. Looking on is architect Arnold Deche (right), gym instructor Phanel Cytoh (left) and Moses Omollo.



Valentine Mkakisha (right) from Mbale, Kakamega County, explains to Taita Taveta County Governor Dr Andrew Mwadime and CorpsAfrica Country Director Patricia Kingori how to construct a poultry farm.



Moses Murei (in a jacket) assists Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation's Rose Mkalama to switch on the light during the commissioning of an electrification project that saw 188 households connected to power in Samoo and Chemichemi villages, Nandi County.



From left: Winners of the Moments of Inspiration Kenya (Moika) Awards Nicholas Muthuri, Millicent Mwende, Sarafina Kaiongi, Jackson Mwiti and Elsy Kinya at Mount Kenya University Main Campus over the weekend. The awards celebrate individuals driving innovation and excellence.

The Standard World

Sports. Kipchoge Keino Stadium work stalls. **Page 32**



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21 killed, 83 injured in Russian attack on Ukraine's Sumy city

► President Zelensky called for a "strong response" from Europe and the US.

► Trump publicly voiced his anger at Moscow for its reluctance to end the war.

AFP, KYIV

A Russian ballistic missile attack on Ukraine's northeastern city of Sumy killed at least 21 people and wounded 83 on Palm Sunday, Kyiv said, in another deadly attack on civilians that came after a top US official travelled to Russia.

Sumy lies close to the Russian border and has come under increasing attack for weeks.

The strike hit Sumy's city centre two days after US envoy Steve Witkoff met with Russian leader Vladimir Putin and despite US President Donald Trump urging Moscow to end the war.

"Russia hit the city centre with ballistic missiles. Right when there were many people on the street," Ukraine's state emergency service said. "People were injured right in the middle of the street, in cars, public transport, and in houses," emergency services said as rescue operations were ongoing.

"According to preliminary data, 21 people have been killed."

The interior ministry said 83 people, including seven children, were wounded in the strike.



A Ukrainian rescuer works to extinguish a fire at the site of a missile attack in Sumy, northeastern Ukraine, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. [UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY SERVICE / AFP]

Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelensky called for a "strong response" from Europe and the US.

"Enemy missiles hit an ordinary city street, an ordinary life: houses, educational institutions, cars on the street," he said on social media.

"And this is on a day when people go to church: Palm Sunday, the feast of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem."

He added: "Only bastards can do this."

"Talking has never stopped ballistic missiles and bombs," Zelensky said, two days after Witkoff held hours-long talks with Putin in Saint Petersburg.

Local authorities in Sumy published footage of bodies strewn on

the street and people running for safety, with cars on fire and wounded civilians on the floor.

Growing pressure

The attack came despite Trump publicly voicing anger at Moscow this month for "bombing like crazy" in Ukraine and calling on it to "get moving" on ending the more than three-year-long war.

Russia has relentlessly attacked Ukraine in recent weeks.

In early April, a Russian attack on the central city of Kryvyi Rig killed 18 people, including nine children.

Sumy has been under increasing pressure since Moscow pushed back much of Ukraine's troops from its

Kursk region across the border.

The eastern city so far has been spared from the kind of fighting seen further south in the Donetsk region but Kyiv for weeks has warned that Moscow could mount an offensive on Sumy.

Russia in recent weeks has claimed the capture of a village in the Sumy region for the first time since the early days of its 2022 invasion.

Russia launched its invasion partially through the Sumy region and briefly occupied parts of it before being pushed back by Ukrainian forces.

Moscow has not yet commented on the strike.

ARUSHA

Tz main opposition party barred from upcoming elections

Tanzania's main opposition party has been disqualified from upcoming general elections, the country's election chief said, after it refused to sign an electoral code of conduct.

The east African nation has increasingly cracked down on its opposition ahead of a general election due in October. The opposition Chadema party has accused President Samia Suluhu Hassan of returning to the repressive tactics of her predecessor, John Magufuli.

Chadema leader Tundu Lissu, who was arrested and charged with treason earlier in the week, previously said that his party would not participate in the polls without electoral reform.

On Saturday, Chadema said the party's secretary-general John Mnyika would not attend an Independent National Elections Commission (INEC) meeting to sign the government's electoral code of conduct.

The decision was "informed by the lack of a written response" to the party's "proposal and demands for essential electoral reforms", it said in a statement.

INEC Director of Elections Ramadhan Kailima said following the meeting that "any party that hasn't signed today will not be allowed to take part in the general election or any other elections for the next five years".

"There will be no second chance," he told reporters.

Chadema has not commented on the INEC's decision.

Tanzania is scheduled to hold presidential and national assembly elections in October. President Hassan's party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) swept to victory in local elections last year.

Chadema said those elections had been manipulated, and that it would petition the high court to demand reforms ahead of the upcoming polls.

[AFP]

GABON

Junta chief on track for poll victory after 2023 coup

Gabonese voters voted on Saturday in a presidential election widely expected to make junta chief Brice Oligui Nguema the oil-rich central African country's first elected leader since his 2023 coup.

Oligui led the August 30, 2023, putsch that ended 55 years of dynastic rule by the Bongo family, who were accused of looting Gabon's wealth.

"I am very confident. May the best man win," said Oligui, who has been leading in opinion polls, as he cast his ballot alongside first lady Zita at a school in the centre of the capital Libreville before a media scrum of clicking cameras.

Snaking queues were seen outside polling stations in the seaside city as voting got under way in bright sunshine after a stormy night.

After voting ended at 6:00 pm (1700 GMT), the interior ministry said turnout had run to 87.12 percent.

Aurele Ossantanga Mouila, 30, voted for the first time ever after finishing his shift as a croupier in a casino. "I did not have confidence in the earlier regime," he said.

Pensioner Eugenie Tchitembo Onanga, 68, said of Oligui: "Everyone will vote for him, I assure you. It's God's choice."

Oligui took the role of transitional president while overseeing the formation of a government that includes civilians, tasked with drawing up a new constitution.

The country of 2.3 million people is casting ballots at a time of high unemployment, regular power and water shortages, a lack of infrastructure and heavy government debt.

Oligui ditched his military uniform as he campaigned for a seven-year term against seven rival candidates, including Alain-Claude Bilie By Nze, who served as prime minister under Ali Bongo before the coup. [AFP]



Opposition leader Tundu Lissu speaks to his supporters on April 10. [AFP]

HOROSCOPE

Virgo – Aug 23 - Sep 22
Aim to cut out distractions as much as possible. As the day advances, your interest in your projects, learning, and communication increases. A special topic can captivate you. While you may be a little detached on social levels as you throw a lot of attention into your interests, you can feel quite motivated.

Libra – Sep 23 - Oct 22
Misunderstandings or mixed signals can be frustrating. As the day advances, making your life more secure can be a wonderful focus. Earthy, comforting, and natural activities help you heal and cleanse, and your enthusiasm for enjoying yourself is strong. There can be a feeling of excitement within you that brings out inventiveness and intuition.

Scorpio – Oct 23 - Nov 21
Cooperation may not be straightforward, but you may discover that you can handle a matter just fine on your own. Try to focus on positive, productive tasks despite distractions and some inconsistencies. This comes more naturally as the day advances. Your commitment to a personal project, goal, or independent work is building.

Sagittarius Nov 22-Dec 21
You may be focusing on bringing harmony, balance, and peace to your home life and family dynamics with greater success as you advance. There can be resurfacing problems to deal with, but you are looking at these matters in new ways, and as things move forward in the coming weeks, you'll have a stronger idea of what's most important to you.

Capricorn – Dec 22-Jan 19
Getting your message across socially can be challenging with blockages or restrictions in play that mainly relate to chores and responsibilities. While a little dry in spots, days like today are useful for finding your own way, making yourself happy instead of relying on others or circumstances, and getting things done. Greater detachment and less anxiety are the goals at the moment.

Aquarius – Jan 20-Feb 18
Part of you only wants to simplify and pull back, but another part is intensely curious these days, which can distract you. It can be challenging to recognize which activities serve you well and which ones subtract from your fun, but it's useful to try. Fortunately, you can get a motivational boost for working toward professional or business goals.

Pisces – Feb 19-Mar 20
In securities and self-protectiveness can interrupt the regular flow of your interactions, but not for long since, as the day advances, you're ready to see the bigger picture. You can benefit greatly from centering yourself first and foremost. You can be pursuing special topics or cultural interests with additional commitment and passion.

Aries – Mar 21-Apr 19
People can be harder to please, and a lack of natural flow makes it more complicated than usual to find satisfaction. It's temporary, and the adjustments you make as a result can be useful to you. Later today, stronger energy is with you for work, research, and self-renewal.

Taurus – Apr 20-May 20
Keep things simple for the best results to help reduce stress. Leave important decision-making for when you're more confident and aware of what you truly want. As the day advances, there can be someone special who motivates you to set important work, ambitions, or projects in motion.

Gemini – May 21-Jun 21
It may be best to avoid committing or limiting yourself. As the day advances, you can feel more committed to a work project or a health and wellness program. You can certainly pare down your to-do list with just a little effort, and then enjoy guilt-free relaxation.

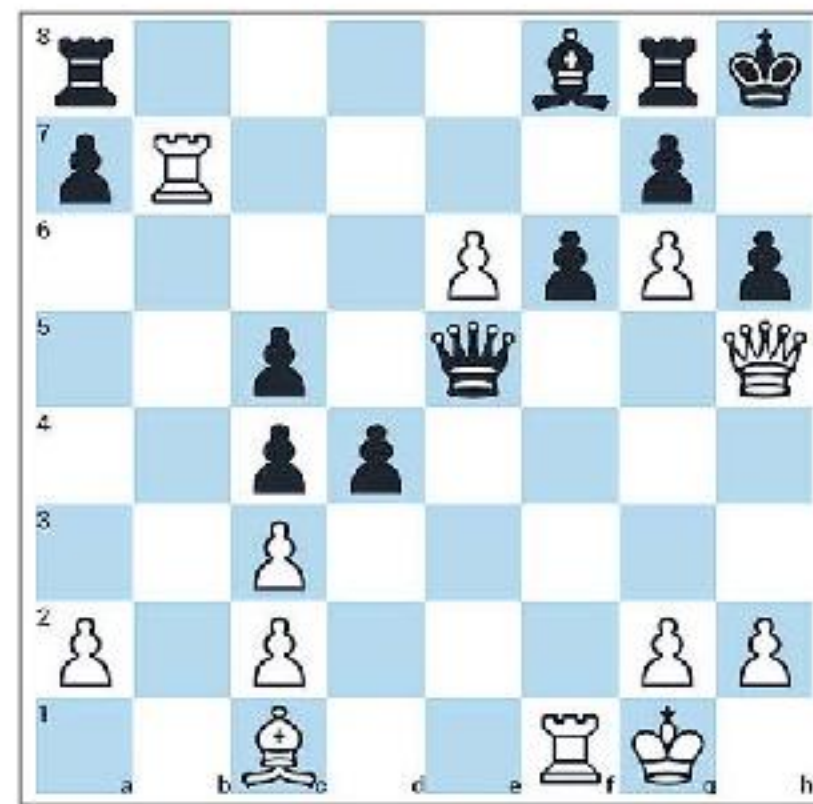
Cancer – Jun 22-Jul 22
Hobbies and pastimes can be more satisfying once you give yourself over to them. Deep feelings are stirring, and you could feel driven to express your deeper feelings creatively or artistically.

Leo – Jul 23-Aug 22
As the day advances, building your closest relationships and dedicating yourself to family or domestic concerns can help you build up enthusiasm and direction. Your desire for a harmonious yet stimulating atmosphere at home can bring out the artist in you now. Cafeastrology.com

CHESS

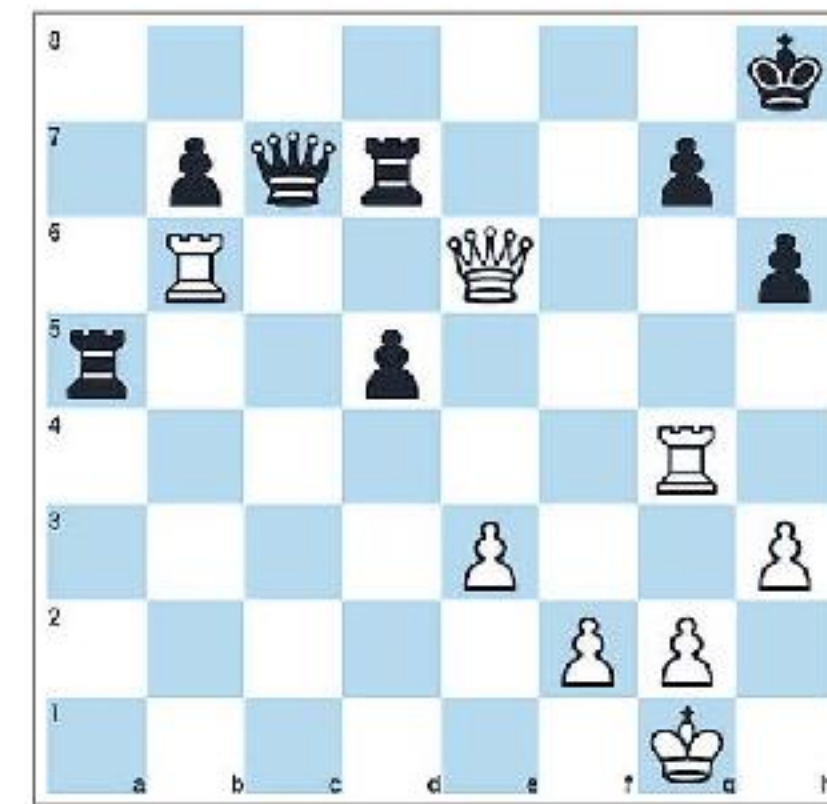
Easy puzzle

White mates in 2 moves.



Intermediate puzzle

White mates in 3 moves.



Saturday's solution

Easy:
1... Rf1+
2. Qxf1 Qxh2#

Intermediate:
1. Re5+ Kd7
2. Qe6+ Kc6
3. Bb8+ Rd6
4. Qxd6#

SOLVIT

| | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| E | B | F | A | 29 |
| H | G | D | C | 14 |
| F | J | A | B | 22 |
| D | E | C | G | 20 |
| 26 | 22 | 20 | 17 | |

Difficulty

The letters have a distinct value between 1 and 9. Two of these values and the totals horizontally and vertically have been given. Solve all the values.

Today's Clues

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | J |
| | | | | | | | 3 | 2 |

Saturday's solution

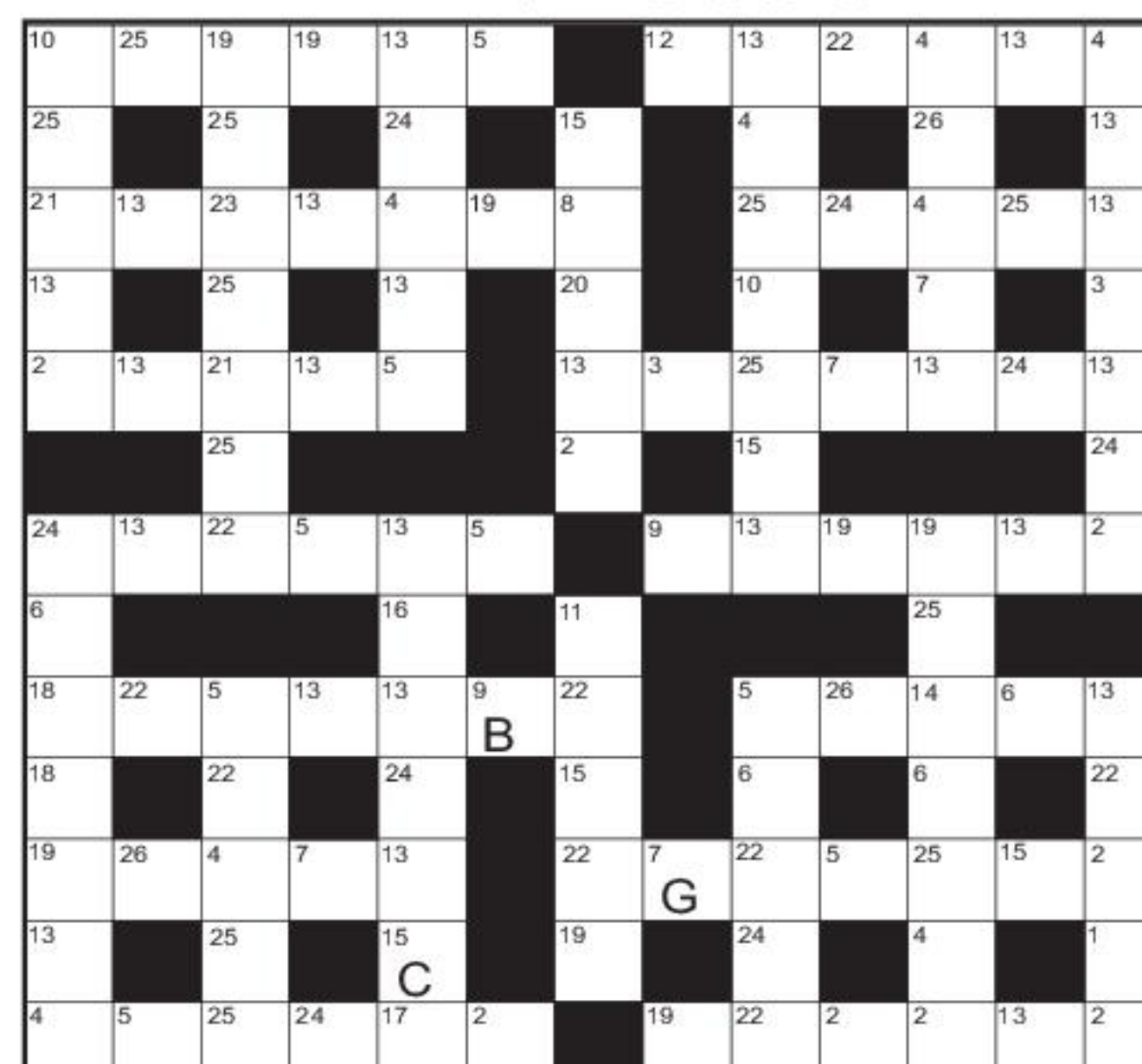
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | J |
| 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 |

CODEWORD

CLUE
Each letter in this puzzle is represented by a number 1-26.

Crack the code and solve the crossword. Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once.

Three letters are already in place to get you started.



| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Saturday's solution

| | |
|---|---|
| O | T |
| K | B |
| Z | G |
| I | Q |
| P | J |
| W | M |
| E | L |
| U | S |
| X | A |
| V | F |
| H | R |
| N | D |
| Y | C |

KAKURO

| | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | |
| | 23 | 28 | | 42 | 8 |
| 7 | | | 4 | | |
| 35 | | | 16 | | |
| 23 | | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | |
| | 23 | | | | 23 |
| 34 | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | | |
| 12 | 9 | 3 | 11 | | |

The totals for the rows and columns are given on the left for the rows and above for the columns in the shaded boxes. The single digits which give the totals are used only once e.g. 10 = 1, 2, 3, 4 or 1, 4, 5 or 2, 3, 5 etc but not 2, 2, 6 or 1, 1, 8 or 3, 3, 2

Saturday's solution

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 11 | | 16 | 39 | 28 | | |
| | | 4 | 9 | 7 | 28 | 11 |
| 16 | 32 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| | 16 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| 16 | | 23 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| 24 | 33 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 9 |
| | 25 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| | | 5 | 2 | 3 | | |

SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | | | 9 | | 3 | | 6 |
| 7 | | | | 4 | | | | |
| | | 3 | 2 | | | 8 | | 5 |
| | | 1 | 4 | | | 2 | | 8 |
| 4 | | | | | 2 | | | |
| | 2 | | | 8 | | 9 | | 4 |
| | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | | | | |
| | | | | | | 6 | 8 | 1 |
| | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 | | | | |

Saturday's solution

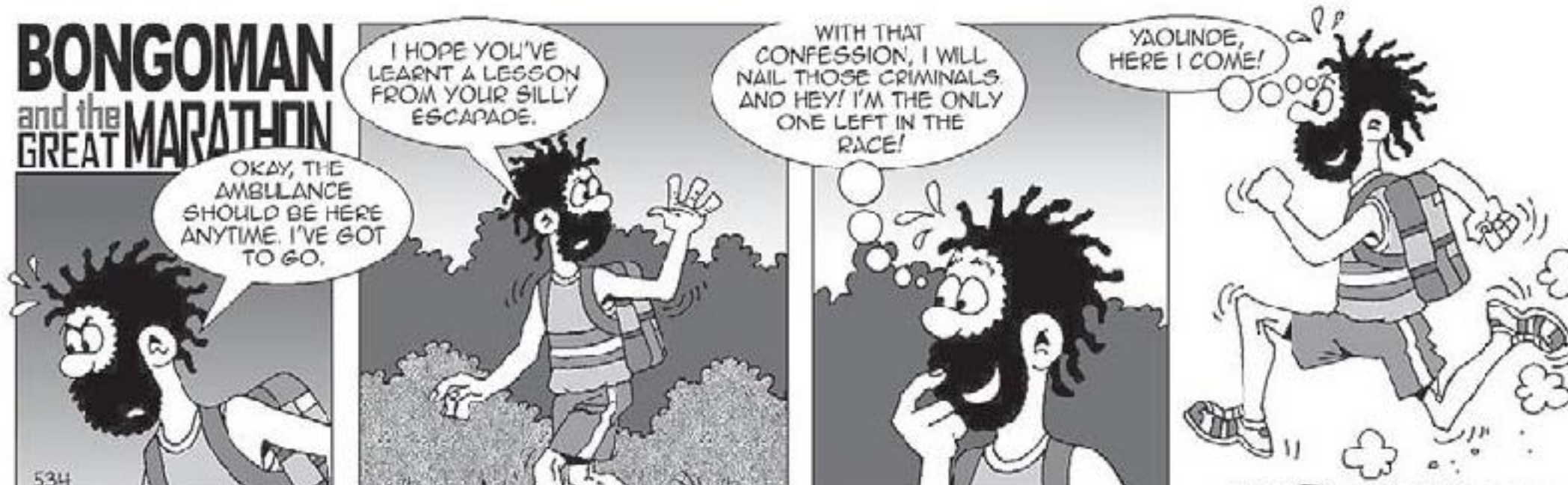
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 7 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| 3 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 7 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 1 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 |

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"By being yourself, you put something wonderful in the world that was not there before."

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Cell: 0719-012870, 0719-012873.

MOMBASA

Kilindini Plaza,

3rd Floor,

Moi Avenue.

Tel: 0719-012836.

NAKURU

Merica Building,

2nd floor,

Kenyatta Avenue.

Tel: 0719-012869, 0719-012855.

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PERSONAL NOTICES

A9/LOST

LOSS of title deed Miti Mingi / Mbaruk block 3/ 13111 Fred Mugunde and Hames Marube

LOST S/wanga/Buchifi/919 Bunyala/Budonga /1245

LOSS of title No.LR 20064/2 (IR 88990/1)

LOST title deed Kajiado/ Kaputiei-North/21027

LOST TITLES

LOST TITLE DEEDS OF MANGU INVESTMENTS LTD.

1. JUJA/ Kiaura (Mang'u) Blk 8/2278.
2. THIKA Municipality Blk 19/1992.
3. THIKA Municipality Blk 19/2324.
4. THIKA Municipality Blk 19/2325.
5. THIKA Municipality Blk 19/2326.

LOST title deed no. Loc.2/Kinyona/680 of Paul Mwangi Mwarungu (Mortgaged to National Bank of Kenya)

LOST both title no. Dundori/Lanet block 11/209 of Paul Mwangi Mwarungu and respective green card

A22/NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL PLANNING AND LAND USE
ACT (No. 13 of 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner(s) of plot number **KISUMU/MANYATTA 'A'/877** situated within the City of Kisumu proposes to **Change its User from Single to Multi-Residential (flats)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kisumu. Individuals, organizations, or institutions, etc. with objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:

**The CECM, Lands, Housing, Physical Planning & Urban Development
County Government of Kisumu
P.O. BOX 2738-40100, Kisumu**



NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ALLOCATE LAND
To The General Public and any other interested Parties

Notice is hereby given that at the expiry of **30 days** from the date of publication of this notice, the National Land Commission (NLC), on behalf of the County Government of Kajiado, intends to regularize tenure of Ngong Township Block 1/34 measuring 0.0760 Ha within Ngong Town in Kajiado County for commercial use (subject to terms, covenants, conditions and reservations which shall be included in the conveyance document) in accordance with section 14 of the Land Act 2012.

Any interested person wishing to raise any comments may do so to the Chairman, NLC within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

In the absence of any valid objections, the allocation shall take place at the Commission's offices in Nairobi (316 Upper Hill Chambers, 2nd Ngong Avenue) as from 2.30pm on the next working day following the expiry of this notice.

The terms of allocation are available at the Commission's offices in Nairobi and the office of the NLC County Coordinator in Kajiado. The land is planned and surveyed, and ownership details may be inspected at the offices of the CECM in charge of Lands, Kajiado County, Director of Surveys in Nairobi and NLC offices during working hours.

Gershom Otachi Bw'Omama
Gershom Otachi Bw'Omama, EBS
CHAIRPERSON

Form PLUPA/DC/3 (r.3(3)(i))

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE
PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019
NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of Plot No. 2787/1563 located in Laikipia County, proposes to change its use from **Residential to Religious** subject to approval by the County Government of Laikipia. Individuals, institutions, members of the public with comments or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**The County Executive Committee
Member in Charge of Infrastructure
Lands, Housing, Energy and Physical Planning
County Government of Laikipia
P.O BOX 1271-10400, Nanyuki.**
Name of the Registered Planner: Gituani Samuel Mburu
Reg. No: 0247

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (r.3(3)(i))

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING
ACT (No. 13 of 2019)
NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED
CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of Plot LR No. Tetu/Muthuani (Gitathini)/2592 Located in Gitathini area, proposes to change use from Agricultural to Residential (Multi-dwelling) Use subject to approval by the County Government of Nyeri. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**The County Executive Committee Member – Lands,
Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development.
County Government of Nyeri.
P.O. Box 1112 – 10100, Nyeri.**
Name of the Registered Planner: John M. Maina Reg.
No PP 0163

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING
ACT (2019)
CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of Plot No. **NAIROBI/BLOCK 91/400** located along UN CRESCENT- GIGIRI road, Nairobi County, intends to change the use of the land from **Residential to Commercial (Professional media offices)** subject to approval by the Nairobi City County. Individuals, Organizations, Institutions etc with objections or comments should forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice to:

**CECM – Urban Planning, Lands and Housing,
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY,
P.O BOX 30075 – 00100,
NAIROBI.**
Name of registered planner: Swai Felix.K.
(RPP 0319)

PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM PLUPA/DC/3
Physical & Land use
Planning Act (No.13 of 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner (s) of the property **L.R No. 14/68** Located along Kindaruma Road, Kilimanjaro proposes to change of user of the property from **Residential to Commercial (Offices & Shops)** Subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Any individuals, organisations, Institutions etc with comments or objections are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

**The CECM – Urban Planning, Lands and Housing,
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100
Nairobi.**

Name of the Registered Planner: John Thomas Ngugi Mbuu Reg. No. PP0284

PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM PLUPA/DC/3
Physical & Land use
Planning Act (No.13 of 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner (s) of the property L.R No. **Nairobi Block 34/20** Located Off Parklands Road, Parklands proposes to change of user of the property from **Single Dwelling to Commercial cum Residential (Apartments)** Subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Any individuals, organisations, Institutions etc with comments or objections are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

**The CECM – Urban Planning, Lands and Housing,
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100
Nairobi.**

Name of the Registered Planner: John Thomas Ngugi Mbuu Reg. No. PP0284

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Form PLUPA/DC 2

**The Physical and Land Use Planning Act; (No. 13 of 2019),
Notification for the Proposed Amalgamation, Subdivision & Excision of Roads**

The Registered Owners of land parcels **L.R. No's: 28586** (Orig. No.: 3860) & **28587** (Orig. No.: 3859) served by **Peponi Road, Westlands/Waiyaki Way - Red Hill Link Road & Ngecha Road at Kitisuru area in the Nairobi City County** and located at GPS / UTM Coordinates: 1°13'56.6"S 36°46'39.4"E / -1.232400, 36.777600 & 1°13'59.5"S 36°46'48.0"E / -1.233200, 36.780000 respectively, **propose to Amalgamate for purposes of Subdivision & Excision of Roads** (Peponi Road, Westlands/Waiyaki Way - Red Hill Link Road & Ngecha Road) that pass **through the land parcels** subject to approval by the Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the Public, etc. with Comments and or Objections should forward them in writing within 14 days from the date of this notice to:

**The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) –
Built Environment & Urban Planning, Nairobi City County,
P.O. Box 30075-00100, Nairobi**
The Registered Physical Planner making the Application is **Titus M. Anunda (Mr.); PPRB Reg. No.: PP.0139**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019)
NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED
CHANGE OF USE**

The registered owner of Plot Title No. **Ndumberi/Ndumberi/2503** located off Boma Road in Kangoya area, Kiambu Sub County, Kiambu County, proposes to **Change its use** from **Agricultural to Residential Multi Dwelling Units (Flats)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kiambu.

Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and or objection(s) to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to: –

**THE CECM-LANDS, HOUSING AND PHYSICAL PLANNING
KIAMBU COUNTY GOVERNMENT
P.O. BOX 2344-00900,
KIAMBU**

Name Of Registered Planner; Silas Mbaabu Gichuru Reg. No. 0249

JABRI AUCTIONEERS

TRANSCHEM HOUSE 2nd FLOOR NYAHURURU RIGHT WING DOOR NO 23 ROOM 3 TEL: 0725946886

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our clients we shall sell the under mentioned repossessed motor vehicles by **PUBLIC AUCTION ON 22nd TUESDAY APRIL 2025 AT 11.00A.M AT NYAHURURU AUCTION YARD.**

| NO | M/V REG NO | MAKE/MODEL | YARD |
|----|------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | KDQ 901E | HONDA VEZEL | NYAHURURU STORAGE YARD |
| 2 | KCH 446R | TOYOTA HIACE | JAGWOOD STORAGE YARD KISUMU |
| 3 | KBV 154L | TOYOTA HIACE | PAMBO STORAGE YARD KISUMU |
| 4 | KCH 346X | ISUZU, PICK-UP | NYAHURURU STORAGE YARD |

CONDITION OF SALE

1. Sale is subject to reasonable reserve price
2. The vehicles can be viewed before sale
3. Cash at the fall of the hammer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 0725946886



Onyango & Tarus
— ADVOCATES —

A: The Bloom, 7th floor, KMA Centre,
Upper Hill, Nairobi, Kenya.

P: 29107/G PO, 00100

We are inviting offers from interested parties for the purchase of motor vehicles as listed below by way of private treaty.

RECEIVING OFFICE RS CLOSE AT 12 NOON TUESDAY, (22nd APRIL 2025)

| REG No. | TO BE VIEWED AT | MAKE | YoM | RESERVE PRICE |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|
| 1 | KDK528S Capital Diamond - Ruiru | Honda Crv 2.0 R20A Rm | 2015 | 2 432 000 |
| 2 | KCK021C Integra Yard - Kitegela | Isuzu Fvz23S With Body | 2016 | 4 221 000 |
| 3 | KCB940M Leakeys Storage - Industrial Area | Isuzu Nkr 66L Semi-Luxury | 2014 | 1 075 000 |
| 4 | KCM039J Nicky Automax - Kitul | Mitsubishi Fh215 | 2016 | 2 231 000 |
| 5 | KDN802U Leakeys Storage - Industrial Area | Mitsubishi Fuso Fba20 | 2016 | 1 985 000 |
| 6 | KDS625K Eazy Storage Yard- Ruiru | Nissan Dayz | 2017 | 684 000 |
| 7 | KAK173B Jaline Yard- Kakamega | Nissan Primera | 1998 | 191 000 |
| 8 | KCF604R Homeboys Auto Garage & Storage Yard - Voi | Nissan Vanette Automatic | 2008 | 299 000 |
| 9 | KCS528J Eazy Storage Yard- Ruiru | Subaru Legacy 2.5 Br9 Auto Cvt | 2011 | 949 000 |
| 10 | KBS760R Eazy Storage Yard- Ruiru | Toyota Kluger 2.4 4Wd | 2006 | 569 000 |
| 11 | KBJ588P Blackbird Storage & Auction Yard - Kisumu | Toyota Premio Zxt240 | 2004 | 445 000 |
| 12 | KDN489H Cismara Yard - Narok | Toyota Succeed 1.5 | 2016 | 859 000 |
| 13 | KBN498D Eazy Ruiru Yard | Toyota Allion | 2003 | 319 000 |
| 14 | KAX921Z Jogoo Road Motors | Nissan Caravan Van | 2001 | 262 000 |
| 15 | KBF709E Eazy Ruiru Yard | Toyota Rav4 ZSA | 2002 | 406 000 |
| 16 | KCC769K Eazy Ruiru Yard | Toyota Land Cruiser KZJ | 2008 | 1 474 000 |
| 17 | KBP657U Integra Yard | Toyota Probox | 2005 | 275 000 |
| 18 | KDJ824V Eazy Ruiru Yard | Toyota Succeed | 2017 | 822 000 |
| 19 | KBL951J Jogoo Road Motors | Nissan Caravan Van | 2002 | 220 000 |
| 20 | KDG726M Wachenya Yard | Toyota Passo | 2014 | 538 000 |
| 21 | KCD950S Eazy Ruiru Yard | Mercedes C230 | 2008 | 660 000 |
| 22 | KCA545B Integra Yard | Toyota Vitz | 2007 | 307 000 |
| 23 | KCC887J Eldoret Supermax | Suzuki Alto | 2008 | 217 000 |
| 24 | KDA100U Roth Storage, Machakos | Peugeot 202 | 2013 | 960 000 |

Vehicles are sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS".
Offers should be submitted on www.eezycars.co.ke, not later than 22nd April 2025.
For any assistance please contact: 0783 616458 or 0709 335005 alternatively,
send an email to: sales@eezycars.co.ke.

SUPREME VIEW AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Debt Collection, Property Estate Agents,
Realization of Charged Securities, Private Investigators & Commission Agents.

NAKURU OFFICE
Shauri Building Rm. No. 6
Along NKR-NRB Highway
Next to KBL Depot
P.O. Box 17731-20100 NKR
Tel: 0724 366 309
Email: skarsen3@gmail.com

THIKA OFFICE
Postical Place, Uthuru Street
Near December Hotel
2nd Floor Rm. No 3B
Box 1899/Thika
Tel: 0724 366 309/
0732 240 247

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principals, we shall sell by Public Auction the undermentioned M/Vehicle on Tuesday 22nd April 2025 starting at 10:30 AM, at Motor Tech Solutions & Garage Bunyala road.

FINANCIER – VS – ALICE MWIHAKI NGUGI.

| M/V Reg No. | Make and model | Condition |
|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| KDQ 387Q | TOYOTA PROBOX | WITHOUT GEAR BOX |

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The vehicle is being sold on "as is where is" basis
2. Cash at the fall of the hammer
3. The highest bidder shall be declared Purchaser subject to a reasonable reserve price.
4. Auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving reasons

RESTORERS CONSULT AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Court Brokers, Repossessors, Debt Collectors, Private Investigators & Commission Agents
GACHERU NEEMA HOUSE, 2nd Floor, Suite 21, GITHUNGURI Rd, RUIRU,
P.O. BOX 1375-00232, RUIRU Cell: 0722 214 349/0707 488 009 E-Mail: restorersrestorers20@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

UNDER INSTRUCTION RECEIVED FROM OUR PRINCIPLE WE SHALL SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION THE UNDER MENTIONED PROPERTIES AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ON FRIDAY 9TH MAY 2025 AT KARURUMO SHOPPING CENTRE EMBU COUNTY.

All that parcel of land known **L.R.NO.KYENI/KIGUMO/7325** in Karurumo Area, approximately 2.9 Kilometers off Embu-Ishara Road branching off the road at Karurumo Trading Center, approximately 34.0 Kilometers from Embu Town near CCM Kaveti Primary School and Karurumo Trading Center. The properties measures 0.20HA (zero point twenty Hectares) or thereabout. At time of inspection parcel of land was undeveloped and unoccupied. The property is registered in the name of **KELVIN MUGONDERI**

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All intending purchaser(s) are requested to view the property and verify the details for themselves as there are not warranted by the Auctioneers or our clients.
2. A deposit of 25% must be paid at the fall of the hammer and payment of the same done via cash transfer, bank cheque or RTGS.
3. The balance of the purchase price to be paid **within a period of thirty (30) days** as from the date of purchase/sale. Sale is subject to a Reserve price and Land Control Board Consent (where applicable).
4. All interested purchasers are advised to obtain other detailed conditions of sale at our offices.

ALL ARE WELCOME**NYALUOYO AUCTIONEERS**

Official court Brokers, Bailiffs, Valuers, Repossessors & Auctioneers.
P.O. Box 648-40100, Kisumu, Tel: 022161934/0722329463 Kisumu-Busia Road, Otanglo.
Nairobi Office, High View Lane, off Ridge Ways Road, P. o Box 17752-00100, Nairobi.
Email: nyaauction@yahoo.com Webmail: info@nyaluoyoactioneers.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed and in exercise of the chargees statutory power of sale, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned properties with all the improvements thereon:

1. PRIME RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN BUNGOMA COUNTY ON 13TH MAY 2025 OUTSIDE HUDUMA CENTRE AT 11.30 AM.
All that parcel of land known as **EAST BUKUSU/SOUTH KANDUYI/20297**. Registered in the name of **JAMES OSAMBO OKHELO** of P.O. BOX 472-50200 BUNGOMA and measuring **0.05HA (0.074 Acres)**. The property is situated within the Kakoyi area of Bungoma Town. Access from Bungoma Town Centre is via Mumias-Bungoma road up to Mjini junction 400m past Total Energies turn right at the junction and proceed for about 450m and turn right for another 450m. Take a left at the junction and proceed for about 50m before taking another left turn proceed for about 100m and turn left at check point Butchery. The subject is located 250m away on your right.

GPS Coordinates: 0.554861° 34.547290°

DEVELOPMENTS: Residential block 1 & 2.

All that parcel of land known as **E.BUKUSU/S.KANDUYI/13384**. Registered in the name of **ZACHARY FUKWO SIRANDULA** of P.O. BOX 1906-50200 BUNGOMA and measuring **0.07HA (0.1738 Acres)**. The property is located along an unnamed lane about 100m off and to the North of Sikata road with the turn off being about 300m off and to the East of Bungoma-Mumias road within Kanduyi area of Bungoma Town in Bungoma County.

DEVELOPMENTS: A Double-Storeyed Residential House and two other outbuildings.

2. PRIME COMMERCIAL CUM RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN MWIRA AREA, MATUNGU KAKAMEGA COUNTY ON 14TH MAY 2025 OUTSIDE KCB BANK MUMIAS BRANCH, AT 11:30 AM.

All that parcel of land known as **NORTH /WANGA/M AYONU/2196**. Registered in the name of **HASSAN OKERE MAKOKHA** of P.O. BOX 245, MUMIAS and measuring **0.04HA (0.099 Acres)**. The property is situated in Mwira Area of Matungu, Kakamega County. It lies approximately 4 Kilometers off Mumias-Busia road branching at Matungu SDA Primary School past Eshikula Shopping centre and about 350 Metres to the Northeast of Mwira Secondary School.

GPS Coordinates: 0°21'58.2"N 34°27'10.3"E

DEVELOPMENTS: An incomplete residential Bungalow, incomplete shops block and several Semi-permanent dwelling structures.

3. PRIME RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN NYAMAGA AREA KISII COUNTY ON 15TH MAY 2025, OUTSIDE ECO BANK KISII AT 11:30 AM.

All that parcel of land known as **NYARIBARI CHACHE/B/B/BOBURI/10542**. Registered in the name of **TOM OTWOMA OMOSA** of P.O. BOX 2623 & 2720-40200, KISII and measuring **0.042HA (0.1038 Acres)**. The subject property identifiable as Sovereign Apartments is situated within Nyamaga area in Kisii County. It lies 250 meters West of Nyamaga Primary School and Kisii University football pitch, 800 meters off and due Southeast of Kisii-Kilgories road, 2.7 Kilometers Southeast of Kisii Town's bus stage.

GPS Coordinates: 0°41'35.9"S 34°46'44.0"E

DEVELOPMENTS: A four-storey residential block with a lower ground floor, two (2No) tank towers at top & a caretaker's house abutting to it.

TERMS OF SALE

1. All interested purchasers are requested to view the properties and verify the details for themselves, as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer, the Advocate or the Charge.
2. A deposit of 25% must be paid in **CASH OR BANKERS CHEQUE** at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid within 30 days.
3. Sale is subject to reserve price; the auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving reasons for doing so.

Website: www.nyaluoyoactioneers.com

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES**L1/PROPERTIES FOR SALE**

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Tel: 2245493 / 2216510 Cell: 0724 539 419 / 0722 768302 / 0722 563 528

Email: keysian2009@yahoo.com/keysianauct@gmail.com

Website: www.keysianauctioneers.com

C.P.F House, 3rd Floor, Haile Selassie Avenue, P.O.Box 2788-00200, Nairobi, Kenya

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals, the chargees, in exercise of their statutory power of sale, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned properties and all the improvements erected thereon.

1. SALE ON THURSDAY 15TH MAY, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE KISII POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO: WANJARE/BOKEIRE/4157 – BOKEIRE, SUNEKA AREA, KISII COUNTY** in the name of **GEOFFREY NYAKOE ATANDI**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.24 Ha and is situated approximately 700 Meters off and to the left of Suneka – Asumbi road deviating opposite Suneka Airstrip and is 1.5 Kms West of Suneka Market, Bokeire Area, Suneka, Kisii County. The plot is developed with a 3 bedroomed residential house and an ablution block. Mains electricity is connected to the property while water is obtained from a nearby river. Foul drainage is into a pit latrine.

2. SALE ON FRIDAY 16TH MAY, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE BUNGOMA POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO: E.BUKUSU/S.KANDUYI/20797 PAMUS AREA – BUNGOMA COUNTY** in the name of **LEONARD GOWANS JUMA**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.05 Ha or 0.1236 Acres and is situated approximately 480 Meters East of Pamus Teachers Training College and 600 Meters off Bungoma – Mumias road in Pamus Area, Bungoma County. The plot is developed with a commercial building and an extension comprising of one bedroomed unit and double room unit. Mains electricity and water services are connected to the property.

3. SALE ON FRIDAY 2ND MAY, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE NYAMIRA POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO: WEST MUGIRANGO/SIAMANI/3811 NYAMIRA, OFF TIMI ROAD, NYAMIRA COUNTY** in the name of **CAROLINE NYAKERARIO RIKI**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.1 Ha or 0.247 Acres and is located 240 Meters due North – east of Alimo Nyamira Academy of Nyamira S.D.A Church and about 1.0 km off Nyamira Kebirigo road within outskirts of Nyamira town off Timi road. Erected on the plot is a 3 bedroomed residential bungalow house, an ablution block and semi-permanent structures. Mains electricity and water services are connected to the subject property. Foul drainage is to a pit latrine. Water is supplemented by a hand dug well sunk within the property.

4. SALE ON WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE BONDO POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO. SIAYA/NYANGOMA/3524, UYAWI AREA, SIAYA COUNTY** in the name of **JAMES HEZEKIAH ADHOLA AMOLO**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.18 Ha or 0.4448 Acres and is situated approximately 300 Meters off the Olago Beach – Liunda Beach murram road and approximately 800 Meters to the South of South Sakwa Water Plant in Uyawi area of Siaya County. The property is vacant. Foul drainage will be to a pit latrine

5. SALE ON FRIDAY 2ND MAY, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE NYAMIRA POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO: WEST MUGIRANGO/NYAMAIYA/3324, NYAMIRA TOWN** in the name of **GIDEON SERETI ONGERI**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.10 Ha and is situated about 60M behind Snoops Traders Limited, near Nyabite S.D.A Church just before Egesieri Primary School within Nyabite Shopping Center, Nyamira Town. Erected on the plot is a double storey 6 bedroomed (3 ensuite) maisonette. Mains electricity from Kenya Power & Lighting Company Limited is connected. Water is obtained from catchment of rainwater collecting into a 3000 liter plastic water tank. Drainage is to a pit latrine of brick construction.

6. SALE ON FRIDAY 2ND MAY, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M OUTSIDE ELDORET POST OFFICE.

All that property known as **TITLE NO. PIONEER/NGERIA BLOCK 1 (EATEC)/11435 – OASIS AREA, ELDORET TOWN OUTSKIRTS, UASIN GISHU COUNTY** in the name of **YOLANDA NEKESA**. It is a freehold interest measuring 0.100 Ha and is situated approximately 450 Meters North – West of SDA Oasis Church, about 900 Meters South – West of Eldoret Bible College and 9 Kilometers South – West of Eldoret Town Center in Oasis Area, Eldoret Town Outskirts, Uasin Gishu County. The plot is vacant.

7. SALE ON WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M IN OUR OFFICES AT CPF HOUSE 3RD FLOOR ALONG HAISELASIE AVENUE NAIROBI.

All that property known as **TITLE NO: KAJIADO/EWUASO KEDONG/2780, NASERA AREA, OFF SAIKERI – ILKILORIT – EWUASO ROAD, KAJIADO COUNTY** in the name of **JOHN OLE TIYIA**. It is a freehold interest measuring 8.12 Ha and lies about 500 Meters off to the left of Ewuaso – Ilkilorit – Saikeri murram surfaced road deviating about 3.7 Kilometers past Oling'arau Primary School in Nasera area, Kajiado North Sub – County, Kajiado County. The plot is vacant. Mains electricity and water services are available for connection. Foul drainage would be into a pit latrine/septic tank.

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. All interested bidders are requested to view the property and verify the details for Themselves as the auctioneers or the chargees do not warrant these.
2. Interested bidders must deposit **Kshs. 300,000.00** for Property **No. 1 & 3**, **Kshs. 200,000.00** for Property **No. 2, 5 & 6**, **Kshs. 100,000.00** for Property **No. 7** and **Kshs. 50,000.00** for Property in **No. 4** in **CASH OR BANKERS CHEQUE** with the auctioneer before being allowed to bid.
3. Sale is subject to a reserve price, and the auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving any reasons for doing so.
4. Interested bidders are requested to view the property between 10.00 am and 5.00pm and our office will assist the bidders to point out the property subject to prior arrangement.
5. **25%** of the purchase price must be paid to the auctioneer at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid in **90 days** for Property **No. 4** to the chargees.
6. **10%** of the purchase price must be paid to the auctioneer at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid in **90 days** for Property **No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7** to the chargees.

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Muranga Road
Opposite Guru Nanak Hospital

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Fax: 020-2699511
Email: iauctioneers@yahoo.com
www.idealauktion.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our principals, the chargee, in exercise of their statutory power of sale, we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned parcels of land and all the improvements erected thereon:

ON WEDNESDAY, 30TH APRIL, 2025 FROM 11:00 AM IN OUR OFFICES AT PANGANI AUCTION CENTRE, ALONG MURANGA ROAD, OPPOSITE GURU NANAK HOSPITAL

All that parcel of land known as **LR No. 13418/188** – Mihango area, Njiru Ward, Kasarani Constituency, Nairobi County.

It is approximately 2.4 Kilometers off the Eastern Bypass and 52 KM from Nairobi City. Access to the property is off the Eastern Bypass via a left turn at Quickmart onto the tarmac surfaced Kibiku Road and proceeding 1 KM before making another left turn onto an unnamed tarmac surfaced road and proceeding for approximately 1.4 KM to the subject property. GPS Coordinates are: **-1.263095, 36.956255**. The plot measures 0.0264 of a hectare or 0.0652 of an acre approximately, and its interest is Leasehold. The property is developed with a Four No. bedroom master ensuite maisonette.

All that parcel of land known as **Kajiado/Kitengela/76559** – Bible College Estate, Sifa Farm Area, Kitengela Ward, Kajiado East Constituency, Kajiado County. It is located approximately 6 KM off Nairobi-Namanga Road and 38 KM from Nairobi City Centre. Access to the property is off the Nairobi-Namanga Road via Old Namanga Road and taking a right turn at the Sensei Institute of Technology signage onto an unnamed motorable earthen surfaced road and proceeding for approximately 4 KM to Bible College Estate. The subject property is located approximately 520 M from the Estate's main entrance gate. GPS Coordinates are: **-1.466435, 36.922672**. The plot measures 0.04 of a hectare or 0.0988 of an acre approximately, and its interest is Freehold. The plot is vacant and undeveloped.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. All interested purchasers are advised to view the property and verify the details for themselves as these are not warranted by the auctioneer or the chargee.
2. Interested Bidders must pay a refundable deposit of Ksh.100, 000 in order to obtain a bidding number.
3. The highest bidder must pay a deposit of 25% of the purchase price immediately to the auctioneer at the fall of the hammer either in **BANKER'S CHEQUE** or **R.T.G.S** and the balance within **Ninety (90)** days from the date of the auction to the chargee.
4. The sale is subject to a reserve price and all land control board consent where applicable.

VINTAGE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers/ Repossessors/ Debt Collectors/ Court Process Servers
Delamere Flats, Block E, Room 26,
Millimani Road, Opposite Integrity Centre

P.O. Box 105190-00101, Nairobi Tel: 0703 381 005 / 0714 588 332
Email: vintageauction10@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

1. Under instructions received from The Chief Magistrate's Court at Machakos we shall sell the below mentioned motor vehicle which is held at **VALUERS YARD ENTERPRISES** on **22nd April 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** at our above mentioned office.

MCCC NO.E244 OF 2024 – MACHAKOS

LUCY VAATI –VS-DIRECTLINE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
M/V REG NO. KDL 173R-ISUZU DMAX

2. Under instructions received from The Senior Principal Magistrate's Court at Runyenjes we shall sell the below mentioned motor vehicle which is held at **VALUERS YARD ENTERPRISES** on **22nd April 2025 at 11:00 a.m.** at our above mentioned office.

SPMC NO. E010 OF 2024 – RUNYENJES

ELIJAH NYAKUNDI –VS-MERU NISSAN COOPERATIVE SAVING AND CREDIT SOCIETY & DIRECTLINE COMPANY LIMITED.
M/V REG NO. KDL 173R –ISUZU DMAX.

3. Under instructions received from The Chief Magistrate's Court at Nairobi Millimani Law Court we shall sell the below mentioned motor vehicle which is held at **VALUERS YARD ENTERPRISES** on **22nd April 2025 at 12:00 P.m.** at our above mentioned office.

CMCC E8996 OF 2021 – MILIMANI

JOYCE NJOKI GITARI & CHRISTINE WAMBUI WANJA-VS- JANE WANJIRU MWANGI & STEPHEN GITONGA MBUGUA
M/V REG NO. KCN 096B –ISUZU FRR

CONDITIONS ON SALE

1. The motor vehicles will be sold "ON-AS-IS-WHERE-IS-BASIS."
11. All interested purchasers are required to view and verify the details and particulars of the motor vehicles for themselves as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer.
111. All interested purchasers will be required to make a refundable deposit of Kshs. 50,000/= by bankers cheque to obtain a bidding number.
- IV. On a successful bid, a deposit of 25% must be paid in **CASH** or **BANKERS CHEQUE** at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid within 7 DAYS and 90 days for the property from the date of sale.
- V. The sale is subject to reserve price.
- VI. The Auctioneer reserve the right to reject any bid without giving reason for doing so.

ALL ARE WELCOME.



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Chege House – Opp. Bonitana Hotel, 2nd Floor Room 24, Tom Mboya Street
Email: jogedahagencies@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under the instructions received from our principals, the chargee in exercise of their statutory power of sale, we shall sell by **PUBLIC AUCTION** the under mentioned pieces of land.

1. ON FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 2025 at KAKAMEGA TOWNSHIP OUTSIDE POST OFFICE AT 11:00A.M.
All that piece of land known as **BUTSOTSO/SHIKOTI/21372 – KAKAMEGA COUNTY** registered in the name of **ISAIAH CHIVUKOSIA MURENDE G/T: SHINYALU FARMERS CENTRE**. The plot extends approximately to 0.044 of a hectare or 0.109 acres approximately. The property is situated within the Shiyunzu area in the outskirts of Kakamega Town Centre, Kakamega County. It lies approximately 300 metres due West of Shiyunzu Primary School and about 7 kilometres due West of Kakamega Town. The GPS coordinates to a point within the subject property are 0°1'28.90"N, 34°4'52.44"E. Developed on the plot is a single storey residential building and an ablution block.

2. ON FRIDAY 2ND MAY 2025 in THE OFFICE OF BENSURE AUCTIONEERS, KIGIO PLAZA 3RD FLOOR, SUITE 355 – THIKA at 11:00a.m.

All that piece of land known as **THIKA MUNICIPALITY BLOCK 21/480, JERUSALEM AREA, HAPPY VALLEY ESTATE OFF GARISSA ROAD THIKA TOWN SUB COUNTY – KIAMBU COUNTY** registered in the name of **SHELMITH NIERI MAINA**. The plot measurements is 0.0800ha i.e. 0.20acres or thereabout. The property is located within an area locally identifiable as "Jerusalem Area" in the greater Happy Valley Estate, Off Garissa Road in Thika Town Sub-County in Kiambu County. The property lies North of PCEA Emmanuel Church Happy Valley and South-East of Christian Church. It can be accessed by branching off Garissa Road at the junction to Kamagambo Road with the signpost to St. Joseph Mukasa Catholic Church. The subject property is situated approximately 3 kilometres from the said junction. The subject property GPS coordinates are -1.082320, 37.156538. The property is devoid of any structural improvements and tenures is freehold.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All interested purchasers are required to view and verify the details of the properties for themselves as these are not warranted by the auctioneer nor our client.
2. A deposit of 25% must be paid in cash or bankers cheque at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid within 90 days to the chargee.
3. The sale is subject to reserve price and the applicable to land control board consent.



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Popo Road, Off Mombasa Road,
Health advantage Kenya limited, P.O. Box 73257-00200 Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: 0724253398, 0735013046, Email: info@nema.go.ke, Website: www.nema.go.ke

RE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF CHEPTULI MEDICAL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE INCINERATOR AT BISUNU VILLAGE, ON PLOT. L.R. NO. KAKAMEGA/MALAVA/500 KAKAMEGA COUNTY.

Pursuant to Section 59 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act 1999, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The proponent, **Health Advantage Kenya Limited**, intends to mount a medical and hazardous waste management incinerator. The proposed integrated solid waste management project shall consist of the following components: primary collection of Medical and Hazardous Waste (MHW), Transportation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), and Processing/Disposal of MSW. The proposed project is located on plot **L.R. No. Kakamega/Malava/500 Kakamega County**. The following are the anticipated impacts and proposed mitigation measures:-

| Impacts | Proposed mitigation measures |
|---|---|
| Soil Erosion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide soil erosion control measures i.e. suppress open surfaces with water or use of soil erosion control structures on soil-erosion-prone areas within the site. • Avoid unnecessary excavations and other soil disturbances that can predispose it to the agents of erosion. • Avoid unnecessary movement of soil materials from the site. • Re-surface open areas on completion of the project and introduce appropriate vegetation. |
| Loss of Vegetation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only area earmarked for development should be cleared. • Plant trees, shrubs and flowers on remaining open spaces. |
| Air pollution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All trucks and any other mode of hauling soil sand and other loose materials to and from the site should be covered. • Sprinkling of water on dry soils in excavated areas, pavements • Use of clean fuels for machines and equipment |
| Noise pollution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with EMCA Noise Pollution & Excessive Vibration Regulations, 2009 • Carryout regular monitoring of noise levels during construction phase • Construction work to be confined to between 8am to 5pm helmets, earmuffs, and dust mask which will always be used when operating within the site area |
| Occupational Safety & Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All workers and visitors on site to use mandatory protective gear. • Unattended entry to the project site to be restricted • Use of efficient and well-maintained machines to lift and transfer materials • Removal of all dangerous materials that may pose a threat such as metal bars, wires, glass, and broken equipment. • Availing of fully equipped first aid kits to help address emergencies. • Warning signs to all users and visitors be placed at appropriate places • Educate construction workers and tenants on health and safety risks and their prevention |
| Public health, occupational health and safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train staff/workers on occupational health and safety. • Provide full protective gear & workers' compensation cover in addition to the right tools and operational instructions • Design of sewerage system should be as provided in the plans and should be constructed to approved size and design standard and of approved Materials • avoid undesirable substandard, hazardous or unauthorized materials during construction & maintenance |
| Contribution to Climate Change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in carbon offset projects (e.g., tree planting, renewable energy initiatives) to neutralize the emissions generated. • Use of Flue Gas Treatment Systems like scrubbers and filters to remove harmful pollutants before the exhaust gases are released into the atmosphere. |
| Insecurity and social impacts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of security guards, CCTV cameras, security lights and other security apparatus during the entire project cycle. • Adhere to work timings in line with the NEMA licensing conditions. |
| Increased water usage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An alternative water source shall be provided. • Management of water usage. Avoid unnecessary wastage. • Recycling of water at the mounting phase where possible. • Make use of roof catchments to provide water i.e. for general purpose use |
| Increased generation of waste | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Pit Latrine within the site • Build construction workers capacity on sanitation and hygiene practices • segregation of waste at the source during the project cycle. • Ensure proper disposal of oils during servicing • Proper handling and storage of oil products |

1. Principal Secretary
State Department for Environment and Climate Change,
Ministry of Environment
Climate Change and Forestry,
NHIF Building, 12th Floor,
Ragati Road, Upper Hill
P.O. Box 30126-00100 NAIROBI

2. Director General
National Environment and Management Authority (NEMA),
Popo Road, off Mombasa Road
P.O. Box 67639-00200, NAIROBI

3. County Director of Environment, KAKAMEGA COUNTY.

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded at www.nema.go.ke NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA to assist the Authority in the decision making process for this project. Kindly quote ref. No. NEMA/EIA/5/2/2314 Comments can also be e-mailed to info@nema.go.ke

DIRECTOR GENERAL

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VIEWLINE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, (Debt Collectors & Commission Agents)

NAIROBI OFFICE
Windsor House, 4th floor, University Way,
P.O. Box 552 - 00600 Nairobi
Tel: 020 2670605 / 0763239340
Email: viewlineauctioneers@yahoo.com

MERU OFFICE
King'ora Building, 2nd floor, Mboya Street
P.O. Box 3131 - 60200, Meru
Tel: 064 3130154/ 0711 239 340
Fax: 064 3132844

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our clients the chargees we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned properties together with buildings and improvements standing and erected thereon.

ON TUESDAY 29TH APRIL 2025 AT 11:00A.M OUTSIDE POST OFFICE NANYUKI TOWN

1. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN MIRERA AREA LAIKIPIA COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. NANYUKI MARURA BLOCK 11/9048 (SWEETWATERS)** registered in the name of **ALLAN MAINA KURIA** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 7292-00200 NAIROBI**. The property is situated in Mirera Area in Nanyuki, Laikipia Central Sub-County. It measures approximately **0.4050HA**. There are no structural developments on the parcel. GPS Coordinates are Latitudes: 0°0'103.47"S Longitudes: 37°0'24.96"E

2. RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN MATANYA AREA LAIKIPIA COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. TIGITHI /MATANYA BLOCK 3/2855 (MATANYA CENTRE)** registered in the name of **ELIUD WATHAKA MUTURI T/A FASTLINKS SERVICES** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 01-10400 NANYUKI**. The property is situated in Matanya area, Nanyuki, Laikipia County, approximately 1.1 kms due South East of Matanya AIPCEA Church, approximately 1km from Matanya Trading Centre and approximately 700 metres due South East of St Pauls Matanya Catholic Parish. It measures approximately **0.0455HA**. Developments comprises of a six-bedroom maisonette and an external washroom. GPS Coordinates are Latitudes: 0°0'408.9"S Longitudes: 36°57'44.4"E

ON WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL 2025 AT 11.00 A.M OUTSIDE POST OFFICE NKUBU TOWN

3. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN IGOJI AREA MERU COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. IGOJI/ KIANJOGU / 497** registered in the name of **PHINEAS MUGAMBI GICHURU** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 120-60202 NKUBU**. The property is located within Ngaintethia village, Kianjogu area, Imenti South Constituency approximately 100 metres West off Kinoro -Igoji tarmac road, about 1.8km East of Kinoro Tea Factory and 2.4km East of Kinoro market. It measures approximately **0.8 HA**. Development comprises of incomplete residential block and temporary and semi-permanent structures. The GPS co-ordinates are 0°17' 83" 12" S 37°35' 64.70" 47" E.

ON TUESDAY 6TH MAY 2025 AT 11.00 A.M AT OUR NAIROBI OFFICE

4. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN IL-POLOSAT AREA, KAJIADO COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. KAJIADO/KAPUTIEI-NORTH/47469** registered in the name of **HANNAH WATHIRA NJENGA** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 6376-00300 NAIROBI**. The property is in Il-Polosat Area of Konza, Kajiado East Constituency. It is situated approx. 135 Metres to the South of **Diamond Property Merchants (Konza Greens Land)** 1.40 Kilometres off and the left of **Masunku Road**, 3.50 Kilometres from the junction of the said road and Konza-Isinyi murram surfaced road at the S.G.R Line Crossing Bridge an about 9.0 Kilometres to the North West of **Konza Trading Centre**. It measures approximately **0.7400HA**. GPS Co-ordinates are Latitudes: 1°43' 52.7" S Longitudes: 37°05' 42.7" E.

5. RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN MULBERRY NEST KIMBO, KIAMBU COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. RUIRU/RUIRU EAST BLOCK 2/4880** registered in the name of **PETER GACHUHI KAHITI** as leasehold interest of **P.O. BOX 72460-00200 NAIROBI**. The property is situated within Mulberry Nest estate at about 900m on ones right off Nairobi-Thika superhighway along Park Avenue and within Ruiru Toll area. It identifies as **Maisonette No.12** within the said estate. (A route map to the property, its location and site is attached herewith for ease of locational reference. The property falls on GPS Co-ordinates are S 01°08'14.20" E 36°59'00.30". Development is a four bedroomed Maisonettes. It measures **109.85M²**

6. RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN KIAMORO AREA, NAKURU COUNTY.
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. GILGIL/GILGIL BLOCK 1/39418 & 39419** registered in the name of **EDWARD MBUGUA GATHO** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 2592 - 600200 MERU**. It measures approximately **0.04 HA each**. The properties are situated approximately 1.0 kilometre to the south west of St. Philip Gilgil Girls High School, 2.60 kilometres to the South West of Murindu Highway primary school and about 3.50 kilometres off and to the left of the Nairobi-Naivasha-Nakuru highway diverting at and to the South West of Kikopey Township. GPS Co-ordinates are 0°29' 52.15" S 36°17' 05.70" E.

ON WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 2025 AT 11.00 AM OUTSIDE KCB BUILDING MERU TOWN

7. RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY LAARE TOWN, IGEMBE NORTH SUB-COUNTY.
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. ITHIMA/ANTUAMBUI/5806** registered in the name of **KAGWIRIA CHARITY MATAU & DICKSON MUCHANGI NIAGI** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 65 LAARE** g/t **KAGWIRIA CHARITY MATAU** of **P.O. BOX 65 LAARE**. The property is within Laare Town, Igembe North Sub-County. It is situated approximately 110 metres to the north of the Igembe North NGCDF offices. It measures approximately **0.03HA**. Developments comprises of two bedroomed bungalow and incomplete small sized residential outbuilding and semi-permanent structures.

8. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN NGO' MBE NJILU AREA, MERU COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. TIGANIA EAST/KIGUCHWA/8154** registered in the name of **SUSAN KARIA MUTURIA** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 11-60606 MIKINDURI** g/t **KAILBI WILLIAM MURERWA & MUKAMI EDDEN** of **P.O. BOX 11-60606 MIKINDURI**. The property is in Ngombe Njilulu area of Kiguchwa Tigania East Sub County. It measures approximately **0.41HA**. There are no structural developments. The GPS coordinates are latitudes : 0°08' 54.57" N, Longitude: 37°52' 38.06" E.

9. COMMERCIAL CUM RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN MUTHARA AREA MERU COUNTY

All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. TIGANIA/KITHARENE/2580** registered in the name of **STEPHEN NTURIBI ETIRIKIA** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 25-60200 MERU**. The property is situated in Muthara Trading Centre, Tigania East Sub-County. It measures approximately **0.02HA**. Developments comprises of a single storey front shop block 1, a Semi-detached double storey residential block 1, a single storey residential block 2 and an ablution block. GPS Coordinates are Latitudes: 0°13'29.46"N Longitudes: 37°47'56.64"E.

10. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN NKOUNE AREA MERU COUNTY
All that parcel of land known as **TITLE NO. NTIMA/IGOKI/8393** registered in the name of **GALAXY MERCHANTS LIMITED** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 1937-60200 MERU**. It measures approximately **0.147HA**. The property is situated along Meru-Kaaga Link Bypass and in the outskirts of Meru Town. Within Nkouna Area, Municipality Ward, North Imenti Constituency. There are no structural developments. The GPS co-ordinates comprises of 0°3' 14.15" N, 37°39' 16.41" E

ON THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2025 AT 11.00 A.M OUTSIDE POST OFFICE NANYUKI TOWN

11. AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITHIN TOLL AREA NYERI COUNTY
All those parcels of land known as **TITLE NO. GAKAWA/KAHURURA/BLOCK 1/ ICHUGA/2914 & 2915** registered in the name of **JOSEPH MACHIRA WAIRUHI** as freehold interest of **P.O. BOX 62210-00200 NAIROBI** g/t **THE DIRECTOR MACAN INVESTMENT LTD** of **P.O. BOX 62210-00200 NAIROBI**. They measure approximately **0.065HA each**. The properties are located off Nyeri-Nanyuki road, Toll area, Nanyuki. On **GAKAWA/KAHURURA/BLOCK 1/ICHUGA/2914** developments comprises of an incomplete outbuilding structures and on **GAKAWA/KAHURURA/BLOCK 1/ICHUGA/2915** There are no structural developments. The GPS co-ordinates comprises of 0°01' 25.1" S, 37°03' 27.7" E and 0°01' 25.2" S, 37°03' 28.5" E respectively.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All interested purchasers are required to view and verify the details of the properties for themselves as these are not warranted by the Auctioneers or our clients.
2. A deposit of 25% **must** be paid in cash, banker's cheque or RTGS at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid within **30 days** for properties **no. 2, 5&11** and within **90 days** to other properties to the chargees.
3. The sale is subject to a reserve price and where applicable to Land Control Board Consent and such overriding interest as may exist against the properties.
4. Bidders **must** pay a refundable deposit of **ksh 50,000.00** to obtain a bid number.
5. Conditions of sale are available on request at our offices and viewing of the properties can be done on prior appointment.



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NIKI AUCTIONEERS

Dealers in: Auctioneers Repossessors, Court Bailiffs, Process Servers, Private Investigators, and Commission Agents
CHURCH HOUSE 2nd FLOOR, ALONG KAKAMEGA - WEBUYE ROAD, P. O Box 1629, Kisumu, CONTACT: 0725 587218

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from OCS Nairobi Central Police Station, we shall sell the undermentioned property by way of public auction on **23rd April, 2025 at 9:00am** at the precinct of Nairobi Central Police Station

KMDE 811T CAPTAIN, KMEG 752J PIONEER, KMEL 767A TVS, KMET 813A BOXER, KMFS 045U CAPTAIN, KMEC 717W HONDA, NUMBERLESS HONDA, KMEX 689W TVS, KMEK 723A HONDA, KMEA 968P GZING, KMDQ 242X BOXER, KMGM 840W HONDA, KMDY 448G HONDA, KMEL 803H HERO, KMFD 409H HONDA, KMFF 41A BOXER, KMGD 266R BOXER, KBM 324X TOYOTA ALLION, KAT 097W TOYOTA HIACE, KCV 697L BMW 320I

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. Property will be sold 'as is where is' basis
2. Cash at the fall of the hammer

BETABASE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Debt Collectors, Private Investigators, Process Servers and Commission Agents

Development House
 2nd Floor Room 211
 Moi Avenue
 P.O. Box 22693-00100
 NAIROBI
 Tel: 0721 959986
 0791315419
 Email: velelajoel@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by the Small Claims Courts at Thika, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by public auction:-

ON THURSDAY 24th APRIL, 2025 AT STARTRUCK AUCTIONEERS INVESTMENTS YARD LTD ALONG KIAMBU ROAD NAIROBI STARTING FROM 10.30 A.M.

THIKA SCCC NO. E858 OF 2023

JOHN HEZRA ONYANGO VS PUCHER COMMUNICATION SERVICES & MARK ONE EXPRESS LIMITED

| M/V | MAKE/MODEL | COLOUR |
|---------|---------------------------|--------|
| KCR226B | TOYOTA-HIACE M.BUS/MATATU | WHITE |

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Sale subject to reasonable reserve price
- All interested purchasers are requested to view on prior arrangements.
- Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.
- **NOTE:** Protocols as spelt out by the Ministry of Health in regard to COVID-19 Pandemic will be observed.

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what happens to
them moment
by moment.

*Jean-Pierre de
Caussade*

**DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT****JOYCE KEMUNTO NYAEGA**

It is with deep sorrow and humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing of Joyce Kemunto Nyaega.

She was the beloved wife of the late Absolom Nyaega Omare and daughter of the late Onguso Omwenga and Susan Moguche of Matangi Village, Bonyakoma.

A devoted mother to the late Dennis Masese, Cawambo, Sarah Nyaega, Kevin Omare, Steve Bosire, and Kennedy Mogusu. She was a cherished grandmother to Eugene, Connor, Yuri Dennis, Mitchell, Johnstone Dennis, Joe Nyaega, Duncan Cawambo and Faustine.

Joyce was a loving sister to the late John, Orina, Kombo, the late Ouru, Ombuya, the late Zipporah, the late Asuma, Getera, Twani, Onami, the late Morara, Rael, Nyambache, Sara, Bilia, and Bande.

She was a sister-in-law to the late Daniel Agoya, Julius Nyabuto, Stephen, Henry, the late Crescentia, Teresa, Sabina, Nyoriana, Catherine, Angelina, the late Markina, the late Divinah, Truphena, Basifica, Florence, Nyang'ara, Pamella, Nancy, Peris, Gladys, and Caren.

Aunt to Gideon, Albert, Masese, Jerusha, Onduso, Jane, Karioki, Ndege, Malack, and Geoffrey.

Korera to Basweti, Patrick Lumumba, Jane Bore, Simon Chibole, and Elizabeth Chibole Nyaliel.

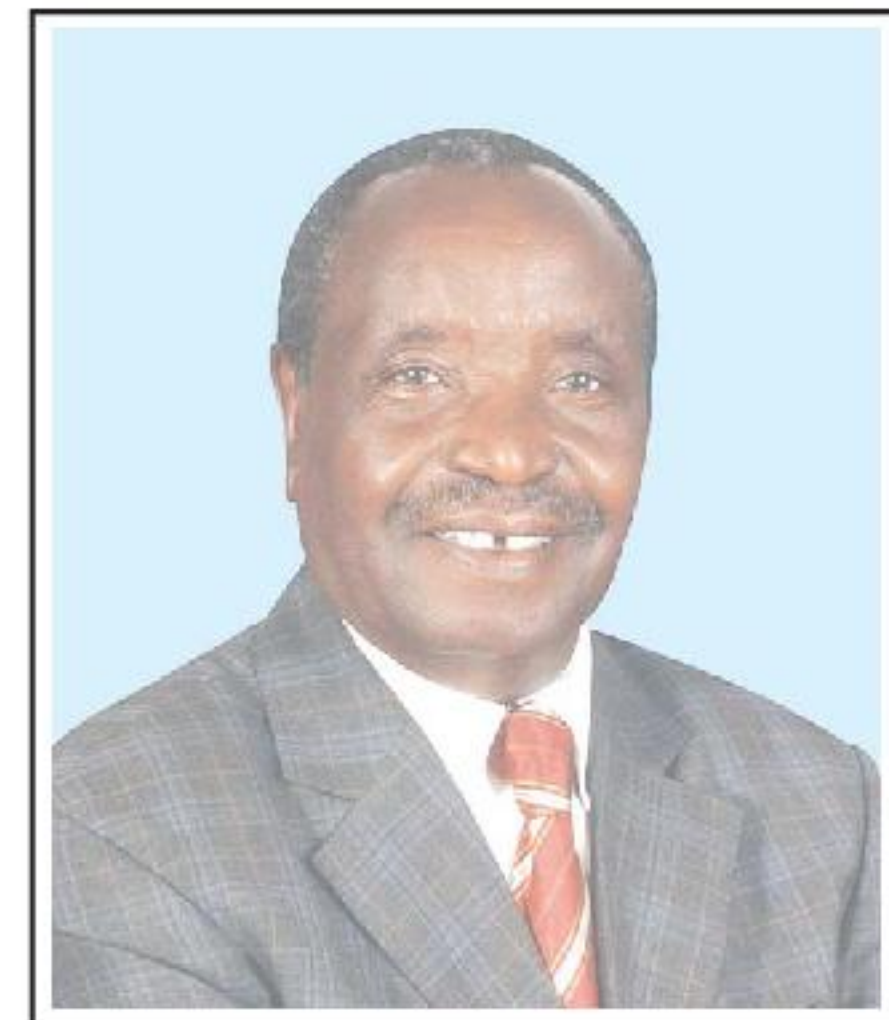
Mother-in-law to Penninah, Emily, and Christabel.

She was also a dear niece to Mary, Isaac, Tegisi, Omwenga, and Florence.

The body lies at Montezuma Funeral Home.

A main fundraising will be held on Tuesday, 15th, at the Professional Centre - Along Parliament Road, Next to St. John Ambulance.

The funeral service and burial will be held on 18th April at her husband's home in Mogonga Sub-Location, Bombaba East Location, Kenyena Sub-County, Bomachoge Constituency.

Celebration of a Life Well Lived**Honorable John Kipsang Arap Koech EGH**

Sunrise: 01.08.1945 ~ Sunset: 08.04.2025

It is with profound sadness that we announce the demise of Honorable John Kipsang Arap Koech EGH, former Member of Parliament of Chepalungu constituency and Minister of East Africa Community (EAC).

The loving son of the late Francis Arap Chepkwony and late Albina Chepkwony.

The loving husband of Angelina Koech. A loving father to Florence Kirui, Marcela Rop, Leonard Sang, Joanne Sambu, Mercy Wasena, Mary Njoroge, Kiptuya Kosonei, Ian Kipnetich and Theresa Chepkorir.

Brother of Raeli Singen, the late Lydia Nyigeli, the late Gabriel Koech, Juliana Sitienei, Mathew Koech, Mary Sang, Wesley Koech and Philip Koech.

Stepbrother of Joseph Kenduywo, Rusi Chelugoi, Purity Koech, Joyce Rop and Barcizla Barar.

Son-in-law of the late Taritet Arap Cheruiyot and the late Nancy Cheruiyot.

Brother-in-law of the late David Singen, Priscila Koech, Thomas Nyigeli, Kipkorir Sitienei, Joel Sang, Cynthia Koech, Alice Koech, Ruth Koech, Esther Kenduywo, William Chelugoi, David Koech, Simeon Rop, Philip Barar, Joseph Mutai, Hellena Lele, Earnest Mutai, Barcizla Soi, the late Wesley Mutai, the late Jennifer Chepkorir and Rita Manyele.

Father-in-law of Wesley Kirui, Joseph Rop, Hellen Sang, Victor Sambu, Dr. Gerald Wasena and Evans Njoroge.

Loving grandfather to Emanella, Adalia, Eliana, Avela, Sandra, Brenda, Fredrick, Michael, Grace, Lisa, Justin, Isabelle, Daryl, Misham, Hawy, Jerry-II, Nana and Suhera.

The body is lying at Lee funeral home, Nairobi. The cortege will leave Lee funeral home on Monday 14th April 2025 at 7:00 AM for a Church Service that will be held at Karen AGC from 8:30 AM and thereafter proceed to his home in Kapsegut Village, in Bomet county for an overnight stay.

The funeral Service will be held at Olbutyo Secondary School on Tuesday, 15th April 2025 followed by the burial at his home in Kapsegut village.

John 11:24 ~ "...I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day".

The Standard
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Sports

Athletics. Work at Kip Keino stadium stalls again, **Page 32**



Scan here to give us feedback on these stories and more.

Muhia and Karuga shine in Nakuru as Kamau wins at Nyahururu Club

- ▶ Muhia and Karuga have now qualified for NCBA series finals at Muthaiga Club.
- ▶ Kamau shines in second edition of the Crown Golf series held in Nyahururu.

BEN AHENDA AND MOSE SAMMY

Paul Muhia and Esther Karuga have qualified for the NCBA Golf Series grand finale set for Muthaiga Golf Club on November 28.

Muhia and Karuga made it after overcoming a strong field of over 184 golfers during the 2025 NCBA Qualifier Nakuru Chapter at Nakuru Golf Club over the weekend.

Muhia amassed a total 75 points to emerge the overall gross winner that enabled him to pick his ticket to the grand finale.

"This was just luck but the course was good. I'm equally happy to have played with a team of dedicated golfers who made me play better," the handicap 2 Muhia told *Standard Sports* after picking the top prize from Jacquie Muhati, the NCBA Deputy Director and Head of Brands.

Karuga who scored 90 to emerge the overall gross lady winner was also elated.

"I'm happy to have won after some good training sessions in a good course," said Karuga.

Mackton Wekhomba scored a total of 44 points to win the Division One Championships beating Moses Ndegwa by five points.

With a score of 38, handicap 21 Esther Thuku won the Division Two lady championships ahead of Risper Mureithi who snatched the Division Three lead at 35 points. The staff prize went to career banker Rahab Thuo who managed a total of 30 points at handicap 26.

At the Nyahururu Sports Club, Gerald Kamau returned a score of 41 stable ford points to win the second edition of the Crown Golf series.

Kamau outperformed a field of 76 golfers to be crowned and credited his good showing to exposure to challenging courses and regular practice.



Overall Gross Lady winner Esther Karuga (right) receives her prize from NCBA Deputy Director and Head of Brands Jacquie Muhati during the NCBA Golf Series Nakuru Chapter at Nakuru Golf Club on Saturday. [Courtesy]

"I have been exploring other golf courses across the country, which has given me an edge when playing at home, coupled with regular practice. This win is a significant achievement for me," said Kamau.

The Nyahururu leg was the kick-off of a 22-leg Crown series, which began last year through a partnership with Crown Paints PLC.

Handicap 10, Dennis Kigumbu chalked the lowest gross score to clinch the Gross prize.

In the Men's Division One, D Munyeki took the top prize with a score of 38 stable ford points while playing off handicap 13.

Samuel Gitau finished second with 35 stable ford points. In Division Two, Simon Gichuki won the Men's prize with a compact score of 40 stable ford points.

Irene Wangui, playing off handicap 36, posted 41 stable ford points to emerge as the Division Two Lady's winner, followed by Florence Wanjiru, who came in second with a score of 35 stable ford points.

John Mark and Duncan Irungu were recognized as the First and Second Nine winners, scoring 22 and 23 stableford points.

Charles Angwenyi from Njoro Golf and Country Club's won the Guest prize with 36 stable ford points while Ryan Munyua emerged as the best among the junior golfers upon posting 36 stable ford points.

Paul Kimita won the Nearest to the Pin contest. The immediate past Chairman, Keru Wambui, beat the rest of the men to win the Longest Man prize. Florence Wanjiru won in the ladies category.

The series will continue at the Nyali Golf and Country Club for its second edition on April 26 before moving to other venues.

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| NAKURU CLUB RESULTS | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| OVERALL GROSS WINNER | – Paul Muhia | 75 points |
| OVERALL GROSS LADY WINNER | – Esther Karuga | 90 points |
| DIVISION 1 MAN WINNER | – Mackton Wekhomba | 44 points |
| DIVISION 2 MAN WINNER | – Moses Ndegwa | 39 points |
| DIVISION 2 LADY WINNER | – Esther Thuku | 38 points |
| DIVISION 3 LADY WINNER | – Risper Mureithi | 35 points |
| STAFF PRIZE | – Rahab Thuo | 30 points |
| JUNIOR WINNER | – Gurtej Sahota | 34 points |
| GUEST WINNER | – Patrick Mburu | 34 points |
| THE NEAREST TO THE PIN MAN WINNER | – Michael Mululu | |
| THE NEAREST TO THE PIN LADY WINNER | – Njeri Kimani | |
| THE LONGEST DRIVES MAN WINNER | – Brendan Ireland | |
| THE LONGEST DRIVES LADY WINNER | – Gentar Nabwire | |

GOLF

Golfers miss out on Sh4.5m Mercedes Benz

There was disappointment for 201 golfers after missing a rare chance of walking home with a brand new latest Mercedes Benz worth Sh4.5 million at Nyali Golf and Country Club course in Mombasa County on Saturday.

It was indeed a bad day for the golfers where none of them yearning for the offer failed to hit a rare 'hole in one' at the par three-18th hole during the inaugural Mombasa Chamber Golf tournament played at the par 71 course.

Home Club's Nancy Gathunga was the only player who came close to the prize after her swing shot landed only two feet and six inches away from the hole and went home with the biggest regret.

Club Captain Omar Lewa told the club professional Fred Kamau to strengthen training programs to members in order to avoid such disappointments.

"We cannot be playing good golf here every time and always miss the car prize. It's also saddening to watch the car displayed here the whole day and see it being driven back to the showroom in the evenings. This must stop and next time we should win this car," said Lewa.

Handicap 15 Antony Lithimbi pumped a handsome 44 stable ford points to emerge the day's overall winner and record his maiden victory.

"It was a good day, though we missed the car, I am humbled to emerge the overall winner. The course is in pristine condition and playing well with all my putting going right to the points. I would also like to thank my playing partners who made the day very enjoyable at the course," said Lithimbi. [Maarufu Mohamed]



Chairman KNCCI Mombasa Chamber About Jamal (right) presents the overall prize to winner Antony Lithimbi. [Maarufu Mohamed, Standard]



There will be no hiding place

► KSSSA vows to tighten the noose on cheats as focus shifts to Term Two games.

► Debutants Ng'iya, Highway and Kadika book their tickets to the East Africa games.

ELIZABETH MBURUGU, MOMBASA

The 2025 Brookside Secondary Schools national Term One games that ended on Saturday in Mombasa will go down as one of the most memorable events in the history of school games.

From a foolproof verification system that ensured that only cleared students were allowed to play, to last year's winners retaining and losing their titles and debutants making a mark on their first national appearance, the games were a complete package that in the end, gave birth to future stars.

The Ministry of Education and Kenya Secondary Schools Sports Association (KSSSA) introduced stringent measures to curb any form of cheating in the games in a bid to ensure that only students participate in the games.

The student authentication process included tracing them from their primary schools using their Unique Personal Identifier (UPI), their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) index numbers, Form One admission numbers and dates as well as birth certificates for Kenyan students.

International students were required to provide proof that they are indeed students in their respective schools having gone through the legit immigration and registration process allowing them to live and study in Kenya.

KSSSA Secretary General David Ngugi said the new verification system is meant to restore the integrity of the games, protect the students and completely root out any form of cheating.

"This is the system we will be using going forward because we want to protect genuine students sealing all loopholes because we have zero tolerance towards cheating," Ngugi said.



These games offer a platform for students to showcase their talents and we will therefore ensure that they are not infiltrated by cheats."

David Ngugi, KSSSA Secretary General



Faith Atieno of Ng'iya Girls (right) and Joan Muria of Mwiki Girls in their playoffs match. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



Brookside Dairy's Marketing Director Reza Chabokro (second left) awards Highway Secondary School team, led by principal Irungu Nduati, after the side finished second runner-up in boys' handball during the Brookside Term One Games in Mombasa. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



Brookside General Manager for Marketing Linda Obado awards Brigit Barasa with handball's MVP award. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]

Rift Valley Region bagged the overall trophy after garnering 95 points, seven more than Western, who finished second with 88 points.

Nyanza were third with 67, five more than fourth-placed Nairobi, who amassed 62.

The hosts Coast regions settled for fifth place with 58 points, Eastern, Central and North Eastern finishing sixth, seventh and eighth with 54, 44 and seven points respectively.

Rift Valley dominated in athletics for

another year, winning both girls and boys contests.

The boys were no match for their peers winning most of the track and field events to garner 245 points with their closest challenger Nyanza coming in second with 140 points.

Western finished third with 115 points, whereas Eastern was fourth with 106 points.

Central was fifth with 89 as homeboys finished sixth with Nairobi and North Eastern finishing seventh and eighth

with 23 and one point.

In the girls' contest, the order remained the same with Rift Valley carrying the day with 241 points. Nyanza were second with 154 points, Western third (142), Eastern fourth (88), Central fifth (70), Coast sixth (59), Nairobi seventh (19) with North Eastern finishing eighth with no point.

Vihiga High School's decision to move out of their comfort zone paid off with a rugby 15s national gong.

Vihiga, who's forte has been rugby Sevens, where they won silver at the

national games and gold at last year's East Africa games, risked it all by putting their success in the shorter version of the game on the line to chase rugby 15s glory.

The Western boys beat Kisii School 14-5 in the final to lift the trophy. Vihiga's Alvin Shikanga was all smiles as he was emerged the Most Valuable Player (MVP).

Last year's winner All Saints Embu took bronze after beating 2018 national and East Africa champions Upper Hill 19-5 in the third-place play-off duel.

Dr Aggrey and All Saints were the only casualties as last year's



for age cheats in school games



St John's Kaloleni's Monica Kwekwe after winning hockey MVP. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



Butere Girls' Mary Awino displays her Basketball MVP trophy. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



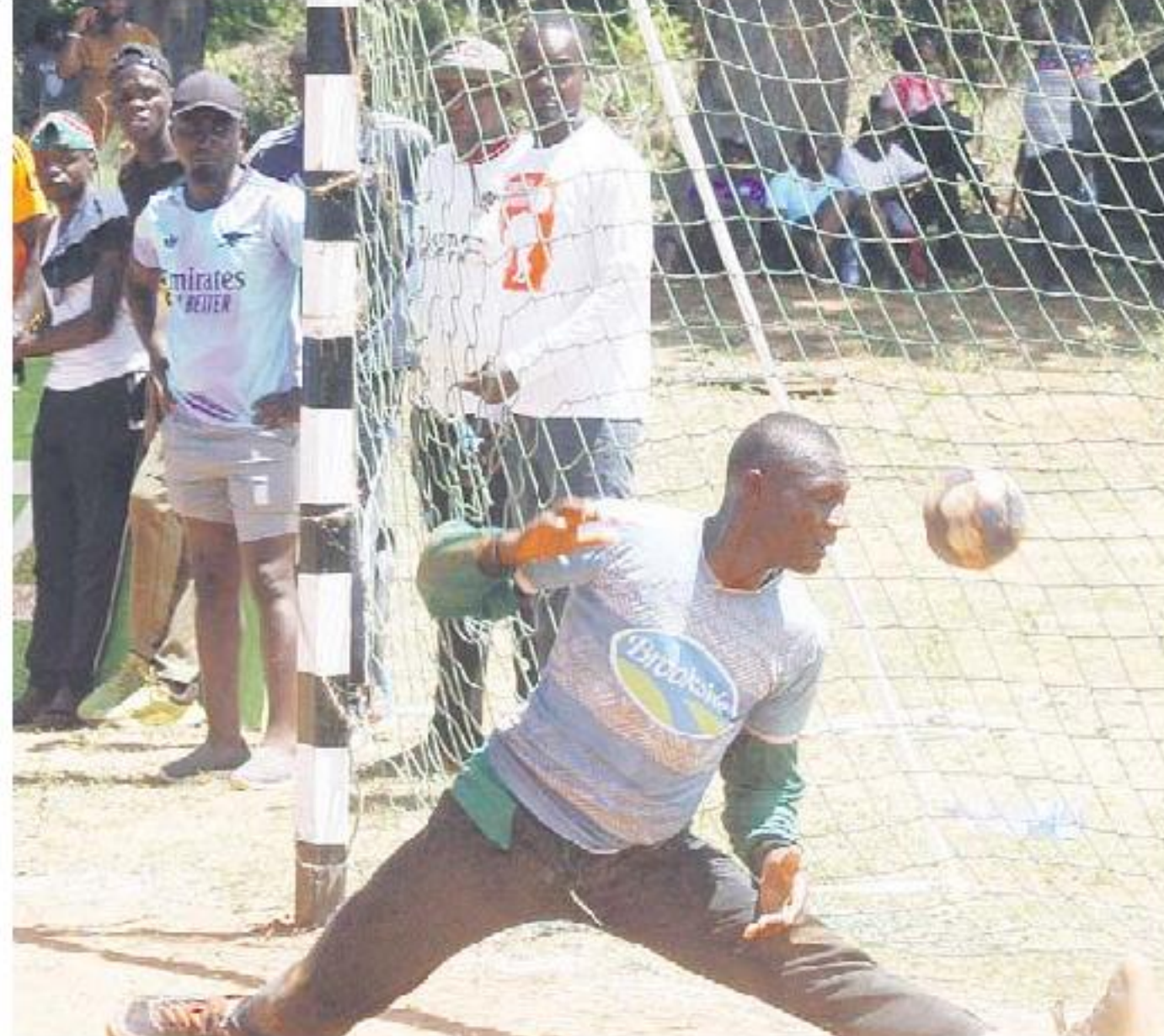
National 3000m steeplechase champion Mercy Chepng'eno of Lesirwo Secondary School. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



Vihiga High School rugby team celebrates after winning the national title. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]



Age didn't matter much for fans at this year's national Term One games in Mombasa. [Maarufu Mohamed, Standard]



St Luke's Kimilili's goalkeeper Elvis Nentondo misses a shot in their match against Highway Secondary School. [Maarufu Mohamed, Standard]

rallying behind them.

Kaya Tiwi, who lost their title to Butere in 2023, played second fiddle to the Western girls after succumbing to a 53-76 defeat.

St Joseph's Girls High School Kitale completed the podium after edging out Nairobi's Olympic High School 48-43 in the play-off. Butere's Mary Amimo bagged the girls' MVP award.

Western region, known for its prowess in team sports, showed who is the boss by winning most of the titles.

Western retained boys and girls' handball and hockey trophies after outclassing their opponents.

Moi Girls Kamusinga burst into song and dance after beating St Joseph's Kitale 24-14 to retain their title.

This is the first time that Kamusinga, who have played at every national since 2012, won a trophy in Mombasa.

In 2017 and 2019, they came to the Coast as champions but left downtrodden after losing their titles to St Anne's Segla and St Joseph's Kirandich respectively.

However this year, the gods of handball finally gave them the nod and they emerged victorious. Kamusinga's Brigid Barasa took home the MVP's award after helping her side retain their title. Dagoretti Mixed edged newcomers Kadika Girls 25-24 to snatch bronze.

Western stamped authority in handball with St Luke's Kimilili also retaining their trophy following a convincing 35-18 win against Rift Valley rivals St Albert Kamito.

Kamito returned to the games after a two-year ban. Newcomers Highway Secondary School also gave a good account of themselves after dismissing regulars Manyatta High School from Nyanza 21-15 to completed the podium.

In hockey, Western's Musingu High School and Tigoi Girls firmed grip on their thrones. Musingu edged out record East Africa champions St Anthony's Boys High School Kitale 1-0 in a tightly contested final to win their third title in a row.

Tigoi Girls on the other hand beat East Africa champions St Joseph's Kitale 3-2 to secure their second national trophy.

Kelvin Onyango of St Anthony's Kitale and Monica Kwekwe of St John's Kaloleni won the boys and girls MVP awards.

St Charles Lwanga and novices Ng'iya Girls took the boys and girls bronze medals respectively. St Charles beat Mpesa Foundation Academy 2-0 whereas Ng'iya defeated Mwiki Secondary School 1-0 in third-place play-offs.

Nairobi's Curtis Kamotho from Strathmore School and Macrine Kalombo from Makini School won the boys and girls best swimmers awards respectively.

emburugu@standardmedia.co.ke

MEDALLISTS:

Rugby15s:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| ■ Vihiga High School | (gold) |
| ■ Kisii School | (silver) |
| ■ All Saints | (bronze) |

Basketball:

Boys:

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| ■ Laiser Hill | (gold) |
| ■ Dr Aggrey | (silver) |
| ■ Dagoretti High | (bronze) |

Girls:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| ■ Butere Girls | (gold) |
| ■ Kaya Tiwi | (silver) |
| ■ St Joseph's Kitale | (bronze) |

Hockey:

Boys:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| ■ Musingu High | (gold) |
| ■ St Anthony's Kitale | (silver) |
| ■ St Charles Lwanga | (bronze) |

Girls:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| ■ Tigoi Girls | (gold) |
| ■ St Joseph's Kitale | (silver) |
| ■ Ng'iya Girls | (bronze) |

Handball:

Boys:

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| ■ St Luke's Kimilili | (gold) |
| ■ St Albert Kamito | (handball) |
| ■ Highway Sec | (bronze) |

Girls:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| ■ Moi Girls Kamusinga | (gold) |
| ■ St Joseph's Kitale | (silver) |
| ■ Dagoretti Mixed | (bronze) |

MVPs:

Rugby 15s:

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| ■ Alvin Shikanga | (Vihiga High School) |
|------------------|----------------------|

Basketball:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| ■ Jacob Kayika | (Dr Aggrey) |
| ■ Mary Awino | (Butere Girls) |

Hockey:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ Kelvin Onyango | (St Anthony's Kitale) |
| ■ Monica Kwekwe | (St John's Kaloleni) |

Handball:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ Abdulhakim Wafula | (St Luke's Kimilili) |
| ■ Brigid Barasa | (Moi Girls Kamusinga) |

Swimming:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| ■ Curtis Kamotho | (Strathmore School) |
| ■ Macrine Kalombo | (Makini School) |

champions retained their titles.

Butere Girls Cannons once again hit former national and East Africa champions Kaya Tiwi where it hurts most to secure their third gong in a row.

Kaya Tiwi were dejected after failing to overcome the Cannons on their home turf with hundreds of fans

The Standard Sports



Construction work at Kipchoge Keino Stadium stalls once again



A section of the Kipchoge Keino Stadium on January 12, 2025. The stadium has been under construction for the last 15 years. [Peter Ochieng, Standard]

► National Assembly committee was shocked to find that a single-sourced contractor was not on site.

► President Mwai Kibaki ordered a facelift on the stadium in 2010 and the wait continues 15 years later.

STEPHEN RUTTO, ELDORET

The construction of the historic Kipchoge Keino Stadium in Eldoret, which has been under construction for over a decade, has once again stalled.

It is among stadiums that are being upgraded to international standards ahead of the 2027 African Cup of Nations.

The last major event to have been staged at the stadium named after Kenya's father of track racing, 1968 Olympic 1500m champion Kipchoge Keino, was the national trials for the 2016 Rio Olympics.

Since then, completion dates have been shifted forward and hundreds of visits by government officials are yet to restore Kipchoge Keino Stadium's former glory.

The government has set aside Sh3.5 billion for completion of Kipchoge Keino Stadium after one year of stalling.

Although dilapidated and incomplete, the country's world beaters in athletics have been using it for their training as they tune up their speeds and endurance.

The worn out Mondo prefabricated track is yet to be retired but has not stopped Kenyan big shots from stomping as they perfect their speeds.

For athletes, their coaches and enthusiasts at the City of Champions, a stalling Kipchoge Stadium and frequent visits by top government brass, is the norm.

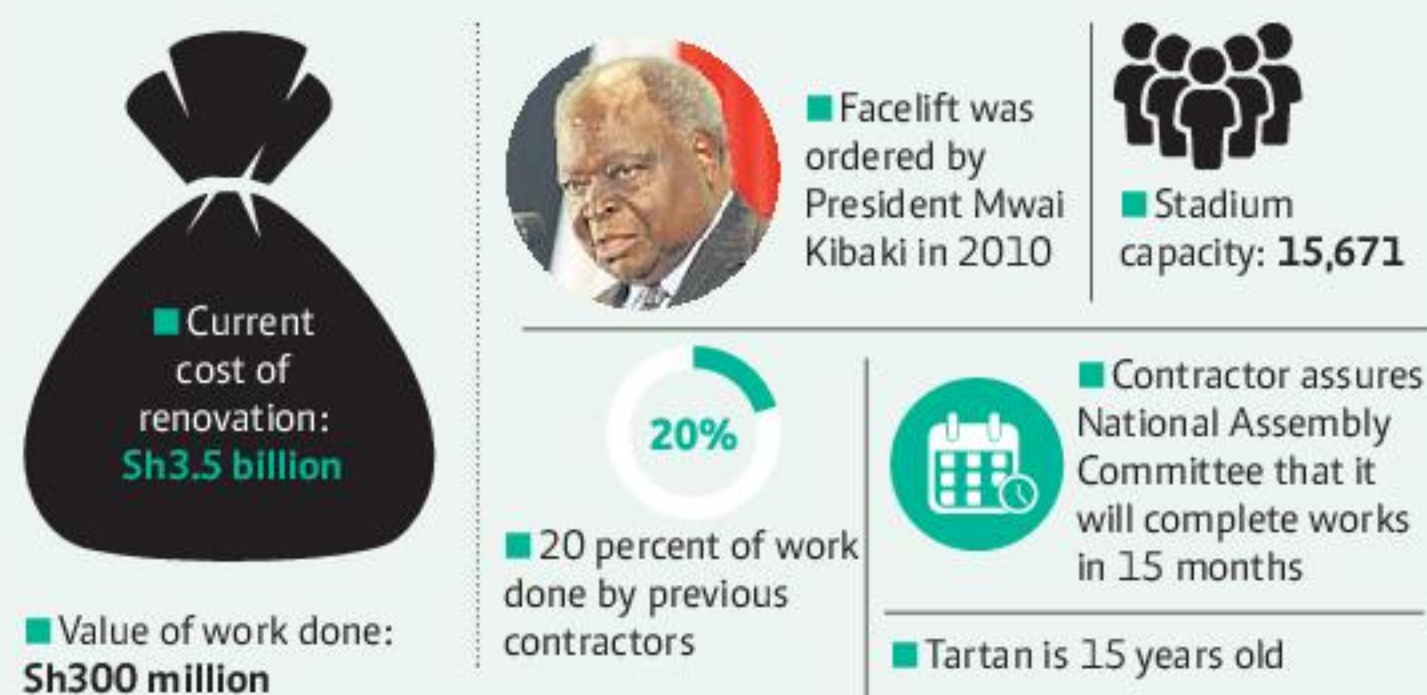
On Friday, the National Assembly Committee on Sports appeared thunderstruck and angry at the latest stalling.

The parliamentary team was welcomed by a site that had been abandoned by the contractor for months and no progress that was nothing to write home about. The National Assembly Sports Committee chairman Dan Wany-

KIPCHOGE KEINO STADIUM IN SUMMARY:



President William Ruto with Interior CS Kipchumba Murkomen and Sports CS Salim Mvurya during a visit to Kipchoge Keino Stadium in February. [PCS]



ama said his team was disappointed by the slow progress. The Mondo tartan, one of the best qualities in the world, for instance, was installed in 2010.

It was also in 2010 that the late President Mwai Kibaki ordered a facelift of the North Rifts biggest stadium, and it has not reached completion for the last 15 years.

Former Sports Cabinet Secretaries Hassan Wario (2013-2018), Rashid Echesa (2018-2019), Amina Mohamed (2019-2022) and Ababu Namwamba (2022-2024) and their entourage were frequent visitors of stalled stadium and all expressed displeasure with the progress despite being at the helm of the ministry responsible for completion of the facility.

Wanyama, a former volleyball international and captain, and his team gave the Sports Kenya and the Ministry of Sports seven days to provide documents on payments paid for the Kipchoge Keino facelift since the upgrade started.

The committee expressed shock with the absence of the Chinese contractor on site, and explanations by Sports Kenya officers at the site that the single-sourced construction company was demanding Sh300 million.

The Dan Wanyama-led committee maintained that it was strange for a single-sourced contractor to demand money, yet it had shown capacity to begin work without deposits.

On January 10, President William Ruto alongside Sports Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya inspected the stadium and the new contractor, Synohydro Corporation, was instructed to immediately begin work.

"We are disappointed because the works on the site are not in tandem with what we have been told. We had been assured that we would find the contractor on site. That gives us a reasonable doubt and that we should be hands on," Wanyama said.

The committee said the contractor, who is not on site yet, had promised to complete the stalled stadium in 15 months.

"The ministry has promised to make a down payment next week and, then, we might realize some progress," the chairman said.

He went on to say: "We have summoned the ministry to appear before us and explain the progress."

The government had in late 2023 handed over the site to the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF), which did not commence construction but it has emerged that the military has now been charged with supervising the project.

Sections of the Kipchoge Keino Stadium have been earmarked for demolition.

The National Assembly Committee was told on site that the previous contract was terminated at a cost, which was not disclosed.

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The Standard

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

Health & Science



Embracing the loss of a loved one

Saying goodbye is never easy. It's painful, but the hope of reuniting again can provide some comfort. **P. 4-5**

Warning: Flu crisis intensifies with spike of influenza A cases. **P. 3**

Caution: Headaches, blurred vision may be signs of brain tumours. **P. 6**

HEALTH BITES

Healthy fish diets could be cure for Kenya's malnutrition problem

Fish is classified as white meat, and white meat is generally recommended by medical experts and scientists as it is not associated with many chronic diseases. In contrast, red meat has been linked to health conditions, such as obesity, diabetes, arthritis, and gout.

Fish is not only a key dietary component rich in protein, essential for healthy living, it also contributes to meeting nutritional needs and improving diets. Nutritionists report that malnutrition remains widespread in Kenya, largely due to high levels of poverty. Economist and lawyer Charles Ayoro notes that over 50 per cent of Kenyans live below the poverty line, meaning they cannot afford three meals a day.

"The wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, coupled with high taxation, have worsened economic conditions globally, including in Kenya. The lack of food availability has hit Kenya like a sledgehammer, and the global community is suffering as well," Ayoro says.

Ayoro also points out that the disruption caused by Donald Trump's presidency affected US-funded health programmes in Kenya, leading to a resurgence of diseases that these initiatives were aimed at reducing.



Faith Rotich, a nutrition consultant at a private hospital in Nairobi, says approximately 40 per cent of women suffer from iron deficiency, leading to many cases of anaemia and related infections.

Additionally, stunted growth affects nearly one-third of children aged five to 15 years in Kenya. Stunting results from a lack of balanced nutrition. Anaemia, which occurs when haemoglobin levels fall below the normal range, can significantly affect health, as haemoglobin is essential for transporting

oxygen in the blood.

Fish exports contribute approximately Sh200 million to Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) annually, Ayoro notes.

He stresses the need for authorities and agribusiness stakeholders to monitor and control the use of pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides in crops, such as cotton, coffee, tea, and sugarcane to prevent these chemicals from polluting Kenyan lakes, especially Lake Victoria. Pollution endangers aquatic life and hampers fish production.

Kenya's fish production currently cannot meet the growing demand, creating a supply deficit. Ayoro adds that the aquaculture industry should be supported by robust policies and sufficient funding to succeed and fill the fish supply shortfall.

SPOTLIGHT

Less pain, more precision: Cutting-edge saliva test ushers in a new era in endometriosis fight

Emerging advancements in non-invasive testing methods offer hope for a future where endometriosis can be detected and treated with greater ease.

By Noel Nabiswa
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Painful menstrual cramps are often brushed off as a normal part of a woman's cycle, with many linking them to infertility or even endometriosis. However, what's often overlooked is that it can take years to receive a proper diagnosis, and the process can be both lengthy and costly.

Endometriosis is more common than many realise, affecting women all over the world. The condition occurs when tissue, similar to the lining of the uterus, grows outside the womb—on the ovaries, fallopian tubes, peritoneum, bowel, or even the bladder.

While the exact causes behind this abnormal tissue growth remain unclear, the symptoms, such as bloating, severe pelvic pain, and excruciating periods—are often mistaken for other conditions, such as fibroids, ovarian cancer, pelvic inflammatory disease, or irritable bowel syndrome.

In addition to pain, endometriosis can bring about heavy menstrual bleeding (menorrhagia), discomfort during sex, fatigue, and, in some cases, infertility.

Diagnosing endometriosis is rarely straightforward. Typically, it involves a

pelvic exam, ultrasound, and sometimes, a laparoscopy—a minimally invasive surgery where doctors use a small camera to directly view the pelvic area.

Endometriosis affects around 10 per cent of women and girls of reproductive age globally, and up to 50 per cent of women who are infertile. It can also have a significant impact on their quality of life. Despite this, it remains difficult to diagnose.

Currently, the gold-standard test is a diagnostic laparoscopy. This procedure is carried out under general anaesthesia, during which a small camera is inserted into the patient (typically through an incision near the belly button) to view the pelvis and abdomen.

This allows the internal cavities to be inspected, and any endometriosis lesions or cysts (endometriomas), identified and assessed.

However, despite the invasive, painful, and costly nature of diagnostic laparoscopy, the procedure is not 100 per cent accurate. The endometriotic lesions can sometimes be confused with other types of lesions, so it is only through biopsy examination that definitive results can be obtained.

To address this issue, several research teams have been working on developing a more effective test for endometriosis—one



“

With Ziwig Endotest we are determined to end the unacceptable diagnostic wandering that leaves many women in pain.”

Yahya El Mir, Ziwig CEO-Founder

that can detect all forms of the disease and deliver faster diagnoses, while being both affordable and comfortable for patients.

One recently launched option is the Ziwig Endotest, a saliva-based test developed by a French research group. This test works by sequencing 109 microRNAs and using artificial intelligence to analyse and compute the results.

Researchers claim that this test is capable of detecting endometriosis at an early stage, with a sensitivity of up to 97.4 per cent in women aged 18 to 43 years, who present with one or more symptoms that could be related to endometriosis.

“With Ziwig Endotest we are determined to end the unacceptable diagnostic

wandering that leaves many women in pain. The coverage of Ziwig Endotest in 80 centers in France is a breakthrough for patients and doctors,” said Yahya El Mir, CEO-Founder of Ziwig.

MicroRNAs are small fragments of ribonucleic acid (RNA) that play a role in regulating when certain genes are switched on or off. This test exploits the link between specific microRNAs and the development of endometriosis lesions.

The French research group was able to develop this test from a blood test to a saliva test.

There are three types of endometriosis: superficial endometriosis, which is mainly found on the pelvic peritoneum; cystic ovarian endometriosis, which develops on the ovaries; and deep endometriosis, which is found in the recto-vaginal septum, bladder, and bowel. In rare cases, endometriosis has been found outside the pelvis.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), endometriosis is a complex reproductive condition that affects many women globally, from the onset of their first period through to menopause, regardless of ethnic origin or social status.

Many different factors are thought to contribute to its development, including retrograde menstruation, where menstrual blood containing endometrial cells flows back through the fallopian tubes and into the pelvic cavity during menstruation. This can result in endometrial-like cells being deposited outside the uterus, where they can implant and grow.

Cellular metaplasia, stem cells, among others may also play a role in the growth of ectopic endometrial tissue.

A-Z ON DISEASES

Flu crisis intensifies with spike of influenza A cases, doctors warn

Health ministry has advised the public to take precautions similar to those during Covid-19 pandemic

By Maryann Muganda
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Over the past few weeks, Kenyans have taken to social media and casual conversations to complain about a mysterious and persistent flu that doesn't seem to go away. The symptoms are striking — intense headaches, aching joints, fevers, sore throats, sneezing, coughs, and fatigue that sometimes linger for more than a week.

For many, the illness has been so severe that it's raised fears of a resurgence of Covid-19.

But experts now confirm that the culprit behind most of these symptoms is influenza A — and it's spreading fast.

On X (formerly Twitter), users are sharing their personal experiences with a strain that seems harsher than usual.

"It starts with a runny nose, but then I am too weak to even leave the house," says Grace Njeri, a Nairobi resident who missed a week of work due to the illness.

"It is not just a simple flu. I thought I had Covid again. My entire mouth was covered in sores and my taste buds were in the pits," one user posted.

"Grateful for face masks. If you can, just have one on, especially when outdoors."

Another, Ms Odera, wrote, "The flu has attacked me, a full 360... can't even move around."

Some, like Ms Nakaayi, are questioning whether this is a passing illness or a broader outbreak: "Is this flu and cough a wave?"

Others shared the frustrating symptoms they're enduring. "Waking up to blocked ears, blocked nose—flu is the worst," wrote Emmilie, while Yukaa posted, "I'm at work with some kind of flu thing and I feel like I'm going to die."

According to Jeremy Gitau an infectious disease expert, the spike in flu cases is real — and it's worrying.

"Since late February and throughout March, we have been seeing more patients exhibiting classic flu symptoms — cough, sneezing, runny nose, fever, and even chest pain," Dr Gitau explains. "Some progress to full-blown pneumonia."

The Ministry of Health has since confirmed cases of Influenza A, circulating in Kenya, prompting healthcare workers to advise the public to take precautions similar to those practiced during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Although the symptoms of Influenza A and Covid-19 often overlap, including fever,



- Influenza A is a type of flu virus that causes seasonal epidemics and, in some cases, pandemics
- It affects humans and animals (especially birds and pigs)

How It Spreads:

- Transmitted through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking
- Can also spread by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching your face

Symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle or body aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Some people (especially children) may also experience vomiting or diarrhoea



Variants/Subtypes:

- Subtyped based on two proteins:
- Hemagglutinin (H) and Neuraminidase (N)

fatigue, cough, and shortness of breath, the two illnesses are caused by different viruses.

Still, healthcare providers say there is a growing concern that some cases might also be unreported Covid-19 infections.

Despite reports of respiratory infections, there hasn't been a significant uptick in Covid-19 cases.

Director General for health, Dr Patrick Amoth, emphasises the importance of precautionary measures, including avoiding close contact with sick individuals, practicing respiratory and hand hygiene, wearing face masks in public spaces, and considering influenza vaccination.

"It's important to remember how we handled Covid," Dr Gitau says. "Simple precautions like masking, handwashing, and early treatment are crucial again."

The World Health Organisation classifies influenza as a seasonal epidemic that occurs mainly during the cold months in temperate regions, but it can persist all year in tropical climates like

Kenya's.

Globally, influenza infects between one billion people every year, with three to five million cases classified as severe, and it leads to between 290,000 and 650,000 respiratory deaths annually.

In its latest reports, WHO warns that new influenza strains — particularly Influenza A subtypes like H1N1 and H3N2 — have the potential to trigger global pandemics if not well-managed.

The organisation continues to encourage vaccination, especially for vulnerable groups, and robust surveillance.

Kenya's weather over the past few months — cool, wet, and unstable — has provided the perfect breeding ground for respiratory viruses.

"This kind of virus thrives in cold, wet conditions. Nairobi and highland counties like Nyeri, Nakuru, and Kericho are especially vulnerable," says Dr Gitau.

In 2019, MoH, in collaboration with CDC Kenya and WHO, established a sentinel surveillance system.

The findings showed that influenza-like illnesses (ILI) and severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) caused a significant disease burden in both children and the elderly.

Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa, and Uasin Gishu often recorded the highest cases.

Influenza A is one of the most virulent types of flu viruses. It mutates rapidly, enabling new strains to emerge and spread unpredictably.

According to a 2020 study published in The Lancet Global Health, influenza A can trigger cytokine storms in vulnerable patients — an overreaction of the immune system that can lead to severe lung damage and death.

Another 2018 study by the US CDC found that adults hospitalised with flu-related pneumonia were more likely to suffer long-term complications like:

Pulmonary fibrosis, sepsis, exacerbation of chronic diseases like diabetes and asthma. Increased risk of cardiovascular events such as heart attacks

"Influenza is not just a common cold," Dr Gitau emphasises. "We've seen some patients develop severe pneumonia," Dr Gitau says.

PROFESSIONAL OPINION

Silent scars, hidden crisis: Why we must act on self-harm now

By Jasmit Shah and Willie Njoroge

Behind closed doors, countless individuals fight an invisible battle, one that is too often misunderstood or ignored. For many, self-harm becomes an outlet for overwhelming emotional pain, a way to cope when words fail, and no other relief seems within reach. But instead of finding support, they often encounter stigma, judgment, or even outright dismissal.

Contrary to common misconceptions, self-harm is not just a cry for attention or an act of rebellion. It is a profound mental health issue, frequently linked to conditions like depression, anxiety, or past trauma.

What is even more alarming is its connection to suicide. According to the World Health Organisation, about 700,000 lives are claimed by suicide each year.

This global crisis is reflected in local research as well, a five-year study conducted from 2018 to 2022 by the Aga Khan University Brain and Mind Institute revealed that 28.1 per cent of psychiatric patients reported self-harming, with overdose (68.8 per cent) and self-injury (56.3 per cent) being the most common methods. Family conflict was the leading trigger (39.6 per cent).

Women and young people were at risk, grappling with underlying mental health conditions like depression and anxiety.

Fear of judgment, misunderstanding, or even punishment keeps them from reaching out. Some don't even recognise their behaviours as signs of deeper distress. By the time they seek support, they are often in crisis, yet our current approach to mental health remains largely reactive rather than proactive.

A key step in addressing self-harm is education. Many people including teachers, employers, and even families don't recognise the signs or understand that self-harm is often a symptom of deeper emotional struggles. Schools and workplaces should integrate mental health awareness programs, equipping individuals with coping skills and encouraging open conversations. When educators and employers are trained to spot signs of distress, they can provide meaningful support early.

Medical professionals play a crucial role, yet all too often, self-harm is treated purely as a physical issue, patching up wounds without addressing the emotional pain behind them. Healthcare workers need better training to provide psychological support rather than just emergency care. A shift towards long-term mental health treatment, rooted in empathy and understanding, is vital.

Kenya currently lacks a national self-harm registry, making it difficult to track trends, risk factors, and the impact of interventions.

For too long, mental health issues have been met with silence, shame, or dismissal. When individuals feel seen, heard, and understood, they are more likely to seek help before reaching a breaking point. None of these solutions will be effective without proper funding. Right now, Kenya allocates less than one per cent of its health budget to mental health, leaving critical gaps in care, especially in rural areas. Expanding mental health services, training more professionals, and integrating mental health care into general healthcare settings are necessary steps toward ensuring help is accessible to all who need it.

We can no longer treat self-harm as an invisible crisis. Every statistic represents a real person; a son, a daughter, a friend, or a colleague struggling in silence.

Dr Jasmit Shah is a data scientist and Willie Njoroge is a research fellow at Aga Khan University's Brain and Mind Institute

THE MAIN DOSE

From restless nights to quiet departures: Embracing love, loss, and dignity in dying

Death doesn't arrive with a timetable. For the family, it's a painful wait, a wait marked by signs, unspoken moments, and the ache of seeing a loved one slipping away.

By Rosa Agutu

Saying goodbye is never easy, but the hope of reuniting with a loved one again can provide some comfort.

But how do you say goodbye to someone who was once a central part of your life, only to now see them as a mere shadow of their former self?

How do you say goodbye knowing that this time, there will be no return?

This is the heartbreaking reality faced by family members and caregivers tending to loved ones in their final stages.

As you walk through the sterile hallways of the Cancer Centre at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), the unmistakable scent of antiseptic fills the air, signalling a space where healing and hope intertwine with inevitable loss.

For many, the hospital becomes a second home, a place of refuge for those seeking treatment or palliative care.

Among those walking these halls is Hannah Njeri, who spent her final days with her mother, lovingly caring for her until her very last breath.

In February 2023, Hannah's world turned upside down as her mother's health rapidly deteriorated. Blood clots were discovered, and further tests revealed the devastating diagnosis: Leukemia, a cancer of the blood.

"We spent all of January at KNH, and we were discharged on January 25. But just a week later, we were back," Hannah recalls.

Despite the uncertainty, she appreciated the honesty of the doctors at the hospital.

"I am grateful that the doctors told us the truth. It's crucial to be told the reality when a loved one's health is at risk. They called a family meeting and explained that it was Stage Four cancer," she says.

Hannah's heart shattered at the news, but she had no choice, but to accept the inevitable.

"I was devastated. I cried in the doctor's office, but I prayed, 'God, you gave me my mother, and now I release her.' She was in so much pain, and all she needed was love, something we couldn't give her to relieve the suffering," she says.

On January 25, after her mother was discharged, Hannah brought her home, determined to shower her with all the love and care she could give, right up until her final moments.

"Our house was transformed into a mini-hospital. One room was set up with a hospital bed and everything needed to

ensure her comfort," she recalls.

Hannah's daughter, Mary Nashipai, postponed her nursing studies to care for her grandmother. Often, hired help would leave after witnessing the daunting nature of the care required.

"At the family meeting, the doctor told us that her condition had reached Stage Four, and there was no hope of healing, only palliative care. Her wounds stretched all the way to the soles of her feet. They were so painful that every time I cleaned them, she would scream out in agony," Mary explains.

As her grandmother's condition worsened, Mary began to notice the subtle signs that death was near, just as the doctors had warned them.

"The doctor told me to monitor her oxygen levels and blood pressure. Three hours before she passed away, I checked them, and they were dangerously low. I called the doctor, and he confirmed what we already feared: there was nothing more we could do. At around 4am, she quietly passed away."

“

End-of-life care is defined as the last six months of life. We usually reach this stage when we notice the patient's condition deteriorating. They can no longer function, spend more time in bed, have reduced oral intake, and are unable to carry out normal activities. These are called activities of daily living,”

Dr Esther Nafula, palliative medicine physician

"She had persistent hiccups. We called the doctor, and after examining her, he told us she was nearing the end," Mary says, her voice filled with sorrow.

At 4:34am, Mary called her mother to inform her that Mary Njeri Gicheru—mother, sister, grandmother—had taken her last breath.

"I entered the room, and as I did, she took a final, deep breath. She straightened her legs, then peacefully slipped away," Mary says, her voice barely above a whisper, but filled with the weight of the moment.

Palliative care

Dr Esther Nafula, a palliative medicine physician, sheds light on the key differences between palliative care and end-of-life care, emphasising their crucial roles in supporting patients and families during serious, life-limiting illnesses.

"Palliative care focuses on enhancing the quality of life for patients and their families as they navigate the challenges of life-threatening illnesses," she explains.

"It's a collaborative effort that goes beyond the work of a single individual. It involves a diverse team of healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, chaplains, social workers, psychologists, and, of course, the patient and their family," she adds.

Dr Nafula outlines the initial steps of palliative care, which begin with a thorough assessment of the patient's condition, including their diagnosis, prognosis, and the impact the illness is having on both the patient and their family.

"When we see a patient, we begin by assessing their needs. What is the diagnosis? What is the expected progression of the disease? And how is it affecting the patient and their family?" she says.

"End-of-life care typically begins when a patient enters the final six months of life, marked by a gradual decline in their general health. At



this stage, they may become bedridden, lose their ability to feed themselves, and be unable to perform activities of daily living," she continues.

Dr Nafula stresses that preparation for end-of-life care often begins at the moment of diagnosis. In cases where a cure is no longer possible, physicians begin educating the patient and their family about the anticipated course of the illness and its complications.

"At the time of diagnosis, we often already know that the illness cannot be cured, and we foresee complications that will arise. It is crucial for us, as healthcare providers, to communicate this with the patient and their loved ones in a transparent and compassionate way," she notes.

Communication, according to Dr Nafula, is key throughout the end-of-life journey. She emphasises the importance of helping patients and families set "goals of care," which may focus on palliative rather than curative treatments. This is particularly important when patients are experiencing distressing symptoms, such as delirium, and it is essential to explain the causes, expected duration, and available interventions.

"We need to be honest with patients and families about the illness and its stage, while helping them set realistic goals of care. If curing the illness is no longer an option, the focus shifts to providing comfort and palliation," she explains.

In addition to providing medical care, palliative care teams work to ensure families are prepared to care for patients at home, offering guidance on nursing care, medication management, and arrangements for necessary lab tests. Decisions about who will act as the patient's decision-maker in the event they can no longer communicate are also vital.

End-of-Life Signs

Catherine Abuor, a palliative care nurse, highlights the unique nature of each patient's end-of-life experience, noting that the timing of death is unpredictable. However, there are some common signs that indicate a patient is nearing the end.

"One of the key signs is refusal to eat and the desire to be left alone," Nurse Catherine explains.

"Hiccups, especially in critically ill patients, can also indicate that death is imminent. It's important to inform family members of these signs so they can understand and prepare themselves," she adds.

Nurse Catherine adds that some patients may display moments of apparent recovery, such as waking up, eating, or making small movements, which can create confusion for families. However, her team's primary goal is to ensure that patients pass away without pain.

DELIRIUM TO PEACE: SUBTLE SIGNS THAT DEATH IS NEAR

- Delirium- Seeing dead relatives
- Loss of appetite- Food is no longer a priority for a body that is shutting down
- Body shuts down
- Skin colour changes in some diseases
- Some appear relaxed, their face softens, they look calmer
- Terminal agitation/restlessness
- Mottling- resulting from reduced blood flow to the skin's surface, and is considered a normal part of the dying process.
- Spaced out breathing

"We know when our patients are approaching the end, but our main priority is to ensure they are pain-free. After 27 years at Kenyatta National Hospital, I'm looking forward to using my experience in the community to make sure no one has to die in pain," she affirms.

Role of spiritual care

John Kanyi, a clinical chaplain at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), explains how spirituality plays a crucial role in coping with the challenges of end-of-life care. He acknowledges the difficulty of discussing death but stresses the importance of addressing patients' beliefs and values to help them cope.

"Death is a difficult subject, but we approach it by connecting with the patient's beliefs and values. We use life review as a tool to help patients address unresolved conflicts, often within family dynamics. By processing their lives and resolving these issues, patients can find peace," he says.

Rev. Kanyi also highlights the importance of initiating a holistic approach early in the diagnosis. He recalls a personal experience where a physician called him only when the patient was no longer responsive, and he stressed that without engaging with the patient's values and beliefs earlier, interventions risked addressing the needs of the caregiver rather than the patient.

"The essence of this conversation is to prioritise the patient's needs and ensure they are addressed with compassion," he notes.

Imam Mubarak Ali, chaplain and imam at KNH, emphasises the importance of spiritual care for both patients and their families during the final stages of life. He explains that, in Islam, life is viewed as a trust from Allah, and death is seen as a transition to the hereafter.

"Islam teaches that death is a transition from this world to the next. As Muslims, we prepare for death through religious teachings and supplication," he explains.

"However, as human beings, we are still deeply affected by the process. That is why a holistic approach is essential during this time," he adds.

Imam Mubarak further describes how chaplains provide spiritual support by offering prayers, reminding patients and their families of Allah's presence, and helping them find comfort in their faith during this challenging time.

"We stand with patients and their families, providing spiritual support through du'a (supplication), ensuring they remain connected to their spiritual strength. This is crucial in helping them navigate the emotional and spiritual challenges they face," he explains.

In these deeply reflective moments, healthcare providers, chaplains, and family members come together to offer compassionate care, dignity, and comfort, ensuring that the journey towards the end of life is as peaceful as possible.

SIDEBAR

Holding on while letting go: Facing the final days with grace

Grief therapist Mueni Wambua discusses coping strategies for anticipatory grief, the sorrow that arises when a loved one is terminally ill and nearing the end of their life.

One important coping mechanism for caregivers is to create a peaceful environment for the dying person.

"This is the time to engage in conversations about what they want to remember, whom they wish to forgive, or express gratitude and blessings. It is not a time to discuss the will. Focus on their emotional well-being—do they have religious beliefs or practices they want to engage in? For example, some may request holy communion or the visit of a pastor. It's about nourishing their spirit," she explains.

"This is not the time to have difficult family discussions or arguments. If important conversations need to take place, they should happen earlier. At this stage, we're facing inevitable decline, so it's essential to focus on providing emotional comfort," she advises.

She also stresses the need to remind your loved one that they are loved, even in their most vulnerable moments.

"One of the last senses to fade is hearing, so it's crucial to ensure that they are surrounded by comforting sounds, like soothing music, prayers, or kind words. They may not be able to speak or open their eyes, but they can still hear. Let them not be burdened by discussions about bills or the selling of property," she says.

In addition to the family members, the dying person is also grieving the life they will miss—family milestones, such as a daughter's first menstruation, weddings, or graduations. "It's important to reassure them that they will be missed, but their family will be okay. Ask them what they

would like to say to their grandchild or child on their wedding day, and record these words for posterity," she suggests.

"This is not the time to mistreat them or speak harshly. They are in a vulnerable position and may be wondering if they are being cared for or treated with respect. We must ensure that they retain their dignity," she adds.

She also reminds caregivers that they too need to take care of themselves, as caregiving can lead to emotional, physical, and psychological exhaustion.

"Being present with a loved one in their final moments is a sacred and honourable experience. It can be challenging, but approach it with compassion and love, seeking connection, and reminding them of how they want to be remembered," she notes.

Mueni goes on to explain some of the physical symptoms that arise in the last two weeks of life, including increased pain, restlessness, and delirium, where the patient may call out the names of deceased relatives or friends. "Patients may appear confused, calling out to those who have passed away. In some cultures, it is believed that the dead are calling them. However, medically, this is called delirium. Not every patient will experience all these symptoms, and they may not follow a strict pattern," she says.

Other common symptoms include the inability to eat or drink, difficulty passing urine, and the shutdown of various organs. The skin may change colour, depending on the diagnosis. "Some patients also develop issues with their coagulation system, which controls bleeding and clotting. Some may bleed excessively, while others may form blood clots that make it difficult to access their veins," she explains.

[Rosa Agutu]



FEATURE

Headaches and blurred vision may be signs of brain tumours

Many patients struggle seeking medication abroad unknowingly that there are qualified specialists and modern facilities in the country

By Faith Kutere

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Until 2023, Robert Kasaija, a resident of Uganda, had been experiencing headaches for close to two decades.

But the middle-aged Kasaija, a hotelier in Busia, Uganda, chose to ignore the pain since it was on and off and did not adversely affect his daily duties. He thought it was out of exhaustion from his work routine.

However, in 2022, the pain intensified on his forehead and made him feel strange from the usual way he was accustomed to. It was then that he decided to seek medical attention at a health facility in Busia where he was given some pain killers.

The problem persisted and after visiting several health facilities in Kampala, he was treated for malaria, brucella and even typhoid but still did not feel better.

"A doctor would treat me for malaria or even brucella, another doctor diagnosed me with both malaria and typhoid. I was given tablets for a whole month but still could not get relieved. The pain in my forehead became intense," says Kasaija.

At some point, his family member associated the pain with witchcraft because despite several visits to the hospital, he did not feel better. He even sought help from witchdoctors from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Congo among other countries at a very costly price but did not get well.

"My friends took to different countries to seek medication because it was believed that I was bewitched. I would part with two to three million Ugandan shillings for every visit to the witchdoctor. Sometimes I had to pay for car hire to the place, buy goats, chicken and other requirements needed. Still, I didn't get well."

By August 2022, he started experiencing vision impairment on one of his eyes that affected his daily activities.

"I could not run my businesses as usual. I stopped driving because I could not see well and I was always in pain. I could not even operate my phone so I would ask my wife or friend to help whenever I wanted to make a call or check something," he narrates.

He then decided to seek medication in one of the biggest hospitals in Kampala where a CT scan was done. The results showed that he had a lesion in his brain.

"I was advised to undergo a surgery to remove the tumour. Since I had suffered pain for a long time, I did not hesitate and I asked the doctor to book me for a surgery immediately," Kasaija adds.

However, the doctor who was attending to him told him to wait as a group of medics would discuss how to remove the tumour. Kasaija went back home waiting for a response from the doctor who later advised that the surgery was complicated and could not be performed at the facility.

Devastated, Kasaija sought help at another hospital where a doctor agreed to operate on him. The doctor then asked him to go home as he prepared for the surgery procedure.

A day later, he called the doctor who said he would need to part with more money than what they had agreed earlier.

"I agreed and the doctor promised to get back to me. However, days passed without any communication from the doctor. When I called he did not pick my call or call back," said Kasaija who did not wish to specify the amount but stated it was more than Sh1 million in Kenyan shillings.

He went back to the first doctor who promised to operate on him with the help of a team of doctors from South Africa who were visiting the facility.

They even agreed again on an amount of money he was supposed to pay before he left for his home.

Kasaija disclosed that the doctor did not communicate to him again and that despite the pain, he decided to go back to the previous facility where he was told



Robert Kasaija. [Courtesy]

KEY FACTS



- Brain tumours are abnormal growths in the brain, either benign (non-cancerous) or malignant (cancerous).
- Tumours can disrupt brain function, affecting personality, memory, or physical abilities. Survivors often face long-term neurological challenges.
- Diagnosis is typically via MRI or CT scans, sometimes biopsy. Early detection is challenging due to vague symptoms.
- Causes are largely unknown. Risk factors include radiation exposure, certain genetic syndromes, and possibly family history. There is no clear link to lifestyle or environment for most cases.
- Symptoms vary widely—headaches, seizures, vision/hearing changes, cognitive decline, or motor issues. Symptoms depend on tumour size, location, and growth rate.
- Treatment options include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, or targeted therapies. Treatment depends on tumour type, grade, and patient health.

the procedure was complicated and only would be handled by specialists out of Africa.

The doctor further explained that he would have to remain in hospital for a month to fully recover after the surgery,

if it was done.

He went back home and with the help of his daughter, started looking for hospitals in India where he would find help.

The process was tedious and a complicated one that he contemplated giving up all together.

In early January 2023, his mother visited him upon which she suggested a visit to a hospital in Busia where a doctor told him that he had to undergo a surgery to avoid further damage in his brain.

Kasaija says at that time, he felt like his eyes were popping out of their sockets. The hospital in Busia advised him to visit its main facility in Nairobi where a neurosurgeon would be consulted to operate on him.

Lucky enough, he had a friend, Peter Maina who was based in Busia who had known of his suffering.

Maina had a sister, Purity Kabii, who works as a nurse in Eldoret town. He asked Kasaija to send a copy of his medical records to his sister whom he hoped would help them decide on where to get help for the condition.

Purity advised him to visit Dr Floentius Koech, a neurosurgeon at Tophill Hospital in Eldoret.

"I met Dr Koech, who after assessing me, said that the surgery would take close to two to three hours. He reassured me and said that I would be okay immediately after the surgery. I could not believe it!" Kasaija explains.

According to Dr Koech, Kasaija had a tumour in his brain around the pituitary area.

"He had a pituitary tumour that was compressing the optic nerves thus affecting his sight. We had to remove the tumour through the nasal cavity, otherwise known as an endoscopic transnasal transsphenoidal surgery," explained Dr Koech who spoke to The Standard.

During this surgery, an endoscope, a long tube with a camera attached at the end that sends images to a screen seen by a surgeon is inserted through the nose.

There are usually no external incisions and no visible scars in this type of surgery.

On January, 24, Kasaija was scheduled for a surgery at the hospital that turned out successful. Immediately after the surgery, Kasaija was able to see well. He stayed in the high dependency care unit, for less than six hours and later moved to the general ward.

His wife, Sylvia Kababiito, could not contain her happiness when she saw him up and well.

"I want to thank Dr Koech for helping my husband. I had struggled with him looking for medication for a long time. We are grateful," she says.

During his admission, the Ugandan Minister of State for Gender Labour and Social Development Mutuuzo Peace Regis visited him just to make sure he was doing fine.

"When he called to tell me that he was doing fine, I did not believe it because he has been struggling to get treatment. I am impressed by what the hospital has done to him. It's encouraging to know that Kenya has advanced and that quality modern health care is available," noted the minister.

Kasaija was discharged four days after the operation and was allowed to travel back home in good health.

"I had regained full sight and was glad that I would resume my daily activities. I can independently work unlike in the past when I had to call for support while doing essential things," said as he celebrated his good health.

Two years later and after several reviews, Kasaija is a happy man after the doctors gave him assurance of a clean bill of health.

He says he is trying to rebuild his business that was at the verge of closing down when he was sick. He also disclosed that his employees at his hotel robbed him when he was undergoing surgery, since they knew he wouldn't make it alive.

Dr Koech told The Standard that many patients struggle seeking medication abroad unknowingly that there are qualified specialists and modern facilities in the country.

"Most of chronic and complicated medical conditions can be managed in the country currently. The government has made it possible to have required facilities and trained specialists. Many people go abroad because of marketing strategies put by the external facilities," said Dr Koech.

In another remarkable medical story of hope and healing, Anstacia Nyatogo, a teacher from Kisii County, has made a miraculous recovery after undergoing a successful tumour removal surgery at the same hospital.

Anstacia's health ordeal began more than six months ago when she began experiencing severe headaches, dizziness, vomiting, and the gradual loss of vision in her right eye, a condition severely impacted her ability to work.

FEATURE

Cholera cases surge despite simple and effective containment measures

Kenya has been in a crisis situation from Cholera outbreaks, during the rainy season. The public is advised to undertake home-based as well as pharmacological preventive measures

By Ayoki Onyango
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New evidence proves that use of vaccines is effective in preventing cholera, particularly in crisis situations. [Courtesy]

There are outbreaks of cholera in Migori, Kisumu and Nairobi counties, which have led to the death of six people, with Kisumu recording 43 cases and three deaths, Migori, 69 cases, two death, Nairobi, 11 cases and one death.

More than 123 people have been infected, with Migori County experiencing the highest number of cases.

This has prompted medical experts to advise on measures that must be undertaken to contain the situation.

Nairobi Public Health Officer Raphael Muli confirmed the outbreak in the city and said the situation is under control.

Meanwhile, as cholera becomes epidemic with sporadic cases, effective measures need to be put in place to contain the spread.

Cases continue to rise despite the fact that it is easy and simple to control, and contain the disease.

Cholera is caused by bacterial infections and thrives mainly in human beings.

This water disease is highly contagious. One can also get cholera by eating food or drinking water, with contaminated faeces.

"The outbreak in the country requires strict personal hygiene, boiling water, keeping clean environment and using pit latrines for those who stay in informal settlements and rural areas where there are no flushing toilets. Cooking food properly and avoiding eating in unhygienic food joints," says Jude Onunga, a general

medical practitioner.

Dr Onunga says that health status of citizens is paramount and the government must ensure that cholera outbreaks in the three counties are contained and prevented from spreading to neighbouring counties and the infected persons must be treated promptly.

A survey conducted in 2023 by health inspectors from the Ministry of Health, showed that about 40 per cent of beds in private and public hospitals are occupied by patients suffering from air and water borne diseases.

Most of those affected people are slum and beach dwellers, people in refugee camps, those in prisons, and people who stay in populated settlements.

Even health care workers are also at risk of infections because they handle victims.

"It is that effective public health interventions, such as management of the environment and adequate use of vaccines are implemented to contain the spread amongst the vulnerable population," says Moses Mwangi, a vaccine specialist.

Dr Mwangi says new evidence has emerged on use of vaccines as a public health tool to prevent the disease, particularly in crisis situations.

Kenya has been in a crisis situation from Cholera outbreaks, during the rainy season.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), the first demonstration project using oral cholera vaccines in an endemic setting was performed in Port Beira,

KEY FACTS

- Cholera is a severe diarrheal disease that can be fatal within hours if not treated.
- Researchers estimate that there are 1.3 to 4.0 million cases and 21,000 to 143,000 deaths from cholera worldwide each year
- Symptoms and treatment:
 - Cholera can cause severe acute watery diarrhoea and life-threatening dehydration.
 - Most people with cholera have no or mild symptoms, which appear 12 hours to 5 days after infection.
 - Patients can be treated with oral rehydration solution. Severe cases need intravenous fluids, oral rehydration solution and antibiotics
 - Population's access to safe water, basic sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to prevent cholera.
- Source: World Health Organisation

“Mass immunisation campaigns using vaccines are essential to protect people against the disease.”

Moses Mwangi, vaccine specialist

Mozambique in 2000.

The demonstration aimed to assess the feasibility and acceptability of the vaccines in a population exposed to recurrent cholera outbreaks.

The results were encouraging in a case-controlled study conducted among vaccinated people.

"Mass immunisation campaigns using vaccines are essential to protect people against the disease", advises Mwangi.

He adds that if the disease is uncontrolled, it can result in more deaths.

"It is therefore a challenge to health professionals and other stakeholders who should advise the government to make it mandatory for the risk groups such as food handlers, slums and beach dwellers, health care workers, refugee populations, people in schools, colleges, prisons, crowded settlements as well as fishermen to get vaccinated, he notes.

Therefore, personnel from the Kenya Expanded Programme for Immunisation should ensure people are immunised, in the three affected counties and others at risk of the disease.

Experts advise there is an urgent need to rollout immunisation campaigns and other preventive measures and mechanisms against the disease, and medical checkups to facilitate early detection.

The public is advised to undertake home-based as well as pharmacological preventive measures to ensure the disease does not continue to cause havoc in the country.

Don't suffer incontinence in silence - nurse

Thousands of women could be suffering with incontinence and bladder problems because they are too embarrassed to seek help, a NHS expert has said.

Laura Rimmer, a clinical nurse specialist in urogynaecology at Humber Health Partnership, said more than six in 10 women would experience some form of incontinence.

Symptoms include a sudden urge to urinate, waking up in the night to go the toilet or passing wee when laughing, sneezing or exercising.

Rimmer said too many women were "suffering in silence" and urged anyone with symptoms to see a doctor or specialist.

"Too many women feel too embarrassed or worried to ask for help, but taking that first step can make all the difference to their quality of life," she said.

"You don't have to suffer in silence. There are many ways we can help which don't involve surgical intervention and can be done by yourself in the comfort of your own home."

Incontinence and bladder problems can be caused by a number of factors, such as childbirth, menopause, diabetes and conditions like multiple sclerosis.

Medical professionals claim one in four women over the age of 40 will experience incontinence.

Women can be referred to a specialist urogynaecology clinic at Hull Women and Children's Hospital for treatments or to learn how to manage the condition themselves.

Rimmer said she saw about 1,000 women a year from East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire with incontinence and bladder problems. [BBC]



Hundreds of women attend specialist clinics every year to treat incontinence and bladder problems.

FEATURE

Breaking free from the grip of panic attacks and their triggers



The attacks usually arise from a combination of factors, including genetics, stress and life experiences

By Ryan Kerubo
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You might find yourself in a crowded room, perhaps at a social gathering or while waiting in a long queue, and suddenly, your heart races, your palms begin to sweat and you struggle to breathe, as though something is terribly wrong.

Despite there being no immediate danger, your body reacts as if it's under threat. This could be a panic attack, which often strikes unexpectedly, even in situations that seem perfectly safe.

Triggered by the fight-or-flight response, panic attacks can cause intense symptoms such as chest pain, dizziness and feeling shaky or confused.

According to the American Psychiatric Association (APA), panic attacks can happen in response to various triggers and are often unpredictable, making them particularly distressing.

The attacks usually arise from a combination of factors, including genetics, stress and life experiences.

Mental health conditions like anxiety disorders, depression or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can increase the risk.

Environmental triggers such as work stress, relationship difficulties or trauma may also contribute.

As the World Health Organisation reports, the prevalence of anxiety dis-

orders, including panic attacks, is rising, particularly in urban areas due to growing pressures like job insecurity and socio-economic challenges.

Globally, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) states that about 2.7 per cent of the adult population in the US experiences panic disorder each year, with women being twice as likely to be affected as men.

Though panic attacks can be overwhelming, there are several effective techniques to manage and reduce their frequency.

1. Diaphragmatic or deep breathing can help regulate the body's stress response. To practice this, sit down with your feet flat on the floor and your back straight. Breathe in slowly through your nose for five seconds, allowing your stomach to expand. Hold for two seconds, then release the breath over five seconds. Repeat for



Avoiding caffeine and alcohol can trigger or intensify panic attacks in some people.

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

5-5-5

RULE

INHALE for 5 seconds, hold for another 5 seconds, and finally out for 5 seconds. This tends to help with breathing and, in turn, makes it easier to deal with panic symptoms.



WHAT TO DO WHEN SOMEONE ELSE IS HAVING A PANIC ATTACK

- Remain calm, as this may help them relax a little more.
- Move to a quiet spot nearby.
- Remind the person that panic attacks always end.
- Stay positive and nonjudgmental. Avoid validating any negative statements.
- Initiate a gentle, friendly conversation to distract them and help them feel safe.
- Avoid the approach of telling them to calm down or that there is nothing to worry about, as this devalues their emotions.
- Staying with them. If they feel they need to be alone, ensure they remain visible.

Source: Medical News Today

five to 15 minutes. The American Heart Association (AHA) emphasises deep breathing's ability to calm the body during stress.

2. Grounding with the 5-4-3-2-1 technique helps shift your focus away from the panic attack. Start by identifying five things you can see around you. Touch four objects, paying attention to their texture. Listen for three different sounds. Find two things you can smell, and focus on one thing you can taste. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, grounding techniques can help distract your mind and bring you back to the present moment.

3. Regular exercise is not only good for overall health, but it also helps reduce anxiety and stress, making it easier to cope with panic attacks. Aerobic activities such as walking, running or swimming boost endorphin levels, which are natural mood enhancers.

4. Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) is an effective treatment for panic attacks. It involves working with a therapist to identify negative thought patterns and replace them with healthier ways of thinking. The NIMH explains that CBT helps individuals understand the causes of their panic attacks and equips them with strategies to manage and reduce future episodes.

5. Avoiding caffeine and alcohol can trigger or intensify panic attacks in some people. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism warns that while alcohol might initially relieve anxiety, it can lead to more frequent and severe panic episodes over time.

Limiting or avoiding these substances can help manage panic attacks effectively.

Savour food in the virtual world without biting

By Maryann Muganda
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Imagine scrolling through your phone, seeing a picture of a delicious black forest cake, and being able to taste it without taking a bite. Thanks to new advancements in technology, this futuristic concept is becoming a reality.

This innovation, called e-Taste, has the potential to revolutionise how we interact with food in virtual and augmented reality (VR/AR) environments.

Developed by researchers at Ohio State University, e-Taste works by analysing a food's chemical composition and recreating its basic tastes—salty, sour, sweet and bitter—using a specialised hydrogel that delivers corresponding taste sensations to the user's tongue.

The e-Taste system is based on a bio-integrated gustatory interface, which is a type of human-machine interface that mimics taste perception through chemical signals.

Unlike traditional VR experiences that focus on sight and sound, this system allows users to engage their sense of taste remotely.

The device consists of two key components: a sensing platform that captures taste chemicals from a food sample and a micro-fluidic actuator that delivers the corresponding flavours to a user's tongue.

Early tests of e-Taste have been promising. Participants in the study were able to correctly identify the recreated flavours more than 80 per cent of the time. While this technology successfully mimics taste, it does have limitations.

The ability to taste food virtually could have widespread applications in various industries. Imagine a world where people can sample a restaurant's menu before making a reservation or where chefs can create and refine recipes digitally. Virtual taste technology could also benefit people with dietary restrictions by allowing them to enjoy the experience of different foods without consuming them.

Individuals in remote locations could experience international cuisines without physically transporting the food. For medical applications, patients who require restricted diets might use e-Taste to safely satisfy cravings without impacting their health.

Despite its groundbreaking potential, e-Taste major hurdle is the need to integrate smell, texture, and temperature into the virtual tasting experience.

