



Fredrick Okango

**Oburu Oginga's gambit:
Steering Raila's Orange
party to Canaan**

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News

**SHA cancer cover runs
dry within six months,
patients protest to MPs**

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*the***STAR**



Ethiopia locked in conflict with Somalia over similar dispute

MUSEVENI THREATENS WAR WITH KENYA OVER INDIAN OCEAN

Story PG 4-5

Raila was long-serving Gor patron until his death



LONG LIVE, PATRON: Gor Mahia fans converge at Kisumu Sports Ground on their way to Kang'o ka Jaramogi to pay their last respects to former Prime Minister Raila Odinga in Bondo, Siaya county //FAITH MATETE

**Refugees stare
at hunger after
donor funds stop**

In the parched refugee camps of Dadaab and Kakuma, mothers are making impossible choices—skipping meals so their children can eat, stretching what little food they have over days, and praying that the next food distribution isn't the last. But even that hope is fading. The latest update from WFP paints a grim picture for over 875,000 refugees. Deep funding cuts are forcing major humanitarian agencies to slash monthly food rations.

STORY PAGE 2

**How Sulumeti
handled delicate
Bomas discussion
on power sharing**

Bishop Philip Sulumeti's ability to handle a delicate situation with kids' gloves despite raging suspicion and flaring tempers was put to the test when he chaired the consensus building group at the Bomas of Kenya in 2004. He was selected to chair the special committee that included Grace Ogot, Ruth Kibiti, Sophia Noor, Wangari Maathai and Mau Mau veteran Gitu Wa Kahengeri.

STORY PAGE 3

IMPOSSIBLE CHOICES

Refugees battle hunger as donors slash funding

This has revealed fragile balance between donor support and refugee survival

GORDON OSEN
@gordon_osen

IN the parched refugee camps of Dadaab and Kakuma, mothers are making impossible choices—skipping meals so their children can eat, stretching what little food they have over days, and praying that the next food distribution isn't the last.

But even that hope is fading.

The latest update from the World Food Programme paints a grim picture for more than 875,000 refugees in Kenya. Deep funding cuts are forcing major humanitarian agencies to slash monthly food rations and eliminate cash assistance, putting thousands of families on the edge of starvation.

"I used to get enough to feed my children three times a day. Now, it's once—maybe twice if I skip my share," says Amina Mohammud, a mother of five in Kakuma, who escaped war in Somalia last year.

"We eat less so the children can eat."

According to the WFP's Kenya Country Brief published on July 23, funding for humanitarian food assistance has plummeted by more than 65 per cent compared to 2024. The drop comes at a time when needs remain high—not just in refugee camps, but across drought-stricken regions of Kenya.

In June, the impact of the cuts became impossible to ignore. The monthly food rations were reduced to just 32 per cent of the minimum recommended basket—well below what is considered necessary for basic nutrition and survival.

To stretch limited resources, WFP combined the June and July distributions, reaching more than 710,000 refugees, nearly half of them women. But even this strategy offered only temporary relief.

"This is no longer about discomfort," one aid worker in Dadaab said. "It's about survival."



The sprawling camps—already scenes of chronic underfunding—are now confronting one of their worst crises in recent memory.

The cuts are part of a wider financial squeeze facing the WFP, which needs more than \$151 million (about Sh19 billion) in additional funding just to sustain its operations through January 2026.

As of last month, WFP was forced to halt all cash-based transfers, a lifeline that previously allowed families to buy vegetables, medicine, or baby formula—items not included in food baskets. "We are facing a devastating shortfall," WFP said.

"Without urgent new contributions, we will have no choice but to make further cuts to life-saving food assistance."

The crisis is not just a humanitarian failure but also a stark warning about the fragility of aid systems. When donor support wanes, it is the world's poorest—those who have fled war, drought and persecution—who suffer most.

Still, amid the funding challenges, the Kenyan government and aid agencies have made progress in im-

proving how assistance is targeted. The launch of the Enhanced Single Registry (ESR) has allowed for better categorisation of refugee households based on vulnerability.

Starting in August, families classified as highly vulnerable will receive 40 per cent of the minimum food basket. Those slightly better off will receive 20 per cent, while those deemed self-reliant may no longer receive food at all.

But even this refined targeting is a triage response to a much larger emergency.

"Even the highest level of aid under the new system falls short of minimum nutritional standards," WFP warned.

Women refugees at Ifo 2 refugee camp in Dadaab, Garissa, on May 7 /KNA

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

WFP's funding crisis reveals the fragile balance between donor support and refugee survival in Kenya. Without urgent replenishment, deeper cuts will undermine progress and leave the most vulnerable exposed.

COMMISSIONER'S RIGHTS

Court quashes gazette notice for NLC openings

JAMES GICHIGI

THE High Court has affirmed the constitutional rights of existing commissioners of the National Land Commission.

The court on Tuesday quashed the Gazette notice and subsequent advertisements declaring impending vacancies in the positions of chairperson and commissioners of the NLC.

Justice Chacha Mwita, in his judgment, found that while no actual violation had yet occurred, the actions taken by the government posed a real threat to the constitution and the law, necessitating judicial intervention.

The case arose from petitions filed by NLC commissioners Tiyah Galgalo and Esther Mathenge.

They challenged Notice No 1121 dated August 11, which was published in the Kenya Gazette on August 15, declaring impending vacancies for chairperson and commissioners of the NLC.

The notice was followed by advertisements in leading newspapers naming shortlisted candidates for the upcoming recruitment of NLC members.

Justice Mwita said the notice and subsequent steps by the selection panel, while appearing procedural, threatened to infringe on the legal tenure of sitting commissioners.

"The court, having found a threat valid to the constitution and the law, holds that the appropriate relief in this circumstance is declarations, since actual violation has not yet occurred," Justice Mwita said.

The court issued several key orders.

Firstly, a declaration affirmed that commissioner Tiyah Galgalo is entitled to serve her full term, which began on December 21, 2020, and will expire on December 20, 2026.

"An order of certiorari is hereby issued, quashing Gazette notice Number 1121 dated August 11, 2025, and published in the Kenya Gazette on August 15, 2025, declaring impending vacancies in the position of chairperson and commissioners of the National Land Commission for being a threat to violate to the constitution, the law and Tiyah Galgalo Ali's rights," Justice Mwita said.

Additionally, the court quashed advertisements published by the selection panel, including the notice of shortlisted candidates, on the grounds that they purported to create vacancies where none legally existed.

Justice Mwita further issued an order of prohibition. He barred the respondents, including the NLC and PSC, their agents, or anyone acting on their behalf from taking any steps that could lead to recommending persons for appointment as NLC commissioners or otherwise interfering with the tenure of existing commissioners.

The court emphasised these measures were necessary to safeguard the independence of the commission and the rights of sitting commissioners.

STAR SURVEY

TODAY'S QUESTION

Should SHA cover to cancer patients be increased to Sh1 million?

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

Should Kalonzo join Ruto's broad-based government?

YES 50%

NO 50%

STARS

Voting opens for 2025 Star Person of the Year

PURITY WANGUI

NOMINATIONS are open for the 2025 Star Person of the Year, giving Kenyans a chance to celebrate individuals whose work has transformed lives and strengthened communities.

The eighth annual award recognises men and women, including young people, whose consistent efforts have made Kenya, or their local communities, a better place to live and work. Since its launch in 2018, the Star Person of the Year Award has honoured individuals and groups whose contributions have shaped national conversations and improved everyday life.

Members of the public can now submit the names of their nominees

through an online platform. The nomination window closes on November 30. Then votes will be tallied to determine the standout personality whose work has had the greatest impact in 2025. To qualify, a nominee must be actively involved in activities that uplift people, solve problems, or inspire positive change within their community. The individual who leads in nominations once voting closes, will be declared the Star Person of the Year 2025.

The winner of the prestigious award will be announced in December, just days before Christmas.

Since its inception, the Star Person of the Year Award has celebrated Kenyans whose dedication and achievements have shaped the nation.

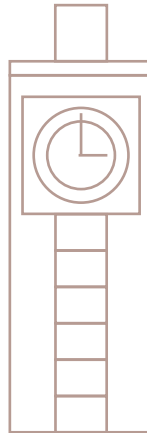




PHOTO STORY

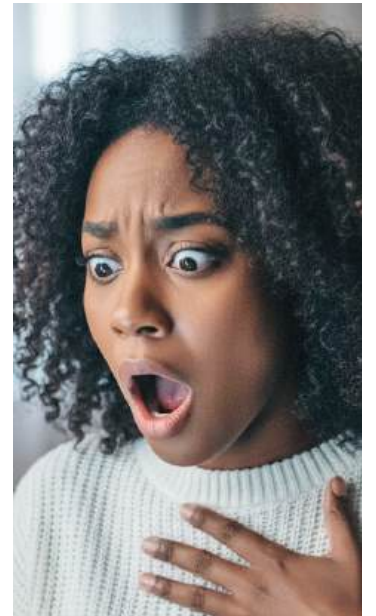
Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru greets county assembly majority leader Benson Ngahu and speaker Muteti Murimi on arrival to deliver the state of the county address /HANDOUT

CORRIDORS OF POWER



POLITICAL GOSSIP

Who is doing what and where in the world of politics



CONTENTIOUS ISSUES

How Sulumeti steered tricky Bomas talks on constitution

He was selected to chair special committee on power-sharing in Executive

GORDON OSEN
@gordon_osen

Bishop Philip Sulumeti's ability to handle a delicate situation with kids' gloves despite raging suspicion and flaring tempers was put to the test when he chaired the consensus building group at the Bomas of Kenya in 2004.

He was selected to chair the special committee that had Grace Ogot, Ruth Kibiti, Sophia Noor, Wangari Maathai, Mau Mau veteran Gitu Wa Kahengeri, Marsden Madoka, Kimaiyo arap Sego and Sheikh Ali Shee.

He was to midwife the power-sharing arrangement in the Executive, including creation of the office of the Prime Minister, the chapter on devolution, the chapter on representation as well as that on

the Judiciary. These were the topics isolated as contentious during the deliberations on a new constitution.

Sulumeti died at 11pm on Sunday aged 88. Born on August 15, 1937, he was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Kisumu on January 6, 1966.

The Catholic bishop of Kakamega diocese, while accepting his selection to lead the team, urged to be spared the sharp knives and daggers that were already drawn over the topics. "...we would like to ask you to cooperate with us because you have put on our shoulders a very grave and heavy duty, a bag of maize on one's back is heavy to carry. This is more than a bag of maize, 200kg," he said, lighting up the packed hall with laughter.

At the time, the schism in the



Bishop Philip Sulumeti /FILE

President Kibaki-led Narc government was sharpening and any clandestine meetings, especially during the constitution-making process, were frowned upon.

CARTOON YOU ARE NOW ENTERING



★ **A FORMER GOVERNOR** has sparked debate after allegedly running broke just three years after leaving office. The once influential leader is supposedly said to be seeking financial assistance from powerful politicians in the region, even reportedly spending time in the office of a senior parliamentary leader to beg for help. This situation has left locals questioning how a man who once held such power and resources could find himself in financial trouble so soon after leaving office.

★ **ARE POWERFUL STATE** forces making an all-out attempt to silence a vocal opposition politician critical of the regime? Sources suggest that the forces are seemingly employing a multipronged strategy to suppress the outspoken leader, who has become a persistent thorn in the government's side. Reports indicate that top online influencers have allegedly been hired to attack him on social media, while a team of loyal politicians has been assembled to counter him on the political front. Already, the politicians have begun launching verbal attacks against the opposition figure, whose growing popularity seems to be unsettling those in power.

★ **IS A POLITICIAN** eyeing the governor's seat in his rural county considering throwing in the towel? According to insiders, the going has become tough for the man who was once touted as the frontrunner for the position. The shifting political tide in the region seems to be working against him, despite his efforts to win over residents by spending heavily on his campaign. However, reality appears to be sinking in, with some of his close allies admitting that he is reportedly contemplating pulling out.

★ **A LAWMAKER RECENTLY** stirred debate in a parliamentary committee meeting after passionately defending a first-term governor who had appeared before the committee over a critical Auditor General's report. The legislator clashed with colleagues, who accused the county chief of allegedly misusing public funds, even going as far as accusing some members of rent-seeking and dismissing the report as manipulated. Sources, however, claim the MP's spirited defense may not have been out of goodwill, as he reportedly owns a company that was recently awarded a multibillion-shilling contract by the same governor.

If you have any tips send them to Tips@the-star.co.ke

REGION IN TURMOIL ETHIOPIA, ANOTHER LANDLOCKED COUNTRY, HAS BEEN EMBROILED IN A



Museveni warns of future conflicts over Uganda's access to Indian Ocean

ELIUD KIBII
@eliudkibii

UGANDAN President Yoweri Museveni has in a veiled threat seen to target Kenya warned of future wars in the EAC to secure access to the Indian Ocean.

Speaking during a radio interview in Mbale City — where he was campaigning — Museveni said blocking landlocked countries from access to the sea was “madness”, insisting Uganda was entitled to the Indian Ocean because of its economic and security needs.

Kenya remains the key trade and logistics corridor for Uganda.

“Even if you want to build a navy, how can you build it when

you don't have access to the sea? That ocean belongs to me because it is my ocean. I am entitled to it. In future, we are going to have wars,”

Museveni said. He added that the Indian Ocean is vital for Uganda's strategic defence and economic development and only economic and

political integration in East African Community could thwart such conflicts.

Using a metaphor of an apartment block, Museveni argued that all countries, regardless of geographic position, should have equal access to shared resources.

“How can you say that you are on a block of flats, that the compound belongs only to the flats on the ground floor? That compound belongs to the whole block. All the flats are entitled to the compound. So, I say these people are really endangering themselves.

“How can you have a situation like this? Uganda is landlocked inside here. But where is my ocean? My ocean is the Indian Ocean. No!

“

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI

How can you have a situation like this? Uganda is landlocked inside here. But where is my ocean? My ocean is the Indian Ocean. No! No! It belongs to... this and this. This is madness



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LONG-RUNNING CONFLICT WITH SOMALIA OVER A SIMILAR MARITIME DISPUTE



Presidents Yoweri Museveni (Uganda), Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya) and Paul Kagame (Rwanda) during commissioning of berth number 19 at the Port of Mombasa in Kenya on August 28, 2013 /FILE

had endless discussions with Kenya. This one stops, another comes. The railway, the pipeline, the what But that ocean belongs to me. Because it is my ocean. I am entitled to that ocean," Museveni added.

Presidents William Ruto of Kenya and Museveni have met multiple times in 2024 and 2025 to resolve the fuel import dispute and the stalled Eldoret-Kampala oil pipeline extension project.

In March last year, Kenya agreed to license the state-owned Uganda National Oil Company to import refined petroleum products directly through Mombasa port, using the Kenya Pipeline Company infrastructure.

The agreement ended a long-standing diplomatic tiff, where Uganda had sued Kenya in the East African Court of Justice for denying UNOC a license to operate as an oil marketer in Kenya.

The leaders also agreed to jointly extend the existing oil products pipeline from Eldoret in Kenya to Kampala, a project that has stalled since 2014.

It seeks to ensure efficient and cost-effective distribution of oil products in the region.

Museveni, who is seeking his seventh term in the January 2026 polls, said shared access to resources such as the ocean could avert future conflicts.

His tone however suggested impatience with the slow pace of regional cooperation.

Museveni noted that EAC integration would ensure members benefit from shared prosperity and stability.

"That is why I say you people, you better unite economically for the sake of prosperity and if you want stability and also strength in the world, so you can go to the moon. The ones who go to the moon are big ones, not small people.

"The Americans, the Chinese, the Russians, and the Indians now. Our friends, the British, are still

here with us. They can't go. It is too much. One country can't manage. The French are here with us. All these fellows, except those four, because size matters. That is why we say, you people, why don't you look at East Africa so that we deal with the issue of strategic security?" he posed.

He said political and economic integration within the EAC is one of the seven key priorities in his presidential manifesto.

During his visit to Nairobi in July, President Museveni emphasised the importance of the EAC to Uganda's survival.

"I don't often travel but for regional meetings, particularly for EAC, I cannot miss any meeting. This is because this is our primary area of interest for our survival".

During the meeting, Ruto and Museveni reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen regional institutions and advance EAC objectives, including the customs union, common market, monetary union and, ultimately, political federation.

This is not the first time Uganda's leadership has made statements perceived in Kenya as provocative.

In 2022, Museveni's son, Gen Muhoozi Kainerugaba, sparked outrage when he tweeted that Ugandan forces could capture Nairobi in two weeks.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

President Yoweri Museveni's recent remarks warning of possible future wars in the East African Community over access to the Indian Ocean reflect deep-seated frustrations with Kenya's control of Uganda's trade routes. While couched in calls for regional integration, his tone revealed impatience and veiled threats towards Kenya. The comments underscore tensions over stalled projects such as the Eldoret-Kampala oil pipeline and lingering disputes like Migingo Island. Analysts see Museveni's rhetoric as both campaign posturing and strategic signaling, aimed at pressuring Kenya and rallying domestic support ahead of Uganda's 2026 elections. The remarks risk straining Nairobi-Kampala relations further.

The tweet caused a huge backlash, forcing his father to issue a public apology to Kenyans.

The remarks by Museveni have also revived the long-standing Migingo Island dispute, where Ugandan security forces have frequently clashed with Kenyan fishermen over control of the tiny fishing rock in Lake Victoria.

In July 2025, Kenya and Uganda reached a deal to resolve the dispute through a joint fishing license framework and sharing the island's resources.

The deal, which was described as a diplomatic breakthrough, sought to end years of border tensions and harassment of fishermen through joint licensing and resource sharing.

However, although both governments maintain that the dispute is "resolved," Uganda's continued police presence on the island remains a sore point in bilateral relations.

Prof Peter Kagwanja opines that Museveni's remarks could be sounding warning that should there be a leadership in Kenya that would threaten his access to the sea, then Uganda will be up in arms.

"I don't think being landlocked should be an excuse for war as Uganda has also been landlocked. And, in any case, many other countries such as Switzerland are landlocked but successful. We also have international conventions that protect landlocked countries," Kagwanja said.

Commenting on President Museveni's conduct in the region, former Nyeri Town MP Ngunjiri Wambugu argued that there was a level of contempt that Uganda has for Kenya.

"There is a statement he [Museveni] made before about our army not being as good as theirs. When we get to a point where we are competing on strengths, Uganda believes they have the capacity to bully us, and they have done it before, Migingo Island and other places and we do nothing about it," he said.



Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni receives an interview with Xinhua in Entebbe, Uganda /XINHUA

No! It belongs to... this and this. This is madness," President Museveni said.

Ethiopia, another landlocked country, has been embroiled in a conflict with Somalia over a similar maritime dispute.

Tensions deepened in early 2024 after Addis Ababa signed a controversial port access and security deal with Somaliland — an entity Somalia considers part of its sovereign territory.

Mogadishu condemned the agreement as a violation of its sovereignty, while Ethiopia defended it as a strategic necessity to secure maritime access.

Ethiopia has often argued that international law recognises the principle that all states, regardless of geography, should have the ability to participate in global maritime trade.

Museveni, Uganda's long-serving leader, termed the political organisation in Africa as irrational, noting that many landlocked countries have no access to the sea for economic and defence purposes.

Museveni also expressed frustrations with the never-ending negotiations with Kenya over Uganda's access to the Indian Ocean through the pipeline and the railway.

"You are stuck. How do I export my products? That is why we have

NEWS GENERAL

WE'RE NOT SPLITTING

Gachagua to Ruto: Our alliance is to send you home, not share power

United Opposition says it is committed to making Ruto a one-term President in 2027 polls

LUKE AWICH
@AchiaAwich

DEMOCRACY for the Citizens Party leader Rigathi Gachagua has hit back at President William Ruto, saying their alliance is to unseat him in 2027 and has nothing to do with power sharing.

During the funeral service of Terry Kariuki, the widow of Kenyan socialist politician Josiah Mwangi Kariuki in Gilgil, Nakuru county, the opposition leader declared that his emerging political alliance is about uniting forces to defeat Ruto in the general elections.

Gachagua was responding to Ruto's Monday remarks that "five men are grouping with the sole agenda of unseating him," with nothing on improving the country.

"Ruto is behind the news, he is confused. The five people are meeting with one aim—to send you home.

Nobody is planning how to share the government. That will come in later," the former deputy president said.

Their coming together was not for handshakes or positions but to send Ruto home in 2027 and restore respect to the mountain, he added.

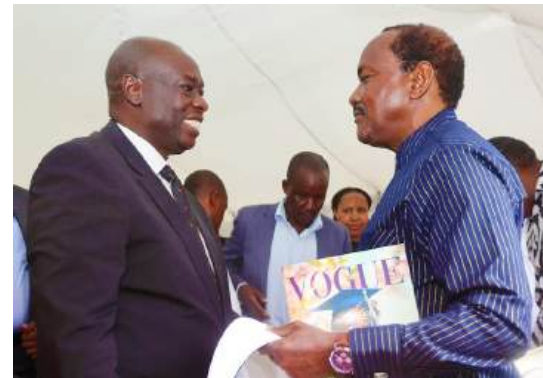
"The mistake we did in 2022 was to go to a wedding in someone else's vehicle. We got to the river and we were thrown out. Let's not repeat that mistake."

Gachagua said the movement he is building with like-minded leaders aims to save the country from "mismanagement by the Kenya Kwanza administration".

"If in three years he has destroyed the economy, run down both the healthcare system and education in the country, then he is asking you to re-elect him to make Kenya a first-world country, can you believe him?" he posed.

He cautioned Mt Kenya against

Former DP Rigathi Gachagua and Wiper Party leader Kalonzo Musyoka during the burial ceremony of Terry Kariuki, widow of Kenya socialist politician JM Kariuki, in Gilgil /DENISH OCHIENG



internal divisions reminiscent of the 1992 elections, when political fragmentation cost the opposition, after President Daniel Moi divided the movement along party lines.

"DCP is our vehicle and our strength. Raila Odinga had a good vehicle and good conductors. Do not be cheated to divide our votes like in 1992. We must be in one political

vehicle," he said.

"I have formed one party that should be our strength and shield. That should be the only vehicle. The others are wheelbarrows." Gachagua reiterated the call to central Kenya not to vote in different baskets.

"I am begging you to give me more soldiers. Give me a governor, senators and MPs here in Nakuru, including

MCAs," he said.

The funeral was also attended by Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka, DAP-K boss Eugene Wamalwa and a host of opposition politicians.

Eugene laughed off media reports that he and Kalonzo are the prime targets of Ruto's bid to split the united opposition, saying they are committed to making Ruto a one-term President.

"We have agreed to walk this journey and we want to assure you that we shall not separate. Whoever is looking for us must do so through Rigathi Gachagua," Eugene said.

"We are determined to walk this journey to send Ruto back home."

Kalonzo, while eulogising Terry, who died on October 30, while receiving treatment at a hospital in Nairobi, lauded JM's contributions to the struggle to make Kenya free.

"As opposition leaders, we shall carry on the task JM Kariuki started," Kalonzo said.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF ISIOLO
P.O BOX 36 – 60300 ISIOLO
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



TENDER INVITATION NOTICE

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

The county Government of Isiolo through the Department of Revenue invites eligible and qualified bidders for the mentioned works and services.

TENDER NO	TENDER DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	BID SECURITY(KSHS)
CGI/RFP/011/001/2025-2026	SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF AN INTEGRATED COUNTY REVENUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	OPEN	200,000

2.0 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Details of mandatory requirement shall be as captured in the tender document in the county website www.isiolo.go.ke and www.tenders.go.ke.

3.0 SUBMISSION

Interested eligible tenderers are requested to inspect the tender documents and obtain any clarification concerning the tender documents from the office of the head of supply chain management, Isiolo County Treasury Building P.O BOX 36 – 60300 Isiolo during working hours. Bid documents may be downloaded free of charge from www.isiolo.go.ke.

Complete tender documents are to enclosed in plain sealed envelopes clearly marked with the tender number and name addressed to

**THE DIRECTOR SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF ISIOLO
P. O BOX 36-60300
ISIOLO**

The document shall be deposited in the tender box provided at the County Treasury office on or before **26th November 2025** at **11.00 a.m.** The tenders shall be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. Late tenders will not be accepted



NATIONAL CEREALS AND PRODUCE BOARD

Leaders in Trade & Management of Agricultural Commodities

TENDER NOTICE

National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) invites interested eligible bidders to participate in the following tenders:-

TENDER NO.	DESCRIPTION	ELIGIBLE GROUP	CLOSING DATE
NCPB/FERTILIZER/01/2025-2026	Supply and delivery of various types of fertilizer on consignment based framework contractual agreement for a period of two years under fertilizer subsidy program.	OPEN	26th November, 2025 at 12 noon
NCPB/SEC/02/2025-2027	Provision of guarding services and alarm systems for two (2) years	OPEN	26th November, 2025 at 12 noon
NCPB/FUELLING/DRYERS/03/2025-2026	Framework agreement for provision of fuelling services for board's dryers for a period of two years	OPEN	26th November, 2025 at 12 noon

The tender document(s) with further detailed information may be obtained from the office of the Head of Procurement Services, during official working hours upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Kshs. 1,000.00 (One thousand only)** per tender document, payable in form of mpsa at NCPB's Cash Office situated in Nafaka House, Industrial Area between **9:00am and 4:00pm**.

Interested and eligible bidders may download tender document(s) free of charge from PPRA portal www.tenders.go.ke and NCPB's website: www.ncpb.co.ke. Bidders who opt to download the tender document shall be required to send/email their company's details to supplies@ncpb.co.ke OR ncpbssupplies@gmail.com

Completed tender document(s) shall be sealed and marked as stated in the tender document(s) and addressed to:-

**The Managing Director
National Cereals and Produce Board
Nyumba ya Nafaka
Machakos/Enterprise Roads
Industrial Area
P.O BOX 30586-00100
NAIROBI**

and physically deposited in the Tender box situated in Nafaka House Ground Floor by the Main Entrance so as to be received on or **before above stated date at 12.00 noon (EAT)**

Bulky tenders which do not fit into the slot of the tender box shall be received at the **Head of Procurement Services office**.

Bids will be closed and opened promptly in public and in presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend the ceremony at NCPB's Gilfilian hall.

Late bids, electronic bids shall NOT be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Canvassing in any form shall lead to automatic disqualification.



NCPB IS ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

NCPB: LEADERS IN TRADE & MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

NEWS GENERAL

GROSSLY INADEQUATE

Cancer patients want SHA cover raised to Sh1 million

Kenco claims the current Sh550k gets depleted within months

LUKE AWICH
@AchiaAwich



Kenco national chairperson Philip Odiyo /HANDOUT

CANCER patients, survivors and caregivers have petitioned Parliament, demanding adjustment of the annual limit in the SHA cover.

They claim the medical scheme gets depleted within months.

Currently, cancer patients are covered to the tune of Sh550,000 per household per year down from the Sh600,000 which was offered under the defunct National Hospital Insurance Fund.

Appearing before the National Assembly's Health Committee, Kenya Network of Cancer Organisations (Kenco) said most families are forced to shoulder heavy burdens or abandon treatment midway.

The network represents 70 civil society groups and thousands of cancer patients including survivors and caregivers across the country.

National chairperson Philip Odiyo said most of their members exhaust their benefits in less than six months.

A survey conducted by the organisation on 118 patients and caregivers says 60 per cent had exhausted their

SHA cover before the end of the year.

The study also revealed that 35.8 per cent exhaust their benefits in less than three months while another 34.3 per cent within three to six months.

"These findings confirm that the current oncology cover is grossly inadequate for the financial realities of cancer treatment and that SHA has not protected households from catastrophic health expenditure," Odiyo told MPs.

"This policy shift has left many cancer patients with no option but to pay out of pocket, seek communal contributions through harambees or abandon treatment altogether – with catastrophic health and financial consequences."

According to Kenco's study tabled before the committee, among those whose cover ran out, 38.5 per cent were able to pay out of pocket, 27.9 per cent could only pay partially. "A record 20.2 per cent could not pay

for treatment at all and 13.5 per cent were forced to abandon treatment completely," executive director Phoebe Ongadi said.

They are now calling on the government to raise the package to at least Sh1.2 million per year under SHA. "We urge the ministry of Health and SHA to increase the oncology benefit to at least Sh1.2 million per individual per year," Odiyo said.

The financial burden of treating cancer in Kenya has reached alarming levels, with Kenco estimating that families spend an average of Sh3.8 million a year to keep their loved ones alive.

The patients and caregivers umbrella body says the cost of chemotherapy, radiotherapy, surgery and follow-up medication has turned cancer into a medical and financial nightmare.

It said a woman diagnosed with triple-positive breast cancer and accessing services from a public health centre ends up paying in excess of Sh3.8 million. Kenco says a standard chemotherapy session costs Sh21,000 amounting to Sh168,000 for the recommended eight sessions while blood works cost Sh4,500 totaling to Sh36,000 for the eight cycles.

Imaging and diagnostic monitoring further raise the cost, including a CT scan (Sh20,000) echocardiograms every three months (Sh3,000) and a PET scan at Sh53,400.

The patient will also undergo targeted therapy. Herceptin alone costs Sh33,800 per cycle for 18 cycles (or more for some patients) amounting to Sh608,400.

"Kadcyla, often prescribed for maintenance or resistance cases, costs Sh180,000 per cycle for 114 cycles – a staggering Sh2.52 million," vice chairperson Prisca Githuka said.

According to Kenco's breakdown, hormonal therapy including Zoladex (Sh19,615 every three months indefinitely) and Letrozole (Sh5,000 for a three-month dose more than 10 years), all totaling to Sh100,000 in one year alone. The patient will also undergo Radiotherapy at an average of Sh3,600 per session for the recommended 30 sessions totaling to Sh108,000.

These, added to Sh120,000 for surgery and another CT scans of the chest and pelvis costing Sh8,000 and Sh12,000 would see a patient spending Sh3.8 million in a year.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

Cancer is the third leading cause of death and a major public health concern. Many cases (70–80%) are diagnosed at late stages, often due to factors like late diagnosis, high costs, and inadequate diagnostic and treatment facilities, according to Countdown to 20340 Initiative.

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI

TEL: 0716571084
Email: info@kituiassembly.go.ke
Website: www.kituiassembly.go.ke



Clerk's Office,
Kitui County, Assembly,
P.O. Box 694-90200,
Kitui, Kenya.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

INVITATION TO TENDER

The County Assembly of Kitui invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the advertised tenders for the financial years **2025/2026, 2026/2027 & 2027/2028**.

Interested bidders may examine and obtain detailed tender list/documents free of charge from the Assembly website www.kituiassembly.go.ke or public procurement information portal <https://tenders.go.ke/tenders> or IFMIS platform <https://supplier.treasury.go.ke/>

All tenders must fill, scan and submit duly serialized tender documents in PDF format electronically through the IFMIS supplier portal so as to be received on or before **28th November 2025 at 12.00 Noon**.

The system will automatically LOCK OUT at the time and date of the tender closing as indicated in the IFMIS PORTAL and the tenderers shall be opened electronically immediately after, in the presence of all bidders or their designated representatives who choose to attend, at the tent within the County Assembly Precincts.

**Ag. CLERK OF ASSEMBLY
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT | FOURTH SESSION
THE SENATE**

INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF MEMORANDA

THE KENYA ROADS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL, 2025 (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 34 OF 2025)

THE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025 (SENATE BILLS NO. 15 OF 2025)

The National Construction Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Senate Bills No. 15 of 2025) and the Kenya Roads (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill, 2025 (National Assembly Bills No. 34 of 2025) were read a First Time in the Senate on Tuesday, 28th October, 2025, and Wednesday, 29th October, 2025, respectively. The Bills were committed to the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing for consideration.

The National Construction Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Senate Bills No. 15 of 2025) seeks to amend the National Construction Authority Act, Cap 118 of the Laws of Kenya in order to obligate the National Construction Authority to promote and enforce the use of environmentally sustainable construction materials, designs, standards and practices that enhance resilience against climate change risks.

The Kenya Roads (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill, 2025 (National Assembly Bills No. 34 of 2025) seeks to amend the Kenya Roads Act, Cap 408 of the Laws of Kenya in order to re-classify roads in Kenya and to provide for the responsibilities of county governments with regard to county roads. The Bill also seeks to amend the manner in which the Road Maintenance Levy is apportioned under the Kenya Roads Board Act, Cap 408 A of the Laws of Kenya.

The Committee is required, under standing order 145(5) of the Senate Standing Orders, to facilitate public participation on the Bills and to take into account the views and recommendations of the public when the Committee makes its report to the Senate.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution and standing order 145(5) of the Senate Standing Orders, the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing now invites interested members of the public to submit any representations that they may have on the Bills by way of written memoranda.

The memoranda may be submitted to the Clerk of the Senate, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi, hand-delivered to the Office of the Clerk of the Senate, Main Parliament Buildings, Nairobi or emailed to clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke and copied to roadstranshousingcomm.senate@parliament.go.ke to be received on or before **Thursday, 27th November, 2025 at 5.00 p.m.**

The Bills and Digests that summarize the contents and context of the Bills may be accessed on the Parliament website at <http://www.parliament.go.ke/the-senate/house-business/bills>.

**J. M. NYEGENYE, CBS,
CLERK OF THE SENATE.**

NEWS GENERAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025		
	2024-2025 Kshs	2023-2024 Kshs
Revenue		
Transfers from Political Parties Fund (PPF)	60,101,143	39,550,398
Membership Fees	20,520,000	20,700,000
Total Revenue	80,621,143	60,250,398
Expenses		
Administrative Expenses	39,643,811	36,219,521
Special Interest Groups expenses	17,785,453	1,038,500
Advocacy and Electoral expenses	15,792,000	6,673,810
Other costs		17,637,300
Total expenses	73,221,264	61,569,131
Surplus/Deficit	7,399,879	(1,318,733)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2025		
	2024-2025 Kshs	2023-2024 Kshs
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and Cash equivalents	11,216,462	4,637,917
Receivables and advances	32,890,872	31,693,923
Total Current Assets	44,107,334	36,331,840
Non-Current Assets		
Property Plant and Equipment	4,405,575	5,261,220
Total Non- Current Assets		
Total Assets (A)	48,512,909	41,593,060
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	86,072	2,960,200
Total Current Liabilities		
Non-Current Liabilities		
Non-Current Provisions	-	-
Borrowings	-	-
Total Non- Current Liabilities		
Total Liabilities (B)	86,072	2,960,200
Net Assets (A-B)		
Represented by:		
Revaluation Reserves		
Accumulated Surplus/deficits	48,426,837	38,632,860
Net Assets	48,512,909	41,593,060



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

State Department for Livestock Development

CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE PROPOSED LEASE AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF BACHUMA LIVESTOCK QUARANTINE STATION (BLQS)

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 10(2) and Article 69(1)(d) of the Constitution of Kenya (2010), and Treasury Circular No. 1 of 2025 on leasing of public assets, the State Department for Livestock Development (SDLD) invites members of the public, stakeholders, and interested parties to participate in consultations on the proposed lease and operationalization of the Bachuma Livestock Quarantine Station (BLQS) located in Taita Taveta County.

- Project Background**
The Bachuma Livestock Quarantine Station was established by the Government of Kenya, State Department for Livestock Development as a Vision 2030 flagship project. The purpose of the facility is to increase access of Kenya's animals and animal products to local and international markets through enhanced livestock health screening, quarantine, and certification. The proposed lease arrangement to operationalize the BLQS seeks to engage a private investor under the Land Commercialization Initiative's (LCI) framework to complete pending works, manage livestock quarantine activities, and expand the station's infrastructure under the oversight of the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS).
- Purpose of Public Participation**
The consultation process seeks to obtain feedback from communities, county government, livestock producers, traders, and other stakeholders on the proposed leasing framework in an effort to strengthen transparency and inclusivity in decision-making before finalizing lease documentation and approval.
- Key Project Components**
The proposed private investor to be engaged will undertake the following project components in a concession period of 30 years with key provisions to safeguard public land.
 - Completion of pending civil works, utilities, and support infrastructure;
 - Development of quarantine and animal handling systems in line with international veterinary certification standards;
 - Establishment of livestock processing, traceability, and market access systems;
 - Collaboration with counties, exporters, and producer associations to enhance market access;
 - Management, operation and expansion of Bachuma Livestock Quarantine Station.
- Submission of Comments**
Written comments, memoranda, or recommendations may be submitted to reach the undersigned within 21 days from the date of this notice through any of the following channels:
By Post or hand delivery:
 State Department for Livestock Development
 6th Floor, Kilimo House, Cathedral Road , Nairobi
 P.O. Box 34188-00100
 Nairobi, Kenya
 Email: pslivestock@kilimo.go.ke
- Public Consultation Forums**
Public participation forums will be held as follows:

Date	Venue	Target Stakeholders
Wednesday 26th November 2025 at 10:00 am	Bachuma LQS site, Maungu	General public, Local community leaders, County Government officials, livestock producers
Thursday 27th November 2025 at 10:00 am	Bachuma LQS site, Maungu	Livestock Traders, exporters, transporters, animal health service providers, NGOs, and civil society organizations

All interested persons are invited to attend and submit their views.
 For any inquiries, kindly email pslivestock@kilimo.go.ke and copy infodvs@kilimo.go.ke.

PHOTO STORY

Senate Speaker Amason Kingi is gifted a traditional Luo stool by church leaders led by Bishop James Opiyo (left) after he attended a worship service and fundraiser at Absolute Grace Time Ministry Church in West Alego, Alego Usonga constituency, Siaya county, on Sunday /HANDOUT



MERIT, EXPERIENCE

Kanja rejects bid to cap IG age at 60 as Ipoa backs Bill

Argues leadership should not be guided by age limits

LUKE AWICH
@AchiaAwich

POLICE boss Douglas Kanja has rejected a legislative proposal seeking to cap the retirement age of the Inspector General at 60 years, saying the proposal undermines professionalism and succession planning within the Service.

Kanja argued that leadership in the police should be guided by merit, experience, and performance rather than age limits, noting that policing demands flexibility and institutional memory that comes with experience.

"In light of the foregoing, I recommend that the proposed amendment introducing a 60-year age limit for appointment to the offices of Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General be reconsidered," Kanja said in his submission before a parliamentary committee.

"This proposal, if enacted, risks locking out highly qualified and experienced officers who possess the institutional knowledge and leadership capacity necessary to guide the Service through security challenges."

Kanja was making submissions to the National Assembly's Committee on Administration and Internal Security regarding the National Police Service (Amendment) Bill 2025.

The Bill sponsored by Teso North MP Olu Kaunya is seeking to, among others, cap the age of the Inspector General of Police at 60 years.

Currently, there is no age cap for the police boss.

The Bill is also seeking to have Deputy Inspector General (DIGs) of Police serve one five-year term as opposed to the current situation where they are exempted from term limits. The Bill is in second reading stage.

"Therefore I urge this honourable committee to retain the current provision of the National Police Service Act without imposing the proposed age restriction," Kanja added in his submission.

However, the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (Ipoa), which also appeared before the committee chaired by Narok West MP Gabriel Tongoyo, threw its weight behind the amendment.

The police oversight body, argues that the cap would promote accountability and align the police leadership structure with broader public service regulations.

Ipoa noted that under Public Service Act read together with Regulation 70 of the Public Service Commission Regulations, the compulsory age of retirement in Kenya is 60 years and for a person with disability it is 65 years.

"In Tanzania, the age of retirement for an officer in the rank of the Assistant Superintendent of Police up to the Inspector General is 60 years while in Uganda, all police officers are required to retire at the age of 55 or after 20 years of continued service. There is however no distinct age of retirement for the Deputy Inspector General," the authority submitted.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

The National Police Service (Amendment) Bill, 2025, aims to introduce an age limit of 60 years for Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General roles and a one-term limit of five years for Deputy Inspectors General.

NEWS GENERAL

GIGACITIES

Affordable housing wins global award in Cape Town

It expands access to decent housing, upgrades urban areas with internet connectivity

TABNACHA ODENY
@TheStarKenya

PRESIDENT William Ruto's affordable housing programme has received international honours for promoting healthy urbanisation, improving access to decent housing, and especially for digital access.

The State Department for Housing and Urban Development was feted in Cape Town, South Africa, where it received the Certified Bronze Gigacity Award 2025 from the World Broadband Association (WBBa). Housing PS Charles Hinga received the award on behalf of the government.

Hinga was also recognised for his contribution to the growth of Kenya's megacities through the Smart Cities initiative.

Speaking during the ceremony, WBBa director general Martin Creaner commended the department for revising the Building Code to support high-speed gigabit connectivity.

He said the reforms would increase high-speed gigabit connectivity and enhance the quality of life for residents through improved fibre networks and advanced services.

Award organisers said gigacities boost the productivity of local businesses by easing access to services and supporting smart technologies. The recognition places Kenya among countries building modern urban centres with strong digital infrastructure.

The Affordable Housing Programme currently has more than 214,057 housing units under construction across all 47 counties.

Hinga said the programme is not only focused on decent housing but also on creating employment opportunities for young people, women and the jua kali sector.

He said billions of shillings had



Housing PS Charles Hinga receives the award on behalf of the government in Cape Town, South Africa /HANDOUT

been reserved for jua kali artisans to supply doors and windows for the ongoing projects. The programme has also driven demand in the manufacturing sector, creating a market for cement, steel and other building materials. "Today in Kenya, every major town's flagship project is under the affordable housing programme," Hinga said.

"The programme is now a reality and has stimulated economic activities beyond the traditional brick and mortar workforce to focus on technological and new innovations."

Hinga said the gigacities initiative will be rolled out in a number of AHP projects nationwide.

The housing programme has already created more than 300,000 direct and indirect jobs and is expected to generate up to one million jobs during its lifecycle.

Kenya has become a continental model for smart urban development, he said. "Kenya has set the benchmark for Africa in integrating smart urban transformation," Hinga said.

"Projects such as the Boma Yangu Mukuru Housing Estate and Konza

Technopolis, where more than 2,000 housing units are being developed, are being showcased by UN-Habitat and other partners as models of sustainable city-building.

The gigacities and smart cities initiatives are part of Kenya's broader urban agenda, which aims to embed sustainability, climate resilience and equity in all developments.

Officials say these technologies support digital governance, improve service delivery, and create environments that encourage technological innovation and business growth.

START-UPS

Israeli ambassador: Turn climate change crisis to wealth, jobs

GORDON OSEN

COMPLAINING about the ever-worsening climate change is not enough, Kenyan start-ups should turn the crisis into a viable business opportunity, Israeli Ambassador Gideon Behar has said.

He told an Israel-Kenya Climate and Tech Business Seminar in Nairobi yesterday that despite the worsening crisis, start-ups can innovate by developing ideas that monetise solutions, improve lives and offer viable alternatives.

"It is enough of recounting the problem and the challenges. The climate crisis is only confrontable through solutions-oriented thinking, not by talking about the problems non-stop," Behar said.

He said there are over 1,000 start-ups in Israel generating innovative, commercially viable ideas and some are ready to partner with Kenyan innovators to explore the sector.

The seminar was organised by the Israeli Embassy and the Israel Economic and Trade Mission, in partnership with Nura Global Innovation Lab (formerly the Pears Programme for Global Innovation).

Behar urged the Kenyan business community to form partnerships with Israeli entities not only to strengthen the Kenya-Israel bond but also to collectively turn the climate crisis into a life-changing opportunity. He said the embassy aims to support real partnerships, scalable technologies and meaningful contributions to climate resilience across East Africa.

Behar said Nura Global Innovation Lab plans to establish more innovation centres in Kenya to facilitate knowledge transfer and "create a set of minds that will enable Kenya to develop its own technologies and solutions".

The visiting delegation included six cutting-edge Israeli ventures developing early-stage technologies aimed at addressing climate-related challenges in East Africa.

TERMS EXPIRED

Full trial in MP Salasya hate speech case after conciliation talks stall



Mumias East MP Peter Salasya during an interview in Parliament /EZEKIEL AMING'A

JAMES GICHIGI

THE hate speech case against Mumias East MP Peter Salasya is to proceed to a full trial.

The court procedure comes after reconciliation efforts before the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) stalled due to the expiry of the commission's term.

During mention before senior resident magistrate Paul Mutai at the Milimani law courts yesterday, state prosecutor Virginia Kariuki informed the court the NCIC could no longer undertake the conciliation process.

She explained that the process stalled after the commissioners' terms expired before the talks commenced.

As a result, the commission was therefore not in a position to carry out the dialogue that the court had earlier approved as a possible pathway to settlement, she said. "The conciliation proceedings stalled following the

expiry of the commission's term," the state counsel told the court.

The court fixed the hearing for January 17 next year.

The magistrate said the matter had lingered for several weeks pending the outcome of the referral to NCIC, and said the court could not continue to rely on an institution that was no longer operational.

He ruled the case should now proceed to a hearing without further delay.

Earlier, the court allowed an application by the prosecution to refer the case to NCIC for review, with the aim of assessing whether the dispute could be addressed through an out-of-court settlement.

The MP had also expressed willingness to pursue the settlement. He had written to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, indicating he preferred dialogue over litigation.

"I have written a letter to the DPP so that this matter can be resolved outside court," the MP told the magistrate.

NEWS GENERAL

MEN ON BOARD

Community breaks taboos with reusable pad training

Involvement challenges long-held cultural barriers, shows sense of shared responsibility

DENIS GATUMA
@TheStarKenya

IN a community where conversations around menstrual hygiene are often considered taboo, the sight of men participating in a training session on the making of reusable pads in Kalacha town, Marsabit county, marked a quiet transformation.

Their involvement challenged long-held cultural barriers and showed a growing sense of shared responsibility in protecting the health, dignity and future of young girls.

Mamo Guyo, the group's chairman, said the men whispered among themselves in low tones during the session, curious and amused as they tried to understand what the pads were and how they are used.

"They asked in the local dialect, what are these? How are they used? Have they been using this?" Guyo said.

Most of them were excited to be part of this training because they had never participated in a project like this before."

He noted that such initiatives are valuable because they not only introduce new skills but also strengthen community awareness around menstrual hygiene.

Kalacha subchief, Mamo Elema,



Kalacha sub-chief Mamo Elema and group members are trained by Bethsheba Otunga (R) on the making of reusable sanitary pads in Kalacha, Marsabit county /HANDOUT

who attended the two-day training, praised the initiative, which is being implemented by Pacida—a non-profit organisation—as an important step towards addressing menstrual health challenges.

"It's a step in the right direction that men were involved because it's usually women who bear the burden of understanding what their daughters go through," Elema said.

"Getting these products here is difficult considering how remote this place is. The knowledge they've gained will help them teach others in the community."

He added that men's participa-

tion was long overdue. "Before, only girls and women attended this kind of training. It's crucial for men to understand what their girls need beyond schoolbooks and uniforms," he said.

High prices and limited supply of sanitary pads make them inaccessible for many families.

Even those who can afford them often struggle to find them in shops, since they're rarely stocked in large quantities due to low demand.

The long distance between Marsabit town and Kalacha also hinders access. Scholastica Hal-kano, a member of the Thathe

Women Group in Maikona, said the training opened her eyes.

"At first, it was quite difficult, but as the day progressed, it became easier. I've learned how to make reusable pads, how to use them and how to maintain hygiene. Before this, I didn't even know they existed," she said.

Beatrice Tora, Pacida's health and nutrition programmes officer said the training was designed to equip the groups with both entrepreneurial and practical skills. Trainer Bethsheba Otunga from Ahadi Pads emphasised that access to menstrual products impacts a girl's education.

BREAKING RANKS

Loyalties on trial as Malava by-election now heats up

HILTON OTENYO

AS the Malava parliamentary by-election enters its final stretch, political loyalties are being tested like never before. Several notable figures have broken ranks, leaving party purists unsettled.

Leading the charge is Kakamega Senator Boni Khalwale, who has openly campaigned for DAP-K's Seth Panyako, defying his own UDA party, whose candidate is David Ndakwa.

Khalwale frames his involvement not as a betrayal, but as a call for Luhyas to stand united against what he describes as poor leadership by the Kenya Kwanza government. The UDA has already issued him a show-cause letter, warning of potential disciplinary action.

Adding to the intrigue, DAP-K deputy leader Ayub Savula has joined Ndakwa's campaign trail, despite his party having a candidate in the race—in the spirit of broad-based government arrangement.

Political analysts say such defections underscore a larger trend: party loyalty is increasingly secondary to personal ambitions, clan influence and strategic alliances.

Prof Frank Matanga of Masinde Muliro University noted that personality and local allegiances now dominate campaigns, while Robert Watangwa added that loyalty matters only in well-established parties like ODM, not in smaller formations like DAP-K.

POLITICAL INTOLERANCE

Leaders unite in call for peaceful campaigns in Kasipul constituency

FAITH MATETE

LEADERS from across Homa Bay county have joined hands in urging for peace and restraint ahead of the Kasipul constituency by-election following a deadly clash that left two young men dead in Opondo village, Central Kasipul.

The incident, which involved supporters of ODM candidate Boyd Were and independent aspirant Philip Aroko, has raised alarm over rising political intolerance in the area.

Religious leaders, elected officials and government representatives are now calling for calm, saying no political seat is worth the loss of life.

Homa Bay Interfaith Council chairperson Bishop Abrahams Odongo condemned the increasing trend of politicians using young people to instigate violence, saying it was causing unnecessary suffering to families.

"We don't want women to become widows or children to be orphaned because of politics. Only one person will be elected MP for Kasipul. Let us respect human life," Odongo said

after meeting county commissioner Ronald Mwiwawi.

Supkem secretary Abdul Masud echoed the call for peace, emphasising that residents can only make informed political choices in a calm environment.

"Elections should be about ideas, not confrontation. Let's allow the people of Kasipul to choose their leader peacefully," Masud said.

Mwiwawi assured residents that investigations into the killings were progressing well and promised justice for the victims.

"Our investigations are at an advanced stage, and those responsible will be arrested and charged. We must not allow politics to erode our humanity," he said.

Senator Moses Kajwang' also condemned recent acts of vandalism targeting vehicles and health facilities, warning that political contests must not divide communities.

"We must say enough is enough. No more blood should be shed over politics. Our people must remain united and dignified in their political pursuits," Kajwang' said.



ODM chairperson Gladys Wang'a during a campaign in Homa Bay /FAITH MATETE

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

TENDER NOTICE (RE-ADVERTISEMENT)

Nyandarua County Assembly invites interested and eligible Bidders for the tenders listed below.

TENDER NO	IFMIS NEGOTIATION NO	TENDER NAME	BID BOND VALUE IN KSH	ELIGIBILITY GROUP
NCA/T/06/2025-2026	2022807-2025-2026	Proposed Construction and Completion of a modern entrance and other associated amenities for the County Assembly-Electrical installation works	100,000.00	Open

Interested electrical installation Contractors **MUST** be registered with the National Construction Authority (NCA) category 5 and above.

Interested bidders can download Tender documents at www.nyandaruaassembly.go.ke or at Public Procurement Information Portal <http://tenders.go.ke> free of charge.

Prospective bidders are advised to check the detailed specifications, requirements terms and conditions in the tender document.

Completed Tender Documents must be submitted electronically through the IFMIS platform on or before **25th November 2025 at 11.00 A.M (local time)**.

Tenders will be electronically opened immediately after the submission deadline date and time specified above through the IFMIS platform.

Late Tenders will not be accepted.

MUKIRI MUCHIRI (MR.)
CLERK OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

NEWS BUSINESS

CHANGES

Firms to get automatic licence approval after 28 days in new bill

JACKTONE LAWI

A delay in the approval of licenses by county governments for more than 28 days will see businesses cleared to operate under new proposed laws seeking cut trade barriers in counties.

The County Licensing (Uniform Procedures) regulations of 2025, seeks to among others also collapse multiple county permits into a single licence.

The plan by the Investment, Trade and Industry ministry aims at improving the investment climate and eliminating barriers.

Speaking before the National Assembly Committee on implementation, Investment Promotion PS Abubakar Hassan Abubakar, said they are finalising the regulations that will harmonise county trade licensing for uniformity, transparency and efficiency.

He said currently, county-based licensing systems are fragmented, lengthy and riddled with duplication forcing businesses to spend months, or even years, chasing multiple

approvals. "Some companies take up to two years to get a single licence. These licences are not uniform and, in many cases, they are not automatic," said Abubakar. The PS told the committee that to address these hurdles, the ministry has developed a plan anchored on five strategic interventions, with licensing reforms at its core.

The proposed changes will collapse multiple county permits into one unified licence, standardise the application process and digitise approvals to speed up turnaround times.

"We are putting in place a system where, if you do not receive a response from the county government within 28 days, your licence is automatically approved. No business should be kept waiting indefinitely," Abubakar explained.

He added that the Council of Governors has been mandated to harmonise inter-county licensing to ease the movement of goods and services across jurisdictions.

Currently, traders transporting

products from one county to another must seek clearance at each stop, a situation the ministry says is both costly and uncompetitive.

"The goal of my department is to increase the level of private investment in the Kenyan economy. For that to happen, both the national and county business environments must be competitive and predictable," he said.

Beyond licensing, the ministry is developing county industrial policies, investment units and a County Competitiveness Index that assesses the economic strengths and weaknesses of each county.

These measures are intended to guide targeted interventions, spur local industrialisation, and encourage counties to host more investment promotion conferences.

However, the session also exposed simmering tensions between national and county authorities over the control of licensing powers.

Lawmakers led by Kathiani MP Robert Mbui questioned whether the proposed regulations might



Investment Promotion Principal Secretary for Abubakar Hassan Abubakar /FILE

erode counties' autonomy in setting business rules.

The committee chairperson Samuel Chepkonga cautioned against centralising authority at the national level, arguing that counties should retain the ability to legislate on local licensing issues.

"If every county makes its own licensing rules, businesses will face 47 different regimes that's not sustainable for a unified market," noted the PS.

THE DATA

129.23

The indicative value of the shilling to the dollar

Kenya's shilling remained stable against the US dollar on Tuesday as inflows ensured stable supply in the market

FINANCIAL MARKET

FOREX EXCHANGE RATES

Currency	Mean
US DOLLAR	129.2399
STERLING POUND	170.2865
EURO	149.5306
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	7.5136
KES / UGANDA SHILLING	27.2826
KES / TANZANIA SHILLING	18.9957
JAPANESE YEN (100)	83.9084
CHINESE YUAN	18.1540
AE DIRHAM	35.1865
INDIAN RUPEE	1.4573

NSE BIGGEST WINNERS

	Price	Change (%)
CAR AND GENERAL	61.50	6.49
UNGA GROUP	24.10	5.93
UCHUMI	0.38	5.56
SCAN GROUP	2.82	4.06
KUKUZI	412.00	2.94

NSE BIGGEST LOSERS

	Price	Change (%)
HOUSING FINANCE	10.05	4.74%
TOTAL KENYA	42.40	3.64%
JUBILEE	313.50	3.46%
UMEME	7.42	3.39%
CENTUM	15.50	3.13%

CALL FOR BAN

Juakali players want furniture, toothpick importation stopped

They have asked President Ruto to protect the sector which accounts for 80% of jobs

VICTOR AMADALA @ItsAmadala

SMALL business owners want President William Ruto to ban the importation of basic commodities, including furniture and toothpicks, to protect local talent.

Speaking at the ongoing East Africa Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Trade Fair in Nairobi, the national leadership of the Small Traders Association said that they have been sidelined in the national policies, despite the current regime clinching power on the Hustler agenda.

According to the Confederation of Micro and Small Enterprises Kenya Chapter, National chairman, John Kihui, although Ruto kept his word on the formation of a special ministry to cater for their needs, they still operate in the shadows as no one cares to listen to their views.

"We are calling on the government to remember us. Kenya can't attain the first economy status if small traders who contribute 80 per cent of the workforce and contribute nearly 40 per cent of the country's GDP are sidelined," Kihui told the Star.

Kihui said that they are ready to support the government in reviving the cottage industry and creating jobs in the overall goal of growing Kenya's economy to the status of Asian tigers like Singapore.

"This is impossible if the government is imposing heavy taxes on raw materials, multiple business licenses, importing basic commodities and not



A Jua kali trader at work /FILE

creating favourable credit policies to accommodate our more than 17 million members."

These enterprises span various sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, retail, and services, providing livelihoods for millions of Kenyans.

He said that with Kenya's youth unemployment rate hovering around 35 per cent, MSMEs offer a critical avenue for young people to gain employment or start their own businesses.

"In rural areas, small-scale farmers and artisans rely on these enterprises to sustain their livelihoods, reducing poverty and improving living standards."

The lobby has welcomed the move by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to introduce a dedicated department to serve the Micro and Small taxpayers as a move in the right direction and indicates the taxman's

positive reception to calls by the sector for a more dedicated support on matters of taxation.

Munyiri Mutitu, National Treasurer, National Juakali Federation, echoed Kihui's sentiments, adding that the government must come up with a policy that allocates a certain percentage of government supply to local artisans. He complained that the government is importing substandard furniture from China when local artists have quality products gathering dust in workshops.

"We are calling the government to order. The Juakali sector plays a crucial role in contributing to the economy's financial stability. The sector saved the country's economy from a near collapse in the 1990s when Kenya was hit with a forex exchange crisis," he said. Munyiri wondered where the president was getting advice on the sector that con-

tributes nearly 50 per cent of GDP without a representative in his economic council.

"Elites have hijacked Ruto's economic policies for their selfish gains. The Juakali sector has been sidelined for the longest...even in this trade fair. Do you think a juakali artisan has the capacity to travel from Kamkunji to Uhuru Gardens? Why did the government not stage this key forum at the Kenya International Convention Centre (KICC)?"

There are more than 7.4 million MSMEs in Kenya, according to a World Bank report, contributing to employment and economic stability, yet many continue to face barriers in access to finance, markets, and networks. Cooperatives and MSMEs Development CS, Wycliffe Oparanya, said the Nairobi meet is pushing partner states to accelerate the implementation of the East Africa Market Protocol, to enable free movement of entrepreneurs.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

The Jua Kali sector in refers to the country's informal economy, comprised of small traders and artisans who produce goods and services for the market. Kenya National Bureau of Statistics reported that as of 2024, 17.4 million Kenyans were engaged in the informal sector.



TIP OF THE DAY ASK SMARTER STRATEGIC QUESTIONS

With organizations facing increased urgency and unpredictability, being able to ask smart questions has become a key leadership skill—especially when setting strategy. Here are five types of questions to ask that can boost strategic decision-making.

Investigative: What's Known? When facing a problem or opportunity, the best decision-makers start by clarifying their purpose, asking themselves what they want to achieve and what they need to learn to do so.

Speculative: What If? These questions help you consider the situation at hand more broadly, reframing the problem and exploring outside-the-box solutions.

Productive: Now What? Assessing the availability of talent, capabilities, time, and other resources ultimately helps you determine a course of action.

Interpretive: So, What? This natural follow-up can push you to continually redefine the core issue—to go beneath the surface and draw out the implications of an observation or idea.

Subjective: What's Unsaid? This final question deals with the personal reservations, frustrations, tensions, and hidden agendas that can push decision-making off course.

NEWS BUSINESS

SOLUTION

PwC calls for 'refund reserve' to address tax repayment crisis

In some cases, businesses that have won refund cases are asked to reapply

JACKTONE LAWI
@jacktonelawi

FINANCIAL experts and business leaders want Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to set up a special fund to speed up tax refunds and boost cashflows for the corporate sector.

The taxman has been on the spot over delays in tax refunds and new policy shifts that businesses say deny them operational funds and weaken investment confidence.

Despite clear legal timelines requiring KRA to process tax refund applications within 120 days, many firms continue to face prolonged waiting periods, unclear communication and procedural hurdles.

The delays, experts warn, are straining the liquidity of compliant taxpayers particularly exporters and large corporations and undermining faith in the country's tax administration system.

Data for October 2023 which is the latest update from KRA shows businesses were owed Sh16.34 billion, which includes Sh2.75 billion in income tax and Sh13.58 billion in VAT refunds.

According to audit and consultancy firm PwC Kenya, taxpayers are increasingly frustrated by cases of system errors, unlawful reapplication requests and refund disputes that drag on even after favourable court rulings.

In some cases, businesses that have won refund cases are still being asked to reapply, a move tax professionals say is contrary to law.

"The disconnect between legal provisions and actual practice not only frustrates taxpayers but also erodes confidence in Kenya's tax system. Refund processing remains one of the most contentious areas in tax administration," PwC senior manager for tax services Brian Kanyi, the firm's monthly policy update.

The issue has become so severe that experts and business leaders are now calling for the creation of a special fund or 'refund reserve' within the KRA to fast-track payments and restore predictability in the refund process.

In the period to June 2025, the situation was so dire forcing, firms used approximately Sh49.7 billion in verified tax refund claims to offset other tax liabilities owed to the KRA, double the amount from the previous year. This mechanism allows businesses with pending refunds to settle current tax obligations without cash changing hands, indicating ongoing cash flow challenges for taxpayers due to delayed refunds.

The new proposal would ring-fence a portion of Treasury remittances specifically for settling outstanding refunds.

"There is a significant amount of refunds owed to taxpayers. However, the budgetary allocation for refunds does not match the outstanding amounts. Setting aside a percentage



THE DATA

SH16.3BN

Amount owed to businesses in tax refunds as of 2023

of tax collections for a dedicated refund reserve could be a practical solution," said Partner and Director of Tax Services at PwC Kenya Edna Gitachu.

The call for reform comes amid growing concerns over the KRA's administrative bottlenecks.

Businesses report that refund applications are often dismissed on technicalities such as minor iTax errors or missing documentation, while others are left pending without explanation.

Some non-resident taxpayers have also been unable to claim refunds because they lack iTax registration profiles, despite having overpaid taxes.

Tax experts say such inefficiencies distort cash flow, especially for exporters and firms operating in refund-heavy sectors like manufacturing and logistics. The delays force companies to rely more on short-term borrowing, raising financing costs and eroding competitiveness.

"When compliant taxpayers have to wait years to recover legitimate refunds, it sends the wrong message to investors. A refund reserve would improve liquidity for businesses and enhance trust in the tax system," said Associate Director of Tax Services at PwC, Nicholas Kahiro.

The KRA has defended its processes, citing budget constraints and the need for verification to prevent fraudulent claims. However, the PwC experts note that these challenges could be addressed through administrative reforms including automated escalation of overdue refunds, allowing

non-resident claims through authorized agents and imposing penalties on delayed processing.

They also recommend expanding the "green channel" a fast-track system currently used for pre-approved exporters to include other compliant taxpayers.

"Eligibility should be determined case by case, not just by industry," PwC added in the policy update.

The refund crisis is unfolding alongside another major policy change under the Finance Act 2025, which reintroduced a five-year limit on the carry-forward of tax losses.

The move overturns the indefinite carry-forward period introduced in 2021 and has created new uncertainty for businesses with accumulated losses. Under the amendment to Section 15 of the Income Tax Act, companies can now only deduct losses within the year they occur and the five succeeding years.

The experts says the law, however, lacks a transitional clause, leaving unclear whether the limit applies retrospectively to losses accumulated before July 2025.

Tax professionals say this ambiguity could trigger sudden tax liabilities for capital-intensive sectors such as energy, infrastructure, and manufacturing, which typically incur large start-up losses over long investment cycles.

"The absence of transitional provisions exposes businesses to significant risk, without clarity, companies might face unexpected tax bills that disrupt financial planning and long-term investment decisions," said senior manager of tax services at PwC Brian Kanyi.

The analysts warn that the combination of refund bottlenecks and restrictive tax loss rules could dampen Kenya's investment climate at a time when the government is seeking to expand the tax base and attract foreign capital.

Kenya Revenue Authority headquarters in Nairobi /FILE

THE REFUND CRISIS IS UNFOLDING ALONGSIDE ANOTHER MAJOR POLICY CHANGE UNDER THE FINANCE ACT 2025, WHICH REINTRODUCED A FIVE-YEAR LIMIT ON THE CARRY-FORWARD OF TAX LOSSES

By Nelson Asienwa

EXPERT OPINION



Kenyan warmth, Chinese precision: The cross-cultural engine driving the SGR

WHEN Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) first roared to life, it wasn't only locomotives connecting Mombasa and Nairobi.

It was people, habits and worlds. On one side stood Chinese engineers, disciplined and punctual; on the other, Kenyan staff, warm, social, and famously unhurried. What began as a clash of customs slowly became one of the most remarkable experiments in cultural exchange on the continent.

Culture, though often invisible, is the real engine behind every organization. It shapes how people communicate, solve problems, and even greet one another. Studies show that diverse teams outperform uniform ones because they challenge each other to think differently. The SGR proves this daily. The friction of difference eventually produced the spark of efficiency. At the beginning, however, the differences were almost comic. The language barrier was so steep that a new dialect was born; "Chinklish," a lively mix of English, Swahili, and Mandarin. If something wasn't satisfactory, a staff member might shrug and say, "No sawa." Food was simply "chaku." When all else failed, gestures and Google Translate did the job. What could have been chaos turned into camaraderie; every misunderstanding came with laughter, and laughter-built bridges.

Greetings offered another lesson. In Kenya, saying "Jambo" to everyone in sight is a sign of respect. Chinese colleagues, used to quiet starts and reserved formality, were puzzled by the constant small talk. To Kenyans, silence felt cold; to the Chinese, chatter felt excessive.

Over time, each side learned the other's language of courtesy, sometimes literally. The same happened with timekeeping. The Chinese insistence on punctuality and scheduled meals first amused Kenyan staff, but soon it transformed operations. Time, once flexible, became sacred and efficiency followed. Food and festivals turned out to be the gentlest teachers of all. Chapati met dumplings, ugali shook hands with steamed rice, and curiosity replaced hesitation. During Christmas or Eid, Chinese staff joined Kenyan colleagues in celebration; during the Lunar New Year or the Dragon Boat Festival, Kenyans returned the gesture, occasionally mastering the art of chopsticks with comic determination. These shared experiences dissolved the last traces of formality. Working together also changed how staff saw their professions. Traditionally, Kenyans tend to specialize narrowly, but Chinese mentors encouraged versatility. Engineers began learning logistics or accounting; technicians explored management. The result was a team that could solve problems faster because everyone understood more than one piece of the puzzle.

To cement this understanding, the SGR operator introduced cultural exchange and team-building programmes, from language lessons to joint excursions in national parks. Bilingual translators eased daily communication, and over 250 Kenyan employees have travelled to China for study and exchange visits. Many return inspired by the precision and discipline they witness abroad, describing it not as rigidity but as deep respect for time, teamwork, and purpose. Today, the impact of this cultural integration is visible in every arrival and departure. The trains run on schedule; safety and order are second nature. Behind the polished service is a workforce that has learned to see through each other's eyes. They have built a common rhythm, half Kenyan warmth, half Chinese precision and the results speak for themselves.

The SGR's success story is a reminder that infrastructure is more than concrete and steel. It is built by people. People who laugh through translation errors, learn new recipes, and slowly discover that respect is universal even when customs differ. Kenya's railway may run on imported rails, but its real foundation is understanding. When a train glides out of Mombasa on time, carrying passengers who trust its reliability, it also carries the quiet triumph of two cultures that met, listened, and learned. And that, perhaps, is the smoothest journey of all.

The writer is a communication officer at Afristar

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Members of Malindi District Cultural Association in a music session /BAOBAB STUDIOS

GRASSROOTS PROJECT KEEPS MUSIC OF MIJIKENDAS ALIVE

The Lutsaga project is archiving 60 endangered musical genres and relaying royalties

BY IMMANUEL MUASYA AND BONFACE URUCHO FOR BIRD STORY AGENCY
@TheStarKenya

The thatch throws a soft, familiar shadow. A woven fence creaks in the salty wind. Inside a cleared yard in place like clockmakers fitting gears, a pair of elders sits cross legged on the grass and sunlight angles through palm fronds onto a scattering of wooden shakers and carved flutes.

This is not a concert. It is a salvage operation for sound, careful, urgent and stubbornly human.

Baobab Studio's Lutsaga project, which Flavour Pole, Baobab Studio's manager and cultural liaison, described simply as a granary, is acting like one by collecting the rhythms, grooves and voices of the Mijikenda before they vanish.

"I'm a Mijikenda from Kilifi. Our people have used music for generations, for worship, for storytelling, for life. That's why it has survived until now," Pole said.

"Lutsaga means a granary. We are documenting all the cultural music and putting them into one space.

"Those who sang those genres passed away, so we decided to collect all the cultural musicians and record so that we can preserve that music."

HOW IT'S DONE

The project records full ensembles, not isolated samples, and stores them in an accessible sound bank. The recordings hold the breath of singers, the exact thud of a particular drum and the way a chorus folds into silence.

Inside the control room, the studio smells of dust and amplifier glue. Microphones dangle like listening birds. Musicians arrive with instruments wrapped in cloth. Elders bring histories. They do not come to modernise the songs so much as to let them be held long enough to be heard again and again.

Pole says the problem that prompted the project is part of the rhythm of life: people die. With them dies the memory of a rhythm or the story tied to a melody.

"Some of the singers we worked with have already passed away, and when they go, the genre goes with them. That's why we record, so the music doesn't die," he said.

Lutsaga's response is simple: record the songs, record the instruments and record the players who know when to pause and when to let a voice waver toward a spiritual note.

Technically the archive is careful. Baobab captures full takes with the ensemble in place so later listeners can hear the call and response architecture, the cadence of teacher and student and the spatial way instruments answer each other.

Pole points to the percussion variety. "The Mijikenda cultural drums are about 12 different types," he said. "Each rhythm has its own meaning, its own moment."

Lutsaga is as much about ethics as it is about sound. The project pays communities to record, locks master ownership with the groups and promises royalties after digital distribution costs. That matters because much of the modern market for heritage sound has been extractive. Outside producers lift fragments and strip context, leaving custodians without rights or payments. Lutsaga's model turns that pattern on its head.

There is a creative logic, too. Producers in the global Afro house and

“

Lutsaga means a granary. We are documenting all the cultural music and putting them into one space. Those who sang those genres passed away, so we decided to collect all the cultural musicians and record so that we can preserve that music

electronic scenes are looking for textures that feel alive, worn in and human. Pole believes those textures will travel fast.

"From the Lutsaga project, we are going to get the cultural and spiritual energy, and from Afro house and electronic music, they have the futuristic sounds. These two combined will come up with amazing music," he said.

Early pickups from Europe, South Africa and East Africa suggest the appetite is already real.

What comes out is not always tidy. A raw ensemble take might begin with a spoken invocation, move into a long drum conversation and end in a single sustained vocal held like a suspended raincloud. They are not loopable eight-bar phrases but live performances. Baobab preserves that complexity so producers can choose to remix, rework or respect the take as a full cultural act.

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

On the ground, the sessions are social and instructive. Young people come to watch as elders demonstrate how to hold a stick, how to shift weight to change a rhythm and where a particular melody is used and why.



Members of Malindi District Cultural Association during their cultural practice in Kilifi /BAOBAB STUDIOS



“When young people want to learn, the songs will be there waiting,” Polle said. “We are creating a bridge for generations.”

The archive becomes more than a digital file. It becomes teaching material and a living reference that communities can consult when they want to revive a song in a ritual or school setting.

There are measurable results. The Sounds of Sasaab project, which documented Samburu vocal traditions, released a global remix album through

Madorasindahouse Records.

According to a feature on Covid HQ Africa, the project was driven by three Kenyan producers, Dylan, Suraj and Foozak, who travelled to the remote Samburu region, set up improvised studios on location and recorded entire vocal ensembles and ceremonies (their record label was even conceptualised and named with reference to the Ewaso Nera river).

Organisers report that proceeds financed a classroom for the singers’ community, illustrating how creative equity can translate into infrastructure.

ROYALTY QUESTION

Lutsaga aims for a similar dual impact: global reach and local returns. But reaching that balance demands careful contracts, clear metadata and transparent distribution splits.

Polle explains that the legal question is thorny. “Who owns a melody that has circulated among families for generations? How do you record collective rights that outlast single lives?” he asked.

He argues that Lutsaga’s insistence on community masters and royalties is a promising start, but the work will require legal templates that can handle collective and overlapping claims

across generations. For Kilifi, however, the project reframes value. The Coast stops being only postcards and becomes a source of raw cultural capital that is curated rather than taken.

A debut release featuring an elder singer is due in early November and will test whether the world’s dance floors can hold both ancestral cadence and modern production.

“A project like Lutsaga is important because for years, we’ve listened to foreign music and forgotten our own,” Pole reflected. “It’s time to bring the African sound to the world.”

Lutsaga is modest and audacious at once. It preserves the tiny details, the way a singer inhales before a line, the squeak of a drumhead and the accidental harmonies that emerge when voices overlap.

Those details make the difference between a sound that is preserved and a sound that is kept alive.

“Our music carries teaching, education and wisdom,” Polle added. “If you listen closely, every song tells you how to live.”

If the project succeeds, elders will be paid for sessions, tracks will be credited properly, remixes will bring new audiences back to the original recordings and communities will be able to hear themselves in perpetuity.



Members of Malindi District Cultural Association sing in studio /BAOBAB STUDIOS

WHO OWNS A MELODY THAT HAS CIRCULATED AMONG FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS? HOW DO YOU RECORD COLLECTIVE RIGHTS THAT OUTLAST SINGLE LIVES?

★ comment

THE STAR

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Cancer care cannot wait for bureaucracy

The petition by the Kenya Network of Cancer Organizations (Kenco) to raise the annual Social Health Authority oncology cover should be a wake-up call for the government. No Kenyan should have to choose between life and bankruptcy — yet that is the grim reality for thousands of cancer patients today.

Cancer treatment in Kenya is not just a medical challenge; it is an economic catastrophe. Families deplete their SHA limit of Sh550,000 in mere months, far short of the millions required for chemotherapy, radiotherapy, surgery and life-sustaining drugs.

The numbers Kenco presented to Parliament paint a picture of desperation — patients forced to sell property, beg for help through harambees, or abandon treatment altogether.

When the former NHIF offered a slightly higher limit of Sh600,000, it was already inadequate. Reducing that figure under the SHA framework, while treatment costs continue to soar, is both illogical and inhumane. Universal health coverage must be built on equity, not austerity.

The state cannot preach compassion while funding policies that leave the sick to fend for themselves.

If Kenya is serious about achieving equitable healthcare, then financial protection for its most vulnerable must come first.

Quote of the day: “Because of poverty, we must adopt the capitalist means of production to develop our resources to get rich.” —The Chinese statesman Sun Yat-sen was born on November 12, 1866

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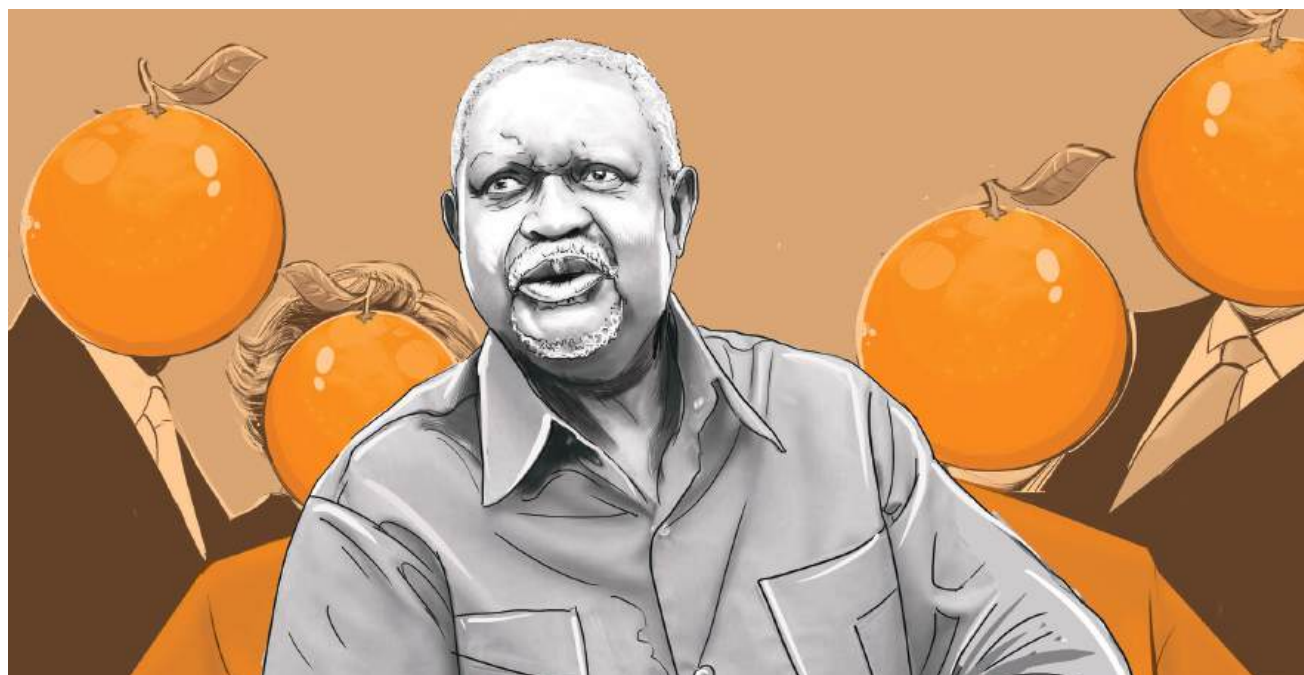
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OBURU'S GAMBIT: STEERING ORANGE PARTY TO CANAAN

By Fredrick Okango

ODM has not merely appointed a caretaker; it has chosen a strategist and guardian of its legacy. Oburu has turned potential vulnerability into an opportunity for consolidation.



In the wake of Raila Odinga's passing, the Orange Democratic Movement faced a historic test. The question was whether the party could survive without its magnetic founder or fragment under the weight of competing ambitions.

Oburu Oginga's ascension as acting leader has answered that question decisively. Rather than being a caretaker, Oburu has emerged as the stabilising force ODM needed. Under his stewardship, the Orange party has not only held together but shown resilience and strategic coherence, reinforcing the Odinga legacy and restoring confidence among supporters.

The Odinga brothers represent two distinct approaches to political leadership. Raila was the revolutionary vanguard — a mass mobiliser and charismatic icon whose vision of Canaan inspired millions. His politics relied on public rallies, confrontational pressure and sheer personality.

Oburu, in contrast, is the political quartermaster. Where Raila energised crowds, he strengthens the machinery behind them. An economist with a PhD and seasoned legislator, his leadership style is measured, strategic and deeply pragmatic. He has leveraged his networks, negotiation skills and understanding of Kenya's political and fiscal architecture to consolidate ODM's internal structures. In the months since taking charge, the Siaya senator has demonstrated his

capacity to unify factions, manage delicate alliances and enforce party discipline. His leadership is proof that the Orange party can survive beyond a single figurehead — and even thrive. Oburu's immediate achievements are tangible. First, he has stabilised the party hierarchy, deterring internal fragmentation and quieting dissent among regional barons and emerging young leaders. What could have been a period of turmoil has instead become one of strengthened unity.

Second, he has positioned ODM as a credible partner in national politics, bridging the gap between opposition and establishment actors without compromising the party's identity. This careful diplomacy ensures ODM remains a formidable force while avoiding the pitfalls of reckless confrontation. Third, Oburu has been mindful of generational politics. Describing himself as 'Gen Z and youth at heart,' he

has actively engaged Kenya's young electorate, signalling that the party is attuned to their aspirations and digital energy. This connection with youth is already paying dividends in bolstering the party's relevance and outreach.

This week, ODM will mark its 20th anniversary, celebrating two decades of political struggle and achievement with a series of nationwide activities from Friday onwards. As the acting party leader, Oburu's participation will be both symbolic and strategic — honouring Raila's legacy while demonstrating that ODM remains united and forward-looking. His presence will reassure members and supporters that the party is in capable hands, even in the absence of its founder.

The unity that was tested in ODM's recent transitions is now stronger. Oburu has proved himself a capable steward — a leader who balances pragmatism with vision.

Under his helm, the party is poised not merely to survive, but to reclaim political victories across the country.

Orange supporters can anticipate their own 'Canaan' — tangible outcomes that reflect the consolidation and forward momentum of the party. Governorships, parliamentary seats and strategic influence in national politics are now within reach, thanks to Oburu's meticulous planning and unwavering commitment to the party's cohesion.

Unlike a personality-driven crusade, this Canaan is pragmatic: a unified, disciplined and forward-looking ODM capable of delivering both representation and results to its base. The promise of victory is no longer aspirational; it is increasingly operational under Oburu's leadership.

ODM has not merely appointed a caretaker; it has chosen a strategist and guardian of its legacy. Oburu has turned potential vulnerability into an opportunity for consolidation, proving that the Orange party can endure, adapt and thrive in a new era. His leadership has ensured that the party remains united, focused and strategically positioned. The Orange army is intact, its factions aligned and its supporters energised with renewed purpose. He has shown that survival without Raila is not only possible but can lead to greater cohesion.

Is he right? Tell us what YOU think.
email opinion@radioafricagroup.co.ke

Strategic adviser and political commentator

VOICES

KENYA'S DRUNKEN POLITICAL DANCE AND WHY SOBRIETY IS NEEDED NOW

In the bustling tavern of Kenyan politics, misleaders stagger about like drunkards at a never-ending party, intoxicated by the heady brew of power. They set off with promises of servant leadership, promising to champion justice, development and the people's general will. Yet, once they stumble into office, the bottle of power proves too tempting. They guzzle it down, and soon, they are slurring party slogans, defending their bosses and grandstanding at funerals while the constitution gathers dust in the corner like an unpaid bar tab.

Picture the scene: a politician, freshly elected, sways into office with a spring in their step, promising to serve wananchi. But the moment they taste the sweet liquor of power—government security, fat allowances and sycophantic cheers—they lose their balance. The constitution, that sacred designated driver, is drowned out by the cacophony of party slogans. They squawk and parrot their party's anthem louder than the principles of devolution or accountability.

Legislators declare their party manifestoes more binding than any law. The constitution, it seems, is just a coaster for their overflowing

Lawi Sultan

But there is hope. Gen Z and Millenials, with their sober clarity, have begun sweeping the floor. Their 2024 protests shook the bar, demanding accountability and spilling the drinks.



glasses. These political drunkards defend their party leaders with a zeal that would make a lion blush. Forget the citizens who queued under the scorching sun to vote for them; their loyalty lies with the big man at the top. When asked about youth unemployment, they slur, "Our leader is working tirelessly!"—while dodging questions about scandals. They stumble over each other to polish their boss's throne, even as floods of neglect drown their constituents.

On social media, Kenyans roar their disenchantment, but these loyalists, drunk on patronage, only tighten their grip on the bottle. Nowhere is their inebriation more evident than at funerals and rallies, where they perform like tipsy karaoke stars. Forget legislative debates or constituency projects—these drunkards are famous for

their slurred eulogies and rally rants.

At funerals, they hijack the podium to promise "heavenly development," only to vanish when the bereaved asked for actual roads. At a rally, one sways drunkenly on faux ideology as he vows to slay Gen Z's dissent. Their words spark viral clips on social media, but their legislative scorecards? As empty as a bar at dawn. Oversight? Representation? Those are sober tasks, and these misleaders are too far gone.

This drunkenness breeds paranoia. Citizen-led initiatives—like the 2024 protests against the Finance Bill or calls for legislative reforms—are seen as plots to unseat them, not as cries for progress.

In their conspiratorial haze, they ring-fence themselves with security, bureaucracy and cronies,

forming an exclusive club of faux honourables who sip power in echo chambers while wananchi knock on locked doors.

Take the Computer Misuse and Cybercrime (Amendment) Bill, 2024—a legislative spill that stained Kenya's digital freedom. Despite public outcry, they staggered through Parliament, passing it with a hiccup and a wink to their party bosses. Proposals to extend term limits, floated by a tipsy cabal, further reveal their desperation to cling to the bar counter.

The ultimate hangover came with the Okoa Kenya drive, that ill-fated 2016 push by Coalition for Reforms and Democracy to amend the constitution via popular initiative. They boasted 1.6 million signatures to trigger a referendum on electoral reforms, but the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission verification exposed the farce: 741,979 were invalid, leaving just 891,598 valid ones—short of the required million threshold.

The initiative collapsed in a puddle of excuses. Recently, Okoa Kenya's committee of experts chairperson spilled the beans. He revealed that CORD politicians had dismissed the need for thorough verification, arrogantly

assuming the IEBC wouldn't bother checking. This failure was a betrayal that dented citizens' faith in popular initiatives, proving that when politicians grab the wheel, the car veers off the cliff.

Lest we forget, the Okoa Kenya debacle is a stark lesson in these drunkards' incompetence: they hijack tools meant for the people, turn them into party props and leave the wreckage for wananchi to clean up.

Yet, the tavern of Kenyan politics isn't just a stage for these drunkards—it's enabled by a complicit system. Weak institutions serve them more bottles, while voters keep refilling their glasses every election. But there is hope. Gen Z and Millenials, with their sober clarity, have begun sweeping the floor. Their 2024 protests shook the bar, demanding accountability and spilling the drinks. For popular initiatives to finally work, citizens must wrench the driver's seat from these stumbling misleaders.

Social consciousness theorist, corporate trainer and speaker, agronomist consultant for golf courses and sports fields and author of 'The Gigantomachy of Samaisme-la' and 'The Trouble with Kenya: McKenzian Blueprint'

Safe medical camps making lasting change in society

By Dr David Kariuki

Since 2017, 1,415 licensed medical camps have been conducted across 40 counties, reaching an estimated 1.16 million patients with critical services such as eye checkups...



MEDICAL camps have become a vital tool in expanding health-care access across Kenya, particularly in areas where permanent facilities are limited. These temporary initiatives have brought essential services closer to underserved communities, from maternal health checks and free dental clinics to specialised interventions tackling pressing public health challenges. Over the years, they have successfully addressed issues such as jigger infestations in rural regions, delivered widespread sexual and reproductive health education and provided crucial screening and management for non-communicable diseases like hypertension and diabetes. For many Kenyans, medical camps

have become the first point of detection, treatment and referral for serious health conditions.

Yet, the same camps that bring hope can also carry significant risks when not properly conducted. Unregulated operations have, in the past, led to improper procedures, delayed referrals and even biohazard contamination due to poor waste management. To safeguard patients and communities, the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council introduced the Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Medical Camp) Rules, 2016, establishing a framework that ensures every camp operates safely, ethically and with full accountability.

Under these rules, no medical camp may be held without prior licensing by the council. Appli-

cations must be submitted at least four weeks in advance and include details such as the camp's dates, location, list of licensed practitioners, medical equipment and referral policy. Each camp is required to have a camp director, a licensed medical or dental practitioner responsible for ensuring compliance, obtaining approvals from county and statutory authorities and submitting a post-camp report within three months. Every camp must also have a professional indemnity cover, a medical waste management plan and may not exceed seven days unless special permission is granted. All services offered must be free, subsidised or sponsored to prevent commercial exploitation of vulnerable populations.

To strengthen public trust and transparency, KMPDC has made verification of medical camps and practitioners simple and accessible to all Kenyans. Through the toll-free SMS short code 20547, members of the public can easily confirm the licensure status of any medical camp. To verify the status of a medical camp, one simply sends an SMS to 20547 in the format: MC#Licence number of the medical camp.

Camp directors are also required to display the camp's licence prominently within the

service area, a visible assurance to patients that the outreach is legitimate, safe and properly approved.

When these standards are ignored, the consequences can be severe. Unqualified personnel may perform procedures without supervision, referral systems may break down leading to unmanaged complications and poor infection control can expose entire communities to harm. Such failures have, at times, eroded public trust in otherwise noble outreach efforts. However, when camps adhere to established safety protocols, the results are transformative.

Since 2017, 1,415 licensed medical camps have been conducted across 40 counties, reaching an estimated 1.16 million patients with critical services such as eye checkups, immunisations, sexual health education and chronic disease screening. One striking example is the anti-jigger initiative in the Central counties, which, through coordinated planning, education and treatment, reduced infection rates by more than 60 per cent in targeted villages within two years. Similarly, licensed cleft palate surgery camps have had a profound impact on the lives of many young Kenyans, offering life-changing opportunities for children to gain speech, confidence and a sense of

normalcy that would otherwise be out of reach. Safe medical camps are more than one-off events, they are stepping stones toward stronger, healthier communities. By following established regulations, sponsors and health workers ensure that outreach programmes create lasting systems of care, referral pathways and community trust. The licensing process, which takes a maximum of two weeks, is designed not to hinder service delivery but to safeguard it. Within this framework, NGOs, county governments and faith-based organisations can deliver life-saving care while upholding the highest public health standards.

Recent data further illustrate the sector's growth and accountability. Over the past three years, licensed medical camps have expanded significantly in both number and reach. The overall trend reflects a sector that is both growing and maturing, one that balances compassion with compliance. Approvals are rising, patient reach is expanding and enforcement of standards ensures that medical camps continue to deliver not only access but also assurance: care that is safe, ethical and truly transformative for Kenya's communities.

The writer is the CEO, KMPDC

★ letters

WRITE TO US AT: THE STAR, LION PLACE, WAIYAKI WAY, NAIROBI
OR EMAIL TO letters@the-star.co.ke Fax 4447410.

Safeguarding the Maasai heritage in modern world

INDIGENOUS heritage constitutes a vital part of humanity's cultural diversity. The protection and promotion of indigenous rights and traditional knowledge systems are not only matters of justice but also are integral to achieving human security and sustainable development.

The culmination of the Maasai Cultural Festival last weekend, which saw the President transfer Amboseli National Game reserve in Amboseli, stands as a testament to the enduring culture and heritage that Indigenous communities bring to the modern world. Yet, the festival also highlighted a delicate balancing act in preserving a centuries-old pastoral heritage while adapting to the relentless pressures of a rapidly modernising world.

The Maasai cultural journey is not merely a local story; it is a global example of an Indigenous people at a critical juncture, grappling with challenges that threaten their cultural survival even as they embrace new avenues for progress. The recent closure of Maa cultural festival underscores the urgent need to safeguard this heritage. At the core of Maasai identity lies semi-nomadic pastoralism and a deep connection to land and wildlife, which as a way of life is intrinsically linked to the health of the ecosystem. Today, that ecosystem is under un-

precedented strain. Like many Indigenous cultures, Maasai are increasingly at risk due to globalisation, land dispossession and environmental degradation. Historically, they have lost vast tracts of ancestral land through colonial-era treaties and subsequent government policies. The loss of land remains the greatest existential threat to the Maasai way of life. Land privatisation and subdivision, driven by population growth and commercial interests, fragment the open rangelands essential for rotational grazing. State-led conservation efforts have also historically excluded Maasai communities, leading to displacement and socio-economic marginalisation.

Compounding this is the undeniable reality of climate change. The majority of Maasai communities live in arid areas prone to famine. Increasing droughts, unpredictable rainfall and water scarcity devastate livestock herds — the very foundation of Maasai livelihoods. This environmental instability forces many to seek alternative sources of income, such as agriculture or off-farm work, further straining traditional practices.

Successive governments have often neglected the Maasai, leaving them outside decision-making tables. Ineffective policies and the historical



Like many Indigenous cultures, Maasai are increasingly at risk due to globalisation, land dispossession and environmental degradation.

PICTURE OF THE DAY



Fumathoka Kindergarten Foundation school director Furaha Charo, student Kerry Karani (Grade 9), school head teacher Evans Ndiya, student Flora Ondechi (Grade 7) and the school's president Klaus Dieter from Germany during the 22nd anniversary celebration of the institution in Majaoni, Mombasa. The two students received awards for being best essay writers /HANDOUT

devaluation of pastoralist culture have marginalised the community in national development plans.

While recent initiatives such as the Equalisation Fund, the Presidential Taskforce on marginalised communities and increased appointment of Maasai professionals in government signal progress, much more needs to be done.

Social challenges persist as well. Limited access to quality education, especially for girls, remains a barrier due to harmful practices such as FGM and early marriage. These practices restrict human capital development and curtail opportunities for women and youth.

While there are ongoing efforts to protect women and girls from gender-based violence and harmful traditions, the pace

of change must accelerate.

Despite these immense challenges, the Maasai are not passive victims of change. They are actively seeking solutions and adapting in innovative ways. Long celebrated as the face of Kenyan tourism, the Maasai are redefining their role in conservation and sustainable development.

A crucial transformation lies in the rise of community-based conservation.

By establishing conservancies on their own land and involving communities in management, the Maasai are generating tourism revenue while protecting wildlife and maintaining autonomy over their territories. These models acknowledge their historic role as environmental stewards and point to the future of inclusive conservation. However, governance challenges

persist and these conservancies require stronger institutional frameworks.

To remain proactive and effective participants in national development, the Maasai must strike a balance between education and tradition. There is growing recognition of the value of formal education. Maasai youth are pursuing higher education, advocating for indigenous rights and participating in politics, bringing unique perspectives to national and global platforms. Integrating traditional knowledge into modern curricula could help preserve cultural identity while equipping future generations for the modern world.

Saruni Lemareroi is Mandela Washington Fellow



Yes. I'm a registered voter in Mlolongo ward in Mavoko, Machakos county. I registered since it's the only way I can exercise my democratic right as a Kenyan citizen by electing the right leaders of my choice in the ballot during general elections. There is no other way I can exercise that right as a Kenyan citizen.

HILLUM MACHARIA
Boda boda rider, Machakos



Yes. I'm a registered voter. I registered to participate in electing leaders who can deliver to the public. I have so far participated in the last two general elections. I have been electing leaders with hopes they would represent us well and deliver development. The leaders I voted for in the last general elections have, however, let us down.

JOASH NYAKINA
Resident, Machakos

Are you a registered voter?

★ new voices

★ STAR COMMENT No. I'm not a registered voter because the majority of Kenyan political leaders who get elected don't help the public after rising to power, they forget the electorate and those they represent. Most Kenyans bear lots of responsibilities like myself, I'm a single mother of one. Most Kenyans suffer, especially due to unemployment and high costs of living despite having elected leaders they thought could deliver them from the many struggles they face in life. I'm, however, ready to register as a voter this time round.



ESTHER MUTAKALE
Boda boda rider, Machakos



Yes. I'm a registered voter. I registered so that I participate in voting in leaders who can help develop the country since failing to participate in the voting is as well as electing bad leaders. We need leaders who unite the country and serve Kenyans indiscriminately. Good leaders do not sideline Kenyans along political or tribal lines.

SAMSON MUTUNE
Trader, Machakos



Yes. I'm a registered voter. I made the decision to register since it's my constitutional right to elect leaders of my choice. I have voted only once since I registered. Some of the leaders I voted for and won are delivering well while others are just lazying around. I am proud to be participating in the elections.

DENNIS MUIRA
Trader, Machakos

COMPILED BY GEORGE OWITI

★ society...

Who's in and who's out
In the local hotspots

CORPORATE CONNECTIONS LAUNCHES WITH GLAMOUR



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4

GLOBAL business networking forum *CorporateConnections* was officially launched in Kenya on Tuesday last week at The Marriott Hotel.

Corporate Connections Kenya is being led by its national director **Lilian Gachoki** and **Nancy Kihika**, both highly accomplished entrepreneurs and seasoned business leaders with decades of experience across multiple sectors.

Also in attendance were CorporateConnections global vice president **Sri Rathi**, Kenyan chapter chairman **Peter Thurania** and former Kenyan Ambassador to Turkey **Leonard Boiyo**.



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1. Toasting moment after the launch 2. Muthokinja founding member and MD Benjamin Kimani 3. Nila Pharmaceuticals Ltd's Dr Laura Njeri and Optiven Group CEO George Wachiuri 4. PR practitioner Wambui Masitsa 5. Lilian Gachoki, Peter Thurania, Sri Radhi and Nancy Kihika 6. Leonard Boiyo, Vanessa Magiri and Oliver Ndegwa 7. Attendees follow proceedings /MOSES MWANGI

DIWALI SIP AND TASTE CELEBRATIONS DELIGHT



1



2

Kenyans from different ways of life on Saturday converged at the Trademark Suites for a Diwali Sip and Celebrate moments in partnership with JW.

Guests dressed up in their best costumes as they enjoyed Indian Cuisine and pairing with whiskey drinks as they enjoyed song and dance.

The event was hosted by media personality **Pinky Ghelani**.



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1. Fitness coach Angela Njuguna 2. Rachel Anitah in an Indian traditional outfit 3. Media personality and event host Pinky Ghelani 4. Kavita Hirani and Nandi Hirani 5. Loise Njambi 6. Sonam Shah and Diageo brand ambassador Wangari Mwangi 7. Cynthia Kibiru and Polce Okoth show off their henna handprints /MOSES MWANGI

NEWS COUNTIES

OVER 100 SHORTLISTED

JSC to interview shortlisted judges in January next year

GEOFFREY MOSOKU

THE Judicial Service Commission will start interviews for the Court of Appeal and High Court judges from January next year.

In a schedule provided by the Chief Justice Martha Koome-led JSC, the public interviews will run from January 12 to March.

The commission seeks to recruit 15 judges of the Court of Appeal, 20 High Court judges and 10 judges to the Environment and Land Court.

"It is notified for general information that JSC will be conducting interviews for the positions from January 12, 2026, to March 23, 2026, at the JSC Boardroom, CBK Pension Towers, 12th Floor, Harambee Avenue, Nairobi," the notice signed by Chief Registrar Winfridah Mokaya says.

Mokaya said members of the public are invited to avail in writing any information of interest in respect to

any of the shortlisted candidates.

"Take note that the commission may interview any member of the public who has submitted information on any of the shortlisted candidates and such information shall be kept confidential," she said.

Law lecturer and author Migai Akech will be the first one of the 35 shortlisted to face the panel at 9 am.

Independent Policing Oversight Authority chairperson Isaac Hassan, High Court Judge Chacha Mwita and lawyer Katwa Kigen are among the candidates to face JSC.

Environment and Land Court presiding judge Oscar Angote and justices Joseph Serگون, Yuvinalis Angima, Hedwig Ong'udi, Onesmus Makau, Nduma Nderi, Samson Okongo and Edward Muriithi are among those scheduled for interviews. Others include Justices William Musyoka, Obaga Ogoti, Lucy Njuguna, Lucy Mbugua, Robert Limo, Rachael Nge-



Chief Justice Martha Koome and Interior CS Kipchumba Murkomen during the launch of Administration of Justice in Kenya Annual Report 2024-25 /KNA

tich, Stephen Radido, Dalmas Oungo, Munyao Sila and Byram Ongaya.

Lawyers Paul Lilan, Lucy Wanja, Daniel Ogola, Brown Murungi, Joseph Kaberia, Waweru Mathenge, Johnson Okello, Protus Gathege, Jacqueline Muindi and Kamwele Muneeni complete the list of those

set to appear before the JSC panel.

The 35 candidates were shortlisted from 95 applicants who submitted their interest by the July 7 deadline for the vacancies announced in June.

Lawyer Elizabeth Achieng Agutu will open interviews for the high court judges on February 4 next year.

CONSERVATION

Environmentalists poke holes into transfer of Amboseli park

Say ecosystems could suffer under local management, demand strong frameworks

GILBERT KOECH
@KoechJunior_1

THE recent transfer of Amboseli National Park from the national government to Kajiado county has stirred debate among conservationists, exposing deep divisions over the future of wildlife management.

While President William Ruto praised the move as "historic" and a triumph for community-led conservation, some conservationists fear it could open a Pandora's box—inviting other counties to demand control over national parks within their borders.

Carnivore ecologist Dr Mordecai Ogada, co-author of *The Big Conservation Lie: The Untold Story of Wildlife Conservation in Kenya* said, "It's not wise at all. The Kajiado government doesn't have the capacity to run a Class A national park," he told the Star.

He warned that Amboseli's pristine ecosystems could suffer under local management. Others, however, see the transfer as an overdue step towards decolonising conservation and empowering local communities.

Environmentalist Steve Itela described the decision as "progressive on paper," saying it recognises the constitutional spirit of devolution and gives communities a legitimate voice in managing natural resources.

"It could strengthen local ownership, improve response to human-wildlife conflict and integrate Maasai cultural stewardship into park management," he said.

Itela said county-led conservation might even expand Amboseli's reach through community conservancies and wildlife corridors, reconnecting fragmented landscapes.

Still, Itela cautioned that the shift raises "serious governance and policy questions".

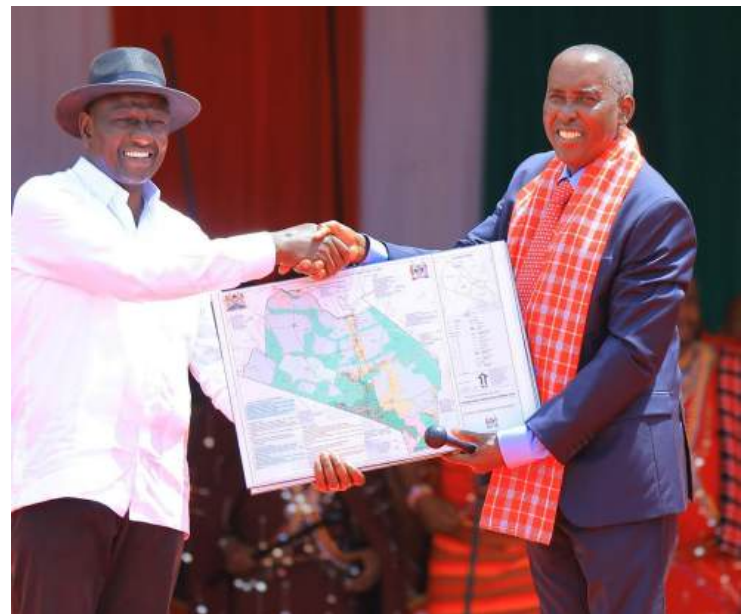
Without a clear national framework, he warned, Kenya risks fragmenting its conservation model, weakening the Kenya Wildlife Service's coordination role and creating inconsistent standards across counties.

Jim Nyamu, director of the Elephant Neighbours Centre said, "You can't just wake up and hand over everything. It's a process."

He called for safeguards and best practices to ensure the transition succeeds. Nyamu said community-based conservation offers hope but warned that mishandling the process could embolden other counties to seek similar control. During the handing over ceremony on November 8, Ruto dismissed the skepticism, saying the move ends a 51-year dispute over the park's management and restores stewardship to the Maasai community.

"This is not a weakening of conservation; it is a renewal," he said. "Conservation led by the people lasts longer, works better and heals deeper."

Ruto assured partners that the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Wildlife Research and Training Institute will continue providing security, ecological monitoring and technical support, while the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife offers policy guidance. Set against the breathtaking backdrop of



President William Ruto hands over the instruments of management of Amboseli National Park to Kajiado Governor Joseph Lenku /KNA

Mount Kilimanjaro, Amboseli is one of Kenya's most iconic parks—home to vast herds of elephants, lions, zebras and more than 400 bird species.

It is a crown jewel of biodiversity and tourism, as well as a cultural treasure for the Maasai people who have coexisted with wildlife for generations.

As Kenya takes this bold step into community-led conservation, the world will be watching to see whether Amboseli becomes a model for devolution done right—or a cautionary tale of what happens when politics and preservation collide.

(+ INSTANT ANALYSIS

Set against the breathtaking backdrop of Mount Kilimanjaro, Amboseli is one of Kenya's most iconic parks—home to vast herds of elephants, lions, zebras and more than 400 bird species. It is a crown jewel of biodiversity and tourism, as well as a cultural treasure for the Maasai people who have coexisted with wildlife for generations. The world is keenly watching as Kenya takes this bold step.



NEWS COUNTIES

MOTIVE UNKNOWN

Man killed outside his house in Ruaka

CYRUS OMBATI

DETECTIVES are investigating the murder of a delivery man outside his house in Ruaka, Kiambu county on Sunday.

Police said the body of Douglas Abutsu, 21, had a deep cut in the palm of the left hand, abdomen, back and

shoulder. His neighbours told police two women visited him at dawn but he was not in the house.

They said they overheard the women calling him several times requesting to see him.

When Abutsu said he was almost home, the two women left to meet him outside the compound, and neighbours heard commotion.

They said it was at that point he was hacked to death and the assailants fled. The motive of the murder was not immediately established, police said. Police said no arrest had been made in connection with the murder.

In Rachuonyo, Homa Bay county, Fidel Adwol, 20, was murdered and his body dumped at the roadside with deep cuts in the head.



Senator Jackson Mandago (second right) leads a team leaders on a visit of Kiambu Level five hospital on November 10, 2025./ ALICE WAITHERA



SYSTEMIC FAILURES

Senators want Kiambu to streamline health services at hospital

ALICE WAITHERA

KIAMBU Level 5 Hospital is grappling with a confluence of systemic failures, from sluggish patient registration systems to a non-functional incinerator and inadequate mortuary facilities.

The issues were brought to light during a critical oversight visit by the Senate Assembly Committee on Health.

The senators, led by committee chairperson Jackson Mandago (Uasin Gishu senator), visited Kiambu level 5 and Karuri level 4 hospitals, and urged the county administration to swiftly streamline patient documentation system to curb the long queues witnessed in the facilities.

“A system failure at this first point of service prevents patients from progressing to clinical treatment, creating a fundamental blockage in care,” Mandago said.

The senators also expressed concerns over the overwhelming presence of underage mothers in the maternity and paediatric wings of the facility.

Mandago said many of the young mothers lacked the necessary identity documents, complicating their access to essential services.

Several young mothers were found to have been detained at the facility for up to three months due to their inability to pay hospital bills after failing to register under the Social Health Authority (SHA).

The committee chairperson challenged the county government to find ways of supporting the underage mothers, including registering them under Wamatangi Care insurance scheme, which works with SHA.

The scheme launched in 2022 provides enhanced medical coverage for inpatient, outpatient and maternity care, including specific coverage for chronic conditions such as hypertension and diabetes, and offers a last expense cover of Sh100,000 to help with funeral costs.

In January this year, the county government waived maternity bills totalling Sh6 million after 50 mothers were detained at Thika Level 5 Hospital over bills.

Many teenage mothers have found themselves stranded in hospitals after failing to register under SHA that requires them to register independently from their guardians, with many failing to raise money for premiums.

“I strongly urge young mothers and the public in general to register under SHA for sustained healthcare,” Mandago said.

The committee also zeroed in on critical infrastructural and personnel deficiencies expressing grave concerns over the non-operational incinerator for medical waste management.

Senator Wafula Wakoli (Bungoma) said it was shocking that the facility has been dumping medical waste near residential areas, exposing residents to danger.

The senators also challenged the county government to allocate resources towards the hospital’s mortuary that they said lack some equipment.

Senator Maureen Mutinda echoed calls for system upgrades to reduce patient queues and urged healthcare workers to take responsibility and utilise the available resources maximally.

The senators warned hospital boards against diverting revenue collected for hospital operations to other departments, leaving the facilities struggling to provide services and jeopardising Kenyans’ health.

MCA Joseph Muhinja, a member of health committee in the county assembly said funds for a new incinerator would be allocated in the supplementary budget.

PHOTO STORY

From left to right: Peter Ndabu, Equity Bank Othaya Branch Manager, Boniface Kagiso Moloji, Equity’s Commercial Director, Bishop Paul Wanjohi of New Life Church, Moses Ndirangu, Director of Credit Equity Bank and Daniel Mwendwa, Deputy County Commissioner, Nyeri South Sub-County,

REDUCE BACKLOG

Explore alternative dispute resolution, Kenyans urged

Cases often require witnesses to be produced in court, exhibits, which is expensive

ALICE WAITHERA
@Alicewangechi

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has rolled out a nationwide campaign to educate Kenyans on its operations in an effort to fast-track justice dispensation.

The department has said it is deploying alternative prosecution measures to reduce the number of cases being prosecuted in court.

Prosecution Services secretary Alloys Kemo cited plea bargain as one of the measures, saying it can result in lesser charges against the accused if they agree to plead guilty.

At the same time, plea bargains can see charges dropped against an accused person and restitution done to the complainant.

“In case of many accused persons, those found to have committed lesser offences can be used as witnesses against others suspected to be the main offenders. We have successfully used these practices to fast-track the conclusion of cases,” he said.

“Where charges are not too serious and the accused is willing to take responsibility and own up to their offences, both parties can agree to resolve the matter and the victim given restitution.”

He, however, explained the alternative dispute resolution are only applied in cases that do not involve sexual offences and crimes against humanity. The alternative practices, he added, save the government huge resources by ensuring speedy resolution of cases.

Speaking in Nanyuki during a team building exercise of ODPP officials from the Rift Valley region, Kemo said court cases often require witnesses to be produced in court, exhibits to be presented and experts facilitated to testify.

“It’s very expensive to prosecute a complex case. That’s why we employ these alternative measures to resolve some cases and in the process stem backlog,” he said.

Kemo said since the department was established following the adoption of the 2010 constitution, the judicial system has undergone a transformation that has eased access to justice for Kenyans.

The Judiciary has automated most of its services, with the e-filing system allowing prosecutors to file cases digitally, while court users use the case tracking system to check the progress of their cases.

In the 2023-24 financial year, pending cases rose by 1.2 per cent from



Prosecution Services Secretary Alloys Kemo during a team building event in Nanyuki, Laikipia, on November 10, 2025./ALICE WAITHERA

625,643 to 649,310, with cases distributed among the small claims and magistrates courts, the High Court and the Supreme Court.

The Judiciary suffered a setback following a significant reduction of its budget from 2022-23 to 2023-24 financial year, according to the annual report on the state of the Judiciary and administration of justice.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

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KEMO CITES PLEA BARGAIN AS ONE OF THE MEASURES, SAYING IT CAN RESULT IN LESSER CHARGES AGAINST THE ACCUSED IF THEY AGREE TO PLEAD GUILTY

NEWS COUNTIES



PHOTO STORY

Nyali MP aspirant Elkana Jacob joins Kangi-Majirani self help group members at Ziwa la Ng'ombe in Mombasa to discuss their empowerment initiatives /HANDOUT

SH800,000 GONE

Woman arrested for robbing British boyfriend of cash

CYRUS OMBATI

DETECTIVES in Nyali, Mombasa county, have arrested a woman who staged a robbery against her British boyfriend after luring him to her apartment for a dream date.

The suspect had been wooing the Briton for months on the internet, charming him with promises of everlasting love.

Blinded by affection, the man visited her posh apartment in Nyali, oblivious that he was walking into a scripted heist.

Barely minutes into the rendezvous the door burst open. Two men stormed in, one claiming to be the woman's furious husband and the other flashing a fake police ID.

The "husband" accused the Briton of wrecking his home, as the fake cop threatened arrest.

The terrified foreigner was then coerced to transfer Sh800,000 to mobile phone numbers provided by the gang.

Once the cash landed, the trio calmly escorted their victim out before vanishing into Mombasa's humid night like ghosts after payday.

The Briton told police he had checked into his hotel in the Mtwapa area on October 25, 2025, for a holiday after being invited by the girlfriend he met online.

The victim stayed at the hotel until November 2, 2025 when the supposed girlfriend invited him to her apartment in Nyali.

Oblivious of the dangers ahead, he took a taxi to the apartment on the fifth floor.

He was shocked after two men walked to the room ten minutes after he had settled down with his girlfriend. The men masqueraded as the husband of the woman and another as a police officer.

They then took him hostage and ordered him to transfer money from his bank account to four mobile phone numbers that they provided, which he obliged to.

PLOTTING COMEBACK?

Sossion's rumoured return doesn't scare me, says Oyuu

Knut secretary general exudes confidence he will be re-elected in union polls next year

BRIAN OTIENO
@Yobramos4

KENYA National Union of Teachers secretary general Collins Oyuu has expressed confidence he will retain his seat in the union's national elections set for next year.

Oyuu dismissed assertions he feels threatened by reports that his predecessor Wilson Sossion is plotting a comeback. "Every person is free to vie if you are a member of Knut," Oyuu said on Sunday.

Speaking after a meeting of the Knut Nyanza region leaders with Interior PS Raymond Omollo in Mombasa, Oyuu appeared to make reference to the fact that Sossion was deregistered by the Teachers Service Commission in July 2020.



Knut secretary general Collins Oyuu in Mombasa on Sunday / BRIAN OTIENO

This would automatically disqualify him from vying for any position in the giant union.

Sossion had an adversarial relationship with the teachers' employer and his deregistration was meant to

mount pressure on him to relinquish his position at the giant union following his entry into politics when he was nominated as an MP by ODM.

He finally resigned in June 2021, hours before the Knut elections which

saw Oyuu take over from him.

He had served the union for nine years, first as the national chairman and then as the secretary general, a position which makes the holder the union's spokesperson.

"People misinterpret the law. That anybody can vie for the position of secretary general. We've been looking into the Act. Much as there is a small leeway, the teaching profession is different," Oyuu said on Sunday.

He dismissed Sossion's intended bid for his seat, saying TSC cannot deal with anybody who is not a registered teacher.

"People just try their luck everywhere and anywhere. If anything, what I know of Sossion of late he would wish to be the CEO of Teachers Service Commission."

CONSERVATION FESTIVAL

Watamu fete boosts sustainable environment awareness



Charles Nyale from Kilifi North Beach Management Unit Network hands over a certificate to James Ngumbao at Mida Creek /CHARLES MGHENYI

CHARLES MGHENYI

THE annual Watamu Conservation Festival held within the Watamu Marine Protected Area is bearing fruit, four years after it was launched to promote conservation and sustainable livelihoods among local communities.

The festival, which brings together environmental NGOs, community-based organisations, the Kenya Forest Service, fishermen, and residents from the Mida Creek ecosystem, seeks to raise awareness about environmental management and sustainable fishing practices.

During this year's event held at Mida Creek, both community members and environmentalists expressed satisfaction with the festival's impact, noting that knowledge on mangrove conservation and best fishing practices had begun to pay off.

They reported that mangrove trees have increased significantly, and fish stocks are on the rise, even though the growing number of fishermen has made it harder to

secure larger catches. Queen Elizabeth, the Conservation, Alternative Livelihoods, and Environmental coordinator of Bahari Hai, a local non-governmental organisation operating within the Watamu Marine Protected Area, said the festival has brought together fishermen from all the landing sites in the area who took part in a fishing competition using the right fishing gear.

She said since the start of the festival, they have managed to register the Mida Creek Beach Management Unit with eight landing sites, and all community members and fishermen are now actively engaged in conservation efforts.

Lenar Akoth, an environmental education officer at Arocha Kenya, said the competition has had a great impact, especially because this year, the fishermen took the lead in planning and decision-making. "This year, for the first time, fishermen participated in a data camp where they presented data of fish caught from January to date in terms of quantity and the type of fish they have been catching," she said.

NEWS COUNTIES

FROM STIGMA TO SUPPORT

New centre to serve 300 children with disabilities

MATHEWS NDANYI

A new dawn is rising for children living with challenges affecting their nervous system development, after the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital launched the construction of a specialised facility.

The Wezesha Watoto Children's Neurodevelopment Centre is set to transform care for children with autism, cerebral palsy and learning difficulties.

MTRH chief executive officer Dr Phillip Kirwa described the project as a milestone in the hospital's mission

to provide inclusive and compassionate care.

Valued at more than Sh200 million, the centre will be the first of its kind in the region, designed as a one-stop hub.

"This will be a unique centre where services will include early screening and diagnosis, speech and occupational therapy, behavioural and educational support, caregiver and teacher training and family counseling," Kirwa said at the groundbreaking ceremony in Eldoret.

He emphasised the need to bring children with developmental disorders

out of the shadows. "Many of these children are hidden in homes and denied the care they need," Kirwa said.

"We are urging our communities to understand that with the right support, these children can thrive and realise their potential," he added.

The Wezesha Watoto Centre—Swahili for 'Empowering Children'—will accommodate up to 300 children at a time.

Beyond care, it will serve as a hub for training clinicians, educators and community health workers in early childhood development, autism diagnosis

and inclusive education.

Kirwa credited the initiative to a decade-long partnership between Kenyan and US paediatric specialists under the Ampath Kenya collaboration.

Support from Ampath and other donors, he noted, has made it possible for families to finally access quality care without having to travel long distances or suffer in silence.

Professor Eren Oyungu, a paediatrician at MTRH, hailed the new centre as a turning point.

"For too long, children with developmental challenges have been

overlooked. This centre ensures every child gets specialised care and the opportunity to reach their full potential," he said.

Dr Megan McHenry, associate professor of pediatrics at Indiana University and a lead partner in the project, said the initiative represents hope and dignity.

"Our teams walk alongside families to ensure they have access to care, services and hope," she said.

McHenry added that well-child clinics will also be integrated within the centre to reduce stigma and build awareness.

SUBMERGED

Students sit KCSE in makeshift shelters after Trans Nzoia floods

Over 12,000 people living in low-lying areas displaced after rivers burst banks

MATHEWS NDANYI
@TheStarKenya

WHEN the rains came, they did not just fall—they swallowed homes, roads and farms across Trans Nzoia county.

By the time the waters settled, more than 12,000 people had been forced to flee, their lives suddenly adrift after rivers burst their banks and turned villages into islands.

In Namanjalala, Kapomboi, Endebess, Soymining and Liyavo, families waded through murky waters clutching what little they could salvage.

Governor George Nitemba said most of those affected had been living in low-lying areas long known to be flood-prone.

"We are working with various stakeholders to assist those affected so that they get both food and non-food items they require," he said, urging those still in risky zones to move to safer ground.

The Sabwani River, the county's largest, broke its banks and swept through homesteads, leaving behind a trail of ruin.

Hundreds of houses were submerged and displaced families are now camping in temporary shelters as they wait for help. Among the victims are 71 KCSE candidates from



Governor George Nitemba and Red Cross officials distribute aid to victims of flooding in parts of Trans Nzoia /MATHEWS NDANYI

Soymining Secondary School whose exams were disrupted when floods invaded their villages and destroyed their homes.

With access roads cut off and farmlands submerged, the students were

relocated to AIC Kobos Secondary School to ensure their national examinations continued uninterrupted.

The county joined well-wishers in delivering food and essential supplies to the affected learners. County CEC

for Gender, Youth, Sports, Culture and Tourism Eliud Tormoi led the relief mission, reassuring parents that the students' welfare was a priority.

"We are committed to ensuring the candidates finish their exams smoothly," he said, adding that many of the students had been left traumatised and in need of emotional and material support.

Most of the displaced learners left home with nothing but their uniforms. Thirty-three boys now hosted at Kobos Boys Secondary School and 38 girls at Kobos Girls Secondary School, where they are expected to remain for about two weeks.

Soymining Secondary School principal Pamela Lumadede expressed gratitude for the swift response but said the situation remains dire.

"We appreciate the support received, but the needs are still many. Some students came with nothing. Additional help will ensure they remain comfortable and focused on their exams," she said.

At Kobos Girls Secondary School, principal Selina Kirui echoed the same concern.

"They came empty-handed because they are day scholars," she said.

"They urgently need bedding, toiletries, sanitary pads, soap—everything. We are appealing to well-wishers to stand with these girls."



PAMELA LUMADEDE

Some students came with nothing. Additional help will ensure they remain comfortable and focused on their exams



Residents at the area affected by mudslides in Kerio Valley /MATHEWS NDANYI

WEAKENED SOILS

Halt farming on slopes to curb mudslides, Sang urges residents

MATHEWS NDANYI

IN the aftermath of the deadly mudslides that swept through Kerio Valley and claimed 38 lives, Nandi Governor Stephen Sang is calling for action to protect fragile landscapes in the North Rift.

Sang is urging residents living along escarpments to stop farming on steep slopes—a practice he said has weakened soils and fuelled

recurrent mudslides. "We have lost many lives. As a way forward, our communities along the escarpments must change their farming activities and refrain from living in these risky areas," he said.

The governor has been leading coordinated relief efforts across the region as counties rally to assist affected families in Elgeyo Marakwet. He said the North Rift Economic Bloc will work with

national agencies to develop long-term solutions, including resettlement and sustainable land-use planning, to curb future disasters.

Sang encouraged residents to adopt safer and more sustainable farming alternatives such as coffee cultivation, which can thrive without destabilising slopes.

"Such practices will help prevent landslides, especially during the rainy seasons," he noted. Accompa-

nied by elders, clergy and county officials, Sang led a county delegation to deliver food and essential items to families affected by the tragedy.

He emphasised that rebuilding livelihoods must go hand in hand with environmental rehabilitation.

The Kerio Valley Development Authority has also announced an environmental conservation plan targeting more than 100,000 people living along escarpment zones.

NEWS COUNTIES

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Partners pledge joint action to protect environment in Daadab

Move comes in the wake of massive destruction orchestrated by refugees in camps



Dadaab refugee camp
/JACK OWUOR

STEPHEN ASTARIKO
@AstarikoStephen

PARTNERS in Garissa have committed to a joint action against environmental degradation in Dadaab refugee complex.

The meeting comes in the wake of massive destruction orchestrated by refugees in the sprawling camps and the subcounty.

The high-level forum held in Garissa and convened by Governor Nathif Jama brought together representatives from the national and county governments, UNHCR, WFP, development partners and area legislators.

The meeting addressed increasing threats of deforestation, overexploitation of natural resources and

reported cases of wildlife poaching. It sought to strengthen refugee-host integration, environmental conservation, implementation of the Shirika Plan and sustainable livelihoods for refugees and local residents.

Jama called for bold action to protect Garissa's unique wildlife and fragile ecosystems.

"We have discussed at length issues to do with getting an alternative fuel system for the refugee committee in the county because for 34 years now, we have had the refugees cutting our merger forest, particularly our acacia trees and other indigenous trees for firewood," he said.

Jama said the recommendations include use of LPG as a good substitute to fuel, saying with the necessary

support from partners, it can work. "We have made recommendations

that need to be acted upon sooner than later. Key among them the need to get an alternative fuel system for the refugees for their cooking requirements," he said.

"We must protect the giraffe and the acacia tree—the symbols of our identity and resilience. Let us create sustainable fuel and create alternatives for conservation and community wellbeing to go hand in hand."

William Ejalu, head of UNHCR Suboffice in Dadaab, reaffirmed the agency's commitment to strengthening its partnership with Garissa county. "We are proud to stand with the county government in advancing the Shirika Plan and ensuring host and refugee communities benefit from sustainable development," he said.

Garissa county commissioner Mohamed Mwabudzo praised the governor for championing peace and

environmental responsibility, saying when government institutions and humanitarian partners sit together, real solutions emerge.

Dadaab MCA Mohamed Abdi emphasised the urgent need for a coordinated and sustainable response to protect the fragile ecosystem surrounding Dadaab.

He said of importance is the need for enhanced collaboration between the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), local administration and refugee agencies to curb poaching and sensitise communities on the importance of wildlife conservation.

"It is very unfortunate that we have got to this level as far as environmental degradation is concerned. We must move from talking to taking practical steps that balance humanitarian needs with environmental conservation," Abdi said.

The need to protect wildlife, particularly giraffes, through stronger conservation and awareness campaigns is one of the recommendations agreed upon. They also agreed to promote alternative fuel and building materials to reduce dependence on indigenous trees.

Two weeks ago, he issued a passionate plea for urgent intervention to address the deepening humanitarian and environmental crisis in Dadaab.

Jama painted a grim picture of the environmental degradation caused by refugees. "For more than 30 years, Dadaab has borne the weight of a global problem that was never designed to last this long," he said.

(+) INSTANT ANALYSIS

The need to protect wildlife, particularly giraffes, through stronger conservation and awareness campaigns is one of the recommendations agreed upon. They also agreed to promote alternative fuel and building materials.



Head of UNHCR suboffice in Dadaab William Ejalu (C) and Garissa Governor Nathif Jama /STEPHEN ASTARIKO

BOOSTING LIVELIHOODS

Garissa launches second phase of mass livestock vaccination

STEPHEN ASTARIKO

GARISSA county has launched the second phase of mass livestock vaccination campaign targeting camels, cows, goats and sheep.

Agriculture executive Milgo Dubow said the campaign seeks to safeguard the health of animals and boost livelihoods of thousands of pastoralists.

She spoke in Dertu, Dadaab subcounty on Monday.

Just like the other pastoralist counties, in Garissa, livestock production is the dominant economic activity and plays an integral role in driving the local economy.

More than 80 per cent of the population depends on livestock for their livelihoods and food security.

The exercise that will target Dertu and Liboi seeks to vaccinate animals against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Peste des Petits

Ruminants (PPR), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), which have in the past caused heavy losses to herders. "Livestock farming is the backbone of our economy. Protecting our animals from preventable diseases is key to improving food security and household income. As a county, we will do everything possible to make sure our farmers do not incur losses," Dubow said.

She urged herders to take full advantage of the exercise by availing their animals for the free vaccination. "I want to urge members of the public, in particular the pastoralists, to take advantage of the free vaccination and supportive treatment for their livestock. This initiative is a crucial step towards improving livestock health, strengthening livelihoods and enhancing the resilience of pastoral

communities in the region. We want to make sure every animal is vaccinated," the CEC said.

During his state of the county address in August, Garissa Governor Nathif Jama said his administration has continuously allocated a substantial amount of money to the sector, which he described as the county's "heartbeat".

He cited large-scale vaccination campaigns, new water pans and boreholes and livestock markets across subcounties as evidence of sustained investment.

Herders in the county have been counting losses following heavy rainfall that has been pounding the region in the past week.

Many of the livestock, especially goats and sheep that were too weak, could not withstand heavy rain and the cold.

The pastoralists are still reeling from the effects of drought that

claimed hundreds of livestock

Meanwhile, the government, in partnership with the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA), has launched a groundbreaking e-voucher livestock vaccination and breeding programme that seeks to transform the livestock sector into a major driver of Kenya's economy.

The initiative is designed to raise the sector's contribution to the national gross domestic product (GDP) from the current 12 per cent to 20 per cent by 2030.

This ambitious partnership

focuses on disease control, breed improvement, and enhanced feeding systems, using a digital e-voucher model that subsidises the cost of animal vaccination and breeding services for farmers across the country. "This programme is a game-changer for Kenya's livestock industry. It leverages digital technology to make animal health services more transparent, accessible, and affordable to farmers," Kelvin Osore, chairman of KVA said. Under the new model, farmers will use digital vouchers to access subsidised vaccination and breeding services.



Veterinary officers vaccinate livestock in Dertu, Dadaab subcounty, Garissa county /STEPHEN ASTARIKO

NEWS COUNTIES

WORK TOGETHER

Nyanza tutors sing Ruto praises as Omollo pledges more goodies

Knut boss pledges support for government, saying it has employed 76,000 teachers

BRIAN OTIENO
@Yobramos4

TEACHERS from the Nyanza region have hailed the leadership of President William Ruto, saying he has done more in two and half years than the other regimes did in a decade.

The Kenya National Union of Teachers Nyanza regional council, who were led by Knut secretary general Collins Oyuu and chairman Patrick Karinga, said the union's former secretary generals always indicated that they must work with the government of the day to achieve anything.

"It is only when you get to the table with the government that you can reap for teachers who you lead. You saw too well when we were not working with the government, this union died," Oyuu said.

Speaking in Mombasa, Oyuu said during the adversarial leadership of his predecessor Wilson Sossion, the union could not even negotiate with

the Teachers Service Commission, which by extension is government.

He spoke on Sunday after a meeting between the Knut Nyanza regional leadership with Interior PS Raymond Omollo in Mombasa to deliberate on the issues affecting the teaching fraternity from the region.

The secretary general pledged support for the government saying in the last two-and-a-half years, it has employed 76,000 teachers on permanent and pensionable terms.

He said some Sh1 billion was released to the TSC for promotion of some 25,000 teachers and an additional Sh1 billion shall be given for the promotion of another 50,000 teachers. North Kanyamkago MCA George Omamba said teachers are a key constituency that shapes the leaders of the country through their work.

He called on Omollo to continue supporting teachers.

The PS said government is committed to improving the education



Interior PS Raymond Omollo with Knut national and Nyanza region officials in Mombasa on Sunday / **BRIAN OTIENO**

standards in Kenya and that is why the TSC has hired more teachers in two-and-a-half years under the Kenya Kwanza regime than they have done in the previous decade.

"Apart from the 76,000 teachers already hired, there is an additional

24,000 to be hired in January next year to address the historical teacher shortage that has been hampering education standards in the country," the PS said, adding that an additional 20,000 teachers will be employed before 2027.

MOTIVE UNKNOWN

Boy, 2, found killed and body dumped in Vihiga forest

CYRUS OMBATI

POLICE are investigating murder in an incident where the body of a two-year-old boy was found in a forest in Serem, Vihiga county.

The body was found in Kavirono forest which is reserved for the Tiri-ki Traditional circumcision exercise in Jemojeji village on Sunday, police said.

The motive of the murder was not known immediately, police said.

The deceased was well dressed and wrapped in a blue white dotted leso when the body was found.

Police said the body had visible injuries on the face and the right leg is believed to have been scalded by hot water. The body was taken to the mortuary pending identification and postmortem, police said.

Elsewhere, a herder who went missing on November 4, was found dead with gunshot wounds in Bura area, Tana River county.

Four days search mission ended with the discovery of the decomposed body. Police suspect the deceased Muhammad Abdi Ali was shot and killed by gunmen who had stolen his camels that he had gone in search for.

FATALLY STABBED

Cousins' altercation leaves one dead, another injured in Kisii

CYRUS OMBATI

A 27-year-old man was stabbed and killed in an altercation with his cousin in Nyamarambe village, Kisii county.

The assailant also stabbed and seriously injured a second man who tried to intervene and separate the fight, police said, adding that the assailant escaped the scene after the Sunday night incident.

The deceased was identified as Eric Onchera. He had picked up a quarrel with the assailant who is his cousin before he was stabbed in the chest and died at the scene.

The other man who tried to help was stabbed in the shoulder and taken to a local hospital. The body was taken to the mortuary pending postmortem and other investigations.

Police are still looking for the assailant. They visited the scene and recovered the murder weapon which was kept as an exhibit.

"The murder caused tension in the village amid fears residents would attack the assailant's homestead in revenge," police said.

Police said they had visited the parties involved and assured them of justice in the murder.

Meanwhile, a 20-year-old man died after being assaulted by his parents over claims of stealing a goat in Kokuro, Turkana county.

The man, identified as Ekidor Ngirega, was assaulted by his father and uncle over claims he had stolen a neighbour's goat.

The family later buried the body

in a shallow grave, however police plan to exhume the body and prefer murder charges.

The suspects were yet to be arrested by Monday with police saying they were pursuing an order to enable the exhumation and other processes.

In Kilgoris town, Narok county, three suspects were arrested over the murder of a 15-year-old girl whose badly mutilated body was found in Enkoperia area on October 29.

The motive of the murder is yet to be disclosed but police said the three had been linked to the murder of the girl whose body was found in a thicket.



The murder had caused tension in the area, police said. The suspects were Tuesday expected in court where police planned to ask for more time.

Murder incidents have been on the rise in several parts of the country with up to eight cases being reported daily. Police say some of the incidents have so far been solved.



POLICE

The murder caused tension amid fears residents would attack assailant's homestead

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PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from the SMALL CLAIMS COURT at VOI, we shall sell by public auction the under-mentioned Motor Vehicle:

ON WEDNESDAY THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025 STARTING AT 10 AM AT STARTRUCK CAR YARD STORAGE - Kiambu Road.

SCCC NO.E032 OF 2025 AT VOI DANIEL MWANGOO MALKANYO =VS= TABNACHA ODUOR ODENY.

KBB 288F-Subaru Forester

CONDITIONS OF SALE:
1. Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.
2. Viewing can be done during normal working hours with prior arrangement with the office.

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KAKAMEGA OFFICE: Glory Hse. Mumias Rd, P.O BOX 1980, Kakamega, 0722 784450
BUNGOMA OFFICE: Moi Avenue, Next to Mamu's Bookshop, P.O BOX 2377, Bungoma
ELDORET OFFICE: Rehema complex 2nd Floor, Rm 8, Eldoret, 0720 214557

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by Nairobi and kitale chief magistrate courts ,we will sell the underlisted property on **19/11/2025&20/11/2025.**

On **19/11/2025** outside our **Kakamega Office yard at Glory House along Kakamega Mumias road at exactly 10:00 am.**
KITALE CMCC NO E419/2023
BENEDICTO JUMA NABALOKHA & ANOTHER VERSUS WEST KENYA SUGAR CO LTD
MOTOR VEHICLE REG NO KCX 927W TOYOTA PICKUP.

On **20/11/25** at exactly **10:00am** at **Jogoo Roads Motors Garage NAIROBI SCCMM/E7428/24**
WILSON IRUNGU T/A WILXCEL ENTERPRISE VERSUS NICODEMUS OCHODOS
6 boxes of fluorescent, 2pieces of opple floodlights, 1piece 100Amp switch fuse, 10 pieces of fluorescent luminous bulb.

TERMS OF SALE
1. Strictly full cash at the fall of the hammer.
2. Viewal during working hours and days assisted by auctioneer or his member of staff

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, Email:velelajoe@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

SALE OF PROPERTY IN NAKURU COUNTY

Duly instructed by the Financier's herein between **ZANIFU LIMITED VERSUS ZABLON MACHARIA MUIGA & RUTH WAIRIMU MUIGA**, we shall sell by public Auction the under mentioned property with all improvements thereto if any on **WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 2025 AT 10:30A.M AT OUR OFFICES SITUATED AT DEVELOPMENT HOUSE, 2ND FLOOR ROOM 2-27, MOI AVENUE STREET,NAIROBI.**

All that property known as **LR NUMBER.GILGIL/GILGIL BLOCK 1/14566(KIKOPEY) I.N.O RUTH WAIRIMU MUIGA THE CHARGOR/ GUARANTOR & ZABLON MACHARIA MUIGA THE BORROWER** measuring approximately 0.0462 Hectares. The property is situated about 4.4Kilometeres in Mufao Village, Gema area, at Gilgil Kikopey Nakuru County, from Nairobi- Nakuru Highway.



CONDITIONS OF SALE

- All interested purchasers are requested to view the property and verify for themselves as the auctioneer and instructing principal do not warrant these.
- A deposit of Kshs. 200, 000/= must be paid direct to the Auctioneer before being issued with a bid number, refundable after sale or be part of the purchase price to the declared purchaser.
- The highest bidder shall pay at the fall of the hammer a deposit of 25% of the purchase price to the auctioneer by banker's cheque or by real time gross settlement (RTGS) and the balance to be paid within (15)days.
- The sale is subject to a reserve price.
- The auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving reason for so doing.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by the under mentioned courts and client, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle on 17th November, 2025 near National Bank of Kenya Building, Nakuru at 11:30 am.

NAKURU CMCC No. E127 of 2020 ELIJAH G. KIRAGU -VS- SAMUEL KURIA KANYIRI
Motor Vehicle No.KAS 323A Tipper Lorry

CONDITION FOR SALE
All interested parties are required to view the property and verify details as auctioneers do not warrant this.
The sale will be subjected to reserve price.

CHARLTON AUCTIONEERS
Tel: 0723276390/0775179680, Allimex plaza, 3rd floor suite 301 off Mombasa road, P.O. Box 22091-00100, Nairobi Kenya

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our principals the financiers, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned motor vehicles on **Wednesday 19th November 2025 at our offices at Allimex Plaza, 3rd floor suite 301 off Mombasa Road.**

REG NO	MAKE	MODEL	Y.O.M	Fuel
KCY006D	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER P	2016	DIESEL

TERMS OF SALE
1. Cash at the fall of the hammer.
2. The sale is subject to a reserve price.
3. Vehicles are sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS".
Offers should be submitted on <https://autobid.riverlong.com> not later than **Wednesday 19th November 2025**. For any assistant, please contact **0701689319** or **0701856557** alternatively send an email to autobid@riverlong.com

ALL ARE WELCOME!!
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PUBLIC AUCTION

Under Instructions received from our principals, in the matter of distress for rent, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned goods on Wednesday 17th November 2025 at 10.30 a.m, at our showroom in Mombasa.

LANDLORD = against = VAPORT LTD AND ALVIN OMONDI AGINGU

One used Electrical Motor Bike Reg no. KMG6 618N(ARC) One Grounded Motor Tuk Tuk Reg No. KTWK 897C, Water Dispenser, Wall Fan and 10 (20lts empty mineral water bottles).

TERMS OF SALE
a). Viewing to be done during official working hours with prior arrangements with us.
b). The highest bidder in the auction shall be declared the purchaser subject to reasonable reserve price and **MUST** pay in **CASH** at the fall of the hammer.

ALL ARE WELCOME

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PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from Chief Magistrate Court Mombasa, and under Distress for Rent Act we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle & goods by Public Auction on **20th November, 2025 starting from 10:30AM.**

i. AT BLACKBIRD STORAGE & AUCTION YARD LTD MOMBASA - ELRC NO. 324 OF 2021
ABDALLA JOHN FRANCIS =VS= SHYAM GENERAL MERCHANTS LTD KCP584H - NISSAN WINGROAD

ii. AT MATRIZ MOVES KENYA LTD YARD - CHANGAMWE MOMBASA - MCCC NO. E156 OF 2022
DORIS WANJIKU WAIHERERO =VS= DANIEL KENGA & JULIUS KARISA CHARO KBC519F - NISSAN CARAVAN

iii. DISTRESS FOR RENT AT OUR OFFICE NSSF BUILDING MOMBASA
(a) **LANDLORD =VS= UNICE NYAMBURA MAKUMI:-** Sofa set(6 seator), 1 wooden table, water small(von), television von hotpoint, 2 beds 3by 6 & mattress, wall mirror, 1 cpu, philips iron box & 1 plastic chair
(b) **LANDLORD =VS= MAURICE OTIENO KODO:-** 1 Bed 4by 6, 3Plastic chairs, 1 small wooden, TV Stand, wooden table & wooden stool.
(c) **LANDLORD =VS= MOHAMED AHMED SAJAN:-** Sofa 3 seater, display counter, air conditioner, wall clock, assorted Jewellery & gemstones.

CONDITIONS OF SALE
1. Strictly cash or bankers cheque at the fall of the hammer


PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of the parcel **DAGORETTI/MUTUINI/1232** located in **DAGORETTI off SOUTHERN BY-PASS ROAD**, seek to change the use from **Agricultural to Light Industry**. This is subject to approval by the department of planning at Nairobi City County Government. Any individual(s), institution(s) and organization with objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

CECM, Built Environment and Urban Planning, Nairobi City County Government, P.O BOX 30075-00100, NAIROBI. Date: 11th NOVEMBER, 2025

Pln. Shadrack k. Mbuta Reg.0332



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PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by the Financier we shall sell the listed Motor vehicles by Public Auction at the mentioned yards and dates

VEHICLE MODEL	REG. NO.	LOCATION	AUCTION DATE
SUBARU FORESTER	KDN 369H	BLACKBIRD STORAGE YARD	20.11.2025
MAZDA AXELA	KDJ 690H	ABSOLUTE CAR YARD	20.11.2025
NISSAN NOTE	KCS 574D	MOUNT KENYA AUCTION	20.11.2025
MERCEDES BENZ E200	KDK 905A	THE AUCTION CENTRE	27.11.2025

TERMS OF SALE
1. A refundable deposit of Kshs. 100, 000/= to enable you to bid.
2. Cash at the fall of the hammer.

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND LAND COURT AT KERICHO
ELC CASE NO. 52 OF 2014

BHAVIN ASHWIN GUDKA.....PLAINTIFF
VERSUS
1. EDNA BIYOGON)
2. DAVID ROTICH)
3. BOMET COUNTY GOVERNMENT).....DEFENDANTS
4. THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT)
KIPTAPSIR PRIMARY SCHOOL)

HEARING NOTICE
(Order 5 Rule 17 of the Civil Procedure Rules, 2010)

TO: Ms EDNA BIYOGON,
P.O BOX 207,
BOMET.

MR. DAVID ROTICH,
P.O BOX 207,
BOMET.

TAKE NOTICE that the above-mentioned matter has been fixed for Hearing on the **17th day of November 2025**, at 9:00 a.m. or so soon thereafter as may be possible before the **Honourable Judge, Environment and Land Court at Kericho.**

Substituted service of this Hearing Notice upon yourselves has been ordered by the Court by means of this Advertisement.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in default of appearance by yourself, your Advocate and/or by anybody authorized by law so to act for you, the matter shall proceed, your absence notwithstanding.

DATED AT KISII this.....7th.....day of.....November.....2025

M/S OGUTTU MBOYA, OCHWAL & PARTNERS
ADVOCATES FOR THE PLAINTIFF

DRAWN & FILED BY:
M/S OGUTTU MBOYA, OCHWAL & PARTNERS,
ADVOCATES,
KWANZA PLACE,
3RD FLOOR,
ALONG KISII - KISUMU HIGHWAY,
P.O. BOX 330 -40200,
KISII.P105/7729/09
PRACTICE NUMBER LSK/2025/002867
Email: ooadvocates@gmail.com

LOST ITEMS

LOST TITLE DEEDS

ELDORET MUNICIPALITY BLOCK 21 (KIN'GON'GO) 433 AND 434

LOSS OF TITLE

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NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given by **EMPOWERMENT AND LIBERATION PARTY** of publication of its:

1. Financial statement of the years ending: 30th June 2024 and 30th June 2025
2. Party Governing Members.

Full details to be found on party's website: www.elp.or.ke – Reporting Page.



THE STAR PUBLIC AUCTIONS

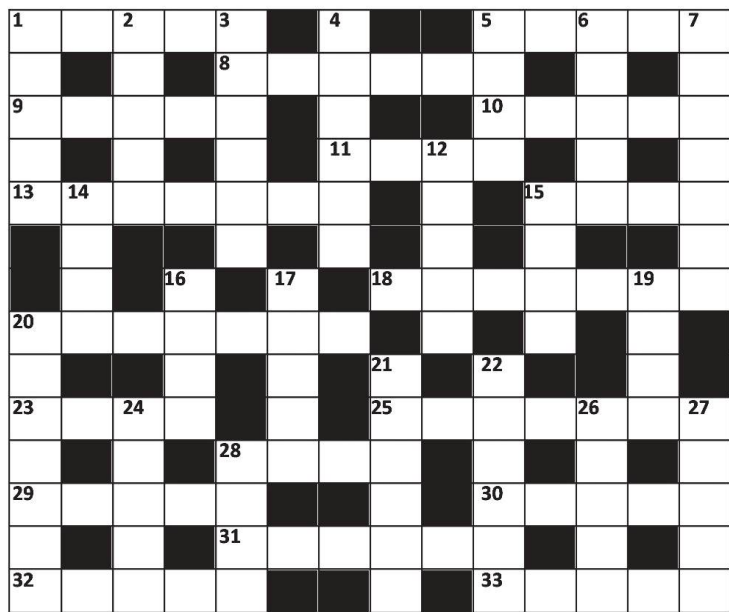
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CROSSWORD / PUZZLE



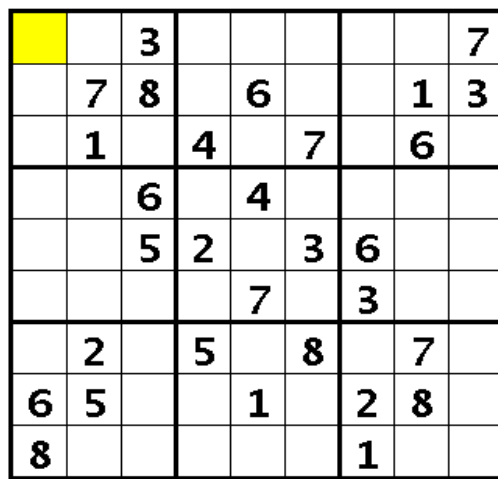
DOWN

1. Long-tailed brilliantly colored parrot of Central America (5)
2. Pleasing and harmonious sounds (5)
3. Plural form of the noun coati (6)
4. Member of Parliament for Narok West constituency (6)
5. Night (4)
6. Cavity in the skull containing the eyeball (5)
7. Luo name meaning "born in the late morning" (7)
12. Rank below lieutenant colonel (5)
14. A friendly nation (4)
15. Precipitation falling from clouds in the form of ice crystals (4)
16. Any of the forms of Chinese spoken in Fukien province (4)
17. Opposite of groom (5)
19. In or of the present month (4)
20. Member of Parliament for Nyaribari Chache constituency (7)
21. Involving two parts or elements (3,3)
22. Member of Parliament for Cherangany constituency (6)
24. District in western Uganda bordering Masindi district and Kibale district (5)
26. Optimal; being the best possibility (5)
27. Consisting of or involving a single element

ACROSS

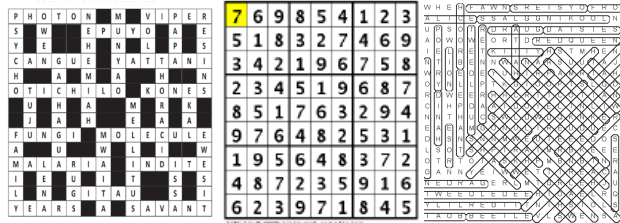
1. Imitate a person or manner, especially for satirical effect (5)
5. Member of Parliament for Kiharu constituency (5)
8. Senator for Vihiga County (6)
9. In Latin, means "side" or "rib" (5)
10. An adult female cat (5)
11. Where you live at a particular time (4)
13. Principal Secretary, State Department for Energy (7)
15. Make senseless or dizzy by a blow (4)
18. Baringo township that shares a border with Rongai district in Nakuru County (7)
20. One of the Abagusii counties in Kenya (7)
23. Causing a dull and steady pain (4)
25. Former Governor of Kiambu County (7)
28. Make new (4)
29. The radical -NH₂ (5)
30. Fairy bluebirds genus (5)
31. A written agreement between two states (6)
32. Former prime minister of Uganda (5)
33. To lay up; hoard (5)

SUDOKU / SIMPLE



Fill the grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the sub-grids that compose the grid all contain all of the numbers from 1 to 9 one time.

Yesterday solutions



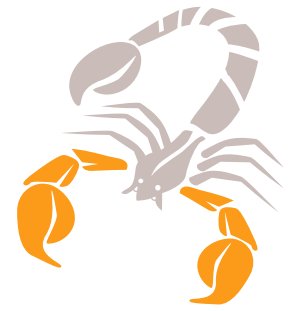
WORD SEARCH

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

Find and mark all the words hidden inside the box. The words may be placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

- BAND SAW
- BOLT CUTTER
- BRUSH
- BUFFER
- CALIPER
- CHALK
- CHISEL
- CLAMP
- COPING SAW
- CROWBAR
- DADO
- DIVIDER
- DRILL PRESS
- FILE
- GRINDER
- HAMMER
- HAND SAW
- HEX KEY
- JIG SAW
- JOINTER
- KNIFE
- LATHE
- MALLET
- MITER BOX
- PLANE
- PLIER
- POLISHER
- PROTRACTOR
- PRY BAR
- PUNCH
- RASP
- RATCHET
- ROUTER
- SANDER
- SAWHORSE
- SCREWDRIVER
- SCROLL SAW
- SOCKETS
- SPRAY GUN
- SQUARE
- STAPLE GUN
- STUD FINDER
- TABLE SAW
- TAPE MEASURE
- TAPS AND DIES
- TINSNIPS
- WISE
- WOOD RULE
- WRECKING BAR
- WRENCH

ALL IN THE STARS



SCORPIO

October 24 – November 22

Somehow all the pieces are fitting into place just like you knew they would. Those who doubted you will be pleasantly surprised.

SAGITTARIUS

November 23 – December 21

It may be hard to find your mental and home base. Let your mind wander in a place where it's safe to do so.

CAPRICORN

December 22 – January 20

Be a part of the solution by picking up after yourself and making sure that you aren't leaving a mess wherever you go.

AQUARIUS

January 21 – February 19

Try not to be fooled by those who continuously offer one image while delivering another. Keep your guard up.

PISCES

February 20 – March 20

Use your intellect to defend yourself and the ideals you wish to live by in the future.

ARIES

March 21 – April 20

Well thought out arguments presented clearly and concisely will be more effective than an emotional explosion full of tears and harsh words.

TAURUS

April 21 – May 21

If you continue to be uncertain and relaxed about which way to proceed, others may take advantage of you.

GEMINI

May 22 – June 21

Don't give up. This is the time to kick into high gear and get moving even more quickly than before.

CANCER

June 22 – July 22

This is a good time to make decisions that bring together your need for practicality as well as desire for emotional freedom.

LEO

July 23 – August 22

There's strength in emotional truth even if you don't want to hear it. Bitter pills may be hard to swallow, but they can be good for you.

VIRGO

August 23 – September 23

Do your best to wait until someone is finished talking before you jump in. Be polite and respectful of others and they'll be more respectful of yours.

LIBRA

September 24 – October 23

Don't give up this piece of yourself too easily. Save this pristine, delicate place for someone most deserving.

Ugandan president admits Kenyan activists were arrested, held in 'the fridge'

BBC/ Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has for the first time acknowledged that two Kenyan activists who were missing in his country for five weeks had been arrested. Last month, eyewitnesses reported seeing Bob Njagi and Nicholas Oyoo being forced into a car by masked uniformed men after a political event where they were supporting Ugandan opposition leader Bobi Wine.

News of their release was confirmed on Saturday but up to that point the authorities had denied that they were being detained. In a live interview on Saturday evening, Museveni described the two men as "experts in riots" who had then been put "in the fridge for some days".

The president, who has been in power for almost four decades and is running for another term in office, was responding to a question about the recent deadly youth-led protests in neighbouring Tanzania. Museveni blamed foreign groups for stoking up trouble and said "the ones who are doing that game here in Uganda will end up badly". Without naming them, he added that the two Kenyan activists were released after he received calls from "some Kenyan leaders" who said they should be handed back. Mr Njagi and Mr Oyoo were welcomed by supporters at the main airport in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, on Saturday.



"Thirty-eight days of abduction was not easy. We didn't think that we were going to come out alive because we were being abducted by the military," Mr Njagi said.

TELEVISION LINEUP – WEDNESDAY



La Mujer de Judas Wednesday | 6:00pm

WATCH US ON: Channel 343, GO TV Channel 20, zuku Channel 69, DStv Channel 274, SBN, Itel

5:00AM	MORNING DECREE	5:00PM	BEATPLUG
5:30AM	TV47 FITNESS	6:00PM	LA MUJER DE JUDAS
6:00AM	MORNING CAFÉ	7:00PM	UPEO WA TV47
10:00AM	TV47 MATUKIO	7:30PM	DR.OF WENEKE TONIGHT
2:00PM	BAZE 47	9:00PM	THE INSIGHT WITH DEBARL INEA
3:00PM	TV47 FITNESS RPT	12:00AM	BEATPLUG MIX
3:30PM	AKILI KIDS (ENGLISH)	1:00AM	ECO AFRICA RPT
4:00PM	TV47 NEWS NOW	2:00AM	WILD KINGDOM
4:15PM	LET'S GO BEIJING	4:00AM	MORNING DEVOTION
4:30PM	MTOTO NA SHERIA RPT		

ODDLY ENOUGH



SPORTS LOCAL

SWIMMING

HAMADI PSYCHED UP

Deaf swimmer Juma ready for Deaflympics debut in Tokyo

BY ANGWENYI GICHANA

DEAF swimmer Ali Hamadi Juma says he is not fazed as he prepares to make his debut at the Tokyo 2025 Summer Deaflympics, which begin on Saturday in Japan.

Juma, 25, is among six swimmers who will represent Kenya — the first time the country will field a swimming team at the quadrennial multi-sport event.

The Kwale-based athlete says he is excited and ready for the global stage after an intensive three-week residential training camp at the Kasarani Aquatic Stadium in Nairobi under veteran coach Irene Kerubo.

“We have been training very hard for the last couple of weeks. I now feel energised and ready for the Deaflympics,” said Juma. “Our instructor has improved our swimming skills and built our confidence. We are no longer timid to compete in Tokyo.”

“I want to encourage all my teammates to give their best because we must represent our country positively by winning medals.”

Juma will compete in four events — 50m backstroke, 100m breaststroke, 50m breaststroke, and 50m freestyle — and says he is confident of success.

“I’m confident of winning medals in the Deaflympics,” said Juma, an alumnus of Kwale School for the Deaf.

This will be his second international outing, having represented Kenya at the 2023 World Deaf Swimming Championships in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Although he did not achieve the results he hoped for there, Juma says the experience was invaluable.

“Yes, I felt bad about my lacklustre performance in Argentina, but I never gave up. The results motivated me to



Deaf swimmer Ali Hamadi Juma during a training session at Kasarani Aquatic Stadium/KSFD

work harder, and now, as I head to the Deaflympics, I carry with me the lessons and experience gained from the World Championships,” he remarked.

Coach Irene Kerubo praised Juma’s progress, describing him as one of the most improved swimmers in the squad.

“He has worked tirelessly in all categories, so we expect a good performance from him at the Deaflympics,” said Kerubo.

Juma learnt how to swim at the age

of 10 along the beaches of the Indian Ocean. He says his father, Hamadi Rehema, has been his biggest inspiration and motivator.

“He has encouraged me to represent the country proudly and prays that I make it to the podium. He also reminds me that a medal would bring government rewards that could change my life,” said Juma.

In September, President William Ruto announced an increase in rewards for medallists at global championships. Gold medallists will receive Sh3m (up from Sh750,000), silver medallists Sh2m (up from Sh500,000), and bronze medallists Sh1m (up from Sh350,000).

TRIATHLON

Fit-again Kiarie sets sights on Kilifi Development Cup

BY CHARLENE MALWA

KENYAN triathlete, Jossette Kiarie, 23, is ready to test her fitness at the Triathlon Development Cup in Kilifi on November 22–23, following recovery from a persistent knee injury.

The injury kept Kiarie off the track for several months. “I’ve always had a knee injury that kept recurring, and I had to compete through pain, which only made it worse,” she explained. “Earlier, I couldn’t even run outdoors. Now, I can manage 5km pain-free, which feels like progress.”

The AlterG anti-gravity treadmill has aided her return, a rehabilitation tool recently acquired by the Triathlon Federation of Kenya.

“The AlterG has really helped me train without aggravating my knee,” Kiarie said. “It allows me to run with reduced impact, which has helped me rebuild physically and mentally. Coming back after injury is stressful, but I’m in a much better place now.”

Kiarie last competed in the 2024 Africa Triathlon Cup, finishing the demanding course in 1:29:47. She hopes to improve on that time at Kilifi.

“It won’t match my expectations yet because of the setback, but I’m confident I’ll get stronger with every race,” she said.

The Triathlon Federation of Kenya has stepped up support for injured athletes, investing in sports and neuro-rehabilitation to ensure safe returns.

“The federation has been very supportive,” Kiarie noted. “It’s encouraging to see athletes training seriously and getting proper recovery support.”

Kiarie treated her recent race in Senegal as a valuable test ahead of Kilifi.

“The Senegal race was a bit early, but I took it as a test event. The Development Cup has been on my plan since the start of the year,” she said.

She hopes her experience will inspire other athletes to prioritise proper rehabilitation.

“I’d encourage athletes who are injured to take time and recover fully,” Kiarie said. “Coming back stronger and pain-free feels like a victory in itself.”



Jossette Kiarie / HANDOUT

Soy United shift focus to Kibera Black Stars after first Super League loss

BY ANGWENYI GICHANA



Soy United’s Alfred Ratolo and Cliff Otieno celebrate during their game against Naivas /HANDOUT

AFTER suffering their first loss of the season in the National Super League, Soy United have shifted focus to their next fixture against high-flying Kibera Black Stars.

On Saturday, Soy United, coached by Jeffers Odongo, lost 2-1 to Naivas FC at the Kenya Institute of Highways and Building Technology (KIHBT), Ngong’.

Eugene Omondi and Emmanuel Lunalo scored for Naivas. Alfred Ratolo netted Soy United’s consolation while Naivas goalkeeper Eliud Emase saved Ambrose Sifuna’s second-half penalty.

Soy United host Kibera

Black Stars on Sunday at the Eldoret Showground.

Assistant coach Samuel Otieno said the team had already turned its attention to the next challenge.

“We have now shifted our focus to the Kibera Black Stars game. We need to bounce back to winning ways,” said Otieno.

He noted that despite the loss, the team played well but failed to convert their chances, including a crucial penalty.

“Football is a game of chances. If you don’t convert your chances, you get punished,” he added.

Naivas coach, Elvis Ayany, praised Soy United’s performance.

“They played a good game. It’s

always difficult playing against newly promoted teams. Kabati Youth also gave us a hard time when we faced them,” said Ayany.

Elsewhere, struggling Luanda Villa upset former Premier League side Talanta FC 1-0 to record their second win of the season.

Mully Children’s Family (MCF) also claimed their second victory of the campaign after a hard-fought and deserved 1-0 win over visiting Michael Olunga Foundation Academy (MOFA) at the MCF Complex in Ndalani, Machakos County.

Kelvin Senya, alias Roro, scored the lone goal for Vincent Nyaberi’s charges.



ATHLETICS

Teenager Serem now has eyes on Beijing Worlds, LA Olympics

BY TEDDY MULEI

WORLD 3,000m steeplechase bronze medallist Edmund Serem has set his sights on the 2027 World Championships in Beijing and the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics after a stellar 2025 season.

The 17-year-old has made a seamless leap into the senior ranks, capping a remarkable year with bronze at the World Championships in Tokyo.

He clocked 8:34.56, finishing behind New Zealand's Geordie Beamish (8:33.88) and Morocco's Soufiane El Bakkali (8:33.95).

Speaking to NTV's SportOn, Serem said the podium finish fuelled his hunger for greater success.

"I was happy to stand on that podium in Tokyo — it gave me more hunger to chase more. I won bronze, but that's not the end. Now I'm focusing on even bigger targets — to win gold at the 2027 World Championships and the LA Olympics."

The former World U20 champion, who won in Lima, Peru, in 2024, has been consistent on the Diamond League circuit. He placed fourth in Xiamen (8:08.50), second in Shanghai (8:08.68), third in Rabat (8:07.47), first at the Kip Keino Clas-

sic (8:27.68), and third in Monaco (8:04.00) before finishing second in Zurich (8:09.96).

Serem said competing against the world's best has strengthened his resolve.

"That bronze medal has motivated me a lot. I'm not the same Edmund. I have to push myself because many people are watching."

He acknowledged the weight of Kenya's rich steeplechase heritage but remains determined to uphold it.

"I feel some pressure to deliver, but I have to push myself to prove people wrong," he said.



Edmund Serem at the Tokyo World Championships/ HANDOUT

GOLF

SNOW'S SIGH OF RELIEF

Muthaiga professional stays cool to lift Limuru Betika Masters title

BY ANGWENYI GICHANA

RELIEF and satisfaction were written all over Greg Snow's face as he finally captured his maiden Sunshine Development Tour – East Africa Swing title, holding off a late charge to win the Betika Masters at Limuru Country Club.

The Muthaiga Golf Club professional entered the final round with a commanding six-shot lead but endured a tense closing day, carding a one-over-par round that tested his composure to the very end.

His front nine included bogeys on the 1st, 4th, 6th, and 7th holes, offset by birdies on the 2nd and 9th. The struggles continued after the turn, with dropped shots on the 10th and 14th before a crucial birdie on the 15th steadied his round.

The defining moment came at the par-5 18th, where Snow produced a brilliant eagle to close out the tournament on 10-under-par 206, sealing a hard-fought victory and pocketing Sh400,000 in prize money.

"I had a tough round today but I am glad to have pulled it off," Snow reflected afterward. "It feels really great to have won my first title on the Tour... On the 18th I was lucky to hit the fairway after going to the rough, but I tried my best to commit to the shot and finish well."

Windsor's Njoroge Kibugu finished second after a spirited final round that mixed early fireworks with recovery golf. He opened with three quick birdies on the 2nd, 3rd, and

4th before a triple bogey on the 6th halted his momentum. A birdie on the 7th helped him turn at one-under, and further birdies on the 11th, 15th, and 18th lifted him to 7-under-par 209, earning Sh214,000.

"I feel really well today because I hit the ball better than in the previous rounds," Kibugu said. "I got unfortunate on the 6th where I hit a triple bogey, but overall I'm happy with the second-place finish."

Rwanda's Celestin Nsanzuwera, playing alongside Snow in the final group, finished third on 6-under-par 210 to complete the podium. An eagle on the 9th briefly pulled him level with the eventual champion, but three back-nine bogeys denied him a stronger finish. He took home Sh144,700.

"It's not a bad position for me because I came with a plan of finishing top three at VetLab and Limuru, and I managed to do it," Nsanzuwera said. "I tried to attack and go for the win, but my putter was off and the pin positions were tough."

The eighth leg of the Sunshine Development Tour – East Africa Swing attracted 88 players from across the continent competing for a Sh2m purse, Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) and World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) points, as well as Safari Tour Order of Merit points — all crucial for qualification into the 2026 Magical Kenya Open on the DP World Tour.

The Tour now heads to Vipingo Ridge in Kilifi County for its ninth leg next month before the Tour Finale in January 2026 at Karen Country Club, where East Africa's top 30 players will face off against South Africa's Big Easy Tour's top 30 for promotion to the main Sunshine Tour.

Greg Snow poses with Betika Masters trophy/ HANDOUT

TAEKWONDO

Team Kenya to capitalise on home advantage at U21 World Taekwondo show

BY JOSEPH MUSYOKA

TEAM Kenya is eager to exploit home advantage as they prepare for the U21 World Taekwondo Championship, set for December 3-6 at Moi Stadium, Nairobi.

Buoyed by a stellar showing at the Korean Ambassador's Cup in Kampala, Uganda, the team remains confident and determined to stamp their authority on the global stage.

Kenya dominated the tournament, claiming 15 medals – 11 gold, two silver and two bronze. The December event will feature over 1,000 athletes from about 140

KTF president Suleiman Suba/HANDOUT

Korea, Russia, Israel, Brazil, Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa.

Head coach Samuel Kinyajui said the squad is well prepared and will intensify training to fine-tune their form.

"We trained for two weeks before our victory in Uganda. Next, we will train in Côte d'Ivoire using modern equipment to sharpen our competitive edge ahead of the championship," he said.

Kenya Taekwondo Federation President, Suleiman Suba, praised the team and highlighted the country's readiness as hosts.

"The Ambassador's Cup was a success, and our team emerged champions. This shows they are in top shape and ready to defend home ground in December," said Suba.

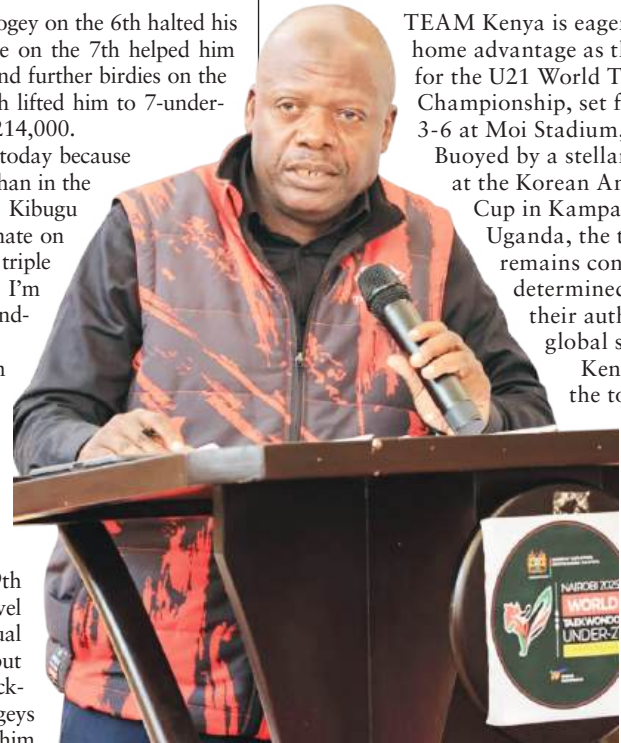
"Kenya is now recognised as one of Africa's most capable hosts of global sporting events. Our athletes, venue, and support systems align with international standards."

"We are ready to welcome the world and showcase our talents."

Sophy Clay, who won gold at the Ambassador's Cup, is confident about winning medals.

"The tournament sharpened my skills. I am ready for the world championship and aim to win medals for my country," she said.

This year's event carries the theme: "Taekwondo for Climate Action."



FOOTBALL

Nagelsmann demands efficiency from strikers in World Cup qualifiers

XINHUA

GERMAN national coach Julian Nagelsmann called for greater efficiency from his strikers ahead of the team's final two 2026 Fifa World Cup qualifiers against Luxembourg on Friday and Slovakia on Monday.

Nagelsmann issued a pointed challenge to Galatasaray striker Ler Sane, suggesting his opportunities with the national team are not unlimited.

"There won't be many more chances for Leroy. He is a gifted

player, able to do all the team needs. It's time to prove his skills," Nagelsmann said.

Regarding 19-year-old Cologne midfielder Said El Mala, Nagelsmann emphasized that "we are not blessed with a lot of his type covering the eight or 10," referring to the central attacking midfield positions.

Nagelsmann has demanded "more speed in general" for the final qualifiers of 2025, urging a strong finish after what he called "the one mishap we already used" - a 2-0 loss to Slovakia.

"Making it to the World Cup is the most urgent goal, but we need to improve our performance inside and around the box," Nagelsmann said.

He has given opportunities to promising talents like El Mala and Bayern Munich's Lennart Karl because of their creativity and speed, a move necessitated by injuries to key players.

Bayern Munich's Jamal Musiala and Arsenal striker Kai Havertz are sidelined, while Borussia Dortmund defender Nico Schlotterbeck's participation is in doubt

due to a foot injury.

The tough qualification run has increased pressure on Nagelsmann, whose squad selection has faced public criticism from former German internationals and TV pundits.

Stefan Effenberg, Didi Hamann and Lothar Matthaus have called for an end to Nagelsmann's ongoing experiments. They questioned the inclusion of Sane and El Mala over established players like Stuttgart midfielder Angelo Stiller and full-back Maximilian Mittelstadt.



Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann with midfielder Florian Wirtz/HANDOUT

GUARDIOLA'S RENEWED ENERGY



Manchester City manager Pep Gurdliola/HANDOUT

Pep has claimed 716 wins in 1,000 games during his managerial career

BY SHAMOON HAFEZ

PREMIER LEAGUE ANALYSIS

SUNDAY began with a celebration of Pep Guardiola and ended in the same manner.

The 54-year-old chalked up his 716th victory on his landmark 1,000th game as manager, overseeing his Manchester City side emphatically dispatching champions Liverpool at Etihad Stadium.

"We've got, Guardiola..." to the tune of 'Glad All Over' was the chant from the home faithful at full-time, paying tribute to their boss in the knowledge that the foundations are in place for his latest rebuild and a tilt at a seventh Premier League crown.

The Spaniard - and City - looked tired last season, their energy sapped by a lengthy injury list on the back of a record-breaking fourth Premier League triumph in succession.

While the Reds are faltering in their quest to retain the trophy, the new blood instilled in the City team signals a revitalisation for managerial mastermind Guardiola, who is leading City's charge with a move to second in the table, four points adrift of leaders Arsenal.

"Teams win the Premier League when the team is growing every month," said Guardiola. "When that happens you arrive at the end fighting for the title. We talk a lot and the feel-

ing that we are in that way.

"It's nice to still have the feeling that we are back in terms of many things. I have the feeling it [the energy] is back."

The smile on Guardiola's face when he walked onto the pitch after victory over Liverpool - taking rightful acclaim for his side's fine win - said it all. It was the look of a man that had recaptured the enjoyment of football.

Since joining City from Bayern Munich in 2016, Guardiola has changed the face of English football but last season was a chastening one in which he failed to win a major trophy for the first time in eight years.

Questions were being asked, is this the end of Guardiola or can he go again?

Sunday's impressive performance to swat aside a club he said had pushed him to show the best version of himself answered any doubts.

Guardiola has repeatedly spoken about the "good vibe" around the side since the Club World Cup in the summer and that is now beginning to show on the pitch.

In an era when set-pieces and long throws are in vogue, City still play their trademark passing game, but the new iteration of the side have the

covered more ground than any other side in the Premier League this season (1268.7 km) - an average of 115.3 km per game, which is up 5.5km from last season.

Guardiola fired a warning shot to rival teams by saying: "We are more unpredictable in the way we attack and defend, and that is good that the opponents don't know what we are going to do."

"It is good energy to have during the games."

Former City defender Nedum Onuoha said: "The difference between Guardiola in those first 100 matches to the last is almost like it is a completely different manager in the way he sees his relationships with his players, the style of play."

"I think he is somebody who has adapted over the years based on how football is changing. He has had his finger on the pulse of how that is."

Ex-City midfielder Michael Brown added: "All of a sudden we are seeing him holding the ball in the corner at the end of games."

"In the Champions League they were under pressure and they played direct into Haaland. That wouldn't have been the case previously. Defensively, they are seeing out games."

City have had their bumps in the road this season with defeats against Brighton, Tottenham and Aston Villa, but two of those losses came back in August.

A summer of change saw the old guard such as Kevin de Bruyne, Kyle Walker, Jack Grealish, Ilkay Gundogan and Ederson departing after playing a key role in their recent years of success.

But a run of one loss in their past 14 matches shows City have regained the consistency of results that has led them to six titles in eight years and the holy grail of the Champions

League.

Spearheaded by goal machine Haaland, the unstoppable striker's goal saw him take his impressive total to 28 goals for club and country in just 18 appearances so far this season.

Following the loss at Villa last month, Guardiola asked for his midfielders and wingers to chip in with goals and the unheralded Nico Gonzalez and dazzling Jeremy Doku answered that call against Liverpool.

In the absence of Rodri, fellow Spaniard Gonzalez has grown into the number six role and had more touches of the ball than any City player, while left-back Nico O'Reilly superbly shackled Mohamed Salah for large periods of the contest, winning more tackles (five) than any other player on the field.

"Nico O'Reilly was amazing," said Guardiola. "In general, everyone was extraordinary because they are still the champions."

Guardiola also singled out Bernardo Silva for praise saying the midfielder "was there" even though he "struggled" last season, adding: "He has been an incredible signing for us and in the way we played [against Liverpool] he is a master."

The Portuguese, along with teammate Phil Foden, ran more than 12.5km on Sunday - only twice has a player covered more ground in a Premier League game this season.

Former Premier League striker Dion Dublin said: "Guardiola has got his team where he wants them again. This is City of old. This is the City that we remember, dominating games. I do believe Liverpool, on this occasion, were outclassed by a team who are just showing us not to write them off."

The Reds dropped to eighth place in the table, eight points behind the Gunners, and boss Arne Slot said he feels five defeats "is too many" and the "last thing we should think about now is the title race".

Guardiola and City, though, will be doing precisely the opposite.

ability to mix it up and go long to the big man Erling Haaland if needed. The first goal against Liverpool was an old fashioned cross into the box from Matheus Nunes, which was nodded home by the prolific Norwegian. He now has 14 league goals in 11 Premier League matches so far this term.

The statistics also show City have

SWIMMING

Deaf swimmer Juma ready for Deaflympics debut in Tokyo

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FOOTBALL

LAYING FOUNDATION

Kibwage fired up ahead of twin friendlies

BY TONY MBALLA

TOWERING Gor Mahia and Harambee Stars defender Mike Kibwage is buzzing with anticipation as Kenya head to Turkey for international friendlies against Equatorial Guinea and Senegal.

For him, the matches, against Equatorial Guinea on November 14 and Senegal four days later, are more than just warm-ups.

"These friendlies are perfect for testing ourselves," Kibwage said.

"Playing against nations like Senegal pushes us. It's the right challenge before Afcon 2027 and I can't wait to get on the pitch."

Drawing from his 2024 Africa Nations Championships experience, Kibwage highlighted the importance of team cohesion.

"We've played together before, so the

understanding is already there. Chemistry is crucial when you face quality opposition. I'm excited to see how we can improve and grow as a team," he said.

Beyond tactics, the friendlies are a chance to build confidence, trust and adaptability.

"It's about testing rotations, game management, and response under pressure. Every minute is valuable preparation," he said.

Kenya's co-hosting of the 2027 Cup of Nations, alongside Uganda and Tanzania, adds even more significance.

"These matches help us get timing, coordination and mentality right. We want to be competitive from the start and show we can contend with the best in Africa. I'm really looking forward to it."

At club level, Kibwage has been a cornerstone of Gor Mahia's defence, starting all seven games this season alongside Sylvester Owino and Byrne Omondi. He credits both the team's bond and his CHAN experience for strengthening performance.

"We've bonded for months, and that shows on the pitch. We know each other's movements and can anticipate. It's a big advantage, and I can't wait to bring that understanding to the national team," he said.

Kibwage also praised Gor Mahia coach Charles Akonnor for bringing structure and consistency.

"Charles knows how to get the best out of players. That clarity carries over into the national team, and I'm excited to see it in action during these friendlies," he added.

For Kibwage, these matches are the first step in building a Harambee Stars team capable of challenging Africa's best. "The preparation, cohesion, and focus—it's all coming together. I'm thrilled to be part of it and ready to show what we can do at Afcon 2027," he concluded.



Harambee Stars' defender Mike Kibwage during training /HANDOUT

★ FOOTBALL

Muluya targets Afcon spot as Junior Stars land in Ethiopia

BY ANGWENYI GICHANA

HEAD coach William Muluya says guiding Kenya's Junior Stars to the 2026 Under-17 Africa Cup of Nations would be a great honour as the team begins its Cecafa qualifying campaign in Ethiopia.

The national Under-17 side arrived in Addis Ababa on Tuesday morning for the tournament, which kicks off on November 15 and runs until December 2.

"It's a race where we need one winner. We have to believe in ourselves and play until the last day of the tournament. It will be an honour to make it to the Afcon," said Muluya.

The team spent a week in a residential camp at the Moi Stadium, Kasarani, where they fine-tuned tactics and built team chemistry. Muluya said he was impressed by the players' progress and unity in training.

"We've been preparing well and focusing on building a strong bond. The boys understand their roles, and now it's about applying what we've worked on," he added.

The Kariobangi Sharks coach is confident the side can win the competition.

"It's up to us as coaches to push the players. Our aim is to reach the final, win the trophy, and qualify for Afcon," he said.

Forward Nathan Achola said earning a place in the team was a dream come true.

"It was a strenuous process. We put in a lot of work and making the team left me over the moon. My family and friends were thrilled," he said. "We want to qualify for Afcon and the Under-17 World Cup."

Lionesses' Odongo faces selection headache ahead of Africa Cup Sevens

BY WILLIAM NJUGUNA

KENYA Lionesses coach Simon Odongo faces a tough task in naming the final 13-man squad for the Africa Cup Sevens this weekend.

Odongo said the players have put their hands up in training, making it a delicate balancing act to find a cohesive and balanced squad for the two-day continental championships at the RFUEA Ground.

"We have had three solid weeks of training. Playing at the Safari Sevens has also given us a tough edge and prepared us for the tournament," said Odongo, adding that competition for places is strong.

"We have players from the second-string side, the Cubs, who have shown their worth and resilience in training."

The Lionesses have won the tournament once, in 2018, beating Uganda 29-7 in the final. They have,

however, lost eight finals, seven of them to South Africa in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2023 and last year, when they fell 17-10 in Accra.

Odongo said playing at home gives the team their best chance to end the run of losses against South Africa.

"Remember, we beat them 17-12 in the Challenger Series in Los Angeles. We are practically evenly matched. It will come down to mental fortitude, execution over the two days and discipline without the ball," he said.

They will take it one game at a time.

"The unpredictable nature of sevens means you cannot underestimate any opposition. We have analysed the teams in our pool and will take them seriously."

He said winning the Safari Sevens, especially after beating Uganda 14-10 in the final, and victories over Tunisia and Zimbabwe, is a major

psychological boost.

"If we face Uganda or Tunisia in the Africa Cup, we will be well prepared. I believe they, alongside South Africa, are the three biggest rivals."

The Lionesses face Ghana and

Cote d'Ivoire in Pool 'B'. Pool 'A' has South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mauritius, while Uganda, Zambia and Burkina Faso are in Pool 'C'.

Madagascar, Tunisia and Egypt will compete in Pool 'D'.



Kenya Lionesses' wwwNaomi Amuguni in a training session at the RFUEA ground /HANDOUT

