



**Murkomen: BBC Exposé Not All Factual**  
 The Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, Kipchumba Murkomen informed the National Assembly that preliminary investigations have revealed that some of the claims made in a BBC Africa Eye documentary on child sex trafficking in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County, were based on falsified information.

Page 18

**NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW**  
*Gala Dinner*  
 WHERE: TWO RIVERS MALL - NAIROBI  
 WHEN: 17-21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

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**News>> Kindiki: Women Are Key To Kenya's Development And Prosperity**

P. 8. Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has urged women to step forward and play a bigger role in nation-building, assuring them that the government values their contribution in nurturing a better society.



**News>> Mudavadi Meets Religious Leaders From Malava, Urges Them To Help Preach Peace**

P. 12. Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has emphasized on the need for political and religious leaders to work together in transforming the nation. Mudavadi noted the importance of such collaborations in fostering national unity, peace and stability.

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President William Ruto At The 9th Devolution Conference

STORY ON PAGE 9

**NAIROBI - MT KENYA CIRCUIT ROADSHOW ROADMAP (17-18 SEPT 2025)**

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# President Ruto At The 9th Devolution Conference

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

## Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

President William Ruto yesterday officially opened the 9th Devolution Conference that is taking place in Homa Bay County.

“We celebrate the transformative milestones of devolution. In just 12 years, we have transferred KSh4 trillion to counties, fostering inclusivity through fair resource distribution and addressing marginalisation,” the President said in his address. He added, “We remain committed to unlocking the full potential of devolution. This year, we have increased the equitable share by nearly KSh30 billion, ensured timely disbursements and cleared all balances owed to the counties. We have also conclusively delineated, unbundled and gazetted 14 outstanding devolved functions, initiated the transfer of county assets, and enacted supportive legislation.”

Additionally, the Head of State disclosed that his administration was supporting counties to digitise their operations, enhance efficiency, and curb the waste of public resources.

The theme for the five-day event is, “For the People, For Prosperity: Devolution as a Catalyst for Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice.”



**Editor's Desk**

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale yesterday hosted African Health Ministers and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) for a high-level strategic engagement aimed at strengthening Africa's health systems. The delegation is in Kenya for the just-commenced Ministerial Executive Leadership Programme (MELP). Held under the theme "Empowering Africa's Health Leaders for Transformational Change" and supported by Africa CDC, MELP brings together health leaders from across the continent to advance Africa's leadership agenda and accelerate progress in Member States. The programme equips delegates with strategic governance skills, sharpens policy-making, and strengthens health diplomacy within Africa's evolving health systems and complex geopolitical context. The CS briefed the delegation on Kenya's Universal Health Coverage (UHC) framework anchored on four pillars: A well-trained, equitably distributed workforce, Modern, accessible health infrastructure, Secure, affordable health products and technologies and Strong service delivery underpinned by sustainable financing. Dignitaries present included the Minister of Health of the Union of the Comoros, Ahamadi Sidi; Deputy Minister for Health and Child Care, Zimbabwe, Mr. Suleiman Kwidini; Côte d'Ivoire Ambassador to Kenya, Ennio Maes; Strathmore University Executive Dean, Dr. Caesar Mwangi; Former Minister for Health, Namibia, Dr. Richard Kamwi; Ministry's Director Health Sector Quality Improvement Coordinator, Dr. Charles Kandie; and CEO NPHI, Dr. Maureen Kamene.



The Principal Secretary for Water and Sanitation Julius Korir yesterday chaired the Mwache Multipurpose Dam Management Meeting, bringing together senior officials from the World Bank led by Task Team Leader Pieter Waalewijn, along with technical experts and project stakeholders. The meeting served as a critical platform to review progress across the dam's key components, share updates on ongoing programmes, and agree on solutions to address outstanding challenges. Detailed discussions covered the pace of dam construction, the implementation of livelihood restoration initiatives for affected communities, and the financing measures needed to keep the project on track. The Mwache Dam is at the heart of Kenya's strategy to boost water supply, support irrigation for food security, and improve the quality of life for thousands of residents in the Coast region. The State Department reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with development partners, the National Government, and local stakeholders to accelerate delivery and ensure that every aspect of the project from infrastructure to community support is implemented to the highest standards.



Environment and Climate Change Principal Secretary Dr Eng Festus K Ng'eno was yesterday hosted by his Water and Sanitation counterpart Julius Korir at Maji House. The duo discussed implementation of the Mau Forest Complex Integrated Conservation and Livelihood Improvement Programme (MCF-ICLIP), PS Ng'eno's legacy programme that is set to be launched on 24th October. The collaboration will be to support implementation through five components, namely sustainable landscape management, community livelihood improvement programme, circular economy, environmental education and research, and project governance, monitoring, evaluation and resource mobilisation. The ten-year initiative, which will be implemented in four blocks of the Mau Forest Complex (MFC), aims to restore and sustainably manage the MFC through an integrated conservation and livelihood improvement approach that enhances ecosystem functionality and strengthens climate resilience across the landscape. The PS was accompanied in the meeting by the MCF-ICLIP technical team led by Vicky Betty from Programs and Projects, among other technical officers.



The new Nairobi Regional Commissioner Gilbert Kitiyo has called on public servants to prioritise citizen needs, uphold integrity, and ensure timely, efficient service delivery. Speaking during a familiarisation visit to Starehe and Kamukunji sub-counties, Kitiyo urged officers to be conversant with government policies, projects, and programmes to better guide the public. He stressed the importance of teamwork, good public relations, and providing free services except where official fees apply. Kitiyo highlighted the need to support the 100 percent school transition policy, promote peace, mobilise registration for government initiatives, and coordinate development projects. He urged officers to lead with consultation and decorum, noting that respectful communication improves public satisfaction.



Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President Hussein Mohammed and Local Organising Committee (LOC) Chairman Nicholas Musonye have urged Harambee Stars fans to maintain discipline, follow ticketing guidelines, and cooperate with security agencies ahead of Sunday's Africa Nations Championship (CHAN) group match against Zambia at Kasarani Stadium. Mohammed warned that crowd trouble could damage Kenya's football reputation and lead to CAF sanctions, stressing that only e-tickets from the official platform will be valid. Similarly, the FKF President advised fans to arrive at least five hours before kick-off and to follow all directions from event stewards and security personnel.

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# State Unveils Six Official Fan Zones For Sunday's Harambee Stars CHAN Clash Against Zambia

By: Naif Rashid

@themkenyentimes

## Worth Noting:

• “These zones, strategically located within Nairobi’s neighbourhoods, will allow fans to watch the match on large screens in a safe, well-managed environment while easing crowd pressure on Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani stadium,” stated Mvurya.

• “They will bring the stadium atmosphere closer to the people while helping us manage attendance in line with CAF requirements,” he added.

• Further, the CS lauded Kenyans for their unwavering support of the national team, urging them to pair their passion with discipline and adherence to tournament protocols.



CS Salim Mvurya briefing journalists as police officers led by IG Douglas Kanja listens.

The government has designated six official fan zones in Nairobi to offer Harambee Stars supporters an inclusive, safe, and festive atmosphere during Sunday’s Total Energies African Nations Championship (CHAN) fixture against Zambia.

The Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports, Salim Mvurya, announced that the zones will be located at Uhuru Park (CBD), the Lucky-Summer – Ngomongo area behind Kasarani Stadium, Dandora Stadium, Utalii (Stima Club), Jacaranda Grounds, and Kibera DC Grounds.

“These zones, strategically located within Nairobi’s neighbourhoods, will allow fans to watch the match on large screens in a safe, well-managed environment while easing crowd pressure on Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani stadium,” stated Mvurya.

“They will bring the stadium atmosphere closer to the people while helping us manage attendance in line with CAF requirements,” he added.

Further, the CS lauded Kenyans for their unwavering support of the national team, urging them to pair their passion with discipline and adherence to tournament protocols.

“We have assured the Confederation of African Football (CAF) that the Government will support FKF to ensure Kenyans conform to set standards and regulations; the heightened security measures and awareness campaign will enlighten fans on what is expected of them,” affirmed Mvurya.

The CS, who was speaking during a media briefing at Talanta Plaza ahead of Sunday’s 2024 Total Energies African Nations Championship (CHAN) match between Kenya and Zambia, appealed to supporters nationwide to

help the country comply with international standards, avoid sanctions, and protect Kenya’s hosting reputation.

“We understand the excitement following Harambee Stars’ performance, but we must exercise restraint and avoid actions that contravene CAF regulations. That is the highest form of patriotism,” he emphasised.

Following an intensive strategy session with CAF officials, the Football Kenya Federation (FKF), the Local Organizing Committee, and senior National Police Service officers, the Government resolved to enhance security at both MISC-Kasarani and Nyayo National Stadiums.

The measures will include thorough checks at entry points, ticket scanning for verification, and increased police oversight inside and outside the venues.

“The Government has received re-

ports of attempts to circulate counterfeit tickets, in response, we have engaged the ticketing office to implement strict authentication measures to ensure only genuine ticket holders gain access,” revealed the CS.

He stressed that the measures are aimed at protecting fans from fraud, maintaining order, and safeguarding the integrity of the tournament.

“Only spectators with valid match tickets will be allowed entry into the stadium,” asserted Mvurya.

Ultimately, the CS urged Kenyans to turn out in large numbers at the official fan zones or within the stadium’s set capacity to rally behind Harambee Stars in their final group match against Zambia.

He was accompanied by among others top Police Officers led by Inspector General Douglas Kanja as well senior officials from his ministry.

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# Kindiki: Women Are Key To Kenya's Development And Prosperity

By: DPCS  
 @themtkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- The Deputy President spoke yesterday when he held consultations on ongoing development projects with over 3,500 women from Tharaka Nithi at his home in Irunduni in the county.
- Prof. Kindiki asked them to be the anchors of good behavior for their children especially in the wake of contemporary challenges associated with the modern way of living.
- "There was a way we were taught to behave as children in school, at home and among elders and those older than us. We should not lose our culture. I beseech you to continue instilling respect, discipline and good behavior in our children because they cannot learn this better than from their parents," he added.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has urged women to step forward and play a bigger role in nation-building, assuring them that the government values their contribution in nurturing a better society.

Prof. Kindiki said women are more inclined to ensure a stable and prosperous nation because of their motherly nature, beseeching them to continue guiding their children to be reputable members of society.

"We respect our women for the sacrifices they make to nurture children from the day they are born to respected members of society.

I plead with you to continue nurturing and supporting our children and the young adults so they can be better people and not outcasts engaging in bad behaviors," he said.

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Prof. Kindiki asked them to be the anchors of good behavior for their children especially in the wake of contemporary challenges associated with the modern way of living.

"There was a way we were taught to behave as children in school, at home and among elders and those older than us. We should not lose our culture. I beseech you to continue instilling respect, discipline and good behavior in our children because they cannot learn this better than from their parents," he added.

At the same time, the DP assured them of the government's unwavering interest in rolling out development without discriminating against any part of the country, including Tharaka Nithi.

As the President's principal assistant, he said he would continue discharging his roles to make sure the government's development agenda is fully implemented.

"I will work hard and I will not embarrass you. I am working day and night because I don't want to let you down. That is why you see me in every part of Kenya assisting the President serve all Kenyans.

I'm a servant of all Kenyans, not only my region. But as I serve Kenyans, I will not forget Tharaka Nithi because it is part of Kenya," he declared.

Among the government-funded projects ongoing in the county are revival of stalled roads, some had been abandoned for over five years but which are set for completion.

The county has also received an increased allocation of Sh.1.2 billion



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki greeting some of the delegates..

for electricity connection which will see more residents benefit under the last-mile power connection.

"We will do a lot of electricity connection in the county to put it on the same level as other counties," he assured.

Modern markets are also ongoing in various towns in the county with more on the way.

"We are doing our best to ensure Tharaka Nithi is part of the nation's development," he noted



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki addressing the meeting. Photos/DPCS

# Ruto Calls Out MPs For Turning Oversight Committees To Extortion

By: Laban Wanambisi  
 @themkenyatimes

President William Ruto has castigated a section of Members of Parliament whom he claims have been demanding bribes to alter or ignore official reports.

The issue came up during the opening ceremony of the Devolution Conference in Homa Bay County, where the President singled out members of House Oversight Committees for allegedly using sessions to extort money from guests appearing to respond to audit or budgetary queries.

“Parliament must be called out. Something is going on in our Legislature that we must address. Money is being demanded from the Executive, governors, and ministers—especially those who appear before parliamentary committees for accountability,” said Ruto.

The President urged the Speakers of the National Assembly and the Senate to emphasise the need for trans-

parency and accountability among Members of Parliament.

“Mr. Speaker, it cannot continue to be business as usual. It is unacceptable that parliamentary committees continue to demand bribes in order to write reports or to turn a blind eye to what is happening in the national or county governments,” Ruto declared.

The President’s remarks come amid heightened scrutiny of public institutions and growing concern over the integrity of oversight mechanisms in both the national and county governments.

“We are working hard to build a country where institutions function properly and where every arm of government plays its role with integrity,” he said.

“If we allow corruption to thrive within oversight bodies, then we undermine the very foundation of our democracy. It should not be possible for a committee of Parliament to demand payment to write reports or to look the other way,” he added.

President Ruto’s statement was triggered by Senate Speaker Amason



Kingi, who expressed concern over rampant corruption and weak accountability systems in some counties.

“Regrettably, the failure by some

governors to honour invitations by the Senate to account for the resources placed in their hands not only erodes the good working relationship within the devolution family but also

undermines the promotion of accountability.”

# Ruto Tells KEMSA To Aim For A 100% Order Fill Rate—Up From Current 57%

By: Contributor  
 @themkenyatimes

The Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) earned praise and a fresh challenge from President William Ruto during his visit to the agency’s exhibition stand at the ongoing Devolution Conference in Homa Bay County.

Commending the reforms already underway, the President lauded KEMSA’s role in strengthening the country’s healthcare supply chain and advancing the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda through the Taifa Care initiative. He urged the Authority to build on this momentum by achieving a 100% order fill rate—a benchmark that would ensure patients nationwide receive medicines and supplies without delay.

KEMSA’s transformation has already seen the launch of a 100-day

Rapid Results Initiative (RRI) in June, aimed at elevating its order fill rate from the current 57% to 78% by September 2025. This ambitious programme focuses on market diversification, innovation, and sustainability, and is designed as a springboard toward a five-year Sustainable Growth Strategy (2025–2030) that will entrench efficiency, transparency, and resilience in healthcare delivery.

“KEMSA has made bold moves to improve performance, and now we want to go the full distance. Achieving a 100% order fill rate will not only improve service delivery but also save lives,” President Ruto said.

KEMSA CEO Dr. Waqo Ejersa described the President’s visit as an endorsement of the Authority’s reform agenda. “This challenge energises us to push harder. The RRI is not a stopgap measure—it’s the foundation of a modern, agile, and sustainable KEMSA that can meet Kenya’s health needs well into the future,” he



President William Ruto interacts with KEMSA CEO Dr. Waqo Ejersa during his visit to the Authority’s stand at the Devolution Conference in Homa Bay County. The President urged KEMSA to achieve a 100% order fill rate to strengthen healthcare delivery nationwide. /August 13, 2025

said. With the backing of its Board, strategic partners, and county govern-

ments, KEMSA is positioning itself as a model of responsive, efficient, and sustainable healthcare supply in

Africa.

# Juja's Hyena-Infested Dekoma Gets A Modern Primary School

By: Muoki Charles  
@themkenyaintimes

Residents of the hyena-infested Dekoma area in Juja, Kiambu County, have a reason to smile after the construction of a modern primary school, ending years of dangerous and long walks to schools far away.

The school, constructed through the NG/CDF has brought relief to parents whose children used to brave stretches of bushland where hyenas are known to roam, journeys which have been risky.

During the rainy season, the routes became treacherous, often forcing many pupils to miss classes entirely.

Speaking during the opening of the school, Juja MP George Koimburi said that the daily ordeal for parents and children is now over, adding that the new school would bring education closer as well as assure the safety of the children.

Koimburi, who spoke after making

his first public appearance since being discharged from Nairobi Hospital a month ago following his abduction drama, pledged to continue expanding learning facilities in the area.

“Every child deserves to be in class, not risking their life on the way to school. We will keep building more classrooms until no child is left behind,” Koimburi said.

The MP at the same time issued a stern warning to land grabbers whom he alleged had illegally taken portions of the school’s land, which had derailed its construction.

“This area had been grabbed and we were forced to engage in a court process. Luckily, we won and began the construction of the school. The risks of hyena attacks on children going to school would not have happened since we would have constructed the school several years ago. Going forward, the fencing of the school compound will commence immediately to secure it and ward off grabbers,” Koimburi said.

His sentiments were echoed by Juja



Deputy County Commissioner Daniel Ndege, who issued a two-week ultimatum to those holding illegal title deeds for public land to surrender them or risk legal consequences.

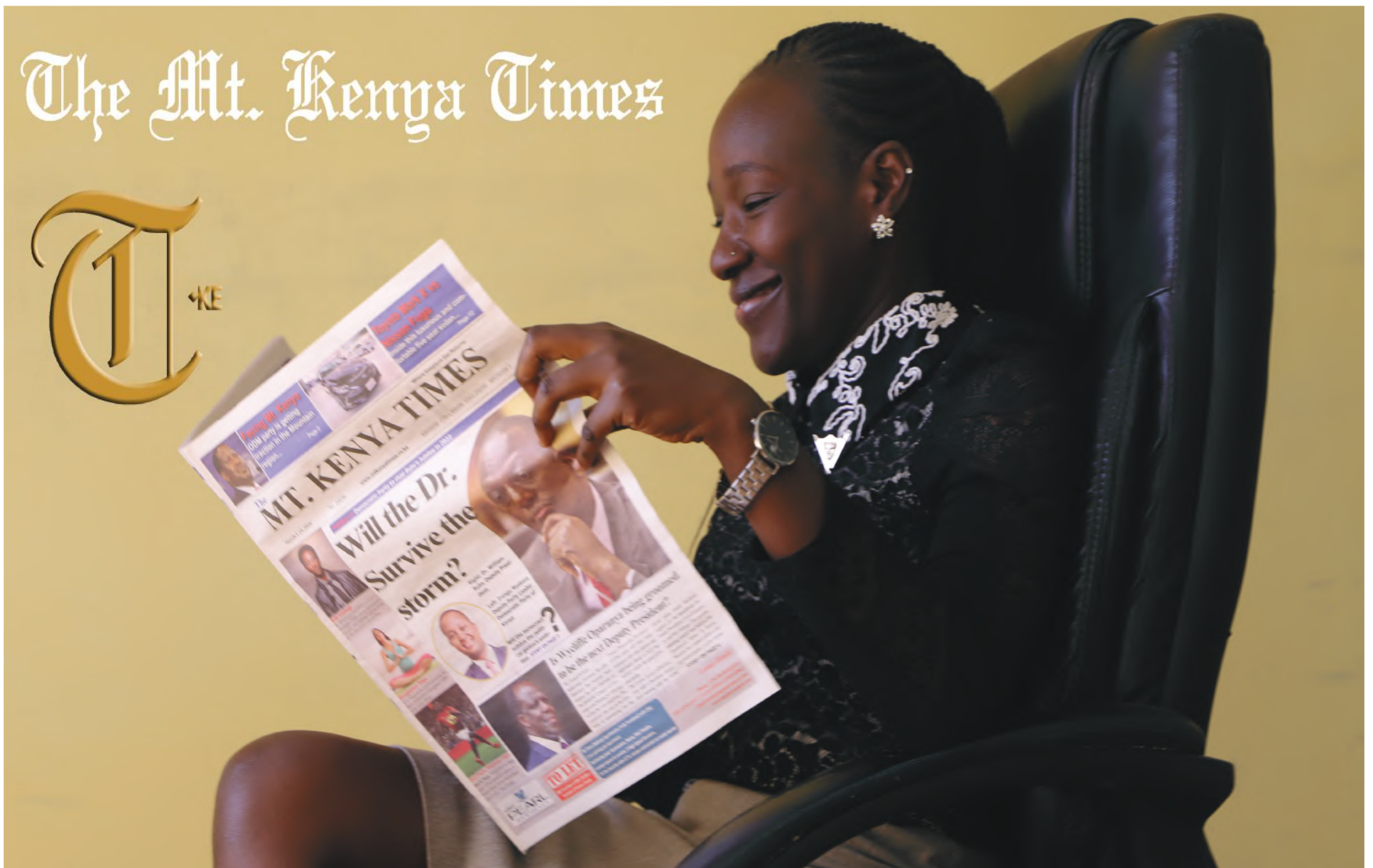
The locals, led by Yasmin Isaac and Grace Wacuka, expressed their relief

to the new school, saying at least the safety of their children will be guaranteed.

They, however, decried inadequate teachers at the school and called on the government to post more teachers so as to uplift the standards of educa-

tion in the area.

They said the new facility marks a turning point for Dekoma, replacing years of danger and hardship with renewed hope for the community’s youngest learners.



# BUSINESS

## Laikipia Women Rep. Seeks Information On Implications Of Tanzania's Ban On Foreign-Operated Businesses

By: PSCU  
 @themkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- Kagiri sought a statement from the Leader of the Majority Party regarding the implications of the new directive and the steps being taken to safeguard Kenya's trade interests.
- "I wish to request a statement regarding the effect of the ban by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania on operation of foreign businesses by non-citizens, particularly Kenyans," Kagiri stated.
- She clarified that the statement was not intended to question or discuss the conduct of any individual or Head of State, but rather to draw attention to the "matter of regional policy concern."
- The Business Licensing (Prohibition of Business Activities for Non-Citizens) Order which was made by Tanzania on the 28th of July 2025, bars non-citizens from operating in fifteen sectors.

Laikipia County Women Representative Jane Kagiri has urged the government to urgently address the recent decision by the government of Tanzania to prohibit certain business operations by non-citizens, a move that could significantly affect Kenyan traders.

Kagiri sought a statement from the Leader of the Majority Party regarding the implications of the new directive and the steps being taken to safeguard Kenya's trade interests.

"I wish to request a statement regarding the effect of the ban by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania on operation of foreign businesses by non-citizens, particularly Kenyans," Kagiri stated.

She clarified that the statement was not intended to question or discuss the conduct of any individual or Head of State, but rather to draw attention to the "matter of regional policy concern."

The Business Licensing (Prohibition of Business Activities for Non-Citizens) Order which was made by Tanzania on the 28th of July 2025, bars non-citizens from operating in fifteen sectors.

These include the sale of goods, purchasing of farm crop, ownership and operation of micro and small industries, among others.

According to Kagiri, this directive "contradicts the spirit of the integration of the East African Community (EAC) as espoused in the East African Community Treaty of 2000, particularly on the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons, and the elimination of trade barriers among partner states."

She warned that the move risks to undermine regional integration and rolls back the gains made by the creation of a common market under the EAC Common Market Protocol.

The House was reminded of a similar trade dispute in 2019, when Kenya's Finance Act introduced higher levies and import duties on finished consumable goods, including those from EAC partner states. The Act drew sharp criticism from Tanzania, which viewed it as inconsistent with the Common Market Protocol and threatened retaliatory action.

"In the spirit of regional cooperation, this House, through the Finance Act, 2023, repealed the 2019 provision," the Member noted, adding that the repeal had hurt local manufacturers who now face stiffer competition from low-priced imports.

She questioned Tanzania's commitment to regional trade obligations, saying, "It ought not to be lost on us that our good neighbour, the United Republic of Tanzania, which previously expressed concern over trade restrictions, has now imposed similar prohibitions on Kenya, despite the reciprocal action that this House took."

Kagiri sought answers on among other

things the immediate steps by the relevant committees to secure a reversal of the order.

"I wish to seek a Statement from the Leader of the Majority Party on the the immediate steps taken by the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations and the Select Committee on Regional Integration to intervene in the matter with a view to securing a reversal of the Business Licensing (Prohibition of Business Activities for Non-Citizens) Order, 2025 by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania," asked the Laikipia County legislator.

She also sought for a report on engagements between relevant committees and Cabinet Secretaries on addressing the policy and its impact on Kenyan traders.

Kagiri further urged for the National Assembly to invite the Prime Cabinet Secretary to brief the House on Government actions, given the urgency and cross-cutting nature of the matter.



Laikipia Women Rep Jane Kagiri



United Republic of Tanzania President Samia Suluhu

# Mudavadi Meets Religious Leaders From Malava, Urges Them To Help Preach Peace

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyaintimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has emphasized on the need for political and religious leaders to work together in transforming the nation.

Mudavadi noted the importance of such collaborations in fostering national unity, peace and stability.

He described religious and interfaith organizations as pillars of promoting national cohesion.

“We should not take the peace and unity of our country for granted, if Kenyans witness the happening in our neighbouring countries, then they will appreciate the peace we enjoy back home. The democratic space we enjoy is very important. Let us not be divided by tribalism.” he noted.

Mudavadi spoke yesterday when he met more than 40 religious and interfaith leaders at his Nairobi office, where he reminded the clergy that they are bearers of the message of hope for the nation.

The delegation was led by the chairman, Malava Interfaith Council, Bishop Elly Taliti, Rev. Fr. Vincent Sanga who is the Secretary and Asha Juma the SUPKEM women representative in Kakamega.

“You have a noble obligation as the foundation of good decision making since you hold crucial positions of authority and guidance as religious leaders.” added Mudavadi.

He urged the leaders to help Malava people make a wise decision in the forthcoming by election whose date has been announced by the IEBC to be on 27th November, 2025.

“It is important for political leaders to have a candid conversation with religious leaders. IEBC has announced the date, and we want the people of Malava to get the leader they deserve.” he said.

“As religious leaders ask yourselves which qualities of a leaders does Malava people deserve. Does the church want a leader who is not trustworthy and honest?” Mudavadi posed.

Mudavadi has consistently been seen as President William Ruto’s trusted ally with his long-standing involvement in the country’s political landscape and has been tasked to lead the UDA campaigns for the Malava by election.

He told the religious leaders, as the patron of the people of Malava until they get a new Member of Parliament, he will guide them towards the right direction.

“I have not met you to try and force anything or anybody on you and the people of Malava. The people will have to make a conscious decision on the leader they want and whom they



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi with the religious leaders yesterday. Photos/PCS Press Service..

deserve.” noted the Prime CS. “My plea is that since you the people of Malava have been in government, give us a good leader under the UDA ticket.” he added.

Through the religious leaders, Mudavadi urged the electorate to focus on the good relationship that President Ruto had with the late MP Malulu Injendi and reflect on the projects and support that the national government was actualizing in Malava.

He said as any other region in Kenya, Malava should not be left behind because of voting in bad leadership in November.

“I want the electorate of Malava to look at the bigger picture and aim at the future. Whom do you want to fit in the shoes of the late Malulu? Do you want an MP who will lazy around and concentrate on rhetoric instead of development?” posed Mudavadi.

“Look beyond the by election, look beyond 2027 as a people and a region and give President Ruto someone he will have faith in and trust. We want a leader that the President will be ready to work with to complete the projects initiated by Malulu.” he added.

He reminded them that President Ruto means well for the people of Malava and they should show him they are behind his agenda as he worked and walked with Malulu in trust and faith to deliver for Malava and Kenya.

“Malulu was a very forthright and focused leader. He was a vice chair of the education committee in Parliament. Now, the Kenya Kwanza government has allocated 25% representing 702 billion shillings in the budget to the education sector. You need to look for a leader who will work with government for the education standards and infrastructure in Malava to benefit from this education kitty.” explained Mudavadi.

“We want you to get someone who will pick up very fast since we have lost a lot of time and we need to catch up with other constituencies as far as actualization of the projects is concerned. Let’s look at our agriculture also, what do we want?” he said.

Mudavadi urged the people of Malava through the religious leaders to have a self-reflection and concentrate on the forthcoming by election

without being distracted by political sideshows.

“This exercise is not going to be a joke. Take it as a very serious exercise. You need to elect a leader who will serve all the people of Malava, irrespective of your clan or tribe and more-so a leader who will serve with dignity and integrity and reflect the face of Kenya when he goes to parliament to legislate for this great country.” noted Mudavadi.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary called on the religious leaders to be at the forefront in helping to preach and ensure that the campaigns are peaceful from the beginning to the voting day. “Any candidate relying on violence and political extremism in advancing his/her course should be condemned. We all want peace and unity for the people of Malava and the country.” he said.

This is among many other engagements that Mudavadi has held with various stakeholders from Malava Constituency, and he has affirmed that the same will continue for the rest of Western Kenya moving forward.



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi with the religious leaders yesterday. Photos/PCS Press Service..

**Worth Noting:**

- The delegation was led by the chairman, Malava Interfaith Council, Bishop Elly Taliti, Rev. Fr. Vincent Sanga who is the Secretary and Asha Juma the SUPKEM women representative in Kakamega.
- “You have a noble obligation as the foundation of good decision making since you hold crucial positions of authority and guidance as religious leaders.” added Mudavadi.
- He urged the leaders to help Malava people make a wise decision in the forthcoming by election whose date has been announced by the IEBC to be on 27th November, 2025.
- “It is important for political leaders to have a candid conversation with religious leaders. IEBC has announced the date, and we want the people of Malava to get the leader they deserve.” he said.

# KNCHR Demands More Than Just Cash Compensation For Protest Victims

By: Brenda Wanga  
@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) wants victims of protests and demonstrations to receive more than just monetary compensation.

The commission is urging the special committee appointed by President William Ruto to review the cases on a broader reparation basis to ensure accountability and justice are upheld.

The call came as the commission unveiled a report on the right to defend rights, highlighting the state of human rights defence in the country over the past two years.

President Ruto recently appointed a team led by Prof. Makau Mutua to craft modalities for compensating victims of protests and demonstrations. However, the commission argues that the current scope is too narrow.

“We need to look at compensation in the broader concept of reparations,”

said Simon Omondi, the Deputy Director of Programmes at KNCHR, who noted that reparations go beyond financial settlements.

“Reparations come with acknowledgement, reparations come with compensation, reparations come with memorialization, so it’s a big concept. What the President and the team have done is to look at just compensation, so as it goes about its work it should broaden its scope.”

The commission also wants the timelines extended. President Ruto had given the team 120 days to establish a coordinating framework for compensating victims, including civilians and security officers who lost their lives or suffered injuries in protests from 2017.

“The commission thinks the number of days given is very short. If you look at the 120 days, it is too limited. There is a lot that needs to be done, including profiling, public participation, and other processes,” Omondi stated.

As the debate over compensation continues, a new KNCHR report on

the right to defend human rights defenders accuses the government of failing to uphold these very rights.

“On paper, the Kenyan Constitution and its ratification of international treaties creates a strong foundation for human rights, but in reality, defenders still face threats, intimidation, arbitrary arrests, and in some cases, violence,” said KNCHR Commissioner Sarah Bonaya.

Omondi added that while the state is the primary duty bearer in promoting human rights, it is also among the biggest violators.

“The state is apparently the greatest violator when it comes to the provision of services and allocation of resources, particularly in cases of corruption,” he said.

The report, which covers the period from 2020 to 2022, reveals that seven human rights defenders were killed, two were forcibly disappeared, and 132 were arbitrarily arrested.

It further notes that while Kenyans have access to information, the misuse of the Public Order Act continues



to limit the freedom to hold peaceful assemblies.

The commission is now calling on

the government to fully implement the laws that guarantee freedoms and

rights.

# Kenya Pipeline Company Workers Fear Job Cuts Amid Privatization Plan

By: Jasmine Wambui  
@themtkenyatimes

Workers at the Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) are demanding job security assurances as the government moves to sell a majority stake in the State corporation.

Kenya Petroleum Workers Union Secretary-General George Okoth says the 742 unionised employees fear redundancies, accusing management of ignoring their concerns despite holding sensitisation meetings.

Appearing before the joint committees on Energy and Public Debt and Privatization, Okoth questioned the pace of the process, saying: “It appears that this matter is being rushed and workers are getting worried as to why the rush all of a sudden.”

Employees argue that the government could boost efficiency without

privatizing the company, claiming that KPC’s failure to generate higher profits is due to poor governance and widespread corruption.

“We believe that KPC, if put in proper and safe hands, can deliver more. We can realize this money that is being sought here within a short time,” Okoth stated.

Energy and Treasury Cabinet Secretaries have assured workers that there will be no job losses, and any affected staff will be compensated under their collective bargaining agreement. However, the union is demanding a legally binding commitment.

“We want to be guaranteed that for the remainder of our life at KPC, we are not going to see this thing called redundancy,” said Okoth.

The government has defended the plan, citing a cash crunch and the need to raise Ksh.149 billion for the 2025/26 budget to fund development projects and clear pending bills



A Kenya Pipeline Corporation plant.

without borrowing.

“If we can finish this by September or October, that will enable us to proceed because there are many

things within the budget,” said National Treasury Principal Secretary Dr. Chris Kiptoo.

As the public hearing concluded,

Members of Parliament expressed concern over the process.

## Unfaithful... How Happy You Are Today



Unfaithful... how happy you are today  
Now, on your side, the sun will never set  
My state is clear, my fate so frayed  
Could it be – no dawn will rise in my sky again?

Unfaithful... your eyes are brimming with joy  
While inside, a burning coal consumes me whole  
Alone I am – what am I to do?  
Sleep has long since left my soul

Unfaithful... the weight of longing is heavy  
My heart is full of nights burdened by regret  
Without you... without you – how shall I carry  
on?

Now on my side, sorrow won't forget

Unfaithful one, let me say my final word:  
Forget me, as I shall try forgetting you  
From all my weeping, my eyes are stained with  
blood  
But those moments – they won't return, it's  
true

My love, how happy you are today...

Kamilova Maftuna

## Support the Street Vendors



Because they earn their living, through  
our little buy,  
They might be deserted by family, they  
rely on us only  
They've struggled and faced, many  
challenges boldly  
There is a long story behind their street  
vending,

They hardly cheat, or manipulate  
With our purchase, we save them from  
becoming a beggar

If not us, who'll save them from this  
plight?  
Let's use their services, and make their  
day shine bright.

The smile on their face, when we  
purchase can't be explained in words

That joy is priceless, and pure  
If we don't support, they may lose their  
way,

And turn to begging, or worse,

Let's appreciate, their hard work  
Their livelihood depends, on our kindness  
and purchase

Support them kindly, without a bargain's  
Just pay the amount, and brighten up  
their day.

They work in sun and rain, with  
dedication

Be kind and show we care  
Your purchase will make, their struggle  
fade away,

And bring a smile, to brighten up their  
day.

Brinda. D  
CREATIVE WRITERS  
GRADUATE TEACHER,  
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,  
MELPATTAMPACKAM  
CUDDALORE,  
Tamilnadu India

## Parents – Our Pillars Of Strength



Thinking of their child's happiness without rest,  
Wearing nothing decent upon their chest.  
Never once thinking of their own interest –  
Are our pure-hearted, prayerful parents!

From our tender age, they gave us care,  
Took us to school when we were barely there.  
Staring at the road with longing stare,

Tearful-eyed – our loving parents!

When they hear praise of their child one day,  
Their faces beam in a joyful way.  
Their hearts are warmed by fortune's ray –  
Glowing with pride are our parents!

When sons and daughters grow mature and  
wise,  
Parents stand tall, as if mountains rise.  
They would never trade light for darkest skies,  
Their heads held high – our honored parents!

Sarvinoz Azimjonova  
Student of Alfraganus University,  
Faculty of Philology,  
2nd-year, Uzbek Language and Literature  
major

## The Grace of Revenge



Or one who cheers when you're in pain,  
Then walks away, too proud to explain?

Is he who copies all you do,  
Yet never gives the credit due?

Or one who leaves when times are rough,  
But claims your bond was strong  
enough?

Let him be cruel, cunning, or sly,  
But match him not, nor stoop that high.

Smile with grace, hold your head above,  
For revenge lies deep in acts of love.

Forgive – not to free him from his sin,  
But to prove that grace will always win.

V Durgadevi  
BT Assistant  
GHS Nesar  
Tiruvannamalai District

Who is the foe, you ask me so?  
Is he who strikes with words laid low?

One who mocks you face-to-face,  
Or whispers scorn in a hidden place?

Is he the one who envies your name,  
Dismissing your toil as mere luck or  
game?

Or one who schemes behind your fall,  
And celebrates to see you crawl?

Is he the one who smiles, yet lies,  
And trades your truth for alibis?

## My Father



My dear father, dear father,  
You are my equal in selflessness,  
Day and night, you think of your child's  
perfection,  
You are my caretaker, my caretaker.

I slowly turn to her radiant face,  
Her face is wrinkled, her eyes are thoughtful,  
What thoughts are in her heart, her tongue  
can't express,

In fact, not much is said in her heart.

You run and run to feed your family,  
To educate your children and see them happy,  
To celebrate weddings and fulfill your dreams,  
To work honestly, and earn a living.

Oh my father, you have a pure heart,  
Give yourself some rest and rest,  
In the dreams of wealth, state, prestige and  
work,  
Don't let yourself go, father, even from  
yourself.

I am a liver-bandit with fire in my heart.  
I am your beggar for the happiness of two  
worlds,  
I've been working hard to justify your trust,  
I am Zulfiqar who yearns and falls in love with  
you,  
Wishing to give you the Paradise of Firdaws.

Norova Zulfiqar Sanjar

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# Salaries

## Komora Vows To End Turf Wars Over Police Payroll As He Defends Police Commission Nomination

By: Irene Mwangi  
 @themtkenyatimes

National Police Service Commission (NPSC) Chairperson nominee Amani Komora has pledged to end the long-standing friction between the commission and the National Police Service (NPS), saying his first priority will be uniting the two bodies in the interest of the public.

Appearing before the National Assembly Committee on National Administration and Internal Security yesterday, Komora said the differences between the NPSC, designated to handle human resource functions, and the NPS, which exercises command and control, have undermined service delivery and eroded public trust.

He told MPs he intends to draw on his experience at the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) to navigate complex institutional dynamics and restore stability in the police sector.

“My priority in the first two days will be to build a team so that we see ourselves as working together to serve the mwananchi. What is there to compete about other than competing on how best we can serve the mwananchi?” he stated.

“I will apply my knowledge and experience gained over many years. Having worked in the SRC, we had our differences with the Public Service Commission and other agencies, but we were able to manage them,” Komora added.

The two institutions, created under the 2010 Constitution, have repeatedly clashed over mandates, particularly in recruitment, promotions, transfers, and discipline.

Komora said such disputes should be resolved amicably.

“I see my role as chair as bringing fresh energy to managing personality differences. These challenges can be handled through collaboration, dialogue, and reconciliation. Even the laws provide for reconciliation, arbitration, and negotiation,” he said.

### Competing interests

Committee Vice Chair Diddo Rasso asked how Komora would balance the competing priorities and interests of commissioners, which have long hindered synergy between the two institutions, with their disagreements often playing out in public.

“The commission is constituted as follows: three uniformed and two retired police officers — that’s five —



Amani Komora

against four civilians, including yourself if successful, and three others. Give us confidence that the National Police Service will be represented fairly in the commission,” Rasso said. Komora pledged to foster collegiality within the nine-member commission — five from the uniformed side and four civilians — so that all members act in the interest of Kenyans rather than their respective constituencies.

“The expectation is that every commissioner comes in as a commissioner, not to represent the interests of the uniformed or civilians,” he said.

“The greater responsibility lies with the chair to work with commissioners to build that philosophy of collegiality.”

While acknowledging that budget constraints affect police welfare reforms, Komora stressed that resolving institutional conflict and addressing inefficiencies often require willpower more than resources.

“Budget is key, but there are other things more important. You can have money, but that money may not achieve the desired results,” he noted. If approved, Komora will become

the third NPSC chair since the 2010 Constitution, overseeing a commission that manages the country’s second-largest public service workforce after teachers.

### Fight over payroll and promotions

Control of payroll, promotions, and transfers of police officers has for years been at the heart of a cold war between the NPS and NPSC.

Article 246(3) of the Constitution gives the NPSC exclusive authority to recruit, appoint, confirm, promote, and transfer personnel within the police service with the commission and the Office of the Inspector General performing distinct but complementary mandates.

The NPSC is a civilian-led commission tasked with managing NPS human resources — a relationship similar to that between the Judiciary and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC).

Its mandate includes recruiting and appointing persons to hold or act in offices in the service, confirming appointments, determining promotions and transfers, and exercising disci-

plinary control.

Apart from the Chairperson, the NPSC comprises a lawyer qualified to be a judge, two retired police officers, three distinguished public servants, the IG, and the deputy IGs of the Administration Police (AP) and Kenya Police Service (KPS).

Under Section 2 of the NPSC Act, the commission may delegate powers to the IG for recruitment, promotion, and disciplinary action for officers below the rank of superintendent with any role above the rank remaining the sole preserve of the commission.

The 2010 Constitution radically restructured policing by creating the NPSC to address corruption, favoritism, and nepotism that had plagued the police service.

The reforms aimed to professionalise the police, ensuring that welfare — including skills, salaries, and mental and physical health — is addressed, and that recruitment, transfers, and promotions are based on merit. Disciplinary mechanisms were also intended to be fair and transparent

### Worth Noting:

- He told MPs he intends to draw on his experience at the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) to navigate complex institutional dynamics and restore stability in the police sector.
- “My priority in the first two days will be to build a team so that we see ourselves as working together to serve the mwananchi. What is there to compete about other than competing on how best we can serve the mwananchi?” he stated.
- “I will apply my knowledge and experience gained over many years. Having worked in the SRC, we had our differences with the Public Service Commission and other agencies, but we were able to manage them,” Komora added.



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# Murkomen: BBC Exposé Not All Factual

By: MKT Correspondents  
 @themkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- The documentary titled, “Madams: Exposing Kenya’s Child Sex Trade”, which aired on 4th August 2025 on BBC Africa, purported to expose a network of truck drivers and traffickers exploiting underage girls in the busy transit town.
- Wangari also sought details on the number of children trafficked, the reasons for the alleged inaction by security agencies, and the measures in place to rescue and rehabilitate the victims.
- “What are the steps taken by the Ministry to investigate allegations of child sex trafficking in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County, in light of the media exposé released on 4th August 2025, and clarify whether any arrests have been made of the individuals implicated in the trafficking?” she asked.

The Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, Kipchumba Murkomen informed the National Assembly that preliminary investigations have revealed that some of the claims made in a BBC Africa Eye documentary on child sex trafficking in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County, were based on falsified information.

Appearing before the House to respond to Member questions, Murkomen gave details on a question by Gilgil MP, Martha Wangari, who had raised alarm after a documentary was aired alleging child sex trafficking in Mai Mahiu,

The documentary titled, “Madams: Exposing Kenya’s Child Sex Trade”, which aired on 4th August 2025 on BBC Africa, purported to expose a network of truck drivers and traffickers exploiting underage girls in the busy transit town.

Wangari also sought details on the number of children trafficked, the reasons for the alleged inaction by security agencies, and the measures in place to rescue and rehabilitate the victims.

“What are the steps taken by the Ministry to investigate allegations of child sex trafficking in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County, in light of the media exposé released on 4th August 2025, and clarify whether any arrests have been made of the individuals implicated in the trafficking?” she asked.

In his response, the CS said the Ministry moved swiftly to investigate the allegations through the Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit. “Following allegations of trafficking in persons involving children for purposes of sexual exploitation in Mai Mahiu Town, our officers were deployed on 6th August 2025. Four witnesses, including two women who featured in the BBC documentary, were interviewed and their statements recorded,” he stated.

The Cabinet Secretary reported that the individuals presented in the documentary as underage victims were in fact adults engaged in commercial sex work, some of whom had allegedly falsified their ages to fit the documentary’s narrative and to qualify for a promised foreign sponsorship programme.

“Investigations have established that the BBC team primarily sought underage girls, but some of the girls misrepresented their ages to secure the benefits promised by the producers,” Murkomen told the House.

He named several individuals featured in the documentary, adding that fourteen witnesses have so far been



Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen in the National Assembly yesterday.

interviewed, statements recorded, and all locations visited and documented by the Crime Scene Investigations team.

Murkomen added that the BBC crew members involved have since been identified, including a foreign national, and police are pursuing financial and call records to establish links between the parties. No arrests have been made so far, but investigations are ongoing, including tracing missing witnesses.

The Gilgil MP further pressed the Interior Ministry for measures to protect minors asking, “What are the measures in place to rescue and rehabilitate the affected children back into the society, including steps taken to ensure their safety and psychosocial support?”

The CS acknowledged that while cases of child sexual exploitation exist along the Northern Corridor, the Mai Mahiu documentary failed to achieve its intended purpose due to the falsehoods provided by some participants.

“Mr. Speaker, prostitution remains illegal in Kenya, yet it is openly practised, with inadequate regulation of access to lodging facilities. We have issued clear and firm directives to security teams, including National Administration officers, to take decisive action against child sexual exploitation and trafficking,” stated Murkomen.

He further outlined several steps that



Gilgil MP Martha Wangari. Photos/Courtesy.

the Government was taking to rescue and rehabilitate victims, including, the immediate rescue and safe placement of victims in collaboration with children’s homes, private rescue centres, and borstal institutions.

He added that the government had put in place provisions of psychosocial support services to address victims’ emotional and mental well-being as well as offering comprehensive

medical examinations and treatment for victims.

In responding to the Cabinet Secretary’s submissions the Gilgil MP urged the government to take firm legal action against individuals found to have fabricated information for the documentary, noting that such actions undermine the fight against genuine cases of child exploitation.

# China Reports 4.6pc Year-On-Year Growth In Private Enterprise Registrations

By: China Daily

China registered 13.28 million new market entities in the first half, with private and foreign-invested firms maintaining steady momentum and cultural industries posting the fastest growth, the State Administration for Market Regulation said on Tuesday.

Private enterprises took the spotlight, with 4.35 million new registrations, up 4.6 percent year-on-year. Foreign-invested firms also rose 4.1 percent year-on-year to 33,000.

Such momentum underscored improving market sentiment and investor confidence, reinforcing China's status as a key global investment destination, industry experts said.

Since the beginning of this year, China has unveiled a robust package of policies to stabilize foreign capital inflows and boost long-term investment amid rising global economic uncertainty.

The country's tax authority, for

example, launched a new tax credit policy aimed at encouraging foreign investors to reinvest their profits in the country. The policy allows eligible investors to offset Chinese tax liabilities if they commit to keeping the investment in China for at least five years.

Li Xuhong, a professor at the Beijing National Accounting Institute, said: "Such efforts reduce the tax burden on foreign enterprises and support the stable development of China's economy. At the same time, it sends a strong signal that China welcomes long-term investment."

Data from the SAMR also showed that by sector, 601,000 new market entities were created in primary industries such as agriculture, 965,000 in manufacturing and other secondary industries, and 11.71 million in the services sector.

New economy firms, which mainly refer to those companies engaged in new technologies, industries, business formats and models, reached 25.36 million nationwide by the end of June, up 6.6 percent year-on-year



and accounting for 40.2 percent of all registered enterprises.

Notably, the cultural sector stood out as a bright spot in consumption growth, buoyed by the global popularity of domestic intellectual property such as Pop Mart collectibles. New registrations in culture, sports and entertainment surged 17.5 percent year-on-year, the fastest among all major industries.

In the realm of pop culture, Chinese brand Pop Mart has become a global sensation, with fans lining up outside stores eager to get their hands on the latest trendy Labubu figurines.

Hu Zuohao, a professor at the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University, said that the popularity of domestic brands like Pop Mart exemplifies how cultural and design premiums

are reshaping the value structure of Chinese manufacturing.

"Brands like Pop Mart demonstrate that meeting consumer demand for special innovative products is the best way to boost business. This is China's new consumption era, when people are boosting consumption but also promoting smarter, deeper and more meaningful consumption," Hu said.

# Ojienda Invites Post-2017 Protest Claims For Reparations Amid Legal Doubts

By: Ojwang Joe  
@themkenyatimes

Kisumu Senator Tom Ojienda has invited claims from victims of political unrest since 2017 for forwarding to Nairobi, even as a fierce political row rages over the legal basis of President William Ruto's compensation framework.

Ojienda on Tuesday urged residents who lost loved ones, suffered injuries, or had property destroyed to submit proof of loss to his Kisumu office, saying the government was ready to pay reparations.

"The compensation will cover incidents from 2017. Be ready to receive payment from the current administration," he said at the Kisumu bus park, where he visited the site of a recent fire.

President Ruto appointed his constitutional affairs and human rights advisor, Makau Mutua, to lead a 120-day process on August 8.

The plan will cover victims of

protests and riots from January 1, 2017, to July 31, 2025, and involve officials from the presidency, the Attorney General's office, the Treasury, the Interior Ministry, and other agencies.

The initiative, backed by ODM leader Raila Odinga, has drawn sharp criticism from Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka and DAP-Kenya's Eugene Wamalwa, who question its legality and argue the Executive cannot be trusted to compensate victims of its own alleged abuses.

'Wolves deciding cow matters'

They demanded the process move to the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, citing Article 59(1)(E) of the Constitution, and called for the immediate suspension of Mutua's role.

"Through the shoot-to-kill and shoot-in-the-leg orders, can they be the ones responsible for redress and compensation of their own victims of police brutality? A wolf cannot decide the matters of cow or crow," Kalonzo said.

Mutua dismissed the objections,



Kisumu Senator Tom Ojienda

accusing the two leaders of politicising "a noble effort" to heal the nation and urging them to propose constructive solutions instead in a response on Sunday.

He cited the South African Truth

and Reconciliation Commission as an example of a government-led transitional justice mechanism and insisted victim compensation is a legitimate global practice.

While rights groups and some

victims' families have cautiously welcomed the idea, sections of the opposition see it as a political ploy ahead of the 2027 General Election.

# For The People Or For The Pockets? Devolution At A Corruption Crossroads



**By: Dennis Wendo**  
 Email: [dambehi@gmail.com](mailto:dambehi@gmail.com)

As Homa Bay hosts the 2025 Devolution Conference, the irony is glaring, one of the counties topping the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission's shame list for bribe payments at 5.32 percent of the national total is also hosting Kenya's flagship governance forum.

The National Ethics and Corruption Survey 2024 paints a grim picture, bribery cases have surged from 25.7 to 30.5 percent in just one year. The average bribe now stands at Ksh 4,878 and securing a county job can cost a desperate applicant up to Ksh 243,651. Uasin Gishu, Baringo, Embu, Homa Bay and Bomet lead in bribe shares, while ghost workers drain over Ksh15.8 billion annually

from county coffers.

This is not the devolution Kenyans voted for in 2010. Over Sh1 trillion has been pumped into counties since 2013, yet most have failed the legal 30 percent development spending threshold, preferring bloated payrolls and political patronage over real service delivery. Over eleven counties are under EACC investigation, with procurement fraud and nepotism still entrenched.

If the 2025 conference theme for the people, for prosperity is to mean anything, leaders must commit to more than rhetoric. Counties need full digitization of revenue and payroll systems, open-data portals, lifestyle audits and secure whistleblower channels. The Controller of Budget and Auditor-General must be fully funded and shielded from political interference.

Devolution can still deliver equity, inclusion and justice but only if integrity stops being optional. Kenya cannot afford another decade where corruption remains the biggest beneficiary of devolution.



Governors at the 2025 Devolution Conference

Dennis Wendo

Integrated Development Network – Email: [idsnkenya@gmail.com](mailto:idsnkenya@gmail.com)  
 Public Benefits Organization (PBO)

# IGAD Launches Consultations For New 2026–2030 Regional Strategy

**By: Bruhan Makong**  
 @themtkenyatimes

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has begun consultations with its Member States to review its 2021–2025 Strategy and develop a new 2026–2030 framework, starting with Kenya.

According to the IGAD Secretariat, the process will draw input from governments, development partners, and other stakeholders to assess progress under the current strategy, identify emerging challenges, and set priorities for the next five years.

“This process will gather input from governments, partners, and stakeholders to assess progress, address emerging challenges, and shape a forward-looking, inclusive framework for the region's next five years,” IGAD said in a statement, noting that similar consultations will be held in all Member States to ensure regional ownership and alignment with shared priorities.

The consultations will cover areas such as peace and security, economic integration, climate resilience, sustainable development, and institutional strengthening.

The new strategy will also take into account evolving political, economic, and environmental dynamics in the Horn of Africa.

IGAD is one of Africa's eight recognized Regional Economic Communities (RECs) under the African Union.

### Expanded scope

It was established in 1996 as the successor to the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD), which was created in 1986 to coordinate efforts against drought and desertification.

Its current members are Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda.

Over time, IGAD has expanded its scope beyond environmental cooperation to include peacebuilding, regional security, trade facilitation,



and cross-border infrastructure development.

The 2021–2025 Strategy focused on regional peace and security, economic cooperation, social development, and resilience to climate shocks.

The upcoming 2026–2030 Strategy aims to build on these pillars while adapting to emerging priorities such as digital transformation, food security, and humanitarian coordination.

The final strategy document, once

consultations across all Member States are complete, will be presented for adoption by IGAD's Council of Ministers and Heads of State.

# Palatal Fibroma: Clinical Appearance, Diagnosis, And Treatment



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## Worth Noting:

- A fibroma is a benign tumor that develops from connective tissue. It can occur in various parts of the human body, including the skin, oral cavity, internal organs, and soft tissues. Fibromas develop slowly, are usually painless, and often result in aesthetic or functional discomfort. These tumors mainly arise due to trauma, chronic mechanical irritation, or inflammatory processes.
- Clinically, fibromas may appear in forms such as simple fibroma, angiofibroma, and ossifying fibroma. The methods of diagnosis and treatment depend on the location and size of the tumor. This article analyzes the clinical features, pathogenesis, diagnostic techniques, and treatment methods of fibroma.

## Abstract

Fibroma is a benign tumor that originates from connective tissue and can occur in various parts of the human body, including the oral cavity, skin, soft tissues, and the connective tissues of internal organs. Fibromas usually grow slowly and are composed of a bundle of fibers arranged in various directions, consisting of differentiated connective tissue and irregularly distributed blood vessels. Depending on the predominance of collagen fibers and cells, fibromas are classified into hard and soft types. They are typically painless and mostly cause aesthetic or functional discomfort. Clinically, fibromas are divided into types such as simple fibroma, ossifying fibroma, and angiofibroma. Clinical examination and histological analysis are crucial for diagnosis. Treatment is mainly surgical. Fibromas have a good prognosis, and recurrence is rare.

Keywords: fibroma, palate, oral cavity, tumor, histology.

## Introduction

A fibroma is a benign tumor that develops from connective tissue. It can occur in various parts of the human body, including the skin, oral cavity, internal organs, and soft tissues. Fibromas develop slowly, are usually painless, and often result in aesthetic or functional discomfort. These tumors mainly arise due to trauma, chronic mechanical irritation, or inflammatory processes. Clinically, fibromas may appear in forms such as simple fibroma, angiofibroma, and ossifying fibroma. The methods of diagnosis and treatment depend on the location and size of the tumor. This article analyzes the clinical features, pathogenesis, diagnostic techniques, and treatment methods of fibroma.

## Etiology of Fibroma

The development of fibroma may be linked to various factors. The main etiological causes include the following:

### Mechanical Irritation:

Fibromas often develop due to chronic mechanical irritations such as ill-fitting dentures, oral cavity injuries, or prolonged use of pacifiers. In such cases, constant inflammation or microtrauma to the mucous membrane can lead to fibroma formation.

### Infections:

Fibromas can sometimes arise as a result of inflammatory processes. Chronic inflammation, infections, or infections originating from teeth may contribute to the development of fibromas.

### Genetic Factors:

Fibromas may form due to hereditary factors. Mutations or genetic predispositions—as well as fibromatosis conditions (e.g., neurofibromatosis)—can influence the growth



of these tumors.

## Hormonal Changes:

Hormonal factors, especially in women, may stimulate the growth of fibromas. Certain fibromas, particularly in women, are more likely to grow during pregnancy or as a result of hormonal therapy.

## Age and Gender:

Fibromas are more commonly observed in patients aged 30 to 60. They are also more frequently found in women than in men.

## Clinical Appearance of Fibroma

Fibroma is a benign tumor characterized by slow growth. Its clinical presentation varies depending on its location, size, and rate of growth. The following are the main clinical features and appearances of fibromas:

### Shape and Size:

Fibromas typically have a round or oval shape.

Their size can range from small (about 0.5 cm) to larger (2 cm or more).

The size and shape of the swelling may vary depending on the stage of its development.

## Macroscopic Characteristics

Fibromas can be either hard or soft. Hard fibromas are whitish in color and appear as firm, nodular masses encapsulated by fibrous tissue. They often measure around 3 cm in diameter, though size may vary.

Soft fibromas are denser, with an elastic consistency and have a paler appearance on cross-section.

## Dynamics

The tumor has a dense consistency and grows slowly. It may compress surrounding tissues but can be easily displaced. In later stages, it may undergo sclerosis or potentially become malignant.

## Complications and Cause of Death

If the fibroma is located at the base of the skull, spinal canal, or in the orbital cavity, it can compress neighboring organs, leading to functional impairment, which in severe cases may result in death.

## Complications

Many fibromas are asymptomatic and only pose cosmetic concerns.

However, large fibromas or those located in functionally important areas may cause localized necrosis, pain, difficulty swallowing, or other discomforts.

## Recurrence

Recurrence of fibroma is rare. However, if not completely or properly removed, there is a risk of recurrence.

## Treatment of Fibroma

Fibroma is a benign tumor and can often be treated without complications. However, the treatment approach depends on its location, size, and the clinical condition of the patient. The main goal is to remove the fibroma and prevent its recurrence. Below are the primary treatment methods:

### Surgical Treatment

Excision of the Fibroma (resection):

Most fibromas are removed surgically. The procedure is usually done under local anesthesia. Precise identification and removal of the lesion are crucial, as improper removal can lead to recurrence.

### Postoperative Recovery:

Healing is usually rapid, especially for fibromas in the oral cavity, which typically do not leave scars.

### Laser Therapy

Laser therapy is also used to remove fibromas. This method uses high-temperature laser beams to eliminate the fibroma. It is minimally invasive and reduces bleeding and recovery time.

Advantages of laser therapy include faster healing, minimal scarring, and reduced pain.

### Electrocauterization

Electrocauterization involves destroying the fibroma using electrical current. The fibroma is burned off using high-temperature electric energy. This method is commonly used for smaller fibromas and is less invasive than traditional surgery.

## Medication Treatment

Medication is rarely used to treat fibromas due to their benign nature. However, in cases of chronic inflammation or pain caused by local effects of the fibroma, physicians may prescribe medications to relieve symptoms and reduce inflammation.

## Conclusion

Fibroma is a benign tumor that develops from connective tissues and, in many cases, does not cause significant clinical symptoms. It often presents as a slow-growing, painless mass that may lead to aesthetic or functional discomfort. Fibromas can occur in various locations, including the skin, oral cavity, internal organs, and soft connective tissues. The main causes of their development may include mechanical irritation, inflammatory processes, genetic factors, and hormonal changes.

Diagnosis of fibroma is made through clinical examination, palpation, and histological analysis. Treatment methods are selected based on the tumor's location, size, and presence of symptoms. In most cases, fibromas are removed surgically, although minimally invasive techniques such as laser therapy and electrocauterization are also used. Fibromas rarely recur and generally have a good prognosis after treatment.

At the same time, monitoring any changes or progression of the fibroma plays a crucial role in selecting the appropriate treatment method. Proper diagnosis and adherence to medical recommendations and follow-up by healthcare professionals are key to ensuring successful treatment of fibroma.

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# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
STATISTICS  
SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS



**Sports >>** \*Premier League chief executive Richard Masters said his "frustration" at waiting for a verdict in a series of financial charges against Manchester City is irrelevant as the case is in the hands of an independent hearing.

## Premier League Has No Say On Delay Over Man City Charges, Says Chief Exec



Manchester City's Spanish head coach Pep Guardiola gestures ahead of the FIFA Club World Cup 2025 round of 16 football match between England's Manchester City and Saudi's Al-Hilal at the Camping World stadium in Orlando on June 30, 2025. Manchester City, which has amassed championships, domestic cups and even a Champions League title over the last decade, ended last season without any trophies. As Pep Guardiola enters his tenth season, can he lead the club back to success? (Photo by PATRICIA DE MELO MOREIRA / AFP)

Premier League chief executive Richard Masters said his "frustration" at waiting for a verdict in a series of financial charges against Manchester City is irrelevant as the case is in the hands of an independent hearing. The Premier League issued more than 100 charges against City in February 2023 related to alleged breaches of its financial rules and with allegedly failing to co-operate with the subsequent investigation. The case was heard by a commission between September and December last year but no decision has been published. The issue continues to hang over the league as the 2025/26 season gets underway this weekend, but

Masters said his organisation has no control over when a verdict will be reached. "Once the allegations, the charge has been put forward, they go before an independent panel, which is independently selected, and they are then in charge of the process and its timings," Masters told Sky Sports News. "They hear the case, they decide the outcome, and we have no influence over that, over it or its timing. "And that's right, if you think from an independence point of view, that there is independent people making those decisions, and we just have to be waiting. "My frustration is irrelevant, re-

ally. I mean, I just have to wait, and legal processes rarely take less time than you anticipated, but we have to be patient." City deny any wrongdoing and have said they have a "comprehensive body of irrefutable evidence" to clear their name. But if they are found guilty, they could face a range of punishments, including a severe points penalty, or even be kicked out of the Premier League. City were charged with failing to report accurate financial information for nine seasons stretching from 2009/10 to 2017/18, as well as failing to provide full details of former manager Roberto Mancini's pay between 2009/10 and 2012/13.

They are also charged with failing to provide full details of remuneration in contracts with players between 2010/11 and 2015/16, and with failing to co-operate with the investigation over a period from 2018 to 2023. Since an Abu Dhabi-backed takeover in 2008, City's fortunes have been transformed on the field from also-rans to the dominant force in English football. Eight of their 10 top-flight league titles have come since 2012 and they also won the Champions League for the first time in 2023.

AFP

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**Sports >>** \*Marcus Rashford decried Manchester United's lack of strategy is leaving the English giants in "no man's land" after joining Barcelona on loan.

# Rashford: Lack Of Strategy Has Left Manchester United In 'No Man's Land'



English forward Marcus Rashford who joined Barcelona on loan from Manchester United holds up his jersey during his official presentation at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on July 23, 2025. Barcelona and Manchester United have reached a deal for the loan of the player Marcus Rashford until June 30, 2026," announced the La Liga champions in a statement. (Photo by Josep LAGO / AFP)

Marcus Rashford decried Manchester United's lack of strategy is leaving the English giants in "no man's land" after joining Barcelona on loan.

The 27-year-old, who played 426 times for United after coming through the club's academy, left Old Trafford in January for a loan spell at Aston Villa after falling out of favour with new manager Ruben Amorim.

United went on to have their worst season since being relegated in 1973/74 as they finished 15th in the Premier League and failed to qualify for European competition.

"We have been way below where we deem United to be but then if you take a step back, which I've

been able to do, especially over these last six months, what do you expect?" Rashford told the Rest Is Football podcast.

"When Liverpool went through this, they got (Jurgen) Klopp, they stuck with him. They didn't win in the beginning. People only remember his final few years when he was competing with (Manchester) City and winning the biggest trophies.

"To start a transition, you have to make a plan and stick to it. It's not easy to do. But this is where I speak about being realistic with what your situation is.

"We've had that many different managers, different ideas and different strategies to win that you

end up in no man's land."

United have failed to even contend for the Premier League title or the Champions League since Ferguson's departure.

Rashford is one of the few success stories for the Red Devils in that time.

After breaking into the team as an 18-year-old in 2016, he went on to score 138 goals for the club, winning two FA Cups and two League Cups.

However, he believes the winning culture embedded during Ferguson's 27-year tenure has been worn away.

"When Ferguson was in charge, not only were there principles for the first team but they were for the

whole academy," Rashford added.

"Any team that has been successful over a period of time, they have principles that mean that any coach or player that comes in has to align to or add to the principles.

"At times, United were hungry to win... but it was reactionary. If your direction is always changing, you can't expect to win the league."

Rashford appears to have played his last game for United with his move to Spanish champions Barca containing a option to buy for a reported 35 million euros (£30 million, \$41 million).

**AFP**

# SPORTS NEWS

- PHOTOS
- SCORES
- OPINIONS
- STATISTICS
- SCHEDULES
- BREAKING NEWS

# Backpage



## Meet Karen Astudillo A Trailblazing Financier



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### \*Biography\*

Karen Astudillo is a multifaceted visionary who has been breaking boundaries across industries with her unwavering determination and passion. From launching her first business at 19 to conquering Mount Everest, Karen's journey is a testament to the power of perseverance, faith, and hard work.

### Early Life and Inspiration

Karen's drive to pursue diverse passions stems from her upbringing, where her parents encouraged her to achieve her dreams. With a motto to do everything as for God, Karen strives for excellence in all aspects of her life. She believes in constantly challenging herself to learn new things and give her best to achieve everything she wants.

### Professional Journey

As a financial analyst and programmer, Karen has profoundly influenced her entrepreneurial journey and content creation approach. She believes that financial knowledge and projections are crucial in business, and her programming skills help her understand growth statistics and social network focus. With a background in finance and programming, Karen has successfully launched multiple businesses and created engaging content for her audience.

### Travel and Cultural Exploration

Karen's passion for travel has taken her to over 70 countries, broadening her perspective on life, beauty, and culture. She believes that traveling makes you more open to different cultures and thoughts, and she's always learning from new environments. Karen's travel experiences have inspired her content creation, showcasing the beauty and diversity of the world.

### Content Creation and Artistic Pursuits

As a beauty, lifestyle, and travel content creator, Karen balances her roles with discipline and time man-

agement. She's also an avid singer and violinist, dedicating at least four days a week to creating music. Karen believes that music brings peace to her life, and she's always accompanied by melodies, even while modeling or working on other projects.

### Beauty Pageants and Recognition

Karen's journey in beauty pageants has been an enriching experience, with titles such as Mrs. Earth Air and first finalist in Mrs. Universe Dubai. She believes that these experiences have helped her grow as a person and showcase her talents.

### Conclusion

Karen Astudillo's story is a testament to the power of perseverance, faith, and passion. With her multifaceted talents and achievements, she's inspiring the world to push boundaries and strive for excellence. Whether it's entrepreneurship, content creation, or artistic pursuits, Karen's determination and hard work are a shining example of what's possible when you dare to dream big.

Karen Astudillo .



### Worth Noting:

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