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Page 20

**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 >> Church Leaders Urged Youths And Parents About Peace

P. 8. Church leaders have asked young people to be careful and keep off from politicians who may want to misuse them in the coming 2027 General Elections.



#### News >> Nakuru County Working On Policy Shift Towards Turning Waste Into Wealth

P. 12. The County Government of Nakuru is reviewing both its Waste Management Act of 2021 and the county's Waste Management Policy Framework to help identify existing gaps and develop new policies that are comprehensive, enforceable, and aligned with modern challenges.

# Koome: Cyber Attacks On Judges Erode Public Trust



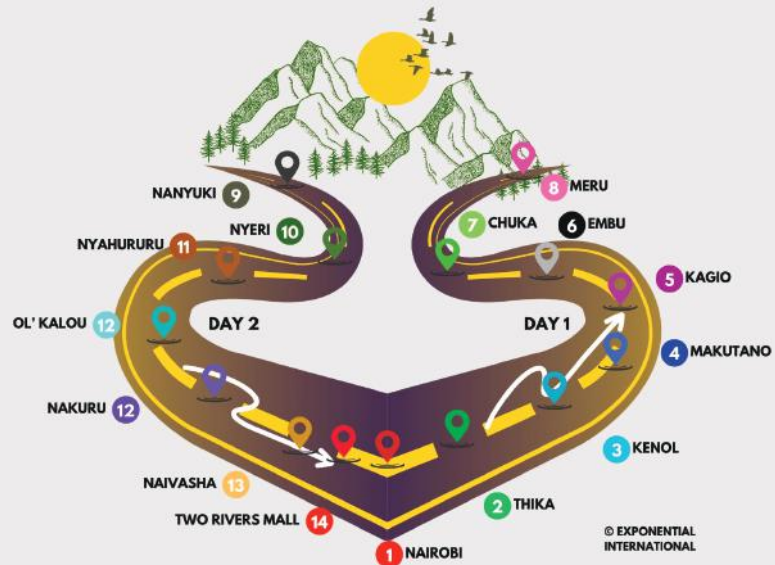
Chief Justice Martha Koome has raised alarm over the rising wave of cyberbullying and orchestrated online campaigns targeting judges, warning that the trend threatens judicial independence and risks eroding public confidence in the justice system. Speaking at the opening of the 2025 Judges' Colloquium in Nairobi, the CJ said social media platforms, while useful for dialogue and information sharing, have increasingly become spaces where judges are harassed and maligned.



Chief Justice Martha Koome

STORY ON PAGE 9

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



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# President Ruto And Raila Odinga Presides Over Joint UDA/ODM Parliamentary Meeting

By: MKT Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

*Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures*

A joint Parliamentary group meeting for UDA and ODM Members of Parliament took place yesterday at KCB leadership Centre in Karen, Nairobi. Among the issues deliberated were implementation of the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) report and the framework for reparations for victims of public protests and riots, among other issues.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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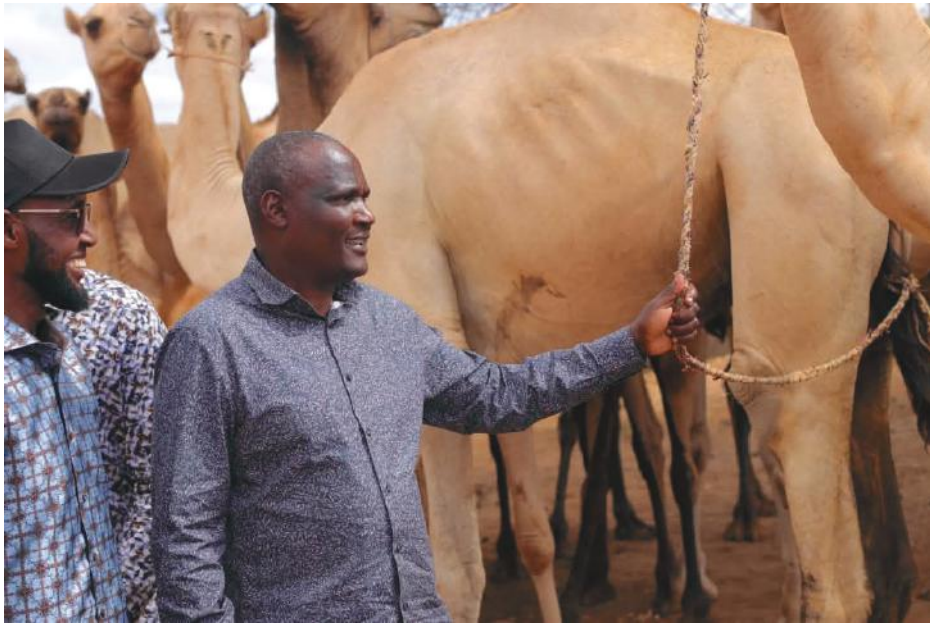
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## NEWS IN BRIEF



National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi has reaffirmed the government’s commitment to promote equitable development across Kenya, focusing on marginalized areas. Speaking during a working tour in Bangali Sub-County, Tana River, CS Mbadi emphasised that all Kenyans are taxpayers and are entitled to development projects, regardless of their region. He criticised the historical neglect of some communities, highlighting persistent challenges such as water scarcity, poor roads, and limited electricity access, even decades after independence. Mbadi announced plans to allocate funds in the next supplementary budget for a water project to address local shortages, signalling the government’s intent to prioritize essential infrastructure in underserved areas. Bura MP Yakub Adow welcomed the pledge, expressing hope that the initiative would alleviate hardships faced by his constituents.



The government is in the final stages of developing a digital application designed to monitor the productivity of public servants in Kenya. Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes Geoffrey Ruku said the application is set to be launched in October. The CS said the new platform will among other provisions track arrival and departure times and leave status. He said the move is geared towards enhancing efficiency, accountability, and transparency across all government offices. Speaking yesterday during an impromptu early morning inspection at the Eastern Region Headquarters in Embu Town, CS Ruku said the initiative was part of a wider reform agenda of improving service delivery in the public sector.



The 14th edition of the Water Services Companies Sports Organization (WASCO) Games has officially begun in Kisii County. The colorful opening ceremony started at the Governor’s Office, where the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, Eric Muga, officially flagged off the procession of teams before they marched to Gusii Stadium for the official opening. This year’s theme is “Combating Climate Change Through Sports.” To reinforce this message, a symbolic tree-planting exercise was held at Kisii Primary School. Over 25 water utilities from across the country are participating in the games, with NYEWASCO competing in over 10 different disciplines. Excitement is high as teams showcase resilience, talent, and unity throughout the week-long tournament.



Jomvu Member of Parliament Badi Twalib has urged the National and County Government of Mombasa to collaborate and complete the long-stalled renovation of the Mombasa Municipal Stadium. He said the facility, once complete, should meet FIFA standards and enable Mombasa to host continental competitions. The MP made the remarks Sunday while hosting his constituents at Kwa Ndege ya Badi recreational park, where they watched the Kenya versus Zambia match. Twalib noted that Mombasa was unable to host the African Nations Championship (CHAN) due to the lack of a standard stadium.

The Office of Director of Public Prosecution has lined up over 15 witnesses to testify in a murder trial involving former Pangani officer Ahmed Rashid. The hearing is set to run from August 18 to 22, will feature over 15 prosecution witnesses. Among them are former members of the Pangani Six – officers who worked closely with Rashid – and the then-Officer Commanding Station (OCS) of Pangani Police Station. Rashid, who once led the covert Pangani Six unit, is accused of murdering two teenagers namely Jamal Mohammed and Mohammed Dhair Kheri in March 2017. Their testimonies are expected to shed light on the operations of the covert police unit and the events that led to the fatal shooting. The two were shot dead in broad daylight outside Amal Plaza in Eastleigh, Nairobi, in an incident that was captured on video and widely circulated online.



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# Go For The Big Fish - Clerics Urge President Ruto In Renewed Graft War

By: John Kamau

@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- The clerics led by Bishop David Thagana who is the secretary general in charge of the Federation of Evangelical and Indigenous Christian Churches of Kenya (FEICCK) warned that Kenya risks sinking deeper into a governance and development crisis if the President's revelations reflect the true state of affairs.
- They noted that corruption remains the single greatest obstacle to the country's social and economic growth, undermining public trust and denying citizens access to critical services.

Days after President William Ruto rattled the country with remarks implicating parliamentarians in widespread corruption, a section of clerics has urged the government to take bold and practical steps to confront the vice.

The clerics led by Bishop David Thagana who is the secretary general in charge of the Federation of Evangelical and Indigenous Christian Churches of Kenya (FEICCK) warned that Kenya risks sinking deeper into a governance and development crisis if the President's revelations reflect the true state of affairs.

They noted that corruption remains the single greatest obstacle to the country's social and economic growth, undermining public trust and denying citizens access to critical services.

Speaking during the ordination of Reverend Phyllis Wangechi as the newest Glory Outreach Assembly (GOA) church Bishop in Murera, Juja, the priests argued that the country's education and health systems have particularly borne the brunt of mismanagement of resources, leaving millions of Kenyans struggling to access quality services.

The clerics raised concerns over creeping back of the corruption dragon in the government saying that it poses a huge threat to the country's economic growth.

Thagana said that the government must adopt stern measures to slay the graft dragon including arresting and prosecuting all government officers implicated in graft dealings.

"We are worried if all the taxes that Kenyans are paying will end up being looted or misappropriated by unscrupulous individuals within the Government. We are calling on the President



Bishop Phyllis Wangechi speaking after her ordination at GOA Church in Murera, Juja.

to crack the whip on all individuals implicated in the recent corrupt deals," the Bishop said.

The Bishop said that the graft fight should be directed to the 'big fish' who are looting public coffers through shady means.

"Kenyans are currently facing an uphill task in providing basic needs for their families including food, paying rent or facilitating for their children's education while individuals entrusted with public resources are mismanaging them. We are calling for a spirited fight to end corruption for the sake of our country's economy," he noted.

On her part, Bishop Wangechi called on leaders to uphold integrity to steer

the country towards growth and transformation saying that poor leadership will lead to a social, economic and political crisis.

According to the clerics, corruption not only stifles development but also puts borrowed funds at risk of misuse, aggravating the national debt burden without delivering tangible benefits to citizens.

They emphasized that the government must move beyond rhetoric and deploy decisive measures to dismantle entrenched networks of graft that continue to frustrate national progress.

The concerns resonated with congregants who attended the event, many of whom expressed dismay at revelations

that legislators could be complicit in shielding corrupt practices.

They described corruption as a deeply rooted demon that has eroded confidence in leadership and widened inequality in the country.

The leaders also used the platform to encourage women to embrace leadership opportunities across political, social, and religious spaces.

They observed that women possess the ability and resilience to provide effective leadership and should be supported to take up greater responsibilities in shaping the nation's future.

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# Church Leaders Urged Youths And Parents About Peace

By: George Mugo  
@themtkenyatimes

Church leaders have asked young people to be careful and keep off from politicians who may want to misuse them in the coming 2027 General Elections.

They said they have observed that politicians were busy aligning themselves in readiness to the forthcoming polls.

The clergy said this is the time they are used by being given some tips to follow them and at times to attend to their meetings.

Pastor Ishmael Isaac Ndung'u of United in Christ Church says that it is at that time, they end up disrupting other politicians meetings.

He decried that politicians ferry them with lorries and other mode of transport to be seen as of they are popular, and as a result, chaos erupt.

Ndung'u adds that when chaos erupts, people lose lives, others are displaced, property is destroyed and

the country is left shaken.

"This is the time we all need to be vigilant. We need to be careful as we interact with them. We must stay with them because they are part of our society, but let us not open our hands to be used by them cause mayhem and violence. Let us build peace" he said.

He says people can prevent all that by youths accepting the call of the government, church leaders, civil society and well-wishers to avoiding being used to raise against other by politicians.

Ndung'u says that they feel the forthcoming general election's campaigns started so early, with leaders starting to align themselves.

"It is so sad that every day we hear people speaking about who they will elect in different seats" he said.

"On the other hand, politicians are busy accused each other and criticising the government. They cause confusion and it is very easily for a politician to incite youths to raise against another person or even people" he added.

He spoke at Archbishop Joseph Chege's 70 years celebration of his



Rev Ishmael Isaac Ndung'u of United in Christ Church.

service and his new house opening event at Nyambari sub location in Lari Kirenga ward in Lari sub county on Sunday.

Chege who is the leader of the Christian Universal international church, retired early this year from active ministry and hosted locals to during his new house was being opened.



Pastors and friends of Archbishop Joseph Chege (in archbishop robe), attend the opening of his house.

Ndung'u's sentiments were supported by Pastor Peter Mungai who urged the parents to speak to their youthful children about keeping peace.

Mungai urged church leaders to pray for this country and keep preaching and reminding people that Kenyans need this country before, during and after the elections.

Mungai described archbishop Chege as a faithful, uniting and hardworking church leader who interacts with different people at all times.

Chege challenged church leaders to work hard and leave a legacy and a good name that people will want to be associated with.

# Lamu To Feature At Global Science Summit

By: Amenya Ochieng  
@themtkenyatimes

Lamu County's Department of Public Service Management has earned international acclaim after being shortlisted as one of the world's leading scientific and social impact innovators at the upcoming Falling Walls Science Summit 2025, scheduled for this November in Berlin, Germany.

At the heart of this recognition is Shee Kupa, a senior official in the department, who has been praised for his leadership in developing innovative peacebuilding and disaster management frameworks tailored for vulnerable, conflict-affected communities in Kenya's northern coast.

Lamu County stands out as the only devolved government entity among a list of 30 globally shortlisted institutions, which includes elite universities such as Stanford, Princeton, McGill and the University of Geneva, an unprecedented milestone for a

rural Kenyan county often associated with marginalization rather than innovation.

In an interview with journalists following the announcement, Kupa, who has overseen a series of disaster preparedness and peacebuilding initiatives, underscored the significance of the nomination, not just for Lamu, but for the broader African context.

"This recognition is more than just a personal triumph as it reaffirms that African-led solutions, grounded in local solutions, grounded in local realities, can offer meaningful answers to global problems like violent extremism and disaster fragility," he stated, adding that it is an honour to represent both the county and the country at large, on such a transformative platform.

The Falling Walls Summit is an annual gathering that celebrates breakthroughs in science and society, drawing thought leaders, researchers and innovators from across the globe.

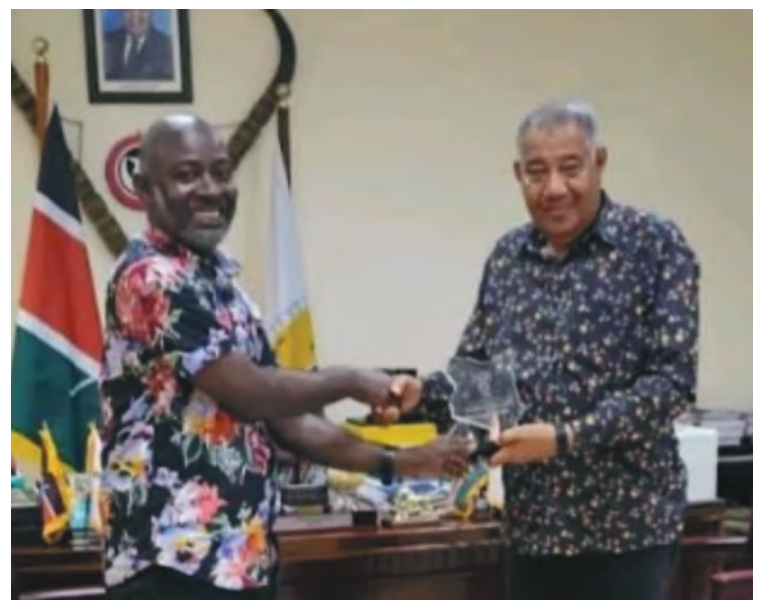
Kupa further stated that the inclusion and recognition for the global award not only elevates Lamu to in-

ternational prominence, but also underscores the vital role of local governance and African innovation in tackling global issues such as violent extremism.

"I am glad that I could lead my team and represent my county and at large the African continent on such a significant platform that will celebrate an African solution for an African problem," he added.

He further stated that Lamu County under Governor Issa Timamy's administration has made significant strides towards coming up with a Disaster Management and Preparedness Policy that is being replicated in other counties across the country.

"Lamu was the first county to come up with a fully operational County Emergency Operation Centre, exceptional disaster risk management interventions, which have so far averted at least 5 major disasters since its establishment in 2023, particularly in response to severe drought, cholera outbreak and severe flooding between October and December 2023," the county official said.



The same sentiments were echoed by the county governor, who commended Kupa and the Department of Disaster Management and Peacebuilding for their remarkable achievement in coming up with innovative ways, through which peacebuilding and disaster management can be achieved in minority and marginal-

ized areas within the county. Timamy stated that the initiatives have specifically been effective within the Boni area, which has been marginalized for years.

# Koome Warns Rising Cyberbullying Of Judges Eroding Confidence In Courts

By: Correspondent  
@themtkenyatimes

Chief Justice Martha Koome has raised alarm over the rising wave of cyberbullying and orchestrated online campaigns targeting judges, warning that the trend threatens judicial independence and risks eroding public confidence in the justice system.

Speaking at the opening of the 2025 Judges' Colloquium in Nairobi, the CJ said social media platforms, while useful for dialogue and information sharing, have increasingly become spaces where judges are harassed and maligned.

"Over the last one year, we have witnessed a worrying and ugly trend of increased cyberbullying, targeted harassment, and orchestrated online campaigns against judges and judicial officers," she said.

"This sustained social media onslaught is not merely a passing wave of criticism; it is a calculated attempt to weaken the moral authority of the Judiciary and to intimidate judges

into silence or into bending the law to the whims of some nefarious interests."

Koome warned that unfounded accusations and defamatory allegations circulating online are not just personal attacks on individual judges but an attempt to corrode confidence in the entire justice system.

"If left unchecked, this culture of digital intimidation risks creating a chilling effect where judges feel pressured to decide cases in line with political expedience or wishes of certain private and commercial interests, rather than in fidelity to the Constitution and the law," she cautioned.

The Chief Justice disclosed that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had expressed concern over the cyberattacks and indicated readiness to send the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers on a fact-finding mission to Kenya.

"This troubling development is a moment of reckoning for the Kenyan Judiciary, for it compels us to reaffirm the centrality of judicial independence in a democratic society and to resist any encroachments, however subtle or aggressive, that would



Chief Justice Martha Koome .

erode it," she said.

Koome stressed that judicial independence extends beyond freedom from external control to include

protection from digital intimidation, political interference, or physical threats.

She urged judges to remain steadfast

in their duty, saying the Judiciary must continue to serve as "the last line of defence for justice, rights, and the rule of law."

# First-Year Students Stranded Amid Uncertainty Over Tuition Reductions

By: Emily Chebet  
@themtkenyatimes

Confusion has gripped thousands of first-year university students and their parents as the government's recently announced review of tuition fees—expected to cut costs by between 15 and 40 percent—is yet to reflect in many institutions' fee structures.

Although the Ministry of Education assured that the adjustments had been finalized, most universities are still unable to provide clear details on the revised fees, leaving many students uncertain about how much they are required to pay as admissions for new learners begin this week.

Education Cabinet Secretary Migos Ogamba confirmed that the ministry had shared the necessary data with universities, noting that the process of uploading the new fee structures onto student portals was still ongoing.

ing.

"On Friday the data got ready. This is the time universities are now feeding that data, and in a number of institutions, the process has not been completed. That is where we are having confusion, with students saying they cannot yet see the changes," said Ogamba.

The delays have left some families stranded. Twenty-year-old Collins Barare from Isecha, Kitutu Chache North in Kisii County, has been admitted to Tom Mboya University to pursue a Bachelor of Education degree. However, his family remains in the dark about the exact amount of tuition he should pay, weeks after the government announced the fee cuts.

"I applied for HELB and a scholarship and was told my applications were successful, but I don't know how much I've been allocated. Even the bands are not clear. Right now, I don't know if I will be able to join," said Barare.

His mother, Naomi Kwamboka, expressed frustration, citing financial difficulties. "We don't know how much we are supposed to pay, and even if we did, I don't have the money. I haven't managed to get hostel fees either. I already sent my other child to Nairobi to work as a maid so she can help pay school fees," she said.

Continuing students are also affected. At Kisii University, some students say the reductions have not been reflected in their accounts, while others report receiving some relief. "Personally, I haven't seen any changes in my portal, but I'm hopeful," said Dickson Odhiambo. His colleague Kennedy Owino, however, noted, "My fees have been reduced and it's a big relief. We've started to see the benefits."

In Nyeri, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology has already informed continuing students that they will not issue updated fee structures until the



government confirms individual allocations.

Despite the delays, CS Ogamba reassured students that no deserving learner would be left behind under the new funding model. He added that the government had created a five-week window for students to raise complaints in case of errors in their allocations.

"Where there is an error or incorrect information, there will be room for appeal so that fees can be reviewed. The purpose of the student-centered model is to ensure that every student who deserves government support receives it, and we are determined to see that through," he said.

# CS Koinange Champions Laikipia As Ideal Devolution Conference Host

By: Fatuma Rashid  
 @themtkenyatimes

Laikipia County should host a future Devolution Conference, County Secretary Koinange Wahome has proposed.

Koinange expressed confidence that the county has the facilities and infrastructure to host the high-profile biannual event.

“With our vibrant economy, rich culture, and warm hospitality, we are ready to welcome Kenya and the world to experience Devolution in action, the Laikipia way,” he said.

Reviewing the just concluded 9th Devolution Conference in Homa Bay County, Koinange described the forum as a valuable platform for exchanging ideas, innovations, and experiences from across the 47 counties.

Kwale County hosted the inaugural forum in 2014, followed by Kisumu in 2015, Meru in 2016, Nakuru in 2017, Kakamega in 2018, Kirinyaga in 2019, Makueni in 2021 and Uasin Gishu in 2023. The first seven con-

ferences were held annually, with the Uasin Gishu event marking the transition to a biennial convening.

He noted that counties are learning from each other’s successes and challenges to improve service delivery.

“Beyond the knowledge shared, hosting the forum has brought undeniable economic benefits to Homa Bay,” he said.

He cited increased business for local hotels, restaurants, and transport services, infrastructure upgrades, and greater exposure for the county’s tourism and investment potential.

Koinange stressed that devolution was about more than shifting power from Nairobi and was aimed at unlocking the full economic potential of counties.

He said Laikipia’s strengths include fertile land, a favorable climate, scenic waterfalls, forests, wildlife, a rich cultural heritage, world-class hotels and lodges, and a strategic location.

However, he questioned whether counties were fully exploiting their resources to create jobs, attract investors, and boost local revenue.

According to Koinange, economic



Laikipia County Secretary Koinange Wahome in Homa Bay. Photo/Courtesy

empowerment starts with recognizing available resources, adding value to them, and building vibrant markets around them.

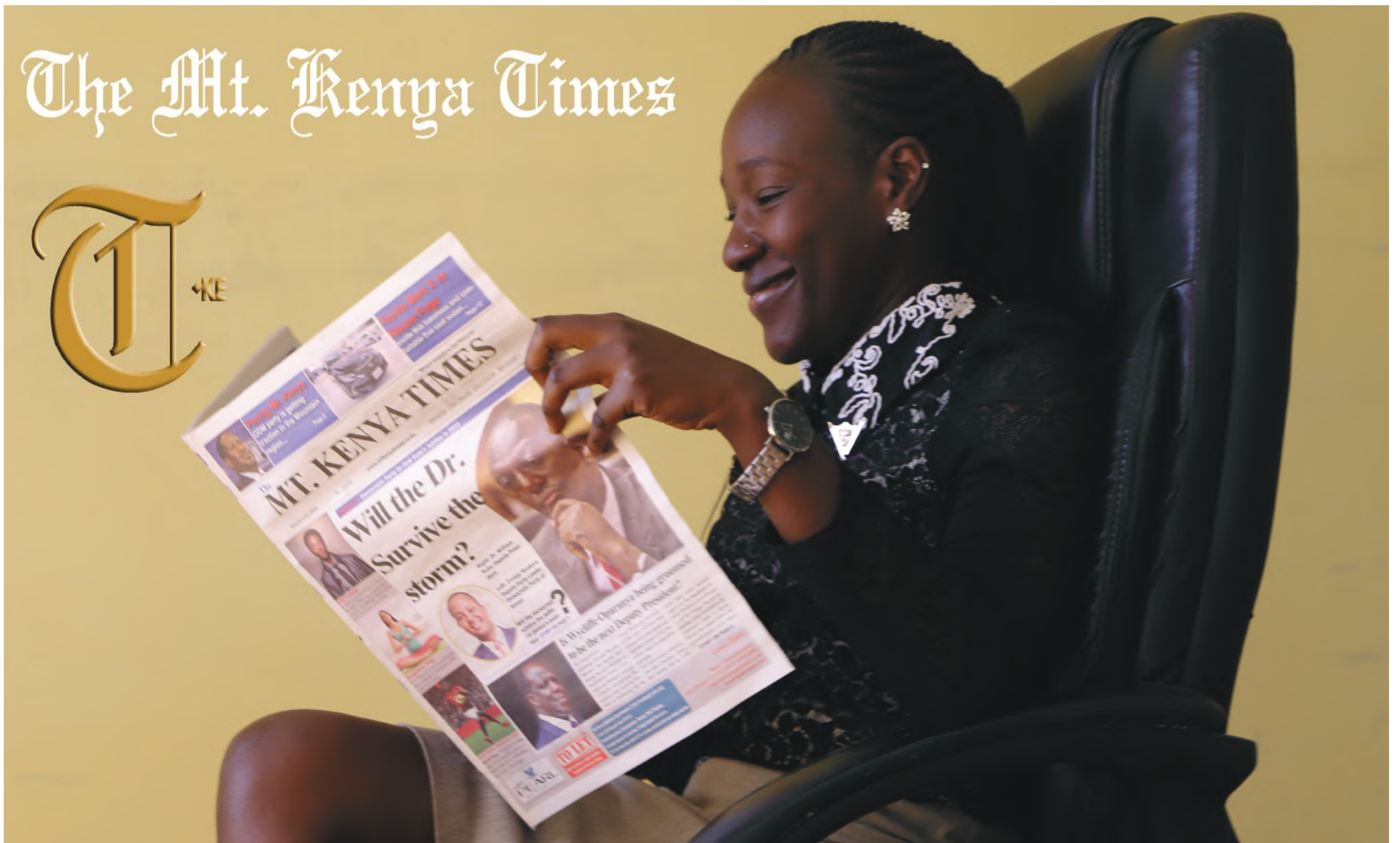
He called for sound policies, strong partnerships, and active community participation to grow county econo-

mies and reduce overreliance on national allocations.

“This is proof that devolution is not just about governance but also about spurring local economic growth,” he said.

Counties hosting the Devolution

Conference are selected based on development challenges, equity focus, logistical capacity, and stakeholder consensus, with rotation ensuring diverse representation.



# Nurse Shortage Jeopardises Newborn Care In Kenyan Hospitals, Study Shows

By: Naif Rashid  
@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- According to the research, nurses in newborn units were often responsible for more than 25 babies during a single shift, leaving them with an average of only 30 minutes per baby in 12 hours. International standards recommend no more than four infants per nurse to ensure safety and quality care.
- The study warned that such ratios mean babies receive only a fraction of the monitoring, feeding support, and infection control they require, raising the risk of preventable deaths.
- It further highlighted that while equipment such as incubators, oxygen concentrators and monitors are increasingly available, these technologies cannot function without skilled and attentive staff.

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) has sounded an alarm over the severe nurses' shortage in the country's public hospitals, warning that the crisis is undermining care for sick and premature newborns despite the availability of advanced medical technologies.

The findings were presented by Dr. Michuki Maina from the Harnessing Innovation in Global Health for Quality Care (HIGH-Q) project, which assessed neonatal services in eight county hospitals that are part of the Clinical Information Network where the Newborn Essential Solutions and Technologies (NEST 360°) programme has been introduced.

According to the research, nurses in newborn units were often responsible for more than 25 babies during a single shift, leaving them with an average of only 30 minutes per baby in 12 hours. International standards recommend no more than four infants per nurse to ensure safety and quality care.

The study warned that such ratios mean babies receive only a fraction of the monitoring, feeding support, and infection control they require, raising the risk of preventable deaths.

It further highlighted that while equipment such as incubators, oxygen concentrators and monitors are increasingly available, these technologies cannot function without skilled and attentive staff.

"A piece of equipment cannot provide comfort, feed a baby or reassure a mother. Without adequate nursing support, the promise of technology will remain unfulfilled," said Dr. Maina.

Overcrowding was identified as a major concern in most of the hospitals studied. Some neonatal units were

designed for fewer than 15 babies but were routinely accommodating more than 40. In such conditions, infection control becomes difficult, and families struggle to find space.

The absence of private areas forces mothers to improvise in open wards, undermining their dignity and exposing them to stigma.

The research further revealed the shortage was taking toll on nurses themselves, who reported stress, exhaustion and emotional fatigue. Many struggled to balance life-saving tasks such as resuscitation and administering medication with basic caregiving responsibilities.

Some withdrew emotionally as a coping mechanism, focusing only on essential tasks. Mothers in the study reported feeling neglected, confused and anxious due to limited communication with the overstretched staff.

Principal Investigator Prof. Mike English said the findings give the clearest picture yet of the realities inside Kenyan newborn units.

"For the first time we have a detailed understanding of the challenges faced by nurses and the effects of very high workloads on their ability to care for sick newborns, use new equipment effectively and support mothers and families. Put simply, it will be hard to advance quality of care to the level we all want to see without improving nurse staffing and the wards in which doctors, nurses and mothers must work together," said Prof. English.

The project piloted several strategies to address these challenges. Modest increases in nurse numbers improved teamwork and slightly increased time spent with each baby, but staffing re-

mained far below safe international thresholds.

The introduction of ward assistants to handle tasks such as cleaning, weighing babies, and assisting mothers helped reduce the burden on nurses and improved infection control.

Training nurses in communication skills was also found to improve self-awareness and relationships with parents and colleagues, making mothers feel more supported.

Researchers recommended urgent measures including hiring more nurses, redesigning newborn wards to improve efficiency and respect for patients, formalising the role of ward assistants, and incorporating emotional and communication skills into routine training.

They warned that failing to address workforce shortages would jeopardise Kenya's progress towards reducing neonatal mortality.

KEMRI Director General Prof. Elijah Songok described the report as a wake-up call.

"Workforce development is central to building a resilient health system. We hope these findings will guide efforts in strengthening our workforce, improving hospital environments and ensuring every newborn receives the quality care they deserve," said Prof. Songok.

Kenya continues to record high neonatal mortality rates, with 19 deaths per 1,000 live births according to the 2022 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey.

The government has committed to reducing this to 12 deaths per 1,000 by 2030 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Experts say reaching this target will require significant investment in health workers, par-

ticularly nurses, who form the backbone of newborn care.

Globally, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that low- and middle-income countries strengthen both infrastructure and human resources to address newborn survival.

Kenya has made strides by adopting technologies such as incubators and continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) devices through partnerships like NEST 360°, but experts caution that without adequate staffing, these tools cannot deliver their full impact.

The HIGH-Q project is a collaboration between KEMRI-Wellcome, the Kenya Paediatric Research Consortium (KEPRECON) and the University of Oxford. It is funded by the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Research through international development assistance.

Researchers emphasised that newborn survival depends not only on machines but also on the hands-on care and emotional support provided by nurses and mothers.

"Technology is important, but it cannot replace the watchful presence of a nurse at a baby's bedside," said Dr. Maina.

As Kenya works to strengthen its health system, the study underscores the urgent need to address human resource gaps in neonatal care. Without immediate action, experts warn, thousands of newborns will continue to die from preventable causes despite the presence of modern equipment in hospitals.

# Nakuru County Working On Policy Shift Towards Turning Waste Into Wealth

By: Esther Mwangi and Lucy Mukui

[@themkenyatimes](#)

The County Government of Nakuru is reviewing both its Waste Management Act of 2021 and the county's Waste Management Policy Framework to help identify existing gaps and develop new policies that are comprehensive, enforceable, and aligned with modern challenges.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water, Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Natural Resources, Dr Nelson Maara said that some of the gaps flagged in both the legal and policy frameworks were in the implementation phase and included capacity, financial and enforcement challenges.

The CECM indicated that at the core of proposed amendments to the two documents was promotion of circular economy practices for green growth through inculcation of responsible public behavior in waste management.

He added that the ultimate goal in the legal and policy framework review was to have a clean and healthy environment and create job opportunities in the green economy.

Dr. Maara went on to say that the adjustments in the documents would promote a transition that involves citizens actively participating in waste management by segregating waste at the source, using designated bins for different waste types and recognizing the value in discarded materials.

He further explained that the documents were rooting for a circular economy approach to waste management, which ensures that almost all the waste generated is treated as a resource so that there is nothing, or very little waste is taken to the dumpsite.

"This is not just another attempt at a clean-up campaign. It's a strategic shift, an environmental and economic revolution. We are redefining waste and turning it into opportunities, particularly for our young people," the CECM said.

The CECM made the remarks during a stakeholder's workshop to review the two documents in an event that brought together various professionals including legal experts, media practitioners, environmental specialists, civil society groups and private sector players.

The County official pledged that they would integrate all stakeholder perspectives and views from public participation forums to fuse inclusive and effective solutions into the documents.

He emphasized the importance of updating the current legal and policy frameworks to respond to the dynamic environmental challenges the county faces saying that the proposed legal and policy structures promoted innovation and harmonized the County's waste disposal regulations with global frameworks like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement.



The review, he added plays a critical role in ensuring environmental policies remained relevant and responsive to emerging needs adding that the outcome of the review exercise was expected to enhance Nakuru County's environmental governance and set a benchmark for sustainable waste management practices in the country as a whole.

He noted that effective waste management was critical not only for environmental conservation but also for public health and sustainable development. "This review is not just a legal obligation; it is a strategic step to improve our urban hygiene, reduce pollution, and create green jobs through circular economy models," said Dr. Maara.

The CECM underscored the importance of actively embracing technology-driven solutions to transform waste into economic empowerment and environmental conservation opportunities. He said by investing in modern solid waste disposal, wastewater treatment, responsible waste management policies, and circular economy initiatives, the County would be creating a more sustainable future that benefits both people and the planet.

If the new legal and policy frameworks are approved, waste will be segregated, that is putting organic waste separately, plastic waste separately, hazardous waste separately and each put in clearly marked colour-coded bins or bags. He nevertheless added that Nakuru had made some progress in the shift towards a circular economy where a number of start-up recycling companies were turning plastic waste into products like plastic poles, bricks, egg trays and carpets.

Dr Maara said a review of waste management and its policy framework was essential to address modern challenges like increased waste generation due to urbanization and industrialization, inadequate infrastructure and environmental concerns.

He emphasized the importance of adapting the legal and policy framework to address rapid urbanization, population growth, and technological advancements.

The CECM noted that waste, when managed effectively, could be a valuable resource for producing energy, creating compost, and recovering materials for recycling. Investing in modern waste management technologies and infrastructure, he said, could create new jobs and business opportunities in the waste management sector.

He reiterated the County's commitment to aligning with national and global environmental goals, especially in enhancing circular economy principles and community involvement.

Past inventories estimate that 60 percent to 70 percent of waste generated in Nakuru is organic, 20 percent plastic, 10 percent paper, 1 percent medical waste and 2 percent metal.

Unfortunately, most waste is mixed together and taken to dumpsites or left uncollected, clogging waterways, attracting disease-causing vectors and polluting the environment.

Some of the reasons for littering according to Dr Maara was because the items were considered to be of little value. Further the people's attitude while littering, he added was that the county government would clean it up and dispose of it appropriately.

Dr Maara stated that as the scale of urbanization surges, waste management was increasingly posing growing socio-economic, environmental and institutional challenges in Nakuru prompting the devolved unit's administration to consider reviewing both its legal and policy documents.

Key focus areas for the review included waste collection, disposal,

recycling, climate change adaptation, and incorporating circular economy principles.

Director for Environment and Climate Change Ms Grace Karanja pointed out that new waste streams (e.g., electronic waste, microplastics) and evolving technologies required updated regulations.

She stated that the proposed changes root for circular models that prioritize the reuse and recycling of materials, reducing the need for extraction of new resources. Reducing waste volumes and promoting recycling the Director indicated can lead to significant cost savings for counties through reduced waste management expenses.

"The circular economy creates opportunities for new jobs across various stages of the waste management value chain, such as collection, sorting, recycling, and processing," stated Ms Karanja

She noted that the review marked a crucial step in reinforcing policy frameworks and practical actions that safeguard the environment while creating green jobs.

In his presentation on behalf of the Kenya Climate Innovation Center (KCIC), Mr Vincent Okaya underlined the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in transforming waste management practices.

He reiterated KCIC's commitment to supporting climate-smart solutions that benefit both the environment and local communities.

"The Kenya Climate Innovation Center continues to provide technical and financial support to eco-enterprises across the county. This includes initiatives in composting, plastic recycling, clean energy, and green manufacturing," Mr Okaya noted.

He pledged that KCIC would continue working with county governments in building sustainable systems that are community-driven.

## Worth Noting:

- The CECM indicated that at the core of proposed amendments to the two documents was promotion of circular economy practices for green growth through inculcation of responsible public behavior in waste management.
- He added that the ultimate goal in the legal and policy framework review was to have a clean and healthy environment and create job opportunities in the green economy.
- Dr. Maara went on to say that the adjustments in the documents would promote a transition that involves citizens actively participating in waste management by segregating waste at the source, using designated bins for different waste types and recognizing the value in discarded materials.

# KU Medical Students Finally Admitted To KUTRRH After 5-Year Standoff

By: John Kamau  
 @themkenyatimes

After more than five years of a protracted stalemate, Kenyatta University (KU) medical students have finally been granted access to the Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral and Research Hospital (KUTRRH) for clinical training.

The breakthrough ends years of wrangling between the university and the hospital management, with the institution accusing the referral facility of shutting out its students despite being established primarily as a teaching hospital for KU's medical school.

Yesterday, excitement was palpable as the first batch of 200 medical students reported for induction at the level six facility, marking what many described as the dawn of a new era for medical training at KU.

Student leaders welcomed the development, saying it would ease the burden they had faced while seeking attachments in other hospitals.

For years, the learners relied heavily on the Kiambu Level Five Hospital for clinical rotations, but this had become untenable following frequent doctors' strikes that left students stranded without patients or supervisors.

Fred Latandi Ondieki, the chairman of KU's Social Welfare and Co-curricular Activities and a fifth-year medicine student, said the stalemate had caused serious delays in their academic progression.

"This is a huge relief for us as medical students because KUTRRH has better facilities to help us in exams and also finalize our course. We thank the hospital management and other relevant government arms for unlocking this stalemate," said Ondieki.

His colleagues Vincent Ochieng and Karen Wanjiru, both members of the Medical School Congress, echoed his sentiments, noting that the move would ensure students completed their studies on time without unnecessary disruptions.

"This hospital was established mainly as a teaching facility for KU medical students. We are happy that finally, we are here," said Ochieng.

KUTRRH Chief Executive Officer Dr. Zainab Gura described the admission of the students as a "major milestone" that affirms one of the hospital's core mandates providing training opportunities for KU students.

"About 100 learners reported on the first day, but beginning September we will be able to accommodate all the medical students from year three to year six. This marks a significant milestone after various discussions between the two institutions culminated in the admission of the first batch of trainees. We look forward to continuous collaboration going forward," Dr. Gura told journalists in an interview.

The tussle between KU and KUTRRH had previously attracted the attention of various government bodies, including the National Assembly and Senate Health Committees, which were forced to intervene on several occasions to broker a solution.

Education stakeholders and parents had also raised concern over the impasse, warning that prolonged delays in clinical training risked jeopardizing the future of hundreds of students pursuing medicine and related disciplines at KU.

With the standoff now resolved, students, faculty, and administrators expressed optimism that the partnership will not only enhance the quality of medical training but also strengthen healthcare delivery in the country.

"This is not just about students, it is also about patients who will now benefit from improved care as trainees gain practical skills in a modern referral hospital," stated Wanjiru.

The integration of KU medical students into KUTRRH is expected to be fully rolled out by the start of the next academic year in September.



Kenyatta University medical students at KUTRRH at the start of their clinical rotations.



Kenyatta University students at KUTRRH yesterday.



KUTRRH Board Chairperson Dr Zainab Gura..

## You Are What I Need, My Love



In silence, your name breathes through my soul,  
A whisper stronger than thunder's roll.  
You are the dawn that heals my night,  
The tender flame that gives me light.

Through storm and shadow, near or far,  
You're my compass, my north star.  
Not just a dream, not just a spark,  
You are my shelter in the dark.

I do not need riches or skies above,  
Because you are what I need, my love.  
Your smile, your voice – my sweetest grace,  
My heart is home in your embrace.

No words can match what you've become,  
A song to which my heart will hum.  
You are the rhythm, the life, the tune,  
The sun that rises in my moon.

Forever mine, no need to roam,  
You are my love, my heart, my home.

By: The English Language Science Teacher  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abdurulov  
Nuriddinjon, English Science Science Teacher  
of School 41. Out of Preschool and School  
Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan

## Motherhood And Academia: Dreams Born In Silent Nights



By: Zulaikho Zarfullayeva  
Born on September 15, 1995, in Tashkent,  
Uzbekistan.  
Recipient of the Presidential Scholarship of  
the Republic of Uzbekistan.

At night, I hold my baby close, gently rocking  
them to sleep. Sometimes there's a book in my  
hand, sometimes silent tears in my eyes. In those  
quiet hours, I discovered something profound:  
strength. Motherhood and academia – they  
are not in conflict; they are companions on the  
same journey. I am a mother of two. And at the  
same time – a researcher, a student, a lecturer.  
Balancing these roles is far from easy. But the  
path I chose is not only for myself. It's for the  
little eyes watching me grow, for the daughters  
and sons of tomorrow, and for the society I  
want to help shape. Every night is a new test.  
On one hand, a sleepless infant. On the other,  
an unfinished academic paper, pending deadlines,  
thoughts swirling in my head. But within those  
pressures, I find purpose. Because my dreams  
are not mine alone – they are the dreams of  
thousands of women like me.  
One day, I received a call: I had been accepted

into the prestigious "PhD Sari Qadam" (A Step  
Towards PhD) project, initiated by the Youth  
Affairs Agency of Uzbekistan. It wasn't just  
a phone call – it was the unlocking of a long-  
shelved dream. Through this program, I received  
advanced training in writing research articles,  
conducting international-standard academic work,  
and promoting research on global platforms.

Today, I stand shoulder to shoulder with  
incredible women who, like me, are balancing  
families, careers, and scientific pursuits. We  
exchange ideas, encourage one another, and  
most importantly, we prove that women – when  
supported – can change not only their lives but  
the future of entire communities.

In Uzbekistan, the government has taken  
significant steps to support women in education  
and research. For instance, the tuition fees of  
women admitted to master's programs on a  
contract basis are now covered by the state.  
This has reignited hope in thousands of women  
who thought their academic journeys were over.  
Furthermore, an additional 100 PhD quotas were  
allocated specifically for women researchers –  
a powerful statement of belief in women's  
academic potential.

Thanks to these reforms, I now write research  
articles for international journals, speak at  
academic events, and contribute to the global  
conversation in my field. All of this began with  
a small light in a dark room – a baby in my arms  
and a book on my lap.

I truly believe: when a woman is educated, a  
generation transforms. When a mother pursues  
knowledge, her children grow up with learning as  
a natural part of life. The legacy of knowledge  
is the most powerful gift one can leave behind  
– and women are often the ones to pass it  
forward.

## The Gift Of Being There



You need not climb the mountains in their  
name,  
Nor fight their battles, carry their entire load.  
Just walk beside them, softly, not for fame,  
And share your light when darkness takes their  
road.

A listening ear can calm a troubled mind,

A quiet word may plant a hopeful seed.  
A story, thought, or moment warm and kind,  
Could be the very thing they truly need.

For hearts once lost may find their way again,  
With someone near who says, "I'm here for  
you."

They'll rise, they'll run, and leave behind their  
pain—  
And chase the dreams they once forgot to do.

In helping them, you'll find your own path too,  
For every lifted soul lifts part of you.

V Durgadevi  
BT Assistant  
GHS Nesar  
Tiruvannamalai District

## It Doesn't Matter Where We Reside



It doesn't matter where we reside,  
What matters most is how we live inside,  
A smile on our face, a gentle look,  
A good heart, and a clean place

Heaven is not a place, but a state of mind,  
Created by love, kindness, and peace  
We don't live for others, we live for ourselves,  
And find happiness in the simple wealth.

Hardly anyone cares where we live,

It's how we live that our life can give,  
Simple or luxurious, it's not a matter  
Happiness and kindness matter so much

A big house or small, a village or town,  
It's not the place, but the love is important  
Love, kindness, sympathy, care, and concern,  
These are the things that make life truly  
wonderful

So let's focus on living with love and light,  
And transform our life into a precious delight,  
For it's not where we live, but how we live,  
That truly matters, and the love we give.

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

## Parents



Parents are precious,  
Parents are kind,  
Parents are caring,  
Parents are radiant.

For their child,  
They do whatever they wish.  
For the child's perfection,  
They give their knowledge.

One gave white milk,  
One gave upbringing,  
Both are great beings,  
One is the gardener, one the garden.

Rasulova Rukhshona  
She was born on October 16, 2008 in  
Rishton district, Fergana region.  
Currently, she is a student of grade 11 B  
of secondary school No. 34.

About 20 of his creative works have  
been published in foreign journals. His  
creative works and articles have been  
published in Germany, the USA, Kenya,  
Albania, and the UK, and are indexed on  
Google.

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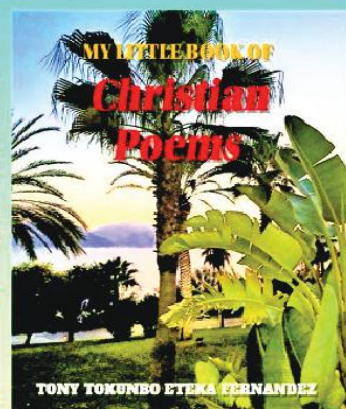
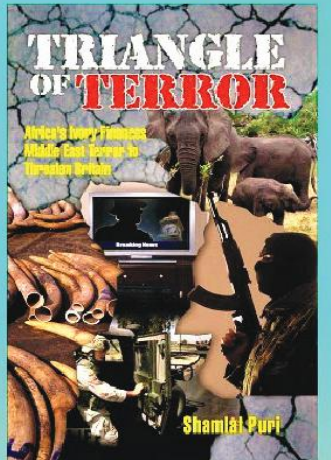
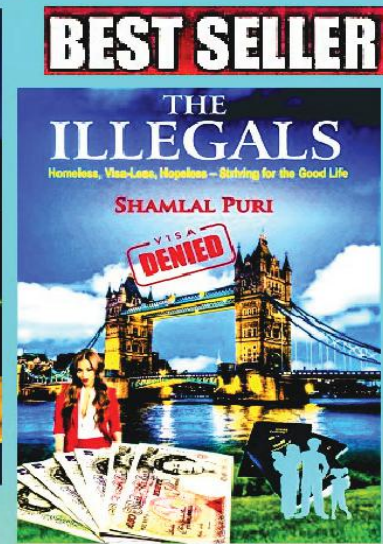
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# Tea Auction: Farmers Earn Over KSh882 Million In Weekly Sale

By: Morris Githenya  
@themtkenyatimes

Tea farmers earned over KSh882 million for the sale of about 3.5 million kilograms at the Mombasa Auction last week.

This a rise compared to the previous weeks KSh772 million from 3.2 million kilograms.

A report from the Tea Brokers East Africa Limited (TBEAL) shows that Mununga fetched KSh26.4 Million from the sale of 69,968kgs, Gathuthi Sh10.5 million (32,160kgs), Kiegoi Sh14.8 million (46,730kgs), Rukuriri Sh 18.2 million (57,968kgs), Gacharage Sh 7 million (22,434kgs).

Others factories earned; Kathangariri Sh25 million (80,160kgs), Kimunye Sh48.5 million (156,967kgs), Imenti Sh 16.3 million (53,232kgs), Mungania Sh 12.3 million (40,240kgs) and Ngere Sh31.7 million from (103,703Kgs).

The figures indicate that the factories achieved the premium price of between Sh352 and Sh306 per kilo-

gramme at the auction.

“The product at the auction fetched an average price of Sh 305 per kilogramme. In the East of the Rift the price was Sh370, while in the west of the Rift Sh240,” read part of the report.

The report further stated that factories that offered the highest volumes at the auction were Kimunye 156,967kgs, Ngere 103,703kgs, Kionyo 122,053Kgs, Momul 140,425kgs, Michimikuru 139,856kgs, Tirgaga 101,936kgs.

The report also revealed that Kapko Factory in the West of the Rift achieved the lowest price of Sh 158 per kilogramme of 26,456kgs thus earning Sh4.1 million.

Ngere tea factory Chairman James Githinji said the farmers within the catchment have been plucking the quality tea to fetch the best prices in the local and export markets.

“The board has been working hand in hand with the farmers to ensure we achieved the highest quality to satisfy the market,” said Githinji.

In Embu, KTDA Zone six board member Enos Njeru said all the three factories; Rukuriri, Mungania and

Kathangariri achieved the best prices in the weekly market.

“The agricultural team visits the farmers to ensure production of the best quality,” said Mr Njeru, a former KTDA Holdings national chairman.

Tea Board of Kenya (TBK) director Charles Kirigwi urged the tea growers to continue producing quality tea, eyeing better prices.

“Kenya tea is of high grade thus attracting the buyers from the international markets,” said Kirigwi director representing East of Rift.

In the auction, four countries offered 6,285,129 kgs, where Kenya auctioned 4,900,028 kgs, from the KTDA factories and independent producers, Uganda 846,525 kgs, Tanzania 19,120kgs, Rwanda 470,556 kgs, and Burundi 48,900 kgs.

In the buyers category, 48 companies participated with the leading light being Aditya Birla, which bought 12,060 packages, Global tea 11,420 packages, Mitchell Cotts 9,160 packages, Mombasa Coffee 8,320 packages, James Finlay 7,100 packages



KTDA Holdings Zone 6 Director Enos Njeru addressing Rukuriri area tea farmers at Kanja village last Thursday. Photo/Courtesy.

# Tea Farmers To Improve Their Earnings After Training - Enos Njeru

By: MKT Correspondent  
@themtkenyatimes

A section of tea farmers are set to start getting higher earning following an extensive training on various issues affecting their activities.

Last week marked a vibrant and momentous occasion as KTDA leadership led by Enos Njeru witnessed a graduation ceremony for over one thousand tea farmers at Mzee Njeru Kagondus home in Kanja Village.

The graduands, drawn from the Rukuriri tea community completed comprehensive training on key areas including; Financial management and literacy, Record keeping, Agricultural diversification, Climate change mitigation, Food security, Soil conservation, Sustainable agriculture and Quality control, among others.

Njeru, a former KTDA Holdings

national chairman noted that the impactful training was made possible through the generous support of KTDA Foundation and the Mt. Kenya Sustainable Landscape and Livelihood Initiative (MSULLI).

“I warmly congratulate all the graduands for their dedication and successful completion of this important program. Your commitment to learning and adopting smart agriculture practices is a significant step in driving not only your personal growth but also the collective success of our factory, which continues to lead nationally in farmer returns,” Njeru said during the colourful ceremony.

He added, “As we look to the future, we remain focused and committed to ongoing farmer empowerment through regular training in smart and sustainable agriculture. Together, we will continue to thrive and shine in the tea business”.



# PULA In Drive To Teach Farmers Value Of Insuring Crops

By: Anne Mwale  
 @themkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

- The firm offers index-based insurance and digital services to help farmers manage risks associated with climate change, crop failure, and other factors that can impact their yields and income.
- County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services Leonard Bor indicated that through the collaboration, maize farmers who redeemed at least two bags of e-Voucher subsidized fertilizer used in planting are automatically covered by the insurance.
- Bor stated that his department in collaboration with PULA had initiated measures towards supporting farmer groups to access crop insurance services, which he noted will provide financial security, particularly to small holder growers against unpredictable risks.

Even though the majority of Kenyan farmers are aware of crop insurance and its benefits, only a few understand how it works, thus limiting their ability to make decisions with regard to its uptake.

It is against this background that an agricultural insurance and technology company has teamed up with the county government of Nakuru to promote the uptake of the insurance policy to cushion farmers against the ever-increasing risk especially in the wake of erratic climatic conditions.

As the maize harvesting season approaches, PULA has announced a partnership with the devolved unit's administration to undertake rigorous training to enable the crop's farmers understand the insurance scheme clearly and make informed decision.

The firm offers index-based insurance and digital services to help farmers manage risks associated with climate change, crop failure, and other factors that can impact their yields and income.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services Leonard Bor indicated that through the collaboration, maize farmers who redeemed at least two bags of e-Voucher subsidized fertilizer used in planting are automatically covered by the insurance.

Bor stated that his department in collaboration with PULA had initiated measures towards supporting farmer groups to access crop insurance services, which he noted will provide financial security, particularly to small holder growers against unpredictable risks.

"In the meantime, we will be conducting a sensitization campaign to create awareness about the insured maize program to ensure that every farmer understands their coverage

and how to benefit from it.

The program is tailored to enable better financial protection for vulnerable farmers and also reduce the need by both levels of government to provide financial support following natural disasters," stated the CECM.

He underscored the need for an efficient and simple communication mechanism that allows for feedback from farmers needs to be put in place in order to enable further refinement of insurance products to reflect farmers' needs, tastes and preferences.

The Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy 2017-2026 indicates that 98 percent of the country's agricultural systems are rain-fed and highly susceptible to climate change and variability.

The document indicates that smallholder farmers, who depend on rain-fed agriculture and use low-technology farming methods, are particularly vulnerable to droughts and floods, given that less than 1 per cent are currently protected by some form of insurance.

Bor stated that access to insurance helps strengthen farmers' resilience and is a useful tool to mitigate the risks that come with climate change.

They have resolved to focus on educating farmers about the importance of insurance while also bundling it with other goodies.

"It's difficult to sell insurance on its own to a farmer. So, we bundle insurance with other services. This approach, alongside other strategies, have worked well," he says.

Speaking after hosting officials of PULA who were on a courtesy call, Bor highlighted the importance of nurturing the understanding of the crop insurance's value and emphasized the need for more training and sensitization to help farmers fully appreciate insurance benefits.

PULA specifically targets small-scale farmers, who are often underserved by traditional insurance providers.

They offer insurance products at low costs, often bundled with agricultural inputs like seeds and fertilizer, making it easier for farmers to access and afford.

The company utilizes digital platforms and mobile technology to reach farmers, manage data, and streamline the insurance process.

It collaborates with various stakeholders, including banks, governments, and agricultural input companies, to expand their reach and impact.

Bor observed that smallholder farmers are the backbone of Kenya's agricultural production. However, in recent years, he noted, they have had to bear the huge risk that comes with effects of climate change.

"The weather is no longer predictable and natural disasters have become more frequent, leading to huge crop losses. We aim to address this challenge to livelihoods, our bread basket and our economy by encouraging uptake of crop insurance," Bor said.

He added "The best way to protect agricultural investments is through agriculture insurance. If anything happens to crops, farmers will receive compensation: that's the beauty of agriculture insurance."

The CECM stressed the importance of technology in simplifying insurance processes and improving accessibility for farmers.

"Through innovations, there is a need to leverage technology to simplify the distribution of insurance products, making it easier for farmers to access coverage. This is essential for the country's food security and income stability," he said.

He said that the insurance product is accessible to all categories of farmers –both small scale and large-scale farmers

According to Egerton University's Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development (TIAPD), Agriculture has become a risky enterprise due to its cyclical nature, risk of loss from drought, floods, pests and diseases, fires and natural disasters.

Research shows frequency and severity of crop failure and livestock mortality have increased over the years.

Because of the highly variable climate where any season can bring harsh conditions, farmers have been reluctant to invest in more profitable technologies and practices. This lack of investment has led to unpredictable yields, a major factor keeping farmers trapped in poverty.

The Institute notes that mitigation of these risks is a priority to reduce income loss, increase agricultural productivity and enhance farmer's well-being.

Given these growing concerns about the impact of climate change, crop insurance, though not a new concept has gained recognition and support from both public and private institutions as an important risk management tool.

Bor observed that agricultural insurance can assist farmers to access credit for inputs, do business with other value chain actors, including off-takers.

Insurance settlements can also be used to pay bills, make repairs and reinvest for faster production recovery, he added.

# Government Praises Discipline and Passion in Kenya's CHAN Success

By: oma Keziah  
 @themkenyatimes

Kenya's Harambee Stars are enjoying one of their brightest football moments in decades, after qualifying for the quarter-finals of the 2024 African Nations Championship (CHAN). Topping Group A with ten points, the national side has delivered its most significant continental success since the 1987 All-Africa Games.

Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports, Salim Mvurya, has led the nation in celebrating the team's achievement, praising the players not only for their results on the pitch but also for the unity and pride they have inspired across the country.

"The Harambee Stars have reminded us of the power of sport to bring people together. They faced seasoned opponents, carried the doubts of critics, but responded with courage, belief and resilience," he stated. Kenya's journey through what

many dubbed the "group of death" has surprised continental observers. Match after match, the team defied expectations, drawing strength from a wave of support led by President William Ruto's encouragement and the passion of Kenyan fans.

The clash with Zambia at Kasarani became a spectacle of colour and sound, with more than 26,000 supporters in the stadium and over 50,000 others following the game at official fan zones in Nairobi. Chants, songs and waves of cheering marked what Mvurya described as "a true festival of national unity."

To manage the unprecedented turnout, the Ministry of Sports worked with the County Government of Nairobi, Football Kenya Federation, Local Organizing Committee, National Police Service and private partners to set up ten official fan zones. These included Uhuru Park, Jacaranda Grounds, Dandora Stadium, Utalii Sports Grounds and others spread across the city. The move helped decongest the Kasarani venue and gave thousands of fans a safe and festive viewing experience.

"I am proud to note that both in



In picture, President William Ruto, ODM party leader Raila Odinga, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Youth Affairs Creative Economy and Sports Salim Mvurya and Harambee Stars Captain Aboud Omar, after the Harambee Stars and Zambia Match at the Kasarani Stadium in Nairobi.

Kasarani and across the fan zones, the celebrations were orderly, dignified and safe. This is proof that Kenya can host football at world-class standards," Mvurya remarked.

With the Harambee Stars now set

to face Madagascar in the quarter-finals, the Sports Cabinet Secretary has called on fans to continue rallying behind the team, urging ticket holders to fill the stadium while encouraging others to gather at the des-

ignated viewing areas.

"As we step into the next stage, let us show once again the spirit of Kenya. Together, we win," the Sports Cabinet Secretary urged.

# Nairobi Hospital Affirms Sound Financial Position Amid Court Dispute with Creditor

By: oma Keziah  
 @themkenyatimes

The Nairobi Hospital has once again reassured the public of its financial health and operational stability, even as it faces ongoing court proceedings with one of its creditors.

At a joint press briefing held by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Management, hospital leaders emphasized that the institution remains sound and continues to meet all its obligations to staff, suppliers, and patients. They described the creditor petition filed by Opticom Kenya Ltd as a legal issue under active contestation while dialogue towards an out-of-court resolution is still underway.

Chief Executive Officer Felix Osano highlighted that the hospital's ongoing modernization drive is being financed entirely from internally

generated revenue, with no external borrowing. He noted that KSh 1.5 billion has already been invested in upgrades, which include six new labour and delivery suites, a 256-slice CT scanner with advanced imaging capacity, and a state-of-the-art cardiac centre featuring the region's first biplane catheterisation laboratory.

"These developments reflect prudent financial management and a commitment to excellence in care. Each project is designed to increase capacity, improve patient outcomes, and keep us at the forefront of specialised medicine," Mr. Osano said.

Additionally, they also addressed recent concerns over service tariffs. In July, a 5 percent increase was introduced following cost analysis and benchmarking, but this prompted some insurance providers to temporarily suspend partnerships. After further talks, the hospital reversed the adjustment to allow more engagement with stakeholders. Services have since returned to the ear-



The Nairobi Hospital Board of Trustees and the Board of Management, hospital leaders during a press briefing at the Nairobi Hospital.

lier rates. "This was a goodwill decision, made to ensure patients were not inconvenienced and to foster open dialogue with insurers," Mr. Osano added.

Board Chairman Dr. Barclay Onyambu acknowledged that past decisions by former boards had strained the institution's reputation. He said

the current leadership is focused on stronger governance, greater accountability, and safeguarding the hospital's long-term mission. He pointed to the recent lifting of court-imposed restrictions as a sign of regained stability.

"This moment marks a turning point. It not only removes barriers to investment but also strengthens our

resolve to uphold the highest standards in healthcare," Dr. Onyambu said.

The Nairobi Hospital has reaffirmed its pledge to transparency, sound financial stewardship, and continuous improvement of patient services as it positions itself for the future.

# CRII Club: A Student-Led Effort To Turn Interfaith Understanding Into Action

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyentimes

**Worth Noting:**

- Unlike conventional classroom discussions on religion and culture, CRII's approach is direct and hands-on. The club organizes regular visits to a wide variety of religious institutions around Nairobi. These excursions offer students the opportunity to meet faith leaders, ask questions, and witness spiritual traditions firsthand.
- In early 2024, members visited the Hare Krishna Temple in Ngara, where they learned about the temple's teachings on selfless service. To support the temple's mission, students donated food to its community kitchen, which feeds thousands weekly.
- In November of 2024, they visited ACK Christ Church in Westlands. The club engaged with the reverend of the church and its administration, learning about their service foundations and contributed school supplies to the "Kids to Kids" program, which helps underprivileged students in the city.

Most students learn about religion from textbooks or brief assemblies. They rarely get the chance to experience it face-to-face: walking into a place of worship, hearing directly from believers, or seeing how faith shapes daily life.

That gap between classroom learning and real-world understanding is exactly what a group of Nairobi students set out to close. A group of high school students have been leading an effort to build towards interfaith awareness, called the Cultural & Religious Inclusion Initiative (CRII).

Founded and led by high school students Liam Sanders and Ben Gremley, the club seeks to bridge divides through real-world interaction. Initially starting as a passion project of learning different faiths across Nairobi, the initiative has grown to a group of youth committed to promoting understanding across religious lines through dialogue, and acts of service.

### Learning by Immersion

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### A Spirit of Service

Each CRII visit pairs cultural exchange with charitable action. Whether it's providing food donations, volunteering, or supporting education programs, service is at the heart of everything the club does.

In early 2025, the club explored Jainism during a visit to the Jain Shwetamber Munisuvratswami Temple in Parklands. They were guided through the temple's architecture and teachings on non-violence and respect for life. As a gesture of support,



the club contributed to the temple's general fund, which helps sustain both religious and charitable programs.

Afterwards, CRII students attended an open house at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Temple on Wayaki Way. Given a guided tour and introduced to faith in which many members were unfamiliar with in their school community.

### Expanding the Vision

As interest in CRII grows, the club hopes to expand its reach to other schools and religious institutions in Kenya. Plans are underway to host youth forums, launch video reflections of their visits, and build inter-school networks focused on dialogue and community service.

### A Call to Collaborate

To support or collaborate with the CRII Club Kenya: schools, organizations, and faith institutions can contact the club through these various emails.

Contact Email: [criclubkenya@gmail.com](mailto:criclubkenya@gmail.com), [info@criclubkenya.org](mailto:info@criclubkenya.org)



# The Geopolitical Realignment: A U.S. Shift and Its Ripple Effects On Ukraine



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande  
@themkenyaintimes

## Introduction

Historically, the United States has been a major supporter of Ukraine, especially since the 2014 annexation of Crimea and the full-scale invasion in 2022. The U.S. has provided billions of dollars in military, financial, and humanitarian aid. However, a change in administration, as you've described, could lead to a re-evaluation of this support.

A potential alignment of the U.S. with Russia would be a dramatic departure from decades of established policy. Such a move would likely be driven by a number of factors:

**The "America First" Doctrine and the Re-evaluation of Alliances:** The core of this geopolitical change can be traced back to the "America First" foreign policy philosophy. This approach, prioritizes domestic interests over long-standing international commitments. From this perspective, the substantial financial and military aid provided to Ukraine might be seen as a drain on U.S. resources with limited direct benefit to the American populace.

**Financial Costs:** Billions of dollars have been allocated to Ukraine in the form of military equipment, economic aid, and humanitarian assistance. A U.S. administration focused on domestic spending might view this as an unacceptable burden.

**Strategic Distraction:** Some argue that the conflict in Ukraine is a European issue and that the United States should instead focus on other geopolitical challenges, particularly those in Asia.

**The Pursuit of De-escalation:** A direct engagement with Russia, could be framed as a way to de-escalate the conflict and prevent a wider war, thus serving American interests by avoiding a direct confrontation.

This shift would naturally lead to a re-evaluation of traditional alliances, particularly NATO. If the U.S. were to withdraw its full support from Ukraine, it would send a powerful signal to other NATO members that the principle of collective defense may not be as steadfast as previously assumed.

**Ukraine's Diplomatic Pivot:** The Search for a New Patron

In the face of a potential U.S. withdrawal, Ukraine, under President Zelensky, would be forced to seek new sources of support. The most logical and significant partner is the



US President Donald Trump and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky.

European Union.

**EU as a Lifeline:** The EU has already been a major provider of financial and military aid to Ukraine. In a scenario with reduced U.S. involvement, the EU would become the primary financial and military backer for Kyiv.

**Challenges for the EU:** While the EU has the economic power to support Ukraine, it faces internal divisions. Some member states have been hesitant to provide extensive military aid, and there are concerns about the long-term economic impact of the war.

**The Role of Diplomacy:** President Zelensky's efforts to engage with EU leaders to seek an audience with the U.S. President illustrate the high-stakes diplomatic maneuvering at play. He would need to convince European leaders that their collective security is tied to Ukraine's survival and that they must use their influence to sway U.S. policy.

**The Geopolitical Chessboard:** Russia, Europe, and the U.S.

The scenario where Washington has to leave Kiev alone would be a significant victory for Russia. It would validate its strategy of outlasting Western support and could lead to a more favorable outcome in Ukraine. It would also create a rift between the U.S. and Europe, which has been a long-standing goal of Russian foreign policy.

The European Union, in turn, would be in a difficult position. It would have to choose between two unpalatable options: fully commit to a long and costly war without the full support of its most powerful ally, or acquiesce to Russian demands and risk undermining its own security and credibility.

Ultimately, this situation would represent a major realignment of global power. The post-Cold War order, characterized by U.S. leadership and a strong trans-Atlantic alliance, would be challenged, and a new, more unpredictable multipolar world could emerge.

**Russia's Strategic Gains**

A U.S. withdrawal of support for Ukraine and a pivot towards Russia would be a major strategic victory for Moscow. It would validate President Putin's long-held belief that the West's unity is fragile and that he could outlast the political will of his opponents. This shift would likely be framed by Russia as a sign of its growing global influence and the decline of American hegemony.

It would also weaken the international coalition that has imposed sanctions on Russia and provided aid to Ukraine, potentially leading to a fragmentation of the Western response and a more favorable outcome for Russia on the battlefield and at the negotiating table.

**Ukraine's Diplomatic Dilemma**

In this new geopolitical landscape, Ukraine would find itself in an ex-

tremely precarious position. The loss of its most powerful ally would be a devastating blow to its military and economic capabilities. The immediate consequence would be a desperate search for new patrons, as you've described with President Zelensky seeking European Union support.

The EU has already provided significant aid to Ukraine, but it faces several challenges in fully replacing the U.S. as a primary supporter:

**Military Capacity:** While many European countries have strong militaries, their collective power and logistical capabilities do not yet equal those of the United States. Providing the full range of military aid, from advanced weaponry to intelligence sharing, would be a major logistical and financial challenge.

**Political Unity:** The EU is a complex bloc of 27 member states, each with its own foreign policy and economic priorities. Maintaining a unified front on sanctions and aid to Ukraine could prove difficult, especially if some member states are more inclined to seek a quick resolution to the conflict.

**Economic Strain:** The war has already put a strain on European



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# The Geopolitical Realignment: A U.S. Shift and Its Ripple Effects On Ukraine

Contd from page 20

economies, particularly with regards to energy prices and inflation. Fully shouldering the financial burden of supporting Ukraine would be a significant challenge for the EU's budget and could lead to public discontent.

## The EU's Diplomatic Scramble

The image you've painted of EU leaders "running behind Zelensky to seek audience with Trump" perfectly captures the diplomatic scramble that would ensue. This situation highlights the fundamental dependence of many European nations on the United States for their security.

This would be a test of the transatlantic alliance and could force Europe to rapidly increase its own defense spending and develop a more coherent and independent foreign policy. It would also expose the vulnerabilities of a security architecture that has been largely built around U.S. leadership for decades.

In conclusion, this would not just be a policy change; it would be a major geopolitical earthquake. It would reorder alliances, challenge the principles of collective security, and force all nations to adapt to a new and more unpredictable world order. The long-term consequences of such a shift could be felt for decades to come, with potential implications for international law, global trade, and the balance of power between the world's major powers.

Based on the updated information, the geopolitical situation is already unfolding. A U.S. administration is pursuing a foreign policy that prioritizes a resolution to the Ukraine-Russia conflict, which involves pressuring Ukraine to make territorial concessions in the Donbas region in exchange for a peace agreement. This has led to a summit between the U.S. and Russian presidents and has prompted a coordinated diplomatic response from European leaders.

## The New Diplomatic Landscape

The U.S. foreign policy shift is a departure from the previous administration's approach of providing unwavering support for Ukraine's military and territorial integrity. The current strategy appears to be a form of "transactional diplomacy," where a peace deal is pursued, even if it means accepting a permanent change to Ukraine's borders. This approach is rooted in the belief that a negotiated settlement, even one with concessions, is preferable to a prolonged and costly war. The U.S. has



US President Donald Trump and Russia President Vladimir Putin



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offered to provide Ukraine with security guarantees similar to NATO's Article 5 as part of a potential deal, a move that signals a willingness to engage in a new security framework for Europe.

## The European Union's Response

European leaders are not passively reacting to this shift. They are actively engaging with both Ukraine and the U.S. to ensure their interests are not sidelined. Their actions, demonstrate a clear strategy:

**Presenting a United Front:** By joining President Zelenskyy in his meeting with the U.S. President, European leaders are signaling their collective commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and their desire for a coordinated Western approach to the conflict.

**Insisting on Core Principles:** The EU has publicly reaffirmed that borders should not be changed by force and that Ukraine has the right to choose its own alliances. This is a direct counterpoint to any peace deal that would legitimize Russia's annexation of Ukrainian territory.

**Developing an Independent Security Role:** The EU's willingness to "do its share" in providing "Arti-

cle 5-like" security guarantees for Ukraine is a significant development. It suggests that European nations are preparing to take on a more substantial role in their own security, potentially with or without full U.S. support.

## Russia's Position

Russia, for its part, has welcomed the U.S. administration's efforts to end the war, seeing it as a potential path to achieving its objectives. The proposed peace deal, which would involve Ukraine ceding territory, is a major goal for Russia. However, it's not without its own complexities, as Russia has not yet agreed to a trilateral meeting with the U.S. and Ukraine to discuss the terms. Russia's strategic objective remains to weaken the Western coalition and secure its territorial gains in Ukraine.

## Analysis of the Geopolitical Dynamics

The situation is a complex geopolitical dance where several key actors are pursuing their own interests.

**U.S. Foreign Policy:** The U.S. is seeking to de-escalate a major conflict and potentially re-align its global strategic focus. The U.S. believes a direct peace agreement is superior

to a ceasefire, which may not hold.

**Ukraine's Diplomatic Scramble:** Ukraine is trying to secure its future in a rapidly changing world. It must balance the need for peace with the imperative to defend its sovereignty. President Zelenskyy's efforts to keep the EU engaged are crucial for ensuring Ukraine is not forced into an unfavorable deal.

**EU's Dilemma:** The EU is caught between its historical reliance on the U.S. for security and the need to protect its own interests in Europe. The EU's public statements and actions suggest a move towards greater strategic autonomy and a stronger, more independent defense posture.

This scenario, represents a significant shift in the global balance of power. It challenges the foundations of the post-Cold War security architecture and could lead to a new era of international relations defined by competing visions for the future of Europe and beyond.

# SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS  
SCORES  
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SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS



Sports >> \*Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President Hussein Mohammed says President William Ruto's motivation has been a key factor in Harambee Stars' remarkable run at the African Nations Championship

## FKF Chief Hussein Lauds Ruto's Motivation In Harambee Stars' Fairytale Run



President William Ruto speaks when he met the Harambee Stars team on August 11, 2025 to congratulate them on their victory over Morocco. PHOTO | PCS

Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President Hussein Mohammed says President William Ruto's motivation has been a key factor in Harambee Stars' remarkable run at the African Nations Championship (CHAN).

The players have already reaped big rewards, each pocketing KSh 5 million in winning bonuses. This follows President Ruto's pledge of KSh 1 million per player for every victory, which he doubled to KSh 2.5 million each after Stars' crucial win over Zambia on Sunday. Hussein praised the President's gesture, noting its impact on team morale.

"That has really pushed the

players to give their all. They are very motivated and willing to go all the way to the final and win the tournament. I can say it has really been fun," said Hussein.

He also urged fans to strictly follow CAF regulations by purchasing tickets online, stressing that this is the only way to avoid further sanctions from the continental body.

"It is very important for fans to acquire tickets through the right channels. Many have fallen victim to fraud, which has caused confusion at the entrances. I appeal to them to follow the rules because there is a huge demand for tickets," Hussein added.

With the large turnout of fans,

FKF has now called on the private sector to step in and support the game, pledging transparency and accountability in managing any funds received.

"We urge them to come in large numbers and support the federation in the various projects we are running. We have a vision of taking the game to the next level. So far, they have seen what we are doing with CHAN, and I want to assure them of transparency and accountability," stated the FKF president.

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GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*The Harambee Stars will be back on home soil next month after FIFA confirmed that Kenya will host two crucial 2026 World Cup Qualifier matches at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani.

# World Cup Qualifier: Harambee Stars To Host Gambia In Nairobi



## CHAMPIONSHIP KE-TZ-UG-2024

Harambee Stars players celebrate Ryan Ogam goal, which ensured win over Zambia.

The Harambee Stars will be back on home soil next month after FIFA confirmed that Kenya will host two crucial 2026 World Cup Qualifier matches at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani.

Kenya will face The Gambia on September 5 and Seychelles on September 9 at Kasarani — a major boost, as the Stars play World Cup qualifiers at home for the first time in years.

Currently sitting fourth in Group F with six points — 10 adrift of leaders Ivory Coast — Kenya will be looking to build on their impressive CHAN 2024 exploits under new head coach Benni McCarthy.

In addition, Nairobi will host the Gambia ersus Burundi qualifier on September 9 at Nyayo Stadium, while the Harambee Stars target vital home points at Kasarani in their uphill 2026 World Cup campaign.



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# SPORTS NEWS



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BREAKING NEWS



# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



## Suzana Kelesoska A Dedicated Educator



By: Anila Bukhari

@themtkenyatimes

### Worth Noting:

- One of Suzana's greatest strengths is her ability to make learning fun and engaging. She achieves this through a variety of interactive and hands-on activities that encourage students to explore, discover, and learn. Her creative approach to teaching has been recognized and rewarded with numerous national and international awards, including awards for innovation and best teacher in the region.
- Suzana's commitment to environmental education is evident in her tireless efforts to promote sustainability and environmental awareness among her students. She believes that education is key to creating a more sustainable future and has incorporated environmental themes and activities into her teaching practice. From organizing clean-up initiatives and tree-planting activities to promoting recycling and sustainable living, Suzana's students are encouraged to become active participants in creating a better world.

Suzana Kelesoska is a highly respected and accomplished teacher and teacher mentor at the Primary School "Murat Labunishti" in Labunishta, Struga, Macedonia. With over three decades of teaching experience, Suzana has established herself as a shining example of a dedicated, innovative, and inspiring educator. Her passion for teaching and commitment to creating a dynamic and nurturing learning environment have earned her numerous accolades and recognition within the educational community.

Suzana's teaching philosophy is centered around creating a safe, motivating, and happy learning environment for her students, aged 6 to 10 years old. She believes that every child deserves a quality education that fosters their intellectual, emotional, and social growth. To achieve this, Suzana employs a range of innovative teaching methods, including the integration of digital tools, individualized approaches to each student, and a strong emphasis on environmental education.

One of Suzana's greatest strengths is her ability to make learning fun and engaging. She achieves this through a variety of interactive and hands-on activities that encourage students to explore, discover, and learn. Her creative approach to teaching has been recognized and rewarded with numerous national and international awards, including awards for innovation and best teacher in the region.

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Through her work, Suzana has demonstrated a deep understanding of the importance of education in shaping the lives of individuals and society as a whole. She believes that



Suzana Kelesoska

education should be accessible to all and that it should empower children to reach their full potential. Her motto, "The teacher does not fill the pot - he lights the spark," reflects her commitment to inspiring and motivating her students to become lifelong learners.

Suzana's professional development is ongoing, and she actively participates in numerous domestic, national, and international webinars, seminars, trainings, and conferences related to modern education, digital transformation, inclusivity, and child development. Her dedication to staying up-to-date with best practices in education has enabled her to provide high-quality learning experiences for her students.

Throughout her career, Suzana

has worked tirelessly to promote environmental awareness and sustainability among her students. She has organized a range of activities, including workshops on recycling, environmental campaigns, and visits to ecological centers. Her students have benefited greatly from these experiences, developing a deeper understanding of the importance of protecting the environment and promoting sustainability.

Suzana's approach to teaching is centered around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and she has successfully integrated these goals into her teaching practice. She encourages her students to think critically about environmental and social problems and to seek sustainable solutions. Through her work,

Suzana has inspired countless students to become active and responsible citizens who will contribute to creating a more sustainable future.

In conclusion, Suzana Kelesoska is an exceptional educator who has dedicated her career to providing high-quality learning experiences for her students. Her commitment to innovative teaching, environmental education, and sustainability has earned her numerous awards and recognition. As a teacher mentor, Suzana continues to inspire and motivate her students to become lifelong learners and active participants in creating a better world. Her legacy as a dedicated and inspiring educator will undoubtedly continue to shape the lives of countless students for years to come.