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Basic Education Principal Secretary Julius Bitok during a past event.



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Gachagua, Kalonzo, Wamalwa, Muturi In Bissil, Kajiado


By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyetimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

United Opposition leaders, Rigathi Gachagua, Kalonzo Musyoka, Eugene Wamalwa and Justin Muturi on Friday made an impromptu meet the people tour in Kajiado County's Bissil area. They condemned continued forceful take over of some lands belonging to the Maasai community by a select individuals. "Ancestral land holds profound significance for the Maa community; it is more than just property; it is the heart of their identity, livelihood, cultural traditions, and spiritual beliefs. It is simply an indomitable parental blessing!" Gachagua, the DCP Party leader said. They noted that the seizure of Maa land by those in power is a grave insult to the community and must be unequivocally condemned and exposed. They told those with an insatiable appetite for land to be ashamed of their actions and disregard for rightful ownership of land. They reiterated their unwavering commitment to building a better, more equitable country, which they said remains unstoppable.



Editor's Desk




The Mt. Kenya Times

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Dedan Kimathi Foundation has pledged to be donating one million trees seedlings towards the restoration of Mau Forest Complex. The Foundation CEO Ms Evelyn Kimathi says the annual donation is expected to boost the vital ecosystem that is the source of 12 major rivers. She noted that the ecosystem is an economic engine through hydro-electric power generation, tourism and agriculture. It is a significant carbon reservoir of unmatched contribution in climate change mitigation in the region.

She further observed that a degraded Mau is not only a loss of economic muscle but also a threat to biodiversity, wildlife endangerment and human life. She disclosed that the foundation is committed to work in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change & Forestry and the Mau Complex Integrated Conservation and Livelihood Improvement Program' (MFC-ICLIP) patron Eng. Dr. Festus Ng'eno to restore the degraded parts of ecosystem.

In the picture, Ms Kimathi (left) is with Environment Cabinet Secretary Deborah Barasa during a past function



Othaya constituency MP Wambugu Wainaina alias Kirima on Friday hosted Sen Wahome Wamatinga and MPs Eric Wamumbi (Mathira), Maina Mathenge (Nyeri Town), Njoroge Wainaina (Kieni) alongside several MCAs where they conducted Karima Ward development engagement session at Witima. Local residents pointed out various issues that they would like the government to act on, among them water, roads and electrification projects. The leaders pledged to lobby for the issues as they urged the residents to register with SHA. The Witima meeting is among several others that the area MP has hosted in the last few weeks. Two weeks ago, he hosted the Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki for the local BodaBoda empowerment programme. A few days ago, he led several MPs in launching construction of modern markets at Ndunyu and Kagicha areas in Mahiga and Chinga wards.

In the picture: From left; Njoroge Wainaina, Wahome Wamatinga, Wambugu Wainaina, Maina Mathenge and Eric Wamumbi



The Police department in Isiolo County has launched a toll-free emergency hotline and opened a joint command centre in a bid to fight incidents of insecurity reported in the area. Residents can now report crimes and emergencies free of charge, following the introduction of the hotline and the command centre by the police in collaboration with the Regional Pastoralist Peace Link organisation. The new emergency number which will be operational 24 hours a day is 0800 722 180, allowing members of the public to report any incidents, receive emergency assistance, and access timely responses. Isiolo Deputy County Commissioner Edwin Kuria said the initiative is aimed at strengthening community policing and improving emergency response mechanisms within the county.



The 2025 Safari Sevens has received a major boost with Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL), through its flagship brand Tusker, announcing a Sh22 million sponsorship for the tournament. The deal cements Tusker's role as the official alcoholic beverage and entertainment partner for the three-day event set for October 10 -12 at the Nyayo National Stadium, Nairobi. The 2025 tournament will feature 20 teams: 12 men's and 8 women's sides, promising fans a weekend of top-tier rugby action. Kenya Rugby Union CEO, Thomas Odundo while speaking during the event at the RFUEA Ground, Nairobi on Friday welcomed the sponsorship, noting its significance to the tournament's success.



Family Bank has extended a KSh26.6 million facility to Rembo Classic Sacco to finance the acquisition of five brand-new public service vehicles from KCI Isuzu. The funding will strengthen the Sacco's capacity to provide safe, reliable, and efficient transport services to thousands of commuters across Nairobi and its surrounding regions. Speaking during the flag-off event, Family Bank Chief Retail Officer, Phyllis Kimani, reaffirmed the Bank's commitment to supporting SMEs, who play a central role in driving Kenya's economy. The partnership underscores the bank's broader strategy to support the SME sector by offering affordable, tailor-made solutions that foster business growth, ensure sustainability, and create long-term socio-economic impact.

NEWS PAPER

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Stay In Haiti Or Come Home? Kenyan Officers Await Decision On Their Fate After UN Vote

By: Bruhan Makong
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The resolution, backed by 12 members with three abstentions—China, Russia, and Pakistan—authorized the GSF for an initial 12 months with more than 5,500 personnel, five times the size of the MSS.
- Unlike the MSS, which largely supported the Haitian National Police, the GSF will operate under a Chapter VII mandate, enabling it to conduct proactive counter-gang operations, secure key infrastructure, and restore state control.

Kenya's role in gang-ravaged Haiti stands at a crossroads after the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) voted to wind down the Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission and replace it with a stronger Gang Suppression Force (GSF).

The MSS officially ended on October 2 following the adoption of Resolution 2793, leaving questions over whether Nairobi's 735 deployed officers will return home or integrate into the new GSF.

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Unlike the MSS, which largely supported the Haitian National Police, the GSF will operate under a Chapter VII mandate, enabling it to conduct proactive counter-gang operations, secure key infrastructure, and restore state control.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio hailed the vote as "an important step" toward stabilizing Haiti.

"This is a critical effort to restore order, protect lives, and support Haiti's path to stability and democracy," Rubio said, adding that the new mission would rely on international burden-sharing.

Mission lacked the scale

US Ambassador to the UN Mike Waltz praised Kenya and other MSS contributors—including Jamaica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize, the Bahamas, and Canada—for their sacrifices, but admitted the MSS "lacked the scale, scope, and resources" to dismantle Haiti's armed gangs.

Kenya, which deployed its first contingent in June 2025, has borne the



Unlike the MSS, which largely supported the Haitian National Police, the GSF will operate under a Chapter VII mandate, enabling it to conduct proactive counter-gang operations, secure key infrastructure, and restore state control/FILE/NPS

brunt of the mission, providing nearly three-quarters of its manpower.

But Nairobi has voiced frustration over broken donor promises and inadequate equipment, with President William Ruto recently warning that the MSS was operating at just 40 percent capacity.

The deployment has also come at a human cost. Kenya has lost three officers in Haiti, including one killed in an ambush earlier this year.

MFA silent on next steps

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Korir Sing'oei welcomed the UNSC's resolution on Thursday but stopped short of confirming Kenya's next steps.

"This is a policy decision to be made in due course and will be communicated," he said, noting that the transition reflects lessons learned from the MSS. President Ruto has previously expressed willingness for Kenya to remain engaged in Haiti but stressed that any successor mission must be backed by predictable resources, reliable logistics, and a clear mandate.

"If we are sending an additional security team to Haiti, the mandate must be clear ... and we must have a predictable resource package," he said, adding that Kenya would support the transition to the GSF but insisted that "the international community must no longer fail the Haitian people."

Back home, however, calls are mounting for the officers to be recalled. For-

mer Senior Economic Adviser to the President Moses Kuria welcomed the UNSC decision, describing it as the end of Kenya's "misadventure" in the Caribbean.

He urged Inspector General of Police Douglas Kanja to redeploy returning officers to Nairobi's streets to tackle rising insecurity.

"I appeal to the Inspector General to deploy the returning forces to the streets of Nairobi to put an end to daylight muggings and pickpocketings," Kuria said.

For now, Kenya's 735 officers remain stationed in Port-au-Prince, awaiting policy guidance from Nairobi on whether they will integrate into the GSF or return home.

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10th October Is A True Indicator: We Are In An Integrity Crisis, Not An Environment Crisis

By: Davidson Otieno Omondi
@themtkenyatimes

As 10th October approaches, a strange national amnesia seems to set in. On our calendars, the day is marked as Mazingira Day, a public holiday constitutionally dedicated to environmental consciousness. Yet, in our national consciousness, the day is becoming a ghost.

In recent weeks, I have been going around, trying to help organise community cleanup and tree-growing events to honour the spirit of this day. The response has been a deafening silence. There are no budgets, no official plans, no coordinated efforts. For many institutions, public and private, the most important environmental day on our national calendar simply does not exist.

This collective amnesia is not a simple oversight; it is the most telling symptom of a much deeper national sickness. The truth is, Kenya is not in an environmental crisis; we are in a profound integrity crisis.

An environmental crisis suggests

a lack of solutions or resources. We have plenty of both. An integrity crisis, however, is a catastrophic gap between what we say and what we do. It is a culture of paper promises and photogenic performances that have no bearing on reality. The slow erasure of Mazingira Day is the perfect symbol of this rot. We have the holiday on the books -the promise- but we have abandoned the practice.

This integrity gap is everywhere. We are a nation that champions the presidential directive to plant 15 billion trees, a noble and necessary goal. Yet, we celebrate the one-day tree-planting photo-op, and then fail to budget for the long-term, unglamorous work of watering and protection, resulting in what I call “paper forests” that exist only in annual reports. This is a failure of integrity.

On the global stage, we make bold climate pledges. At home, our enforcement of environmental laws remains tragically weak. The Sustainable Waste Management Act of 2022 is a brilliant piece of legislation, but a walk through any town shows the massive gap between its written ambition and the reality on our streets.

This is not just a feeling; it is a



measurable phenomenon. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP), headquartered right here in Nairobi, publishes an annual “Emissions Gap Report.” It details the vast chasm between the climate promises countries have made and the actions they have taken. That global emissions gap is a perfect mirror of our own national integrity gap.

The solution, therefore, is not an-

other environmental campaign. The solution is a national demand for honesty. We must shift our focus from celebrating promises to auditing results. The question we must ask our leaders is not “What will you do?” but “What have you done, and where is the evidence?”

The real work of environmentalism is not the grand gesture of a public holiday. It is the daily, difficult, and

often confrontational work of closing the gap between words and deeds. It is the work of holding our institutions accountable. Until we fix our national integrity crisis, every day will be a forgotten Mazingira Day.

By: Davidson Otieno Omondi
Author, *The Honesty Audit*
Student, Rongo University

Why For Vision 2030 To Be Realised In Kenya We Must Differentiate Gender Equality And Equity

By: Davidson Otieno Omondi
@themtkenyatimes

For over a decade, Kenya’s national ambition has been guided by a single, powerful dream: Vision 2030. It is our blueprint for a prosperous, globally competitive, and just nation. We have correctly identified gender equality as a critical pillar for achieving this vision. But we are building our future on a dangerously flawed foundation because we are consistently confusing two vital and very different concepts: equality and equity.

The difference is not academic; it is the difference between performative action and real transformation.

Gender equality is the goal of providing everyone with the same opportunities and resources. It is about giving every citizen the same-sized shoe, believing this is fair. But this approach only works if everyone has the same-sized foot. In Kenya, they

do not.

Gender equity, on the other hand, is the process of being fair. It is the wisdom to recognize that different people start from different places and require different support to reach the same goal. Equity is not about giving everyone the same-sized shoe; it is about taking the time to measure each person’s foot and giving them a shoe that actually fits.

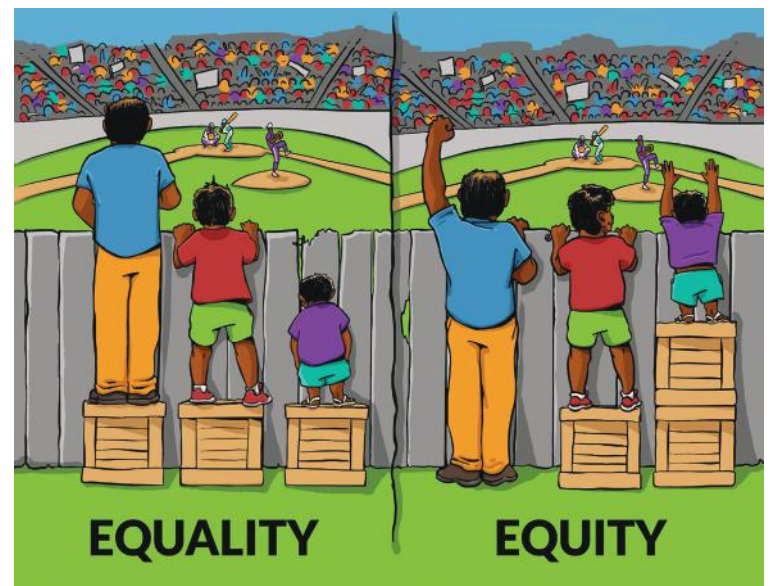
Our national strategy has been obsessed with the idea of equality, while largely ignoring the hard, necessary work of equity. This is why our progress has stalled.

Consider the Economic Pillar of Vision 2030. An “equality” approach says: “All loan applicants must provide a title deed as collateral.” This sounds fair and equal. But an “equity” approach recognises a critical fact, highlighted by organisations like the Kenya Land Alliance: due to historic and cultural biases, women own a tiny fraction of our nation’s land. The “equal” rule, therefore, is systematically designed to exclude women. Equity demands a different, tailored solu-

tion: creating credit-scoring models that use alternative data, like M-Pesa history, to give women a fair chance.

Look at the Social Pillar and education. An “equality” approach provides free primary education for all children. This is a monumental achievement. But an “equity” approach understands, as UNICEF has repeatedly shown, that girls face unique barriers. They are more likely to miss school due to period poverty or to be kept home to care for sick relatives. Equity, therefore, is not just building a school; it is providing sanitary towels and investing in community healthcare to free up a girl’s time to learn.

Finally, look at the Political Pillar. An “equality” approach says: “Anyone is free to run for office.” But an “equity” approach recognises that women face immense financial, cultural, and historical barriers to political leadership. The Two-Thirds Gender Rule is not a violation of equality; it is a powerful, necessary tool of equity, designed to correct a deep-seated historical imbalance and



ensure our parliament actually looks like our country.

Vision 2030 cannot be achieved by a one-size-fits-all strategy. It requires us to move beyond the simple dream of equality and embrace the more intelligent, more difficult, and more effective work of equity. We must stop giving everyone the same shoe

and start making sure everyone has a shoe that fits. Only then can we all walk the path to a truly prosperous Kenya, together.

By: Davidson Otieno Omondi
Author, *The Unfinished Revolution*
Student, Rongo University

KNEC Unveils Digital Verification Of Certificates

By: Phidel Kizito
@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) has launched a digital platform for real-time verification of academic certificates, marking a major step in the fight against forged credentials in public service and education.

Basic Education Principal Secretary Julius Bitok asserted that the initiative, currently being piloted in partnership with the Public Service Commission, enables instant authentication of academic documents and reduces the need for physical visits to KNEC offices.

He was speaking during the unveiling of the new Education Assessment Resource Center at KNEC headquarters.

This move is part of a broader push by KNEC to ensure academic integrity in Kenya.

In April, the council released new guidelines for evaluating foreign certificates, mandating submissions through its Query Management In-

formation System (QMIS).

The upgraded system aims to enhance transparency and streamline recognition of school and post-school qualifications.

To qualify for evaluation, foreign certificates must originate from accredited institutions, and applicants must meet entry requirements equivalent to those in Kenya.

This comes on the back of an audit by the government in June 2025 which revealed that out of 168,667 public officers reviewed, 859 held fake academic certificates, 160 had forged professional qualifications, and more than 24,500 had unauthenticated documents.

“In regard to high standards of professional ethics, findings revealed critical gaps in both compliance and enforcement,” the audit report stated in part.

Alarming, authenticity had not been verified for 84.9 percent of the officers.

The digital verification system aims to close these gaps and restore confidence in Kenya’s academic and professional standards



Basic Education Principal Secretary Julius Bitok during a past event.

KCSE, KPSEA And KJSEA: 3.4M Learners Brace For Exams Starting October 17

By: Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) will deploy 54,782 invigilators and 12,126 supervisors to oversee this year’s Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations.

KNEC Chief Executive Officer David Njengere said on Friday that the Council had also listed 24,213 centre managers to manage the Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) and the Kenya Primary School Education Assessment (KPSEA).

He noted that the field administration of the national examinations and assessments will begin on October 17.

“The field administration of the 2025 examinations and assessments is scheduled to start on Friday, Octo-

ber 17, and end on Friday, November 21, 2025,” Njengere explained.

He added that the examination cycle had already commenced with the registration of candidates, which was conducted between January 30 and March 30, 2025.

A total of 996,078 candidates have registered for KCSE, while 1,298,089 candidates will sit for KPSEA.

KNEC will also administer the inaugural KJSEA to 1,130,669 candidates, marking the first group under the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC).

In total, KNEC will administer national examinations and assessments to 3,424,836 candidates across the country.



KNEC Chief Executive Officer David Njengere said on Friday that the Council had also listed 24,213 centre managers to manage the Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) and the Kenya Primary School Education Assessment (KPSEA)/KNEC

Ruto Backs NYOTA Roll-Out as PS Susan Mang'eni Earns Praise for Driving Youth Empowerment

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyatimes

President William Ruto has said the government has adopted a whole-of-government approach in rolling out the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) programme to ensure its smooth and transparent implementation across the country.

The President explained that by bringing together leaders from the Executive, Legislature and county governments, the programme is being made truly inclusive. He said the initiative reflects a deliberate effort to tackle unemployment, strengthen youth empowerment, and expand opportunities for engagement among young people.

"This is coming as a result of being deliberate about doing something about employment, empowerment and engagement with young people," President Ruto remarked.

The programme has already drawn widespread attention for its promise to create tangible opportunities for Kenyan youth, and much of the credit has been directed towards the Principal Secretary for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Development, Susan Mang'eni.

PS Mang'eni has been lauded for providing strategic leadership in ensuring that the NYOTA programme is effectively designed to align with the government's broader youth empowerment agenda. She has spearheaded the coordination of multiple stakeholders, ensured transparent structures of implementation, and championed accountability measures that are expected to protect the programme from bureaucratic delays and misuse.

Her hands-on approach and commitment to empowering young people have been praised as a model of effective public service. Observers note that under her stewardship, the programme is not only poised to deliver opportunities but also to restore confidence among the youth that gov-



ernment initiatives can genuinely respond to their needs.

By embedding NYOTA within the whole-of-government framework,

with PS Mang'eni at the forefront of execution, the government signals its

resolve to deliver a programme that addresses employment gaps, nur-

tures innovation, and builds resilience among the youth.

Thousands Of Farmers Set To Receive Free-Certified Seeds From Tharaka Nithi County Government

By: Alex Njeru
@themkenyatimes

For the 11th consecutive rainy season, Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki is set to issue free certified seeds to over 100,000 farmers across the county's 15 wards in Tharaka, Maara and Chuka/Igambang'ombe constituencies.

The distribution exercise, which is tentatively scheduled for next week, comes ahead of the expected onset of rainfall in the third week of October, according to the Kenya Meteorological Department that has warned that it will be depressed.

Governor Njuki introduced the programme immediately after assuming office with the goal of ensuring that no farmer, regardless of economic status, is left behind during the planting season. By providing certified seeds, the initiative not only supports small-scale farmers but also guides them in selecting the right varieties suitable for the county's different ecological zones.

Farmers in the upper zones of Maara and Chuka bordering Mt. Kenya For-

est will receive maize and bean seeds, while those in the drier lower zones of Tharaka and Igambang'ombe will be issued with green gram seeds, which are better suited for semi-arid conditions.

Since its launch, the seed distribution programme has significantly reduced cases of food insecurity in the county. Local leaders note that the days when Tharaka Nithi residents were dependent on relief food are now behind them.

"This programme has transformed our food security situation. Farmers are now assured of planting at the right time with the right seeds," said a county agriculture officer.

Beyond improving household nutrition, the initiative has also provided farmers with a source of income, enabling many to meet other family needs. Several parents said they are now able to sell surplus harvests to pay school fees.

"Before this programme, I used to struggle to raise fees for my two children. Now I sell part of my green gram harvest and clear their school balances with ease. We are very grateful to Governor Njuki," said Jane Karimi, a farmer from Chiakari-



Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki (right) issuing free certified seeds at a past event. Thousands of farmers are set to receive seeds this planting season.

ga.

Another farmer, Muriithi Njeru from Chogoria, echoed similar sentiments: "Njuki's programme has given us dignity. We no longer depend on food aid, and our children no longer miss classes because of fees."

Governor Njuki, who is serving his second and final term, has pledged to

continue supporting farmers through the initiative until the end of his tenure. However, some farmers are already expressing concern that the programme may not survive beyond 2027.

"We fear that once Njuki leaves office, this crucial support might stop. We call upon future leaders to sustain

it because it has changed our lives," said farmer representatives during a recent baraza.

The upcoming exercise underscores the county government's continued commitment to boosting agricultural productivity, eradicating hunger, and empowering families through farming.

Kindiki Urges Youth To Register To Vote, Choose Preferred Leaders In 2027 Elections

By: DPCS
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- The Deputy President spoke on Friday during Kangema Constituency Economic Empowerment Engagement at General Kago Stadium in Kangema town, Murang'a County.
- "This is a democratic nation and you can only choose your leaders through your vote. I ask you to encourage our youths to register so they can elect the leaders they desire. Without your vote, you cannot be in a position to participate in making that choice," DP emphasized.
- On development, Kindiki warned contractors handling development projects against laxity and sloppiness saying the government will not entertain attempts to frustrate their delivery within the agreed timelines.
- Kindiki said the administration is keen on timely completion of projects after investing billions of shillings for faster completion to benefit the people.

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has called on eligible voters to turn up and register in order to participate in the coming elections.

The DP said the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission's ongoing registration is for them to be included in the voters' roll, asking them to take full advantage of it. "I want to ask all the eligible voters who have not registered to do so because it is their right to vote but they will only participate if they are registered," DP stated.

The Deputy President spoke on Friday during Kangema Constituency Economic Empowerment Engagement at General Kago Stadium in Kangema town, Murang'a County.

"This is a democratic nation and you can only choose your leaders through your vote. I ask you to encourage our youths to register so they can elect the leaders they desire. Without your vote, you cannot be in a position to participate in making that choice," DP emphasized.

On development, Kindiki warned contractors handling development projects against laxity and sloppiness saying the government will not entertain attempts to frustrate their delivery within the agreed timelines.

Kindiki said the administration is keen on timely completion of projects after investing billions of shillings for faster completion to benefit the people.

"We want all projects to be completed faster and on time. Contractors who are slowing down work yet they have been paid will be tasked to explain why they are frustrating government-funded projects," said Kindiki.

The Deputy President said all Mau Mau roads in Mt. Kenya region must be completed on time saying the government has released funds to the contractors including those in charge of the sections in Kangema constituency.

"It's unacceptable to play around with public projects. We have disbursed funds for the roads but we have received reports they are dragging their feet. We will not entertain such," he reiterated.

At the same time, the Deputy President assured residents of Kangema and Murang'a County that the government will ensure ongoing projects are completed and the commencement of those in the pipeline. "We are keen on completing the projects which are ongoing as well as starting those we have planned for.

I urge you to be patient and un-



Kindiki Urges Youth To Register To Vote, Choose Preferred Leaders In 2027 Elections

derstanding as we deliver them as promised. Those who are criticizing us should do so fairly and genuinely not through lies and blackmail," he said.

The DP highlighted several projects funded by the government which are presently in various stages of completion in the county.

They include 23 modern markets worth KSh3 billion which are near completion. Among them are Karugia and Kagira in Kangema constituency.

Also KSh11 billion has been allocated to affordable houses in the county with many of them progressing well. The government has also set aside KSh3.4 billion for new hostels in Murang'a University College, Murang'a Teachers College, all KMTCS and technical institutes in the area.

Additionally, KSh1.2 billion has been released for extension of last-mile electricity connection in the county with Kangema benefitting with KSh270 million.

Also KSh60 million has been disbursed for carpeting of roads in Kangema with another KSh30 million to be released soon. The Deputy President promised another KSh50 million on top.

The General Kago Stadium in Kangema which is named after prominent Mau Mau leader General Kago will also be uplifted to international standards.

Also, Kangema Level 4 will be properly equipped and adequate doctors and other medical personnel deployed.

The DP welcomed the decision by Murang'a leaders to continue working closely with the government.

"This has been achieved because

of the hardwork of elected leaders from Murang'a who have aligned themselves with the government and have relentlessly pushed for these development projects," he revealed.

The DP challenged leaders to serve the people and stop lamenting instead of being in the frontline looking for solutions to challenges facing them. He dismissed the opposition for chest thumping and pride yet they have failed to provide solutions to problems bedeviling the country.

"The major role of leaders is to listen to the people and address their issues, that's why I thank your leaders in a special way for doing so. It is not right for a leader to lament alongside wananchi yet they are more privileged and are in a better place to find solutions," Kindiki stressed.

He also urged the residents to reg-

ister for SHA medical cover saying the figures are still low in the county.

Further, he said the Linda Mama cover for expectant mothers has been expanded to Linda Jamii that is more comprehensive and covers the whole family.

Present were National Assembly Majority Leader Kimani Ichungwah (Kikuyu), Peter Kihungi (Kangema), Betty Maina (Murang'a), Sabina Chege (Nominated), Dr. Gichuki Mugo (Mathioya), Mary Wamaua (Maragua), Senator Veronica Maina, Japhet Nyakundi (Kitutu Chache North), Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes), Fred Ikana (Shinyalu), Eli Letipila (Samburu North), John Bwire (Taveta), Leah Sankaire (Kajiado), Fabian Kyule (Kangundo), Lillian Siyoi (Trans Nzoia), host of MCAs and other leaders.



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki being welcomed in Kangema constituency by area MP Peter Kihungi.

High Court Grants Pesticides Petition Class-Action Status

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The petitioners filed at the case, while acting on behalf of communities allegedly harmed by exposure to hazardous pesticides, including glyphosate, paraquat, and chlorpyrifos.
- The petitioners have sued a wide range of respondents, among them multinational agrochemical giants Monsanto Kenya, Syngenta East Africa, Bayer East Africa, BASF East Africa, and Twiga Chemicals, as well as regulatory and state bodies including the Pest Control Products Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Council of Governors, and the Attorney General.
- They argue that continued exposure has violated Article 42 of the Constitution, which guarantees every Kenyan the right to a clean and healthy environment.

The High Court has allowed a landmark environmental petition challenging the use of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) in Kenya to proceed as a class action, opening the way for individuals and communities affected by exposure to join the case and pursue compensation.

In a ruling delivered last month, Lady Justice Grace Kemei granted the request by the African Center for Corrective and Preventive Action (ACCPA) to expand Petition E048 of 2022 into a class-action suit.

The petition filed by ACCP through its director James Mwangi Macharia alongside activist Kelvin Mugambi Kubai,

seeks to ban the use of dangerous pesticides in Kenya and hold both the government and agrochemical companies accountable for what it describes as a failure to protect citizens from pesticide-related harm.

The petitioners filed at the case, while acting on behalf of communities allegedly harmed by exposure to hazardous pesticides, including glyphosate, paraquat, and chlorpyrifos.

The petitioners have sued a wide range of respondents, among them multinational agrochemical giants Monsanto Kenya, Syngenta East Africa, Bayer East Africa, BASF East Africa, and Twiga Chemicals, as well as regulatory and state bodies including the Pest Control Products Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Council of Governors, and the Attorney General.

They argue that continued exposure has violated Article 42 of the Constitution, which guarantees every Kenyan the right to a clean and healthy environment.

At the heart of the case is a call for a judicial order to outlaw specific pesticides, including glyphosate, paraquat, imidacloprid, chlorpyrifos, fipronil, and thiamethoxam. These chemicals, the petition states, are banned or heavily restricted in other countries but remain in widespread use in Kenya on essential crops.

According to the petitioners, prolonged exposure to such chemicals has been linked to serious health risks, including cancer, lung damage, and reproductive harm. Communities living in agricultural zones, where spraying is most common, are said to be disproportionately affected.

“The science is clear, and the risks are real,” the petition reads. “Farmers, workers, and consumers face daily exposure to chemicals that compromise their health and degrade the environment.”

The petition also accuses the government of failing to enforce adequate regulation or provide protective measures for those most exposed. It



ACCPA's James Mwangi Macharia training farmers in Mwea, Kirinyaga County on how to efficiently use protective gears last month. Photo/Courtesy.

points to a lack of transparency and limited public consultation in decisions involving pesticide approvals, leaving farmers with little information about the dangers they face.

Another central argument is what the petition describes as “double stan-

dards,” where products banned in markets such as the European Union are still marketed and used in Kenya. “This practice treats Kenyan lives as less valuable and exposes the population to preventable risks,” the filing states.

As part of its relief, the petition not only seeks a ban on the named pesticides but also calls for compensation for individuals and communities already harmed.

The case is scheduled for mention on October 23.



Mudavadi Calls For Regularization Of Land Ownership In Vihiga

By: OPCS PS

@themtkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi has urged the Maragoli community to urgently begin discussions on the need to regularize land ownership and succession to safeguard their socio-economic future.

Mudavadi made the remarks in Vihiga County when he met members of the Maragoli Cultural Festival Committee ahead of the 46th edition of the festival.

He expressed concern that the community was impoverishing itself due to lack of order in land succession, a situation he warned could embed poverty for generations if not addressed.

“There is no order taking place in land succession in our community. Do you have the death certificate or have you started the process of acquiring land ownership? We are impoverishing our people because things have changed. We must start talking about the need to regularize the ownership of land and title in our community,” said Mudavadi.

He added that socio-economic shocks had worsened because families were failing to properly consolidate and manage land. He cautioned that unless cultural and community structures were strengthened, the Maragoli risked sinking deeper into poverty.

The 2019 census placed the Maragoli population at 2.1 million. The upcoming festival, held annually, serves as a platform for intergenerational learning and cultural preservation.

According to the concept note presented to Mudavadi, the 46th Maragoli Cultural Festival will run under the theme: “Responsibility, Vision and Moral Guidance.”

The objectives include the preservation of culture, promoting sustainable community development, establishing a cultural logo, advancing the identification and consolidation of cultural land and the development of the Maragoli Cultural Centre. Mudavadi paid homage to Mulogooli, affirming that culture and heritage must remain central to the community’s future.

He invoked the Maragoli expression “Uvwami ni miando” to mean “leadership is responsibility), stressing that cultural leadership must go hand in hand with socio-economic progress.

He urged the Maragoli to remain positive, defend their identity in a constructive way and embrace unity. He encouraged them to be strong in

voter registration, noting that due to doubt and disunity, the community had failed to secure the Lugari parliamentary seat.

“Because of being doubting Thomases we have never secured the seat in Lugari. Let us support our neighbours in Malava, because a win for them is a win for us,” he added.

Mudavadi further challenged the festival committee and the wider community to work together, plan better and make this year’s cultural festival a success.

He reminded the community of the weight of his office, explaining that under Article 240 of the Constitution, the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs is mandated to sit in the National Security Council.

“I want you to know that the Kenyan Constitution, Article 240, gives the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs the mandate to sit in the Council. You need to understand the weight of the position I hold. I am one of you. If you mess and I am out of the Council, are you ready with the replacement?” Mudavadi posed.

Mudavadi cautioned the Maragoli community against being deceived by political sideshows, pointing directly at Trans Nzoia Governor George Nitembeya. He said Nitembeya was deliberately undermining the pride and dignity of the Maragoli, despite their strong representation in national leadership.

“Nitembeya is undermining you and your pride, yet you have your son sitting in the National Security Council. This is food for thought. You should not be deceived by Nitembeya with his sideshows,” Mudavadi warned firmly.

He urged the community to remain steadfast, avoid distractions and instead focus on strengthening their cultural and political influence in unity.

Mudavadi also received a memorandum from the Logooli Cultural Society, outlining the community’s concerns and aspirations on culture, land and development.

The Logooli, one of the sub-tribes of the Luhya community, are known for their rich cultural traditions, language and heritage practices that emphasize unity, respect for elders and intergenerational learning. The society has been at the forefront of preserving and promoting these cultural values, making the Maragoli Cultural Festival a central platform for cultural pride and continuity.

Turning to politics, Mudavadi called on the Maragoli and the wider Western Kenya region to unite behind President William Ruto ahead of the



PCS Musalia Mudavadi on Friday.

2027 General Election.

He said it would be extremely difficult to unseat a sitting President, comparing Kenya’s electoral environment with Malawi and Ghana.

“In 2027, Kenya is not Malawi or Ghana. It will be so difficult to defeat a sitting President. That’s why I urged we join together to be strong and do the heavy-weight boxing come the 2027 elections.

Let us all rally behind President Ruto for he is giving us the right direction,” he said.

Mudavadi urged the community to evaluate itself and change tact in order to become stronger politically, economically and socially.

He also extended a warm welcome to President William Ruto, who is expected in Vihiga for the PAG centenary celebrations and the registration of Sabatia Eye Hospital as a research centre.

On his role in leadership, Mudavadi reminded the gathering that he is no longer confined to constituency politics.

“I’m not an MP for Sabatia, I’m now a resident of Sabatia and Vihiga County. My interest is to drive the national agenda for the people of Sabatia. My time as an MP is long done. We are giving space for other people to move. This is a message we need to convey to our people so that they make good choices. We are now looking at the broader national agenda,” said Mudavadi.



Group photo with Vihiga residents

Happy Golden Morning Of Freedom



In the joys of the great day
Let me sing Freedom with a song.
In the skies of unattainable dreams
The land that gave strength to my wings.

Your brave sons are on the podium,
Your flag is proudly raised.

Tomaris, in the land of Temurbeks
On the faces of generations, the light never
fades.

Your eternal praise resounds in hearts,
Your flag flutters in my chest,
May your roots always be strong,
Happy happiness, my Uzbek.

My people made of simple hearts,
My whole heart filled with love and happiness
The glue that draws strength From your
glorious history
Happy golden morning of Freedom

Muktarova Madina

Lightning



Dear lightning, how majestic you are,
How are you formed, with such electric power
When you flash, we feel happy and amazed,
Your beauty is breathtaking,

But when you thunder, we tremble with fear,
Your mighty sound makes us sad
When you fall on trees, they wither and burn to
ash,

And when you touch humans, we can't explain
the torture

We're torn between joy and fear,
Sometimes you're beautiful,
sometimes you are fearful
I wonder, what are you made of, what's your
secret might?
Are you oxygen, carbon dioxide, or helium.

How do you form, in the skies
You're a wonderful sight for all

Sivamani . M
GHS Melpattampakkam
Cuddalore district
Tamil Nadu, India

Non Polluting Vehicle



Happy mode of transport
Feel breeze From the trees and trot
Slow and steady mode To travel on the road

No need for diesel and petrol
But it makes the wheel roll
Makes one physically fit
Travelling casually on the seat

Breeze From the opposite side

Makes us Freeze one side.

Sight seeing left and right
Can even see the monkeys and cock fight

Flowers and Fruits in full bloom
To admire keep the eyes in full zoom.

Brinda. D
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPACKAM
CUDDALORE, Tamilnadu India
creativewritersmag@gmail.com

Father's Income



The way your relatives treat you depends on
your father's income

Your father's wage decides your worth,
To those who claim the tie of birth.
But family built on coins alone

Will never feel like love, like home.

No dad's money, no dad's land?
Then even the men (husbands) won't treat her
Like she matters.
A father's income becomes a safeguard for girls—
Now I realize.

So let the false ones drift away;
Their loyalty was bought, not made to stay.
They were close to the few, both strong and
kind—

Real love is rare and hard to find.

V. Ranjani Veerasamy
English teacher
Pondicherry
India

From Wish To Will



Stop saying I wish, begin with I will,
Each step you take will light your way,
A lazy mind will keep you still,
But effort brings success one day.

Knowledge is power, that's what we hear,
But unused learning fades away,
Apply it well, your path is clear,
And wisdom guides you every day.

Dreams alone will not take you far,
Hard work is the seed that makes you grow,
Your aim will shine like a guiding star,
If steady hands your labor show.

"I can" is good, it starts the fight,
"I tried" will prove your courage strong,
"I did it" shines with greatest light,
That echo lasts your whole life long.

So try, and try, don't ever rest,
Each effort builds the path that's yours,
With will and work you'll reach the best,
And open wide life's golden doors.

Durgadevi V
BT Assistant
GHS Nesar
Tiruvannamalai District

My School



My school had passed hundred years ceremony.
My school offers education without money.
My school teachers are the best.
They teach us life skills through tests.

My teachers play the role of a ladder.
When we climb every step their hearts grow
gladder.

My school students are futuristic leaders.
They are India's supersonic builders.

My school has a big playground to play.
Students come to school in their own ways.
My school has a smart computer lab.
My school provides many opportunities- come
and grab.

By,
S.S.Nikshith
6th standard
Inspired by
Mrs. Gulzar Jahan
(English B T)
PUMS Chinna Obulapuram
Gummidipoondi block
Tiruvallur Dt.

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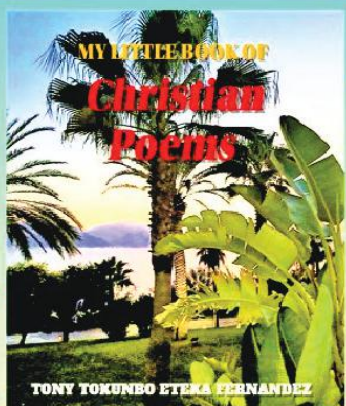
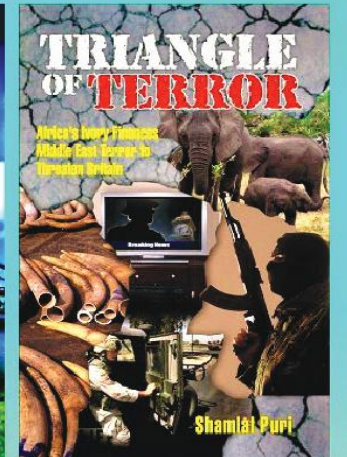
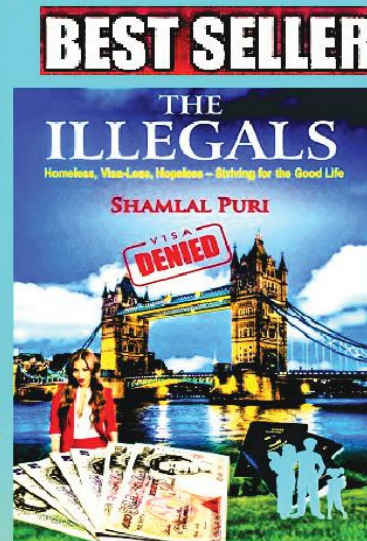
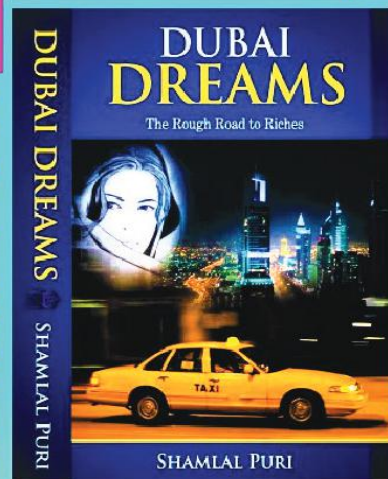
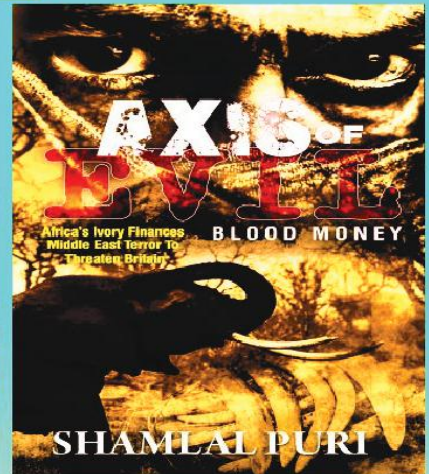
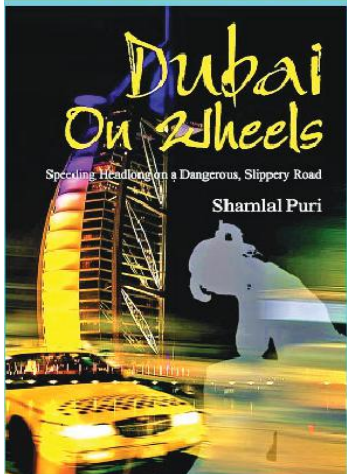
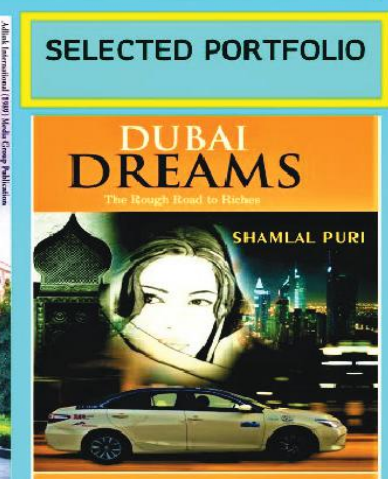
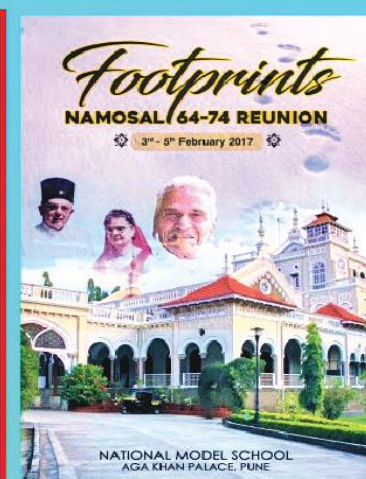
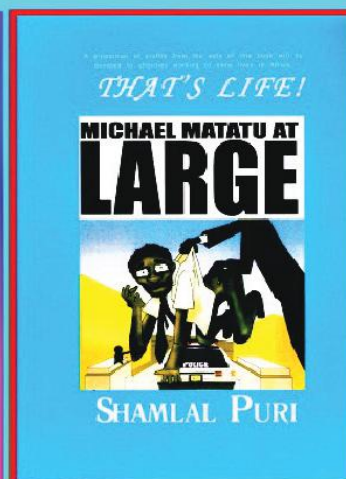
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CFA

CFA: We Will Support 5 Billion Tree Planting By All Means

By: George Mugo
@themtkenyetimes

Communities living forests in Kiambu have been planting seedbeds in order to boost tree planting go on without stopping.

They have vowed to support by all means the 5 billion tree planting by 2032 exercise which was started by President William Ruto.

At Lari Sub County, the local community which is under Uplands Community Forest Association, yesterday said they have developed seedbeds with different types of trees.

A member of the CFA John Mwathi said that they have developed seedbeds at the forests and others at their homes.

He thanks the Kenya Forest Service officials for their continued support and lessons on which trees to plant and when to plant them.

“The KFS has allocated us some sections inside the forest, where we have developed seedbeds. As if is not enough, many of our members have developed seedbeds at their homes” he revealed.

“We do not want to hear any exercise at Uplands forest having stoped due to lack of seedlings. What shall we be doing?” he wondered.

Plantation Establishment and Livelihood System committee chairman John Njane said they also keep checking the development of trees planted in the forests.

Pelis is the program that was replaced with Shamba System, and once local communities are allocated with pieces of land, the KFS and CFA plants trees on them so that they can be natured together with food crops, Njane said.

“We encourage locals with pieces of land to cultivate for those trees in their pieces of land since the are always recorded in the Jaza Miti App. Losing any of those trees, it means we shall be giving wrong results” he said.

Njane said “We have requested the beneficiaries to keep adding manure and even top dress those trees when they are doing so to their food crops”.

The KFS said over 846,863,143 million trees have been planted throughout the country since the exercise was launched by Ruto in December 2023.

Chief Conservator of Forest Alex Lemarkoko said that the country has a lot of work ahead of planting more trees so as to achieve it target.

He attributed the realisation of that number is from the tireless effort of the service as well as the stakehold-



Chief Conservator of Forests Alex Lemarkoko holding a seedling at Uplands forest in Kiambu county.

ers.

The CCF also noted that, the country understand the campaign the government did towards the environmental conservation, owing to its destruction some years ago where trees were cut down carelessly without being replanted.

“Kenya set a bold target of growing 15 billion trees by 2032 so as to re-

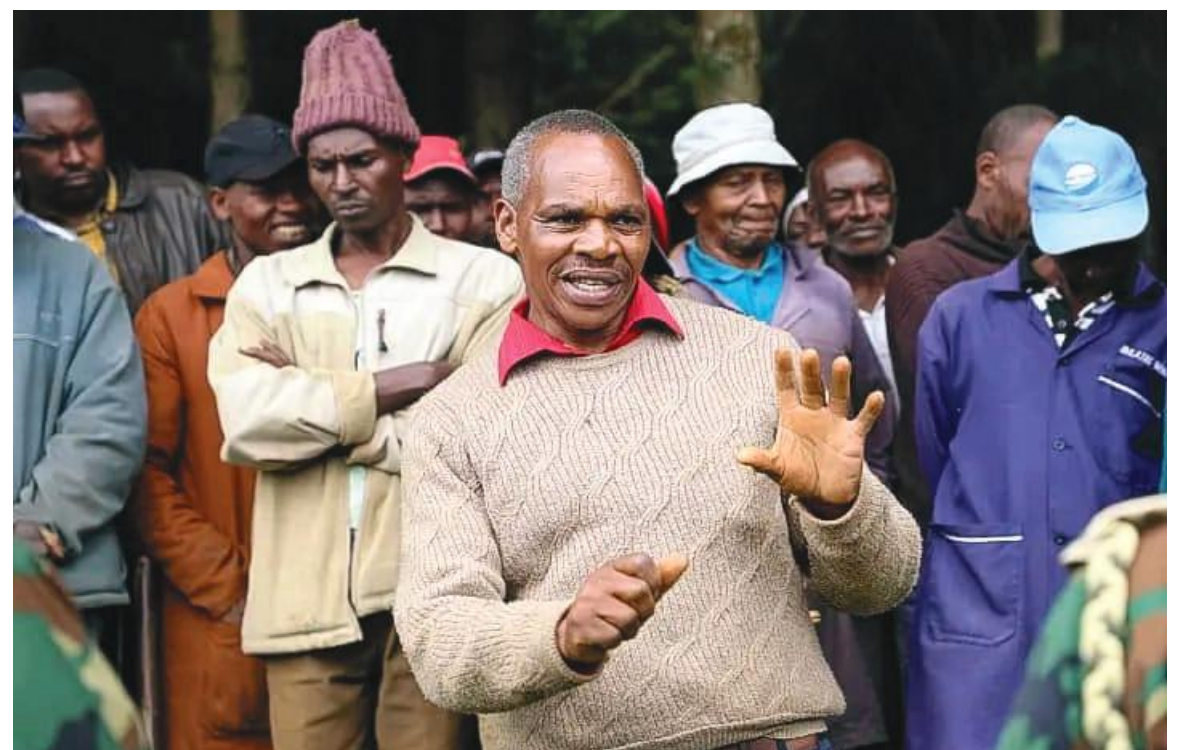
store 10.6 million hectares of degraded landscape” he said.

“By so doing, it will secure water towers, enhancing biodiversity, improve livelihoods, and ensuring that our children will inherit a greener, healthier and more climate resilient nation” Lemarkoko said.

Another CFA member Peter Karichu said that they have also been planting

seedlings of fruits saying they will benefit with timber as well as fruits from such trees.

“There are those people who will look for fruits instead of just planting a tree. We have trees such as avocado’s. They will give you firewood, fruits and even timber” he said.



An Uplands Community Forest Association member Peter Karichu speaking at Kenya Forest Service officials and the CFA members.

Worth Noting:

- A member of the CFA John Mwathi said that they have developed seedbeds at the forests and others at their homes.
- He thanks the Kenya Forest Service officials for their continued support and lessons on which trees to plant and when to plant them.
- “The KFS has allocated us some sections inside the forest, where we have developed seedbeds. As if is not enough, many of our members have developed seedbeds at their homes” he revealed.
- “We do not want to hear any exercise at Uplands forest having stoped due to lack of seedlings. What shall we be doing?” he wondered.



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The Limuru Declaration: African Scholars Convene To Reconceptualize The SDGs For A New Reality

By: T. Vundi Mwilu
@themkenyatimes

The global development clock continues to relentlessly tick. A mere five years remaining until the 2030 deadline, the promise of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), (the ambitious 17-point global blueprint adopted at the UN Headquarters in New York in 2015 to succeed the Millennium Development Goals) hangs in a precarious balance. For the African continent, which is still grappling with historic vulnerabilities and a rising tide of contemporary crises, the probability of fulfilling the mandate to affirm human dignity by ending poverty and hunger and ensuring gender equality, peace, justice, and strong institutions is critically questionable. These comprehensive goals, which span everything from climate action and social well-being to universal access to quality education, face monumental headwinds. Persistent under-financing, severely exacerbated by major shifts in external donor policy; including the notable cuts to vital African health and development initiatives following the tenure of US President Donald Trump, cripples progress in a continent heavily reliant on external development aid. Compounding this, the surge of internal conflicts and wars has not only stalled development but actively reversed years of hard-won gains, leading to massive displacement, entrenched inequality, acute food insecurity and a widespread breakdown of essential services and infrastructure.

Against this profoundly challenging backdrop, the need to critically reconceptualize the SDGs to fit the stark, evolving realities of the contemporary world has become an urgent, non-negotiable mandate. This crucial conversation was recently championed by St Paul's University in Limuru, Kenya, during its 5th International Annual Research Conference, which concluded this past Friday. The conference was organized by the university's Faculty of Social Sciences, gathering over 30 universities from across the globe, including key academic voices from diverse nations like Zimbabwe, the United States, Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire. Under the deeply resonant theme, "Re-conceptualizing Sustainable Development Goals for today's challenges and tomorrow's possibili-

ties," the three-day forum, which ran from October 1st - 3rd, providing a high-level, critical platform for vital interdisciplinary engagement and exchange of insights.

The importance of the event was significantly validated by the Honorable Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Hon. Martha Koome. In her keynote address on the second day of the conference, Chief Justice Koome underscored the timeliness of the theme, stressing the immediate urgency of a paradigm shift from mere rhetoric and aspirational speeches to decisive, measurable action. "We are at a critical intersection," she stated emphatically, "where we must collectively emerge from the multifaceted challenges of poverty, climate change and inequality. This conference avails an important opportunity for cross-disciplinary engagements and actionable insights that will truly tackle the challenges of our ever-evolving world and secure future possibilities."

The presentations and research findings shared throughout the conference spanned a wide spectrum of sub-themes, offering highly localized and often context-specific perspectives on issues ranging from faith-based perspectives on AI and Biotechnology, to leveraging strategic communications, alongside advancing the SDGs through Universal Health Coverage and integrated approaches to development. A particularly powerful African perspective was articulated by Prof. Ester Mombo, who brought to life the voice of African Women in theology. She emphasized that truly affirming human dignity requires concrete economic and technological measures, specifically calling for the employment of Artificial Intelligence and Technology into smart farming and critically addressing systemic barriers to equitable resource distribution. Prof. Mombo pointed out that limiting factors such as "women's marginalization and restrictions on land ownership/inheritance severely constrain the realization of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) in Africa." Access to land, she argued, is the most direct pathway to increasing food productivity and achieving food security.

Speaking on governance and the failures within the education sector, Prof. Karuti highlighted that while the Kenyan government theoretically invests heavily in education subsidies, intended to uplift public learning institutions, these funds often fail to trickle down to the intended beneficiaries. Instead, the subsidies

are absorbed into the pockets of public and social foundations necessary for

..... mated 85% goal alignment with the



A group photo of Chief Justice Martha Koome and African Scholars

lic servants in the education sector, who then bypass the system they govern by sending their own children to schools abroad, a practice that continues to create a mess in the governance of education and widen the opportunity gap. Prof. Karuti also pointed out a broader regional challenge that undermines SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure): East African universities are struggling significantly to attract vital international research grants. He warned plainly, that "universities cannot attract funding without cultivating research that attracts visibility and credibility on the global stage."

On the issue of peace, a fundamental and non-negotiable prerequisite for all developmental progress, Prof. Macharia Munene, an established scholar in International Relations and History, noted that the realization of the SDGs globally, calls for peace, and that "peace is not given but worked for." He provided a sobering, context on the devastating economic and human cost of conflict in Africa. Today, nearly 30 percent of African countries are affected by intense conflicts, and data confirms that annual economic growth in these conflict-ridden states is, on average, 2.5 percentage points lower than in stable nations. Furthermore, internal wars and violence have forcibly displaced over 40 million Africans, a figure that has more than doubled since 2016. This staggering movement of people, particularly in states like Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, destroys the physical

developmental progress, pushing communities back into a destructive cycle of extreme poverty, inequality and hunger due to disrupted farming.

With the 2030 deadline now literally at a stone's throw distance, current tracking reports indicate that Africa is collectively only halfway to achieving the SDG targets, with an average overall SDG progress score of approximately 53.6%, the urgency to strategically reconceptualize the SDGs is indisputable. The consensus among the conferees was that reimagining the goals must involve a radical commitment to localization and the systematic integration of the SDGs with the African Union's own continental framework, Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. This 50-year blueprint, which shares an esti-

SDGs, provides the necessary contextual grounding to address local issues not through Western-prescribed development models, but by drawing real, verifiable Data from Africa and ensuring that research by African researchers is made accessible and influential for policy development, a point strongly emphasized by Dr. Wachira Wamuyu.

To achieve meaningful and sustainable development in Africa with a timeframe of only five years will require us to radically prioritize domestic resource mobilization, enforce institutional governance and accountability, and forge a cohesive, data-driven continental strategy that places African solutions and African resources at the center of African transformation.



Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Hon. Martha Koome

White House Says U.S. In Armed Conflict With Drug Cartels

By: Xinhua

@themtkenyatimes

The Trump administration has notified Congress that the United States is now engaged in a “non-international armed conflict” with drug cartels it has designated as terrorist organizations, local media reported on Thursday.

U.S. President Donald Trump determined that these cartels are non-state armed groups, designating them as terrorist organizations, and determined that their actions constitute an armed attack against the United States, according to a White House memo. These groups are now transnational and conduct ongoing attacks throughout the Western Hemisphere as organized cartels, said the memo. It did not specify which cartels were involved, nor how U.S. authorities

linked targeted suspects to those organizations.

Last month, U.S. forces sank three boats in international waters south of the Caribbean, allegedly from Venezuela, killing 17 people on board. The memo described the dead as “unlawful combatants” and justified the U.S. strikes as self-defense. The strikes have drawn sharp criticism from congressional Democrats. Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island, the top Democrat on the Armed Services Committee, accused Trump of deciding that he could wage “secret wars against anyone he calls an enemy.” The Trump administration offered no credible legal justification, evidence or intelligence for the strikes, Reed said Thursday. The administration has also deployed warships to the Caribbean. The New York Times reported Tuesday that the Pentagon has built up a force of more than 6,500 troops in the region.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Mad-



White House

uro has repeatedly accused the United States of using cartel threats as a pretext for regime change and military buildup in Latin America. While

some cocaine leaves South America through Venezuela, the country is not a main source of U.S.-bound drugs, according to a 2020 report from the

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Sudan's Capital Confronts Nile's Wrath In Record Flood

By: Xinhua

@themtkenyatimes

In the outskirts of Wad Ramli, north of Sudan's capital Khartoum, the familiar passageways have vanished. Surging Nile waters, having breached sections of earthen embankment, now invade homes, submerge courtyards, and turn dirt roads into turbulent muddy streams.

The dark brown water, heavy with silt from the Ethiopian Highlands, flows violently, carrying a silent threat. The air hangs thick with the smell of mud, while the river's roar echoes like a constant warning. Residents awoke to the unfolding disaster three days ago. Farmland that stood green just weeks earlier is now submerged. Men cluster at the broken edges of the embankment, watching helplessly as the river pushes further inland. Amid the chaos, families scramble to salvage belongings. Children cry, men call out warnings, and at some point frantically at homes teetering on the brink of collapse. Young men desperately haul sand and soil in a race to reinforce the failing barriers.

Cries ring out: “Move the livestock ... Take the furniture to higher ground!” “The people of Wad Ramli have suffered greatly from recurring floods since 2019,” Haitham Suleiman, a prominent figure in Wad Ramli, told Xinhua. “This year, the damage is extensive -- buildings, livestock, and crops have all been destroyed.”

Mustafa Bushra, a local resident, told Xinhua that “the area is still full of families -- women, children, and the elderly. Crops have been destroyed and fields ruined.” Ali Mabrouk, another local resident, said, “This year's flood is enormous. The entire Wad Ramli area has been devastated. People have been displaced under extremely harsh and difficult conditions.” “What worries me most isn't the furniture or the food, but where we will find shelter with the children. We are now sleeping in the open on the edge of the village,” he said. Sudan remains engulfed in a civil conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, which erupted in April 2023. The war has killed tens of thousands, displaced millions, and deepened one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises. Flooding remains an annual threat in

Sudan from June and October. In recent years, heavy rainfall has caused hundreds of deaths and widespread destruction of homes and farmland, a crisis exacerbated by infrastructure weakened or even damaged during the ongoing conflict.

According to Sudan's Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, floods have swept through homes, neighborhoods, and farmland across six Sudanese states this year, including Blue Nile, Sinnar, Gezira, Khartoum, White Nile, and Northern State. The ministry recently cited multiple contributing factors, including water releases from the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), climate change, and a delayed rainy season extending into October. On Sept. 10, Ethiopia began releasing water from the GERD reservoir after it reached full capacity due to heavy rainfall during the rainy season. The release peaked at around 750 million cubic meters per day.

Ethiopia officially inaugurated the GERD on Sept. 9, despite objections from downstream Egypt and Sudan, who have been demanding a binding agreement to protect their water interests against the dam's impact. In December 2023, Egypt announced



Residents wade through floodwater after the Nile River flooded their village in Bahri city, north of Khartoum, Sudan on Wednesday.

the failure of the latest round of GERD negotiations after 13 years of talks. Ethiopia said on Monday that its dam helped reduce Sudan's floods, claiming that the magnitude could have been devastating if the GERD had not been there.

In the meantime, experts have attributed the Nile's alarming rise this year to heavy rainfall in the Ethiopian Highlands, weakened embankments, and the growing impact of climate change. Environmental expert Abdul

Azim Haraka linked Sudan's worsening flood patterns to intensified rainfall and the growing impact of climate change in recent years. “Urgent plans are needed to rebuild embankments with modern engineering and early warning systems,” water resources expert Sami Abdel Rahim told Xinhua, warning that low-lying areas like Wad Ramli, historically flood pathways for the Nile, will remain vulnerable without permanent barriers.

Board–CEO Clashes And The Collapse Of Corporate Entities. Part 2



By: Silas Mwaudasheni Nande

@themkenyatimes

Talent Attrition and Cultural Erosion

Governance dysfunction often permeates the organizational culture, affecting morale, retention, and performance.

- Senior executives and key staff may resign or disengage when they perceive the board as hostile, erratic, or uninformed.
- Middle management may struggle to reconcile conflicting directives from the board and CEO, leading to paralysis and inefficiency.
- Organizational culture suffers when trust is replaced by fear, and strategic clarity gives way to factionalism.

In educational institutions, for example, clashes between school boards and principals can demoralize teachers, disrupt learning environments, and undermine community trust.

Strategic Drift and Operational Paralysis

When governance relationships break down, strategic coherence is often the first casualty.

- Delayed decisions, conflicting priorities, and board micromanagement can stall critical initiatives.
- Operational paralysis may ensue as executives hesitate to act without board approval, or boards second-guess every move.
- Strategic drift occurs when the organization loses sight of its mission, reacting to internal politics rather than external opportunities.

This is particularly dangerous in fast-moving sectors—such as digital finance, education technology, or infrastructure development—where agility is essential and indecision can be fatal.

Regulatory Scrutiny and Legal Exposure

Governance failures often attract the attention of regulators, auditors, and legal authorities.

- Non-compliance with fiduciary duties, procurement policies, or financial reporting standards can trigger investigations, fines, or sanctions.
- Litigation risks increase when dismissed CEOs challenge their termination, or stakeholders sue for breach of duty.
- Reputational damage from publicized disputes can affect licensing, partnerships, and access to funding.

In Namibia, where regulatory frameworks for cooperatives and educational institutions are evolving, governance lapses can jeopardize accreditation, donor support, and public legitimacy.

Collapse of Institutional Resilience

Ultimately, persistent board–CEO clashes erode the very foundations of institutional resilience.

- Vision and values become fragmented, as leadership focuses on survival rather than transformation.
- Systems and structures degrade, with governance mechanisms bypassed or weaponized.
- Succession planning is neglected, leaving the organization vulnerable to leadership vacuums.

In cooperatives, this collapse may manifest as member withdrawals, financial insolvency, or regulatory dissolution. In schools, it may lead to declining enrollment, staff turnover, and community disengagement.

Pathways to Reform

The persistent clashes between boards and CEOs are not inevitable. They are symptoms of deeper structural, cultural, and capacity-related issues that can be addressed through deliberate reform. This section outlines actionable strategies to realign governance relationships, enhance institutional resilience, and foster a culture of strategic cooperation.

Clarifying Roles and Boundaries

The foundation of effective governance lies in the clear delineation of responsibilities between the board and executive leadership.

- Governance charters



should explicitly define fiduciary duties, operational mandates, and decision-making thresholds.

- Board policies must distinguish between strategic oversight and day-to-day management, avoiding micromanagement while ensuring accountability.
- CEO contracts and performance frameworks should reflect agreed-upon expectations, reporting lines, and evaluation criteria.

In Namibia, where many cooperatives and educational institutions operate with informal governance structures, formalizing these boundaries is essential to prevent role confusion and power struggles.

Building Board Capacity and Diversity

Boards must evolve to meet the demands of modern governance. This requires investment in capacity-building, diversity, and professionalization.

- Training programs in governance, finance, legal compliance, and strategic planning can empower directors to engage meaningfully with executive leadership.

Board composition should reflect a mix of skills, experiences, and perspectives—including youth, women, and professionals from relevant sectors.

vant sectors.

- Succession planning for board members ensures continuity and institutional memory, reducing the risk of abrupt leadership vacuums.

In cooperative settings, member education and democratic participation are vital to cultivating informed, accountable boards.

Strengthening CEO–Board Communication

Transparent, respectful, and structured communication between the CEO and board is critical to building trust and alignment.

- Regular reporting cycles, strategic retreats, and joint planning sessions can foster shared understanding and collaboration.

Board committees (e.g., finance, audit, governance) allow for focused engagement with executive teams, reducing the burden on full board meetings.

- Conflict resolution mechanisms, such as mediation protocols or governance ombudspersons, can address disputes before they escalate.

In schools and SACCOs, where interpersonal dynamics often dominate, formal communication chan-

nels can depersonalize conflict and promote professionalism.

Embedding Governance in Organizational Culture

Governance is not merely structural—it must be embedded in the values, norms, and practices of the organization.

- Codes of conduct, ethics policies, and governance handbooks should be widely disseminated and internalized.

Leadership development programs for both board members and executives can cultivate shared values and strategic thinking.

- Feedback loops, including member surveys, staff consultations, and stakeholder forums, ensure that governance remains responsive and inclusive.

In Namibia's context, where institutions often serve diverse and dispersed communities, embedding governance in culture reinforces legitimacy and cohesion.

Leveraging Technology for Transparency and Efficiency

Digital tools can enhance governance by improving access to information, streamlining processes, and enabling real-time oversight.

Board–CEO Clashes And The Collapse Of Corporate Entities. Part 2

By: MKT Reporter
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- Board portals and document management systems facilitate secure sharing of minutes, reports, and strategic plans.
- Performance dashboards allow boards to monitor key indicators without interfering in operations.
- Virtual meetings and e-voting platforms expand participation and reduce logistical barriers.

As Namibia advances its digital transformation agenda, integrating technology into governance can bridge capacity gaps and promote accountability.

Aligning Governance with Legal and Policy Frameworks

Effective reform must be grounded in national laws, cooperative statutes, and sectoral regulations.

- Compliance audits and legal reviews can identify gaps in governance practices and recommend corrective actions.
- Policy harmonization between ministries, regulators, and umbrella bodies ensures consistency and clarity.
- Advocacy for governance reform, including updates to cooperative legislation or education policy, can institutionalize best practices.

Implications for Namibia and Emerging Markets

In emerging markets like Namibia, the stakes of board–CEO alignment are particularly high. Institutions often operate in resource-constrained environments, serve vulnerable populations, and carry mandates that extend beyond profit—encompassing social development, equity, and democratic participation. Governance failures in such contexts can derail not only organizational performance but also national development objectives.

Cooperative Governance and Democratic Accountability

Namibia's cooperative sector—including SACCOs, farmers' unions, and community-based enterprises—relies heavily on democratic governance structures. Boards are

elected by members, and CEOs are appointed to execute member-driven mandates. However, this model faces unique challenges:

- Board members may lack formal governance training, leading to role confusion and operational interference.
- CEOs may struggle to balance professional management with member expectations, especially when decisions require unpopular trade-offs.
- Factionalism and politicization can emerge when board elections become contested or influenced by external interests.

To safeguard cooperative resilience, reforms must emphasize member education, governance literacy, and dispute resolution mechanisms that reflect cooperative values while ensuring operational efficiency.

Educational Institutions and Leadership Dynamics

School boards and principals in Namibia often mirror the board–CEO dynamic, with boards overseeing policy and resource allocation, and principals managing daily operations. Yet tensions frequently arise:

- Infrastructure decisions, disciplinary policies, and curriculum priorities can become battlegrounds for control.
- Boards may lack pedagogical expertise, while principals may resist oversight, citing professional autonomy.
- Community expectations and political pressures can further complicate governance relationships.

Strengthening school governance requires clear role definitions, capacity-building for board members, and collaborative planning frameworks that center learner outcomes and institutional sustainability.

Institutional Development and Policy Alignment

Namibia's broader institutional landscape—including state-owned enterprises, NGOs, and regional councils—faces similar governance challenges. Board–CEO clashes can undermine service delivery, financial stewardship, and public trust.

- Policy misalignment between ministries, regulators, and



boards can create confusion and inefficiency.

- Leadership turnover due to unresolved disputes disrupts continuity and strategic execution.
- Lack of governance data and transparency hampers accountability and reform efforts.

To address these issues, Namibia must invest in integrated governance frameworks that align legal mandates, operational realities, and developmental goals. This includes updating cooperative legislation, strengthening public sector governance codes, and embedding governance metrics into performance audits.

Youth Empowerment and Inclusive Leadership

Namibia's demographic profile—characterized by a youthful population—presents both a challenge and an opportunity for governance reform.

- Youth are underrepresented on boards, despite being key stakeholders and drivers of innovation.
- Intergenerational tensions between older board members and younger executives can stifle creativity and adaptation.
- Inclusive leadership models, including mentorship, co-leadership, and youth advisory councils, can bridge this gap.

Empowering youth within governance structures not only enhances diversity but also ensures that institutions remain future-ready and responsive to evolving societal needs.

Leadership and Visionary Stewardship

Ultimately, the health of Namibian institutions depends on the ethical integrity and visionary capacity of both boards and CEOs.

- Ethical leadership must be modeled at the top—through transparency, humility, and accountability.
- Visionary stewardship requires boards and CEOs to transcend personal interests and focus on long-term impact.
- Institutional resilience is built not through perfection, but through principled collaboration, continuous learning, and adaptive governance.

Conclusion

The relationship between a board of directors and a CEO is not merely a matter of structure—it is a reflection of institutional maturity, ethical leadership, and strategic alignment. When this relationship is marked by clarity, trust, and mutual respect, organizations thrive. When it is marred by ambiguity, power struggles, and factionalism, even the most promising institutions can falter.

This essay has traced the anatomy

of board–CEO clashes, from theoretical foundations to real-world consequences. It has shown how governance failures—whether rooted in role confusion, generational divides, or political dynamics—can erode investor confidence, paralyze operations, and compromise institutional resilience. It has also offered pathways to reform, emphasizing the importance of role clarity, board capacity, ethical leadership, and contextual adaptation.

For Namibia and other emerging markets, the stakes are particularly high. Institutions must navigate complex social mandates, limited resources, and evolving legal frameworks. In such contexts, governance is not a luxury—it is a lifeline. Cooperatives, schools, and public enterprises must invest in governance literacy, inclusive leadership, and digital transformation to remain relevant and resilient.

The future of corporate governance lies not in rigid hierarchies or charismatic leadership alone, but in principled collaboration, shared vision, and adaptive stewardship. Boards and CEOs must learn not only to coexist, but to co-create—to move from confrontation to cooperation, from fragmentation to unity, and from survival to significance.

This is the call: to govern wisely, lead ethically, and build institutions worthy of the trust they hold.

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Sports >> *FIFA has unveiled the official match ball for the 2026 World Cup, combining high-tech refinements and design details celebrating the three co-host countries - the United States, Mexico and Canada.

FIFA Unveils Trionda, The Official Ball Of The 2026 World Cup



A large video screen shows the 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup match ball named Trionda during its unveiling in New York on October 2, 2025. The 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup is scheduled to take place between June and July 2026, with matches being hosted in Mexico, Canada and the US. (Photo by CHARLY TRIBALLEAU / AFP)

FIFA has unveiled the official match ball for the 2026 World Cup, combining high-tech refinements and design details celebrating the three co-host countries - the United States, Mexico and Canada.

The ball, called Trionda, was again designed by German manufacturer Adidas, provider of the official World Cup balls since the 1970 tournament.

"I am delighted and proud to present the Trionda," FIFA president Gianni Infantino as the ball

was revealed at an event in New York on Thursday.

The first World Cup organized by three countries, with 48 teams competing, inspired both the name and the design of the ball featuring red, blue and green colors.

Iconography from each host nation - maple leaves from Canada, the eagle from Mexico and stars from the United States also feature, with a triangle referring to the unity of the three countries.

Less visible are technological

advancements that include deep seams designed to produce "optimal in-flight stability" and embossed icons that improve grip in wet or humid conditions.

A motion sensor chip will relay information on the ball's movement, sending data to the video assistant referee (VAR) system.

The unveiling marks another step in the countdown to the North American World Cup, which will be held June 11-July 19 next year.

FIFA has launched its online

phased ticket sales procedures, with more than 4.5 million fans from 216 countries and territories entering the presale draw.

The tournament draw will be held in Washington on December 5.

AFP

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Sports Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya has issued an update on the ongoing renovations at Nyayo National Stadium

Government Fast-Tracking Nyayo Stadium Face-Lift



Sports Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya addresses the media after inspecting the ongoing renovations at the Nyayo National Stadium on October 2, 2025.

Sports Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya has issued an update on the ongoing renovations at Nyayo National Stadium and Kenya's efforts to comply with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) requirements amid growing scrutiny.

Speaking during an inspection tour of the stadium, which is set to undergo major upgrades ahead of the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), Mvurya said the government is satisfied with the progress so far.

"We also came here to see how the new developments in the tartan track, which is already being done. This facility here at Nyayo Stadium is also planned for a canopy, so part of the work we will embark on here is to do the cano-

py. So we are happy with the progress of the tartan track, and in the next week we should be concluding this work," the CS explained.

The stadium, which will be closed after the 2025 Safari Sevens to allow renovations, according to reports, is expected to get a new canopy over the main stands and a freshly laid tartan track. These improvements are part of wider efforts to raise infrastructure standards ahead of Kenya's co-hosting of AFCON 2027.

On the sensitive matter of doping, Mvurya provided a detailed update on the country's compliance journey. Kenya has been under the spotlight after WADA declared the Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya (ADAK) non-compliant as of October 3, 2025, citing failures

to resolve issues flagged in a May 2024 audit.

"The World Anti-Doping Agency did an audit in May 2024. They gave us a report on the 30th of September 2024, and that report presented 35 issues. Today I'm very happy to report that 30 of the 35 issues have now been resolved and dropped, and right now I can confidently say that Kenya is on the right track to compliance," Mvurya said.

He assured athletes and the public that the remaining gaps are being addressed.

"The five we have an action plan which we have shared and therefore in the next few days then we will be able to hear from the World Anti-Doping Agency. So there should be no cause for alarm. We

are on schedule. We are on track."

Mvurya added that the government is working with the Treasury to ring-fence funding for anti-doping activities, stressing Kenya's determination to restore credibility and protect its athletes' future on the global stage.

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



One In A Million



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Throughout her career, Angela has had numerous impressive performances and hosting gigs. She has performed on cruise ships, casinos, and toured with Jonathan's Big Band. She has also hosted prominent events like Miami Metropolitan International Fashion Week, Orlando International Fashion Week, and the Mrs. U.S. Globe Awards.
- Angela's pageant titles include Mrs. New Jersey Globe 1996 and Ms. Morganville New Jersey US of A in 1997. She was also the New Jersey State Director for the Mrs. Globe Organization from 1997 to 2000.
- One of Angela's most notable achievements is receiving the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022. She has also been recognized as one of the 100 Successful Women in Business and received the "ICON" Award from Orlando International Fashion Week.

Angela Posillico is a multifaceted personality who has made a name for herself in the talent, model, and entertainment industry. As the CEO of Ms. Latina International and Ms. International World Organization, she has become a role model for many young women around the world.

Angela's journey began with music studies at the age of 5, which led her to become an accomplished singer and dancer. She participated in the Readers Digest European Vocal Tour and was named "Female Vocalist of the Year". Angela further honed her skills with renowned teachers in dance and vocals, including the Jan Le Winter Cultural Arts Center, Carol Naso Dance Troupe, Troast Musical Studio, and the Juilliard Academy of Music.

Throughout her career, Angela has had numerous impressive performances and hosting gigs. She has performed on cruise ships, casinos, and toured with Jonathan's Big Band. She has also hosted prominent events like Miami Metropolitan International Fashion Week, Orlando International Fashion Week, and the Mrs. U.S. Globe Awards.

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Currently, Angela is the host of her own TV show, "Make our World Your Runway". She is also the Fashion Show Coordinator and Chairperson for the 100 Successful Women in Business Fashion Show.

Angela's legacy is one of hard work, determination, and passion. She has inspired many young women around the world with her accomplishments and continues to be a role model for aspiring entrepreneurs and entertainers.

In conclusion, Angela Posillico is a true inspiration and a shining ex-



Angela Posillico

ample of what can be achieved with dedication and perseverance. Her story serves as a reminder that with hard work and passion, anyone can achieve their dreams and make a lasting impact in the world.

As we reflect on Angela's journey, we are reminded of the importance of following our passions and pursuing our dreams. Her legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire and

empower women for generations to come.

Angela's story is a testament to the power of human potential and the impact that one person can have on the world. Her accomplishments serve as a reminder that we all have the ability to make a difference and leave a lasting legacy.

With her remarkable journey and achievements, Angela Posillico is

indeed one in a million. Her story will continue to inspire and motivate others to pursue their dreams and make a positive impact in the world.

In the end, Angela's legacy will be one of kindness, compassion, and dedication to making a difference in the world. Her work will continue to inspire and empower women around the world, and her impact will be felt for generations to come.