



National Assembly Debates Anti-Money Laundering Bill
The National Assembly yesterday debated the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Terrorism Financing Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2023. The Bill moved by Leader of Majority Party and Kikuyu constituency Member of Parliament, Kimani Ichung'wa seeks to amend various Acts of Parliament relating to money laundering, countering financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
Page 18

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News>> Superfoods:
Unga Group Re-launches Amana Range Of Nutritious Consumer Staple Foods

P. 8. ...as Kshs 521 million growth plan complemented by strategic joint ventures and partnerships gets into high gear



Leadership>> From Passion To Progress; Nominated Senator Veronica Maina's Impactful Leadership

P. 12. In the realm of leadership, where allocated budgets often dictate the extent of impact, Nominated Senator Veronica Maina stands as a testament



News>> Government to Compensate Victims of Marine Attack

P. 16 It's a breakthrough to families and people in Lamu and other aquatic areas, after a bill amendment that aims to reintroduce payments for death or injury resulting from attacks

Gov't To Commence Sensitization Of Students On New Varsity Funding Model

Appearing before the national assembly education committee, education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu said the new model will see over 290,000 students join universities and TVETS.

Machogu had been summoned to brief members on the confusion that has dogged the ongoing process for applying for funding following the adoption of the new university funding model.



Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu

STORY ON PAGE 9

CS Nakhumicha Launch Polio Vaccination Campaign In Kiambu County

By: Maxwell Wasike
[@themkenyatimes](https://twitter.com/themkenyatimes)

Health Cabinet Secretary Nakhumicha S. Wafula on yesterday presided over the launch of Polio vaccination

exercise in a concerted effort aimed at combating the resurgence of disease, in line with collaborative partnership involving the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the Ministry.

The development comes days after the Ministry of Health announced the Polio vaccination campaign across ten hotspot counties which has officially kicked off today in

STORY ON PAGE 13

Health CS Nakhumicha S. Wafula together with Kiambu County Governor Kimani Wamatangi



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Approval Of Buildings In Nakuru County To Go Digital

By: Esther Mwangi
@themtkenyatomes

Worth Noting:

- By leveraging technology, Mr. Njogu voiced the county's commitment to improve accessibility, transparency, and accountability in its operations, adding that the new digital development system will eliminate the need for human interaction in the approval process, making it more efficient and transparent.
- He said the online system is a milestone for the county and would go a long way in ensuring that building and construction industry services were done fast, cost-effectively, and efficiently, adding that the system will be automated for planning, building permits and approvals, occupancy permits, and conducting inspections online using smartphones and iPads.



Real estate in Kenya.

Nakuru County is setting up an automated online building approval platform for both commercial and residential investments to help address cases of fraud allegedly perpetrated by crooked land brokers and agents.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance, Mr. Iribe Njogu said the platform will allow online submission of building proposals by architects and planners for evaluation and approval and automatically manage workflow to allow applications to be routed concurrently to the various technical evaluators.

The CECM further said that the online system will also be used to provide unique identifiers for all approved development plans.

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In addition, the CECM said the system will help in the issuance of development permits, profiling of ongoing developments for the inspection process, support for the planning enforcement process, data collection on inspections, and archiving of all data.

The new system, Njogu added, is expected to boost the county's Own Source Revenue (OSR) by a billion shillings by the end of this financial year through the elimination of bottlenecks that characterised the old system.

This kind of automation is said to have been successfully implemented in Kajiado, Nairobi, Mombasa, Kiambu, and Kisumu counties, with Mr. Njogu expressing optimism that the online portal will help reduce fraud cases perpetrated by crooked land brokers and agents.

While noting that the move was part of the implementation of business regulation reforms hoped to make Nakuru more investor-friendly, the CECM explained that developers will be able to track the progress of their approval applications, thereby staying updated.

"The automation is critical to enhancing Kenya's competitiveness and will eliminate the tedious paper-based approval process," said Mr. Njogu.

Nakuru has in recent years attracted huge interest from both residential and industrial warehouse developers due to the availability of vacant parcels of land in Naivasha, Salgaa, Bahati, Kabarak, Kiamunyi, Gilgil, and Sobea areas.

Mr. Njogu was happy that the rise in ur-

banisation had continued to attract large investments in residential housing, educational institutions, and industrial developments and said that the transformed land use across the county called for the deployment of technology to support the key functions of physical planning and construction permit issuance.

Speaking at the county headquarters, the CECM observed that online approvals had the capacity to cut the waiting time from at least 90 days to a maximum of 30 days.

By removing the bureaucracy and reducing corruption associated with human interaction, Mr. Njogu said the digital system will accelerate the approval process, benefiting both investors and businesses through ease of doing business.

"Nakuru is one of the fastest urbanising counties in Kenya. We need to control such growth so that we don't become a slum in the next 20 to 30 years," added Mr. Njogu.



Our Contacts



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Chief Justice Martha Koome inaugurated an e-filing system, Maslaha Alternative Justice Systems Centre, and a High Court Sub-Registry in Mander County, marking a significant milestone in the region's pursuit of access to the national justice system



110 university students in Migori have received a Sh1.1 million Non-Governmental Education Programme bursary, helping to settle some college fees. Job Tambo Foundation Official George Dima emphasized the importance of supporting students from vulnerable backgrounds and urged other societal players to join hands.



Tana Water Works Development Agency chairman Wanyaga Gathaka yesterday hosted a team of leaders from Mathira constituency led by the area MP Eric Wamumbi. The team was at the agency's offices for a briefing on water and sanitation projects being undertaken in the area. During the consultative meeting, a technical team from the agency took the MP and his team through the projects that are lined up in this financial year. The MP said he was impressed by the work being done by the agency with the chairman, saying the firm was hoping to convene such sessions with leaders from other areas. This, he added, will ensure that stakeholders in the mountain region are well served with water and sanitation services.



The Kenyan government has confirmed the completion of a 96-bed male surgical ward at Busia County Referral Hospital, confirming its 100% completion. The facility requires some equipment for effective operation. Principal Secretary Harry Kimutai requested the County Government of Busia to provide a list of required items.



Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards, Ms. Mary Muriuki has announced Kenya's commitment to eradicate Neglected Tropical Diseases by 2030, highlighting significant milestones such as Guinea worm-free status since 2018.



The African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) is collaborating with Kenya's government to research and commercialize water-efficient maize varieties, including Drought Tego, which have reduced farmers' losses. Modern biotechnology, particularly transgenic stem-borer-resistant maize, offers potential for agricultural transformation.

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Avocado Sales Growth Sustains Kakuzi Half-Year Profit Run To Sh171.1 M

Avocado Profits Have More Than Doubled In 2023 To Sh654.8 Million, Up From Sh288.6 Million Last Year

By: Our Reporter

@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- While the macadamia business slowed, Kakuzi's Avocado sales accelerated, with exports to Europe and China peaking. Further avocado business growth is expected in the year's second half as exports to Malaysia and India begin to dispatch.
- While confirming the firm's growth strategy, Kakuzi chairman Mr Nick Ng'ang'a said "At Kakuzi, we remain committed to a shared prosperity business model that prioritises all our stakeholder needs. Sustainably growing our business, actively implementing our Kakuzi, Community Partnerships, answering the call for climate action and using best practices in all we do to promote our values remains our focus."

Listed superfoods producer Kakuzi Plc has announced a Kshs171.1 million half-year pretax profit on the back of a difficult trading period due to the prevailing Macadamia global glut.

The firm, which recently adopted a new corporate brand identity, enjoyed a more than double profit lift against its avocado export business, which posted a Kshs 654.8 million growth, up from Kshs 288.6 million posted last year.

Speaking when he confirmed the half-year results, Kakuzi PLC Managing Director Mr Chris Flowers said the firm's bottom line had been impacted by a Kshs 329 million sectoral loss from its macadamia business.

To mitigate further losses in the Macadamia Business, Kakuzi, he said, is currently pursuing a value-addition strategy that will see the firm marketing the produce locally.

"The global macadamia glut continues to affect all leading international exporters from Kenya, Australia and South Africa. To mitigate the losses, we have adopted a local marketing strategy geared at availing value added Macadamia products, including ready-to-eat nuts, macadamia flour and cold-pressed oil," Flowers said.

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While confirming the firm's growth strategy, Kakuzi chairman Mr Nick Ng'ang'a said "At Kakuzi, we remain committed to a shared prosper-



Kakuzi MD Chris Flowers (Left), Principal Secretary Crop Development Phillip Harsama (centre) and Kakuzi Chairman Nicholas Ng'ang'a (Right) yesterday.

ity business model that prioritises all our stakeholder needs. Sustainably growing our business, actively implementing our Kakuzi, Community Partnerships, answering the call for climate action and using best practices in all we do to promote our values remains our focus."

Across the other product lines, Kakuzi has expressed confidence in its Blueberry venture prospects.

"Although our blueberry volumes are still significantly low vis-a-vis the Avocado and Macadamia outputs, the revenue stream remains firmly within the business plans and inspires further investments. Further afield, the performance of the tea,

forestry, livestock, and arable land operations continue to play their important role in our crop portfolio," said Mr Ng'ang'a.

Early this month, Kakuzi formally adopted a new corporate identity that underscores its commitments to agricultural development for the domestic and export markets.

The new Kakuzi brand is aligned with the national agricultural transformation agenda, with sustainability and climate-smart agriculture at its core.

The new Kakuzi identity, the firm's first defined brand visual system and strategy in 95 years, also signifies a transition to the contemporary world

of superfoods growing for both the domestic and export markets based on a strategic decision to prioritise the production of such foods.

As part of the new branding, Kakuzi has also officially launched a range of private-label consumer products developed over the last two years for the domestic market, including ready-to-eat macadamia, gluten-free macadamia flour, cold-pressed macadamia oil and blueberry packs. Following an intensive research and development programme by the Kakuzi team, the new branded consumer products will be progressively availed to the local market.

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Superfoods: Unga Group Re-launches Amana Range Of Nutritious Consumer Staple Foods

...as Kshs 521 million growth plan complemented by strategic joint ventures and partnerships gets into high gear

By: Our Reporter
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The fast-growing Amana brand, which currently features pulses including yellow beans, Black Beans, Roseco beans, Nyayo beans, Green Grams, Basmati and Pishori rice, will now feature an expanded portfolio including Premium Sugar, long grain rice, and soon pasta; progressively introduced to the local market.
- As consumers strive to enrich their dietary diversity, pulses have gained popularity as superfoods naturally loaded with high levels of dietary fibre, vitamins, minerals, phytochemicals, and complex carbohydrates. Besides the nutritional benefits, pulses also assist in improving digestion, reducing blood glucose, minimizing inflammation, lowering blood cholesterol, and preventing chronic health issues such as diabetes, heart disease and obesity.



Unga Group Chairman Isabella Ochola-Wilson (left) joins State Department for Crop Development Principal Secretary Kello Harsama (centre) and Unga Group Managing Director Joseph Choge (right) during the re-launch of Amana range of nutritious consumer staple foods.

Listed food processing firm Unga Group Limited has announced strategic plans to capture a larger share of the local packaged consumer staple foods market by re-introducing an expanded range of nutritious products under its popular Amana brand.

The re-launch of Amana products, first introduced in 2014, is part of a Kshs 521 million three-year market repositioning project by the firm pursuing a comprehensive food strategy to boost its corporate value and return on investment for its shareholders with a diversified portfolio of value-added products.

Speaking at the event, State Department for Crop Development Principal Secretary Mr Phillip Kello Harsama said the government will consider a petition to classify white maize exclusively for human consumption and yellow maize for animal feeds.

Such a classification, he noted, will reduce the prevailing raw material pressure for both human and animal feeds as both compete for white maize supplies. The government, he added, is also encouraging farmers to grow alternative animal feed and edible oil crops to bridge the current local production deficit.

As part of the corporate revamp, Unga Group is repositioning itself as a holistic food company through strategic joint ventures and partnerships.

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Speaking at a re-launch event at the firm's manufacturing complex in Nairobi, Unga Group Managing Director Mr Joseph Choge said the firm is banking on the growing demand for nutritious foods, including pulses and wholegrain value-added products in its corporate growth plans.

Mr Choge said Unga is striving to deliver the best quality brands that offer great value for money and are trusted for consumer satisfaction. "As a fully integrated foods business engaged in the manufacturing, processing, and trade of food

products, we sought to create value propositions that inspire moments of togetherness," he said. Choge added that the firm is aligning its growth plans to emerging market trends inspired by changing dietary needs and increased demand for nutritious foods.

"The demand for quality nutritious packaged staple foods including pulses, cereals and related products in the local retail market is growing at a rate of more than 30 per cent annually due to increased health consciousness," Choge said.

He added, "the re-introduction of Amana with a clear retail go to market strategy is one of our corporate priorities at Unga in our product diversification strategy beyond maize, porridge and wheat flour products, as we seek to maximize value for our customers and shareholders."

The re-introduction of Amana, Choge added, will also positively impact local farmers as the company will prioritize local sourcing for all its products.

Mr Choge said, "This launch epitomizes the enduring principles that Amana has always stood for, representing excellence in every sense of the word. Trust Amana to bring you the best quality, unbeatable value for money, and the satisfaction that comes from a brand that truly cares about your culinary experiences."

To service the market, Unga Group, Choge said, has recently invested

and partnered with various entities with state-of-the-art processing facilities for consumer-packaged foods incorporating a certified laboratory, sorting, polishing, and packaging machines. The firm's operations are all ISO 22000:2018 certified and employ a HACCP-based Food Safety Management System to ensure products are safe and exceed customer expectations.

In Kenya, Unga Group relies on technology-driven distribution capabilities to reach its customers more efficiently, conveniently, and affordably through relevant partnerships. The firm has adopted contemporary sales capabilities, including an on-line sales platform to complement its route-to-market options such as Wholesalers, Supermarkets and Dukas.

According to global research firm Research and Markets, the global pulses market size reached KShs13 Trillion last year and is expected to reach KShs17.8 Trillion by 2028, exhibiting a Compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.41% during 2022-2028.

Gov't To Commence Sensitization Of Students On New Varsity Funding Model

By: Prudence Wanza

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The government is set to begin sensitizing prospective and continuing students on the new funding model in universities.

Appearing before the national assembly education committee, education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu said the new model will see over 290,000 students join universities and TVETS.

Machogu had been summoned to brief members on the confusion that has dogged the ongoing process for applying for funding following the adoption of the new university funding model.

Machogu clarified that students who are under age will be required to apply for scholarships and loans with their KSCE Index numbers and birth certificates.

He also said universities have been requested to give students one month to process loans and scholarships

from the opening date next week.

In the new funding model, the government plans to channel higher education assistance directly to individual students based on carefully curated criteria.

The level of funding for each student will depend on the monthly household income and each student will individually apply for the scholarship and loans, soon after receiving admission letters.

Those seeking financial aid from the government have been classified into four categories, the vulnerable, extremely needy, needy and less needy.

Under the model, those students falling under the vulnerable and extremely needy band will qualify for 100% government funding for their studies with the money coming as scholarships and loans.

Students categorized as less needy will get 93% government funding, with the students bearing 7% of the tuition costs.

Additional reporting by Samuel Musita



New Varsity Funding Model in Kenya

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Gachagua Promises Major Development Projects For Maa Counties

By: Prudence Wanza

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Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua says the government has intensified development in the Maa Counties saying the Kenya Kwanza administration's interest was improving the lives of the people.

Speaking when he presided over the closing of the Maa Cultural Festival at Sekenani Gate in Maasai Mara, Narok County, the DP said more development projects were being rolled out in Narok, Kajiado and Samburu Counties.

He pointed out the ongoing reforms in the dairy sector saying they will benefit livestock owners in the region.

"We will supply more coolers so the farmers can preserve the milk for a longer time and fetch better prices," he said.

The DP revealed that a skins' factory will be opened in the area for



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua (Centre) with Maa leaders in Narok.

.....

processing of the animal products.

He said more funds will also allocated for construction of roads and dams for the benefit the people.

In addition, Gachagua said a beads

factory will be constructed in Narok County to help locals refine and sell the products.

"We are asking the county to acquire 10 acres of land for the es-

tablishment of this facility," the DP said.

During the ceremony the DP congratulated the Maa Community for preserving their culture saying they

had raised the nation's profile globally.

"We are proud of the Maa people because you have protected your culture and identity. We are respected globally because of your culture," he stated.

He also said the directive by President William Ruto to revert management of Amboseli National Park to the Kajiado county government will be fully implemented.

The Deputy President said the President had heeded the pleas by leaders from the Maa Community and will ensure the Park is managed by the county as promised.

"It is the right decision. I will ensure that the directive is fully implemented. We will work with the Cabinet Secretary in charge of Wildlife, the Kajiado Governor and the community elders to implement it," said Gachagua.

Police Engage Transport Sector Players To Curb Accidents

By: Samuel Maina
@themkenyatimes

Police in Nyeri are incorporating various transport sector players in the fight against bodaboda accidents in the county.

Area Traffic Police Base Commander Justus Mumo says the ingenious move has seen a drastic reduction in the number of accidents in the county this year, with only four fatalities so far recorded since January.

Speaking to journalists in his office, the traffic boss similarly said they expect the numbers to go down even further as they undertake more sensitization meetings for bodaboda operators across the county.

Stakeholders who are working closely with the police to facilitate road safety training include the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), the Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA), Nyeri Water and Sanitation Company (Nyewasco), Nyeri National Polytechnic, and the Catholic Church.

“To address the challenge of acci-

dents among our bodaboda riders, my office has decided to bring on board various stakeholders in the transport sector in conducting road safety sensitization workshops for our bodaboda riders. During these meetings, we have been emphasizing the need for the riders to observe strict safety rules at all times and ensure they are operating in accordance with the traffic laws of the country. The efforts have greatly lowered the number of accidents in Nyeri and made our roads safer for all and sundry,” he said.

Mumo nevertheless lauded bodaboda riders in the area for heeding calls to belong to duly registered Saccos and added that they are also working with local administrators to ensure such measures are adhered to.

“As we conduct our road safety sensitization forums, we are also reminding those who wish to join the industry to follow the due process of the law, including enrolling with a registered boda-boda Sacco. We keep on reminding them that it is to their advantage to belong to such entities since they can also be in a position to save and invest for their future even as they carry out their day-to-day activities,” he added.



Bodaboda.

Over the last four years, NTSA has raised concerns over the steady increase in accidents caused by boda boda operators.

According to statistics from the NTSA, motorcycle transport was ranked as the most dangerous mode of transport in 2022.

Data from the authority indicated that Bodaboda contributed to the

highest number of fatalities in 2022, recording a total of 1,209 fatalities.

Private vehicles came in second by recording 1,104 fatalities compared to 1,172 in 2021, while commercial vehicles recorded 1,079 fatalities compared to 1,019 in 2021. Public service vehicles recorded 626 fatalities, compared to 534 in 2021.

Overall, at least 4,690 people lost

their lives on Kenyan roads in 2022, the authority’s 2023 economic survey shows.

On average, Kenya records an average of 3,000 deaths emanating from road accidents annually, placing the country among the nations with the highest road carnage in the world.

Property Worth Millions Destroyed By Fire In Doldol Town

By: Muturi Mwangi
@themkenyatimes

Traders in Doldol town, Laikipia North Sub County, were left counting losses totaling millions of shillings after their property was destroyed by a fire whose cause remains mysterious.

Due to lack of fire engines in the area, the 10 p.m. inferno reduced to ashes seven major retail shops as residents watched helplessly.

Laikipia North Deputy County Commissioner Benard Odino, confirming the incident, said that the cause of the fire was not immediately established. He noted that it destroyed one block that had wooden structures before it was contained.

The DCC said they were investigating to establish the cause of the inferno.

Traders said they suffered huge losses amid the harsh economic times currently coupled with the prevailing dry weather.

Laikipia North One More Day for Chil-

dren Safe House director Ms. Hellen Gathogo termed the incident unfortunate and a wakeup call for the county government to install fire stations and to set water bowsers on standby to prevent such calamities in the future.

“It’s sad; women and children are suffering. People watched helplessly as the fire spread. Businesses have been lost, but I thank God no casualty was reported,” said Ms. Gathogo.

Ms. Gathogo noted that, at the time of the incident, the majority of people were in their houses since the area is under a dusk-to-dawn curfew as directed by the government due to the banditry menace in Laikipia North.

She further urged well-wishers to support the affected victims to restart their lives and, at the same time, encouraged the county government to train residents on fire control methods. She lamented that if they had known how to quench the fire, they would have salvaged the situation.



Property Worth Millions Destroyed By Fire In Doldol Town

Ruto's Talks With TikTok Boss Demonstrated His Commitment To Create Jobs For The Youth



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

Worth Noting:

- For those opting to specialize in Agro-business, he has made great strides in terms of creating a conducive environment. Mechanized farming, reducing price of fertilizer and other farm inputs as well as rolling out of the agro processing and value additions zones were the key milestones.
- Back to digital migration, the President moved a notch higher a few days ago when he held talks with the boss of social media app TikTok.
- This came hot on the heels of a petition filed before the national assembly that sought to have the app deregistered in Kenya.
- The petitioner had argued that a huge chunk of its content posed a real threat to social fabric of the families.



President William Ruto and his team Talks With TikTok Boss .

In the countdown to 2022 General Elections, the promise of creating jobs for the youth stood out as one of the key pre-election pledges for the Kenya Kwanza presidential candidate Dr William Ruto.

This helped him to win the hearts of the majority of the hustlers (jobless Kenyans) and come the Election Day they turned up and elected him as the fifth President of the Republic of Kenya.

Since he assumed office, President Ruto has been walking the talk.

He started by rolling out the Hustler Fund that have seen millions of Kenyans accessing the money to start businesses and boost the existing ones.

The President has also been in forefront of ensuring that the youth reap maximum benefits from opportunities existing in the field of information, technology and communication (ICT).

He has been working closely with the foreign governments, experts and tech companies that stood out as the pioneers of these innovations.

These efforts have borne fruits. As of now, Kenya is the leading digital hub in Africa continent.

For those opting to specialize in Agro-business, he has made great strides in terms of creating a conducive environ-

ment. Mechanized farming, reducing price of fertilizer and other farm inputs as well as rolling out of the agro processing and value additions zones were the key milestones.

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This came hot on the heels of a petition filed before the national assembly that sought to have the app deregistered in Kenya.

The petitioner had argued that a huge chunk of its content posed a real threat to social fabric of the families.

This is because it was eroding cultural and religious morals.

For Dr Ruto, he would find himself in a catch-22 situation.

TikTok was a main source of employment in Kenya and hence helping thousands of the hustlers to eke a living and put food on the table.

Most of them were gifted with talent of developing juicy content. Once aired, it would attract the attention of many viewers.

The more the content is opened and watched in full, the more the creator earns money.

Given this scenario, one can under-

stand why the President stepped out to oppose the move to ban TikTok on Kenyan soil.

He was however privy to the issues raised by the petitioner. Listening to his remarks and watching his body language, he believed that some of them cannot be swept under the carpet.

I have a meeting with the TikTok Boss tomorrow. Our talks will focus on two main issues. One, the moderation of the content. Two, monetization of the content.

Some of the content were promoting weird foreign values that did not resonate well with many Kenyans.

Therefore, I would ask him to ensure the content is moderated.

President Ruto met the TikTok Boss one day after he was quoted by a section of the media as saying that a Bill known as Creative Bill had been prepared.

The national assembly is set to discuss this Bill and my wish is to see it sail through.

If passed, this will clear the way for the formation of the Creative Commission. The main tasks of the commission would be to advise my government on the following.

One, to identify those with the talents to develop the content. Two, to nurture

them and ensure their content fit in all spectrum of the social media outlets.

Three, to help in looking for new opportunities and markets.

The third point is very important for all the content creators.

This is because all of them were looking to make the good money out of this.

I had an opportunity to listen to some of them and they would reiterate.

Our business is not only to entertain the viewers but, more importantly, use our talent to eke a living. We have families and other personal needs to care of.

So our plea to the President is to help us to create a conducive environment. We want these to become permanent jobs just like those in the formal employment.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

From Passion To Progress; Nominated Senator Veronica Maina’s Impactful Leadership

By: Eutyechus Ngechu Kimemia
@themkenyentimes

In the realm of leadership, where allocated budgets often dictate the extent of impact, Nominated Senator Veronica Maina stands as a testament to the fact that true leadership transcends financial constraints. A woman of remarkable qualities and unwavering dedication, Senator Maina has set the bar high in her leadership journey, displaying a motherly character, a future-focused vision, and an unyielding commitment to youth affairs.

Her leadership is defined by a distinct passion for touching lives, inspiring positive change, and making a tangible difference within society. With a heart that beats for the betterment of others, Senator Maina’s actions are driven by a genuine desire to uplift and empower those around her. One of her notable achievements is the recent milestone reached through her Digital Skills Training program. Collaborating with the Africa Centre Women of Information, Communication, and Technology (ACWICT), she oversaw the graduation of numerous youths on the 23rd of AUGUST, 2023, in Murang’a county. The event was graced by her presence, emphasizing her hands-on approach to leadership.

The comprehensive curriculum of the program covered an array of topics, ranging from cyberbullying awareness to computational thinking. Senator Maina recognized the significance of digital skills in the 21st Century, where technology’s influence on life, work, and communication is undeniable. During the ceremonial presentation of certificates, she underscored the importance of collaborative efforts across governments, private sectors, civil society, and individuals to achieve digital literacy goals.

Her commitment to education and empowerment is further demonstrated through her Digital Skill Training program tailored for women in SMEs. This initiative, conducted in partnership with the Africa Centre Women of Information, Communication, and Technology, aimed at equipping women with digital literacy, device navigation, and strategic customer outreach skills. Beyond technical skills, the program delved into marketing strategies and business expansion, empowering women entrepreneurs to thrive in a digital landscape.

In her eloquent remarks at the certificate conferment event, Senator Maina articulated that the certificates symbolize not just achievement, but also a significant step forward for the

recipients. Her dedication to uplifting others and fostering growth shines through her words and actions.

Senator Maina’s leadership extends beyond digital literacy, as she recognizes the transformative power of sports. Inaugurating a Friendly-Match Tournament at Turuturu Primary Ground in Kigumo ward, Kigumo Constituency, she highlighted the holistic benefits of sports. Physical, psychological, emotional, and social well-being are strengthened through sports, making them an invaluable tool for youth development. Her commitment to nurturing talents and expanding opportunities through sports is unwavering.

A workaholic and go-getter, Senator Maina believes in the strength of partnership and collaboration. Her actions reflect her Christian beliefs, demonstrating a harmonious alignment of her faith and her endeavors. Moreover, her achievements are not isolated acts, but integral components of larger agendas. Her work harmoniously aligns with the Vision 2030 Agendas and Kenya’s bottom-up economic approach. Through her multifaceted initiatives, Senator Maina contributes to the nation’s growth and development, fostering a future where opportunities are accessible to all.

In a world often driven by resources, Nominated Senator Veronica Maina’s leadership exemplifies that dedication, passion, and a commitment to uplift lives can create profound impact, even in the absence of an allocated budget. As she continues to pioneer change, empower the youth, and inspire positive transformation, she sets an inspiring example for leaders across the nation and beyond.



A photo of Senator Veronica Maina Kicking of the Friendly-Match Tournament at Turuturu Primary Ground in Kigumo ward: Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu Kimemia.



A photo of Senator Veronica Maina with Youths graduate of course at Turuturu Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu kimemia..



Photo of Senator Veronica Maina Awarding certificates to youths at Turuturu :Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu kimemia.



A photo of Senator Veronica Maina awarding Certificates to women in SME’s (Mama Mboga) at Muranga town: Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu kimemia.



Photo of Senator Veronica Maina as she Joined fellow women in SME’s for Digital skills training: Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu kimemia.



Photo of Senator Veronica Maina posing with women in SME’s graduates of course :photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu kimemia.



A captivating captured photo of Senator Veronica Maina with Turuturu amateur Football Club at Turuturu primary Ground: Photo taken by Eutyechus Ngechu Kimemia..

Worth Noting:

- Her commitment to education and empowerment is further demonstrated through her Digital Skill Training program tailored for women in SMEs. This initiative, conducted in partnership with the Africa Centre Women of Information, Communication, and Technology, aimed at equipping women with digital literacy, device navigation, and strategic customer outreach skills. Beyond technical skills, the program delved into marketing strategies and business expansion, empowering women entrepreneurs to thrive in a digital landscape.
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CS Nakhumicha Launch Polio Vaccination Campaign In Kiambu County

By: Maxwell Wasike
@themtkenyatimes

Continued from page 1

Kiambu, ahead of spread into other areas including Kajiado, Garissa, Kitui, Machakos, Tana River among others. Speaking during the event in Ruiru sub-county, Nakhumicha urged parents to be vigilant and ensure their children get polio vaccine to protect against polio, or poliomyelitis, as part of the series of routine childhood vaccines.

“I have today launched the first round of the Polio vaccination campaign at the Ruiru Sub County Hospital, Kiambu county. The campaign, which will run in the four counties of Kiambu, Kajiado, Nairobi and Garissa, targets about 1.8 million children under the age of five years,” she said

“Polio is a serious disease that can cause paralysis, disability and even loss of life. I urge all Kenyans to be vigilant and ensure all children under the age of five have received the polio jab. Together, let’s protect our future generations” added the CS who fur-

ther reiterated government’s commitment of supporting county administrations in achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

Despite Kenya’s previous declaration as a polio-free nation, recent cases have emerged due to cross-border movements from neighbouring countries, necessitating urgent action.

In a bid to reach unvaccinated individuals and ensure the eradication of polio, the campaign is strategically focusing on high-risk regions and strengthening routine immunization.

UNICEF emphasized that eradicating polio is paramount, and routine immunization is crucial to achieving this goal. The recent developments underscore the importance of addressing vaccination gaps and ensuring every child is protected.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), Kenya reported two polio cases from Hagadera refugee camp, the second largest refugee camp in the world and home to over 100, 000 refugees.

Globally, tremendous improvement has been made in Polio eradication since its inception in 1988.



Health Cabinet Secretary Nakhumicha S. Wafula Vaccinating a child.

Peace Labs To Enhance Peacebuilding In Schools

By: Moses Wekesa
@themtkenyatimes

Re-Imagining New Communities, a peacebuilding and communication organisation in Kenya, has equipped nine teachers from Kakamega, Uasin Gishu, and Trans Nzoia Counties with skills and tools to establish children-led community peace laboratories in schools.

The organisation aims to utilise the peace laboratories to create safe spaces for children aged 7–12 in Grades 4–6 in conflict-affected communities to learn, practice, and develop essential peacebuilding skills.

Community peace labs are one of the flagship programmes of the organisation through the children-led peace initiative, which also aims to provide a safe space for children to actively engage in conversations about their communities and the democratic process.

The organisation collaborated with the Inua Village Global Foundation with sponsorship from ‘We One Network’ in training the first cohort



of teachers during a workshop held in Likuyani Sub County.

Speaking during the training session, Re-Imagining New Communities officer Salim Charles said that the impact of violence on children living in conflict-affected areas is far-reaching.

“Lack of attention and mental support has greatly affected children’s emotional development and social functioning and negatively impact-

ed their academic performance,’ he reiterated.

He noted that due to conflict, many of the children have developed post-traumatic stress disorders as a result of witnessing violence within their homes or in the communities in which they live.

“This programme also aims to equip teachers with the knowledge and tools necessary to support children, teachers, and other people in

the community to become more resilient and aware of the chronic violence that plagues their communities,” Salim noted.

“I now possess enhanced skills in active listening and conflict management. I am motivated to establish a peace lab at my school where students can benefit from the knowledge and practices shared during the programme. By creating a safe space dedicated to peacebuilding, I hope to

foster a culture of harmony and understanding among my students,” said Jane Mbugua, the head teacher of Telewa Memorial School.

Glady’s Sigali, who is the head teacher of Holy Trinity School, said she is now equipped to address conflict between teachers, parents, children, and the rest of the community.

“I am eager to share this newfound knowledge not only with the children at my school but also with those in my church community. I believe that spreading this understanding of peacebuilding will make a positive impact in their lives,” she remarked.

Grace Wangari from Re-Imagining New Communities clarified that through a grassroots approach, the organisation aims to continue impacting the lives of children and communities, fostering peace and resilience in the face of adversity.

“Teachers always interact with children. They play a vital role in shaping their students’ lives. They will therefore become catalysts for change within their educational environments,” she added.

The Role Of Doctors In Society



Doctors play a crucial role in society as primary caregivers and guardians of our health. They possess the knowledge and expertise to diagnose and treat various medical conditions, ranging from minor ailments to life-threatening diseases. Their ability to accurately assess symptoms, conduct tests, and provide appropriate treatment plans is essential in saving lives and improving the quality of life for patients.

Doctors also serve as educators, imparting their knowledge to patients and empowering them to make informed decisions about their health. They educate individuals about healthy lifestyle choices and disease prevention, contributing to the overall well-being of society. Furthermore, doctors act as advocates for

their patients, ensuring their voices are heard and advocating for their rights and well-being within the healthcare system. They collaborate with other healthcare professionals to provide comprehensive care and advocate for public health initiatives.

Doctors also play a crucial role in research and innovation, striving to discover new treatments, improve existing ones, and enhance medical technologies. Their contributions to medical research benefit individual patients and advance healthcare practices on a broader scale.

Lastly, doctors are often called upon during times of crisis, providing emergency medical care and support. Their selflessness and dedication to serving society are evident during these challenging times.

In conclusion, doctors hold a vital role in society as healers, educators, advocates, researchers, and crisis responders. Their expertise, compassion, and commitment to the well-being of individuals and communities are indispensable.

I am Abdulhamid Haydarov, i was born on 23rd March 1999, in Andijan, Uzbekistan . I am a medical student at Andijan state medical institute, also leader of volunteer group named, Legends". Life is short so live it happily and help people as much as you can

Smart Guy



By: Beknazarova Ayganim

There was a child in the past. He was very smart, sparse, knowledgeable. One day a stepmother who hates him I won't let you into the house if you bring me a gold-winged bird, a golden leaf, and a talking mirror," said the boy, not knowing what to do. As he was walking down the road, an old man came out in front of him. "My child, please take me home," said the old man

"Come on, where is your house?" My child said, "My house is ten miles away

Let's go," said the boy.

They were walking, and they were having many hardships. And they finally came to the old man's house. "My child, what were you looking for here?" said the old man, "Exx my mother, a golden-winged bird to me, The boy was very upset that he would not let me into the house if I did not bring the gold leaf and the talking window -My child, do not be upset, everything has a solution. I will give you those things you are from them too He said, "Who are you?" The boy wondered, "Let my identity remain a mystery, and told me where he could find those things, and the boy found all things and arrived in the village in ten days brought. When the mother sat down that she would not enter even if she would not come, the child came and gave things to her mother and entered the house, the stepmother was amazed and the child began to live a happy life. Here are the children we are, not sparing our help from anyone need.

Two Different Souls



Two old people, who had been diseasing the same heart disease, were placed in the same ward. The difference: one of them was lying near the window and another one was beside the wall. Because of the standing up was strictly prohibited for them, the old man, near the window, looked out and told his partner about what he was seeing: "Today, the sea is calm, nevertheless, I suppose, there is a little breeze. Because the soul of the boat, far from there, is swinging. Also, the avenue is calm in this morning. Two seats are occupied.

Two people are talking on the one seat and on one, the man is reading newspaper. But others are empty... The apricot trees in the garden are blooming

beautifully. Lush green grasses bare spreading like a carpet. The birds are flying over the sea. How wonderful and beautiful scene!"- said.

He was not tried to talk interesting stories until died of heart attack. At that terrible night, suddenly he felt pain in his heart. Even though his roommate knew to warn the nurses by clicking the alarming button, he was lying as unawareness.

He thought: "How long will you listen his stories? If he die, you will be lied his bed. You will commence to see external world with your own eyes".

The old man, not even listening to the cries of his conscience, kept lying down. His roommate died looking him expectedly. Finally, he had a chance to look out by himself. He looked out excitedly. But there was nothing except a white wall... How kind was the old man to his partner!!!

Translated by Jaboraliyeva Nilufarkhon, Born In Uzbekistan. Student of Kokand Pedagogical Institute

The Void: By Fatma Nadim, Mapimo Girls' Secondary School

It flowed and I rose,
The warmth was absent
I couldn't see you much
I waited for your arms to hold,
But none came by;
My silence awakened by nurses' slight hits

Slowly on four, I crawled
Waiting by the door for your lift,
None came by;
Instead, the guests lifted me,
In their lift, I envisaged you

Years went by,
I tried to live by it
A weaking I became outwards
Yet the stronger I became inwards

Forced to say, Dad,
I saved it for you

It became unbearable
Tiresome to control
Got deeply wounded
Away from my existence is the cure

Conditional is love I believe
Life chooses who to love
Spiritually Love isn't a word I know
Till when yours prove me wrong
It never came by...

Edited by Bettie Atemo, Founder, BAM CARES Artmore, Poetry and Art Group.

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Government to Compensate Victims of Marine Attack

By: Eric Wanjala
@themtkenyatimes

It's a breakthrough to families and people in Lamu and other aquatic areas, after a bill amendment that aims to reintroduce payments for death or injury resulting from attacks by Sharks, Stone Fish, Sting Ray and Whales.

The Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill 2023 sponsored by Lamu East MP Captain Ruweida Obo seeks to include Sharks, Stone Fish, Whales and Stingrays among wildlife species in respect of which compensation as result of death and injury may be paid.

The National Assembly in 2019 amended the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013 and removed sharks, whales, stonefish, stingrays and snakes from the list of wildlife species in respect of which compensation is payable for death or injury.

Rescinding their initial objection to the amendment, the State Department for Wildlife has expressed its



Lamu Capt Ruweida Obo.

agreement to the amendment Bill reinstating Sharks, Stone Fish, Whales and Stingrays onto the compensation schedule.

By removal of snake bites and marine creatures from the compensation schedule in 2019, the state urged that it will help bring down the compensation claims, which stood at Sh2.6 billion by June 2023.

Appearing before the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife on Thursday, Principal Secretary, State Department for Wildlife Silvia Museiya urged parliament to increase the budgetary allocation for compensation due to wildlife attacks as well as formulate a comprehensive legal framework that can effectively govern the compensation process.

“As a ministry, we are fully aligned in our support for this amendment bill, considering that these species had previously been accounted for in the compensation schedule. Consequently, we hold no objections to their reintroduction, we can only ask parliament to increase the budget allocated to compensation claims arising from wildlife attacks.” said PS Museiya.

Maara MP Hon Kareke Mbiuki, who is the committee chair, inquired from the state department of Wildlife whether the affected people would receive compensation instantly or they will have to wait for parliament to set a budget allocation.

“Is this subject to parliament amending the act further, by reducing the bereavement from five to three; if we fail to do that, will you be still comfortable because we cannot guarantee you that there will be extra funding.” Asked Hon Mbiuki

According to Ps Museiya she confirms that the ministry has no problem with 4 species that were removed from the 2013 act to be reinstated to the compensation schedule.

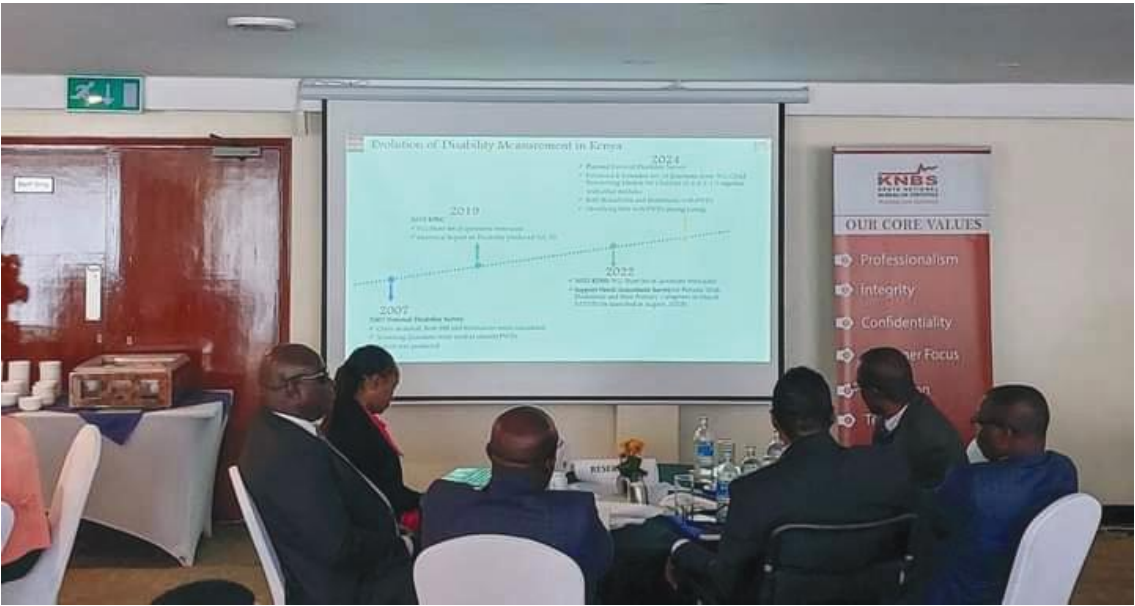
The 2024 National Disability Survey Plans Underway

By: Hellen Lunalo
@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) has revealed plans to organise a national disability survey next year.

The National Disability Survey (NDS) is a survey tool that provides comprehensive information about the levels of disability in a population while identifying unmet needs and the barriers or inequalities faced by people experiencing different levels of disability. It was developed by the World Health Organisation and the World Bank.

Speaking during a meeting with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities, KNBS Director General Macdonald Obudho stated that the previous National Disability Survey was conducted in 2007, and since then, several surveys and studies have been done that have provided varying numbers due to the methodologies used.



The 2024 National Disability Survey Plans Underway.

“The 2019 census that was conducted nationwide had its limitations as data was not properly captured. For instance, the statistics of children with disabilities aged five and below were not included. The stand-alone survey that we are organising to be done in 2024 is aimed at getting an accurate number of persons with disabilities in Kenya, delving deeper into the types, severity, and socio-economic data, among other indicators,” Obudho said.

The Director-General emphasised the need to have updated disability statistics, which will go a long way in getting a truer picture of the disability status in Kenya as well as providing reliable data for designing and evaluating programmes targeting people with disabilities.

National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) Executive Director Harun Hassan noted that the need for conducting the survey came at a very significant time, with the government committed to achieving pledges made towards people living with disabilities (PWDs).

He stated that the National Disability Survey was designed to provide up-to-date information for planning, monitoring, and evaluating the various activities, programmes, and projects geared towards improving the wellbeing of PWDs.

“The government has a lot of pledges to fulfil for PWDs that include 100 per cent NHIF cover, enhanced support for learners with disabilities, and economic assistance through the Financial Inclusion Fund (Hustler Fund) among others. The success of these programmes is pegged on accurate and reliable data on the PWDs that will ensure sufficient and fair coverage,” said Hassan.

The meeting was held with the support of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD).



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National Assembly Debates Anti-Money Laundering Bill

By: Our Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

The National Assembly yesterday debated the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating of Terrorism Financing Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2023. The Bill moved by Leader of Majority Party and Kikuyu constituency Member of Parliament, Kimani Ichung’wa seeks to amend various Acts of Parliament relating to money laundering, countering financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Among the laws targeted for amendment by the Bill is the Proceeds of Crime and Anti-money laundering Act of 2009. The Bill seeks to grant supervisory bodies powers to monitor and ensure compliance with anti-money laundering and combating of terrorism financing and to align various provisions under the Act to Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards.



Kimani Ichung’wa

Also set for amendment through the Bill is the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Act of 2011. The Bill seeks to include the offence of money laundering as an economic crime under Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2009. Ichung’wa told the House that the Bill is critical to cure current deficiencies in reporting of suspicious cross-border financial transactions and would go a long way in combating terrorism. “People do not launder legitimately acquired wealth. It is usually illicit money. If we had this law in place many past cross-border economic



Some of the stakeholders during yesterday’s forum

crimes would have been avoided,” said Ichung’wa. MP for Ruaraka Tom Kajwang’ opposed the Bill saying as currently drafted, the legislative proposal was in breach of lawyer-client confidentiality. “This Bill is allowing some third parties to encroach on the fidelity of advocate-client relationships. If this Bill is passed it will allow people to intrude in your accounts and know what you are discussing with your lawyer,” said Kajwang’.

ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE VANDALS PUT ON NOTICE

By: The DCI

Detectives have intensified a crack-down on a syndicate responsible for vandalism of electricity transformers, cables, electrical apparatus and other electricity infrastructure leading to huge losses to the government and electricity consumers. In an operation involving officers from the Crime Research and Intelligence Bureau and investigators based at the Kenya Power, a raid was conducted at a palatial home in Mutonguni, Machakos County, where five sacks of vandalised alluminum wires were recovered. Consequently, the owner of the house Josphat Mutuku alias mrefu, a notorious suspect believed to be the leader of an elaborate syndicate of vandals who target installations along the country’s electricity lines was arrested. According to a report from Kenya Power, the electricity distributor

had recorded over 220 incidents of vandalism in the country from January to June this year, with Nairobi, Kiambu, Machakos, and Nakuru counties accounting for over half of the reported incidents. This resulted to frequent power blackouts that became the order of the day in the worst hit areas, leading to losses in millions of shillings. Last year, detectives working with KP-based investigators unearthed an elaborate network of third party agents who were working with crooked former employees of the power distributor, to intentionally occasion blackouts in order to generate income through reconnection of power. This was achieved through vandalism of crucial parts of transformers, before the agents masquerading as Kenya Power officials approached the affected area residents and reconnected power to their homesteads at a fee. In the well-orchestrated transgression, the thugs would sabotage efforts by KP to restore power supply by removing fuses from transform-



Josphat Mutuku alias mrefu

ers, immediately the KP emergency teams had left the sites. This was done in a bid to frustrate consumers further, so that they would yield to their demands. As a result, the government issued a moratorium on scrap metal dealings, after investigations revealed that scrap metal trade was responsible



for runaway vandalism of critical national infrastructure, targeting materials used for electricity connection, road and railway construction, in a vice bordering on economic sabotage. A dedicated team of officers from the Directorate is working closely with investigators based at the electricity distribution company, to stem this vice once and for all. Should you have any information regarding vandalism of any critical national infrastructure. #FichuakwaDCI on 0800 722 203.

Parliamentary Committee Holds Roundtable With Labour Officials And Recruiting Agencies, Calls For Improved Management Of Migrant Workers

By: PSCU



Worth Noting:

- The facilitation is targeted to cover passport applications and processing, accreditation of facilities for pre-travel medical screening, and work visas for the Saudi Domestic labour market.
- She underscored the need for such engagements as today’s roundtable, in helping sort out the challenges affecting all stakeholders in the migratory workers sector.
- “It is expected that Kenyans and more particularly those in the diaspora will benefit from such engagements as this one. Indeed, it is only through continued strategic partnerships among the arms of government, and in the spirit of intergovernmental relations guided by the principles of co-ordination, consultation, and cooperation that we shall be able to deliver on our mandates collectively”, she told the forum.



Some of the stakeholders during yesterday’s forum

The Committee on Diaspora Affairs and Migrant Workers has urged the State Department for Labour to find ways of working with recruiting agencies to streamline the management of migrant workers and enhance their welfare abroad.

The Lydia Mizighi led committee made the call during a roundtable engagement with officials from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the State Department for Immigration and Citizen Services, State Department for Diaspora Affairs, Kenya Association of Private Employment Agencies (KAPEA) and Representatives from the Association of Skilled Migrant Agencies of Kenya (ASMAK).

The forum is part of committee - led Inquiry into the operations of Private Recruitment Agencies.

The inquiry further covers matters relating to Policies and Programs geared towards the protection of the Human Rights.

Making her opening remarks during the forum, Mizighi noted that in the wake of rising unemployment in the country, the committee is keen to ease the facilitation of migrant workers with requisite documents for travel and work placements abroad.

The facilitation is targeted to cover passport applications and processing, accreditation of facilities for pre-travel medical screening, and work visas for the Saudi Domestic labour market.

She underscored the need for such

engagements as today’s roundtable, in helping sort out the challenges affecting all stakeholders in the migratory workers sector.

“It is expected that Kenyans and more particularly those in the diaspora will benefit from such engagements as this one. Indeed, it is only through continued strategic partnerships among the arms of government, and in the spirit of intergovernmental relations guided by the principles of co-ordination, consultation, and cooperation that we shall be able to deliver on our mandates collectively”, she told the forum.

Representatives from KAPEA and ASMAK decried the the luckluster support offered by government towards the sustenance of their businesses. The Secretary General of KAPEA Ms. Virginia Njoki told the Committee that the requirements for licensing of recruitment agencies and the exorbitant charges for the license itself had proven difficult for a number of them.

She disclosed that several players in the sector had since closed shop in the country and moved to neighbouring countries to open new businesses there.

“Hon. Members, the Ministry’s stringent requirements and high cost of the one-year license is too high to keep us in business. A number of my members have closed shop in Kenya and are now operating in neighbouring countries like Burundi where conditions are favourable”, Ms. Njoki told the MPs.

The committee also heard that the duration for the agency license- 1 year with no guarantee of renewal, was too short and was hampering the operations of the agencies.They called on the Ministry of Labour to extend the license duration to two years to align with the contract duration for most immigrant workers.

Lawmakers present wondered what would be the fate of a migrant worker whose agency has been deregistered arbitrarily, if they faced challenges in their host countries.

In response, the Principal Secretary for Labour and Skills Development, Geoffrey Kaituko told the committee that the Ministry would soon be submitting the Labour Migration Management Bill for consideration by Parliament.

He informed the lawmakers that the proposed law seeks to not only mainstream migration management, but also proposes the extension of licensing period for migrant recruitment agencies to two years from the current one year.

Representatives of organizations that offer pre- departure training and certification also expressed concerns over rigid regulations enforced by the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA).

They told the committee that though they were keen to assist in the preparation of migrant workers for placement abroad, NITA’s requirements had hindered their endeavors, in its trail leaving behind a host of frustrated young people in

search of work abroad.

They called for scaling down of the requirements of those who can be enrolled at NITA, to primary school education to allow as many young people to be absorbed. They further proposed a split of the management of industrial tutelage and homecare training at NITA, given their different placement modalities.

While acceding to this request, PS Kaituko and NITA’s Director General Mr. Stephen Ogenga told the Committee that the Ministry was in the process of establishing two different directorates to oversee the two programs.

Mr. Ogenga further told the Committee that the Authority which has processed over 200,000 placements abroad since 2020, was also currently automating its systems to enhance the registration process for agencies.

Asked why the Ministy had insisted on physical vetting of directors of recruitment agencies, the PS told the Committee that an influx in human trafficking and money laundering by rogue agencies had necessitated the move. He noted that since they had introduced this requirement, a number of agencies that were being fronted by foreigners had closed shop.

The Inquiry continues with the committee having resolved that the stakeholders meet once again in two weeks to review progress made on some of the matters raised during yesterday’s ’s meeting.

Thembelani Majingo Annual Soccer Tournament

under 21

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kit,beeps,ball,medals,trophy

2nd: beeps,ball,medals

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Tanzania’s Marleen Xplastaz Shinning Stars Africa 2023 Awards



Paula.O.M Otukile
paula200500293@gmail.com
Senior Editor Botswana & S. Africa



Worth Noting:

- I anticipate winning the award, connecting and uniting with different talents across Africa business-wise, and expanding my network.
- I represent the Best Rising Star of the Year East Africa.
- I encourage them to stand by what they believe in, focus on their dreams, be more creative, and work as hard as they can.
- Much appreciation to the Shinning Stars Africa Awards for recognizing beautiful and real talents across Africa. I’m honored to be a part of it as it’s a great opportunity for me to be heard worldwide.



Tanzania’s Marleen Xplastaz ..

1 Who are you? I’m Marleen Xplastaz, a versatile artist from Tanzania. I’m a singer and song composer, blending the richness of traditional and modern music. Additionally, I’m a commercial model, makeup artist, and hair-dresser.	I heard about them through social media, and I was directly nominated by the Shinning Stars Africa Awards.	6 Who are you going with? I am going by myself.	coming artists or those aspiring to do what you do? I encourage them to stand by what they believe in, focus on their dreams, be more creative, and work as hard as they can.
2 Where are you from? I’m from Arusha, Tanzania 🇹🇿	4 How do you feel about the nomination? I feel proud to be representing my country in such a category.	7 What do you anticipate? I anticipate winning the award, connecting and uniting with different talents across Africa business-wise, and expanding my network.	10 Your last words. Much appreciation to the Shinning Stars Africa Awards for recognizing beautiful and real talents across Africa. I’m honored to be a part of it as it’s a great opportunity for me to be heard worldwide.
3 How did you hear about these awards?	5 Are you attending the Grand Finale? Yes, I will attend the grand finale.	8 Which category do you represent? I represent the Best Rising Star of the Year East Africa.	
		9 What do you have to tell the up-	

SPORTS
NEWSPHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Sifan Hassan has described Faith Kipyegon as a blessing not only to Kenya but to her as well ahead of the women's 5000m final at the World Championships in Budapest Saturday

Sifan Hassan: Kenya is lucky to have super talented Faith Kipyegon



Faith Kipyegon and Sifan Hassan

Sifan Hassan has described Faith Kipyegon as a blessing not only to Kenya but to her as well ahead of the women's 5000m final at the World Championships in Budapest Saturday.

The duo will clash once again with Kipyegon, the 5000m World Record holder, being in Sifan's territory and having already beaten the Dutch in the 1500m at the same event, Saturday's final promises to be explosive.

"Faith (Kipyegon) is a great talented athlete, Kenya is blessed to have her because she is amazing and I am very proud of her. For me Faith, Obiri (Hellen) and Gidey (Letesenbet) of Ethiopia

made me push hard because I have competed with them, they are super good. I am proud of them," Sifan said.

In the women's 5000m final, Kipyegon and Sifan will battle it out alongside defending champion Gudaf Tsegay, who has already won the 10,000m gold, Commonwealth Games champion and world silver medalist Beatrice Chebet as well as Ethiopia's Elgayehu Taye, who won bronze in the 10,000m.

"My 5000m plan is to beat Kenya and win gold and if I do so, I will share it with Kenya," Sifan jokingly said.

Sifan has already tasted the mar-

athon, winning the 2023 London Marathon on her debut having conquered in the track; winning the Olympics two times, world championships twice, Diamond League once and World Indoor.

For Faith Kipyegon, a win in the 5000m will solidify her status as the Greatest Athlete Of All Time (G.A.O.T) in the women's middle distance, having won everything on offer including owning a world record.

"The only thing that was missing in my cabinet was the world record and now I have two, so I am grateful. My main race is the 1500m and having already defended my title, I can now try the

5000m. It is going to be tough because we have great athletes in the final who this event is their specialty," Kipyegon told Capital Sport

-Alex Isaboke is reporting from Budapest, Hungary-

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *The national women's volleyball team, Malkia Strikers, are the new queens of Africa after they defeated Egypt 3-0 in the final of the Africa Nations Volleyball Championships in Yaounde, Cameroon on Thursday night.

It is finally home! Malkia Strikers quench thirst for African volleyball title with mauling of Egypt



Malkia Strikers celebrate at the Africa Volleyball Championships. PHOTO/COURTESY.

The national women's volleyball team, Malkia Strikers, are the new queens of Africa after they defeated Egypt 3-0 in the final of the Africa Nations Volleyball Championships in Yaounde, Cameroon on Thursday night.

The first set was a hotly contested one with both teams running each

other close before coach Luizomar de Moura's charges eventually won 25-22.

It was just the encouragement that Kenya needed, coming back guns blazing in the second set to win 25-20 as the Pharaohs seemed a pale shadow of themselves.

The third set was merely a final

nail in the Egyptians' coffin as the Kenyans raced to a 16-8 lead before the North Africans reduced the deficit to 16-10.

However, there was no whiff of a comeback as Malkia eventually won 25-14 to dethrone immediate former champions, Cameroon, in their turf.

With that, Kenya will be making another appearance at the Olympic Games where they will hope to fare better at next year's edition in Paris, France.

Capital Sport



SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
SCORES
OPINIONS
STATISTICS
SCHEDULES
BREAKING NEWS



Backpage



Moçambique's Katia Vanessa Shinning Stars Africa 2023 Awards



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Senior Editor Botswana & S. Africa

1. Who are you?

My name is Katia Vanessa, singer, communication specialist, activist...

2. Where are you from?

I am from Maputo, Moçambique

3. How did you hear about these awards?

Through Social media and a friend of mine that nominated me.

4. How do you feel about the nomination?

I feel very Grateful and blessed.

5. Are you attending the Grande finale?

I am not sure, yet, but I am doing all the efforts to attending.

7. What do you anticipate?

Well, to win the awards, in both categories or in one of them could make me very happy and proud; to do network and meeting with new people in show business industrie.

8. Which category do you represent?

- Best Star Artist of the Year.
- Best Star Inspirational Woman

9. What do you got to tell the upcoming artists or those aspiring to do what you do?

You got to believe in you and to achieve your dreams and your goals. Your inner power will take you to the sky but you have to do your homework: discipline, perseverance, networking and other efforts to take you to the next level where you deserve to be.

10. Your last words.

Thank you to Shining Star Africa Awards for this opportunity; thank you to my family, friends and fans who's supporting and voting for me and helping to achieve this Awards.



Katia Vanessa.

Worth Noting:

- Well, to win the awards, in both categories or in one of them could make me very happy and proud; to do network and meeting with new people in show business industrie.
- Best Star Artist of the Year.
- Best Star Inspirational Woman
- You got to believe in you and to achieve your dreams and your goals. Your inner power will take you to the sky but you have to do your homework: discipline, perseverance, networking and other efforts to take you to the next level where you deserve to be.