



**Study Without Looking Back At Your Family Background-MP Susan Tells Needy Learners**  
Tharaka Nithi County Woman Representative Susan Ngugi has advised needy students to study without looking at their humble backgrounds for them to excel and later change the situation.

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**News>>Nyeri County Residents Endorse New Police Uniform**

P. 8. A section of Nyeri residents have backed a proposal for the return of the signature white shirt that police women used to don before the introduction of the current uniform in 2018.



**News>>Bitok Vows Sustained War On Passport Brokers, To Clear Back-log In 2 Weeks**

P. 12. Immigration and Citizen Services PS Julius Bitok said similar exercises to last week's arrest in Nyayo House of four suspected brokers will be extended to the Directorate of Immigration's regional offices.

## Judiciary Extends Reach Of Justice Beyond Physical Boundaries

 The Judiciary is embracing technology and harnessing its potential to ensure that justice is done swiftly, transparently, and impartially. Speaking during the launch of Ol Kalou Law Courts complex, Nyandarua High Court, Nyandarua ELC and E-filing system, Chief Justice Martha Koome said the launch of e-filing in Nyandarua marks the tenth County to adopt the digital initiative as the Judiciary extends the reach of justice beyond physical boundaries in the country.



Chief Justice Martha Koome

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# School Heads Advise Against Sending Students Home For Fees

By: Samuel Maina  
@themtkenyatomes

## Worth Noting:

- Central Region Director of Education Sabina Aroni says since the government is catering for tuition fees for learners in both Public Boarding Secondary Schools and Public Day Secondary Schools, it is possible for Principals to agree on how any other money can be cleared by the parents without having to send learners home.
- Aroni, who was speaking to journalists also disclosed that the reopening of schools in the entire Central region on well with no reports of unusual occurrences.



School heads have been directed to discuss modalities for fee payment with individual parents instead of turning children away for unpaid fee arrears.

Central Region Director of Education Sabina Aroni says since the government is catering for tuition fees for learners in both Public Boarding Secondary Schools and Public Day Secondary Schools, it is possible for Principals to agree on how any other money can be cleared by the parents without having to send learners home.

Aroni, who was speaking to journalists also disclosed that the reopening of schools in the entire Central region on well with no reports of unusual occurrences.

“The government is supposed to pay for both boarding and day secondary schools. In day secondary schools, tuition is all

the student needs to be in school, which the government pays in tranches. With regard to boarding schools, the parents are supposed to pay boarding fees for their students. However, the principals are guided not to send away students but to discuss modalities with the parents of the children because boarding fees are the responsibility of the parents,” stated the education boss.

She has similarly warned school heads against the practice of arbitrarily increasing school fees, stating that such a decision can only be undertaken with the authority of the Education Cabinet Secretary.

Aroni has therefore directed all school Heads intending to adjust fees above what has been set by the government to channel such a proposal to the Ministry of Education on the way forward.

“The government provides that they (school principals) are supposed to seek authority from the Cabinet Secretary for Education. After they seek the authority, they can increase the fees, but only after receiving the authority,” clarified Aroni.

Learners began reporting back to school on Monday this week after the August holiday break.

According to this year’s school calendar issued by the Ministry of Education for pre-primary, primary, and secondary schools and colleges, the third term was to officially begin on August 28 and run until October 27.

Learners who will not be sitting for the national exams will then break on holiday until January 8, 2024.

At the same time, Grade Six and Standard Eight candidates will sit their Kenya Primary School Education Assessment

(KPSEA) and Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exams, respectively, from October 30 to November 2.

This term will also mark the last cohort of KCPE students under the 8-4-4 system, which has been replaced by the 2-6-3-3-3 Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC).

The Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations, on the other hand, will begin on November 3 and run until November 24, 2023.

According to figures from the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC), about 2.3 million candidates are scheduled to sit for this year’s KCPE and KCSE examinations.

At least 1,415,315 candidates are expected to sit for the KCPE exams, while an additional 903,260 students will sit for the KCSE papers.



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## News In Brief



Ikumbi Tea Factory has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Poly Intercontinental Trading Limited to supply and install a KSh57 million tea processing plant that will produce orthodox and other specialty teas for the Chinese Market.

The partnership will see Poly assist Ikumbi obtain the orthodox tea processing machinery whilst guaranteeing the purchase of all speciality teas produced using the machinery for sale in the vast Chinese market.

Among those present during the Wednesday event were Onesmus Kibuna, Chairman of Ikumbi, James Mwangi, Board Member Zone 2 and Peris Mudida, Acting CEO of Tea Board of Kenya.



One hundred lactating mothers in Iloodokilani ward, Kajiado Central Sub-County have received 100 Galla goats and 250 Kenbro layer chicks from Action Aid Kenya, providing nutrition for babies and mothers. The drought has increased malnutrition due to the loss of cattle, affecting their livelihood.



Cabinet Secretary, Simon Chelugui, has urged Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (Saccos) to support value chain development by providing expertise and equipment to uplift Kenyans. He said the National Government has prioritized areas like maize, cereals, sugarcane, tea, artisanal fishing, dairy, mining, and edible oil through cooperative societies.



The Kenyan government is using the Affirmative Action Fund to strengthen the social and economic security of vulnerable individuals. Ms. Naomi Wako, Marsabit Woman Representative, announced 24 financial grants worth Sh2.4 million to women groups and 206 orphaned and vulnerable students, bringing the number of needy children assisted to 700 this year.



A 27-year-old man, Nobert Okotchi Juma, has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for raping a 67-year-old granny. Juma was found guilty of the crime last year while armed with a sharp weapon, causing severe damage to the victim's private parts. The court found Juma guilty based on the prosecution's evidence and reports.



Nyeri based BradeGate International College has partnered with Kitengela anchored The East African University to establish The East African University BradeGate International, a constituent college which will be housed in Nyeri town. To cement the relationship, the Nyeri institution chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge yesterday graced the University's sixth graduation ceremony held in the Kajiado County main campus.

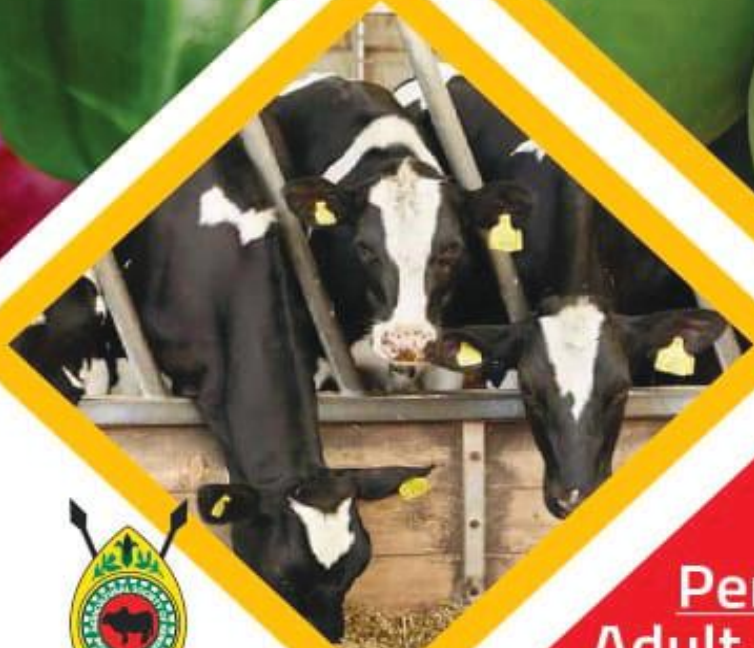


The inaugural Kisumu City Run, scheduled for September 24th, 2023, will feature over 5,000 athletes and fun runners. The event, which coincides with Kisumu Tourism Week and UN World Tourism Day celebrations, aims to promote greening initiatives and nurture athletic talent in the county. Registration has begun, with a focus on elite races and family fun runs, announced area Governor Prof. Anyang Nyong'o.

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# Parliamentary Committee Vets Presidential Nominee For The Position Of Director Of Public Prosecutions

By:PSCU

## Worth Noting:

• “Recently a number of high profile cases already in court have been withdrawn for lack of evidence and for being politically instigated, if approved as the next DPP, what are you going to do to stop this?,” Murugara asked.

• In his response, the nominee told the members that the power of the DPP to withdraw a court case is anchored in law and that the court first verify if the reasons given for seeking withdrawal of a case are valid or not.

The Justice and Legal Affairs Committee vetted Mr. Renson Mulele, the Presidential nominee for position of Director of Public Prosecution.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Mulele told the Members that if approved as the next DPP, he is committed to pursuing a three-fold agenda which includes; building a people centred prosecution service, creating innovative prosecution framework and positioning prosecutions as an enabler of National development.

During the session which was chaired by George Murugara from Tharaka constituency, the committee members sought to know how Mulele was going to handle the recent trend of high profile cases filed and started long time ago being withdrawn for alleged lack of evidence.

“Recently a number of high profile cases already in court have been withdrawn for lack of evidence and for being politically instigated, if approved as the next DPP, what are you going to do to stop this?,” Murugara asked.

In his response, the nominee told the members that the power of the DPP to withdraw a court case is anchored in law and that the court first verify if the reasons given for seeking withdrawal of a case are valid or not.

He further argued that the reason why the DPP makes applications for withdrawal of cases is to save public their money in scenarios where it is discovered that there’s no enough evidence to proceed with a particular case, assuring the committee that in his tenure if approved, there will be no political interference since he will be guided by the rule of law in execution of his duties.

“The mandate of DPP is clear. The

office institutionalizes any criminal proceedings other than in court martial. It also has power to withdraw a case before court for a valid reason,” Mulele told the committee.

The committee also wanted to know how the nominee will ensure there will be no fallout between his office and the office of Director of Criminal Investigation (DCI) as witnessed between the immediate former DCI and DPP bosses, George Kinoti and Noordin Haji respectively.

While responding to the members concern, the nominee attributed the previous witnessed fallout to lack of understanding of specific mandates by the two institutions. He therefore, assured the committee that once in office he will sit with the DCI office and distinguish the mandate of each institution.

After the vetting exercise, the committee is now going to consider and deliberate on the matter before proceeding to make a decision that will see the nominee given a nod to assume office or not.



Renson Mulele takes oath before being vetted by the parliamentary committee..



Some of the members during yesterday's session.

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# Nyeri County Residents Endorse New Police Uniform

By: Wangari Mwangi and Samuel Maina @themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- “Apart from the uniform, they should consider bringing back the old police boots that we used to refer to as ‘Mars’ which would go for several years without wearing out. I am proposing that the service would consider reintroducing these shoes so that our officers look presentable,” said Nguyo Kariithi, a retired police officer.
- Speaking during a public participation forum organized by the National Police Service (NPS) to collect the views on the new police uniform, the residents have also proposed a change in the ranking of police commissioners as well as change in badges of ranks to match the new uniform.



NPS Director of Logistics, Assistant Inspector General Peter Ndung’u displaying the new outfit.

A section of Nyeri residents have backed a proposal for the return of the signature white shirt that police women used to don before the introduction of the current uniform in 2018.

While endorsing the return of the sky-blue colored uniform for the servicemen, the residents have said that female officers used to look polished in their white blouses and their matching navy-blue trousers compared to their current all Persian blue regalia.

“I welcome the decision to bring back the sky-blue uniform because the fabric is not readily available in the market making it inimitable unlike the current one. However, instead of having a uniform shirt colour for both male and female officers, police women should wear white blouses like they previously did,” said Ann Munene.

The residents have additionally recommended the return of the steel-toe cap safety boots popularly known as Mars which they say used to last longer than the current design.

The boot has a shiny toe and heel cap with a ribbed exterior.

“Apart from the uniform, they should consider bringing back the old police boots that we used to refer to as ‘Mars’ which would go for several years without wearing out. I am proposing that the service would

consider reintroducing these shoes so that our officers look presentable,” said Nguyo Kariithi, a retired police officer.

Speaking during a public participation forum organized by the National Police Service (NPS) to collect the views on the new police uniform, the residents have also proposed a change in the ranking of police commissioners as well as change in badges of ranks to match the new uniform.

“Badges of ranks are also part of the uniform. The two-line badges are too monotonous. I would propose that when it comes to the Inspector General, he wears the court of arms, a lion badge which should be different from his deputies and, he should also wear a military star,” said Simon Kariuki, a retired Assistant Police Commander.

The public participation sessions started on Tuesday this week as the government commenced the process of phasing out the current all Persian blue uniform.

In Nyeri, retired police officers, chiefs, community policing representatives and members of the public participated in the session at the Ruring’u Police Training College with a majority of them lauding the decision by National Police Service (NPS) to engage the public in the uniform selection process.

“The current uniform was rejected

because the government arbitrarily changed the uniform without consulting the members of the public. Our prayer is that the government ensures that the tender to supply this new uniform will be awarded to a trustworthy person who will deliver durable and quality uniforms for our officers,” said James Thanju.

The public participation process views will be tabled to the Inspector General of Police, Japhet Koome by Thursday next week. According to NPS Director of Logistics, Assistant Inspector General Peter Ndung’u, introduction of the new uniform will commence immediately after the public participation sessions in all eight regions of the country. He said the sessions had equally exposed the need for the NPS to rope in its officers in the decision-making process.

“This is the first time that officers have been engaged in public participation. From the cordial discussion that we have had, the mood is that they want to change from the current uniform they are wearing to the proposed one. Once this exercise is complete, there is nothing else that will derail the implementation,” said Ndung’u.

Members of the public and police officers are expected to choose from four shirt designs consisting of a sky-blue shirt which will be paired with

navy blue trousers for both male and female officers.

Additional features on the new uniform include the Kenya Police logo on the left hand and the Kenyan flag on the right. Other distinguishing features of the new shirts that the public will be expected to decide on include the option of having a short-sleeved shirt and a long-sleeved one.

The NPS has also given the option of having plastic buttons or silver buttons on the shirt. Another distinguishing factor is, in one of the designs, the name of the police officer is permanently sawn on the top right breast pocket, while in the second design, both the name “Kenya Police Service” are sawn on the left breast pocket. In the third design, only the name of the officer is permanently sawn on the right-side pocket while the fourth sample, is a plain long-sleeved shirt.

Yesterday, officers from Nyeri, Kiambu, Murang’a, Kirinyaga and Kiambu converged at the Kiganjo Training College to give their views on the proposed uniform.

Similar sentiments were aired during yesterday’s forum where they were hosted by the College Commandant Nyale Munga.

# Judiciary Extends Reach Of Justice Beyond Physical Boundaries

By: Muraya Kamunde

Worth Noting:

- She said the Judiciary is bridging the gap between the people and the courts and at the same time eliminating physical barriers, reducing the cost of seeking justice, and bringing services directly to the people wherever they may be.
- “The process will now be as straightforward as a click of a button, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. E-filing is an assurance that the pillars of justice stand tall and firm in the digital age, ensuring that justice remains within everyone’s reach,” said the Chief Justice.
- Observing that the Judiciary’s e-filing system is already integrated with the Uadilifu system of the ODPP she noted that the institution is pursuing a collaborative approach, through which its working with other actors in the justice sector to ensure that no one or institution is left behind.



CJ Martha Koome (in brown) during inauguration of the Ol-Kalou Law Courts complex, which will house the Nyandarua High Court, Environment and Land Court, and a Magistrate’s Court. Source: Twitter .

The Judiciary is embracing technology and harnessing its potential to ensure that justice is done swiftly, transparently, and impartially. Speaking during the launch of Ol Kalou Law Courts complex, Nyandarua High Court, Nyandarua ELC and E-filing system, Chief Justice Martha Koome said the launch of e-filing in Nyandarua marks the tenth County to adopt the digital initiative as the Judiciary extends the reach of justice beyond physical boundaries in the country. She said that e-filing, coupled with virtual courts and the Case Tracking System, forms a critical cog in the digitisation agenda adding that through these technological advancements, Judiciary is reducing the bureaucratic bottlenecks that have historically plagued the justice system. “This is not just an advancement in technology, but a quantum leap in accessibility and efficiency within our justice system,” the CJ said. She added: “No longer will our people be hindered by geographical constraints or the burden of time-consuming journeys to physically submit pleadings and legal documents to courts.” She said the Judiciary is bridging the gap between the people and the

courts and at the same time eliminating physical barriers, reducing the cost of seeking justice, and bringing services directly to the people wherever they may be. “The process will now be as straightforward as a click of a button, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. E-filing is an assurance that the pillars of justice stand tall and firm in the digital age, ensuring that justice remains within everyone’s reach,” said the Chief Justice. Observing that the Judiciary’s e-filing system is already integrated with the Uadilifu system of the ODPP she noted that the institution is pursuing a collaborative approach, through which its working with other actors in the justice sector to ensure that no one or institution is left behind. Chief Justice Koome however urged Kenyans to embrace a multi-door approach to justice saying that it broadens the perception of justice, accommodating alternative forms of dispute resolution that are more effective, conciliatory, and efficient in delivering justice. She emphasized the importance of Court-Annexed Mediation and the Alternative Justice Systems (AJS) noting that these mechanisms are vital cogs in the justice machinery. She added that they offer a platform

where parties in dispute can come together to discuss their issues candidly, fostering understanding and providing an avenue to craft mutually beneficial solutions. “Particularly for cases involving family disputes, land disputes, and commercial disputes, these alternative platforms offer a chance to reach amicable resolutions that preserve relationships and promote harmony,” CJ Koome said. She however cautioned that issues relating to the defilement of children do not fall within the remit of AJS saying such cases should be referred to the police and the courts for it to be dealt with as a criminal offense. She said the Judiciary is steadfastly laying the foundation for a child-friendly justice system that seeks to protect young ones from harm. With regard to SGBV cases, Chief Justice Koome said the Judiciary is actively working to transform courts into trauma-informed sanctuaries that stand in solidarity with victims of such heinous crime and warned that any one perpetrating these barbaric acts will be met with the full force of the law. She said the Judiciary is keen on collaborating with County Governments as partners in the quest to in-

crease the Judiciary’s footprints particularly in the area of getting land to be allocated and developing physical infrastructure to house courts in constituencies that do not have court stations already. Speaking at the same function, Nyandarua Governor Kiarie Badilisha noted that for the longest time, inaccessibility to justice has led to inordinate delays in court cases which has inevitably led to denial of justice. He explained that in other instances, litigants have resulted into extra-judicial mechanisms which is a threat to the rule of law and cohesion adding that with the establishment of a High Court in the county, this is now resolved. He said the court will have a profound impact on the people of Nyandarua county in their pursuit of justice and on their economy adding that the establishment of Nyandarua High court is a moment of great celebration and fulfillment of a dream and the struggle that their forefathers fought for.

# Cut Off All Flattering Lips And Every Boastful Tongue



By: Eric Musa  
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

“Whoever flatters his neighbor is spreading a net for his feet” (Proverbs 29:5). “A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a flattering mouth works ruin” (Proverbs 26:28). “May the Lord cut off all flattering lips and every boastful tongue that says, ‘We will triumph with our tongues . . .’” (Psalm 12:3, 4).

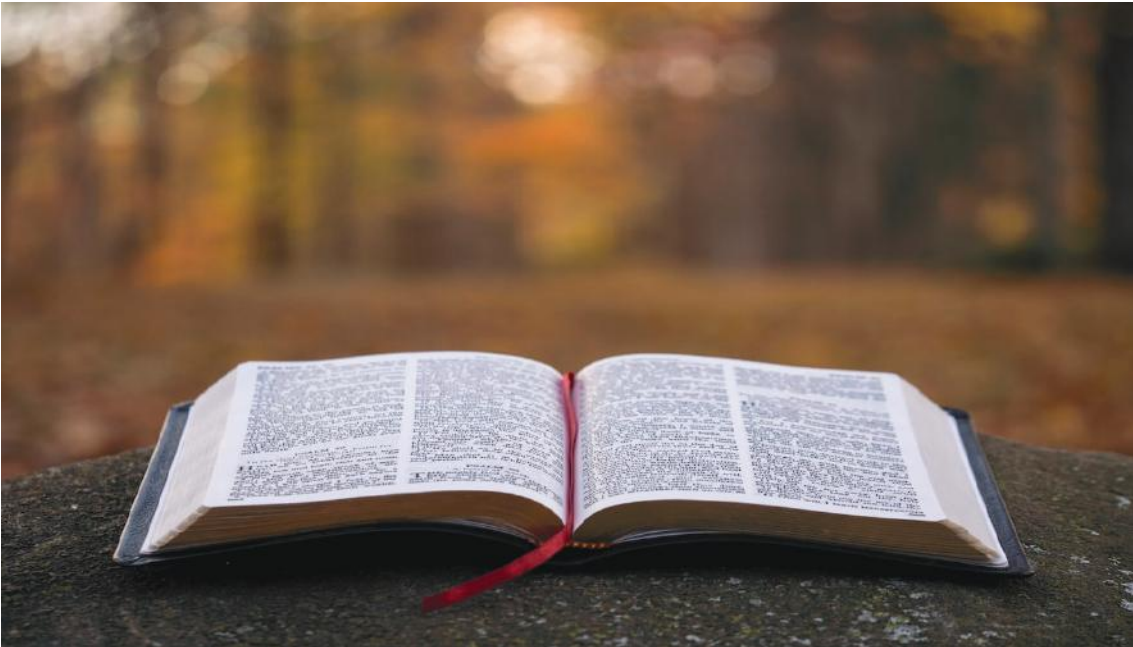
Fault-finding seems endemic to the Christian Church. Perhaps this is because a taste of righteousness can be easily perverted into an overweening sense of selfrighteousness and judgmentalism. Once while John Wesley was preaching, he noticed a lady in the audience who was known for her critical attitude. All through the ser-

vice she sat and stared at his new tie. When the meeting ended, she came up to him and said very sharply, “Mr. Wesley, the strings on your tie are much too long. It’s an offense to me!” He asked if any of the ladies present happened to have a pair of scissors in their purse. When the scissors were handed to him, he gave them to his critic and asked her to trim the streamers to her liking.

After she clipped them off near the collar, he said, “Are you sure they’re all right now?” “Yes, that’s much better.” “Then let me have those shears a moment,” said Wesley. “I’m sure you wouldn’t mind if I also gave you a bit of correction. I must tell you, madam, that your tongue is an offense to me — it’s too long! Please stick it out . . . I’d like to take some off.”

On another occasion someone said to Wesley, “My talent is to speak my mind.” Wesley replied, “That’s one talent God wouldn’t care a bit if you buried!” This is good advice for all Christians.

HALELUJAH, TO GO AL-



MIGHTY WHO ENLIGHTENS US DAILY, GLORY BE UNTO HIS NAME.

References:  
The Living Bible  
Discipline of a Godly Man( Book by Kent Hughes)

**Evangelist Eric Musa:**  
(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2

Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 ( Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

# Crackdown On Food Hawking In Maua Town Begins

By: Kamanja Maeria and Jadiel K Abigael @themtkenyentimes

Public officers in Maua town have launched a crackdown on illegal food hawking to enhance hygiene in the town.

Deputy Public Health Officer in Igembe South sub-county Allan Njiru maintained that they have been able to arrest eight hawkers and collect food items from hawkers who fled during the exercise.

“Through the help of police, eight hawkers have been arrested and taken to Maua police station where they are awaiting to be arraigned,” Njiru noted.

He said the majority of hawkers have no medical certificates and food licenses, hence exposing their consumers’ lives to danger.

Njiru added that they will not relent until they ensure sanity is restored in Maua town. “I warn those in hideouts that we are not going to rest until we ensure the town is clean. We have begun the battle

to prevent outbreaks of diseases such as typhoid and cholera especially now we are about to receive rains,” Njiru said.

He noted that those caught will risk arrest and persecution adding that hawkers cook foods in unhygienic conditions such as along dusty streets without minding the wellbeing of their consumers.

“It is our duty to ensure members of the public are not consuming unhealthy and unhygienic food at any cost,” he said, adding that with the help of police and the County Government law enforcement team, they will ensure sanity is restored back.



# The Ongoing Bipartisan Talks Demonstrates Ruto's Commitment To Walk The Talk



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



## Worth Noting:

- The talks are taking place one year after Kenyans flocked to their respective polling stations to exercise their constitutional and democratic rights during which they elected leaders of their choice.
- Dr Ruto had campaigned on a platform of a 'Hustler Nation' and Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda. This explains why he easily defeated his opponent whom he argued had been fronted by the dynasties. If he wins he will represent their interests. This is at the expense of the downtrodden.
- In the run up to the polls, his main competitor Raila Odinga of Azimio Coalition had repeatedly assured Kenyans that he will accept the results.



Kalonzo Musyoka (l) and Kimani Ichung'wah (r) after signing the framework policy. Photo: Kimani Ichung'wah. Source: Twitter.

President William Ruto knows very well that he won the August 9, 2022 presidential elections.

This is because he was declared the winner by the IEBC, a body mandated by the constitution to conduct general elections in Kenya. His victory was also upheld by the Supreme Court of Kenya.

In a ruling to a petition filed by the Azimio La Umoja-OKA leader Raila Odinga, the seven-judge bench noted that Raila had failed to prove all the prayers he had sought.

This means his petition was dead on arrival. The local and international observers had also given the polling exercise a clean bill of health.

President Ruto has since then demonstrated he is a true democrat and statesman.

Despite knowing he won, Dr Ruto recently gave a nod to his team to go ahead and hold dialogue with Azimio leadership. This led to the birth of National Dialogue Committee. The committee is enjoying the legal mandate.

This is after National Assembly and Senate approved a motion to establish it.

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Dr Ruto had campaigned on a platform of a 'Hustler Nation' and Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda. This explains why he easily defeated his opponent whom he argued had been fronted by the dynasties. If he wins he will represent their interests. This is at the expense of the downtrodden.

In the run up to the polls, his main competitor Raila Odinga of Azimio Coalition had repeatedly assured Kenyans

that he will accept the results.

I have no doubt whatsoever that the IEBC which is constitutionally mandated to conduct the polls is well prepared to undertake a free, fair and credible elections.

I would also expect my rival William Ruto of Kenya Kenya (KK) to do the same.

On his part, Dr Ruto had made similar pledges stating that he will respect the sovereign will of the Kenyan people.

Our democracy is anchored on the universal suffrage of one man/woman, one vote.

So I will definitely accept the outcome.

As it turned out, what Raila was saying did not come from the bottom of his heart.

He was just playing politics and engaging in a ploy meant to take the religious leaders and the international, donor community for a ride.

We know the two leaders were under pressure from them to assure Kenyans that they will respect the outcome.

For Raila, this is what he would not tell them. He would only accept the results if he is one who would be declared the winner.

It seems this was his understanding of democracy, constitution and rule of law.

But to many Kenyans, his decision to take a dramatic U-turn after the announcement of the results in which Dr William Ruto was declared the winner did not come as a surprise.

Kenyans were used to his habit of opposing the results of presidential elections held previously.

He would always allege that he had been rigged out and call upon his supporters to come out in the streets to fight for 'truth' and 'justice'.

It is worth noting Dr Ruto floored him as he made his fifth bid at the Presiden-

cy.

We recall that in the aftermath of polls held in 2007 and later in 2017, Raila succeeded to 'discredit' the outcomes and piling pressure on President Mwai Kibaki and his successor Uhuru Kenyatta to succumb. This gave birth to 'Nusu Mkate' (half bread) and 'handshake' governments.

He had earlier arm twisted President Daniel Arap Moi to cave in to his political machinations.

He accommodated him in a political arrangement known as 'cooperation'.

Today Raila is hoping that he can play the same card.

But I'm sure he knows he is dealing with leaders-President William Ruto and his deputy Rigathi Gachagua-who cannot stoop too low.

The two leaders have previously pronounced themselves.

Yes, we are ready to hold talks with Azimio leadership but this should not misconstrued to mean this Mzee (Raila) has blackmailed and intimidated us.

We will only engage him if he calls off demonstrations and accept that Ruto won the elections and he is the 5th President of Republic of Kenya.

Raila has since heeded this call. In a move that was widely interpreted as climbing down, we recently heard him saying.

Next time if I will call the demonstrations, I will ask Kenyans to stay indoors. Speaking in Eldoret Town while on his way to close the eighth Devolution Conference, the deputy President stated.

We asked this Mzee to keep off streets demonstrations. We succeeded because all of you know that President William Ruto won the elections.

This is the position that the US Ambassador in Kenya Ms Meg Whitman echoed. So we are asking the kitendaw-

ili (Raila) to stop attacking her. He should accept this bitter truth.

Gachagua added; You know this mzee had been intimidating and blackmailing the previous Kenyan heads of state and government to sing his song.

For former president Uhuru Kenyatta, do you know why he succeeded? It is because he was dealing with a leader fed on cerelac.

Today the story is different. President Ruto and I are hard nut to crack. I have set and placed traps everywhere including State House. This time he cannot succeed in his games.

While defending the US ambassador, President Ruto noted. The envoy stated the obvious. Kenyans woke up early on August 9 and elected me as the President.

Dr Ruto added: We heard Raila calling Whitman a 'rogue ambassador'. Let me ask you. Between Ms Whitman and Raila who is rogue. Isn't it the latter?

He cited the destructive, bloody demonstrations Raila had organized. A person, who is patriotic and love his country, would not resort to destroying properties and businesses of the fellow country men and women. Doing this was the height of being rogue.

Dr Ruto and his deputy have ruled out the possibility of the ongoing bipartisan talks culminating to power sharing (nusu mkate).

We know this is what Raila and his brigade are looking for. This will never happen.

We are doing this talk because of the following reasons.

First to ensure that the losers accept the final results in the future elections.

Secondly, the losers shun violence and destruction of properties as a way of resolving political crisis designed to serve and sanitize their selfish and personal interests.

The previous actions of Azimio leader and his brigade left no doubt that they won't mind driving this country to a full blown anarchy.

Thirdly, we want them to know that the country is more important than an individual.

Kenya belongs to all of us. If we burn it, we have nowhere to go.

Fourthly, we want to remind them that the role of the opposition is well articulated and defined in our constitution.

As a government, we are ready to facilitate them. This is as long as they engage us in a structured and constructive dialogue.

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

# Bitok Vows Sustained War On Passport Brokers, To Clear Backlog In 2 Weeks

By: Capital Correspondent



## Worth Noting:

- He said the government was determined to rid Nyayo House of conmen and middlemen who are suspected to be working with Immigration officers to extort bribes from applicants seeking passports and other services.
- “Besides Immigration Services, Nyayo House hosts many other government offices... I want to assure Kenyans that we are going to make Nyayo House a place where you can expect to be served diligently without having to know anyone or parting with bribes.”
- On Friday, DCI officers arrested four men inside Nyayo House over suspected soliciting of bribes.



Immigration and Citizen Services PS Julius Bitok/FILE.

The crackdown on suspected brokers and their accomplices linked to passports-issuance racket will be extended to other cities and towns.

Immigration and Citizen Services PS Julius Bitok said similar exercises to last

week's arrest in Nyayo House of four suspected brokers will be extended to the

Directorate of Immigration's regional offices.

“The crackdown that is around Nyayo house will be extended to other cities

and towns like Mombasa, Kisumu, Kisii and many other places where there are

complaints from Kenyans that are not able to get services because they're

people who are suspected to be abetting corruption.”

He said the government was determined to rid Nyayo House of conmen and

middlemen who are suspected to be working with Immigration officers to extort bribes from applicants seeking passports and other services.

“Besides Immigration Services,

Nyayo House hosts many other government

offices... I want to assure Kenyans that we are going to make Nyayo House a

place where you can expect to be served diligently without having to know

anyone or parting with bribes.”

On Friday, DCI officers arrested four men inside Nyayo House over suspected

soliciting of bribes.

The suspects' phones were confiscated as the officers seek evidence to support prosecution for defrauding unsuspecting applicants.

## Two-week commitment

Speaking in Mombasa during a meeting on the National Assembly Committee

on Delegated Legislation, PS Bitok said the backlog on the processing passports will be cleared in two weeks.

“Right now, we are producing around 3600 passports per day. We have managed to reduce the backlog that was around 100,000 passports to

around

45,000. We are projecting that in the next two weeks, there will be no backlog.”

He added that with the arrival of new printers and the implementation of the

proposed private-public-partnership, the waiting period for passports will be

cut down to within a week and eventually lead to express services.

“We have ordered for new printers and enough booklets for Kenyans. Going

forward, applying, and getting passports will take you a maximum of seven

days. We believe it will be possible to get passports within three days. We going

to introduce express services to ensure that Kenyans get passports within the

shortest time possible.”

The Mombasa meeting had been convened to discuss regulations to enforce

the Refugees Act.

The Committee chaired by Ainabkoi MP Samuel Chepkonga is responsi-

ble for ensuring statutory laws and regulations are in harmony with the Constitution and acts of Parliament.

Chepkonga said the new regulations were important to help Kenya strike a balance between its humanitarian obligations to regional and international conventions on refugees and the country's strategic interests.

“It's very important how we handle refugees in this country because we are a

very kind country, and we are also very exposed.”

The regulations are intended to, among other things, anchor the Shirkaka Plan

that proposes to move refugees from camps to integrated settlements.

The meeting was also attended by the Commissioner for Refugee Affairs, John

Burugu.

# Maragua Schools Get Infrastructural Uplift

By: Florence Kinyua  
@themkenyetimes

Maragua Member of Parliament Mary Wamaua has invested in a detailed infrastructural development for schools, aimed at safeguarding the well-being of students in the area.

Speaking at Kahaini Primary School in Kamahuha Ward when commissioning four junior secondary school classrooms, Wamaua observed that a cordial learning environment was critical to improving pupils outcomes.

“We are going to make Maragua constituency an educational community by ensuring that pupils have a comfortable learning environment, which will in turn help them register for even better performance going forward,” she said.

At the same time, the MP launched the construction of an 8-door ablution block, with one of them earmarked for persons with disabilities at Wathiani primary school, at a cost of Shs. 500,000.

“At Huhoini Primary School, we will construct one modern ablution block for people with disabilities, one for the teaching staff, and an 8-door modern ablution block for girls, all at a cost of Sh900,000, she added.

The Maragua NG-CDF kitty will also oversee the renovation of classrooms at Ndera Primary School and the construction of an ablution block for boys and another for people with disabilities, at a cost of Sh1.2 million.

Wamaua equally urged parents to closely work with teachers with a view to encouraging their children to take education matters seriously, as this will eventually reduce the number of dropouts and ensure a 100 percent transition in the area.

Additionally, Kangangu and Kirimiri Primary Schools will each receive Sh1.2 million for the construction of two separate 8-door modern ablution blocks for boys and girls, as well as a 2-door modern ablution block for people with disabilities.



Maragua Schools Get Infrastructural Uplift.

# Ease Of Doing Business In Nakuru County Assured

By: Veronica Bosibori  
@themkenyetimes

Nakuru County Governor Susan Kihika has assured the business community that her government is determined to improve the ease of doing business in the county and to make the city the most preferred business center.

Speaking on her behalf yesterday, the County Resource Mobilization Department Chief Officer Pastor Alex Maina assured the business community of their commitment characterized by business compatibility and an open door policy.

Speaking at the same event, the Belgium Ambassador to Kenya Mr. Jerome Roax who was the Chief Guest lauded the county government for their continuous improvement of the straightforwardness and ease of



doing business in the county.

He promised to bring a group of investors to the city in October with the view of marketing local agricultural products in Europe as well as partnering with the resident business

community.

In the recent past, there has been an influx of foreign exhibitions from Egypt and India, where they exhibit and sell their products at strategic places in the city.

However, during such exhibitions, the local producers and manufacturers hardly get a chance to showcase the local products to foreign exhibitors, nor is it easy to enter their countries due to stringent requirements.

A businessman in the city, Philomen Aroni, appealed to the county officers to allow locals to also exhibit their products in foreign countries in order to market themselves.

He noted with concern that there was a high influx of locally available herbs such as Moringa which are taken abroad in raw form and are shipped back as tablets sold at exorbitant prices.

Aroni emphasized the importance of proper packaging and branding in order to penetrate the lucrative foreign markets.

However, he commended the young business people who have managed to market and sell their artwork through the internet, and urged them to train farmers, especially cereal producers, since they have a longer shelf life.

## Addicted To Intimacy



Always longing for an embrace  
Always in search of a caress  
Always thirsting for a kiss  
Always starved of love  
Always looking for intimacy.

From one lover to another  
One never being enough  
Stealing kisses from strangers  
Rejecting suitors by the day  
All to end up alone.

Relationship drama  
Love triangles  
Cheating allegations  
one night stands  
This has been the story of my life.

Some call it trauma response  
Others call it addiction  
Many call it narcissism  
I call it Freedom.

~dannie  
Nairobi Kenya

## Teacher – As A Burning Candle



The 21st century is the age of experts with high intellectual potential, modern skills, knowledge and a new outlook and independent thinking. The support of our teachers and mentors is incomparable in thinking about the future of the nation, educating the young generation.

Master: when we hear this word Every time, a feeling appears in our soul that is already there, which cannot be described at all. Everyone receives education from a teacher and a coach, is brought up.

First of all, the work of teachers is incomparable In order for young people to take a profession and become a worthy child for the development of their homeland. Every year in our country,

October 1-teacher and Coach Day is widely celebrated as a nationwide holiday.

After all, we have little respect for our teachers and mentors, who work towards educating the younger generation as perfect people.

Admittedly, the fact that the hard but honorable work of these great breeds is appreciated is a vivid expression of attention for future generations and care.

In fact, a person, First of all, shows affection for him with a sense of gratitude, always giving him the path to the world of knowledge and enlightenment, giving high human qualities to his soul, showing affection for his teachers and mentors, trying to justify the knowledge and trust he gives.

After all, if human is the flower of the universe, the most beloved among them is the teacher. Therefore, in our wise people there is a wisdom that says, "Teacher is the greatest as your father."

As our First president said, "if the greatest building in the world is a school, the most honorable among the professions is teaching and mentoring." Of course, no matter how great our

reverence and respect for the teachers who radiate the light of knowledge is, in fact.

the proverb that we repeat over and over again, "The Master is as great as your father," is not in vain said. Our great-ancestors were well aware of the truth of the teachers and mentors, they realized how high their value was, and treated accordingly.

In this regard, Imam a'zam Abu Hanifa Rahmatullah alayh is narrated that "i did not extend my foot towards his house for the respect of my teacher Hamad.

Whereas between his house and my house there were seven streets.

Every time I pray after the death of Hamad, I have certainly asked God for forgiveness for my parents and for him. Not only my teacher, but if I have learned something from someone or someone has taught me something, I will always ask God for forgiveness for those people too."

As we respect the master, and receive his blessing, we will always rise. Beautiful poems and songs sung about the master are much more. there must not be a poet, a writer, who loved with his teacher and did not end poems for him, did not sing songs.

In conclusion, the work and contribution of the teacher for the development of society, the country and its bright future are incomparable. Knowledge is an invaluable wealth, it is not an easy task to teach it. The scribes compared learning to digging a well with a needle. In such a diligent work, we bow in front of the teachers, who are giving knowledge with patience and perseverance.

Master-great person.

I listened to a word on a bright day,  
I realized what faith and devotion are  
There is no secular claim in me,  
I Loved You For God, O master.  
you are not overwhelmed in the field of action,

you will never notice my state of salinity,  
Maybe you don't call me a disciple,  
I Loved You For God, O master.

Makhmudova Nargiza Ravshan is a student of Bukhara pedagogical institute, Faculty Uzbek language and literature.

## Uzbekistan Is A Flower In My Heart



By: Shodibo'yeva Dinora Doniyorovna

It sounds like you have a deep affection for Uzbekistan, perhaps likening it to a cherished flower in your heart. Uzbekistan is a country located in Central Asia, known for its rich history, culture, and natural beauty. Uzbekistan is one of the most ancient and modern countries of Central Asia, and is distinguished by its history, natural resources and unique culture. The history of this country can be traced back to its victorious empires, cultural structures and its unique culture and art.

The geographical landscape of Uzbekistan includes mountains and rivers, sand and water channels, average frozen beds located between the mountains.

Its physical geography has been an important factor influencing its culture and economy, which

has allowed Uzbekistan to maintain its water resources and spread its dry climate.

Culturally, Uzbekistan is a large conglomeration of various ethnically and culturally related nationalities, which ensures that the country's modern culture encompasses various fields.

Uzbekistan has its own speech, colors and expressions in folk art, music, literature, painting and other fields.

The history of Uzbekistan is also the main aspect that created a collection of reliefs and researches of the state.

Uzbekistan joined the Russian Empire in the 19th and 20th centuries and underwent many changes with the formation of the Soviet states and becoming an independent country from them.

Despite some conflicts and difficulties, Uzbekistan has achieved its independence and its economy, politics and culture have undergone changes.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has become a recognized place by implementing economic reforms, attracting foreign investments, and taking steps to develop tourism.

Also, the country is striving for historical and natural tourism objects, development of intercity transport and other areas.

In particular, Uzbekistan is a beautiful and unique country that attracts attention due to its history, nature and culture.

Here history, culture, natural resources and economic development come together.

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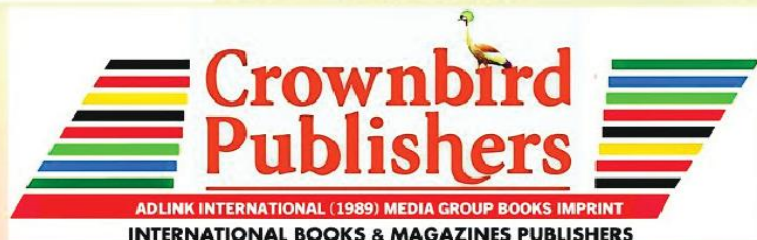
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## BUSINESS

## Partnerships Best Approach In Conducting Eye Check-Ups To Enhance Road Safety



By: David Chesoni

## Worth Noting:

- This points to a major road safety challenge because these eyesight defects no doubt hinder the drivers' visual judgment as they may not see oncoming vehicles in good time and this reduces reaction time.
- According to the 2022 Kenya Health Demographic Survey (KHDS), visual impairment is the most prevalent disability in the population with the burden being heavier on those aged 50 years and above.
- The Lancet, a medical journal, states that motorists with poor central visual acuity are 46 per cent more likely to have a road traffic incident than people with normal vision.

Driving requires good visual acuity and clarity.

Any problem with your eyes can significantly impact your ability to see and react to road hazards.

A driver's ability to see and interpret road signs, other vehicles, and pedestrians is critical to their safety, as well as the safety of other road users.

Therefore, it's essential for motorists to prioritize their eye health and schedule regular eye checkups.

An eye screening exercise conducted in five counties on drivers of Public Service Vehicles (PSVs) last year revealed that at least 40 per cent of the 900 drivers screened had unattended eye problems.

This points to a major road safety challenge because these eyesight defects no doubt hinder the drivers' visual judgment as they may not see oncoming vehicles in good time and this reduces reaction time.

According to the 2022 Kenya Health Demographic Survey (KHDS), visual impairment is the most prevalent disability in the population with the burden being heavier on those aged 50 years and above.

The Lancet, a medical journal, states that motorists with poor central visual acuity are 46 per cent more likely to have a road traffic incident than people with normal vision.

This necessitates regular eye check-ups and correction of visual impairments for motorists especially public transport drivers as a way of enhancing safety on our roads.

However, there exists a huge challenge in ensuring that drivers undergo regular examinations.

For one, such examinations involve a huge cost, logistical resources, expertise, and sustainability.

Then there is the issue of behavior change to encourage participation.

This calls for a multifaceted approach that prioritizes safety, compliance, professionalism, and communi-



Car & General Trading Managing Director David Chesoni (second left) and Communications Manager Raphael Atanda (left), present a cheque donation to officials of the Lions Club at a past event in support of eye check-up campaigns..

ty well-being.

At scale, such an approach would benefit drivers, passengers, organizations, and the broader society by creating safer roads, enhancing public trust, and promoting overall public health.

Through partnerships with various stakeholders, organizations can create a comprehensive and sustainable approach to minimize road carnages on our roads.

This approach not only ensures the safety of drivers and passengers but also contributes to improved road safety and overall public health.

By extension, reducing road accidents translates to better livelihoods, fewer economic losses, and pressures on healthcare and auxiliary services.

By leveraging the strengths, expertise, resources, and facilities of different organizations, these partnerships can help enhance road safety and con-

tribute to overall public health.

Eye check-ups require specialized equipment, trained professionals, and infrastructure.

By partnering with healthcare institutions, optometrists or NGOs, the necessary resources can be pooled to ensure comprehensive and accurate eye examinations.

Healthcare organizations and professionals bring their expertise in conducting thorough eye examinations.

They can identify potential vision problems that might not be apparent to the untrained eye.

This expertise ensures that drivers' vision issues are accurately diagnosed and treated.

Partnering with established and reputable healthcare providers adds credibility and trust to the eye check-up process.

Public transport operators are more likely to participate in the screenings when they know they are being conducted by trusted medical professionals.

Car and General has a long-standing partnership with the Lions Sight First Hospital through which we have conducted numerous eye checkups in various parts of the country.

One of the challenges we have encountered in these initiatives is the reluctance to participate by the same groups we aim to help. Some drivers are not readily willing to undergo the examinations fearing doing so would be tantamount to admitting unsuitability for their jobs, which might jeopardise their source of livelihood if their employers found out.

Partnering with the transport operators Saccos and associations, NGOs and other community organizations could help unlock these bottlenecks since they have strong connections with local communities.

Their involvement can also help in reaching out to raise awareness about the importance of regular eye check-ups among public transport drivers.

Partnerships can help distribute the financial burden of conducting eye checkups. Public transport drivers might not have the means to afford regular eye exams, but by collaborating with healthcare institutions, the costs can be reduced or subsidized, making it more affordable for drivers.

Another important component of these eye check-ups is data sharing and analysis.

Healthcare partners can provide valuable data analysis capabilities. They can track trends in drivers' eye health, identify common issues, and propose targeted interventions.

This data-driven approach can lead to more effective and tailored solutions.

Lastly, through partnerships we can create a sustainable framework for regular eye checkups.

By establishing ongoing relationships between the government, public transport players, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders, a continuous system of eye health monitoring can be established.

David Chesoni is the Managing Director Trading, Car & General



A Public Service Vehicle driver undergoing eyes check ups.



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# Study Without Looking Back At Your Family Background-MP Susan Tells Needy Learners

By: Dennis Mutua  
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- She further asked them to make her proud by being hard-working and disciplined students in school even as she continues to enroll more into the program.
- To ensure more needy students in the villages' access education, the MP asked locals not to shy away from speaking out about such cases to the elected leaders so that every child gets a chance to school regardless of their family backgrounds.
- She however challenged other elected leaders with bursary kitty to utilize them to help needy children, arguing that with her little allocation she is trying her best to distribute bursaries amongst needy learners and sometimes to an extent of going deep in her pockets.



Tharaka Nithi County woman representative Susan Ngugi addresses parents, teachers, pupils from Kiamucii primary school and students from Kiamucii Day Secondary School in Chuka Igambangombe Constituency during her visit in the Constituency.



Tharaka Nithi County woman representative Susan Ngugi dances with pupils from Kiamucii primary school in Chuka Igambangombe Constituency during her visit to the school..



Tharaka Nithi County Woman Representative Susan Ngugi (left) with Mugona Girls High School Principal Mrs. Mwaniki (centre) when she took a needy girl from Kiamuchumbi to the school for admission on full scholarship from NGAAF.

in the first year, asking beneficiaries to utilize the chance to change their family backgrounds.

“During this first year of my administration as a County MP, I have offered full academic scholarship to 66 needy students across the County to ensure they remain in school. I encourage and challenge them to use the chance to study and excel in studies so that they will change the situation back at their homes and also help their communities,” Susan said.

She further asked them to make her proud by being hardworking and disciplined students in school even as she continues to enroll more into the program.

To ensure more needy students in the villages' access education, the MP asked locals not to shy away from speaking out about such cases to the elected leaders so that every child gets a chance to school regardless of their family backgrounds.

She however challenged other elected leaders with bursary kitty to utilize them to help needy children, arguing that with her little allocation she is trying her best to distribute bursaries amongst needy learners and sometimes to an extent of going deep in her pockets.

“I have Sh 6.5 million for projects per Constituency, against an MP who has over Sh 145 million that is set to go up to Sh 175 million where Sh 75 million will directly go to bursaries.

Who should I prioritize? I even dig deep in my pockets at times to help out,” she said.

Other notable projects she is undertaking include rescuing the vulnerable including underage girls in marriages, sick and the elderly who need special care and attention.

The formerly Marimanti MCA is fast gaining popularity in the county dominated by male politicians from her projects through NGAAF and her personal charity initiative dubbed Susan Mwindu Rescue Services.

In the latest ranking on Woman Representatives across the country, Susan has been ranked as number two after Busia woman representative Catherine Omany.

The survey that was conducted by Timely Kenya placed Nyamira woman rep Jerusha Momanyi as the worst performing County MP.

Susan has vowed to go on with her life changing projects to ensure special groups in the County live more comfortable lives as she pledged during her campaigns.

# Africa-Singapore Economic Relations Expand With Bilateral Trade Growth At 15% Per Annum

*Bilateral trade in goods reached US\$14.5 billion in 2022*

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- To facilitate further growing ties between Singapore and Africa, the Kenya-Singapore Bilateral Investment Treaty was also ratified by both countries and formally entered into force on 20 August 2023. The Treaty will promote greater investment flows between Singapore and Kenya by protecting the interests of both Singapore and Kenyan investors. The Treaty provides certainty and signals the commitment of both governments to create favourable conditions for business to thrive.
- These were disclosed at this year's Africa Singapore Business Forum (ASBF) taking place from 29 – 31 August, on the theme "Driving Africa's Growth through Digitalisation, Manufacturing and Sustainability". The event is expected to gather over 500 business and government leaders from 40 countries in attendance.



Economic relations between Singapore and Africa continue to expand, as bilateral trade in goods grew by around 15% per annum between 2019 to 2022, reaching US\$14.5 billion in 2022. Singapore companies' investments in the African continent cumulatively reached US\$23.7 billion as at 2021.

As testament to the robust interest to participate in Africa's growth opportunities, five agreements were inked at the 7th edition of the Africa Singapore Business Forum (ASBF) 2023 organised by Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG). These agreements span manufacturing, digitalisation and technology, sustainable development, transport and logistics sectors.

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governments to create favourable conditions for business to thrive.

These were disclosed at this year's Africa Singapore Business Forum (ASBF) taking place from 29 – 31 August, on the theme "Driving Africa's Growth through Digitalisation, Manufacturing and Sustainability". The event is expected to gather over 500 business and government leaders from 40 countries in attendance. Highlights for Day 1 included a keynote speech by Guest of Honour Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry of Singapore, as well as a dialogue between Mr Alvin Tan, Minister of State for Trade and Industry and Community, Culture and Youth of Singapore and Mr Samaila Zubairu, President & CEO of the Africa Finance Corporation, which discussed how businesses and governments can navigate and take advantage of the transformative shifts taking place in Africa through deeper and longer-term collaboration.

Over the remaining days of the forum, participants can expect to glean insights from industry leaders on three of Africa's fastest-growing segments, i.e., manufacturing, digitalisation and the green economy.

Speakers include Dr James Mwangi (Group Managing Director and CEO of Equity Group Holdings), Mr Frederick Teo (CEO, GenZero), Ms. Juliana Rotich (Head of Fintech Solutions, Safaricom), Mr Marcel Golding (Co-Owner, Geomer Managerial Services), Mr Karim S. Anjarwalla (Senior Partner, ALN Kenya), Mr Haresh Aswani (Managing Director, Tolaram), Mr Tony Sun Siyuan (Executive Vice-President, Winning International Group), Mr Ali Taqi (Managing Director, Country Head of Commercial Banking, HSBC Bank Egypt), Ms Julie Greene (Chief Sustainability Officer, Olam Global Agri) and Mr Tavraj Banga (Partner and Co-Head, Helios Investment Partners). In addition, there will be 12 country investment panels covering East Africa, West Africa, Southern Africa and North Africa.

Mr Tan Soon Kim, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Global Markets), EnterpriseSG said, "Singapore companies are recognising the value of diversifying their businesses to markets further afield and have been responding to our call to explore Africa. This year, we have organised over 10 activities including business missions, webinars and workshops in sectors such as retail, healthcare, fintech, information and communications technology (ICT) and logistics, benefiting close to 400 companies. In 2023, the number of projects facilitated by EnterpriseSG to date exceeds that of 2022. These are projects where we provided support, including helping companies clinch new projects and set up offices in Africa."

Demand for domestically produced goods will grow, as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is set to boost intra-African trade by 52%. Singapore brand owners and manufacturing services companies are keen to partner Africa to address demand in food manufacturing,

agro-processing, pharmaceuticals and automobiles. As an example, Singapore company Nivésal is providing project advisory and execution services to support Ghanaian company SKY 40-40 in setting up manufacturing operations in Takoradi, Ghana to produce sustainable building material products for flooring, furniture boards and construction templates.

The digital economy is turbocharging Africa's growth and is expected to reach US\$712 billion in 2050, accounting for 8.5% of the continent's GDP – up from 4.5% in 2020. Singapore firms have been providing digital solutions across a wide range of verticals, from agri-tech to logistics tech, retail tech and fintech, to digital trade and smart urban infrastructure. Adatos and Tramés are two such firms which, through EnterpriseSG's facilitation, have signed an MOU with Singapore global commodity player Robust International to deploy their solutions in Africa. While Adatos' AI solutions provide Robust farmers with agricultural insights such as weather prediction, yield forecast and nutrients usage to improve crop yield, Tramés' bespoke logistics management solutions will help Robust optimise its supply chain planning in Africa and globally.

Africa's green economy has also emerged as an area for partnerships alongside Africa's urbanisation drive and commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In northern Ghana, for example, Singapore-based food company WhatIF Foods has partnered Pond Foundation, a global non-profit organisation, to trial and scale the production of biochar – a sustainable alternative to traditional fertilisers that will improve soil quality and yield of Bambara groundnuts for more than 30,000 partnering farmers.



# Navigating the New Frontier: Safeguarding Cloud Environments Amid Emerging Threats



By: Danstan Akwiri  
@themtkenyatimes



## Worth Noting:

1. **Continuous Monitoring and Threat Detection:** Muralidhara's emphasis on the evolving nature of threats calls for continuous monitoring and detection systems. By employing sophisticated intrusion detection systems (IDS) and security information and event management (SIEM) tools, organizations can promptly identify and respond to suspicious activities, reducing the window of opportunity for attackers.

2. **Managed Security Services:** Jansen's perspective on managed security services aligns with the growing trend of outsourcing specialized security functions. Partnering with managed security providers equips organizations with a team of experts who can proactively manage and mitigate risks, thereby ensuring a higher level of security without straining internal resources.

In the rapidly advancing landscape of technology, cloud computing stands as a revolutionary paradigm shift, altering the way businesses function and individuals interact with data. However, this transformation is not without its challenges, particularly when it comes to ensuring the security of information in this virtual realm. Pioneering research by Muralidhara, Jansen, Singh, and Pandey sheds light on the multifaceted aspects of cloud security. This article delves into their insights to explore the evolution of cloud computing security and the innovative strategies adopted by organizations to counteract evolving threats.

## The Evolution of Cloud Computing Security

Muralidhara's research in "THE EVOLUTION OF CLOUD COMPUTING SECURITY: ADDRESSING EMERGING THREATS" underscores the critical importance of understanding the changing nature of threats in the cloud computing landscape. As cloud platforms become increasingly popular, they present an attractive target for malicious actors seeking to exploit vulnerabilities. Muralidhara emphasizes that cloud security is not a one-time solution but a continuous process that must adapt to new threats.

Jansen's work contributes to this narrative by highlighting the role of managed security services (MSS) in maintaining cyber peace. In "Stabilizing the industrial system: Managed security services' contribution to cyber-peace," Jansen propos-

es that cloud security can be significantly enhanced through outsourced security services. These services provide specialized expertise and constant vigilance against threats, allowing organizations to focus on their core functions while security professionals manage potential risks.

## Understanding Cloud Security Ontologies

Singh and Pandey's comparative study of cloud security ontologies sheds light on the semantic foundations of cloud security. Their research, presented in "A comparative study of cloud security ontologies," explores the different ways experts conceptualize and categorize cloud security concerns. Ontologies play a vital role in standardizing the terminology and understanding of security threats, enabling more effective communication among professionals and the development of robust security strategies.

## Mitigating Emerging Threats

With the insights from these studies in mind, it's crucial to examine the strategies and practices that organizations are employing to safeguard their cloud environments from emerging threats.

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2. **Managed Security Services:** Jansen's perspective on managed security services aligns with the growing trend of outsourcing specialized security functions. Partnering with managed security providers equips organizations with a team of experts who can proactively manage and mitigate risks, thereby ensuring a higher level of security without straining internal resources.

3. **Standardized Security Ontologies:** Singh and Pandey's ontological approach offers a valuable framework for structuring security concerns. Implementing standardized security ontologies across the industry fosters a common understanding of threats, enabling more effective collaboration and the development of comprehensive security measures.

4. **Encryption and Access Control:** Regardless of the evolving threat landscape, foundational security practices such as encryption and access control remain crucial. Data encryption ensures that even if unauthorized access occurs, the intercepted data remains unreadable. Robust access control mechanisms restrict data access to authorized individuals, reducing the attack surface.

5. **Regular Training and Awareness:** An organization's security posture is only as strong as its weakest link. Regular training and awareness programs help educate employees about security best practices, reducing the likelihood of human error leading to security

breaches.

## The Path Forward

As the cloud computing landscape continues to evolve, so too must our approach to security. Muralidhara's insights remind us that threats will always be present, and addressing them requires a proactive and adaptable mindset. Jansen's perspective on managed security services offers a pragmatic solution for organizations seeking expert assistance in navigating the complex world of cyber threats.

Singh and Pandey's research highlights the importance of a shared language when discussing security concerns. Standardized ontologies provide a framework that enhances collaboration among experts and aids in the development of comprehensive security strategies.

In summary, the evolution of cloud computing security is an ongoing journey that demands vigilance, adaptation, and collaboration. By integrating the findings of Muralidhara, Jansen, Singh, and Pandey into their security strategies, organizations can fortify their cloud environments against emerging threats and ensure a safer digital future. Through continuous monitoring, embracing managed security services, implementing standardized ontologies, and adhering to foundational security practices, organizations can confidently harness the power of the cloud while keeping their sensitive data secure.

# Prospects Of Renewable Energy Sources In Uzbekistan

By: Kadyrova Arofat Abdulkarimovna @themtkenyetimes

**Annotation:** This article talks about the importance of using geothermal energy sources in the conditions of Uzbekistan. Information is given about the basis of the widespread use of alternative energy sources, not traditional energy sources, their current state, and the reforms and news that are being carried out in this regard in our country.

**Key words:** traditional energy, heat power stations, renewable energy, geothermal energy, electricity, energy efficiency, energy saving, energy source, turbine, geothermal waters.

Today, we are living in a time where modern new age generations and innovative and digital technologies that require almost no manual labor are progressing and growing. It can be seen from this that the machines that make our heavy work light, our complex work easy and even our long journey closer now require energy. They now run on electricity instead of gasoline. First of all, one thing should be emphasized: "We cannot imagine our life without electricity."

Today, no matter what the field is, electricity is needed. Due to the many actions being carried out now, our development is developing day by day, and the lifestyle of our people is improving more and more. It is worth noting that the adoption of the strategy of supplying the country with electricity until 2030 in our Republic is of great importance for further development, efficient use of alternative energy sources and development of technologies. According to the strategy, it is planned to increase the production capacity of electricity from 5900MW to 29200MW by 2030 and to reduce the consumption of natural gas and reduce the losses in electricity transmission as much as possible.

According to the concept, the consumption of natural gas in the production of electricity will be reduced from 16.5 billion cubic meters to 12.1 billion cubic meters. This plan includes reduction of losses in electricity transmission by 2.35% and in distribution by 6.5%.

Now we will talk about where and how we get electricity. We know that we receive electricity in a traditional way, that is, through TPPs. TPP stands for Thermal Power Plant. In thermal power plants, thermal energy is converted into electrical energy and transmitted to us through power transformers. And this board will suffer many losses until it reaches our home. In particular, this happens in a large unit at the station itself.

Thermal power plants operate mainly by burning coal, natural gas and fuel oil. These fuels are sources of energy that are running out. One of the harmful aspects of thermal power plants is large energy losses, and another is a very negative impact on the environment. The toxic gases emitted from it go up into the sky and poison our ecology, harming the natural air, and there is also



Kadyrova Arofat Abdulkarimovna .

the problem of disposal of the waste from it. However, its advantage is that it is much cheaper than other types of energy production, which is why we have electricity at the expense of TPPs. However, by now, traditional methods are being abandoned in the developed countries of the world. Therefore, the use of renewable energy sources remains very effective.

The use of alternative energy sources can be a little expensive, but it is not harmful. That is, it can be obtained without harming the environment. In this regard, many innovations and reforms are being carried out in this regard in our country. In particular, the verdict of our honorable president Shavkat Mirmonovich Mirziyoyev "On measures to accelerate the introduction of renewable energy sources and energy-saving technologies in 2023" can be cited.

The effect of the words said in the verdict can be seen in the example of Bukhara region.

In accordance with the verdict, the first turbine with a height of 100 meters and a blade length of 84 meters was erected in Bukhara region this year as part of the construction of a wind power plant. There are 157 more installations from this device. The first capacities of the

stations are expected to be put into operation in 2024.

Now, let's talk about geothermal energy. This type of energy is an alternative and renewable energy. Geothermal energy is heat energy in the earth's crust, which comes from the earth's crust and radioactive decay. That is, simply put, artesian water or hot spring. We know that from somewhere in the mountainous regions of our republic, when water comes out, it turns into a sanatorium and it is said that there is a hot spring. So, how promising is the use of geothermal energy sources in our country? Of course, it is promising, because Uzbekistan is a country with huge reserves of water, which is a source of geothermal energy. It has been determined that there are geothermal waters in every part of its regions. Scientific research shows that the average gradient of geothermal waters in our country is 40C/km. The heat vapor flow is equal to 0.06 W/m2. Compared to annual indicators, the gross potential of geothermal waters in our country is estimated at 160.8 thousand tons of oil energy. Of course, we cannot get electricity directly through this energy, but it is being done in other countries, why can't we do it now? Our exact location may not be rich in active volcanic zones, but that doesn't mean

it's just accessible. After all, it is possible to find a solution if you do as much research as possible. If water at a certain depth, i.e. 300 or more depth, is brought to the surface of the earth and heated through specially insulated turbines, it will certainly be possible to obtain electricity from it, and this will certainly become one of the major changes in the field of green energy in our country. Of course, environmentally safe and most importantly clean renewable energy.

In conclusion, it can be said that in the current developing period, I think we should not get tired of working on new scientific researches and new discoveries. Because no matter what we do, we find easy ways and implement them in order to satisfy our needs and our own comfortable life and safety, and all this is only for ourselves, for the comfortable and healthy lifestyle of the new generation. Therefore, we should not stop searching.

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## Worth Noting:

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SPORTS  
NEWSPHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
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BREAKING NEWS

**Sports >>** \*Stage is set for the penultimate round of the national rugby sevens circuit scheduled this weekend at Eldoret Sports Club.

## National Rugby Sevens Circuit: All Set For The Tisap Sevens In Eldoret



Stage is set for the penultimate round of the national rugby sevens circuit scheduled this weekend at Eldoret Sports Club.

The leg, Tisap Sevens is the fifth round of the 6 legged national sevens circuit after rounds in Kisumu, Mombasa, Nakuru and Nairobi.

Circuit leaders Kabras Sugar headline pool C alongside Daystar Falcons, Kenya Harlequins and Kisumu RFC.

Pool A consists series' second placed KCB RFC who will take Blak Blad, Homeboyz and Mombasa RFC.

Strathmore Leos Christie Sevens finalists are pooled in group B with defending circuit cham-

pions Menengai Oilers, Catholic Monks and Masinde Muliro University.

Pool D has Mwamba, Nakuru, Nondescripts and University Of Eldoret Trojans.

Meanwhile the tournament received sponsorship boost of Ksh.1.5 Million from Kenya Breweries Limited.

Commenting on the sponsorship, Tusker Brand Ag. Marketing Manager Lennox Mwalea said;

"We are delighted to be heading to Eldoret this weekend for the fifth leg of this year's National Sevens Circuit. Once again, we are happy to announce that we shall be sponsoring the tourna-

ment to the tune of Ksh. 2 million. This sponsorship is meant to support the event's organization to ensure its success and create a great experience for the fans. This is in line with our continued efforts to support the sport of rugby in the country which we have been involved in for a very long time now," said Mwalea.

"This has been such an incredible Circuit that has no doubt lived up to its expectations so far. We, therefore, look forward to the event and urge rugby fans from the larger North Rift region to come out in their numbers to cheer on their teams and enjoy the experience," he added.

On his part, Eldoret RFC Chair-

man, Edwin Endonyi, expressed his optimism of organizing a successful tournament.

"We are immensely grateful for the valuable contribution to Tisap Rugby which will go a long way in ensuring the tournament is a success. We welcome a lot more of these partnerships, not only for this tournament but for the long term. We look forward to working closely with Tusker to ensure the success of the tournament," said Endonyi.

The circuit is set to culminate later next month with the Kabeberi sevens in Nairobi.

KBC

# GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*Over 280 golfers are expected to take part in the Ruiru Golf Club organized golf tournament at the par 73 golf course on Saturday.

## Over 200 To Take Part In A Golfing Extravaganza At Ruiru Golf Club



Over 280 golfers are expected to take part in the Ruiru Golf Club organized golf tournament at the par 73 golf course on Saturday.

The championship is set to feature Legendary golfers as well professional golfers.

"We are delighted to host some of the biggest names in the sport this weekend during the legendary golf day in Ruiru. We have partnered with some of the top corporate brands to organize this amazing

tourney that will see the winners grab top prizes. Our course is in good shape, and the greens offer an enabling environment for players to compete," said Ruiru Club Captain, Jessy Ndegwa.

Tabitha Kiragu an ardent golfer who was crowned the overall winner of the inaugural IPF golf tournament last weekend at the same venue having carded an excellent score of 42 stableford points will be one of the key players to watch

including single handicap long hitting Emmanuel Wachira, Mary Wambui and David Kibui.

"I am looking forward to picking up from where I left last weekend having won over 190 top amateurs. It is going to be a very tough battle against the best golfers in the country, but I believe with my experience and good run of form I will emerge victorious in this tourney. My swing is there, and I intend to make a statement right

from the onset," said Ruiru-based player, Tabitha Kiragu.

The golf tournament is part of the sporting activities being hosted by the club as it marks a century of existence.

**KBC**

# SPORTS NEWS



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BREAKING NEWS



# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



# Systemic Barriers To Access And Usage Of Housing Finance In Kenya Demystified

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyentimes

## Worth Noting:

- Titled “Research on systemic barriers towards access and usage of housing finance in Kenya,” the findings will inform critical review and/or development of strategic short, medium and long-term plans by the various housing stakeholders. The findings will guide stakeholders’ decisions in proposing innovative solutions to promote access and utilization of housing finance, especially for the low-income households and informal segments of the population.
- Ultimately, these findings are expected to positively impact Kenya’s housing uptake, promote behavior change with respect to housing finance and thus, significantly increase home ownership.



From Left Maurice Makoloo, Habitat for Humanity Africa Area Vice president, Johnstone Oletia, CEO KMRC, Said Athman, Housing Secretary Ministry of Lands, Public Works and Urban Development, Oscar Murigi, Chairman AMFI-Kenya Board. Naem Razwani, Senior Director Global Financial Inclusion and Capital Markets, HFHI.

Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) in partnership with Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company (KMRC) and the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Kenya (AMFI-K) has today launched a research report on the systemic barriers to access and usage of housing finance in Kenya during a breakfast function at the Nairobi Serena Hotel. The launch follows the successful completion of a research project that was collaboratively driven by the three institutions with the objective of identifying the general factors inhibiting access and optimal utilization of housing finance in Kenya. The study focused on the low-income population and undertook a holistic assessment of the housing finance landscape with a view to scoping out the demand and supply side needs, challenges, opportunities, and an assessment of the solutions available to promote affordable housing finance in Kenya. Additionally, the research examined existing laws, regulations and policies that support or hinder affordable housing finance, as well as potential investment opportunities that are geared towards boosting the supply sides’ development efforts.

“Habitat for Humanity International exists to empower communities to overcome the chronic lack of decent housing through solutions that make adequate housing accessible and affordable for all. Together with KMRC and AMFI-K, we share a commitment to expanding access to home ownership for all families. This research findings will be instrumental in unlocking new housing finance opportunities for low-income families in Kenya,”- Habitat for Humanity International. Titled “Research on systemic barriers towards access and usage of housing finance in Kenya,” the findings will inform critical review and/or development of strategic short, medium and long-term plans by the various housing stakeholders. The findings will guide stakeholders’ decisions in proposing innovative solutions to promote access and utilization of housing finance, especially for the low-income households and informal segments of the population. Ultimately, these findings are expected to positively impact Kenya’s housing uptake, promote behavior change with respect to housing finance and thus, significantly increase home ownership.

“We are thrilled to share with you the results of what has been a detailed and in-depth collaborative exploration that will provide answers and viable innovative solutions to low housing stakeholders’ questions and housing finance access challenges respectively. This marks one of KMRC’s important milestones in regard to continuous research and advocacy to unlock barriers in the affordable housing sector. We will continue to pursue such collaborative opportunities that will not only enhance Kenya’s home ownership but will also enrich the much needed affordable housing landscape data,” said KMRC’s Chief Executive Officer & MD, Mr. Johnstone Oletia. Global housing supply falls short of demand with more than a billion people living in informal settlements. The Centre for Affordable Housing Finance Africa (CAHF) estimates suggest that less than 15% of Africa’s urban population can afford to purchase developer-built housing, and that most of the incremental building is financed through proceeds from business and farming, savings and credit from a variety of financial service providers. Kenya is estimated to host more than half

of its population in the urban areas by 2050, indicating the dire need for sustainable housing solutions. Even though Kenya has an established financial service sector, the housing financing models available are not optimally utilized, especially by the low-and middle-income households. “Microfinance Institutions serve the low- and middle-income households who require greater access to long-term financing options and affordable interest rates for housing loans given that they have limited funding alternatives for affordable housing. This research has culminated a comprehensive and insightful report that plays a pivotal role to our members as an Association. The findings will assist the microfinance institutions to develop and re-align their housing loan products that will champion for affordable housing and increase the number of house owners in the country,” - Association of Microfinance Institutions Kenya. The research was commissioned by Habitat for Humanity’s Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter (HFHI-TCIS), which provided general technical assistance and mostly focused on the low and middle income households across the country.