



CS Machogu Sets Up Team On Credit Transfer Review Policy

Education Cabinet Ezekiel Machogu has appointed a 16-member team to review Kenya Credit Accumulation and Transfer (KCAT) system policy in the Country.

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News>> Security Committee Meets Office Of The President Officials Over Budget Implementation Status

P. 8. The Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security yesterday engaged two Departments based in the Office of the President



News>> Parliamentary House Audit Committee Raises Concerns On The Safety Of KBC Land

P. 12. The Acting Managing Director of the country's national broadcaster KBC Mr. Samuel Maina was at pains yesterday to explain to the National Assembly's Public Investments Committee on Social Services Administration and Agriculture the correct position of the status on parcels of land owned by the state Corporation.

EU Grants Kenya Ksh11.4B To Support Priority Projects

 The European Union has granted Kenya over Ksh 11.4 billion (72million Euros) to support priority areas of green transition on environmental sustainability and digital inclusion, good governance as well as peace and stability.

In a deal signed by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels, Belgium.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels, Belgium

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We Stand With Governor Kawira, Declares Waiguru, Kihika And Kuria



We Stand With Governor Kawira, Declares Waiguru, Kihika And Kuria.

Worth Noting:

Nakuru governor Kihikia had a similar message for her colleague whom she referred to as a dear sister. “My dear sister Gov Kwaira, keep your head up and know that you are not alone. I stand with you. I Pray that your day comes when you overcome all these trials and come out stronger and a winner. May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; May the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. It shall be well my sister!” she stated.

Several leaders have expressed their solidarity with Meru governor Kawira Mwangaza who was impeached Wednesday evening for the second time by MCAs.

Governors Anne Waiguru (Kirinyaga), Susan Kihika (Nakuru), and Public Service Cabinet secretary Moses Kuria voiced their support immediately after the 59 Ward Representatives voted against the embattled County boss while 10 skipped the sitting.

Waiguru and Kihika backed their messages of encouragement to Kawira who is also a Bishop with bible verses.

“It is darkest before dawn” Waiguru shared on X, urging the governor whose

fate lies with the court and Senate to look upon God for help.

“Asiye kuwa na wake ana Mungu... I stand with you my sister Gvn Kawira Mwangaza. It’s darkest before dawn. Look to the Hills from whence your help comes from.. There is God in Heaven” she said.

Nakuru governor Kihikia had a similar message for her colleague whom she referred to as a dear sister.

“My dear sister Gov Kwaira, keep your head up and know that you are not alone. I stand with you. I Pray that your day comes when you overcome all these trials and come out stronger and a winner. May

the Lord make his face shine on you and

be gracious to you; May the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. It shall be well my sister!” she stated.

Mt Kenya politics came into play when CS Kuria also made it clear that she stands with Kawira terming the move by the country assembly members as an evil scheme and political witch hunt.

“I stand with Governor Kawira Mwangaza. This is an evil scheme by someone who thinks that the only way to be a Mt. Kenya Kingpin is to bring down other leaders not to solve the problems of our people who are getting desperate by the day. History will vindicate me.”

The County Assembly Members accused the Governor of gross misconduct,

violation of the law, nepotism, and misappropriation of the County funds. Kawira, however, refuted all the charges.

The court of appeal declined to stop the Meru County assembly from debating the impeachment motion and is set to make a ruling on the matter tomorrow Friday.

If the Court of Appeal gives the green light to the motion, it will be forwarded to the Senate for consideration.

Last year, Meru MCAs made a similar move but failed after the Senate saved her from ouster on December 30.

KBC Digital

Editor’s Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by Exponential International Limited, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Former Government Spokesman Lt. Col. (rtd) Cyrus Oguna yesterday handed over the docket at his former Telposta office to Isaac Mwaura, who was appointed to the new docket a fortnight ago. Mwaura was accompanied by his two deputies, Mwanaisha Chidzuga and Gabriel Muthuma.



A section of Nyeri County leaders yesterday met with Cabinet Secretary for Roads, Transport, and Public Works Kipchumba Murkomen, where they deliberated on road matters. With the meeting, the leaders said there is hope that the stalled roads in the county will now continue as the contractors will be on site and their completion finalized.



Naftali Kinuthia Convicted Of Ivy Wangeci's Murder Outside MTRH
 Naftali Kinuthia has been convicted of the 2019 murder of Ivy Wangeci, a Moi University medical student hacked to death outside the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH). Kinuthia, who is said to have had a sexual relationship with the student, told the court he had been provoked by the victim, an assertion the court dismissed. Justice Reuben Githinji, sitting in Eldoret, said he was satisfied the prosecution had proved its case and that the suspect stood convicted. The suspect had told the court he was enraged by Wangeci's decision to pursue a relationship with another man. In his verdict on Thursday, Justice Githinji noted there was no evidence to support the existence of an intimate relationship between the suspect and the victim. "Even text messages reviewed did not prove evidence of an intimate relationship and the the accused did not also prove a sexual relationship with the deceased," Justice Githinji said. "If he did not want to kill her he would have used bare feasts on her and not the axe," the judge went on to state. The judge scheduled a November 22 session for mitigation and sentencing.



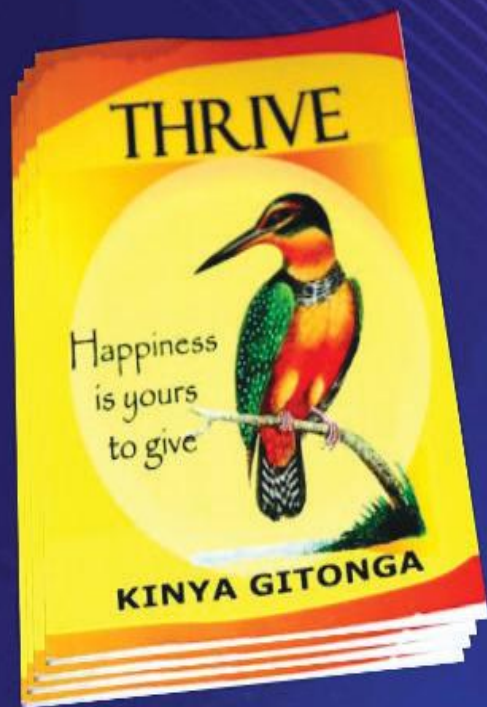
Kenya has been urged to invest in training and retooling ICT professionals to combat emerging cyber security threats. The country has seen a sharp increase in attacks, from Sh7.7 million in 2018 to 444 million in 2023, ranking it among the top three targeted countries in Africa. Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) Kenya Chapter President Mercy Omolo emphasised the need for investment in training and retooling to protect the country's systems from cybercrime. ISACA has rolled out programmes to upskill and issue certifications to its over 1,700 members. The digitization of government services has exposed the country to cyberattacks, and the government has implemented measures to combat this, such as the development of regulations to operationalize the Computer Misuse and Cyber Crimes Act (2019). Deputy Auditor General Isack Kamau emphasised the need for effective governance, risk, and compliance tools, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), to enhance service delivery efficiency.



It was a breakthrough yesterday as Kenya signed a deal with The Java Coffee Company in Rotselaar, Belgium, to source coffee directly from our smallholder farmer, with a focus on women. Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua who oversaw the signing SSID It was monumental outcome of coffee reforms where farmers are guaranteed better returns; without brokers and middlemen in the supply chain. The signing of the deal starting with the export of at least 700 tonnes of coffee is a milestone in restoring dignity to the farmer.

Kingya N. Gitonga

PSYCHOLOGIST, AUTHOR, MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE
& FOUNDER SOUND MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
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Kingya N. Gitonga

Kenya's Dairy Industry Strategy Is To Double Annual Milk Production



By: Alex Gathii Gitonga
@themtkenyatimes



Alex Gathii Gitonga posing for a photo after tending some dairy cows.

Worth Noting:

- Provision of clean Portable water, cow's water points ratio of 3:1, cleaning of water troughs daily.
- Total Mix Ratio feeding systems with high protein and energy density feedstuffs - balance diet, freshly prepared and thoroughly mixed (high homogeneity index)
- Feed ad libitum (ad lib) - any time is party time for a cow. Feed the cow - day and night, 5-6 servings will do.

Kenya's dairy industry strategy is to double annual milk production from the current 5.2 billion litres to 10.4 billion litres.

This could only be achieved if and when you double your milk production at the farm level at the lowest cost possible.

Our private dairy consultant firm; Tanolope Consultancy Limited has developed several tools to help dairy farmers double their milk production with minimal cost implications.

Some of these are; Cowsignals Tool, KPI's Tool, 24 hours Tool, Dairy Herd Management Tool and

Fodder Tool. If you want to double your milk production at the lowest cost possible Lookout at the following;

For the cow barn - maximum air circulation

Provision for a head swing

Deep dry soft material for cow beddings

Provision of clean Portable water, cow's water points ratio of 3:1, cleaning of water troughs daily.

Total Mix Ratio feeding systems with high protein and energy density feedstuffs - balance diet, freshly prepared and thoroughly mixed (high homogeneity index)

Feed ad libitum (ad lib) - any time is party time for a cow. Feed the cow - day and night, 5-6 servings will do.

Do not relate feeding with milking - milking is a one-off activity, feeding a cow is highly continuous.

Reduce feed bulkiness, fodder particle size should be between 2.5 - 4.0cm
In conclusion, ensure you provide high quality maize silage, dairy meal, minerals, Boma Rhodes hay among other fodders.

Your feeding systems should be Total Mixed Ration -TMR, Segment feeding and Challenge feeding.

Get conversant with the three ratios of feeding a cow; Protein : Energy Ratio

Forage : Concentrate Ratio
Feed to Gain Ratio.

We are a strong believer that doing 10.4 billion litres annually is not rocket science. It's just hard work, determination and focus.

Be the dairy humming bird, just do your part - double your milk production at your farm, your neighbours will learn from you. Milk is white Gold for Africa. Let's create wealth together.

Alex Gathii Gitonga is the Managing Director Tanolope Consultancy Limited. He can be reached on 0723331611

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EU Grants Kenya Ksh 11.4B To Support Priority Projects

By: Muraya Kamunde

The European Union has granted Kenya over Ksh 11.4 billion (72million Euros) to support priority areas of green transition on environmental sustainability and digital inclusion, good governance as well as peace and stability.

In a deal signed by Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels, Belgium on Wednesday, the funds will go towards boosting programmes in the identified key sectors of the economy.

The Deputy President, who is representing President William Ruto at the Global Gateway Summit being hosted by the EU in Brussels, welcomed the collaboration between Kenya and the EU saying the grant will help develop the country and improve the lives of the people.

“Kenya welcomes this statement of signature which will be realised through the outlined priorities for the Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027. This collaboration marks a pivotal stride towards a brighter future for the Kenyan people. As we implement the Global Gateway, we are confident that sustainable development, security and prosperity will rightfully take centre stage in our development cooperation narrative going forward,” he said of the deal signed on the sidelines of the Global Gateway Forum 2023.

Mr Gachagua said Kenya looked forward to continued partnership with the EU. The Ruto administration was keen on strengthening existing ties with the EU, he added.

“I reaffirm our collective dedication to this partnership. Together, we stride towards a future where the bonds between Kenya and the European Union continue to flourish, bringing about positive change and shared prosperity,” the DP added.



Funds will go towards boosting programmes in the identified key sectors of the economy

Security Committee Meets Office Of The President Officials Over Budget Implementation Status

By: PSCU

The Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security yesterday engaged two Departments based in the Office of the President, to get a status update on budget implementation status.

The engagement which covers an assessment on budget absorption against budget allocations to various projects, focused on the first quarter of the 2023/2024 Financial Year.

First to brief the Gabriel Tongoyo-led committee was the State House Comptroller Katoo Ole Metito.

The lawmakers put him on the spot over the discrepancies between pending bills as reported by the Controller of Budget on her annual report to Parliament and the report submitted by the office of the President on Vote 1011 and which is currently before the committee.

The Comptroller in his presentation highlighted several issues that led to the variance including timelines in presenting the report to the controller

of Budget and Parliament.

“There was a time gap and some bills were later factored in. In the report submitted to Parliament, an amount of Sh28,863,700 had been captured twice. The report also failed to include historical pending bills. Further, an amount of Sh6,576,577 comprising Sh2,659,566 for recurrent expenditure and Sh4,007,011 for Development expenditure -being a current pending bill was also incorporated as part of the total pending bill through the ongoing verification process,” Katoo sought to explain.

Later, the Principal Secretary State Department for Immigration and Citizen Services Amb(Prof) Julius K. Bitok appeared before the committee to address the status report which includes a detailed explanation of the non-financial performance of the State Department based on the approved program-based budget for the FY 2022/23 as contained on vote 1021 and 1024. The Members also expressed concerns over Policy shift about the Unique Personal Identifier (UPI) Project and the status of implementation of other state projects.

In his presentation, PS Bitok remarks on the non-financial performance and



Gabriel Tongoyo with the State House Comptroller Katoo Ole Metito.

pointed out several setbacks that led the Department not achieving some of its targets including inadequate funding and budget cuts, shortage of supplies for materials such as ID materials, passport booklets, inadequate registration material.

He further pointed out some operational and administrative challenges faced by the Department, including low printing capacity for passports

due to occasional break down of Printers.

With regards to the Policy Shift, the PS told the Committee that the Department had adopted the Unique Personal Identifier (UPI) “Maisha Namba” as a key integration to address concerns about data privacy, security as well as potential misuse of personal information, loopholes identified in the Huduma Namba.

The UPI will see Kenyans enrolled in the system at birth and exit upon death.

With regards to the status of implementation of the rest of the project within the State Department, the PS told the Committee that good progress had been recorded, adding that those that had stalled had been affected by the Policy shift, budget cuts, or insufficient allocation of funds.

Digital ID Regulations Out As Piloting Set To Begin

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes



Immigration and Citizen Services PS Prof. Julius Bitok speaking at the forum with religious leaders.

Worth Noting:

- Speaking at the forum with religious leaders, Immigration and Citizen Services PS Prof. Julius Bitok said piloting will help assess the country's preparedness for adoption of digital ID.
- "We intend to have the piloting act as a guide on what we need to do right. We want to make sure that this time, we get it right in view of the frustrations that have plagued previous attempts introduce a digital ID," said Bitok.
- The PS said public participation and stakeholders' engagement forums will continue across the country.
- So far, 698 forums involving among others, the civil society, the private sector, media, development partners and National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs), have been held.

The piloting of the digital ID is set to begin after the government gazetted the regulations to anchor a new personal registration system.

The new card to be known as Maisha Digital Card also received a major boost after religious leaders endorsed it and pledged to support public sensitization on its rollout.

In a Special Gazette dated Oct 25, 2023, Interior CS Kithure Kindiki amended the Registration of Persons Regulations to provide for an electronic card and an electronic register.

The Regulations also allow the use of facial features to complement fingerprints for personal identification. The amended regulations also officially recognize the Unique Personal Identifier (UPI) that will be issued at birth and that will be a lifelong identification number for each Kenyan.

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will continue across the country.

So far, 698 forums involving among others, the civil society, the private sector, media, development partners and National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs), have been held.

The meeting was attended by the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK), the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM), Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK) and the Hindu Council of Kenya (HCK) among others.

Bishop Philip Kitoto, the Chairman of EAK, said digital ID was a reality that Kenya needed to embrace but urged the government to address relevant concerns including the security of personal data related to registration.

"As a country, we have to align with global trends and address concerns related to the security of registration documents. But equally important is the assurance that personal data is secure and that it will not fall into the wrong hands," he said.

While supporting the proposed registration system, Pastor Samuel Makori of the Seventh Day Adventist Church urged the government to avoid duplication and wastage of resources.

"The government is doing the right thing and we will fully support it. But we want an assurance that we



A Kenyan woman looks at a biometric camera, in Nairobi, Kenya, on May 17, 2019. © Simon Maina/AFP/Getty.

will not be undertaking a similar exercise whenever a new administration comes in place," said Makori.

Sujaatha Raju of the HCK and Malkiat Singh of the Sikh Union also expressed support for the digital ID saying it will make it easier for citizens to access government services.

PS Bitok assured the religious leaders that the proposed digital ID was compliant with regulations on the protection of personal data.

"We have done data protection impact assessment which was not done in previous projects. We have submitted a data protection impact assessment report to the Data Commissioner to ensure the process fol-

lows the law," said Bitok.

He said the government was keen to avoid the challenges that beset Huduma Namba and other previous attempts to introduce digital ID in the country.

"We are going to enhance our national security because the new Maisha Namba card is tamper-proof. With your phone you can also apply for your Maisha Digital ID and access online services easily. We want to ensure the entire government leverages on technology for service delivery."

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Devotion As A Necessity For Leadership

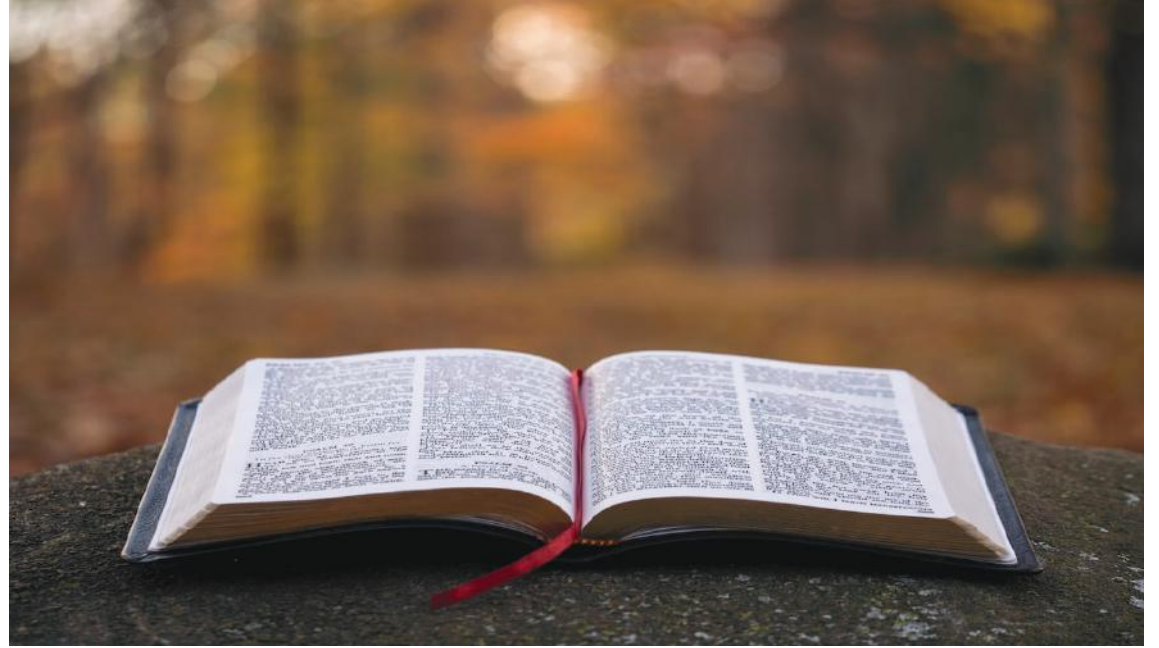


By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

We find another aspect of Joshua's preparation for leadership in Exodus 33, where we glimpse his growing devotion to God. He was serving in the Tabernacle with Moses while the pillar of the cloud towered above the tent. Verse 11 tells us: "The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent." Though he was not privileged, like Moses, to speak with God face to face, Joshua was so overcome by God's presence that he would not leave the Tabernacle! There is such passion in this picture. "Lord, You are so wonderful, I cannot leave this room. I beg You, let me stay."

Joshua's New Testament counterpart is Mary of Bethany, who would not leave the room where Jesus was as she sat enraptured at His feet despite her sister's scolding. And she was so right! As we have it from the lips of our Lord, "Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42). It was this same Mary who poured a year's fortune on Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair and of whom Jesus said, "She has done a beautiful thing to me" (Mark 14:6).

True spiritual leadership is born for devotion and demands to be closeted with God. We cannot name one great leader in the Church who has not made personal worship a top priority. Such were the lives of Martin Luther, Bunyan, Edwards, Wesley, Müller, Lloyd-Jones, and every other truly spiritual leader. There is no spiritual leadership apart from passionate devotion. One hundred years ago the great C. J. Vaughn said, "If I wished to humble anyone, I should question him about his prayers. I know nothing to compare with the topic for its sorrowful confessions." Men, lead-



ers, how would you answer such a question?

PRAY: LORD, I AM DEVOTED TO YOU: HELP ME AND GIVE ME TGE GRACE TO BE ALWAYS BE DEVOTED TO YOU WHOLE-HEARTEDLY. SELAH!

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, TO-

DAY 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

Defence, Intelligence And Foreign Relations Committee Continued Vetting Ambassadorial Nominees

By: PSCU

Eight of the 27 persons nominated by the President to serve as Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Permanent Representatives of the Republic have been vetted by the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations.

Four nominees yesterday defended their suitability for the job to their respective destinations before the Committee chaired by Nelson Koech (Belgut).

The four were Dr. Wilson Kogo (Canberra, Australia), Mr. John Ronald Ekitela (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), Amb. Philip Mundia Githiora (Maputo, Mozambique) and Ms. Sabdio Dido Bashuna (Gaborone, Botswana).

Wilson Kogo, who previously served as Chesumei MP pledged that if confirmed as Kenya's Ambassador to Canberra, he would ensure that Kenya taps into Australia's vast opportunities as a global industrial powerhouse to boost local production and reduce over reliance on imports that have largely occasioned Kenya's unfair balance of trade with



Defence, Intelligence And Foreign Relations Committee Continued Vetting Ambassadorial Nominees.

most western powers.

Mr. Ekitela who is the current head of Chancery/Kenya's Embassy in Washington DC since his appointment to the position in January 2020, said he would use his wealth of diplomatic experience

and skills from his scholarly background to identify strategic areas of partnership between Malaysia and Kenya if approved for appointment as the Ambassador to Kuala Lumpur.

Amb. Githiora who is currently the

Kenyan Ambassador to Kigali, Rwanda and who previously served as the Deputy Director, Peace and Security Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said he would put his best foot forward to defend Kenya's strategic interests in

Mozambique, if he gets the nod from the Committee and eventually the National Assembly to serve as Kenya's Ambassador to Maputo.

Ms. Bashuna who is seeking the Committee's approval to serve as Kenya's Ambassador to Gaborone, Botswana also defended her professional competence for the job.

Koech, noted that most of the nominees had a diplomatic background, and that the MPs would undertake an in-depth analysis of their responses to key questions, to gauge their knowledge on the destinations to which they have been nominated for appointment to, before drafting the final Committee Report.

"I wish you the very best, as we retreat to consider your suitability. If you are successful kindly endeavour to do your best to serve this country with all your might," said Koech.

The vetting continues with another round of four nominees today and is expected to be concluded on Thursday next week.

The committee, is subsequently expected to table its Report on or before November 8, 2023, to enable the House consider the matter within the Statutory timelines.

Ruto's Uhuru Park Garden Visit Demonstrated His Preparedness To Host The UK Royal Couple



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandong@gmail.com



President William Ruto has inspected Uhuru Gardens ahead of King Charles III and Queen Camilla's State Visit next week.

Worth Noting:

- The plane carrying King Charles III and Queen Camilla is expected to land at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) on October 31.
- During a three day state visit, the couple will be engaged in many other activities.
- Besides bilateral talks with the host, President William Ruto, which will focus on a wide range of issues including climate change, trade, security and sustainable development, King Charles will meet representatives of the youth, women and other organized groupings of the Kenyan society.
- In all the meetings, the discussions centred on historical ties between the two nations would be expected to feature prominently.

President William Ruto is leaving nothing to chance in ensuring everything will go on as planned during the United Kingdom's Royal Couple state visit.

One can understand why all the President's attention and focus is trained on this visit.

One, it is because of the historical ties between the two countries while noting that the UK remains as Kenya's leading development partner.

Two, this will be a sign of great honor and recognition of his Dr Ruto leadership.

It is worth noting Kenya is the first Commonwealth nation that the Royal Couple have chosen to visit since being elevated and crowned.

As part of the preparations, President William Ruto first chaired a crucial meeting at State House Nairobi which was attended by the British High Commissioner to Kenya Neil Wigan and other top officials from the Embassy.

Two days later, the President made an inspection tour of the Uhuru Gardens in Nairobi. According to the itinerary of their Majesties, the couple will lay a wreath in this garden on a tomb of unknown freedom fighter.

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will meet representatives of the youth, women and other organized groupings of the Kenyan society.

In all the meetings, the discussions centred on historical ties between the two nations would be expected to feature prominently.

As a key development partner, the benefits that Kenya have reaped since independence through this corporation will be enumerated. The leaders and citizens, who will get a chance to speak, will pitch for more support from Britain.

However, I'm sure some of them will revisit the dark history of the colonization and the atrocities that British soldiers meted on the freedom fighters. For starters, Kenya was a colony of Britain.

I'm sure their majesties are fully aware that these matters will come up.

So, after listening to these narrations, King Charles will respond appropriately.

In regard to the issue of compensating the freedom fighters who took the bull by its horn, I would not expect him to give an immediate answer.

This is because the United Kingdom's position is that they had already sorted out this matter.

For those who have read the Kenya's history, I'm sure they would agree with me on this.

The process of compensation reparations started soon after Kenya got its independence.

As a way of mollifying the fighters who had won the war for lands and freedom, the UK government started releasing thousands of pounds to the new government of the founding President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta.

JM Kariuki, who later become the MP

for Nyandarua North before he was assassinated, was the secretary of this Mau Mau veterans' kitty.

Unfortunately, the monies did not reach the beneficiaries.

To date, it is widely believed that the funds were instead diverted, looted and ended up lining the pockets of Jomo Kenyatta and his key cronies.

The cronies had earlier been enlisted to serve as home guards, corroborators and spies for the oppressive British colonial regime.

When President Mwai Kibaki came to power, the issue of compensation resurfaced.

The surviving Mau Mau fighters and families of the deceased ones wrote to the UK government and filed a case against it. They demanded to be compensated.

Again, they won the case.

They were paid good monies but most of them did not get their shares.

Reports indicated the lawyers representing them took a lion share of it.

Worse still, some of the surviving fighters hatched conspiracies that saw them defrauding those ignorant and gullible. They stole shares.

So, chances are high that King Charles III would not make further commitments.

Again, this is a matter to be adjudicated through legal processes.

Putting this aside, the British government has been endeavouring to support other programmes and projects meant to bolster Kenya's economic growth.

During this visit, I would expect King Charles to reiterate the UK's commitment to continue supporting them and flag new areas where they were willing to engage in.

Besides Nairobi, the itinerary of the Royal Couple also indicate they will visit Mombasa.

This is besides visiting one of our national park most likely the Nairobi national park.

Given that Britain had colonized a number of countries in Africa, one may ask. Why did King Charles choose Kenya as the first Commonwealth country he would visit since he got crowned as a King?

To me, this is two-fold. First, he has a fond memory of Kenya because his mother became a Queen in 1952 while on her visit here in Kenya.

She was at a hotel called Tree-Top in Nyeri when she received the sad news of demise of her father who was the King.

She was immediately flown to UK to take up the mantle.

Elizabeth became a Queen in the same year that Sir Evelyn Barlyn declared a state of emergency in Kenya.

While declaring Mau Mau movement as a terrorist organization, Barlyn, the colonial Governor, minced no word in vowing: We are going to use our mighty to hunt down and crush these terrorists. He did not know they will lose this battle ten years later.

In this visit, the Royal Couple will be honoring the invitation from Dr Ruto.

We recall that President Ruto had flown to UK a few days after being sworn in to attend the burial of the King Charles' mother, Queen Elizabeth II.

He got an opportunity to interact with upcoming King. That is when he invited the Royal Couple to visit Kenya.

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

Parliamentary House Audit Committee Raises Concerns On The Safety Of KBC Land

By: PSCU

Worth Noting:

- The MD in his response however assured the Committee that they have secured many of their pieces of land.
- “Chair, we have fenced our land and also provided police protection. We do this because we have transmitters on this land. For instance, our Jamuhuri, Meru and Nyambene parcels of land are well secured,” he added.
- From the report, committee Members Mary Wamaua (Maragua) and Caleb Amisi (Saboti) sought to know why among the pieces of land pointed out, ten parcels were not provided to the auditors for audit. Among these, were parcels that the KBC management possess title deeds for, whiie one piece is under litigation.



KBC acting MD Samuel Maina when he appeared before the committee yesterday.

The Acting Managing Director of the country’s national broadcaster Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) Mr. Samuel Maina was at pains yesterday to explain to the National Assembly’s Public Investments Committee on Social Services Administration and Agriculture the correct position of the status on parcels of land owned by the state Corporation.

Appearing before the Emanuel Wangwe led committee, Mr. Maina who was accompanied his procurement manager Mr. Robert Wekesa and the head of accounts, Ms. Risper Kajuju among other departmental heads was responding to questions emanating from the Auditor-General’s report of financial years covering the period between 2001 and 2013.

Regarding the issue of property plant and equipment, the Committee questioned why KBC had aquired only 8 title deeds out of the 40 parcels of land they own. Seven other parcels had allotment letters and while twenty-five did not have ownership documents. Consequently, the committee noted that it was difficult to confirm the ownership status of the land.

“Today as we speak, it is difficult to tell how much land KBC owns and how secure the land is. A report for the period covering the years 2010/2011 cited lack of titles, yet 12 years down the line, there is still no progress to remedy the situation. These revelations are a threat to government land,” held Wangwe.

The MD in his response however

assured the Committee that they have secured many of their pieces of land.

“Chair, we have fenced our land and also provided police protection. We do this because we have transmitters on this land. For instance, our Jamuhuri, Meru and Nyambene parcels of land are well secured,” he added.

From the report, committee Members Mary Wamaua (Maragua) and Caleb Amisi (Saboti) sought to know why among the pieces of land pointed out, ten parcels were not provided to the auditors for audit. Among these, were parcels that the KBC management possess title deeds for, whiie one piece is under litigation.

While attempting to put the record straight over the status of their land,

Mr. Maina informed the committee that Kerara land along Ngong road covers 100 acres, while a piece of land located in Lang’ata land which measures 20 acres has been encroached by land grabbers.

He further told the committee that another piece of land located in Nyali land measuring 23 acres, another located in Komarock along Kangundo road measuring 1,200 acres had all become a matter of court disputes with squatters living there.

The committee also heard that Sauti House land in Mombasa had partly been sold to Housing Finance resulting to a dispute currently being handled in court.

Further, the committee was shocked to learn that the land on which the KBC headquarters sits, opposite Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi is not registered under the Corporation’s name. In the audit report, it was revealed that the land is owned under a different name.

The committee also sought to know how the Corporation is utilising the 200 acres piece of land in Kitale and the over 100 acres land in Marina Meru.

The MD, Mr. Maina informed the Committee that they have been leasing the land for Agricultural activities, through his procurement officer Mr. Robert Wekesa.

Mr. Maina also told the committee that Kitale land is leased at Sh12,000 per acre and while another parcel located in Morania in Meru county had been leased out at Kshs. 38,000 per acre.

The committee sittings are scheduled to continue next Tuesday when the MD will be expected to weigh in on the 5 power generators valued at Sh 29 million loaned to KENGEN in the financial year 2000/2001 and which have never been returned to the Corporation despite several reminders by the Corporation to KENGEN.

According to the MD, KBC Board has approved a write off for the 5 generators. However, committee members Emanuel Wangwe (Committee Chairperson) and Peters Owino (Ndiwa) disagreed with the decision citing the Public Procurement and Management (Pfm) Act which requires the approval of the National Treasury for a write off to be effected.

The committee has since directed that the KBC Board of management appears before them next week alongside the MD who will be making his third consecutive appearance next week.



Some of the committee members consulting during yesterday’s session.

Global Climate Experts Convene in Nairobi for Pre-COP28 AGNES Strategy Meeting

By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyatimes

As the world grapples with the ever-worsening climate crisis, a significant strategy meeting has kicked off in Nairobi, Kenya. The Pre-COP28 AGNES Strategy Meeting, organized by the African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES) in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate, Charwe & Forestry, ACCRA, ILRI, Biodiversity International, CIAT, IWMI, CGIAR Gender Impact Platform, IFAW, and AMREF, aims to equip African negotiators for the forthcoming 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28).

Meeting Overview

The meeting, which spans from October 25th to 27th, is a collective effort to address the critical challenges posed by climate change, impacting various sectors, including agriculture, health, water resources, biodiversity, and more.

Inaugural Address

The official opening of this pivotal meeting was graced by the senior representative of the Principal Secretary (PS) of the State Department of Environment & Climate, Eng. Festus. In her opening remarks, she emphasized the urgency of addressing climate change and the critical role that African negotiators will play in shaping the outcomes of COP28.



African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES).



Key Objectives

The Pre-COP28 AGNES Strategy Meeting seeks to foster collaboration among experts and decision-makers to develop effective strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change's wide-ranging impacts on the African continent. It serves as a preparatory platform for the upcoming COP28, where global leaders will converge to tackle climate-related challenges head-on.

As discussions and deliberations continue throughout the conference, participants are expected to formulate innovative solutions and actionable plans to address climate change issues across Africa. The outcomes of this meeting are likely to significantly influence the discussions and negotiations at COP28, where the international community aims to take concrete steps to combat the climate crisis.

AGNES Strategy Meeting signifies a critical milestone in the ongoing battle against climate change. It is not only a testament to Africa's commitment to addressing the climate crisis but also a beacon of hope for global efforts to combat this pressing issue. The world will be closely watching the outcomes of this meeting, hoping for effective and pragmatic solutions that will lead to a sustainable future for all.

Well in conclusion, the Pre-COP28

OPINION

MGA Schools Expand Exponentially

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Mwiki Goodhope Academy, the leading private school in Kenya has continued to grow in leaps and bounds owing to the wise and able leadership of the Managing Director Roseanne Muthoni Maina

This was evident on Thursday when a cohort of PP2 students and Grade 6 graduated at a colourful and auspicious occasion at MGA Kamulu Branch.

In a news interview, the director Rose Ann Maina attributed the success to team work and implored upon parents to continue being watchful over their children this long December holiday.

Madam Rose Ann also highlighted that MGA Schools was the pioneer in the implementation of the Compe-

tence Based Curriculum (CBC).

She at the same time wished all the stakeholders a Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year 2023.

Director MGA Schools Roseann Maina



My Mother



Always running for us,
My mother never stops for a moment.
She always hears someone's pain,
But she do not tell anyone about her pain.

She has been devoted her existence for us,
My mother is my guiding sun.
Without him, the world is winter, it's dark for

me,
My solitude in the world, my heavenly mother.

Wealth, gold, silver,
These things can't be kind as my mother.
No one in the world, no human being,
Can not compare with my mother.

I should be my parents' mountain of support,
Inshaalloh, I may gladden them always with
happiness.
Let me make the pilgrims to my world of two
lights,
May God bless my parents with paradise.

Intizor Samandarova Ikrom's daughter is the one of young poetesses and writers from Uzbekistan. She was born on May 3, 2007 in Gurlan District, Khorezm Region, Republic of Uzbekistan. She is the author of the books "The best invitation" and "My grandfather's memoir". She is the member of international organizations "Iqra" of Pakistan, "Asih Sasami" of Indonesia, "Juntos por las letras" of Argentina, "All India council for technical skill development" of India. She is a member of Dormon creative club. IT and media coordinator of Girls' Voice Club of Gurlan district. Her poems, articles and stories have been published in international anthologies.

My President Is My Pride And Honor!



Serkuyosh, there is a future in this
country,

They want to live in a peaceful place.
An example to all with selfless work,
My president is my pride and honor!

My spring and winter covered in flowers,
The prosperity of my country is
dishonorable.

I'm going to sew on this feeling,
My president is my pride and honor!

A shield for us like ancient mountains,
Always be persistent.

Our supporter is our commander-in-chief,
My president is my pride and honor!

Our land is a witness of history,
Everyone is brave and courageous.
Pray, your prayer will be answered.
My president is my pride and honor!

This is the source of the country's
scholars,

The invisible goes to the unseen.
The world is full of science
My president is my pride and honor!

A Book Is A Person's Best Friend And Advisor



A book is a person's best friend and
advisor,
and at the same time,
it is a source of intelligence, as the
saying goes: "My best friend is this
book.

I always take it in my hand when I'm
alone and when I'm sad."
"I get a lot of knowledge and lessons.
Whenever a person picks up a book,
he never acquires bad qualities or any
bad qualities from it. Because no book
teaches you to be bad or join bad vices.
Today's Today, many of our young people
are moving away from books!
What do you say?
To my way of thinking,
In the current 21st century, various

gadgets have covered our minds.
We are the cause of this.
Because of this, we buy a phone
without reading a 2-page book, and in
the end, as you can see, it is getting
worse.

Our young people read books.
How will we know our ancestors
and what will happen to the future
generation if we don't know them.

In any case, a person who reads a lot of
books becomes a mature person in all
aspects.
That is why we should increase our love
for books.
Familiarity with books is ingrained in the
blood of our people and is instilled from
childhood.

I am Azizabonu Madieva from
Uzbekistan. I will send my work to you.
If this work like you you will publish
newspaper! Look forward you answer.
Your sincerely
Azizabonu Madieva

Green Nature



Look at the green dress of nature,
Are you out of the blue sky?
Of those gardens you wandered,
Have you added any beauty to their
beauty?

I see your decorations,
The joy escaped my eyes,
A single moon in the sky and a me,
A clock ticks on the blue wall.

Intizor Samandarova Ikrom's daughter is the one of young poetesses and writers from Uzbekistan. She was born on May 3,

2007 in Gurlan District, Khorezm Region, Republic of Uzbekistan. She is the author of the books "The best invitation" and "My grandfather's memoir". She is the member of international organizations "Iqra" of Pakistan, "Asih Sasami" of Indonesia, "Juntos por las letras" of Argentina, "All India council for technical skill development" of India. She is a member of Dormon creative club. IT and media coordinator of Girls' Voice Club of Gurlan district. Her poems, articles and stories have been published in international anthologies, magazines, newspapers.

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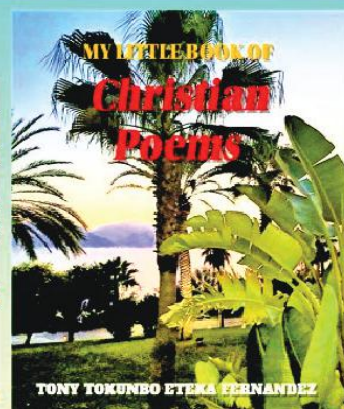
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BUSINESS

Diamonds Resorts Triumphs in Kenya with Three Prestigious Awards at the 30th World Travel Awards

Two for Diamonds Leisure Beach & Golf, Diani and One for Diamonds Dream of Africa, Malindi

Kenya was named ‘Africa’s Leading Destination’ at the 30th World Travel Awards (WTA) Africa & Indian Ocean Gala Ceremony held in Dubai in mid-October making it the continent’s best place to visit.

But it was Diamonds Leisure Beach & Golf resort in Diani that came away with two awards for Africa’s leading resort and Kenya’s leading resort for 2023. Malindi’s Diamonds Dream of Africa was voted Africa’s leading All-inclusive resort for the fourth time, having first won it in 2016 and from 2021 to date. It won Africa’s Leading Beach hotel in 2012.

Each year, the very best travel, tourism and hospitality brands in Africa and the Indian Ocean in 2023 are unveiled by World Travel Awards.

Nestled amidst the breathtaking coastal beauty of Diani Beach in Kenya, Diamonds Leisure Beach & Golf Resort offers a sanctuary of



unparalleled hospitality and lifestyle from pristine beaches to top-tier amenities and exhilarating experiences, we promise an escape like no other. Indulge in exquisite culinary journeys in our many dining venues, and enjoy the magnificent 18 hole golf course, a haven for enthusiasts and novices alike.

Diamonds Leisure Beach

& Golf Resort has been under Plan-hotel Hospitality group management for a year now, and its President, Mrs Sara Rosso Cipolini was delighted with this recognition. “We are honored to win Kenya’s Leading Resort and crowned as Africa’s Leading Resort, a testament to our unwavering dedication to excellence. It’s a result of the vision and investments of the

owners and these renowned awards stand as a tribute to the passion and hard work of our exceptional team”

No stranger to all-inclusive sophistication, Diamonds Dream of Africa in Malindi has refined this experience and recently introduced an elevated Premium All-inclusive service that has risen the guest experience to unprecedented levels. The

culinary offerings present a voyage of exquisite flavors and artful presentations, from global inspirations to local delicacies. “At the core of our triumph lies impeccable service. Our devoted team crafts moments of sheer bliss, ensuring every guest feels not only welcomed but deeply valued,” says Mrs Sara Rosso Cipolini.

Voting online by verified travel industry professionals as well as the general public decide the winners. The nominee gaining the most votes in a category is named the winner. Established in 1993 to acknowledge, reward and celebrate excellence across all sectors of the tourism industry, the WTA covers the globe with a series of regional gala ceremonies staged to recognize and celebrate individual and collective success within each key geographical region.

OPINION

Bishop Kieru Opposes LGBTQ Agenda

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Apostolic Bishop of Kenya Assemblies of God Nyahururu District His Grace Dr. Bishop Simon Kieru has asked the Western nations to stop pushing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer agenda down the throats of Kenyans and other African nations.

He said although the Western nations had made LGBTQ part of their lives and even the law it was wrong for them to push the same to other regions where it was not welcome.

“We know God created mankind to procreate and bear children through man and woman relationship but not through any unacceptable means,”

Bishop Kieru said.

He claimed that LGBTQ was not Godly and was a creation of some evil human beings.

“I urge that as Kenyans we should continue to respect our cultures and beliefs and avoid being misled into foreign behaviour,” His Grace said.

He said LGBTQ was now a major concern for Kenyans, especially parents.

Apostolic Bishop of Kenya Assemblies of God Nyahururu District His Grace Dr. Bishop Simon Kieru

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CS Machogu Sets Up Team On Credit Transfer Review Policy

By: Capital Correspondent



Education Cabinet Ezekiel Machogu .

Worth Noting:

- The Authority in consultation with stakeholders, had developed a Kenya Credit Accumulation and Transfer (KCAT) system policy as one of the tools to contribute to lifelong learning.
- “Following a shift to a new National Economic Agenda – the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), recommendations from stakeholders and the emerging changes in Occupations there is need to revise and re-align the policy to make it responsive to the emerging changes,” reads the appointment letter by Mr Machogu dated September 17, 2023.
- The Adhoc Committee on Review the KCAT system policy is expected to review the Policy; develop KCAT system Standards and Guidelines; and perform any other function that is incidental to the performance of the above stated functions.

Education Cabinet Ezekiel Machogu has appointed a 16-member team to review Kenya Credit Accumulation and Transfer (KCAT) system policy in the Country.

The appointment by the Cabinet Secretary now sets the stage for the implementation of recommendations of the Presidential Working Party on Education Reform (PWPER), which identified Credit Accumulation and Transfer Systems (CATS) in Kenya as an important aspect of education reforms that needs to be implemented.

Section 8(1) (l) of the Kenya National Qualifications Framework (KNQF) Act No. 22 of 2014 mandates KNQA to facilitate linkages, credit transfers and exemptions and a vertical and horizontal mobility at all levels of learning to enable entry, re-entry, and exit.

The Authority in consultation with stakeholders, had developed a Kenya Credit Accumulation and Transfer (KCAT) system policy as one of the tools to contribute to lifelong learning.

“Following a shift to a new National Economic Agenda – the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), recommendations from stakeholders and the emerging changes in Occupations there is need to revise and re-align the policy to make it

responsive to the emerging changes,” reads the appointment letter by Mr Machogu dated September 17, 2023.

The Adhoc Committee on Review the KCAT system policy is expected to review the Policy; develop KCAT system Standards and Guidelines; and perform any other function that is incidental to the performance of the above stated functions.

The experts are drawn from; Kenya Nationals Qualification Authority (KNQA), Directorate of Quality Assurance, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA, University of Embu, University of Nairobi, National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), Egerton University, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE), Human Resource Management Professionals Examination Board (HRMPEB), Commission for University Education (CUE), Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC), Technical and Vocational Education and Training Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC) and Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS).

KNQA Acting Director General Dr Alice Kande welcomed the appointment noting that the team is now ready to start the exercise.

“This is a very critical process that we are determined to complete on time as it will go along way in promoting long life learning,” said Dr Kande.

“There is a 49 per cent that is capped on what should be considered for progression to another level under KCATS,” said Dr Kande adding that the agency will continue to work with other institutions to prepare them on how to implement the CATS system once approved.

The setting up of the adhoc committee is a major score to the Education sector, this is after Education Committee in the National Assembly last week called on the Ministry of Education to speed up implementation of the presidential working party on education reforms.

In a report presented to President William Ruto, the Prof Raphael Munavu team also want more awareness creation on Recognition of Prior Learning and Credit Accumulation and Transfer Systems.

“We recommend the development of a framework for linkages among TVETs to remove duplications and create centres of excellence based on niche,” reads the report that the President has directed its immediate implementation.

Already RPL policy has been reviewed and submitted to Education

Ministry for consideration.

Credit accumulation involves aggregating the credits required to complete a qualification or part qualification, often within defined programmes, across different institutions, or between various qualification levels. Equally, credit transfer entails the movement of specific credits vertically, diagonally, or horizontally towards a qualification or partial qualification at the same or a higher level.

This transfer is between related or similar programmes, qualifications and instructions.

“The growing demand for mobility, both in terms of intellectual pursuits and the labor force, underscores the pressing need to address the compatibility, comparability, and transferability of qualifications and competencies, both within national boundaries and across borders,” said Dr Kande.

In alignment with ongoing initiatives for regional and continental education and training harmonization, supported by UNESCO’s Addis Convention on the recognition of degrees and certificates (2014), the Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) system emerges as an indispensable tool for quantifying and validating qualifications.

Khushboo Parekh: A Rising Star Nominated for Zikomo Africa Awards 2023



By: Paula Otukile
Gaborone, Botswana



Worth Noting:

- Khushboo Parekh's journey in the world of fashion and beauty began with her participation in the Miss India Uganda 2010 pageant, where she secured the title of Runner-Up. This marked the beginning of her foray into the world of modeling and beauty, and it was evident that she had a promising future ahead.
- Khushboo Parekh's journey is not only one of personal achievement but also a source of inspiration for young talent aspiring to make their mark in the worlds of fashion and entrepreneurship.
- As the Zikomo Africa Awards 2023 approach, all eyes are on Khushboo Parekh, a young woman who has proven that with dedication, talent, and a heart that cares for more than just her own success

In the heart of Zambia, the Zikomo Africa Awards 2023 are set to honor exceptional talents from across the continent, and among the nominees stands Khushboo Parekh, a multi-talented individual with a remarkable journey that has led her to this prestigious recognition.

Khushboo Parekh's nomination for the Best Zikomo Fashion Model of the Year 2023 and the Best Zikomo Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2023 is a testament to her diverse and impactful contributions. Let's take a closer look at her journey and achievements.

A Journey of Beauty and Grace:

Khushboo Parekh's journey in the world of fashion and beauty began with her participation in the Miss India Uganda 2010 pageant, where she secured the title of Runner-Up. This marked the beginning of her foray into the world of modeling and beauty, and it was evident that she had a promising future ahead.

Miss India Worldwide Dubai Contestant:

Building on her early success, Khushboo's ambition took her to the Miss India Worldwide Dubai pageant in 2011. Her participation on this international stage showcased her dedication to excellence and her determination to represent her Indian heritage on a global platform.

A Heart for a Noble Cause:

Beyond her achievements in the world of glamour, Khushboo Parekh's heart is dedicated to the welfare of animals. She is actively involved in the "Saving Dogs" organization in Uganda, a noble initiative that seeks to protect and care for our four-legged friends. Her commitment to this cause reflects her compassionate and kind nature.

Double Triumph at Volta Fashion Week 2022:

In 2022, Khushboo Parekh reached new heights in her fashion career by winning not one, but two accolades at the Volta Fashion Week in Ghana. She was named the Star Beauty Queen Africa and the Star Stylist Africa 2022, solidifying her status as a rising star in the fashion industry.

A Rising Star's Future:

Khushboo Parekh's journey is not only one of personal achievement but also a source of inspiration for young talent aspiring to make their mark in the worlds of fashion and entrepreneurship. Her double nomi-



Khushboo Parekh

nation at the Zikomo Africa Awards 2023 serves as a beacon of hope and motivation for others to pursue their passions and make a difference in their respective fields.

As the Zikomo Africa Awards 2023

approach, all eyes are on Khushboo Parekh, a young woman who has proven that with dedication, talent, and a heart that cares for more than just her own success, the sky is the limit. We eagerly await the results

of the awards, where Khushboo has the potential to add more accolades to her already impressive list of achievements.

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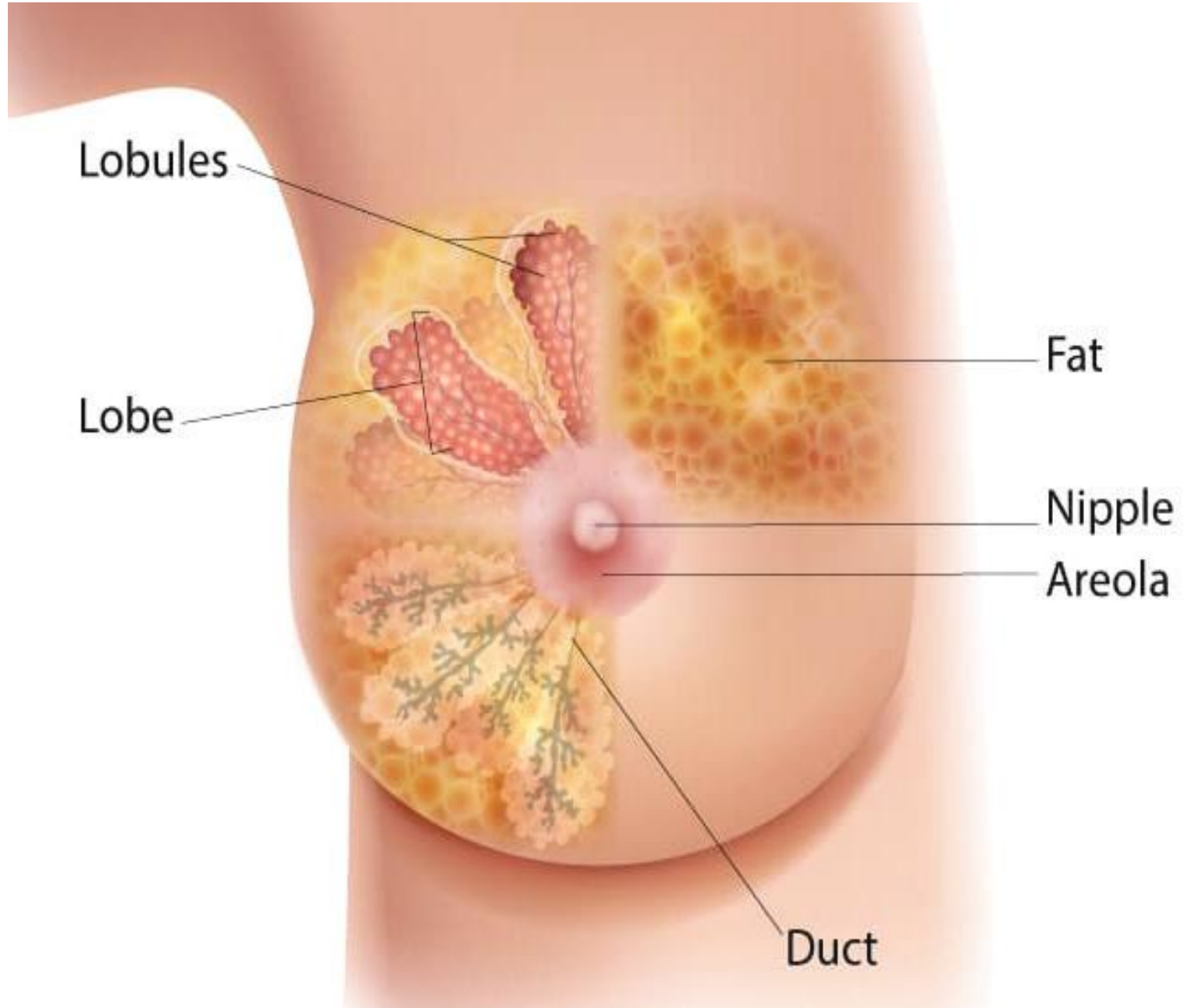
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Breast Cancer Awareness Month



By: Memory Phiri
@themtkenyatimes



Breast Cancer .

Worth Noting:

- It's mandatory to know about breast cancer so let's have awareness campaigns and go to the local schools in our immediate society and hold competitions or some quiz about this vicious disease. Nothing beats being edified and inculcated for the longrun as this will stick like glue and stay in the students' minds forever that is why they say catch them young and watch them grow.
- Don't forget to post the campaigns on all the social media handles so as to reach out to hordes of people globally. Respectively, my sister bought a sticker that will certainly contribute in funding for this worthy cause and we displayed it in our closet.

October is the month dedicated for breast cancer awareness. Literally this means that every one of us should play a part by just conscientizing the masses about breast cancer in general. Any little aspect that one knows should be shared with others.

Gone are the days when breast cancer was a nuisance for women only, now it also can happen to our male counterparts. Information is power because there are some people that do not even understand that among other cancers, breast cancer is very lethal and has taken away many a people, especially us women since the early years when there was a dearth in screening machines, testing or even a whole month dedicated for this worthy cause.

It only points to the fact that we are a very privileged generation as we are able to acknowledge at the same time participate in favour of the downfall of this dreadful pandemic. Dear readers its better to be safe than sorry and prevention is better than cure.

Let's show some love ladies and represent because pink is the color for this

initiative thereby symbolising retaliation or rebellion against this catastrophic illment. Dig out those pink blouses, skirts, vests, leggings, belts, headbands or even lipsticks you name it.

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Don't forget to post the campaigns on all the social media handles so as to reach out to hordes of people globally. Respectively, my sister bought a sticker that will certainly contribute in funding for this worthy cause and we displayed it in our closet.

I can tell you how proud I am for this thoughtful gesture because everytime we go into our closet we can't help but feel that this donation will definitely help one or two cancer victims. That is why I decided to write this article so as

to play a part in conscientizing all and sundry that cancer is real and is a menace. It is a social evil to the world but we will definitely win this battle sooner than later.

On a more serious note, let me walk you through the symptoms of breast cancer so that noone will tell you otherwise.

It goes without saying that anyone who has heard about this issue before knows that the most common symptom of breast cancer is a lump or mass that is why we are reiterating the fact that one should take his or her time acquainting themselves with this month so that you know a thing or two about this disease.

Breast cancer can be tender, soft, rounder and painful. Moving on to other symptoms there is the issue of swelling of all or part of the breast, nipple or breast pain, nipple retraction or thickening and last but not least, nipple discharge.

On the contrary you should also commit the following factors to memory because they do not increase breast cancer risk. It can be deduced that abortions,

miscarriages, underwire bras, breast implants, caffeine, cellphones, sugar, trauma to breast and migraine headaches does not play a role when it comes to breast cancer.

One will feel like this information is a drop in the ocean but believe me someone out there will learn something today.

Furthermore, scientists and doctors have been working tirelessly since 1932 when they had an improvement in the name of mastectomy, a procedure which was more effective and not as disfiguring and up to 2018 they discovered immunotherapy which regresses breast cancer in a patient who has a form of the disease resistant to other kinds of treatment. This just about rounds up the article so let's go and have those check-ups and tests done this October.

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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *The National Basketball Association (NBA) announced the global premiere of "THE HEIST," the league's brand campaign celebrating the inaugural NBA In-Season Tournament, which tips off on Friday, Nov 3.

NBA Debuts Short Film "The Heist" Ahead Of Inaugural In-Season Tournament



The National Basketball Association (NBA) announced the global premiere of "THE HEIST," the league's brand campaign celebrating the inaugural NBA In-Season Tournament, which tips off on Friday, Nov 3.

"THE HEIST" cast includes seven NBA All-Stars – Anthony Davis, DeMar DeRozan, Darius Garland, Draymond Green, Kawhi Leonard, Julius Randle and Trae Young – alongside Emmy Award-winning actor Michael Imperioli, as they execute an elaborate scheme to steal the first-ever NBA Cup.

"THE HEIST" is streaming now across all @NBA social platforms and on the NBA App.

"THE HEIST showcases the NBA's newest annual tradition to fans through a fun and familiar story arc," said NBA Chief Marketing Officer Tammy Henault.

"The film introduces the tournament framework through the lens of an elaborate heist, ultimately ushering in this new competition that will add yet another layer of energy and excitement to the NBA calendar."

Set in a Las Vegas casino, the film begins with Michael Imperioli hatching a plan for "something that's never been done before – 30 teams, one NBA Cup." Such high stakes will require a team with a special set of skills and a calculated strategy. As he

unfurls the plan, he introduces the NBA stars, each with their own technique to grab the Cup for their squad.

As Anthony Davis sits at a blackjack table, he flips a three-of-clubs card toward the In-Season Tournament bracket – a nod to the Lakers forward's jersey number.

In the distance, DeMar DeRozan, dressed in a smooth black and white suit, traverses the casino floor inconspicuously light on his feet, similar to how he plays his game.

As DeRozan enters an elevator, he runs into Trae Young, a "guy with ice water in his veins," a reference to the sharpshooting guard's ability to make shots in clutch moments. Both DeRozan and Young realize they're after the same thing and chaos ensues.

Imperioli's narration continues as he introduces a pair of laser-focused lookouts in Darius Garland and Julius Randle, hiding in plain sight in a stylish ride out front.

Disguised as a casino security guard, Draymond Green pushes a cart with the elusive NBA Cup hidden inside. As Green navigates through security, into the kitchen and out to the casino lobby, his movements are picked up by inside man Kawhi Leonard and the others looking to take the Cup. As the moment seems right

to make "THE HEIST," the NBA Cup is revealed next to Imperioli, stolen by the mastermind himself. He turns and says, "looks like you'll have to play for it," as the players take in their missed opportunity and realize the fierce competition that lies ahead in the new NBA In-Season Tournament.

"THE HEIST" storyline will continue with additional chapters to debut ahead of the Knockout Rounds and Semifinals and Championship rounds featuring Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer Magic Johnson alongside Imperioli.

The spot will highlight the final race to the NBA Cup, as Johnson declares he is "all in" with an effortless flip of a poker chip.

Check out behind-the-scenes action here, showcasing the cast on set and discussing the filming of "THE HEIST."

Created in conjunction with creative agency Translation, the spot was directed by Karim Huu Do and shot by cinematographer Chayse Irvin.

"THE HEIST" will air across 214 countries and territories and will be translated into more than 15 languages. Additional :30-, :15- and :10-second versions will also air and the film will be supported across channels with complementary creative that will come to life in out-of-home,

digital, social, audio and print assets.

The full cast of "THE HEIST" includes:

- The Mastermind: Michael Imperioli ("Goodfellas," "The Sopranos," "The White Lotus" and more)
- The Heavy: Anthony Davis (Los Angeles Lakers)
- The Sly Guy: DeMar DeRozan (Chicago Bulls)
- The Ice Man: Trae Young (Atlanta Hawks)
- The Lookouts: Julius Randle (New York Knicks) and Darius Garland (Cleveland Cavaliers)
- The Vet: Draymond Green (Golden State Warriors)
- The Inside Man: Kawhi Leonard (LA Clippers)

The inaugural NBA In-Season Tournament will tip off with Group Play on Friday, Nov 3 in NBA team markets and culminate with single-elimination Semifinals (Dec. 7) and Championship (Dec. 9) at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas.

Broadcast partners ESPN and TNT will combine to air 14 games during Group Play.

The first Tournament Night (Nov. 3) will feature a double-header on ESPN with the Knicks visiting the Milwaukee Bucks at 7:30 p.m. ET, followed by the Denver Nuggets hosting the Dallas Mavericks at 10 p.m. ET.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Nigeria were held to a 1-1 draw by Ethiopia while South Africa and DR Congo played out a stalemate in the first leg of the second round of the CAF Women's Olympic qualifying ties Yesterday.

Nigeria Held By Ethiopia As DRC And South Africa Draw In CAF Women's Olympic Qualifying



BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA - AUGUST 07: Blessing Demehin of Nigeria passes the ball during the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023 Round of 16 match between England and Nigeria at Brisbane Stadium on August 07, 2023 in Brisbane, Australia. (Photo by Elsa - FIFA/FIFA via Getty Images).

Nigeria were held to a 1-1 draw by Ethiopia while South Africa and DR Congo played out a stalemate in the first leg of the second round of the CAF Women's Olympic qualifying ties yesterday. In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia grabbed a shock 6th minute lead through Birkie Amara before Nigeria's Rasheedat Ajibade levelled just after the break to earn the Super

Falcons a draw. Nigeria face the return leg at home on Tuesday knowing an away goal provides an advantage in their bid to reach the third qualifying round. Meanwhile, DR Congo and South Africa could not be separated in an entertaining 1-1 draw in Kinshasa. Grace Mfwamba's delightful

curling strike put DR Congo ahead on 40 minutes before South Africa's Thembi Kgatlana equalised shortly after half-time. Reigning Women's AFCON champions South Africa will host DR Congo in the second leg on Monday 31 October in Soweto. With two tantalizingly poised ties, the road to qualifying for the 2024 Olympics continues to deliv-

er drama as Africa's hopefuls aim for Paris. The two winners from these second round ties will move one step closer to representing the continent at the Games
KBC

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



From Being An Avid Newspaper Reader To Becoming A Columnist Rabiya Yousuf's Journey



By: Abigirl Phiri
@themtkenyatimes



Rabiya Yousuf

Worth Noting:

- I'm Rabiya Yousuf. My journey started with reading newspapers when I was a child, I used to think how some great people got their writings published. They must be extraordinary ones. I can't do this.
- Recently my article: "Breast Cancer Awareness" got published in "Balochistan Express Newspaper." Moreover in the Indian Newspaper "Sanskar" as well.
- In the near future, I aspire to achieve recognition internationally and make good connections to broaden my perspectives.
- I think as a writer, there is not much importance given to their work as it should be. They are not even paid for their precious content. That must be acknowledged.

One thing is for sure if you have a dream and you nurture it, indeed it will come to fruition. Rabiya grew up fascinated by the print media not knowing in due course her destiny would lead her to be featured in these very same papers. The moral of the story is to never let your dreams die a natural death.

This is because faith moves mountains coupled with consistency. As a result, Rabiya has had her treasured words published in a number of newspapers that is the Balochistan Express Newspaper, Sanskar India

Newspaper and now with us the Mt Kenya Times. Growth as a writer can only be found through wide exposure in different markets.

Having myself written in the Sanskar India Newspaper headed by Vijay Kumar Sharma, I know how much elation a writer can derive from getting featured in newspapers especially from other countries. Consequently, the syndrome of putting yourself down should be replaced by thinking endless positive possibilities. In the same line of thinking, this is your first step to

success. Below this is what Rabiya had to say about her budding writing career.

Please tell us your name and how your journey started as a writer?

I'm Rabiya Yousuf. My journey started with reading newspapers when I was a child, I used to think how some great people got their writings published. They must be extraordinary ones. I can't do this. Anyhow I randomly started to write

and realised that yes I can do it too. You just have to realise your potential and keep trying. Trust me anyone can do it.

Are you a published poet/writer/author?

Recently my article: "Breast Cancer Awareness" got published in "Balochistan Express Newspaper." Moreover in the Indian Newspaper "Sanskar" as well.

Who is your inspiration?

My mother, she taught me to read and write.

Where do you see yourself in the near future?

In the near future, I aspire to achieve recognition internationally and make good connections to broaden my perspectives.

What problems have you faced as a writer?

I think as a writer, there is not much importance given to their work as it should be. They are not even paid for their precious content. That must be acknowledged.

Share with us one of your best writing piece?

"Pink October: Shining a Light on Breast Cancer Awareness <https://www.bexpress.com.pk/2023/10/pink-october-shining-a-light-on-breast-cancer-awareness>

Kindly share your social media handle

- @visuals.by.biya

Any word of advice to other individuals who would want to venture into the world of writing

My advice is that you should always be confident about yourself. No one is you! Be a unique voice for the world out there.