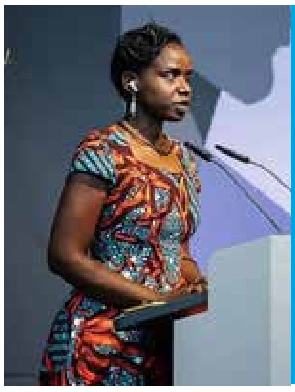

When advocacy meets politics: Crystal Asige's removal raises questions about representation and inclusion

Politics is often described as a game of numbers, negotiations and shifting alliances. Committees are reshuffled, leadership positions rotate and political priorities evolve

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Kenya secures historic medal haul at the 2026 World Woodball Championship

Kenya's national woodball team, composed of determined young players, delivered a stellar performance at the 2026 World Woodball Championship held in Malaysia earlier this week

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The Mt. Kenya Times

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Vision A national development charter for the attainment of these noble constitutional imperatives cannot be designed by politicians alone

Kenya Vision 2060

President William Ruto has set August 12 for nationwide consultations to craft Kenya's successor to Vision 2030, proposing a citizen-led charter meant to turn constitutional rights into measurable goals that outlast election cycles.

In a special address from State House last evening, Ruto said Kenya was off course to meet Vision 2030's goal of becoming an upper-middle-income country and endorsed an expert proposal that sets a higher target: high-income, industrialised status within one generation.

The consultations, he said, will involve national and county institutions, political parties, employers, workers, faith communities, universities, professional associations, innovators, civil society, the creative industry and young people across the country.

Ruto said the exercise should spell out what constitutional guarantees mean in practice and set national standards for accessible health care, adequate housing, food security, clean water, social protection and education.

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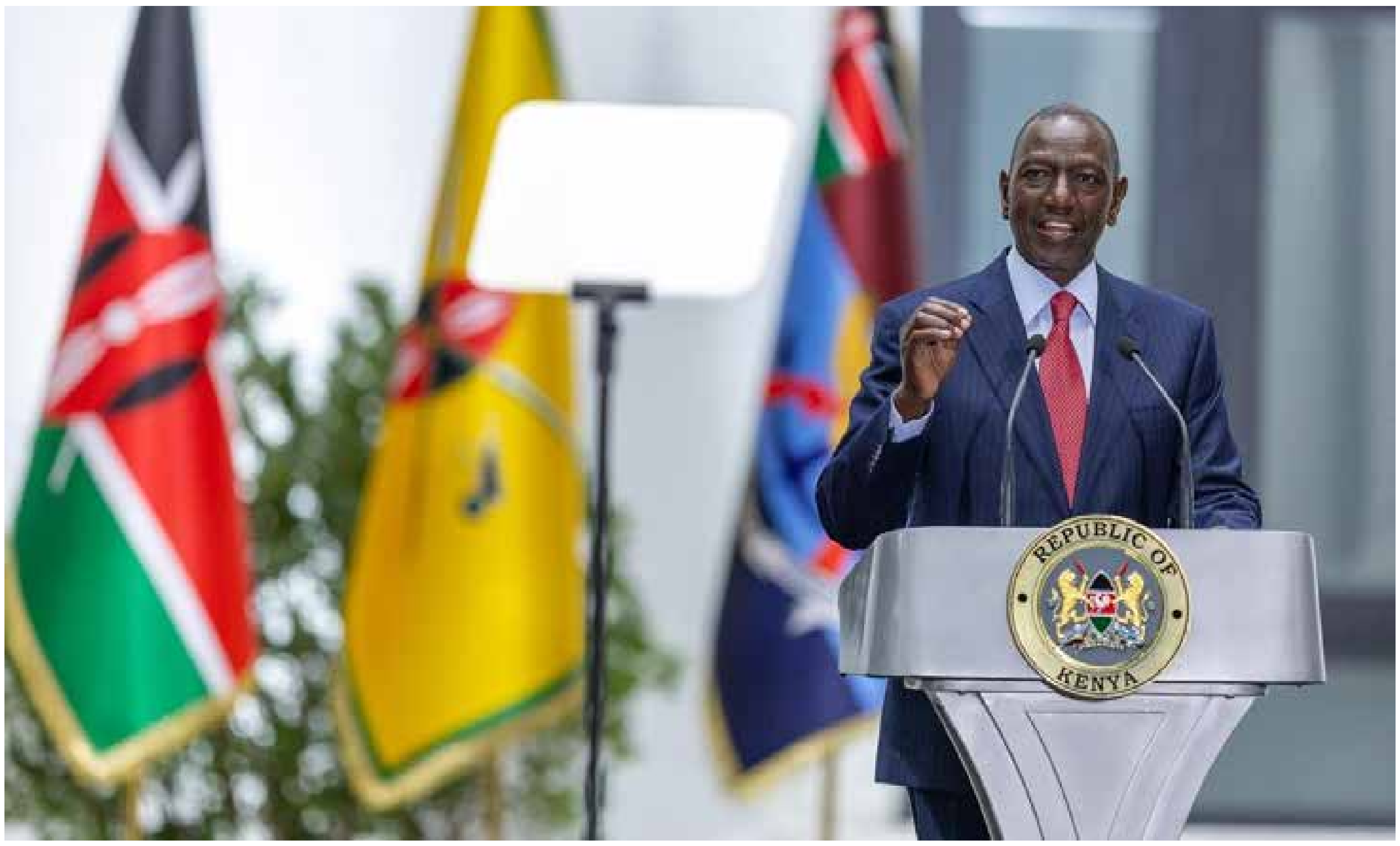

President William Ruto addressing the country last night.

Wiper dismisses State House claims, reaffirms Kalonzo's commitment to opposition

BY MKT REPORTER
@themtkenyatimes

Some of the moments as captured in pictures

The Wiper Patriotic Front has dismissed claims that its party leader, Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, recently visited State House, terming the reports as politically motivated propaganda aimed at creating confusion within the opposition and weakening the United Alternative Government (UAG) coalition.

In a statement, the party said the allegations were part of a sustained misinformation campaign intended to undermine Kalonzo's credibility, divide opposition leaders and distract Kenyans from the country's economic, social and governance challenges. It maintained that Kalonzo remains firmly committed to the UAG, where he serves as one of the coalition's principals ahead of the 2027 General Election.

Secretary General Shakila Abdalla said the recurring rumours were fabricated stories designed to mislead the public and urged supporters to ignore what the party described as sponsored propaganda and fake narratives.

The party also defended Kalonzo's political record, describing him as an experienced statesman whose contributions to constitutional reform, diplomacy, peace-building and national cohesion should not be overlooked. It argued that leadership should be judged by integrity, consistency, wisdom and the ability to unite the country rather than political attacks.

Wiper reiterated that Kalonzo continues to work closely with fellow UAG principals through consultation and mutual respect to build a united and credible alternative government founded on constitutionalism, accountability, economic justice and national unity. The statement comes as opposition parties intensify grassroots mobilisation under the WANTAM movement ahead of the 2027 General Election.















Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/dan-mwangi-1b47446b/

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mtkenyatimes.co.ke, **Adverts:** ads@mtkenyatimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mtkenyatimes.co.ke, **Web**: www.mtkenyatimes.co.ke

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NEWS IN BRIEF

A popular entertainment spot in Nyeri Town was extensively damaged after a fierce fire gutted Windhoek Bar and Café along Upper Kenyatta Road, opposite White Rhino Hotel, in the early hours yesterday. Property of unknown value was destroyed in the blaze. Firefighters from the Nyeri County Government responded quickly and managed to contain the inferno before it spread to neighbouring business premises. Preliminary reports indicate the fire may have been caused by an electrical fault, although the cause has not been officially confirmed. The property is owned by Rereek Holdings. Authorities have launched a comprehensive investigation to establish the exact cause of the fire and assess the extent of the damage. Report by James Gatama

Former Cabinet Secretary Aisha Jumwa has resigned from the United Democratic Alliance (UDA), saying the move was guided by her conscience and commitment to defending the democratic rights of the people of Kilifi. In a statement, Jumwa said the decision followed deep reflection, prayer and consultations with residents, insisting it was not motivated by anger. She reaffirmed her loyalty to the people of Kilifi and pledged to continue pursuing justice, accountability, opportunity and servant leadership. Jumwa also announced that she will soon unveil a new political vehicle to advance her vision for the county. She thanked her supporters for their continued trust, prayers and unwavering support as she embarks on a new political path.

The Joint Stakeholder Committee on AFCON Broadcasting Preparedness has assessed broadcasting infrastructure and overall readiness at Talanta Stadium ahead of the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), which Kenya will co-host. Speaking during the meeting, Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Stephen Isaboke stressed the need for modern broadcasting infrastructure to ensure seamless live coverage of the tournament across Africa. He called for close collaboration among stakeholders to deliver all broadcasting requirements within the set timelines. The committee reviewed media centres, fibre connectivity, backup power systems, camera access points, Outside Broadcast (OB) facilities and other critical infrastructure. Members also inspected ongoing construction works at Talanta Stadium and confirmed that the facility is 92.57 per cent complete.

KTDA Holdings Chairman Enos Njeru has reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to championing the interests of tea farmers following a discussion on Inooro TV. Njeru said the forum focused on key challenges facing the tea sector, including the need for better tea prices, expanded market access, value addition, transparent governance, and policies that protect smallholder farmers. He stressed that the future of Kenya's tea industry depends on unity, innovation, and strong leadership that prioritises farmers' welfare. Njeru said collective efforts are essential to building a sustainable, competitive, and profitable tea sector that improves the livelihoods of tea-growing families. He also thanked Inooro TV for providing a platform to discuss the industry's future.

A facilitator demonstrates spatial mapping and digital data navigation using the Council of Governors (CoG) portal during an interactive session designed to enhance daily departmental workflows. The comprehensive capacity-building exercise was conducted under the framework of the Digital Land Governance Programme (DLGP), while being spearheaded by the Council of Governors (CoG) in close partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the European Union (EU). Throughout the workshop, officers representing every county department engaged in interactive learning modules.

Rev. Daniel Wanjii of the ACK Mt Kenya Central Diocese has urged Kenyans, especially couples, to resolve conflicts through dialogue and counselling instead of violence, citing the rising cases of sexual and gender-based violence linked to alcohol and substance abuse. He expressed concern over increasing reports of partners killing each other and called for sobriety in relationships. Wanjii advised couples facing irreconcilable differences to seek help from trusted individuals or professional counsellors. He also urged clergy to use their platforms to offer hope, guidance and emotional support to those in distress, stressing that while disagreements are inevitable, no one has the right to take another person's life.

Agriculture ....

Government unveils plan to revive KISCOL, boost sugar production in Kwale

BY MKT REPORTER
@themtkenyatimes

The government has launched a fresh initiative to revive the stalled Kwale International Sugar Company Limited (KISCOL), with Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe announcing a comprehensive recovery plan aimed at restoring sugar production, creating jobs and revitalising the Coast region's economy.

During an inspection tour of the factory, irrigation infrastructure, plantations and outgrower farms, Kagwe said the government had established a multi-agency revival committee to coordinate efforts to reopen the mill after years of inactivity.

The committee, to be led by the Kenya Sugar Board, will include representatives from the national and county governments, investors, farmers, security agencies and local leaders.

The Cabinet Secretary said the revival of KISCOL was essential to restoring livelihoods for thousands of families that depend on sugarcane farming and related businesses. He noted that the factory remains one of Kenya's most significant sugar investments, with modern milling facilities, an irrigated nucleus estate and an extensive network of contracted farmers.

According to Kagwe, once operational, the factory has the potential to process thousands of tonnes of sugarcane daily while supporting employment in farming, transport, engineering, irrigation services, retail trade and manufacturing. He added that KISCOL could also expand value addition through the production of molasses, ethanol and electricity generated from bagasse.

The government said reviving the factory would help reduce Kenya's dependence on imported sugar while providing a reliable market for local sugarcane growers.

Kagwe acknowledged that the company faces several challenges, including land disputes, cane shortages, vandalism, delayed payments to farmers and insecurity. To restore farmers' confidence, he announced plans to clear KSh66 million in outstanding arrears owed to cane growers.

He also urged residents to protect sugarcane fields and irrigation infrastructure, warning that vandalism and deliberate burning of cane fields undermine recovery efforts and hurt farmers' incomes.

> **The Cabinet Secretary said the revival of KISCOL was essential to restoring livelihoods for thousands of families that depend on sugarcane farming and related businesses. He noted that the factory remains one of Kenya's most significant sugar investments, with modern milling facilities, an irrigated nucleus estate and an extensive network of contracted farmers.**

The Cabinet Secretary appealed to the Kwale County Government to expedite the resettlement of about 15,000 squatters occupying nearly 7,000 acres of factory land, saying the issue remains one of the biggest obstacles to restoring full operations.

Drawing lessons from the turnaround of leased public sugar factories in western Kenya, Kagwe said collaboration among government, investors and local communities would be key to ensuring KISCOL's successful revival.

He said the newly formed committee would develop a clear roadmap outlining the responsibilities of all stakeholders while placing farmers at the centre of the recovery programme.

The government, he added, is committed to implementing a transparent and sustainable revival strategy that addresses irrigation, cane development, factory operations and long-term financial viability.

If successfully implemented, the plan is expected to transform KISCOL into a major economic driver in the Coast region by stimulating agricultural production, attracting investment, creating employment opportunities and strengthening Kenya's quest for greater sugar self-sufficiency.

CS Mutahi Kagwe addressing the meeting. | *Photo:* Courtesy

Experts taking through CS Mutahi Kagwe and other officials on the project outlay.


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Elections IEBC said the Bill proposes a complementary mechanism for transmitting results in areas where the existing system faces challenges due to inadequate network coverage

IEBC dismisses claims proposed election law changes will scrap live results transmission

BY MKT REPORTER
@themtkenyatimes

IEBC chairperson Erastus Edung Ethekon

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has dismissed reports that the proposed Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 seeks to abolish live streaming of poll results, ban live broadcasts of election results or return the country to the manual systems used during the 2007 General Election.

In a statement issued yesterday, IEBC Chairperson Erastus Edung Ethekon said the reports were misleading and did not accurately represent the contents of the Bill currently before Parliament.

The commission said the proposed amendments do not seek to alter Section 44 of the Elections Act, which provides for the use of the Integrated Elections Management System for voter registration, voter identification and electronic transmission of results.

Instead, IEBC said the Bill proposes a complementary mechanism for transmitting results in areas where the existing system faces challenges due to inadequate network coverage.

"The Bill does not in any way propose amendment to Section 44 of the Elections Act that provides for the deployment of an Integrated Elections Management System for voter registration, voter identification and results transmission," the commission said.

IEBC explained that the proposed changes are aimed at addressing situations where transmission of results cannot be completed because of the absence of the required 3G network, which is the minimum standard needed for electronic transmission of result forms.

The electoral body said the amendments are also intended to align election laws with the Supreme Court decision in the 2017 presidential election petition, which affirmed that the official election result is the one contained in the statutory declaration forms completed at polling stations.

According to IEBC, the physical Form 34A filled and signed by the Presiding Officer and witnessed by political party and candidate agents remains the primary record of results at the polling station.

The commission said the Bill proposes that images of the statutory result declaration forms be electronically transmitted and made available to stakeholders through the public results portal as provided under the Elections Act.

At the constituency level, Presiding Officers will submit original result declaration forms to Returning Officers at constituency tallying centres, where the results will be collated and Form 34B prepared before transmission to the National Returning Officer for presidential results tallying and verification.

IEBC further assured Kenyans that counting and announcement of results at polling stations would continue to be conducted openly in the presence of agents, observers and the media.

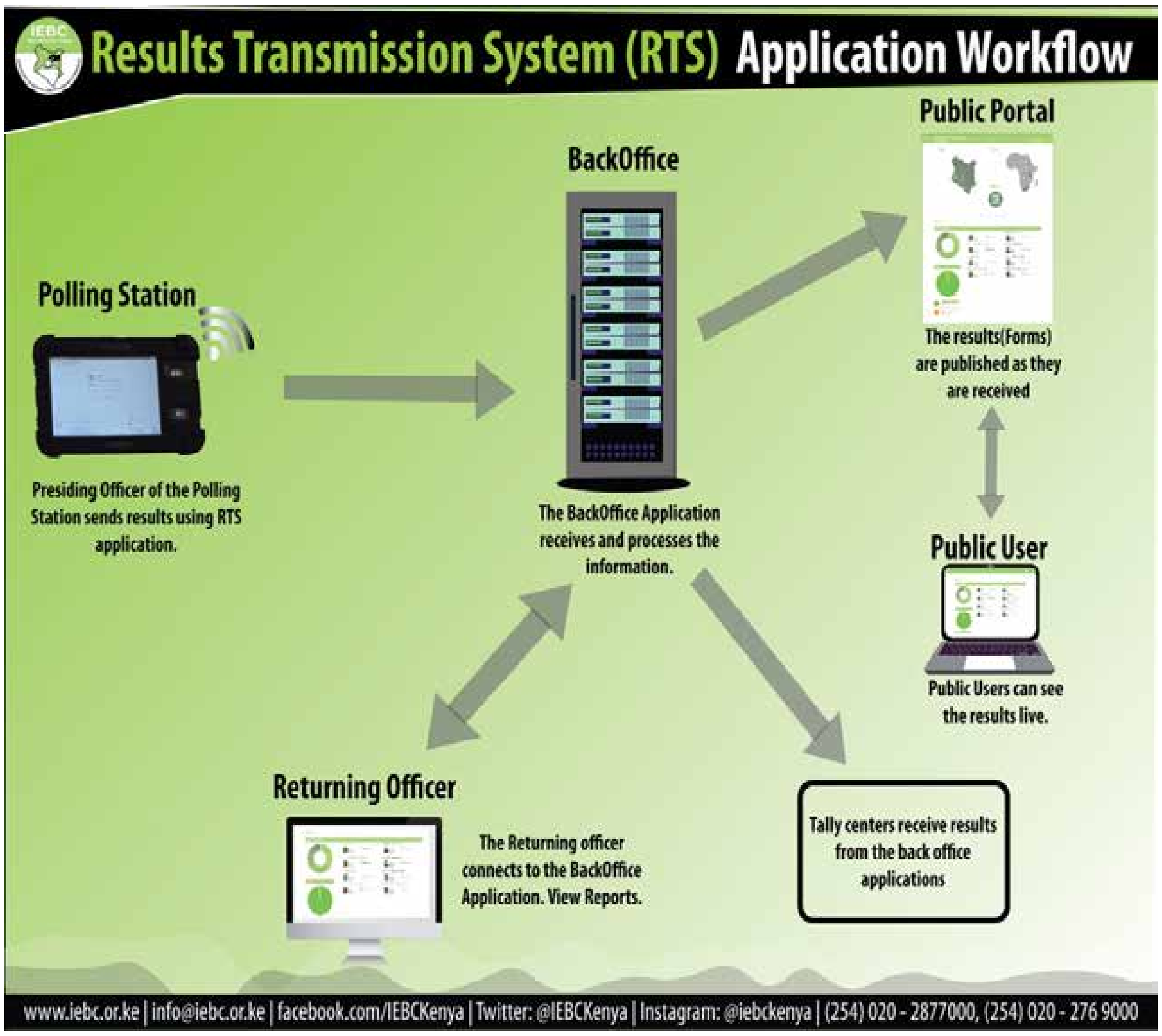
The commission said the Bill also seeks to remove sections of the Elections Act that were declared unconstitutional by the High Court in the case of Katiba Institute and others against the Attorney General and others in 2018.

The court had invalidated several provisions relating to results management and election petition procedures, creating gaps in the legal framework, which IEBC says the proposed amendments are intended to address.

"The Bill therefore seeks to align the Act with the Court's decision and provide a clear and constitutionally compliant statutory framework," IEBC said.

The commission maintained that the proposed changes are aimed at strengthening transparency, certainty and credibility in the electoral process ahead of future elections.

IEBC said it remains committed to ensuring that election outcomes reflect the will of voters while safeguarding the integrity of the country's electoral system.



Live results transmission

Vision Launched in 2008, Vision 2030 has guided national priorities, policy and investment for nearly two decades.

Ruto sets August 12 launch for citizen-led post-Vision 2030 charter

BY Suleiman Mbatiah
@themtkenyatimes

President William Ruto has set August 12 for nationwide consultations to craft Kenya's successor to Vision 2030, proposing a citizen-led charter meant to turn constitutional rights into measurable goals that outlast election cycles.

In a special address from State House last evening, Ruto said Kenya was off course to meet Vision 2030's goal of becoming an upper-middle-income country and endorsed an expert proposal that sets a higher target: high-income, industrialised status within one generation.

The consultations, he said, will involve national and county institutions, political parties, employers, workers, faith communities, universities, professional associations, innovators, civil society, the creative industry and young people across the country.

Ruto said the exercise should spell out what constitutional guarantees mean in practice and set national standards for accessible health care, adequate housing, food security, clean water, social protection and education.

"A national development charter for the attainment of these noble constitutional imperatives cannot be designed by politicians alone, nor by any single institution, profession, or interest group," Ruto said.

He said public participation was both a constitutional duty and a way to keep the next vision from becoming another government document shaped by shifting priorities, political expediency and competing interpretations.

Launched in 2008, Vision 2030 has guided national priorities, policy and investment for nearly two decades. Ruto also said it helped shape the constitutional reforms that led to the 2010 Constitution.

The blueprint organised planning around economic, social and political pillars, with targets that included sustained annual growth of 10 percent, a newly industrialising middle-income economy, social equity, and accountable, issue-based democratic government by 2030.

"Vision 2030 set a target of Kenya becoming an upper-middle income country by 2030. So far, we are off target," Ruto said, adding that its shortcomings should inform the next plan.

The proposals discussed before Thursday's address were prepared by scholars led by Hiroyuki Hino and Kisumu Governor Anyang' Nyong'o, alongside professors Michael Chege, Karuti Kanyinga and Peter Wanyande, according to reports on their presentation.

Ruto received their strategic guidelines at State House on July 21, months after using his previous State of the Nation address to ask Kenyans to start thinking about a post-2030 roadmap.

The recommendations have not been adopted as government policy. Ruto described them as an ambitious but achievable starting point for a broader debate on how Kenya could become high-income, industrialised and globally competitive within one generation.

He gave four reasons for starting now: restored economic stability, the approach of Vision 2030's deadline, an expected wave of African growth, and the need to fulfil the Constitution's development promises through measurable public action.

"Because we have restored stability, rebuilt investor confidence, and laid a firm foundation for our economy, now is the perfect opportunity for Kenya to begin shaping the next phase of our national development," Ruto said.

Using the Central Bank's July 30 indicative rate of KSh129.40 to the dollar, that claim would mean reserves of more than KSh1.94 trillion and import cover of six and a half months.

But Central Bank data published before the address put reserves at about KSh1.79 trillion and 5.9 months of import cover as of July 23. Ruto also said inflation and borrowing costs had fallen.

"The next great wave of economic transformation will, I believe, be African," Ruto said, citing the continent's young population, strategic minerals, renewable energy resources, arable land and growing consumer markets.

He also cited KSh414.08 billion in foreign direct investment in 2025, more than double the 2022 level, and an IMD ranking that placed Kenya 56th globally and first among six assessed African economies.

Ruto argued that once citizens agree on the destination, political competition should centre on which leaders have the best policies and capacity to get there faster, more efficiently and more inclusively.

"In 2010, we gave ourselves a Constitution worthy of our dreams. The task of our generation is to build a nation worthy of that Constitution," he said as he ended the address.

Much of the speech compared Kenya's performance with three waves of industrialisation in Asia and Africa. Ruto argued that Kenya repeatedly came close to those opportunities without fully taking advantage of them.

The first wave, from the 1960s to the 1980s, included South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong, which moved from relatively poor economies to prosperous, high-income industrial centres over several decades.

Ruto said Kenya and South Korea each had GDP per capita of about KSh14,200 in 1965. At Thursday's exchange rate, he said, South Korea now exceeds KSh4.66 million, compared with roughly KSh310,600 per person in Kenya.

The second wave began with China's reforms in the late 1970s and included Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Mauritius. Ruto said those countries expanded manufacturing and investment while raising incomes and reducing poverty within one generation.

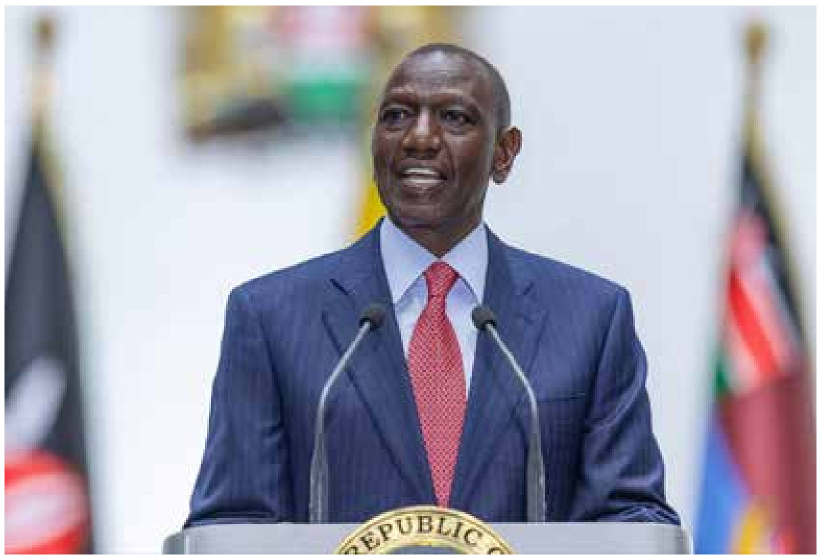
At the start of China's reforms, he said, Chinese GDP per capita was about KSh25,900, compared with Kenya's KSh58,200. China's figure now exceeds KSh1.81 million, nearly six times Kenya's current level.

The third wave began in the early 1990s as Vietnam, India, Bangladesh and Cape Verde pursued reforms, exports and investment, changing their economic trajectories within one generation, Ruto said.

"Vietnam's GDP per capita, once about half Kenya's, has reached approximately KSh647,000, more than twice Kenya's level, while Bangladesh has followed a comparable path of expansion since reform," he said.

Closer to home, Ruto put Ghana's GDP per capita at about KSh414,100, around 30 percent above Kenya's, and Zimbabwe's at about KSh388,200. In his account, both now exceed Kenya's figure.

Those comparisons fed into Ruto's main question: why Kenya fell behind countries that once had similar or lower incomes, and what reforms could change that over the next generation.



President William Ruto addressing the country last night.

He said Africa's young and fast-growing population, strategic minerals, renewable energy, arable land and expanding consumer markets could shift the centre of global growth towards the continent in the coming decades.

"Nine of the world's fastest-growing economies were African and that one in four people globally would be African by 2050," he said, presenting that as Kenya's strategic opening.

Beyond economics, Ruto described development as an unfinished constitutional project. He said Kenya had built democratic institutions but had not yet matched them with broad prosperity, fulfilled socioeconomic rights and equal opportunity.

He linked the proposed charter to constitutional commitments on human rights, equality, freedom, democracy, social justice and the rule of law, as well as Article 10 values such as patriotism, integrity, accountability and sustainable development.

Ruto said Article 43 guaranteed health, housing, sanitation, food, water, social security and education, and that those rights required measurable outcomes and a just, inclusive country where every Kenyan had a chance regardless of birthplace.

He also cited Article 3, which requires Kenyans to respect, uphold and defend the Constitution, and said that duty extends to building consensus on the country's long-term direction and development standards.

Ruto said patriotism should be judged by what citizens contribute, build and protect, and that the charter should rest on institutions that support work, investment, innovation and enterprise rather than getting in their way.

He said national transformation required deliberate planning, discipline and institutions that outlast individual administrations, and argued that development could not be left to chance, changing political priorities or election timelines.

The National Infrastructure Fund and Sovereign Wealth Fund now have statutory backing under 2026 laws. Ruto presented them as part of the foundation for financing long-term investment and preserving wealth across generations.

Before last night's address, he said, he had consulted current and former leaders, scholars, business and faith representatives, professionals, civil society, grassroots groups and young Kenyans from every region of the country.

Those discussions, he said, reinforced his view that the next vision could not be written by government or experts alone and should remain open to strong ideas from within Kenya and beyond.

Ruto said the August 12 launch would bring together every county, national institution and generation, with young people placed at the centre of what he described as an inclusive, transparent and constitutionally grounded national conversation.

Politics The stakes are real. Persons with disabilities continue to face significant barriers across Kenya. Many public buildings remain inaccessible

When advocacy meets politics: Crystal Asige's removal raises questions about representation and inclusion

Crystal Asige

BY Hadassah Karangu
@themtkenyatimes

Politics is often described as a game of numbers, negotiations and shifting alliances. Committees are reshuffled, leadership positions rotate and political priorities evolve with the seasons. Yet every so often, a decision cuts through the procedural noise and sparks a conversation the country genuinely needs to have. The removal of nominated Senator Crystal Asige from the Senate Committee on Roads, Transport and Housing is precisely that kind of moment.

Responding to her removal, Asige described the decision as a setback to her advocacy for persons with disabilities — but was equally clear that it would neither silence her voice nor diminish her commitment to serving Kenyans. That response alone has ignited debate across the country, with many asking a pointed question: should committee appointments take into account a member's expertise and lived experience, particularly on issues affecting vulnerable groups?

For many Kenyans, Asige has become one of the most visible and credible advocates for disability rights in recent memory. Her work has consistently pushed for more inclusive transport systems, accessible public infrastructure and a shift from disability rights existing only on paper to mattering in everyday life.

Her removal from a committee directly responsible for roads, transport and housing therefore invites scrutiny. Should expertise and demonstrated passion for a particular issue carry weight when parliamentary committees are constituted? Or do political considerations inevitably — and perhaps legitimately — take precedence?

The stakes are real. Persons with disabilities continue to face significant barriers across Kenya. Many public buildings remain inaccessible. Pedestrian walkways routinely lack ramps. Public transport is rarely designed with disability in mind. Access to housing, education, employment and healthcare remains a daily obstacle for millions of families.

These are not niche concerns. They are human rights issues — ones that go to the heart of the dignity, independence and equal participation of millions of Kenyans in national life.

Parliamentary committee work is where much of the serious business of governance actually happens. It is in committees that legislation is scrutinised in detail, amendments are proposed, oversight is exercised and practical solutions are hammered out. Removing a strong advocate from a committee closely aligned with their area of expertise is therefore more than an administrative adjustment. It is a decision with consequences for how consistently certain issues receive attention — and from whom.

That said, committee reshuffles are a normal feature of parliamentary life. Political parties regularly reorganise their representatives based on shifting priorities, internal strategies or coalition dynamics. A reshuffle does not, by itself, mean a legislator has fallen short or that their contribution is no longer valued.

Which is precisely why Asige's response matters. Rather than treating her removal as a full stop, she reaffirmed that her commitment to Kenyans is unchanged. That steadiness reflects something important about public service: genuine leadership is not defined by which committee you sit on, but by the consistency of your voice and the depth of your dedication to the people you represent.

The wider debate, however, carries a message for the institution as a whole. Disability inclusion should never rest on the shoulders of one individual. Every senator, every member of the National Assembly and every public institution carries a constitutional obligation to consider the needs of persons with disabilities when crafting policy and making decisions. Inclusion is not a single committee's mandate or a single leader's cause. It is a national responsibility.

As Kenya modernises its transport systems and expands its urban infrastructure, accessibility must stop being treated as an optional feature or a goodwill gesture extended to a deserving few. It is a constitutional right — and one that ultimately benefits everyone, including older persons, parents with young children and anyone recovering from illness or injury.

The seat may have changed hands. The conversation, thankfully, is not going anywhere.

Education **The student leaders took issue with the government over delayed release of capitation funds to institutions of higher learning**

Why student leaders are demanding inclusion in new University funding model

BY John Kamau
@themtkenyatimes

Kenyatta University Students Association President Samuel Thuku speaking to journalists after a youth leadership forum organized by business magnate John Mwaura (2nd left) in Thika town.

Student leaders from various universities have called on the government to involve learners in developing the proposed new higher education funding model, arguing that past reforms have largely failed because the beneficiaries were excluded from the decision-making process.

The appeal comes just days after President William Ruto announced that the government was working on a plan to make tertiary education fully free, raising expectations among students over how the new financing framework will be structured and implemented.

Speaking during a youth leadership forum in Thika, leaders from Kenyatta University, Mount Kenya University and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) said student participation would be critical in designing a transparent, fair and sustainable funding model capable of addressing the challenges that have plagued previous systems.

The leaders, among them Kenyatta University Students Association President Samuel Thuku and University of Nairobi student leader Wazi Maina, maintained that meaningful consultation would enhance public confidence in the reforms and increase the chances of successful implementation.

"The government should cease placing students in diverse bands on the basis of their parents status. You find that many parents with about two to three children in higher learning institutions are struggling to raise fees. This is why we want to be included in the policy making process and the entire process of the new funding model," Thuku said.

The student leaders took issue with the government over delayed release of capitation funds to institutions of higher learning noting that many universities are grappling with debts amounting to billion of shillings.

"Instead of complicating higher education further and jeopardising education for many students the country, let the government first deal with the issue capitation and release the funds to all requisite universities," Ms Maina said.

The forum also shifted focus to the country's growing youth unemployment crisis, with Kiambu gubernatorial hopeful John Mwaura urging the government to accelerate industrialisation as a long-term solution to graduate unemployment.

Mwaura called for policies that promote investment and expand Kenya's manufacturing sector, saying the economy must create more opportunities to absorb the thousands of graduates entering the labour market every year.

"We must prioritize industrialization as a nation because it is the surest way of creating job opportunities for thousands of skilled youths that out institutions of higher learning churn out every year," Mwaura said.

He advocated for lower taxes, incentives and subsidies for both local and foreign investors, alongside business-friendly policies aimed at attracting more manufacturing firms into the country.

The student leaders supported the proposal, saying increased industrial investment would not only create employment opportunities for young people but also help tackle rising poverty, crime and mental health challenges linked to prolonged unemployment.

"You find that it's only 10 percent of graduates who secure employment upon graduation. What happens to the 90 percent? The government must be so deliberate on industrialization to create jobs for the youths," Thuku said.

Their appeal comes as Kenya continues to grapple with a widening gap between the number of graduates produced annually and available employment opportunities.

The country produces an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 university graduates every year from public and private institutions, with total university enrolment exceeding 628,000 students.

At the same time, more than one million young people join the labour market annually, placing increasing pressure on an economy that has struggled to create enough formal jobs.

While Kenya's official unemployment rate stands at about 5.45 per cent, youth unemployment and underemployment remain significantly higher, leaving many graduates unable to secure jobs that match their qualifications.

PENMAN PROGRAMMES

NEW FUNDING FORMULA

INITIAL FORMULA

Four Categories: Vulnerable, Extremely Needy, Needy, Less Needy

	Scholarship	HELB Loan	Household Contribution
Vulnerable	82%	18%	0%
Extremely Needy	70%	30%	0%
Needy	53%	40%	7%
Less Needy	38%	55%	7%

REVIEWED FORMULA

Five Categories: Band 1-5

	Scholarship	HELB Loan	Household Contribution	Upkeep Boom
Band 1 (Previously Vulnerable)	70%	25%	5% Fees	Sh 60,000
Band 2 (Previously Extremely Needy)	60%	30%	10% Fees	Sh 55,000
Band 3 (Previously Needy)	50%	30%	20% Fees	Sh 50,000
Band 4 (Previously Less Needy)	40%	30%	30% Fees	Sh 45,000
Band 5 (New Category)	30%	30%	40% Fees	Sh 40,000

Woodball The tournament, officially opened on 25 July 2026 by the Crown Prince of Perlis, Syed Faizuddin, featured competitors from 14 nations

Kenya secures historic medal haul at the 2026 World Woodball Championship

Team Kenya captain David Abenenezer Sang holding the Kenyan flag at the World Cup Woodball Championship opening ceremony in Malaysia. | Photo: Courtesy

BY James Wakahiu
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya's national woodball team, composed of determined young players, delivered a stellar performance at the 2026 World Woodball Championship held in Malaysia earlier this week.

Despite facing fierce international competition, the team's resilience resulted in a total of seven medals: one silver and six bronze. The championship was defined by high-stakes matches and narrow margins.

The 10th World Woodball Championship took place in Perlis, Malaysia, from July 24 to 29, 2026, featuring top international competitors where Indonesia claimed the overall senior title and Kenya achieved a historic medal haul. The championship was hosted at the University of Malaysia Perlis City Campus.

The tournament, officially opened on 25 July 2026 by the Crown Prince of Perlis, Syed Faizuddin, featured competitors from 14 nations.

Kenya's standout performance came in the fairway doubles, where the duo of Ben Petros Moseti and David Wairimu Mungai advanced to a tense final against Indonesia. After a 4/4 tie in regulation, the match proceeded to a nerve-wracking penalty shootout, where Kenya narrowly missed the gold, falling 2-1 to secure the silver medal.

Other medals were won in the singles fairway (men) event by David Wairimu Mungai (bronze) and Jamiah Khalid who also won bronze. In the fairways doubles (men), Ezra Moseti and David Sang Ebenezer won bronze.

The Kenyan pair of Dorcas Murithi and Jamiah Khalid took bronze in the open doubles (ladies) while in the same men's event, Moseti Ezra, David Sang, Ben Petros and David Wairimu also won bronze. In the fairway teams (ladies) event, Team Kenya also won bronze, highlighting the collective strength of the Kenyan squad.

The tournament included players across five age divisions, starting off with juniors (5–12 years) and the youth (13–17 years). The seniors competed from 18–28 years, with a veteran's category aged 65 years and over. The teams from cooperates were open to vie at any age.

Mr. William Luta, Head of Logistics and Technicals for Team Kenya, praised the team's effort but noted that there is room for growth in future. "This has been a very good performance, even though it fell short of our targets. We expected gold in several categories, but the team fell slightly short of the international expertise utilized by their competitors," he said.

Kenya's national woodball team, composed of determined young players, delivered a stellar performance at the 2026 World Woodball Championship held in Malaysia earlier this week.
Despite facing fierce international competition, the team's resilience resulted in a total of seven medals: one silver and six bronze.
The championship was defined by high-stakes matches and narrow margins.

The Kenyan team's participation was funded by the Sports Ministry, with Mount Kenya University (MKU) sponsoring training and local transport. Mr Luta is also the Head of Sports and Creative Arts at MKU. "We thank God the Almighty for the strength and we must appreciate coach Mboya for his big training contribution and encouragement kept us going," team captain David sang was noted.

In a joint statement, Kenya Woodball President Antony Mwanzia and Secretary General Samuel Litaba emphasized the necessity of international exposure. They expressed gratitude for the government's sponsorship and called for continued support as the team begins preparations for the 2028 Beach World Cup and the 11th World Cup in 2030.

The following athletes represented the country with distinction. Among the ladies, Loyat Chelimo, Dorcas Murithi, Faith Onyango, Jamiah Khalid, Patience Mutua, Hayden Muasya, Faith Sorimpan Kaelo and Esther Ngolong did well.

The men who starred included David Sang Ebenezer, Ezra Moseti, Ben Petros Moseti, David Wairimu Mungai, Remmy Otieno, Paul Maore and Jeremiah Masasi.

Indonesia achieved the overall champion title in the 2026 Woodball World Cup, an achievement that reaffirmed Indonesia's position as a major force in woodball. Indonesia took home four golds, two silvers, and a bronze medal.

Nearer home, the Uganda's women's doubles team won gold at the event, Championship at the University of Malaysia Perlis City Campus in Malaysia. The pairing of Christine Birungi and Sanyu Mirembe won gold during the female doubles event.

It concluded with a state dinner and closing ceremony on 29 August 2026 graced by His Highness the King of Perlis, King Sirajuddin ibni Almarhum Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail. Individual awards were presented at the King's discretion.

Meanwhile, Mount Kigali University (MKUR) has been crowned the inaugural Rwanda Varsity League Football Champions after an unbeaten 2025–2026 campaign. MKUR defeated East African University Rwanda (EAUR) 3-0 in the final at Kamena Stadium, Huye, to secure the historic title.

Prof. Simon Gicharu congratulated the players for their discipline and teamwork, while Vice-Chancellor Dr. Martin Kimemia hailed the victory as a milestone for the university's sports development. The team will now represent Rwanda at the East African Inter-Universities Championship in Uganda in December 2026.

Kenyan Woodball Federation officials led by Secretary-General Mr. Samuel Litaba (left) and Federation President Mr. Antony Mwanzia interacting with other delegates at the Woodball World Cup Championship opening ceremony held in Malaysia.

Politics The Murang'a leader calls on residents to reject divisive politics and embrace unity, accountability and a bold shared vision for the county's future

Dr. Naomi Kagone rallies Murang'a behind visionary leadership and shared prosperity

BY John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Dr. Naomi Kagone has reaffirmed her deep commitment to the people of Murang'a, calling for a new era of visionary, accountable and people-centred leadership — one built on service, integrity and sustainable development.

In a heartfelt message to residents, Dr. Kagone celebrated Murang'a as a county blessed with industrious farmers, innovative entrepreneurs, talented youth, resilient women and a rich cultural heritage. She described its people as the county's greatest asset and the surest engine of its future prosperity.

Leadership, she said, should never be about titles, political power or empty promises. It should be about selfless service, honesty and the courage to place the interests of citizens above personal ambition. Murang'a, she added, deserves leaders who listen, plan strategically, deliver tangible results and create opportunities that benefit every household.

Dr. Kagone challenged residents to reject divisive politics and short-term thinking in favour of a united vision — one focused on expanding quality education, modernising agriculture, improving healthcare, creating meaningful employment for the youth, strengthening infrastructure, attracting investment and promoting transparent governance.

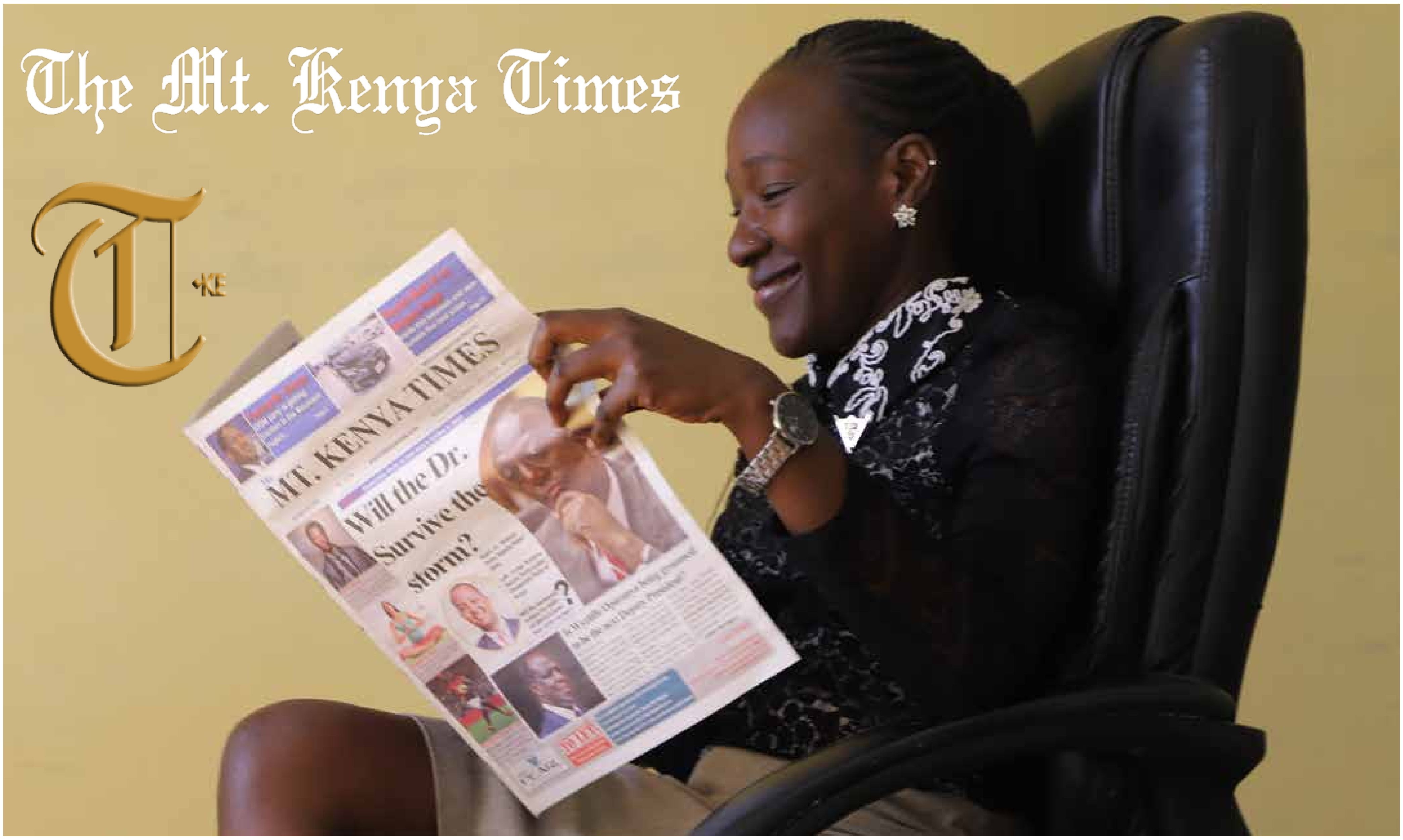
She expressed confidence that Murang'a has everything it needs to become one of Kenya's leading economic powerhouses, provided its people remain united behind a shared vision of progress and accountability.

"The future of Murang'a will not be determined by the leaders we admire, but by the leaders we choose and the values we uphold together," she said, urging citizens to demand integrity, excellence and measurable results from those entrusted with public office.

Dr. Kagone painted an inspiring picture of a Murang'a where every young person has hope and access to opportunity, every farmer earns a dignified income, businesses flourish, families enjoy improved livelihoods and communities thrive in an environment of peace, innovation and inclusive growth.

She closed by calling on residents to work together in shaping a brighter future grounded in unity, integrity, innovation and sustainable development — expressing quiet confidence that the county's greatest days still lie ahead.

Dr. Naomi Kagone



No words can be found for the workings of the heart

No words can be found for the workings of the heart,
It does not bow to the troubles of life.
Spreading its wings, it longs to fly,
Its endurance is an ocean against the teeth of a lion.
O mind, leave the victory in this battle,
For the heart truly wishes to prevail.
The life where you dominated for so long—
It wants to forget it, let go and let it create.

By: Yulduz Kholova

Mother is the greatest miracle in our heart

There is a person in the world who, when she is with us, we still feel like children. Her presence comforts our hearts and gives light to our lives. But the very thought of her absence one day shakes the heart. This is a mother. A mother is the most sacred and greatest being in a person's life. We first get to know the world through her loving gaze. It is precisely the mother's upbringing that plays an important role in our understanding of the bitter and sweet sides of life. For a child, a mother is not an ordinary person, but a person with a great heart who will be a support for her whole life. Many people take the sacrifices made by a mother in childhood for granted. Because a mother is always with us: she gives love, prepares food, listens to our pain, and cares for us. But as a person grows up, he begins to understand one truth - a mother is a miracle. A child is sick If the child is in pain, he feels only pain. The mother feels fear. The child falls asleep peacefully, but the mother sits awake at his head until dawn. No one knows what worries a mother has. Because a mother hides her pain and puts her child's health above all else. Mothers often forget about themselves. They do not say, "I am tired," while the person who is tired the most is the mother. They do not complain, "I have pain too," but rather, they swallow all their pain for the sake of a single smile of their child. Every mother's life is full of invisible sacrifice. A mother is the one who gives up her dreams for the happiness of her child, who hides her tears for his joy. That is why a mother's love is not measured by anything. Sometimes when we are young, we do not understand our mother's reprimands. From her harsh words, We are offended. But over time, we realize that behind every piece of advice, there is endless love and fear. A mother is afraid that her child will go astray in life. That is why she sometimes has to be strict to guide her on the right path. The wrinkles on a mother's hands are traces of her hard work and dedication. Her gray hair is a silent witness to the worries she has endured for her child over the years. In particular, a mother's prayer is the greatest power in a person's life. In every prayer, a mother asks for her child's happiness and that his path be clear. Perhaps the child does not always notice this, but it is these prayers that protect him from life's trials. Today, many people measure success by a diploma, wealth or career. In fact, a person's greatest wealth is the approval of his parents, especially his mother. Because in a house where a mother is pleased, there is blessing, love and peace. On holidays like March 8, Mothers are often talked about. But appreciating a mother should not be limited to just one day. A mother deserves respect every day. It is the duty of every child to say "thank you" for her love, to check in on her well-being in a timely manner, and to show affection. In the hustle and bustle of life, we sometimes forget to appreciate the most important people. And time does not turn back. Unspoken warm words, unexpressed affection can remain a dream in a person's heart. Therefore, it is necessary to express love for a mother today. In conclusion, a mother is the greatest blessing given to humanity. Her love is boundless, her patience is endless, and her prayers are the power that elevates a person. Appreciating a mother, showing her love, and receiving her approval are one of the most important tasks of every person. Because a mother is the greatest miracle in our hearts!

Mamajonova Khovakhon Ahmadjon kizi, student of Fergana State Technical University

Pop the sadness and keep the happiness

Forget the past ,
The one that made you lost ,
Like bursting the bubbles ,
Stop carrying the heavy load all along the way ,
And stop hurting your own heart ,
Dont care for the one who dont care for you ,
Dont let your tears and feeling be wasted ,
LIFE happens only once ,
And there will be no more twice and thrice ,
Lead it with a happy heart ,
Let the dark clouds fade away ,
Choose the path where joy blooms .

J.H.Aasiya
11th std ,
Government girlses higher secondary school,
Nellikkuppam ,
CUDDALORE district

Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it

With every task you do each day
you build your dreams along the way.
Keep your heart both strong and true
and give your best in all you do.
The seeds of hard work slowly grow, though
at first they hardly show.
With patience, courage, hope and cheer
your finest moments will appear.
So stay busy, kind and wise,
success will find them shining bright.

Renukagandhi D,
GHSS, Mullainagar,
Hosur, Krishnakiri D.T,
Tamil Nadu, India

I got stunned by

It was third month
Waiting to examine the growth
Of my baby through the scan
With stress felt in hot pan
And the queue there lengthy as snake
Symbolized the life to be opaque
As a sign of anxiety with palpitation

Stayed thrilled with exciting sensation
So with the spiritual faith entered
The scan cage with feary feathered
Doctor sketched as two heads found
Alas! I was STUNNED---
As I thought a baby with two heads & so
Tears started to flow
And after some time Doctor confirmed as twins
Swam blissfully with fins.
Still i'm STUNNED----
Been embraced as they are my magical fairies tunned.

-G.Sarala Devi.
Creative writers

Business Muchoki was emphatic on one point: that meaningful partnerships between financial institutions, development organisations and the private sector are not optional

Lucy Muchoki champions strategic partnerships to unlock healthcare investment and private sector growth

BY John Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Lucy Muchoki in a meeting

Lucy Muchoki, Chairperson of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Partnership Committee, has once again shown why she is one of Kenya's most consequential voices in economic diplomacy — this time by steering high-level talks aimed at unlocking innovative financing, expanding healthcare investment and deepening public-private partnerships.

Muchoki brought together two influential institutions for the engagement: the Kenya Bankers Association (KBA), led by Chief Executive Officer Raimond Molenje, and the Association of African Economy and Development (AFRECO) Japan, represented by Counsellor Tetsuya Fukunaga. The discussions centred on expanding collaboration in healthcare financing, investment promotion and sustainable private sector development.

At the heart of the meeting was a shared ambition: to explore how KNCCI, KBA and AFRECO can pool their respective strengths to mobilise private capital, strengthen digital health systems and develop financing models that wean Kenya off traditional donor dependency while accelerating its broader economic transformation.

Muchoki has long been recognised as a champion of business partnerships and enterprise development, and her leadership has steadily positioned KNCCI as a catalyst for strategic collaborations that connect Kenyan businesses with global investment opportunities. Under her stewardship, the Chamber has deepened its role in turning partnerships into real, tangible outcomes for entrepreneurs, investors and the wider private sector.

The talks also shone a light on the considerable potential for expanding Kenya-Japan economic cooperation, with participants examining pathways for increased investment, technology transfer and stronger commercial ties across healthcare, manufacturing and innovation. Practical initiatives to support micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) were also on the table, alongside commitments to ensure that policy engagements translate into genuine business results — not just communiqués.

Muchoki was emphatic on one point: that meaningful partnerships between financial institutions, development organisations and the private sector are not optional — they are essential to driving sustainable economic growth, improving healthcare delivery and creating the kind of environment where businesses can genuinely thrive.

Her work in building these alliances continues to earn recognition from stakeholders across the board, who regard her as a visionary leader committed to strengthening Kenya's investment ecosystem, empowering entrepreneurs and cementing the country's place as a competitive destination for global trade and investment.

The engagement reaffirmed that under leaders of Muchoki's calibre, KNCCI remains firmly committed to forging impactful collaborations — ones that promote innovation, attract investment and accelerate inclusive growth, not just for Kenya, but for the wider African region.

Strike KNUN Kisii Branch Secretary Moses Riang'a said the union had exhausted all avenues of dialogue before resorting to industrial action.

Nationwide Nurses' Strike Takes Effect as Kisii Union Urges Public to Seek Alternative Healthcare

Kenya National Union of Nurses (KNUN) Kisii Branch Chairperson Eric Palton Rioba addressing the press has advised members of the public to seek medical attention in private hospitals or other available health facilities as members remain on strike. | *Photo:* Elizabeth Angira

BY Elizabeth Angira
@themtkenyatimes

Nurses in Kisii County have officially joined a nationwide strike, urging residents to seek treatment in private health facilities and other available alternatives as public healthcare services are disrupted.

Speaking during a press briefing, Kenya National Union of Nurses (KNUN) Kisii Branch Chairperson Eric Palton Rioba said the industrial action officially commenced on Wednesday night and would continue until the union's demands are addressed.

"We have officially launched the nationwide strike, which began last night. We advise members of the public to seek medical attention in private hospitals or other available health facilities as our members remain on strike," Rioba said.

He clarified that the nurses' dispute is not with the Kisii County Government, but with the Council of Governors (CoG), which the union accuses of failing to resolve long-standing labour issues affecting nurses across the country.

"We are not in conflict with the Kisii County Government. Our dispute is with the Council of Governors. If the county government has goodwill toward nurses, they should engage the Council of Governors to help resolve the current stalemate," he added.

KNUN Kisii Branch Secretary Moses Riang'a said the union had exhausted all avenues of dialogue before resorting to industrial action.

He accused the Council of Governors of refusing to negotiate the 2025–2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) despite repeated requests by the union.

"Our major concern is the failure to negotiate and conclude the 2025–2029 CBA. We have made every effort to engage the Council of Governors, but they have consistently declined to come to the negotiating table," Riang'a said.

He also cited the failure to implement the 2017 Return-to-Work Formula, saying the lack of an implementation matrix has left many issues unresolved despite years of discussions.

The union further raised concerns over the status of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) nurses, noting that although they were confirmed into permanent and pensionable employment, many are yet to receive official appointment letters.

According to Riang'a, nurses are also demanding the implementation of career progression guidelines to ensure fair promotions and professional growth within the public health sector.

In addition, the union wants the reinstatement of 46 nurses in Kisii County whom it says were wrongfully dismissed.

"These are the issues that have compelled us to go on strike. We will not resume duty until the Collective Bargaining Agreement is negotiated, signed, and approved by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC), allowing nurses to enjoy the benefits they deserve," he said.

Riang'a dismissed claims that the strike was politically motivated or intended to embarrass the Kisii County Government.

"We have no dispute with the county government. These are national issues that require action from the Council of Governors. We urge the county government, if it has goodwill toward nurses, to support efforts aimed at resolving the dispute," he said.

The nationwide strike is expected to affect services in public health facilities across the country as nurses press for improved working conditions, implementation of previous agreements, and the conclusion of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement.

KNUN Kisii Branch Secretary Moses Riang'a addressing the press has dismissed claims that the strike was politically motivated or intended to embarrass the Kisii County Government. | *Photo:* Elizabeth Angira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Politics A candidate's surname, region of origin, and the volume of his or her motorcade still outweigh documented delivery, intellectual coherence

The empty ballot of the mind: Why Kenya's voters keep electing their own regret

Ballot box

By: Jerameel Kevins Owuor Odhiambo
@themtkenyatimes

In the 2022 general election, more than 14 million Kenyans cast ballots. Within months, the same electorate filled streets, timelines, and living rooms with the familiar refrain: "We were cheated." "They promised." "Never again." The pattern is not new. It is the country's most consistent political tradition. Turnout remains high enough to claim democratic legitimacy; the quality of judgment remains low enough to guarantee disappointment. This is not an accident of history. It is the measurable product of a voting culture that treats the ballot as tribal scoreboard, emotional discharge, and short-term transaction rather than as the most consequential instrument of collective self-preservation a free people possess.

The data is unforgiving. Kenya's average GDP growth over the past decade has hovered between 4 and 6 percent in official figures, yet the lived experience of the majority is stagnant or declining real income, rising debt service, and a youth unemployment rate that routinely exceeds 30 percent among those under 35. Public debt crossed the KSh 10 trillion mark and continues to climb. Corruption perception indices place the country stubbornly in the lower half of global rankings year after year. Independent audits and parliamentary reports repeatedly expose the same leakages: inflated contracts, ghost workers, and development funds that evaporate between allocation and delivery. These are not secrets. They are published. However the electorate returns, cycle after cycle, to the same logic that produced them.

The logic is tribal arithmetic first, personality second, ideology almost never. A candidate's surname, region of origin, and the volume of his or her motorcade still outweigh documented delivery, intellectual coherence, or a coherent plan for how growth will translate into money in the ordinary citizen's pocket. Campaigns become festivals of grievance and belonging. Manifestos are treated as decorative literature. Track records are optional. Articulation of structural problems agricultural productivity, manufacturing competitiveness, education quality, energy costs, tax efficiency is rare, and rarer still is the demand that such articulation be tested against evidence rather than applause.

This is not a failure of intelligence. Kenyans demonstrate high cognitive capacity in commerce, technology, medicine, and the arts. The failure is one of political cognitive discipline. The same mind that can calculate market prices, navigate complex kinship networks, and innovate under scarcity suspends rigor when the question becomes: Who should hold sovereign power on my behalf for the next five years? The ballot becomes an act of identity affirmation or emotional release rather than a sober calculation of consequence. The result is a recurring national tragedy: citizens who later lament the very outcomes they authorized.

Literary irony saturates the scene. The voter who insists "this is my choice" and later cries betrayal is the author of both the choice and the betrayal. The lament is sincere; the self-awareness is absent. It is the political equivalent of repeatedly touching a hot stove and then cursing the stove. The stove is not the primary problem. The hand that returns to it is.

A genuine factory reset of the Kenyan political mind would begin with a single non-negotiable standard: ideology, principles, track record, and the concrete capacity to expand the economic pie and ensure its benefits reach the average household. Ideology here does not mean imported dogma. It means a coherent view of the relationship between state, market, and citizen; a clear position on property rights, fiscal discipline, education as human capital rather than patronage, and the limits of executive power. Principles mean consistency between campaign rhetoric and governing behavior. Track record means measurable prior performance, not speeches. Articulation of pressing issues means the ability to diagnose why growth numbers do not feel like prosperity and to propose mechanisms not slogans that close that gap.

The economic demand is particularly urgent. Growth that does not improve purchasing power is a statistical fiction for the citizen who cannot afford school fees, hospital bills, or decent housing. Leaders must be judged by whether their policies expand formal employment, lower the cost of capital for productive enterprise, raise agricultural yields, and reduce the deadweight of corruption and bureaucratic friction. Anything less is theater. The voter who accepts theater in place of results is not exercising freedom; he or she is subsidizing failure.

Accountability is the missing enforcement mechanism. Sovereign power, as the Constitution correctly states, belongs to the people and is merely delegated. Delegation without continuous, organized, non-violent pressure is abdication. Recalling underperforming representatives, demanding audited delivery of public funds, refusing to re-elect those who treat public office as personal estate these are not radical acts. They are the ordinary hygiene of a self-respecting republic. When citizens treat elections as the only moment of power and the intervening years as seasons of complaint, they convert democracy into periodic ceremony.

Deep insight requires admitting an uncomfortable truth: many of the "stupid mistakes" are rational within a short-term, low-trust, zero-sum political economy. When institutions are weak, when information is polluted by propaganda, when poverty makes a bag of maize or a temporary job more immediate than long-term institutional reform, the rational individual may still choose the candidate who delivers the bag today. The tragedy is that the aggregate of such rational individual choices produces collective irrationality. The system rewards those who distribute the bags and punishes those who try to redesign the system so that bags become unnecessary. Breaking that equilibrium requires citizens willing to absorb short-term discomfort for long-term institutional gain an act of delayed gratification that politics rarely rewards and that culture has not yet made habitual.

Original thought must go further. The problem is not merely that voters choose poorly; it is that the political class has learned that poor choice is predictable and therefore profitable. As long as ethnic solidarity and charismatic spectacle reliably deliver victory, investment in serious policy capacity remains optional. The market for political talent is distorted. Serious people with technical competence and clean records often stay out of elective politics because the entry price money, ethnic mobilization, and tolerance for theatrics is too high. The electorate thus faces a constrained menu and then blames the menu rather than the demand that shaped it.

Resetting the brain does not require imported models or self-flagellation. It requires a cultural shift in what is considered impressive. A candidate who can explain, with numbers and mechanisms, how to raise total factor productivity, how to reform the tax system so that compliance rises while rates fall for productive activity, how to professionalize the civil service so that competence rather than loyalty determines advancement that candidate should be treated as the adult in the room. The candidate who offers only identity and grievance should be treated as the adolescent. Until that revaluation of status occurs, the cycle continues.

The words themselves must carry the weight of the diagnosis. Kenya does not lack intelligent citizens. It lacks a critical mass of citizens who apply their intelligence with the same seriousness to the selection of leaders that they apply to the selection of a spouse, a business partner, or a medical treatment. The ballot is not a festival. It is a high-stakes decision with multi-year consequences for security, opportunity, and dignity. Treating it otherwise is not cultural authenticity; it is self-inflicted harm dressed up as choice.

There is no external savior waiting to perform the factory reset. The operating system is between the ears of the electorate. Every election is an opportunity to rewrite the code: to demand ideology over ethnicity, principles over personality, track record over theater, and growth that citizens can feel in their pockets rather than only in government press releases. Until that demand becomes non-negotiable, the lament will continue, and the authors of the lament will remain the same people who authorized the conditions they later mourn. The power was always theirs. The question is whether they will finally use it as adults.

The writer is a social commentator.

Democracy Zimbabwe's democratic institutions face a defining test — and ordinary citizens may be the last line of defence

When parliament becomes a symbol of despotism, resistance becomes a duty

BY Alice Nyamande
@themtkenyatimes

Parliament is among the most sacred institutions in any constitutional democracy. It exists to represent the people, hold the executive accountable, safeguard the constitution and ensure that laws serve the national interest rather than the ambitions of a privileged few. But history has shown, with uncomfortable regularity, that when parliament abandons these responsibilities and becomes a rubber stamp for authoritarian power, it stops being an instrument of democracy and begins its quiet transformation into something far more sinister.

This does not happen in a single dramatic moment. It happens in stages — and that gradual drift is precisely what makes it so dangerous.

The first warning sign appears when elected representatives stop asking whether legislation benefits the nation and start asking whether it benefits themselves or their political patrons. Personal rewards, promises of advancement and the comfort of political protection begin to replace constitutional duty. Parliamentarians elected to defend citizens become more preoccupied with defending those in power. When conscience is traded for comfort, democracy does not collapse — it quietly erodes.

The second stage arrives when greed displaces public service. Public office is, at its core, a public trust. Yet when personal gain becomes the engine of political decision-making, parliament ceases to represent ordinary people. The pursuit of wealth, privilege and political survival steadily overshadows service, accountability and integrity. A parliament driven by greed cannot meaningfully protect the poor, the unemployed, the sick or the generations who have not yet inherited the consequences of today's choices.

Closely linked is the erosion of moral courage — perhaps the most insidious loss of all. The most dangerous parliament is not one filled with loud, belligerent voices. It is one filled with silent consciences. When representatives witness injustice and say nothing, when they recognise constitutional violations and refuse to act, when they vote against their own convictions out of fear — morality becomes the first casualty. Silence in the face of injustice is not neutrality. It is itself a political decision, and a consequential one.

From there, the constitutional architecture begins to buckle. Parliament, which the constitution establishes as an independent arm of the state, becomes subordinate to the executive it was designed to supervise. Meaningful scrutiny disappears. Debate becomes theatre. Checks and balances dissolve — and concentrated, unaccountable power fills the vacuum they leave behind.

The human cost of all this is trust. When parliamentary debates routinely ignore the suffering of citizens, when corruption is tolerated, when national crises attract little more than procedural acknowledgement, people stop believing their voices matter. And a democracy in which citizens no longer believe in the value of representation is a democracy in name only.

Throughout history, societies have arrived at moments where ordinary citizens have had to stand up and defend constitutional values against the abuse of power. In a functioning constitutional democracy, resistance does not mean violence or disorder. It means peacefully insisting that leaders remain answerable to the law. It means participating in civic life, speaking truthfully, organising lawfully, voting and refusing to surrender constitutional rights to fear, intimidation or political patronage. Democracy requires active citizens, not passive spectators.

Zimbabwe deserves leaders whose loyalty lies with the constitution rather than with individuals. Parliament must become again — or perhaps for the first time — a place where hard questions are asked without fear, where the public interest outweighs personal gain, and where integrity is not a liability but the baseline expectation.

No nation can prosper when its democratic institutions are hollowed out from within. The true measure of any parliament is not the volume of legislation it produces, but the courage of those entrusted to defend justice, constitutionalism and the people who sent them there.

When parliament faithfully protects the constitution, democracy flourishes. When it becomes a symbol of despotism, citizens have not only the right but the civic duty to defend — peacefully, persistently and without apology — the values upon which their nation was founded.

A parliament worthy of the people it serves should never fear accountability. Accountability, after all, is not the enemy of democracy. It is its foundation.

Politics The President announced yesterday that his government would formally launch a National Conversation on Kenya's Future Beyond Vision 2030

Sifuna accuses Ruto of using Vision 2030 successor to extend political legacy beyond term limits

The Nairobi senator charges that the proposed post-2030 blueprint is less about national development and more about anchoring a presidential agenda into a timeline that outlasts the Constitution's two-term ceiling

BY avid Kimani
@themtkenyatimes

Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna

Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna yesterday accused President William Ruto of engineering a "false equivalence" between constitutional values and economic development in his pitch for a successor to Kenya's Vision 2030 blueprint — and raised pointed questions about whether the proposed long-term framework is designed to entrench a presidential legacy well beyond the boundaries that the Constitution permits.

Sifuna's remarks, issued shortly after Ruto's Special National Address yesterday evening, cut to the political bone. "Ruto just spent 40 minutes trying to create a false equivalence between our national values set out in the Constitution and his so-called 'development'," the Linda Mwananchi movement leader said. "Kenyans, please trust me when I tell you there is a reason the Preamble comes before Article 43. You don't get to the 'development' clauses until and unless you have taken into account the reasons we passed this Constitution in the first place — democracy, human rights, freedom, equality, rule of law and social justice."

The intervention is significant not merely for what it says about the speech, but for what it implies about the timing. Vision 2030, Kenya's current long-term development blueprint, expires in four years. Ruto, who is serving his first term and is constitutionally eligible for one more, could — if re-elected in 2027 — remain in office until 2032. A successor framework stretching across a generation would, by design, be shaped substantially during his watch. Critics argue that this is precisely the point.

The President announced yesterday that his government would formally launch a National Conversation on Kenya's Future Beyond Vision 2030 on 12 August 2026, describing it as the most consequential public participation exercise since the promulgation of the 2010 Constitution. He framed the initiative in the broadest possible terms, pledging to bring together all 47 counties, political parties, the private sector, workers' organisations, faith communities, universities, professional associations, civil society, the creative industries and young people. "Our Constitution places public participation at the very heart of governance," he said. "It is therefore not merely my desire, but my constitutional duty, to ensure that the national vision which succeeds Vision 2030 is shaped through an inclusive, transparent, people-driven and genuinely national process."

He also disclosed yesterday that he had already commissioned an expert review, inviting Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o and Japanese scholar Prof. Hiroyuki Hino, alongside other specialists, to begin examining Kenya's future beyond 2030. The team has already submitted preliminary proposals. "The thrust of their proposals is both ambitious and achievable," Ruto said. "Kenya can become a prosperous, high-income, industrialised and globally competitive nation within one generation, provided we remain united in purpose, disciplined in execution and unwavering in our commitment to long-term national transformation."

That language — soaring, consensual, constitutionally grounded — is exactly what Sifuna is pushing back against. The senator's argument is not that long-term planning is wrong. It is that the sequencing matters enormously, and that Ruto has deliberately inverted it. In Sifuna's reading, you cannot anchor a national development vision in constitutional duty while simultaneously subordinating the constitutional principles — democracy, equality, the rule of law — that must precede any conversation about economic transformation. The Preamble, as he noted pointedly yesterday, comes before Article 43 for a reason.

But the more potent political charge is the one about timing and motivation. Vision 2030 was launched in 2008 under President Mwai Kibaki, and even its architects acknowledge that many of its most ambitious targets — including attaining upper-middle-income status by 2030 — will not be met. Ruto himself acknowledged as much yesterday. "As Vision 2030 approaches its horizon," he said, "our responsibility is not simply to replace it with another government development plan."

The question his critics are asking, however, is: whose horizon? A successor framework built now, shaped by a government currently in power, and designed to span a generation, would stretch well past 2030 — into a period when Ruto, constitutionally, can no longer serve. It would, in effect, allow the current administration to set the terms of national ambition for decades beyond its own electoral mandate. Whether that constitutes visionary statesmanship or sophisticated entrenchment depends, to a considerable degree, on where one sits politically.

There is a reasonable counter-argument. Long-term national frameworks by their very nature transcend individual presidencies — that is their purpose. Kenya's Constitution requires the government to facilitate public participation in national planning, and a structured successor process to Vision 2030 is arguably overdue. The involvement of figures such as Nyong'o, who has no obvious incentive to serve as a vehicle for Ruto's political interests, lends some credibility to the inclusivity argument.

Yet Sifuna's concern — that constitutional values are being instrumentalised rather than genuinely upheld — is not without foundation. Kenya has a well-documented history of deploying the language of participatory democracy to lend legitimacy to processes whose outcomes are largely predetermined. The address delivered yesterday was polished, comprehensive and constitutionally fluent. It was also, as Sifuna observed, a reframing — one that placed development at the centre of the national conversation and invited Kenyans to debate the what of the future rather than the who and the how.

The National Conversation launches on 12 August. Between now and 2030, Kenya will hold a general election. The blueprint that emerges from this process will outlast that election regardless of its outcome. That is not inherently problematic. But it does mean that Kenyans have every reason to scrutinise not only the vision being offered, but the architecture of the process being used to construct it.

Sifuna's challenge is, at its core, a simple one: show us the constitution first, then show us the development plan. Whether the government has the political will — or the political interest — to do things in that order remains the central question.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr President, Kenyans are waiting for results

By **Levis Wangamati**

A nation does not remember a speech because it was eloquent. It remembers it because it marked the beginning of action — and right now, millions of Kenyans are watching to see whether President William Ruto's latest address will prove to be one or the other.

That distinction matters more than it might appear. Every presidency arrives at a point where communication alone is no longer sufficient. The applause fades. The headlines disappear. The cameras are switched off. What remains is the daily reality of citizens who must wake up, earn a living, pay school fees, put food on the table and hope — sometimes against considerable evidence — that government institutions are actually working for them.

That is the true burden of leadership. It is measured less by the power of a speech than by the impact of policy.

Ruto spoke about the country's direction and aspirations, and such messages carry genuine value. Leadership requires vision, and a president who cannot articulate one is already in trouble. But vision without visible progress eventually begins to resemble repetition. Kenyans do not merely want reassurance that the country is moving forward. They want to feel that movement — in their homes, their businesses, their children's classrooms, their hospitals and their workplaces.

The evidence of what is at stake is visible in every corner of the country. Farmers plant crops despite increasingly unpredictable weather. Entrepreneurs invest despite rising costs that eat into margins already stretched thin. Young graduates — many of them brilliantly qualified — navigate a job market that too often has nothing to offer them. Families continue to make sacrifices, sustained by the hope that tomorrow will be better than today. That kind of resilience is not a small thing. It deserves more than encouragement from a podium. It deserves results.

History, when it is honest, teaches a straightforward lesson: leaders are rarely remembered for how many speeches they delivered. They are remembered for the problems they solved. Roads that work. Healthcare that is accessible and affordable. Schools that are properly resourced. Jobs that allow young people to build lives rather than simply survive. Justice that is applied without fear or favour. Accountable institutions that citizens can trust. These leave a legacy. Eloquence alone does not.

Every presidential address therefore carries weight beyond the moment. It functions as a public contract. Every promise creates an expectation. Every commitment invites accountability. Every assurance becomes a benchmark against which the government will be measured in the months and years ahead — whether it wishes to be or not.

The opposition, too, has responsibilities here. Democracy functions best when those in government deliver on their commitments and those outside it offer credible alternatives rather than simply louder criticism. Political competition should ultimately improve people's lives. That is its purpose — not to generate slogans, but to generate better governance.

Perhaps Kenya's most pressing challenge today is not a shortage of speeches. It is a shortage of public confidence. Trust has become one of the country's most valuable political currencies, and it is in short supply. It cannot be demanded, manufactured or conjured through a well-timed address. It must be earned — through consistency, through transparency, and through the faithful delivery of what has been promised.

As the address gives way to the usual cycle of parliamentary debate, analytical dissection and partisan cheerleading, ordinary Kenyans will cut through all of it with a far simpler question: has anything actually changed? That question has followed every administration this country has known, and it will follow this one with equal persistence.

The applause has faded, Mr President. The cameras have moved on. The speech has entered the archives. What remains is the daily life of millions of Kenyans who will judge this administration not by the strength of its words, but by the weight of its results.

History does not remember the loudest speech. It remembers the leader who kept the promise.

President William Ruto

Health Dr. Waqo Dulacha Ejersa tells lawmakers the authority is open, reforming and ready to be held to account

KEMSA chief reaffirms commitment to accountability before Senate health committee

BY Waithaka Kariuki
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Waqo Dulacha Ejersa has reaffirmed the authority's commitment to transparency, accountability and efficient management of the country's healthcare supply chain, following his appearance before the Senate Standing Committee on Health.

During the session, Dulacha responded to issues raised in statements pending before the committee, offering comprehensive updates and clarifications on matters under consideration. His appearance sent a clear signal: KEMSA is not shying away from scrutiny — it is actively welcoming it.

Dulacha emphasised the authority's dedication to strengthening the availability of quality, affordable and essential health commodities across the country, while continuously improving operational efficiency and service delivery at every level.

The engagement also underscored KEMSA's resolve to work collaboratively with Parliament and other stakeholders in addressing emerging issues, enhancing governance and reinforcing public confidence in Kenya's national medical supply chain.

Under Dulacha's leadership, KEMSA has continued to prioritise transparency, institutional reforms and responsive stakeholder engagement as part of its broader drive to support the country's universal healthcare ambitions. His proactive approach to accountability demonstrates that the authority is serious about one thing above all else: ensuring that healthcare facilities get the medical supplies they need to serve Kenyans — reliably, efficiently and without excuse.

Dr. Waqo Dulacha Ejersa

Sports >> *European football's 55 member associations stand united in rejecting proposals to sell stakes in the World Cup to private investors

UEFA to boycott World Cups if Fifa privatisation plans approved

By Martin Weche

European football has drawn a line in the sand.

All 55 of UEFA's member associations have voted to boycott World Cup competitions if Fifa proceeds with its controversial plan to sell ownership stakes in its flagship tournaments to private investors — a move that has sent shockwaves through the global game and sparked the most serious governance crisis football has faced since the failed European Super League.

The decision was reached at an emergency virtual meeting chaired by UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin, called specifically to address a proposal announced earlier this week by Fifa president Gianni Infantino. The mood, by all accounts, was far from diplomatic.

"The World Cup cannot be treated as an investment product," UEFA said in a statement released after the meeting. "It is one of football's greatest sporting legacies, built over generations by players, national teams and supporters across every continent. No part of it should ever be surrendered to private investors. The World Cup is not for sale."

Spain celebrating lifting the World Cup 2026.

What exactly is Infantino proposing?

Fifa wants to create a commercial subsidiary — Fifa Forward Enterprise (FFE) — to run its major competitions, including the men's and women's World Cups and the Club World Cup. External investors would be able to purchase minority, non-controlling stakes in this new entity. The plan requires approval from Fifa's 211 member associations.

In what critics have called a breathtaking act of financial coercion, Infantino has written to member associations offering each KSh5.2 billion ($40 million) if they back the proposal, with an initial KSh2.6 billion ($20 million) available to those who signal support by 19 September.

The proposed lead investor is Thrive Eternal, an American venture capital firm founded by Joshua Kushner — brother of Jared Kushner, son-in-law of US President Donald Trump.

A storm of opposition

UEFA's reaction has been withering. On Wednesday it accused Fifa of using football "to enrich themselves and their friends." Thursday's statement went further, describing it as "irresponsible and indefensible that a proposal of such significance for football was conceived in secret and without any meaningful consultation."

"This is not merely a profound failure of leadership," UEFA added, "but an abdication of Fifa's duty as the custodian of world football."

FA chairwoman Debbie Hewitt — herself a Fifa vice-president — was said to have spoken during the meeting, despite having had no prior knowledge of Infantino's discussions. A Football Association spokeswoman confirmed England stood "shoulder to shoulder" with its European colleagues, adding simply: "The Fifa World Cup belongs to football and always will."

Scotland, too, added its voice, with the Scottish FA expressing unequivocal concern over the lack of consultation and governance process. UK Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy was equally direct: "Football belongs to the fans, not billionaire investors. Enough is enough."

Opposition has not been limited to Europe. Concacaf, which hosted this year's World Cup, cited "a lack of due process." The Asian Football Confederation said it was "disappointed" not to have been consulted. The Confederation of African Football announced its executive committee would meet next week to assess the proposals, while the World Leagues Association — whose members include the Premier League — called on Fifa to withdraw the project entirely.

What happens now?

Much remains uncertain. Fifa has yet to formally respond to UEFA's statement, and it is unclear how Thursday's developments will affect the timeline for the Women's Under-20 World Cup, due in Poland from 5 September, or Fifa's stated aim to secure the first tranche of private investment by end of October.

Former FA chairman David Bernstein believes Infantino has little choice but to retreat. "This deal is not acceptable," he told BBC Sport. "If they want to raise capital, there are other, better ways of doing it." He added that while a permanent schism would be a "lose-lose for everybody," Infantino's position depended entirely on how many national associations ultimately back him.

UEFA vice-president Laura McAllister put the stakes plainly: "This is a genuine existential threat to the game."

She may not be wrong. A World Cup without European teams would strip the tournament of six of its eight quarter-finalists from this summer's edition alone. The commercial consequences for Fifa would be catastrophic — and Infantino almost certainly knows it.

Sports >> *The world champion clocked a Games Record of 9:01.76 to claim her second senior title, even as rain threatened to derail her bid

Faith Cherotich wins Commonwealth Games steeplechase gold despite weather fears

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By **Martin Weche**

Faith Cherotich won the women's 3000m steeplechase gold at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow on Wednesday, clocking a Games Record of 9:01.76 to claim her second senior title — but the world champion has revealed that her biggest fear heading into the final had nothing to do with the competition and everything to do with the Scottish sky.

The 22-year-old, who won the world crown at last year's World Championships in Tokyo, admitted that the prospect of rain weighed heavily on her mind as she prepared for the final. Kenya's training camps run under reliably sunny skies, and when Glasgow delivered a wet Tuesday evening — the same night that Ferdinand Omanyala's bid for a second successive Commonwealth 100m crown collapsed in the semifinals — Cherotich found herself quietly dreading a repeat.

"We have been training in sunny weather and just seeing it rain the other day, the biggest fear was that the same could happen today," she said after her victory. "I wasn't thinking or hoping for any other thing except to win the race."

Her concern was grounded in something more than superstition. Omanyala, Africa's fastest man and the reigning Commonwealth 100m champion, had finished a subdued sixth in his semifinal on that rain-soaked Tuesday, clocking 10.19 seconds and exiting the tournament without the fanfare his status commanded. For Cherotich, watching a teammate of that calibre falter on a cold, wet Glasgow evening was a sobering reminder of how quickly circumstances can unravel even the best-laid preparations.

But Wednesday delivered better skies and, as it turned out, a better athlete than the field could handle. Cherotich crossed the line in commanding fashion, erasing the previous Games Record and confirming what her performances over the past year have been quietly insisting: that she is not merely a world champion by accident, but a force reshaping the steeplechase event in her own image.

Born in Kaliyet, in Kenya's Rift Valley, Cherotich arrived on the senior circuit as a slender, softly spoken youngster whose ambitions seemed almost too large for her slight frame. She had already announced herself as a generational talent by winning the 2022 World Under-20 title, but the leap from junior prodigy to senior champion is one that defeats many athletes. Cherotich made it look almost inevitable.

She was candid about her own confidence heading into Wednesday's final. "I thank God for the win tonight — it was what I was expecting coming into the race because I have prepared so well," she said. "Barring a change of weather, I always knew I could perform well. Of course, I did not expect to smash the Games Record."

That last admission carries its own significance. Athletes who win at the highest level frequently speak of executing a plan. Cherotich executed hers and then exceeded it — a distinction that separates the competent from the exceptional.

The Commonwealth gold now sits alongside her world title as evidence of a career that is not peaking so much as it is steadily, purposefully expanding. At 22, she is already operating at the summit of her event on both the global and Commonwealth stages, and there is little in her manner or her performances to suggest she is close to her ceiling.

Kenya's steeplechase tradition runs deep — it is an event the country has dominated at every level for decades — and Cherotich is its latest, most compelling custodian. Where earlier champions carried the event on their reputations, she is building hers in real time, race by race, record by record.

Glasgow, damp and unpredictable as it was, could not stop her. Neither, it seems, can much else.

SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN

The MT. KENYA TIMES

Regina Angarita: An unstoppable global icon

By: Anila Bukhari
@themtkenyatimes

Regina Angarita stands among the most influential women of her generation, embodying a rare combination of intellectual brilliance, humanitarian leadership, legal expertise, and global diplomacy. Widely recognized as Miss Planet Colombia, she has transformed the traditional role of a beauty queen into a platform for meaningful impact, proving that true leadership is measured not by titles alone but by the lives one inspires and the change one creates.

Representing Colombia on the international stage, Regina serves as one of the leading ambassadors of Miss Planet, an international platform headquartered in Cambodia that promotes environmental sustainability, global cooperation, and the advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through this prestigious role, she has become a passionate advocate for responsible leadership, environmental awareness, social justice, and international collaboration. She demonstrates that beauty and intelligence are not separate qualities but powerful forces that can work together to shape a better future.

Beyond the pageant world, Regina Angarita has established herself as an accomplished Colombian-American attorney specializing in Human Rights and the Law of War. Her legal career reflects an unwavering commitment to justice, human dignity, and the protection of vulnerable communities. Throughout her professional journey, she has consistently used her legal expertise to address complex humanitarian issues, champion human rights, and advocate for ethical leadership across diverse sectors. Her ability to navigate challenging legal and international matters has earned her respect among professionals and institutions alike.

Regina is equally distinguished as a prolific author whose intellectual contributions extend far beyond the courtroom. Having written thirteen books, she has shared her knowledge, experiences, and vision for empowerment with readers around the world. Her publications explore themes of leadership, resilience, justice, personal growth, and social responsibility, inspiring individuals to pursue excellence while remaining committed to serving humanity. Through her writing, she continues to educate, encourage, and empower future leaders to embrace purpose-driven lives.

Her influence reaches deeply into Colombia's governmental and civic landscape through an extensive executive agenda built upon strategic partnerships with mayoral offices, departmental governments, and public institutions. Rather than limiting herself to ceremonial engagements, Regina actively participates in initiatives that promote sustainable development, education, community empowerment, and social transformation. Her collaborations have contributed to strengthening relationships between government leaders, nonprofit organizations, and local communities, demonstrating that effective leadership is rooted in cooperation and shared vision.

Humanitarian service has always remained at the heart of Regina Angarita's mission. Throughout her career, she has consistently supported charitable foundations and organizations dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable populations. Whether advocating for children, women, underserved communities, or humanitarian causes, she approaches every initiative with compassion, integrity, and determination. Her commitment to service is not defined by isolated campaigns but by a lifelong dedication to creating opportunities, empowering individuals, and fostering lasting positive change.

Regina's remarkable achievements have earned her widespread international recognition. In a historic milestone, she became the first beauty queen ever nominated for the prestigious Princess of Asturias Award, one of the world's most respected distinctions honoring exceptional contributions to the arts, humanities, social sciences, international cooperation, and public service. This extraordinary nomination reflected not only her accomplishments but also her intellectual influence and humanitarian leadership on the global stage.

Her growing list of international honors further highlights her exceptional impact. Regina was distinguished with the prestigious WOHA Award in London, recognizing excellence, innovation, and outstanding global leadership. She was also nominated for the internationally respected Diana Award in 2020, acknowledging her unwavering commitment to humanitarian service and positive social change inspired by the legacy of Diana, Princess of Wales. These recognitions reinforce her standing as a leader whose work transcends national boundaries and resonates with audiences worldwide.

Another defining moment in Regina's career came through her outstanding performance within the Forttuna Global Excellence Awards, led by Dr. Raul Handa. Achieving the highest score in her nomination, she demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and global influence. This remarkable accomplishment earned her a place among the exclusive Forttuna Global 100 Power List, an elite community composed of visionary leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, and changemakers whose work is redefining excellence across industries and continents.

Membership in the Forttuna Global 100 represents far more than personal recognition. It acknowledges individuals whose ideas challenge conventional thinking, whose leadership transforms organizations and communities, and whose influence extends beyond borders. Regina's inclusion reflects her ability to combine intellectual excellence with practical action, creating measurable impact through diplomacy, advocacy, education, humanitarian service, and strategic leadership.

One of Regina Angarita's defining characteristics is her unwavering champion mindset. Throughout every stage of her journey, she has embraced challenges as opportunities for growth rather than obstacles to success. Whether navigating the complexities of international law, advocating for human rights, publishing influential literary works, collaborating with government institutions, or representing Colombia on prestigious international platforms, she consistently demonstrates resilience, professionalism, and grace. Her calm confidence and unwavering commitment to excellence continue to inspire emerging leaders across multiple generations.

As Miss Planet Colombia, Regina uses her international platform to promote environmental responsibility and sustainable development. She actively supports initiatives aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, encouraging individuals, organizations, and governments to work collectively toward protecting the planet while improving the quality of life for future generations. Through conferences, public appearances, diplomatic engagements, and advocacy campaigns, she reinforces the message that sustainable leadership requires courage, innovation, and global cooperation.

Regina Angarita

Her influence extends beyond professional achievements because she embodies the qualities of authenticity, compassion, wisdom, and visionary leadership. Regina believes that leadership is not about personal recognition but about empowering others to discover their own potential. She inspires women and young professionals to pursue education, embrace resilience, lead with integrity, and use their talents to create meaningful social impact.

Regina Angarita continues to redefine what it means to be a modern global leader. She moves effortlessly between the worlds of law, diplomacy, literature, humanitarian service, sustainability, and international representation while maintaining an unwavering commitment to excellence in every endeavor. Each milestone in her journey reflects not only personal achievement but also her dedication to building stronger communities and advancing a more just, compassionate, and sustainable world.

As Colombia continues to emerge as a nation of innovation, resilience, and extraordinary talent, Regina Angarita stands proudly among its most distinguished global ambassadors. Through her intellect, service, courage, and visionary leadership, she continues to elevate her country on the international stage while inspiring people across cultures and continents.

Regina Angarita is more than a titleholder, more than an accomplished attorney, and more than an internationally recognized humanitarian. She is an unstoppable force for positive change, a visionary whose influence continues to shape conversations on leadership, justice, sustainability, and human dignity. As a member of the Forttuna Global 100 Power List and one of Colombia's most respected international figures, she represents the very best of modern leadership—purpose-driven, compassionate, courageous, and committed to leaving the world better than she found it. Regina Angarita is, in every sense, a true global icon whose remarkable legacy continues to inspire generations today and for years to come.

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