excel MAGAZINE

THE WEEKEND TABLOID

ISSUE 01

2026 GALA AWARDS • CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS • TICKETS K800

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Introducing Issue 1 of The Weekend Tabloid.
The Tabloid is a compilation of trending news snippets of the week.

People with little time to read full page articles will appreciate the precession of the news snippets.

The Tabloid also carries a crossword Puzzle to provide support for readers brain health.
The Weekend Tabloid, Excel Business & Lifestyle Magazine, Excel Trailblazers Talk show and Excel Foundation are products of Excel Magazine Zambia Limited. *Enjoy the read.* - **DIANA KABAILA**

NDOLA BUSINESS EYES COPPER AND POWER IN "GROW ZAMBIA" TARGETS

Ndola's business community has expressed strong interest in two key targets of the government's "10-10-5-3-3-1-1-1"agenda: The agenda sets 8 national production targets, including 3 million tonnes of copper and 10,000 megawatts of electricity. For Ndola, the copper target is seen as a major boost to logistics, haulage, and supplier businesses along the Kitwe–Ndola corridor, with increased ore movement and demand for mining inputs.

The electricity target is viewed as critical for industrial competitiveness. Business leaders say expanding power generation will address load-shedding that has hurt manufacturing, smelting, and agro-processing on the Copperbelt. Secondary interest lies in agriculture targets. As a regional trading hub, Ndola is expected to benefit from higher volumes of maize, soya, wheat, and sugar passing through its markets and warehouses.

ZAMBIA EXPANDS POWER GENERATION TO 4,576MW

Zambia is adding more electricity to the national grid as government and private investors expand generation capacity to support the growing economy. Ministry of Information and Media Director Spokesperson Henry Kapata says installed electricity generation has increased from about 3,100 megawatts in 2021 to 4,576 megawatts in 2026, representing an increase of 1,476 megawatts.

Kapata says Ezra Energy is constructing a 400-megawatt thermal power project in Sinazongwe, Southern Province, to strengthen baseload power and reduce reliance on hydropower during droughts. Meanwhile, Livingstone's 135-megawatt Gouli Energy project is expected to begin technical commissioning of its first phase in October, with the second phase anticipated around mid-next year.

23.9% OF AMERICA'S COPPER IMPORTS NOW COME FROM THE DRC

America is buying more copper from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In July, the US imported a record 53,290 tonnes of Congolese copper, giving the DRC a 23.9% share of America's monthly copper imports.

Cheaper prices, tariff concerns and growing demand are driving the shift.

The question now is whether this marks the beginning of a bigger US-DRC copper partnership—and how much value remains in Congo.

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FNB ZAMBIA AND CEC PARTNER TO FINANCE LOCAL SUPPLIERS

FNB Zambia and Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide financing solutions for suppliers and vendors within CEC's value chain.

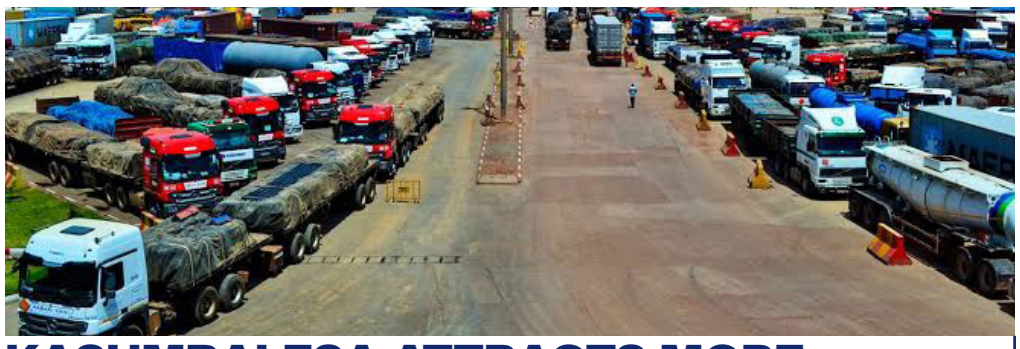
The partnership will give local businesses access to working capital and trade finance, enabling them to fulfil procurement contracts, strengthen their capacity, and contribute to the growth of Zambia's energy sector.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, FNB Zambia's Business Banking Executive, Mr. Kabanda Lilanda, said the partnership aims to build stronger enterprises and more resilient supply chains.

CEC Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Mutale Mukuka, noted that the collaboration will help create a more competitive and financially resilient supplier base capable of supporting Zambia's industrial growth.

KEY POINTS

- Working capital
- Trade finance
- Stronger local supply chains



KASUMBALESA ATTRACTS MORE INVESTMENT

Kasumbalesa's strategic position as a gateway to the Democratic Republic of Congo is attracting increased investment, with Government calling for stronger financial support for businesses targeting regional markets.

Speaking at the opening of UBA Zambia's largest branch in Kasumbalesa, Ministry of Finance Permanent Secretary Mulele Mulele said banks have a key role in providing working capital, trade finance and other services to drive economic growth.

UBA Zambia says the new branch will respond to growing commercial activity and increased Zambia–DRC trade, while the Bank of Zambia says expanded banking services will improve access to finance, promote financial inclusion and support small businesses and cross-border traders.

EXCEL MAGAZINE GROUP CONGRATULATES DR EDNA KABALA-LITANA ON HER ELECTION

We wish to congratulate Dr. Edna Kabala-Litana on her election as the first female President of the Economics Association of Zambia (EAZ)

Dr. Edna Kabala-Litana is a renowned Zambian economist, academic, and entrepreneur making history as the first female President of the (EAZ) as of September 2026.

Dr. Litana earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Zambia, a Master of Arts from the University of Botswana, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Economics from the University of Zambia. She currently serves as a Senior Lecturer and Researcher in the Department of Economics at the Copperbelt University (CBU). Dr. Litana is the co-founder and Board Chairperson of Bridge Trust Finance Limited.

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ZAMBIA: CAPITAL, MINERALS AND LONG-TERM VALUE

ZAMBIA'S MINING PITCH ATTRACTS GLOBAL INTEREST

Zambia's campaign to attract mining investment is gaining momentum, with its showcase at the Africa Down Under conference in Australia reportedly oversubscribed.

Senior officials held talks with global mining giants including Fortescue, Teck Resources and BHP on exploration, project development and partnerships.

Zambia is targeting annual copper production of 3 million tonnes by 2031 and says it has secured more than US$12 billion in mining investment commitments since 2021.

The strong interest in Perth could signal even bigger mining investments for Zambia's growing mineral sector.

ZAMBIA IS PUSHING INVESTORS TO LOOK BEYOND SIMPLY EXTRACTING MINERALS

Acting Permanent Secretary Tobias Musonda says the country wants investment across the full mining value chain from exploration and extraction to processing, manufacturing and services.

With some identified mineral assets potentially supporting mining for up to 100 years, Zambia's bigger question is how to turn its mineral wealth into lasting jobs, businesses and generations of opportunity.

CORPORATE INSOLVENCY, WHEN SHOULD THE ALARM BELLS RING?

The Corporate Insolvency Act No. 9 of 2017 defines an insolvent company to include one whose liabilities exceed the value of its assets. However, insolvency does not automatically mean liquidation, provided shareholders, creditors or other stakeholders provide financial support while management pursues restructuring, recapitalisation or other recovery measures.

The question, therefore, is not only whether a business is still operating, but whether it has a sustainable plan to repair its balance sheet and secure its future. As Zambia continues working to strengthen its capital markets, financial statements must be read beyond headline profits and revenues. Corporate insolvency should not be ignored until a company collapses. Early disclosure, accountability and decisive action remain critical to protecting investors and the wider economy.

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FOOD SAFETY CONCERNS RISE AFTER LUSAKA REPACKAGING

Police have uncovered two suspected food and product repackaging operations in Lusaka's Kabanana and Chipata compounds.

In Kabanana, more than 20,000 bottles of chilli sauce, along with peanut butter, shampoo, food ingredients and branding materials, were seized, raising concerns over food safety, product authenticity and unregulated repackaging.

In Chipata Compound, police also uncovered a separate operation involving the suspected repackaging of sugar using branded packaging materials. The discoveries have heightened calls for stronger monitoring of food handling and repackaging activities to protect consumers from potentially unsafe or counterfeit products.

UN PUSHES FOR MORE ACCURATE MAPS OF AFRICA

A new United Nations resolution is calling for map projections that better represent the true size of Africa and other continents in the Southern Hemisphere. This follows growing criticism of the Mercator projection, which makes areas near the poles appear much larger than they are.

Campaigners support alternatives such as the Equal Earth projection, which shows continents more accurately. They argue that maps can influence how people perceive the world, particularly by making Europe and North America appear larger compared with Africa.
A more accurate world map?
The UN calls for map projections that show the true size of Africa and other Southern Hemisp
The debate now is whether governments, schools and digital platforms will adopt more representative maps. For Africa, it also raises broader questions about how the continent is portrayed and understood globally.

INDENI BOOSTS COMMERCIAL FUEL SERVICES

INDENI Energy has strengthened its commercial fuel services with a high-capacity mobile fuel dispenser capable of storing up to 50,000 litres. The facility provides flexible fuel storage and dispensing, particularly for commercial customers with large onsite fuel requirements.

Technical specialists from the South African equipment manufacturer trained INDENI personnel in safe operation and maintenance. Head of Engineering and Operations, Eng. Edwin Dombola, said the training will ensure the investment is supported by the necessary technical expertise.

The investment highlights INDENI Energy's continued focus on strengthening its infrastructure, equipment and technical capacity to provide reliable and efficient fuel services.

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EDUCATION UNLOCKS ZAMBIA'S NEXT GENERATION OF DREAMERS AND ENTREPRENEURS

Across Zambia, unlimited access to education is refining minds, aligning perspectives and restoring hope lost to the 2016 financial crisis and the 2020 pandemic. Dr Martin Luther King Jr once said education teaches us to think critically, and today's youth are proving it.

Chiwala STEM pupil Moses Muleba dreams of building a business empire that creates jobs worldwide. When Christopher Columbus and the Wright brothers dreamed, the world called them mad. Today, it worships at their shrines.

With 2.5 million more children enrolled between 2022 and 2026, Zambia's classrooms are filling fast, and investors now see education as one of the country's most lucrative ventures.

CHIMWEMWE FIRE LEAVES TRADERS AND RESIDENTS COUNTING LOSSES

Residents of Chimwemwe Township and traders at Nakadoli Market in Kitwe are counting losses after a fire allegedly linked to a ZESCO transformer fault destroyed property and goods worth thousands of Kwacha.

Some residents also reported damage to household electrical appliances following the incident.

Affected traders and residents are now appealing to Government, ZESCO and well-wishers for urgent assistance as the rainy season approaches.

TIGER WOODS FORFEITS HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR FIVE YEARS IN A DUI PLEA DEAL

The 15-time major champion, who initially pleaded not guilty, entered a no-contest motion on all charges and was adjudicated guilty at a change-of-plea hearing he attended at the Motion County Courthouse. Judge Darren Steele said the five-year driver's license suspension will run at the same time, one on a reckless driving charge and one on a careless driving citation.

"There are no exceptions. If you were to drive for any reason at all, you would go immediately back to jail," Steele told Woods. Woods initially pleaded not guilty after he clipped a truck and rolled his car in March. He then has 30 days to appeal the ruling, which dropped the more serious offense of driving under the influence.

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