

Local News 10th June 2010

Uhuru presents his budget.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Uhuru Kenyatta Thursday presented the 2010/2011 Budget estimated at nearly a trillion shillings. Kenyatta has warned KRA officials who engage in fraud to desist from the practice or face the full force of the law. The minister also lamented that unnecessary regulations are impeding investments in the country, and singled out the judiciary and local authorities as the main culprits. And in a bid to improve the environment for more investment, Uhuru allocated more funds to the ministry of state for internal security; so as to enhance security for would be investors especially in urban centers. The minister was speaking in parliament while presenting the budget proposals for the 2010/2011 financial year.

Farmers in north rift receive training on investing in milk production,

Various organizations such as the Kenya Dairy Board North Rift region, government ministries, and processing company KCC today held a training forum in Eldoret on effective ways of promoting milk production in the region. Addressing journalists, the director Kenya Dairy Board north rift region Pius Cheseret said the training forum is aimed at highlighting to farmers the need to revive farmer organizations, raising better animal breeds as well as discuss the various challenges affecting the dairy industry.

The forum under the theme 'kenya dairy sector competitive programme' funded by USAID plans to reach farmers in Nyeri district Gatanga, Kabete, Nakuru, Kericho, lesos and Transzoia districts. Utmost 30thousand farmers in each district will be trained on milk investment as a business.

ENDS.....JAMES GITAKA

Joe Biden departs Kenya for SA

United States Vice President Joe Biden wound up his three day visit to the country today and departed for South Africa this afternoon. Biden held a lengthy discussion with Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, Foreign Affairs Minister, Moses Wetangula and the US Embassy officials led by Ambassador Michael Ranneberger before boarding Air force Two at noon. While in the country, Biden held fruitful bilateral talks with President Mwai Kibaki, Prime Minister Raila Odinga, Speaker of the National Assembly Kenneth Marende and made an interactive public speech at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre in Nairobi.

The US Vice President also visited the August 7 Memorial Park, where he laid a wreath in memory of those who perished in the 1998 American Embassy bomb blast. Biden's visit to Kenya is historical as he is currently the highest ranking US State official to tour the country.

African News

Egypt introduces Alexandria smoking ban Egypt, the biggest Arab consumer of cigarettes, is beginning an attempt to ban smoking in public places. Alexandria is to be Egypt's first no

smoking city, beginning with a ban on lighting up in government buildings. Egyptians smoke some 19 billion cigarettes each year, prompting concerns for public health. And Egypt is a nation of smokers with traditional shisha water pipes found in many coffee shops, and persuading Egyptians to quit will be a challenge. It is common to find people puffing at cigarettes on the train, in office, even in hospitals.

International News

Oil spill: BP shares slide as crisis continues

BP shares have continued to trade lower as attention turns to the possible impact of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill on the UK's image in the US. The oil giant's shares were 6% lower by lunchtime after earlier plunging 12%. The UK government has played down fears expressed by some senior figures of "anti-British rhetoric" in the US. Prime Minister David Cameron, who will discuss BP with President Obama this week, said he understood the US government's "frustration".

Sport News

South Africa begins World Cup party

South Africa brimmed with pride and anticipation today on the eve of the first World Cup on African soil as the nation's icon Nelson Mandela said the tournament would bridge racial divides. While the last of the 32 competing teams flew in, the Rainbow Nation was caught up in a wave of euphoria not seen since the demise of the whites-only apartheid regime and Mandela's election 16 years ago.

As blasts of the ear-splitting vuvuzela horns echoed around town, flag sellers who set up stalls by traffic lights struggled to keep pace with demand and even police officers wore jackets in South Africa's national colours. After tens of thousands took to the streets of Johannesburg on Wednesday to cheer on the Bafana Bafana (the Boys) national side in an open-top bus, it was the turn of Cape Town to join the party with a street festival in the city centre. The front-page of the Citizen proclaimed "Bafana Mania!" while an editorial in the same paper said the outbreak of patriotism in a country which is still struggling to bridge a racial divide can only be a force for good.

Who are the champions?

A global poll of football experts has been conducted by the BBC Sport website to produce a predicted top four at the 2010 World Cup. Pundits, players, managers, journalists and other experts were asked to give their one-two-three-four forecast at the tournament, which kicks off in South Africa on Friday.

The identities of the top four have been revealed daily, one by one, and the site today announced that SPAIN were the favourite choice for outright tournament winner. The survey shows Brazil in second, Argentina third with England fourth. Over 50 experts from more than 20 nations, were polled and no-one plumped for other previous winners Germany, Italy and France to repeat the trick in South Africa. If the survey is proved right, Euro 2008 winners Spain will make

history by becoming world champions for the first time and the first European team to win the World Cup in another continent.