

## **Local News, 7 July 2010**

### **Saba saba day marked today**

Today marks the 20th anniversary of saba saba, a day always equated to the fight for democracy in the country. Twenty years ago today, citizens defied a previously unchallengeable regime to make their way to Nairobi's Kamukunji grounds to press the case for democracy. The government responded in a regular fashion, and an unknown number of people were killed in brutal suppression. However, within just 18 short months, dictatorship had beaten a retreat and the infamous Section 2(A) of the constitution that made Kanu the sole legal political party had been repealed.

A year after that, Kenya staged the historic multi-party elections that for the first time since 1969 propelled MPs and councillors from parties other than Kanu into Parliament and local authorities. The day is thus marked to show gratitude to the selfless patriots who endured imprisonment without trial, torture, deprivation and exile so that Kenya could be free.

*End...Chumba Sylvano*

### **Brazilian President commends Kenya for embracing reforms**

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has commended Kenya for embracing reforms geared towards entrenching democracy and boosting the economy. Speaking Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel during a luncheon hosted in his honour by his host President Mwai Kibaki, the visiting Head of State who concluded his visit Tuesday evening also lauded Kenya's role in regional peace, noting that the country has continued to play a pivot role in the search for lasting peace in the Sudan and Somalia.

On trade, President Lula da Silva said time has come for Kenya to diversify its export base and encourage more foreign investment. The Brazilian President said his Government was also keen on building partnerships with the Kenyan Government and business community. Speaking at the luncheon, President Kibaki encouraged Brazilian businesses to invest in Kenya, which is the entry point to the East Africa and the Great Lakes region.

### **EU, U.S. Dumping Toxic Waste in Continent**

European states are still using African coasts as a dumping ground of toxic waste, even after enactment of legislation aimed at ending the practice by the European Union. The worst examples of such dumping in the recent past, according to a report by the international environmental campaign group Greenpeace, is at the Somali port of Eel Ma'aan, north of Mogadishu. Greenpeace is now calling on the United Nations to investigate the dumping of toxic and radioactive materials in Somalia. In a 36-page document titled "Toxic Ships," the UK-based group claims that it has photographic evidence from an inconclusive investigation by the Italian authorities into the suspected burying of shipping containers filled with toxic waste inside the foundations of the port

at Eel Ma'aan, in the 1990s.

The EU adopted tough regulations on e-waste in 2003 but almost 70 per cent is still unaccounted for, Greenpeace said, citing figures from the European Commission.

### **Census Planned for Autistic Children**

A national census will be carried out of pupils with special needs, a move that will see the government allocate money for those children. Education minister Sam Ogeri is thus urging parents to enroll the children in public schools so they can be counted. Every child with special needs will be allocated Sh3,260 while the able-bodied ones will get Sh1,260 a year under the free primary education programme. This emerged on Tuesday during the official opening of a unit for children with autism in Nairobi's Kasarani primary school. The minister said in a speech read on his behalf by Education secretary George Godia that schools that handle the children will further get Sh420 million in the form of grants, he said in a The government has listed the special needs education as a priority under the Kenya Education Sector Support Programme. The five-year programme starts this month.

### **Global Fund Team in Country for Audit**

A team from the Global Fund is in Kenya to audit the country's expenditure of its grants. The six-week audit will cover all recipients, including government ministries, its agents like the National Aids and STD Control Programme, National Aids Control Council and non-governmental organisations. A letter to recipient NGOs by Care Kenya, which receives the money on their behalf, said the audit will cover all Global Fund grants with the exception of Round 1. The audit team is assessing how effectively the money has been spent and whether the country has sound procedures safeguarding it. The objectives, says the letter, will be to identify any risks that Global Fund grants may be exposed to and measures in place to mitigate such risks. The team will then make recommendations on management.

### **Regional News**

#### **Rwanda summons S African envoy over probe**

Kigali has summoned South Africa's ambassador to voice concern over the probe into the shooting last month in Johannesburg of a Rwandan general. Dissident Rwandan general Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa survived an assassination attempt in South Africa on June 19 which his wife and some opposition media in Rwanda have blamed on President Paul Kagame's regime.

Earlier this month, the South African foreign ministry suggested foreign agents might have been involved in the assassination attempt but did not elaborate as to which country they were from. Days after Nyamasa's shooting, an opposition journalist in Kigali who claimed to have uncovered evidence of the regime's involvement was shot dead

## **Global News**

### **Aerial attack kills 13 Farc rebels in Colombia**

Thirteen Colombian rebels have been killed in an aerial bombardment, among them two leaders. The guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Farc) were trying to retake a strategic mountain area near the Caribbean coast when they were attacked. They were sent on the operation by the movement's number two leader, Ivan Marquez, believed to be in Venezuela.

Colombia's president said the operation was a "message" to the Farc leader. The images of the bombardment show a swathe of jungle flattened and blackened where the planes of the Colombian air force bombed a Farc camp in the Montes de Maria, in the Caribbean province of Bolivar.

## **Sports News**

### **Vengeance on Podolski's mind**

Lukas Podolski has billed the World Cup semi-final against Spain as a perfect opportunity for Germany to avenge their Euro 2008 final defeat by the Spaniards. Fernando Torres's strike gave Spain a 1-0 win in the final in Vienna two years ago and Podolski, one of the German veterans of that defeat, would love nothing more than the opportunity to turn the tables on La Roja. Germany go into the match with their confidence sky-high after scoring four goals in both their knockout stage victories, over England and Argentina.

Podolski shrugged off a suggestion by Argentina coach Diego Maradona that his side had done more to try and win their game with the Germans playing on the counter-attack.

## **Business News**

### **Prices of selected cereals in the Eldoret Municipal Market**

Prices of different commodities at the Eldoret Municipal market remained stable, with a few changes being witnessed since the start of the week. Here are the prices of various cereals as they traded at the market: A kilogram of dry maize dropped from 20 shillings last week to 17 shillings today, while green maize traded for between four and 10 shillings depending on size. Different types of beans sold for an average of 85 shillings a kilo. A kilo of groundnuts went for 100 shillings and so did that of rice, while a kilo of green grams went for 10 shillings more. A kilo of sorghum went for 40 shillings, five shillings ahead of a kilo of wheat, while millet vended at 60 shillings a kilo.

*End...David Macharia*

### **Nokia winners off to South Africa**

Caroline Nduta Ngumi and Julius T. Mururu are the two lucky winners of the Nokia Midcom Play Campaign. The two were picked in a grand draw at the close of a month-long promotion by Midcom, one of Nokia's distributors, in partnership with Nokia, to

travel to South Africa for the final World Cup match on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

In a promotion dubbed “Play Campaign”, the grand prize winners take home a prize packages worth USD 10,000, an equivalent of Sh815,000. The prizes includes two tickets to watch the World Cup Final match on July 11th in South Africa and caters for tickets to the stadium as well as travel, accommodation costs for 3 days and a spending allowance.