

**Local 8th May 2010**

### **Kenyan clergy launches No campaign**

Church leaders have launched their No campaign against the Proposed Constitution in Nairobi, in a rally that was joined by politicians opposed to the draft. National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK) General Secretary Canon Peter Karanja and Higher Education Minister William Ruto addressed thousands at Uhuru Park and urged Kenyans, to reject the draft. Canon Karanja urged all Kenyans to read the draft "and evaluate it against the desire to have a country that ensures equality, justice and peace."

Ruto who has come out as the political leader of the NO campaign promised church leaders to work together in defeating the Proposed Constitution.

Addressing the gathering Ruto castigated the government for dismissing the concerns of the Church leaders. The clergy is opposed to the inclusion of Kadhis Courts and a clause they claim leaves a loophole for the legalization of abortion.

NO camp politicians are contesting the land chapter saying it is bent to bring conflict in the country. They are protesting a clause that empowers Parliament to fix the minimum and maximum size of land one can own. Retired Nairobi Pentecost Church Bishop Boniface Adoyo told the gathering that the Church was standing for what they believe was right.

### **Human rights body wants Ocampo to gather evidence from the grassroots level,**

The Centre for Human Rights and Democracy Eldoret now wants the ICC chief prosecutor Louise Moreno Ocampo to visit victims of post election violence at the grassroots level. Speaking at his office today the head of programmes Centre for human Rights and Democracy Nick Omito said Ocampo should make an initiative of gathering the necessary evidence from the ground rather than conduct the investigations from Nairobi. Ocampo is expected to gather the evidence required to prosecute the masterminds of post election violence at The Hague.

### **WTM Mars hill forum to be held tomorrow**

The monthly "Man to Man Fellowship" organized by the Word of Truth Ministries got underway today here at the WTM premises at Kapsoya next to Limo Hospital. The forum targets to empower men on how to handle different issues that affect them in the current society. The topic deliberated on today was "How to overcome sexual temptations". Meanwhile, the Word of Truth Ministries will also be holding

its monthly Mars Hill forum for students tomorrow Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May starting 2pm-4pm. The forum is meant to equip college and university students with facts about the Christian faith and will be moderated by WTM coordinator Gideon Banda.

This month's forum will see the participants deliberate on the topic "Do miracles happen today".

The Word of Truth Ministries invites all students to avail themselves and participate actively at tomorrow's event.

### **ICC: Kenya post vote justice crucial**

Prosecutions over deadly post-vote violence in Kenya in 2008 would send a strong message ahead of a string of elections due in Africa, according to the International Criminal Court chief prosecutor. The International Criminal Court, the world's only permanent independent war crimes court, is based in the Dutch city of The Hague.

In March it authorized an investigation of the Kenya violence which erupted after then opposition leader Raila Odinga's accused President Mwai Kibaki of rigging his re-election at December 27, 2007 polls. The unrest claimed around 1,200 lives, injured at least 3,500 people and left about 350,000 more internally displaced. Senior cabinet members are believed to be in the ICC's crosshairs and the probe comes at a time when Kenya's uneasy political coalition is taking steps to carry out key reforms, including a new constitution

### **Kenyans want contentious issues in the draft constitution explained in details**

Two days after the draft constitution was published, Kenyans are now urging different camps to explain the contentious issues in the draft constitution in details for easier understanding. The residents of Eldoret town say they want to know the implications especially on the contentious issues to the future generation.

Speaking to our reporter in Eldoret town the residents expressed their concern saying that it is time for the different camps to dig deep into the issues and give Kenyans a chance to make an informed judgment. Some of the Christians interviewed requested fellow believers to have fellowship with the Holy Spirit the Supreme counselor and use the Bible as the highest constitution of reference instead of following teachings of men. The draft law has already been published and is now awaiting the verdict of Kenyans at the referendum in August.

## **Lectures and theatre embraced by Eldoret youth as effective teaching aids**

The youth in Eldoret are being urged to avoid idleness as this leads to immorality, crime and continued drug abuse. To curb this Eldoret Youth Center has embraced use of lectures and theatre in reaching out to the vulnerable group. HIV and teenage pregnancies which is reported to have been on the increase in the recent past is the major target for the group.

According to one of the group member the youth have gone astray due to idleness and is urging them to join organisations that would help them with behaviour change as this would expose them to other opportunities.

Mobile VCTs are being used to encourage young people to know their status and live positively incase they have acquired HIV.

For this programme to be effective people living within Eldoret region have been urged to participate in mobilization activities.

## **Kenya's economy seen growing 5 pct in 2011 - World Bank**

Kenya's economy is expected to grow by 5 percent in 2011, up from a forecast 4 percent this year if it continues to invest in infrastructure and small and medium-sized businesses. The World Bank says, Kenya the East Africa's largest economy is recovering from stunted growth brought about by a bloody post-election crisis in early 2008 then drought and the global economic slump that slowed demand in key sectors such as tourism and agriculture.

Johannes Zutt, World Bank country director for Kenya has said governments needed to improve the conditions to enable the private sector to increase their productivity and get access to new markets regionally and globally. He said that productivity in Kenyan such sectors as telecoms, transport and financial services had improved, thanks to better operating environments and increased investment.

A Reuters poll of economists and analysts showed that Kenya's economy was seen growing 3.9 percent in 2010 and to 5.0 percent next year.

## **Regional**

### **Nigerians lobby for deputy leader**

Nigerian groups are lobbying for the post of vice-president after Goodluck Jonathan was sworn in as president following the death of Umaru Yar'Adua. Whoever is named vice-president could be a strong contender for presidential elections due in 2011, analysts say. It remains unclear whether Jonathan will seek to stand for the governing People's Democratic Party. There is no deadline for him to name a new deputy but an announcement is expected within the coming days. Many shops and business in Nigeria remain closed as the seven days of official

### **Two peacekeepers killed in Darfur**

Two Egyptian peacekeepers have been killed by gunmen in Sudan's Darfur region, the joint United Nations-African Union mission (Unamid) says. It says three other Egyptian soldiers were injured in an ambush near Edd al-Fursan, South Darfur. They were later airlifted to a Unamid hospital. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. More than 20 peacekeepers have been killed since Unamid was deployed in Darfur in 2008. A civil war has pushed about three million people into refugee camps in Darfur and the region is prone to lawlessness and banditry.

### **Rodgers to miss Sotokoto marathon**

Four-time Boston and New York Marathon Champion Bill Rodgers will not be at this year's Sotokoto Safari Half Marathon to indisposition. Rodgers who was supposed to be the chief guest at the race is battling cancer and will miss out on the event because of the toll the long trip will take on his body. Rodgers won Boston and New York Marathon four times each between 1975 and 1980 and had been lined up as the main overseas guest. Meanwhile, with a fortnight to go, 600 runners have so far entered the marathon as Equity Bank came on board as the main registration centre. Announcing the latest developments for the May 23rd event, Technical Director, Robert Ouko disclosed runners and corporate teams could now register at any Equity Branch countrywide for the second edition of the event.

## **SA queues to see World Cup trophy**

Thousands of South Africans have been queuing for hours in Cape Town's Khayelitsha township to have their photo taken with the World Cup trophy. The solid gold trophy is starting a month-long tour of the country before the World Cup starts on 11 June. However, protocol dictates that only heads of state and tournament winners are allowed to actually touch it. On its arrival, the trophy was taken by Fifa head Jerome Valcke to Nelson Mandela in Johannesburg. The trophy has been on a 130,000km (81,000 mile) tour of 86 countries in the past year and will now be taken to 33 towns across South Africa before ending up in Soweto for the first game of the tournament between the hosts and Mexico. South Africa will be the first ever African nation to host the World Cup.