



MEMORANDUM

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SIERRA LEONE STARTS HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCHES FOR EBOLA PATIENTS

Sierra Leone said it would start house-to-house searches for Ebola patients on Wednesday and impose internal travel restrictions as part of a new push to combat the epidemic.

Health workers will seek Ebola victims and anyone with whom they have had contact, transporting those infected to new British-built treatment centres, according to a government plan announced this week.

Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia are at the heart of the world's worst recorded outbreak of Ebola. Rates of infection are rising fastest in Sierra Leone and the country has more than half of the 18,000 confirmed cases of the virus.

President Ernest Bai Koroma said that under the measures, worshippers on Christmas Day must return home after services, and other festivities are banned. New Year's Eve services must stop by 5pm local time, while New Year's Day festivities are prohibited.

"This is the festive season where Sierra Leoneans often celebrate with families in a flamboyant and joyous manner, but all must be reminded that our country is at war with a vicious enemy," he said in a nationwide address.

The government was also imposing restrictions on travel between districts, a ban on Sunday trading and the end of Saturday shopping at noon, Mr Koroma said.

The new measures are part of a month-long surge in and around the capital Freetown that aims to make a breakthrough against the disease within four to six weeks, the head of the British task-force Donal Brown said on Tuesday. (Reuters 17-12-2012)

MOZAMBIQUE EXPORTS US\$1BILLION IN GOODS TO CHINA IN 2013/2014

The Chinese ambassador to Mozambique said in Maputo that in the last two years Mozambican exports to China reached US\$1 billion making China Mozambique's third largest trading partner right behind South Africa and the European Union.

Li Chunhua also said that the volume of trade between Mozambique and China had seen growth in recent years, rising from US\$1.64 billion in 2013 to US\$2.942 billion in the first 10 months of this year.

The diplomat, who was speaking at the opening of a photo exhibition on bilateral relations since 1975, also noted that areas of cooperation had been extended to sectors such as public health, culture, education and the social economy for agriculture, infrastructure, energy, transport and communications, production of building materials, vehicle assembly and tourist facilities.

The ambassador, cited by the Mozambique News Agency (AIM), also noted that cooperation between Mozambique and China led to the implementation of 26 construction projects, training of over 1,000 Mozambicans and granting of loans for 17 infrastructure projects.

There are currently 60 Chinese companies operating in Mozambique. (18-12-2014)

HEALTH WORKERS IN SIERRA LEONE TO RECEIVE EBOLA HAZARD PAY

Response workers battling the Ebola outbreak in West Africa will receive 'hazard pay' for the first time in Sierra Leone using mobile money because unless there is a certain element of incentives, or danger pay, it is very difficult to attract and retain people, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) announced on Tuesday.

Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP's Country Director for Sierra Leone, in a statement, said: 'One of the most difficult things about tackling the Ebola crisis is in the area of human resources. You can construct a treatment centre in a couple of months. You can construct a community care centre in two to three weeks, but getting trained people to come and run them has been a major challenge.'

Mr. Mukerjee said the transition from direct cash to an electronic solution would help to improve overall efficiency, timeliness and security of payments for Ebola response workers.

'We cannot afford to lose a single minute where people have put their tools down and refuse to work.'

That is why reliable and predictable mobile payments are so significant,' he said.

'These people are working on the front lines. They could be alive today and dead tomorrow. If they are not paid on time, if they are not paid the right amount of money, they get frustrated and they tend to protest, which means that whatever Ebola care is being provided will no longer be available. We cannot afford a strike. We have to keep the whole system going,' he noted.

The UNDP official said the current cycle of hazard payments was being made from 15-19 December.

'Ebola is known as a caregiver's disease. If you are a clinician in the red zone, you are possibly at much greater risk than the average person. Unless there is a certain element of incentives, or danger pay, it is very difficult to attract and retain people,' Mukerjee said.

In addition to the cash transfer development in Sierra Leone, the statement said in Liberia, a hotline had been established and a target had been established to make all back payments by the end of the year.

In Guinea, UNDP and its partners were harmonizing payment scales across paying organizations and improving the quality of payroll lists.

Also on Tuesday, UNMEER reported that Liberia had begun treating Ebola patients with serum therapy, which was a form of treatment made from the blood of recovered survivors, and that an Australian-run British-built medical centre for Ebola patients had opened in Sierra Leone near the capital, Freetown.

UNMEER also said Liberia was scheduled now to hold delayed senatorial elections on 20 December, based on its Supreme Court ruling the vote should go ahead despite the Ebola outbreak.

Meanwhile, in Geneva on Tuesday, Christophe Boulierac, spokesperson for the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), who just returned from Ebola-affected countries in West Africa, underlined the specific challenges confronting the fight against the virus in Guinea.

He said Guinea was the biggest and the most populated of the three Ebola-affected countries where neither a peacekeeping mission nor military contingents were present, unlike Liberia, and it was a country with poor infrastructure and few partners and non-governmental organizations present.

'Several rapid response teams have been sent there to provide swift and flexible response wherever needed,' he said, outlining the challenges in raising awareness that was being resisted in some communities as well as insecurity that complicated the work being carried out by Ebola response teams. (Pana 17/12/2014)

GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF MOZAMBIQUE ESTIMATES GDP OF 7.5 PCT IN 2014

The Governor of the Bank of Mozambique (BM), Ernesto Gove, said Wednesday in Maputo he estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to be around 7.5 percent in 2014, increasing his forecast from the beginning of year.

Gove said economic performance was again supported by the contribution of agriculture and the extractive industries.

"We are pleased to note that the dynamism of economic activity comes from sectors that traditionally have a higher multiplying effect on employment and on the activity of small and medium enterprises, which should be continuously pursued for the purpose of more equitable redistribution of wealth," he said as he took stock of the 2014 financial year.

With regard to challenges facing Mozambique the governor of the Bank of Mozambique, cited by Mozambican newspaper Notícias said maintaining peace and consolidation of the normal functioning of the country were essential conditions for strengthening macroeconomic stability and the financial sector, as well as for achieving the targets that will be set by the Government in the Economic and Social Plan for 2015.(18-12-2013)

TUNISIA: €1.8 MILLION EU GRANT TO START MICROCREDIT ACTIVITIES

The EU is providing a grant of €1.8 million to enable a microcredit network to start operating in Tunisia. The Microcred network was officially launched this week with the opening of its first agency in Tunisia. An opening ceremony brought together Tunisian economy minister Hakim Ben Hamouda, EU Ambassador Laura Baeza, as well as institutional partners, shareholders and the first clients of this institution.

Microcred's objective is to offer accessible and quality financial services as well as a tailor-made aid to people excluded or poorly served by the traditional financial system, in particular micro and small companies and young unemployed who are also project promoters.

Microcred aims at improving the living conditions of its customers, their families and contributing to the economic and regional development of the country. In the next five years, the objective is to cover 13 governorates and to open 17 agencies, reaching 45,000 customers and about 220,000 beneficiaries.

Head of EU Delegation Laura Baeza reminded that *"the European Union has committed about €4.5 million since 2012 to support the development of microfinance in Tunisia and its extension to the poorest regions of the country, which represents an unprecedented effort to reduce the social gap."*

"With the implementation of these new microfinance networks, our ambition is to promote not only a better access to microcredits but also a larger financial inclusion of the least banked populations in Tunisia," she added. (EU Neighbourhood 17-12-2014)

IFAD FINANCES AGRICULTURE AND ARTISANAL FISHERIES IN MOZAMBIQUE

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has granted over US\$46 million to Mozambique this year for fisheries and agriculture, Mozambican daily newspaper Notícias reported. The money is part of funding of US\$213 million to be paid by IFAD by 2020.

The government of Mozambique and staff from IFAD met in Maputo to analyse the use of funds in seven projects that are currently underway.

Agricultural projects are being carried out in northern Mozambique, in Zambezia and Limpopo while those linked to promotion of artisanal fisheries are located in the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Maputo, Sofala and Manica. (18-12-2014)

SMALL MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES: STRONG REFORMS OFFER COUNTRIES PATH TO HIGH-INCOME STATUS

Sub-Saharan Africa's small middle-income countries should implement strong reforms to boost growth and avoid the "middle-income trap," seminar participants concluded in Mauritius. At an event featuring peer-to-peer learning, 18 senior officials from seven small middle-income countries in Africa came together at the Africa Training Institute in Mauritius to discuss their common macroeconomic and structural challenges. They agreed that peer learning offers untapped potential to help move reforms forward in their countries.

Organized by the IMF African Department and the Africa Training Institute, the November 18–21 seminar built on initial discussions during two earlier high-level meetings on the sidelines of the 2013 and 2014 IMF–World Bank Spring Meetings and joint work with the authorities in the context of a forthcoming book titled *"Africa on the Move: Unlocking the Potential of Small Middle Income Countries (SMICs)."*

The seminar involved multiple stakeholders and received broad sponsorship from the IMF's [African Technical Assistance Centers](#) in Ghana and Mauritius, from the Africa Training Institute in Mauritius, from the Regional Multi-Disciplinary Center of Excellence in Mauritius, and from the European Union.

Avoid the trap

Building on past success, small middle-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa have now set themselves the challenge of reaching high-income status and avoiding the middle income trap. While still positive, growth has slowed, as previous growth drivers weaken and the rise in per capita income wanes.

The concept of a middle income trap grew from the observation that middle-income countries graduated to high-income status far less often than low-income countries became middle-income countries. From 1960–2012, fewer than 20 percent of middle-income countries—and none from sub-Saharan Africa—became high-income states, compared with more than half of low-income countries graduating to middle-income status.

The seven small middle-income countries facing this trap in sub-Saharan Africa are Botswana, Cabo Verde, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, and Swaziland. The seminar examined common policy challenges these countries face, reviewed what individual countries have done to address them, and how IMF surveillance can build on successful approaches to help countries move forward.

Boosting growth

Opening the seminar, IMF African Department Deputy Director Anne-Marie Gulde-Wolf noted that while sub-Saharan Africa remains the second fastest-growing region in the world, the small middle-income countries are among the slowest growing in the region, and there are significant downside risks to this outlook.

Participants then explored policy responses to challenges to boosting growth in five key areas—macroeconomic vulnerability, employment and inclusiveness, productivity growth, financial inclusion, and the political economy of economic reform. To allow for peer learning—an approach which to date has been used relatively rarely by the IMF—small breakout sessions among country participants were a key feature of the program, with group discussions and presentations leading to review of country experiences and failure using specific policy initiatives.

Consensus emerged on the following points:

- Like many small states, small middle-income countries are highly vulnerable to shocks, and there was broad agreement on the importance **of building sufficient policy buffers** to absorb external shocks—especially since official financing flows for these countries will fall over time. At the same time, there are significant opportunity costs of buffers such as holding large reserves, especially in view of important infrastructure gaps that restrain long-term growth in such countries.
- To promote diversification there is a need for **policies to reduce skills mismatch**. If done right, these policies could help “crowd in” private sector employment, as supported by the analytic work in the book, while the state continues to foster smooth functioning of the labor market and provides safety nets. However, there is also a need to implement public employment and wage policies that will improve labor market outcomes, and to avoid the government becoming the “employer of last resort”.
- Returning to an era of strong growth is necessary to achieve high-income status. This will require deeper reforms and innovative **policies to boost productivity**. In particular, the quality of public spending, especially for education and economic governance, was considered an important tool for supporting productivity growth.
- Discussion on **financial inclusion** highlighted emerging evidence that financial inclusion is crucial for structural transformation and inclusive growth—while noting that small middle-income countries have some of the most uneven distributions of income in the world. Many country participants emphasized the need to go beyond relaxing financing constraints for small and medium-sized enterprises, such as loan subsidy programs, to address underlying market failures and structural weaknesses in the financial sector that keep intermediation costs high. At the same time, efforts by governments to promote financial inclusion need be pursued in a manner that preserves financial stability.
- In the discussion of political economy constraints on reform, country participants highlighted the importance of effective communication in **building support**. Appropriate sequencing could reduce the chances of reform fatigue in small middle-income countries. They also agreed on the usefulness of

“reform champions” that are insulated from short-term political cycles. Ultimately, they recognized that strategies to advance reforms need to be driven by country-specific circumstances.

Benefits of peer learning

Looking ahead, country participants felt that peer learning could help move reforms forward in their countries. They also concurred on the value of the forthcoming book as a vehicle to further foster peer learning among this group and offered to contribute their own country experiences and perspectives—which will enrich the analysis and improve traction.

The peer group is also eager to pursue cost-effective tools for knowledge sharing, including online, which the IMF African Department and the Africa Training Institute will help explore. More broadly, seminar participants noted that capacity building and training institutions in the region could become vehicles for peer-to-peer learning and support. They envisaged that these countries could eventually set common policy goals among themselves, with those doing well helping those that are lagging behind. (IMF 17-12-2014)

ANGOLA SOVEREIGN FUND INVESTS IN BUILDING HOTEL ACADEMY IN BENGUELA

The Angola Sovereign Fund (FSA) announced that it plans to invest in setting up an academy for training in the hotel business, in Benguela, which should start operating at the end of 2015.

The President of the Board of Directors of the FSA, José Filomeno dos Santos said, as he launched the project in the city on the south coast of Angola, that the Angolan Hospitality Management Academy would be partnered by Lausanne Hospitality Consulting (LHC) and Ecole Hoteliere of Lausanne (EHL). Filomeno dos Santos said the academy, which will be installed in an area 18,000 square metres, over three years will train staff in the areas of management, food operations and catering.

The chairman of the FSA, according to Angolan news agency Angop, said that at the end of the first five years of operation, a bachelor's degree will be created to give graduates knowledge in areas of finance and management in order to manage hotel projects.

The Sovereign Fund is an institution of the Angolan state, dedicated to management of public reserves through investments in various sectors to generate additional revenue for the state as well as to improve the quality of life of Angolan nationals. (18-12-2014)

ALGERIA: EU SUPPORT PROGRAMME TO HEALTH SECTOR PRESENTS ACHIEVEMENTS

EU support to the Algerian health sector has had a concrete impact felt by patients across the country, according to a presentation of the achievements of the Support Programme to the Health Sector (PASS), funded by the EU with a budget of €15 million, at an event held this week in the presence of representatives of the Health Ministry, the Head of the EU Delegation to Algeria, and technical assistants in charge of the programme.

EU Ambassador Marek Skolil underlined the fact that the effective implementation of this partnership between the Algerian Health Ministry and all the European service providers has had a real and concrete impact on support for the reform policy undertaken in the country. He cited work undertaken in the hospital of Oran, which enabled the implementation of the first electronic medical record in the country, which could be broadened out to national level.

The programme also included the assessment of care quality in the hospitals, the development of a strategy for the fight against non-communicable diseases, the creation of a curriculum and a training programme for health services managers, the launch of a study on the quality of reproductive health, and the training of more than 1,300 health executives.

Bernard Segarra, programme manager, concluded by warning that this programme would succeed only if the momentum behind it was maintained. Efforts need to be pursued with all the partners to generalise

the undertaken actions and ensure the programme's sustainability, he said. (EU Neighbourhood 17-12-2014)

GANGELAS MINI HYDRO PLANT IN ANGOLA STARTS OPERATING IN JANUARY

Operating tests on a mini-hydro plant, installed at the Gangelas dam, in the municipality of Chibia, in Angola's southern Huila province, will be conducted in January, according to Angolan news agency Angop.

According to Angop the reservoir already has an acceptable amount of water for the tests, but the level is expected to increase until January, which will make testing easier.

The mini-hydro plant will have a generation capacity of 1.2 megawatts and will consume 6.5 cubic metres of water per second.

Refurbished in 2009, the Gangelas dam has a reservoir of up to 3.5 million cubic metres of water with two 24-kilometre channels and an irrigated area of 6 hectares of arable land. (18-12-2014)

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH WEEK BEGINS IN BURUNDI

A week dedicated to maternal and child health began on Tuesday in Burundi during which a vaccination and deworming exercise will be carried out, the office of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Bujumbura has said.

The exercise will also involve sensitizing people about the importance of regularly washing hands with clean water and soap as well as using micronutrient powders that will be distributed for the first time in the form of easy to use single-dose sachets applied on food at home.

The Vitamin A supplement operation will again be carried out during the week and will be for children aged between 6 and 59 months, according to a press release issued by UNICEF.

Deworming, using Albendazole, will be carried out among children aged between 1 and 14 years as well as pregnant women being in the 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy.

The week will also include the follow-up vaccination for the second dose of measles vaccine among children aged 18 to 23 months, according to UNICEF.

'It is a major event aimed at improving survival of mother and child in Burundi,' the UNICEF statement quoted Dr Babacar Drame, representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Burundi, as saying.

'Through community mass mobilization, the maternal and child health week can quickly help to reach vulnerable mothers and children living in remote areas,' he said.

Significant innovations will be introduced in this year's edition, including the distribution of micronutrient powders in the form of easy-to-use single-dose sachets applied on food at home.

These powders contributed to the fight against chronic malnutrition in Burundi, the statement said.

'In the past, innovations such as ready-for-use oral rehydration salts or therapeutic food have led to radical changes in the lives of millions of children,' Johannes Wedenig, UNICEF representative in Burundi said.

'Micronutrient powders are a simple, cheap and effective innovation, which will strengthen the fight against malnutrition in Burundi,' he added.

Another innovation is the introduction of a tool used to report real-time data using mobile phones to

avoid stock-outs.

Burundi's Ministry of Public Health and Fight against AIDS has also decided to be innovative during this week with the introduction of the mother-child health record.

It is a medical monitoring tool that also incorporates the child's birth certificate, renders his civil registration easier and therefore facilitates his access to education services and health care. (Pana 17/12/2014)

MONTEPIO OF PORTUGAL CONFIRMS PURCHASE OF 44.5 PCT OF BANK IN MOZAMBIQUE

Montepio of Portugal confirmed Wednesday in Lisbon it had acquired 44.537 percent of Banco Terra, a Mozambican financial institution, in a statement sent to the Portuguese Securities Market Commission (CMVM).

Besides Montepio, Rabo Development Bank of the Netherlands holds an equal share of 44.537 percent, the remaining capital being split between the Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries (8.409 percent) and GAPI (2.517 percent), the Portuguese bank said.

Banco Terra was founded in 2008 with the goal of being one of the leading institutions for funding in the areas of food and agriculture and to provide financial services to rural and suburban populations, with a network of branches in the provinces of Maputo, Inhambane, Manica, Sofala, Tete and Nampula. (18-12-2014)

ARLEM CALLS FOR STRONGER TERRITORIAL DIMENSION IN THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY

Gathering in Antalya, Turkey at the 6th plenary session of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) on Monday, local and regional leaders and representatives from the European Union and its Mediterranean partners called for a new momentum in the European Neighbourhood Policy. They stressed the importance of stronger cooperation and closer involvement of regions and cities from the three shores of the Mediterranean.

The meeting was hosted by Menderes Türel, Mayor of Antalya Metropolitan Municipality, who welcomed the participants along with Michel Lebrun, President of the Committee of the Regions (CoR) and co-president of ARLEM.

In his opening speech Lebrun highlighted the need to strengthen the territorial dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy. He argued that macro-regional strategies, such as the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region, offer opportunities for cross-border cooperation between regions in and outside the EU. *"The CoR will support the European Commission in its review of the European Neighbourhood Policy: in the Mediterranean we can identify several good examples for designing macro-regional synergies and for implementing instruments devoted to economic, social and territorial development,"* he said.

In its annual report on "The state of the territorial dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean", the assembly argued that the EU must continue to support countries to the south and east of the Mediterranean towards a prosperous and peaceful future. The implementation of a cohesion policy at the macro-regional level supported by funding, especially from the European Neighbourhood Policy, is something ARLEM has been calling for since its creation. Extending the scope of the European Commission's Local Administration Facility to the Mediterranean should be envisaged as a way of strengthening the institutional capacity of local and regional authorities. Anna Terrón, Special Representative for the Union for the Mediterranean said in Antalya: *"ARLEM is part of the Union for the Mediterranean. The secretariat in Barcelona is working to implement our priorities, among them urban development. We find the annual report of ARLEM and its political priorities very useful."*

A report on the role of local and regional authorities in managing migration in the Mediterranean, drafted by António Costa (PT/PES), Mayor of Lisbon and Secretary-General of the Portuguese Socialist Party, was also adopted. According to the report, migration flows in the Mediterranean form a complex process that presents significant challenges and opportunities for Europe and for all countries in the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean.

“Since 2011 the Syrian conflict has displaced more than 3 million people of which less than 100,000 have come to Europe. Countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt are doing their utmost to receive those people in desperate need of protection. But sharing the responsibility in the spirit of solidarity requires more support to those local and regional authorities and countries most directly affected, so EU support is crucial. In this context, ARLEM can play an important role in finding the right response to the humanitarian catastrophes in the Euro-Mediterranean,” Mr Costa said.

During the afternoon session, discussions focused on environmental issues and urban development where a report on waste management at local and regional level drafted by Mohamed Boudra, President of the Regional Council of Taza-Al Hoceima-Taounate, Morocco, was adopted. In the Mediterranean region, the amount of solid waste could rise from 174 million tonnes in 2000 to 396 million tonnes by 2025. The report calls for increased resources for local and regional authorities to help manage waste. An ARLEM initiative for an urban agenda for the Mediterranean was also presented in Antalya. It aims to strengthen the institutional and administrative capacities of cities and regions in urban governance, notably via pilot projects to be realised in each of the participating countries between 2015 and 2018.

Finally, Palestinian Hani Abdelmasih Al-Hayek, Mayor of Beit Sahour was appointed as the successor of the current co-chair Youssef Ali Abdel-Rahman. He will lead ARLEM alongside the President of the Committee of the Regions from February 2015.

ARLEM was launched in 2010 to bring a territorial dimension to the UfM by involving local and regional authorities more closely in UfM projects. It is composed of 80 local and regional representatives from the EU and its Mediterranean partners and is chaired by a co-presidency, representing Mediterranean partners and the EU. (EU Neighbourhood 17-12-2014)

PORTUGAL AND CABO VERDE SIGN 11 COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

Portugal and Cabo Verde (Cape Verde) Wednesday in Lisbon signed 11 cooperation agreements for various fields within as part of the 3rd bilateral summit, where both countries said the sea was a strategic resource.

Among the agreements was a memorandum of understanding on maritime literacy, which aims to promote educational awareness of issues related to the sea.

Also in the area of the sea, the two governments signed an additional protocol to the treaty for joint supervision of maritime areas under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of Cabo Verde.

Memoranda of Understanding were also signed in the areas of higher and non-tertiary education and protocols in the fields of education, health, language and economy.

The next bilateral summit is scheduled to be held in 2016 in Cabo Verde. (18-12-2014)

BELGIUM TO TRAIN IVORIAN EXPERTS ON SURVEILLANCE OF DIAMOND EXPORTS

Three Ivorian diamond experts will be trained by the Anvers World Diamond Center (AWDC) for the surveillance of diamond exports from Côte d'Ivoire in a bid to enable the country to export the precious metal legally on the international market, official sources said on Tuesday.

Mrs Margeaux Donker, AWDC spokesperson, told the press that since 2003, the UN had placed Côte d'Ivoire on the black list of countries banned from exporting diamonds, because at that time, Ivorian rebel groups exported the precious stones to purchase armament, an illegal trade system called 'blood

diamond'.

She said that now that the political situation had stabilized in the country, it was high time diamond exports from Côte d'Ivoire responded to the Kimberly Process (KP), a system of diamond certification, established by the United Nations and which comprises about 100 countries and international organizations.

Belgium is happy to help Côte d'Ivoire export diamonds to the international market for the development of the country, Mrs Donker said, adding that the country could sell between 150,000 and 200,000 carats valued at about US\$25 million. (BD 18-12-2014)

ZAMBIA'S LUNGU FIRES SCOTT AS HIS DEPUTY IN PATRIOTIC FRONT

ZAMBIA's ruling Patriotic Front leader Edgar Lungu said he had removed Guy Scott as the party's deputy president for indiscipline.

Mr Scott was fired after writing a letter without permission, directing the chief justice to reject nominations for the Patriotic Front's presidential candidate in January 20 elections until legal disputes surrounding the matter are resolved.

Mr Scott took over as Zambia's acting leader after former president Michael Sata died in October, sparking a power struggle within the Patriotic Front before next month's national vote.

"The said letter to the acting chief justice was provocative and an act of gross indiscipline," Mr Lungu said in a letter dated Tuesday and distributed on Wednesday via text message.

The ruling party is required to file the name of its presidential candidate on December 20.

The majority of the Patriotic Front's senior leadership has rallied behind Mr Lungu, who is justice and defence minister, for president. Another group is backing Deputy Commerce Minister Miles Sampa, who has challenged Mr Lungu's nomination in the courts. The Supreme Court on Monday sent the case back to the Lusaka High Court, with a hearing set for Thursday.

Mr Scott fired Mr Lungu as Patriotic Front secretary-general in November before reinstating him a day later after protests broke out. (Bloomberg 17-12-2014)



EBCAM NEWS



NETHERLANDS AFRICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
www.nabc.nl

Next Trade Missions



VISIT TO SUDAN POULTRY EXPO

NABC will organize a visit to the Sudan Poultry Expo, which will take place from 25-28 February in Khartoum. The Sudan Poultry Expo is a leading specialized exhibition for the poultry industry in Sudan. Profiles for exhibitors include poultry equipment, feed manufacturing equipment, feed additives, poultry breeders, veterinary supplies, slaughter house and meat processing equipment. A number of companies have already indicated interest in participation, and NABC will organize a short program with the fair as the central activity. [Contact us.](#)

INCOMING MISSION FROM GHANA

NABC and FME will be welcoming an incoming Multi-sectoral delegation from Ghana between 8-13 of February. We will be hosting 23 delegates from various sectors looking to purchase products, materials, equipment and who want to gain sector knowledge. More information about the programme follows. [Read more.](#)



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