



## MAIN STORIES

**Mwonzora Claims  
MDC Alliance  
Leadership**

**IMF SDR Funds**

**Covid-19 and  
Corruption**

**A New Government  
in Zambia**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The G40 Zanu-PF faction said it is still alive and planning the takeover of the ruling party ahead of the 2023 polls.
- The MDC-T alleges that the MDC Alliance has endorsed its president Douglas Mwonzora as leader of the opposition coalition. This was denied by other alliance partners, who said that Nelson Chamisa is still the leader.
- Mwonzora appointed a 26-member shadow Cabinet, as well as 10 Ministers of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution.
- The MDC Alliance has no intentions of joining the Political Actors Dialogue (POLAD), describing it as an outfit for illegitimate parties who are there to promote autocracy in the country. This came after President Emmerson Mnangagwa said the door was open for them to join after his administration doled out all-terrain vehicles to POLAD principals.
- Former Zanu-PF Youth League political commissar Godfrey Tsenengamu announced the launch of a new political party, the Front for Economic Emancipation in Zimbabwe (FEEZ) with himself as interim leader.
- The new Commander of the Zimbabwe National Army is Lieutenant General David Sigauke.
- Disgruntled veterans of the liberation war accused Mnangagwa and his government of neglecting them. This came after police arrested nine of the ex-combatants for picketing at Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube's offices demanding a review of their allowances.
- Vice President and Health Minister Constantino Chiwenga has been sitting on the Auditor General's specially commissioned audit report for the ministry, which looks at potential abuses of Covid-19 funds, forcing Auditor General Mildred Chiri to transmit a copy to the National Assembly for release. Auditors noted systematic abuse of funds.

# ZIMBABWE



- The government is pressing ahead with a plan to combine its mining assets under a massive private-public enterprise, Kuvimba Mining House, even as evidence mounts that the project could be linked to tycoon Kudakwashe Tagwirei, sanctioned by the United States (US) and United Kingdom (UK).
- Zimbabwe received US\$961 million from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in special drawing rights (SDRs). Zimbabwe will use more than half of the funds to support its currency, Minister Mthuli Ncube said. The MDC Alliance spokesperson Fadzayi Mahere said the opposition party was demanding accountability on how "every cent" was going to be used.
- Zimbabwe reportedly made its first debt repayment in more than 20 years to the 17 Paris Club creditors to clear up to US\$10.7 billion owed to several multilateral funders. Minister Ncube did not disclose the actual amounts that have been paid.
- Zimbabwe licensed 57 foreign and local entities to grow medicinal cannabis.
- As of 6 September 2021, Zimbabwe had registered 125,550 coronavirus cases, 4,482 deaths and 116,401 recoveries. Authorities extended level-four Covid-19 restrictions nationwide to 7 September 2021.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) on 27 August decided to maintain the Bank policy rate at 40% per annum.
- Year-on-year inflation dropped from 837.5% in July 2020 to 50.2% in August 2021. Inflation decreased to 50.24% in August from 56.37% in July of 2021.
- According to Defence Minister Oppah Muchinguri the closures of foreign-owned companies in Zimbabwe and relocating to neighbouring countries "produced positive growth" as the country had managed to create its own "locally controlled economy."



# ZIMBABWE



- Zimbabwe is considering borrowing money directly from private investors to fund the first half of a \$3.5 billion compensation agreement with white farmers whose land was seized two decades ago.
- Minister Ncube said the government would not be forced into following the parallel market foreign currency rate.
- Deutsche Bank cut correspondent banking ties with Standard Bank Group Ltd.'s Zimbabwean unit. No reasons were given for the termination.
- Zimbabwe will clear a backlog of foreign currency allocations owed from central bank-run auctions in the next 45 days, according to finance ministry secretary George Guvamatanga. Traders and businesses estimate that around \$200 million is outstanding. Guvamatanga said banks were holding US\$1.7 billion in foreign currency deposits but were not lending the money to businesses, contributing to higher demand for dollars at the auction.
- Zimbabwe signed a joint venture agreement with British-based Coven Energy to develop a fuel pipeline from the Mozambican port city of Beira to Harare.
- Zimbabwe has banned the export of raw chrome in a bid to support the domestic ferrochrome industry.
- In contrast to the growing number of countries seeking to wean themselves off coal, Zimbabwe is opening new coal mines that authorities say will allow the country to meet its energy needs.
- Mnangagwa attended Hakainde Hichilema's inauguration, and congratulated him but said that the change of government in Zambia would never be emulated in Zimbabwe. Chamisa said that what had happened in Zambia, would also happen in Zimbabwe.
- The UK warned its citizens against doing business in Zimbabwe. A statement on the UK government website said that Zimbabwe "faces continued cycles of economic and humanitarian challenges."



# ZIMBABWE



- The 41st Ordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) reiterated its call for the unconditional removal of sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe.
- A South African businessman, George Beukes of eXess Africa, was arrested on his arrival in Zimbabwe, and now can't leave the country because of a contractual dispute involving \$1 million and material for the construction of the Harava Solar Park.



**IN TRANSFORMATION  
INITIATIVE**