



## MAIN STORIES

**RFP: Dissatisfaction  
and Campaigning**

**Alleged Corrupt  
Airport Tender**

**Alleged Fertiliser  
Corruption**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Office of the Prime Minister announced on its twitter page that the National Assembly passed the 11th Amendment of the Constitution on the evening of 9 July, paving the way for political and administrative reforms.
- Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro and his All-Basotho Convention (ABC's) leader, Nkaku Kabi, have reportedly buried the hatchet.
- Former Health Minister Pinkie Manamolela was elected as deputy leader of the ABC.
- Kabi toured Klerksdorp, South Africa and addressed hundreds of Lesotho nationals to lobby for votes. The majority of his audience were members of the Terene famo gang. He said former ABC leader Thomas Thabane had advised him to "lean" on Terene because they "are loyal to the ABC."
- At a Kabi rally in Koro-Koro, a senior Terene member, Sarele Sello, walked to the podium and gave Kabi stashes of cash to distribute to the elderly and poor.
- The Revolution for Prosperity (RFP) party, led by Sam Matekane, is facing a revolt from grassroots supporters after it reserved 11 seats for the party's founding leaders which will allow them to run in the October general elections uncontested.
- Matekane, during a rally in the Qhoali constituency, the stronghold of Democratic Congress (DC) leader and Deputy Prime Minister Mathibeli Mokhothu, handed over M15 000 at a church and donated blankets and food parcels to elderly persons.
- Lesotho has been ranked as the 100th most peaceful country in the world (1=most peaceful; 163=least peaceful) by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) in its Global Peace Index (GPI), published in June 2022, rating its state of peace as medium.
- Police allegedly opened fire and killed two National University of Lesotho (NUL) students and injured numerous others during a protest on 16 June.
- Rampaging Famo gangs continue to cause havoc in Ribaneng, Mafeteng where they have declared some places 'no-go' areas for villagers, health workers and teachers.



- After two years of resisting widespread calls for Police Commissioner Holomo Molibeli's dismissal, Majoro finally wrote to him demanding that he "show cause" why he should not be fired.
- The Principal Secretary (PS) in the Ministry of Transport, Maile Masoebe, insists that there is nothing amiss about the awarding of the controversial Moshoeshoe I Airport rehabilitation tender to a liquidated South African company, Thulani Majola's LTE Consulting.
- The Directorate of Corruption and Economic Offences (DCEO) is investigating a case of corruption in the awarding of the tender to supply the government with fertiliser for the 2022 summer cropping season, where Agriculture Minister, Keketso Sello is implicated.
- The 2020-2021 Auditor General report states that the government cannot explain M6 billion in procurement expenditure.
- As of 11 July 2022, Lesotho had 33,938 coronavirus cases, 24,155 recoveries and 699 deaths.
- The World Bank said in its June 2022 Global Economic Prospects (GEP) that the economy is projected to grow by 2.3% in 2022, down from projected growth of 3.1% in its June 2021 GEP report.
- According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD's) 2022 World Investment Report (WIR), published on 9 June 2022, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in 2021 was US\$27 million, down from US\$30 million in 2020.
- Over 3000 businesses which applied for Covid-19 relief funds from the government two years ago are still awaiting the disbursement of the money.
- Econet Telecom Lesotho (ETL) has been voted the most admired African brand in Lesotho. FNB was voted the most admired financial services brand.





- The Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) appointed Majoro's former economic adviser and head of the accountability unit, Maluke Letete, as its governor.
- Lucapa Diamond Company flagged a possible legislative change in Lesotho, which could affect its operations. A proposed Value Added Tax (VAT) Amendment Bill is currently under consideration, which could result in the diamond industry in Lesotho no longer being able to claim back and be refunded their input VAT.
- The government passed a new law legalising diamond artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM).
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, 'Mats'epo Molise-Ramakoae signed the Administrative Arrangements Agreement between the Government of Lesotho and the European Delegation for the deployment of the European Union Observation Mission (EU-EOM) to the General Elections 2022.
- King Letsie III delivered a keynote address during the European Development Days (EDD) forum opening ceremony on 21 June 2022. Lesotho was invited to the forum for the first time. Letsie met with the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, and with the European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen. The subject of the discussions included Lesotho's ongoing constitutional reforms process and the upcoming elections.
- The government has revived its participation in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), its processes and activities.

