

Women told to save, invest for independence

- ▶ They are encouraged prioritise financial literacy, save, and invest, ensuring financial independence.
- ▶ They are also encouraged to participate in leadership to drive social and economic change.

MANUEL NTOYAI, NAIROBI

Women have been urged to prioritise savings, smart investments and financial literacy as key tools for achieving economic independence, as Kenya joined the world in marking International Women's Day. Observed annually on March 8, the day celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women while highlighting the challenges they continue to face. The global observance traces its roots to early 20th-century labour and women's rights movements and has since become a platform for advocacy on gender equality, economic inclusion and women's rights. This year's commemorations in Kenya featured discussions on financial empowerment, reproduc-

tive health and the importance of women participating in decision-making spaces. At an event organised by the Bidii Girls Programme, speakers emphasised that financial literacy and disciplined money management remain critical for building sustainable livelihoods and supporting families. Participants noted that despite progress in education and employment, many women still face barriers to accessing financial services, land ownership and capital, making savings and investment a key step toward economic security. Angela Mwadumbo, representing the Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya, said reproductive and menstrual health continue to present challenges due to weak policies. "Women should be at the forefront of these conversations, because the issues directly affect them," she said, urging reforms to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks and integrate reproductive rights within national development plans. Financial experts highlighted the importance of building a savings culture. Ema Obonyo of Stima Sacco encouraged women to save what they can and gradually invest in income-generating ventures. "Once you save, you can multiply your resources and invest wisely,"



From left: Zahra Moi, Phylis Wangui, Lisa Christoffersen and Nailantai Kenga during the 'Heels on Wheels' rally drive at Lifestyle Gigiri, Nairobi, yesterday. The all-women's drive was held to celebrate joy, sisterhood and solidarity. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]

“Women should be at the forefront of these conversations, because the issues directly affect them,”

Angela Mwadumbo, Federation of Women Lawyers representative

she said, adding that multiple income streams can cushion women against rising living costs. Mary Gloria Awinja, Executive Director of the Bidii Girls Programme, stressed that women's participation in leadership is essential for social change. Deborah Anne Selly Kimosop, representing the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, noted that empowering women economically strengthens households, industries and communities, boosting entrepreneurship and labour participation.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

IWD: Breast cancer survivor shares hope and strength

When Joyce Akelo first felt a small lump in her breast, she tried not to panic, hoping it was something minor that would disappear. Life was busy, and responsibilities at home and work left little time for concern. But when the discomfort persisted, she visited a doctor. "I remember the doctor looking at the results and telling me it was cancer. In that moment, my life felt like it had stopped," she recalled. Fear and worry overwhelmed her as she thought about her family, future, and survival. Years later, Akelo is a breast cancer survivor and a voice of encouragement for women facing the same diagnosis. Her journey included hospital appointments, difficult conversations with doctors, and the eventual loss of her left breast. Community support proved vital. "It's not just about treatment. You need people around you to encourage and support you financially because cancer treatment is very expensive," she said. Small acts of kindness from friends and family made a significant difference. On International Women's Day, Akelo shared her story at a medical camp organised by ParentsAfrica Integrated Media at Newlife SDA Church, Nairobi. The camp offered free cancer screenings and health checks. Health experts urged women to prioritise preventive care, early screening, and self-examinations. "Pick a date every month and examine yourself. When someone you know is diagnosed with cancer, don't disappear," Akelo advised. Her message emphasises awareness, early detection, and solidarity to save lives. [Juliet Omelo]

RELIGION

Pentecostal churches call for regulation of theological colleges

The Association of Pentecostal Vocational Training Institutions of Kenya (APVOTIK) has raised concerns over the proliferation of theological colleges operating without episcopal oversight and is seeking proper regulation. Chairperson Rev Josiah Njiru, appearing before the Public Petitions Committee chaired by Runyenjes MP Eric Karemba, said the growth of Bible schools, colleges, and online ministry platforms has increased access to theological education, but created challenges, including lack of a standardised curriculum, questionable accreditation, doctrinal confusion, and pastoral unpreparedness. He said existing statutes, such as the TVET Act, Universities Act, and Kenya National Qualifications Framework Act, focus on secular education and

do not address the unique nature of sacred training. He proposed a self-regulatory authority, drawn from Pentecostal, Charismatic, and Indigenous communities, to set academic and spiritual standards, accredit institutions, recognise prior learning, and preserve doctrinal integrity. APVOTIK urged Parliament to enact legislation establishing such a council, standardising curricula, ensuring accountability. Njiru emphasised the urgency, citing risks of doctrinal abuse, pastoral incompetence, and exploitation due to the lack of regulation. "The petition is not political or denominational. It is a national moral imperative to protect faith, dignify ministry, and safeguard Kenya's spiritual foundations for generations to come," the Association said. [Irene Githinji]



PUBLIC NOTICE

The County Government of Mandera wishes to notify all interested and participating bidders that Addendum No. 2 has been issued in respect of the tender advertised on **24th February 2026**.

Please note that the tender closure date has been extended to **Wednesday, 18th March 2026**.

Tender No: **MCG/OT/FA/014/2025-2026** has been revised and uploaded. All revised tender documents reflecting changes have been uploaded and can be downloaded from the County Government website: **www.mandera.go.ke**

All other terms and conditions of the tender remain unchanged.



ADDENDUM

The County Government of Mandera advertised tender notice dated 24th February 2026 that was to expire on 11th March 2026.

We would like to notify all eligible prospective bidders of an intention to extend the above tenders. This notice is necessitated by the need to ensure effective dissemination of information during the tender processes.

1. That this addendum is hereby issued to extend the tender for a period of one week from the current deadline date of Wednesday 11th March 2026.
2. That the new closing/ opening date is Thursday 19th march 2026.
3. That the tenderers are advised to confirm the correct tender document before downloading it.

Revised tender document reflecting the changes have been uploaded and can be downloaded from the county government website at: **www.mandera.go.ke**

All other terms and conditions of the tender remain unchanged.

Ag. COUNTY DIRECTOR- SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

FOR: COUNTY CHIEF OFFICERS.

Malindi massacre: Makenzi, seven others face crimes against humanity

► At least 34 bodies have been exhumed from shallow mass graves in Kwa Binzaro area.

► Makenzi has been in prison since 2023 after he was charged with the killing of 429 people in Shakahola.

KELVIN KARANI, MOMBASA

Controversial preacher Paul Makenzi and seven others have been charged with crimes against humanity in connection to Malindi’s Kwa Binzaro massacre.

This is after officers from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations established that Makenzi planned the massacre while in prison.

Makenzi has been in Shimo la Tewa prison since his arrest in 2023, after facing charges in connection to the killing of 429 people in Shakahola, Kilifi County.

In the fresh charges over Kwa Binzaro massacre, the prosecution believes Makenzi coordinated it through Shallyne Anindo, who is one of his close confidants.

At least 34 bodies have been retrieved from shallow mass graves at the Kwa Binzaro area.

Shakahola and Kwa Binzaro are part of the expansive Chakama Ranch in Kilifi County.

Those charged are Makenzi, Shallyne Anindo alias Ann; Kahindi Kazungu Garama, alias Mlewa; Tom Ochieng Mkonwe, alias Thomas, alias Tomaso; Julius Tuva Luwali, Johnson Gona Richard, Charles Mutua Musee, alias Mzee Mutua; James Kazungu Kahindi, alias Ponda, alias Baba Bura.

The they were charged before Justice Wendy Micheni with 23 counts of crimes against humanity and 23 alternative counts of murder.

The accused persons are said to have unlawfully attacked and killed

23

NUMBER of counts of crimes against humanity that Paul Makenzi and his co-accused were charged with before Justice Wendy Micheni.



Paul Makenzi with his lawyer Lawrence Obonyo at the Mombasa Law Courts on July 31, 2025 during the hearing of a matter where he was accused, alongside 92 other persons, of 238 counts of manslaughter. [File, Standard]

23 members and followers of the Good News International Church aged between six months and 18 years.

The offences were allegedly committed on unknown dates between January and July 2025 at the Kwa Binzaro area within Kilifi County.

Charles Mutua Musee, alias Mzee Mutua, and James Kazungu Kahindi, alias Ponda, alias Baba Bura, were each separately charged with one count of accessory to the crimes.

Mutua, according to the prosecution, allegedly received Julius Tuva Luwali at his home in Kanyaa Village, within Mwingi sub-County, on an unknown date between January and July 2025, to help him evade punishment despite knowing he had committed murder.

On the other hand, James allegedly aided Shallyne Anindo alias Ann; Kahindi Kazungu Garama alias Mlewa and Tom Ochieng Mkonwe alias Thomas alias Tomaso to evade punishment despite knowing they had committed murder.

He allegedly committed the offence between 19 and 21 July, 2025 in the Mtopanga area of Bamburi within Mombasa County.

All the accused persons denied the charges, with the judge directing that Makenzi be remanded at Shimo la Tewa Prison while his seven co-accused be held at Malindi GK Prison for two weeks to allow prison authorities to plan their transfer to Shimo la Tewa.

The matter will be mentioned on March 18, 2026.

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CRIME

Kin wants politician questioned over journalist’s murder

The family of a freelance journalist who was brutally murdered in Naivasha last week want a politician in Nyakach, Kisumu County, questioned over the beastly killing.

They alleged that days before the 24-year-old, Joseph Owino alias Myles, was murdered, he had received threats from the politician-cum-trader.

This came as investigating officers in Naivasha said that initial investigations into the incident pointed to a love triangle.

On Tuesday last week, residents of Kihoto Estate in Naivasha woke up to a rude shock when they found the badly mutilated body dumped near Kihoto Primary School.

The body, which had its throat, tongue and lips cut off, was found off the Naivasha–Mai Mahiu Road, with a car that he had hired parked a few metres away.

It is suspected that the father of one was killed elsewhere and the body ferried to the scene by the killers, who made away with his phone.

According to Robert Ouko Joni, his brother was last seen in Nairobi and it was not clear how he ended up in Naivasha with some body parts missing.

In an interview, Joni said that his younger brother, who was involved in videography and photography, had received threats from the trader who is eyeing a political seat.

“My brother had been threatened by this politician,” he said.

“His Facebook and Instagram accounts, where some of these threats were issued, have been deleted,” he said.

[Antony Gitonga]



REBULIC OF KENYA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MANDERA



AMENDMENT ON ADDENDUM NO 2 ISSUED
ON 9th MARCH, 2026

We wish to inform the public that we have made the following corrections regarding the addendum No. 2 that was advertised on Monday, 9th March 2026;

Interested and eligible Bidders are notified of the correction of Addendum no 2 which was erroneously extended to 18th March 2026. The listed tenders are therefore scheduled for opening on 19th March 2026.

Bidders are notified that clarifications and changes to bid documents will be posted on the County Government of Mandera website; www.mandera.go.ke.

All the other terms and conditions of the tender remain the same.

Ag. COUNTY DIRECTOR – SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES.
For: COUNTY CHIEF OFFICERS.



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA



TENDER NOTICE

The County Government of Kakamega invites interested eligible bidders for the following tenders:

S/no	TENDER NAME	DEPARTMENT	TENDER NUMBER	ELIGIBILITY
1.	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE DESIGN, FINANCE, BUILD, OPERATE AND TRANSFER OF THE COUNTY HEADQUARTERS AND THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY BLOCK ON TENANCY – PURCHASE AGREEMENT	PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION	CGKK/PSA/001/2025 – 26	OPEN
2.	SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF AN INTEGRATED COUNTY REVENUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	FINANCE (Re-Advertisement)	CGKK/TD/ICT/002/2025 – 26	OPEN

Tender documents containing detailed information may be downloaded free of charge from the county website: www.kakamega.go.ke and PPIP portal www.tenders.go.ke. Complete tender documents MUST be submitted as per the requirements contained in the tender documents so as to be received **on or before Date and Time indicated in the Tender Document**. The tender documents must be paginated in the format (1, 2, 3, 4...).

Bidders who may experience challenges in accessing, downloading and submission of their tenders may contact our Supply Chain Office via supplychain@kakamega.go.ke.

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA



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