### October 16

Standard Newspaper | Hantiro Godana | 16th October 2014

## WHY GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO REGULATE RENT

Housing is one of the basic needs that human beings cannot do without. Nairobi may be rejoicing but its expenses deny Kenyans rights; right to limited working hours. Nairobians rarely rest; wake up at 4am to spend 4hours in jam to avoid the awful boss, struggle up to midnight to make extra cash. Be careful, nowadays if you struggle for extra cash you'll be arrested for loitering. The amount of rent paid in Nairobi is too much and still escalating at a very high rate. Imagine a student from a poor Turkana family with no relative in the city and because misfortunes never come singly, he or she misses accommodation in the University of Nairobi, where to? Hell? Or maybe take the plight of a jobless graduate and because he or she has been tarmacking in the city for long, settles for a job paying 20,000 p.m. What do you expect them do to meet their expenses? Read More

### October 19

Standard Newspaper | Peter Kamuri | 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014

## HOW TO LAND OR ACE INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS AND GET THAT JOB

There are many types of interviews. They include screening interviews, group interviews and behavioural interviews. An informational interview or informational conversation is a meeting where a potential job seeker seeks advice on their career, industry, and corporate culture of a potential future workplace. An employed professional learns about the job seeker and judges their professional potential and fit to the corporate culture, that way building their candidate pool for future hiring. Read More

### October 21

**Business Daily** | Geoffrey Irungu | 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014

## **RUTO SAYS LENDERS AGREED TO CUT MORTGAGE RATES**

Some banks have agreed to reduce mortgage rates to single digits in the next three months, Deputy President William Ruto reported on Tuesday. Mr Ruto said the current mortgage rates stood at 12-13 per cent which was a decline following earlier consultations between the government and the bankers. Read More

Business Daily | John Gachiri | 21st October 2014

## THIKA HOUSING FIRM EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR RAISING SH2.5BN

Real estate firm Thika Greens has extended Sh2.5 billion capital drive for the second phase of its development to the end of the year. Thika Greens is raising funds through the sale of shares in a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) that will develop houses, retirement homes and other buildings on 400 plots. Read More

## October 22

# **COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE GROWS FARMLAND VALUES**

Several landowners have placed farms on sale in recent months, with a sneak preview of pricing signalling rising values for upcountry real estate. Most of the farmland on offer is being sold in blocks, with intention to attract serious commercial agriculture investors, moving away from earlier patterns where land was sub-divided for housing estates. Read More

## **UASIN GISHU TO REBUILD HOUSING ESTATES**

The county will partner with private developers to redevelop Eldoret town, which currently has an estimated population of one million people. Some of the units will be allotted to county government staff. Demand for housing has intensified lately with tens of college and university campuses being set up in the town. Students are increasingly left to squeeze in shacks in the name of hostels while staff find themselves scrambling for the scarce decent accommodation. Read More

**Star Newspaper** | George Murage | 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

## NAIVASHA GETS FIRST GATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Naivasha is set to get its first gated real estate development, moving away from the now popular livein golf developments announced to date. The development, dubbed Italian Luxury Courts, will comprise 200 homes on a 40-acre parcel of land between Lake Naivasha and Mt Longonot. Read More

Star Newspaper | Mercy Gakii | 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014

## RENTALS SEEN AS ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION TO HOUSING DEFICIT

Housing experts are rethinking the notion of homeownership for all, saying this is impossible, hence the need to find alternative solutions. A conference held last week heard that it could be preferable to turn to decent rental housing as a stop-gap measure to the deficit. "Homeownership is still important and we have been in the forefront of calling for governments to lower interest rates. However, we must also seek new solutions to address our housing problems," said James Mugerwa, Shelter Afrique managing director. Read More

Star Newspaper | Constant Munda | 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

## **INSURER TO SPEND SH1.7BN ON HOTEL, COUNTRY HOMES**

CIC Group has set aside 34 per cent of its recently raised Sh5 billion bond cash for real estate developments, it said last week. The firm is looking to develop 712 acres of land in the outskirts of Nairobi, targeting commercial blocks and country houses. It will spend up to Sh1.7 billion raised through the debt note. The undeveloped land includes 512 acres in Kajiado county's Isinya area and 200 acres is in Kiambu county, next to the upcoming Tatu City, a city that will be privately managed. Read More

Star Newspaper | Richard Mungai | 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

# NAIROBI COUNTY ESTATES EVOLVE INTO SLUMS

Soaring rents, inadequate housing and high commute costs within Nairobi are spurring slums in the county-owned residential estates such as Ziwani, Muthurwa, Bahati, Jericho and Maringo. Tenants subletting the shacks – which are extensions to the original houses – say they have become an option as they are cheaper and close to the city centre. Read More

Star Newspaper | Kennedy Lesiew | 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

# LIFT ON LAND BAN ANTICIPATED TO SPUR REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS ACROSS UASIN GISHU COUNTY

The property market in Uasin Gishu county is expected to thrive once the ban on land transactions, which had constrained the business, is lifted fully by mid-November. The county government imposed the ban last December to take stock of public land, some of which had been grabbed. Dealers had cried foul over the freeze and are now upbeat that business will be revived. Read More