

## Business

June 14, 2023  
NEO SENOKO

3 MIN READ

## Frazer Solar says its claim against Lesotho exceeds M1 billion



Former minister in PM's office, Temeki Tšolo

## Story Highlights

- The company accuses the government of failing to carry out the financial arrangement for the project
- Frazer Solar further claims that Lesotho did not participate in the legal process

## Hot Topics

- 1 Ex tobacco worker continues to fight LRA for refund
- 2 WFP requires over M18 billion to complete its strategic plan in Lesotho
- 3 Medical cannabis manufacturer expands output capacity

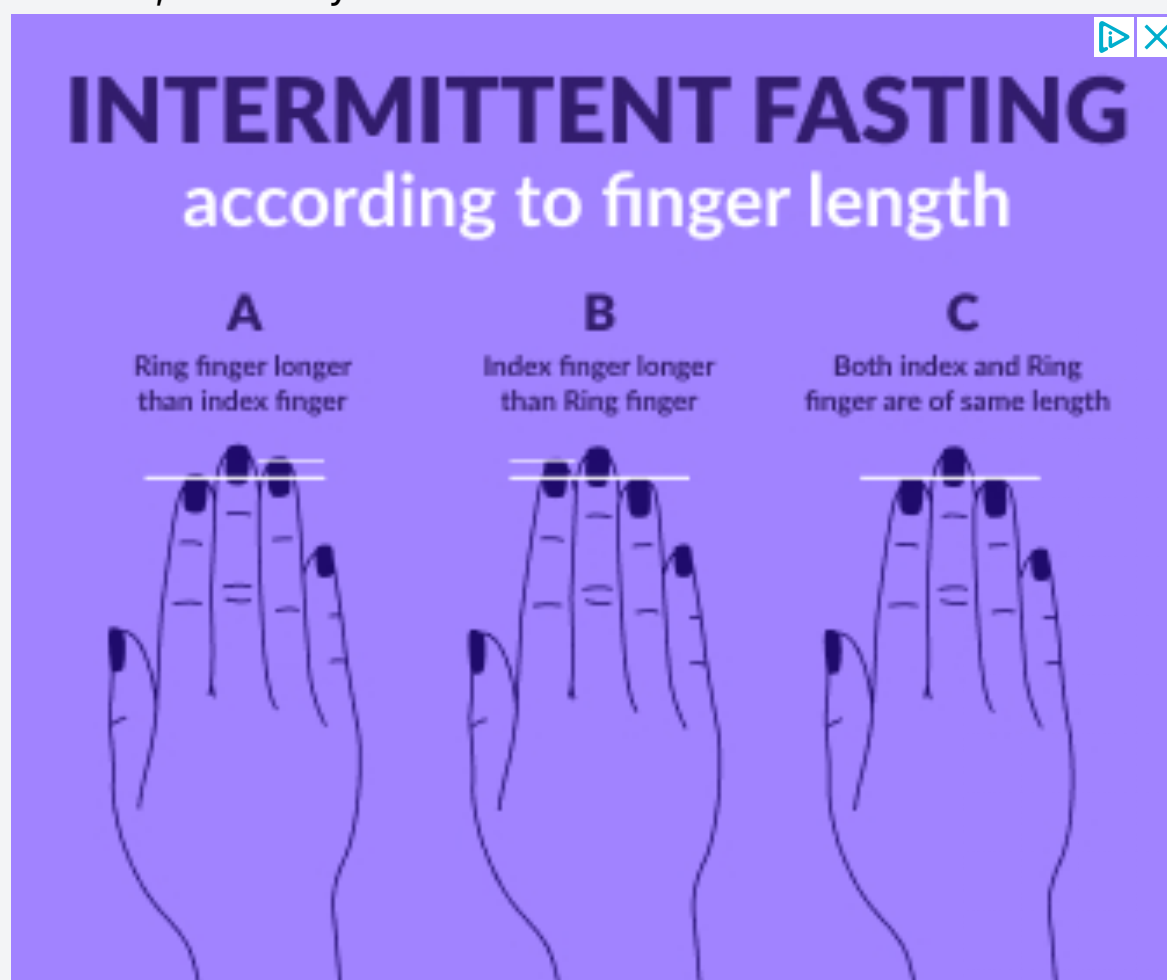
## Metro Audio Articles

Catch our weekly audio news daily only on Metro Radio Podcast News.

listen now

INTERMITTENT FASTING  
according to finger length**A**  
Ring finger  
longer than  
index finger**B**  
Index finger  
longer than  
Ring finger**C**  
Both index  
and Ring  
finger are of  
same length

THE German solar energy company, Frazer Solar says the total amount of their claim against the Lesotho government, including interest, currently exceeds M1 billion.



The energy firm, which is accusing the Lesotho government of a number of contractual violations pertaining to a renewable energy project signed in 2018, sees this as a significant legal development.

The company previously disclosed that it signed a contract in 2018 to deliver up to 40 000 solar water heating systems, 20 megawatts of photovoltaic power, one million LED lights, and 35 000 solar lanterns to the government of Lesotho.

While the German government agreed to fund the scheme, according to Frazer Solar, Lesotho failed to carry out the financial arrangement for the project, and the government did not participate in the legal process.

A former cabinet minister in Motsoahae Thabane's administration, Temeki Tšolo, allegedly signed the aforementioned agreement on behalf of the Lesotho government.

In response to the alleged contractual violations, an independent arbitrator awarded Frazer Solar 50 million pounds in damages in January 2020.

The company's lawyers then started a global enforcement action against allegations made by Lesotho.

The firm has disclosed that the South African Ministry of Justice has backed a crucial argument in this protracted litigation, which is still pending.

"As Frazer Solar stated publicly in October 2021, the government of Lesotho filed its rescission application after the deadline. Therefore, it is not valid. Now, in June 2023, the South African Ministry of Justice agrees with our interpretation of the time bar issue. With interest accruing daily at current exchange rates, our claim now exceeds M1 billion.

"Frazer Solar will keep pursuing all legal means in any jurisdiction in the world until we recover every penny of what we are rightfully owed," a Frazer Solar spokesperson said this week.

A South African high court heard the government of Lesotho's request to overturn the arbitration decision made in favour of Frazer Solar from June 6 to June 8. Frazer Solar contends that the government of Lesotho's legal challenge was filed too late, after the established dateline, so it should not be allowed, despite the fact that attorneys submitted thorough justifications for their individual cases.

This would imply that the arbitral award given to the company is unaltered.

## Enjoy our daily newsletter from today

Access exclusive newsletters, along with previews of new media releases.

Enter your email address

Follow Us Now

On the other hand, the government contends that Tšolo, who was at the time the minister in the Prime Minister's office, was not duly entitled to sign the supply agreement in September 2018. Everything that happened after that would be void, including the arbitration award itself and the time for filing a legal appeal.

As a result, the arbitration decision would need to be quashed.

The supply agreement for the said renewable energy project had previously been found unlawful, unconstitutional, and invalid by the High Court of Lesotho, which was reviewed and overturned.

Frazer Solar, however, viewed the decision as irrelevant after it was made because it already had a legally binding, worldwide-enforceable verdict from an impartial arbitrator. The decision in this case was reserved, and when it is made, an update will be given.

## Share the story

Facebook

Twitter



## Cheap Business Class Flights

Ad Business Class Flights

Open

METRO  
WEATHER  
FORECAST2°C  
overcast clouds

Thu

3°C  
-1°C

Fri

8°C  
-2°C

Sat

13°C  
1°C

## Business Directory

Business Directory

## Contact Us

sales@maserumetro.com  
editor@maserumetro.com  
+266 62005494

## Follow Us

Facebook  
Twitter  
instagram  
whatsapp  
Telegram  
Youtube

## Terms Of Use

Ads Booking Docket  
Metro Digital  
Rate Cards  
Terms of services

## About Us

Metro Profile  
Distribution Enquiry  
DonateGet Lesotho's fair-minded Opinion and wholesome News.  
What Matters to You, Matters to Us – Everyday!

© 2023 | Metro Newspaper(PTY) LTD | Metro News

## Tailored for you



BY NEO SENOKO

WFP requires over M18 billion to complete its strategic plan in Lesotho

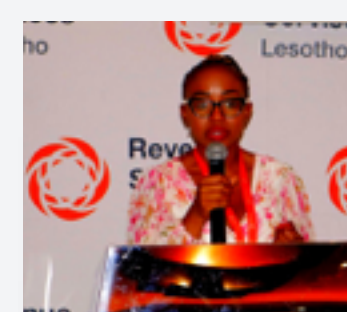
Jun,20



BY NEO SENOKO

Govt makes big promises about textile, apparel industries

Jun,27



BY NEO SENOKO

RSL introduces technologies to stimulate economic growth

Jun,28

**LESANA**  
We offer loans of up to R10,000 to civil servants, and also solar employees of parastatals.  
**CONTACT US NOW**  
METRO Phone: 22801180  
HARTING Phone: 22701180

**WE CAN COME TO YOU!**  
Visit us or one of our branches at 4010 to 40200 near available to employees of private companies.  
**SAFARI Payday**  
Advance Loans from R100 to R10000 now available to employees of private companies.  
**CONTACT US NOW**  
METRO Phone: 22701180  
GADIVA'S NEW Phone: 22901100  
www.besana.co.za

**Metro**  
News you can use  
MOTOR NEWS: ELI SADC applied Lesotho for free elections -4  
MOTOR NEWS: Politicians accused of fueling farm wars -5  
MOTOR NEWS: Lesotho's new government -10

**NEW COALITION GOVT PROMISES ECONOMIC FREEDOM**  
Mokhele, Molelele and Mochobane sign partnership to form new government  
The three partners shall lead Lesotho with a total of 85 seats in parliament  
www.metro.co.za

ISSUE: 2222

NEW COALITION GOVT  
PROMISES ECONOMIC  
FREEDOM

Published: Oct,12

Get your copy