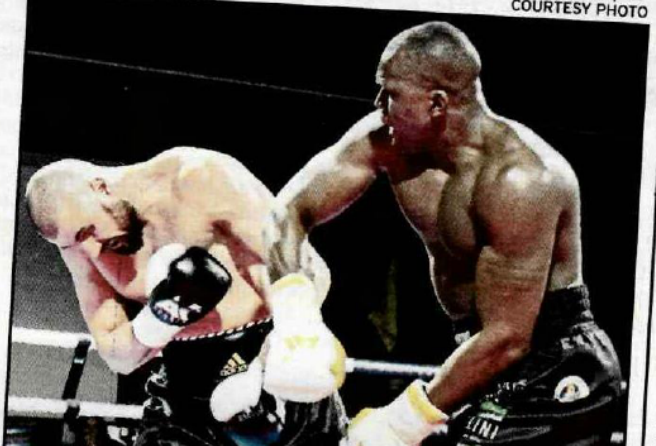
KYAKONYE EARNS SH148M

By Fred Kisekka

COURTESY PHOTO



Kyakonye (R) landing one of his hard punches on Dautovic

Uganda's Netherlands-based heavyweight boxer Willy "The Ring Tiger" Kyakonye delivered another dominant performance after knocking out Bosnia and Herzegovina's Semir Dautovic, earning a $40,000 (sh148m) purse on top of elevating to the world heavyweight rankings.

The two fighters squared off at the iconic Sport Centrum Arena in Rijswijk, Netherlands, where the Ugandan hard puncher proved too powerful for his opponent.

Kyakonye wasted no time asserting his dominance, sending Dautovic to the canvas twice in the opening two rounds before he sent the Bosnian wobbling in the ropes in the third round.

Their blockbuster 10 round contest only lasted three rounds leaving bout referee, Netherland's Eric van den Heuvel with no option but to stop it.

Kyakonye's emphatic third-round stoppage of Dautovic is his 12th career knockout of his 13-0-0 ring record.

The former Uganda national boxing team, the bomber's assassin remains unbeaten in the paid ranks since his debut in 2017.

His latest victory also propelled Kyakonye up the global ladder, improving his current world ranking from 57th to 39th in the division, a significant milestone that has opened him the door to mega fights against top contenders in the division.

"I am more than happy for this deserved victory. This win is not only for me and my family but also for the entire home country, the Dutch citizens, my fans and my management team, BAV Frisia," Kyakonye told Vision Sport.

"I declared 2026 as my year. After this fight I will soon return to the ring, probably in April or May, to challenge for the WBC Silver world heavyweight title. See you soon," he added." Despite his growing financial muscle, the Ugandan heavyweight says his main focus remains winning a major world title. "Through my manager Aart Boendermaker, I have received offers for big-money fights, but you have to be calculative. You may end up losing everything if you prioritise money over your career and ambitions," Kyakonye explained.