



# MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

## Election Manifesto 2013

*A New Zimbabwe — The Time is Now!*







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## Part I: Introduction Message from the President

This election represents a crossroads for our country. Over three decades ago, we engaged in a liberation struggle and were successful. Since then, we have experienced political and economic turmoil, international isolation, and severe hardships for our families because of unemployment, unprecedented hyperinflation, high cost of living, lack of food and decline in healthcare and education services. Zimbabweans deserve better. Zimbabweans deserve a government that cares and works for the people.



Unemployment remains the biggest challenge facing our country today. Our young people graduating from high school, colleges and universities want jobs. Yet businesses have been shutting down over the years and emigrating to more competitive economic environments. An MDC government will ensure Zimbabwe is open for business. We will responsibly align and manage our nation's resources to meet this challenge and restore Zimbabwe's prosperity.

You and I know we have come a long way since the early days of the party in 1999. We have gone through many trials and tribulations. We have lost some of our cadres along the way; limbs have been broken, livelihoods destroyed and houses have been burnt down. Many of us, including myself, have suffered grave personal losses. But what defines us is our resilience and our ability to see opportunity in the face of adversity. We will never forget the sacrifices that have been made. It is our historic mission to meet the demands of the present generation, to fulfil the dreams of our cadres who are no longer with us and the aspirations of generations that will come after us.

You will recall that one of our founding objectives was to change the Lancaster House Constitution and replace it with a new, people-driven and democratic constitution. This year marked a historic moment when the people of Zimbabwe overwhelmingly voted for a new constitution. As the Chairperson of the National Constitutional Assembly at its formation, I am humbled by the achievement of this landmark moment in our nation's history. But, fellow citizens, now that we have the new Constitution, we must convert the stated rules and principles into reality. You can only trust those



who championed the Constitution to make it work and you know that it was the MDC that fought hard and drove the constitution-making process. As leader of Government, I will take the lead in defending the Constitution and making it work for the people of Zimbabwe.

The MDC will work for the people, all the people, regardless of race, gender, religion, ethnic affiliation or political party. By joining together we can build a better future. The MDC is the future. It's the people who make Zimbabwe great and an MDC government will partner with the people to return Zimbabwe to greatness and its rightful place in the family of nations. We are faithful and obedient sons and daughters of the Almighty God under whose wise guidance and stewardship this country will find its way to the top again.

We are a party of excellence and our pledge is to improve the quality of life for every Zimbabwean.

The time is now for a new Zimbabwe.

May God bless you all.

Morgan Tsvangirai  
President



# Why the Movement for Democratic Change was Formed

The MDC was founded in 1999 to transform the culture of governance and management of the economy from a system of repression and corruption, to one that is based on social justice, accountability, transparency, openness, honesty, and efficiency. It was evident that the people of Zimbabwe wanted a government that cared for and was accountable to them. Government had become arrogant, corrupt, and repressive against the citizens. It did not care enough for the people.

Following independence in 1980, the political system in Zimbabwe moved towards centralisation of power in the hands of the executive. Under Robert Mugabe and ZANU PF, the political system became openly dictatorial with every arm of the state under the direct control of the presidency. Under such a system, opposition politics was tantamount to treason and the state became an instrument to perpetuate rule by one party and one person. The people of Zimbabwe have endured this for more than 30 years. Everyone is tired and wants change.

Under the stewardship of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU), a broad-based coalition of churches, women's groups, a constitutional movement led by the NCA, student unions, and civil society organisations headed the formation of the MDC in 1999. The desire for an open and democratic society, accountability, respect for fundamental human rights and the need for a new constitution began to grow as the Mugabe regime continued to rule with brutality and oppression. At the National Working People's Convention in February 1999, the broad coalition identified the challenges facing Zimbabwe and decided on the formation of a political party to challenge ZANU PF's hegemony.

The MDC was formed in direct response to the needs and expectations of the people of Zimbabwe regarding better governance. They yearned for change and they created the MDC as the change agent. From its inception, the MDC has campaigned on a foundation of respect for human rights and freedom from fear through accountable government, job growth, stronger health services and better education. The party was created to promote and protect citizens rights; to promote a government based on constitutionalism and to manage the economy fairly and efficiently, ensuring just and equitable distribution of resources. The MDC is a party of excellence that cares for the people of Zimbabwe.

## MDC Ideology

The MDC is a social democratic party committed to serving all citizens through a transparent and accountable government respecting the rule of law, combatting corruption, and promoting a modern, inclusive, and socially just economy.

## MDC Vision for Zimbabwe

A modern, healthy, happy, functional, integrated, democratic, fair and prosperous society that takes pride in leaving no one behind.



## MDC Core Values

The MDC is guided by a set of core values which are freedom, social justice, equality, fairness, solidarity, liberty, transparency and accountability.

## MDC Guiding Principles

The political philosophy of the MDC is driven by the following principles:

- Uplifting the Economy
- Defending the Constitution
- Reintegrating Zimbabwe into the International Community
- Devolving Power to the Local Level
- Governing with the People
- Social Justice

## Commitment to Good Governance

The MDC will commit to creating and maintaining a listening state and a government responsive to the needs of the people. The MDC government will uphold and defend the Constitution and protect the rights of all citizens. The MDC government will commit to combatting corruption, respecting the rule of law, protecting human rights and holding government officials accountable for their actions.



## The MDC Forms an Inclusive Government and Brings Hope

The MDC formed the Inclusive Government with other parties in 2009 because it cared for the people of Zimbabwe and had observed that the political, economic and social condition of the people was extremely desperate. The aim was to restore hope where despair ruled. The risk of being tainted was recognised but the party put the people first and formed the Inclusive Government with its erstwhile opponents.

*Above all, the MDC's greatest achievement has been the restoration of hope among the people of Zimbabwe.*

After the MDC had been denied outright victory in the March 2008 election and the violence that marred the June 27 run-off election SADC-mediation led to the formation of an Inclusive Government. The strategic decision to form the Inclusive Government allowed the MDC to stem the steep economic decline, reduce the abuse of power, and begin the change towards a free, democratic Zimbabwe. Although the power-sharing solution was not what the Party had envisioned, the situation permitted the MDC to successfully deliver positive change by stabilising the economy and creating a new people-centred constitution—achievements, which could not have been accomplished outside of government. Since forming the Inclusive Government, the MDC has brought a number of successes, including:

- 4 years of economic growth (following 10 years of economic contraction)
- Reduction of inflation from 231 million per cent to less than 10%
- Adoption of a multi-currency system stabilising the economy
- Improved electricity
- Improved liquid fuel supplies
- Restored normalcy to the banking sector
- A new constitution, including presidential term limits
- Improved access to basic commodities
- Improved access to health care
- Books to our schools and resuscitation to a collapsed education system
- Expanded and improved major roads
- Begun the process of reengaging the international community
- Expanded voting rights
- Restoration of citizenship to previously disenfranchised Zimbabweans

Above all, the MDC's greatest achievement has been the restoration of hope among the people of Zimbabwe; the realisation that it is possible to have a prosperous Zimbabwe. The MDC envisions a new Zimbabwe.







## Executive Summary

The Movement for Democratic Change 2013 Election Manifesto is a summary of our plan to transform Zimbabwe into a modern, healthy, happy, functional, integrated, democratic and prosperous society that takes pride in leaving no one behind. This manifesto is a reflection of the commitment to our ideology, core values, and guiding principles that make up the foundation of our comprehensive policy platform outlined in the MDC Agenda for Real Transformation (ART).

The MDC party recognizes that the people of Zimbabwe are suffering. We know that the solution lies in revitalising and transforming our economy. The MDC economic plan, presented in our JUICE strategy (Jobs, Upliftment, Investment Capital, Environment) , will elevate Zimbabwe into a stable, growing and inclusive economy based on the rule of law. The MDC plan is aimed at uplifting all citizens in all corners of the country and will create 1 million jobs by 2018 and a \$100 billion economy by 2040. We will, from our first day in office, mobilise financial and technical support to kick-start our economy.

We will commit to supporting entrepreneurship, agricultural productivity and re-industrialization through cluster-based development. We are blessed with beautiful and fertile land that must be cultivated and responsibly managed to ensure it provides for future generations. The MDC government will clean up the diamond trade to ensure revenue is used to benefit all the people rather than the political elite. Zimbabwe will again be an active and respected participant in the African economic and political community and the community of nations.

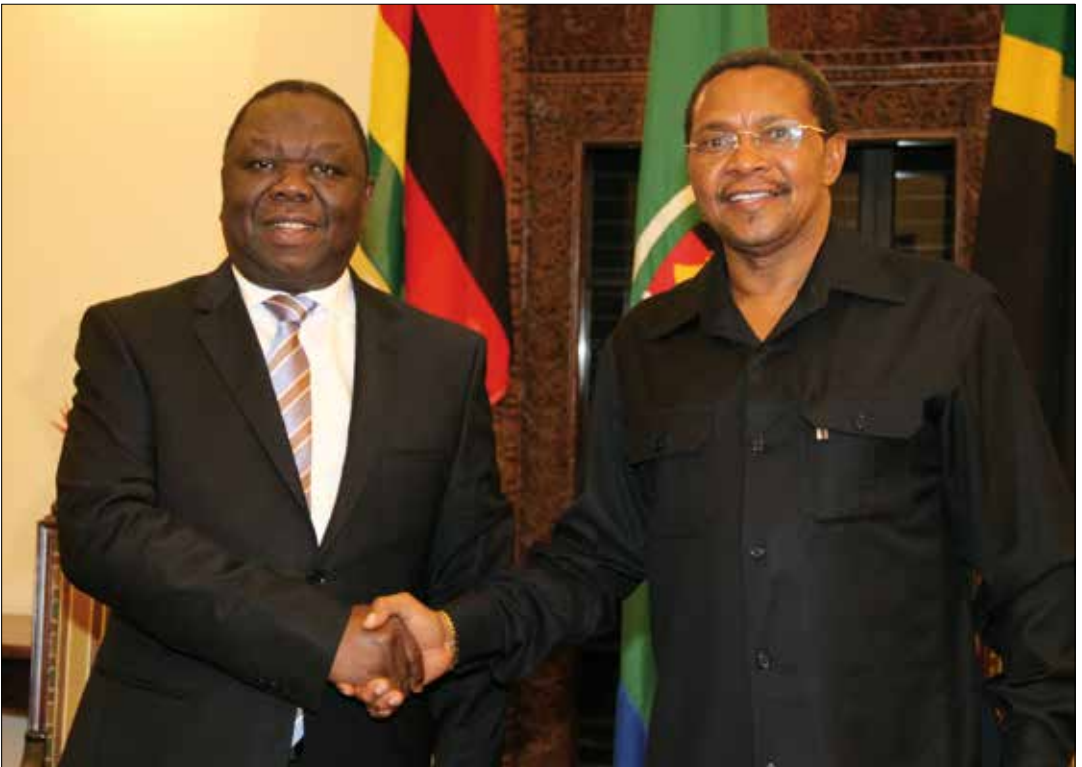
We will further prioritise the rebuilding of our failing infrastructure. We will generate the energy needed to power our homes and businesses. We will repair and expand our dilapidated road system to improve road safety and market access. We will clean up the corrupt practices that have robbed our country of the money we need to provide social services to the people. We will empower local communities by devolving authority and resources to the local level. We fought for devolution and it is now a cardinal principle of the new Constitution and we are committed to making sure it works for the people.

*MDC Vision for Zimbabwe:  
A modern, healthy, happy, fair and functional,  
integrated, democratic and prosperous society that takes  
pride in leaving no one behind.*



Our families deserve better healthcare and education. We believe a healthy and educated people is the foundation for a prosperous and happy nation. When we formed the Inclusive Government in 2009, health-care and education services were in a state of collapse. We resuscitated these services in a constrained environment but there is more we can do with exclusive authority to govern and implement our policies.

The MDC believes peace and political stability are the absolute cornerstones of the construction of a viable state. We will create this environment for our society by upholding the rule of law and defending the principles of freedom and democracy. For too long our citizens have lived in fear of their government and Security Services. It is time to remove politics and greed from the agenda of those sworn to protect us. We will stop the culture of impunity and in its place promote a culture of accountability. We will fully embrace constitutionalism as the cardinal principle that will define our Government and its relationship with the people. We pledge to defend the new Constitution that we collectively fought for and achieved this year. Now that we have adopted it, we must make it work.



*Prime Minister Tsvangirai greets Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete*





## First 100 Days in Government

Recognising the critical importance of re-establishing a trustworthy, effective, and accountable government, the MDC will initiate a series of policy actions designed to jumpstart our economic plan and government service provision. These critical first actions will establish a foundation on which our complete agenda will be launched. Successfully implementing this plan will bring rapid, measureable results and quickly demonstrate our ability to respond to the immediate needs of the people. Within the first 100 days of office, President Morgan Tsvangirai and the MDC will enact key policy objectives, including:

### Economy

- Convene a local stakeholder consultative conference on the economy
- Review and modernise business and laws to increase ease of doing business
- Convene an international conference to mobilize financial support for economic reconstruction
- Initiate concrete steps to resolve Zimbabwe's external debt overhang
- Re-engage international financial institutions to open lines of credit
- Conduct a review of all laws and public policies inhibiting legitimate investment
- Establish a transparent process of revenue collection from diamonds and other national resources
- Establish the Land Commission in compliance with the new constitution
- Create a Sovereign Wealth Fund and Equalisation Fund
- Initiate a programme for the return of skilled Zimbabweans from the Diaspora





## Infrastructure

- Create tax incentives and a Housing Fund for low income housing development
- Introduce the Energy Management Act to address energy and electricity shortages
- Introduce a National Road Network Development and Maintenance Plan

## Social Services

- Introduce a harmonised Labour Act to protect worker's rights and employment conditions
- Introduce a facility to compensate pensioners and depositors
- Unfreeze the hiring of nurses
- Review working conditions, including salaries and wages, for all civil servants
- Introduce a law ensuring universal free basic education
- Introduce a law ensuring universal free basic and emergency health services
- Reintroduce student loans and grants in all tertiary educational institutions
- Depoliticise food assistance

## Governance, Rights and Interests

An MDC will fully implement the new constitution including:

- Establish the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission
- Establish the National Prosecuting Authority and appoint a new Attorney General
- Establish the Independent Complaints Commission
- Bring back the institution of the executive mayor
- Establish the Gender Commission
- Decentralise and equip the Registrar General's Office
- Implement mechanisms to guarantee the right of the Diaspora to vote
- Introduce and enforce a policy on asset disclosure for public officials
- Strengthen all accountability institutions (human rights and anti-corruption commissions)
- Repeal undemocratic laws, including POSA and AIPPA
- Free the media airwaves to allow more radio and television channels
- Review the boards of all state media entities, including ZBC
- Promote self-regulation of the media
- Initiate a programme for the return of refugees

## Security

- Disband the Joint Operations Command and replace it with an accountable National Security Council
- Review and improve the conditions of service for members of the Security Services
- Establish and enforce a Code of Conduct for all Security Service members
- Establish a merit-based promotion system within the Security Services



## Part II: A Stable, Growing, and Inclusive Economy

A dynamic, modern economy to uplift our citizens

In the years following economic collapse, Zimbabwe has suffered from significant deindustrialization. Once the regional industrial and distribution hub, Zimbabwe now struggles to provide jobs for even 10% of its people. Establishing macro-economic stability is imperative to addressing unemployment challenges facing our country. The MDC economic plan JUICE is our strategy to create jobs and build a strong, modern economy that is financially and environmentally sustainable where growth is equally shared across the country and not by a privileged few. The MDC plan will produce an average of 8% economic growth over the next five years. This growth will enable better access to banking, resolution of our external debt, macro-economic stabilisation and allow us to reach our currency goals.

The MDC economic pillar is based on the central idea that wealth creation is a solid foundation for sustainable distribution. By creating a well-managed modern social market economy with entrepreneurship and business friendly policies, we will realise our goal of 1 million new jobs by 2018 and a \$100 billion economy by 2040. To reach this goal, the MDC will prioritise the following key policy objectives:

**JOBS:** The biggest challenge that confronts our economy today is unemployment. Millions of our youths face a bleak future because of joblessness, which is a result of the growth stagnation of our economy. The MDC policy – **Jobs, Upliftment, Investment Capital and the Environment (JUICE)** is our plan to create jobs and build a strong, growing economy that is financially and environmentally sustainable, where growth is evenly shared across the country and not by a privileged few. This citizen upliftment strategy is ‘people-centered’ focusing on entrepreneurship, job creation, rural transformation and poverty alleviation. The MDC is committed to working for you and improving the lives of all Zimbabweans.



The MDC's JUICE plan will:

- Create decent employment opportunities for all Zimbabweans
- Create an environment for citizens to acquire entrepreneurial and business skills
- Create a friendly environment for both domestic and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- Responsibly manage our financial markets
- Promote integration with regional global business markets
- Promote economic freedom and entrepreneurship
- Enable the government to provide effective social services – quality health and education
- Manage our foreign debt and develop an external debt resolution plan

*“The biggest challenge that confronts our economy today is unemployment.” - Morgan Tsvangirai, President MDC*

The MDC's JUICE plan will bring:

1. One Million new jobs by 2018
2. Economic growth of 8% per annum
3. Economic stability and low inflation
4. Support for small business
5. Normalized international relations
6. Transparent natural resource management
7. Decent wages for government workers
8. More electricity throughout the country
9. A rebuilt infrastructure
10. International investment into Zimbabwe

**Finance and Economic Affairs:** Before the MDC formed the Inclusive Government, irresponsible governance and political instability drove the economy into a downward spiral. In full leadership, the MDC will pursue a social market economy prioritizing the use of financial resources to grow the economy to the benefit of all Zimbabweans. An MDC government will ensure the economy accommodates every citizen, whether in the rural or urban areas or in the informal sector. To address the current challenges facing our economy, the MDC will:

- Increase access to credit
- Foster cluster based development
- Maintain our multiple currency regime through 2018
- Devolve resource management and decision making to the local communities
- Resuscitate companies and entities with potential to provide jobs
- Increase utilization of the workforce capacity
- Increase exports by re-engaging in the international economic system
- Foster entrepreneurship by strengthening the business enabling environment



## Part II: A Stable, Growing, and Inclusive Economy

A dynamic, modern economy to uplift our citizens

**Mines and Mineral Wealth:** Zimbabwe is blessed with immense natural resources. We must ensure these resources are used to the betterment of our economy and people. The MDC will create a Sovereign Wealth Fund and Equalisation Fund to broaden citizens' economic participation and ensure all citizens benefit from the responsible management of our natural resources. Corruption, mismanagement, and political patronage have diverted the vast majority of mining revenues away from the appropriate government authorities. Most notably, we have seen the nation's diamond revenues flow into the hands of a corrupt few. Mining and Mineral Development is a crucial element of our economic strategy and we will maximise the benefits of our resources.

- Establishing an Equalization Fund and Sovereign Wealth Fund managed by a transparent board accountable to the people through parliamentary oversight
- Ensuring the benefits of this wealth are realised in all regions of Zimbabwe
- Revisiting all mining agreements in which the government is engaged
- Creating spatial linkages to the sector
- Reviving the role of Fidelity
- Supporting SME gold production

*Since its inception, the MDC has believed access to land and the enhancement of agricultural productivity is central to our sustainable development and eradication of poverty.*

**Land Management and Administration:** Since its inception the MDC has believed access to land and the enhancement of agricultural productivity is central to our sustainable development and the eradication of poverty. Unfortunately, land has been a source of conflict, corruption, and abuse of power preventing the population from utilising the resource to their benefit. The MDC will implement a fair and equitable land policy to cultivate an efficient, just, and people-driven agro-economy by:

- Ensure equitable access to land for all irrespective race and gender
- Provide security of tenure for all land owners
- Restoration of forms of title or title deeds
- Establishing the constitutionally mandated Land Commission
- Enforce the one household, one farm policy
- Strengthen agricultural technical support and ensuring access to credit for farmers
- Full and adequate compensation for land acquisition
- Enforce a viable land tax system
- Conduct periodic land audits
- Manage land disputes and regulate land acquisition
- Restoration of a land market





**Rural Development and Transformation:** Poverty levels in rural areas remain a challenge to the upliftment of our citizens. Access to credit, quality and affordable health care, and infrastructure linking communities and local entrepreneurs to cities and markets must be strengthened for our rural citizens. The MDC will execute a cluster-based development approach by cultivating forward and backward linkages to create jobs, economic upliftment and ensure local communities benefit from local resources.



## Part II: A Stable, Growing, and Inclusive Economy

A dynamic, modern economy to uplift our citizens

**Agriculture Management and Development:** The MDC agriculture strategy is focused on increasing productivity. Output levels have begun to recovery only in limited sectors and at modest rates. An MDC government will emphasise policies that will increase productivity across all sectors and restore Zimbabwe to its breadbasket status. An MDC government will:

- Utilise modern technology to inform proper demarcation and land boundaries
- Establish a well-capitalised land/agriculture bank
- Invest in Research and Development for seed varieties
- Establish a meteorological early warning system for flooding and droughts
- Develop a zero tillage/drip irrigation system
- Establish an Agriculture Commodity Exchange to further decentralise markets
- Strengthen agriculture supporting infrastructure
- Invest in extension services to support yield management

**Food Security:** Despite fertile land and abundant natural resources, Zimbabwe is continuously forced to import food to feed our people. With responsible land and agriculture management, Zimbabwe will be food secure under MDC leadership. To achieve this goal, the MDC government will:

- Ensure fair prices without government manipulation
- Incentivise farmers to ensure adequate food crops
- Ensure agricultural commodities access external markets and comply with World Trade Organisation agreements
- De-politicise agriculture sector
- Create a productivity-driven business model aimed at achieving food security

**Industry and Commerce:** Zimbabwe experienced deindustrialisation that destroyed jobs and increased import dependency. To foster modernisation and industrialised growth, the MDC will create an enabling environment for sustainable and equitable economic growth and opportunity for all citizens by promoting private sector development in a socially responsible economy. To create industrial based growth, the MDC will:



- Reintegrate into the regional and international value chain and economic systems
- Provide marketing and distribution; business incubation; and expanding access to credit opportunities for entrepreneurs
- Review and modernise business laws to increase ease of business
- Attract re-capitalisation and industrial renewal to our cities and urban areas
- Provide fiscal and monetary incentives to promote SME development
- Promote value addition and broad-based beneficiation across all sectors



**Small and Medium Size Enterprises (SME) and Informal Sector Transition:** Zimbabweans have a history of creativity and entrepreneurship. As a result of the economic collapse and a lack of opportunities, many have ended up in the informal employment sector. An MDC government will focus on integrating the informal sector into the mainstream economy to increase productivity, incomes and better worker protections. To promote SME development the MDC will:

- Increase access to finance for entrepreneurs and SMEs
- Extending apprenticeship and work placement opportunities
- Strengthen ties between businesses and education/training providers
- Improve the organization of representation of workers in the informal sector
- Streamline the business registration and formalisation process

**Information Communication Technologies:** Zimbabwe lags behind most countries in the region on integrating Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) into our economy and government. We must aggressively expand our ICT infrastructure and incorporate ICT into our public and private sectors to create a modern workforce and competitive economy. To accomplish this goal, the MDC will:

- Increase ICT penetration in schools with a particular focus on rural communities
- Transition to e-government to improve efficiency in public service provision
- Invest in science and technology as a vehicle for high tech job creation





## Part II: A Stable, Growing, and Inclusive Economy

A dynamic, modern economy to uplift our citizens

**Tourism and Hospitality:** The MDC acknowledges the relevance and contribution of tourism to the economic and social well-being of the country. Zimbabwe is endowed with a beautiful climate and excellent tourist attractions including one of the Seven Wonders of the World – the Victoria Falls. However, due to political instability, dilapidated infrastructure, and economic mismanagement, tourism has collapsed. The country is not adequately protecting or regulating its tourism assets, including wildlife, to ensure sustainability and future viability. An MDC government will support the development of tourism as a key economic sector and strong driver of job creation by:

- Enhancing partnership with the private sector in the marketing of Zimbabwe
- Introducing a tourism development policies with tax incentives to revive tourism
- Improving accessibility and ease of movement for tourists

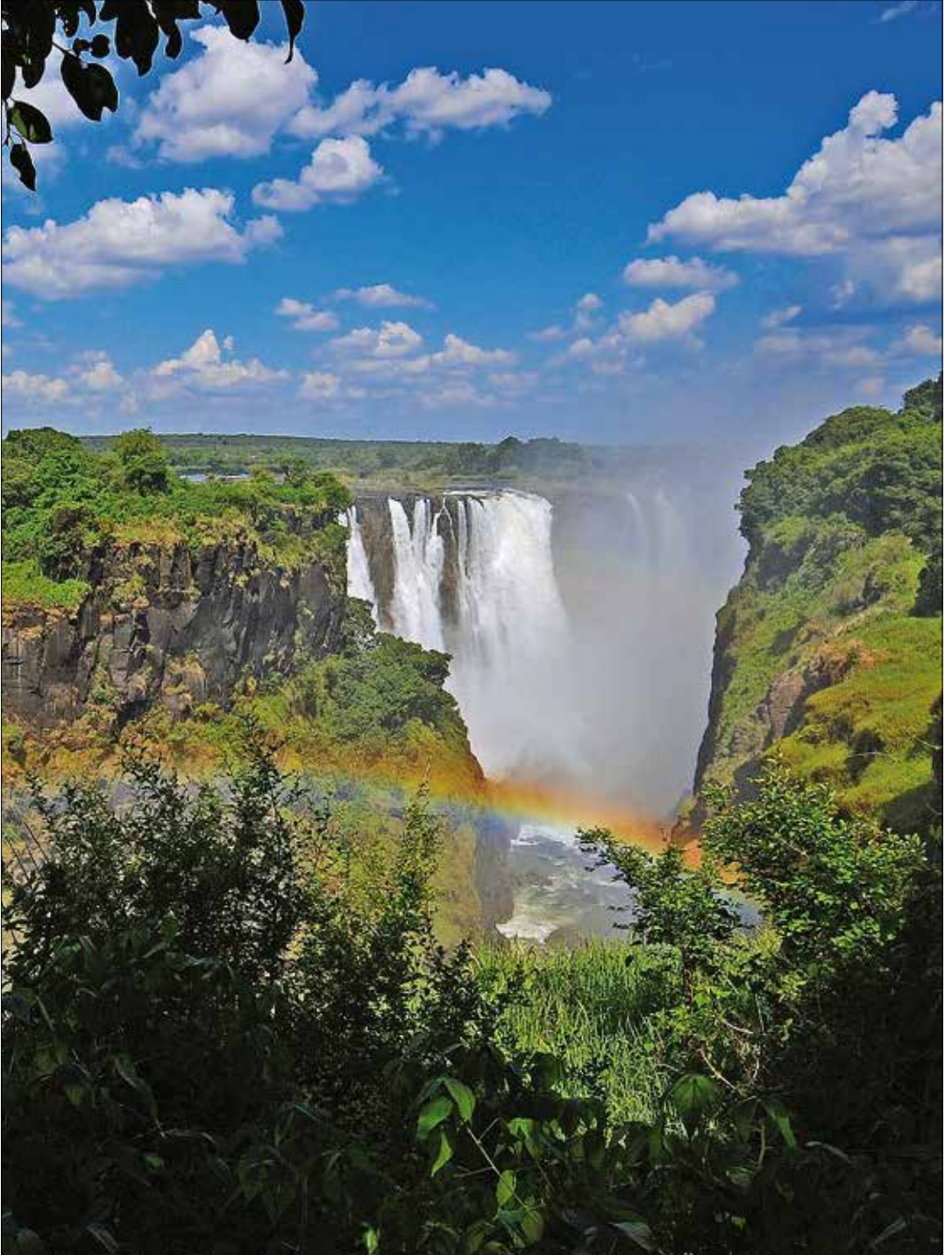
*Under MDC leadership, Zimbabwe will once again play a leading role in Africa and in the international community of nations.*

**International Affairs and Cooperation:** Violence and authoritarian rule have resulted in the country's political and economic isolation. In today's globalised world, no country can function in isolation. We acknowledge the important role SADC and the African Union have played in stabilizing our country. Under MDC leadership, Zimbabwe will once again play a leading role in Africa and in the international community of nations. To re-engage into the global community to the benefit of all Zimbabweans, the MDC will:

- Normalise our relations with the international community in a manner that protects and preserves the national interests of Zimbabwe
- Reposition Zimbabwe as “ready for business” via investment, trade and tourism
- Re-join the community of nations as responsible participants
- Ensure our diplomatic presence is properly aligned with national interests
- Re-engage the international financial community to secure strategic partnerships
- Demonstrate respect for international law, conventions, and treaties
- Establish Zimbabwe as a leader in advancing the values of freedom, democracy, and human rights throughout Africa
- Double our existing electricity generation to end outages across the country
- Expand the power grid to cover the rural communities
- Introduce the Energy Management Act to improve energy efficiency and affordability
- Invest in sustainable energy sources to power a modern, green economy







## Part III: A Robust and Modern Infrastructure

Paving the way to a brighter, more prosperous future

**Transportation:** The road network in Zimbabwe is in desperate need of repair and expansion. The MDC will foster public private partnerships to jointly engage in a robust initiative to return the transportation system to one that enables safe and efficient movement of goods. The MDC will:

- Rehabilitate existing paved roads and expand the paved network into more rural areas
- Devolve authority to the local level to ensure priorities are addressed more efficiently
- Introduce the National Roadwork Development and Maintenance Plan
- Establish a reliable, affordable, safe, efficient public transport system
- Improve road safety
- Rehabilitate and modernise the national railway
- Revamp and modernise the national air-line
- Re-establish Zimbabwe as a hub of regional and international air transportation



**Housing:** Zimbabwe has a housing shortage and is currently experiencing a 1.3 million-unit backlog. This inadequate provision of housing is unacceptable. The MDC was the driver in establishing access to affordable housing as a basic human right in the new Constitution. Creating a business and tax incentive system to address housing needs around the country will generate jobs throughout the construction sector and provide housing to those in need. To create this environment, an MDC government will:

- Expand access to credit for homeownership
- Guarantee conditions for private sector investment in housing
- Partner with the private sector to implement innovative approaches to provide housing to the needy
- Automate a National Housing waiting list
- Renovation or reconstruction of bachelor's quarters through urban renewal
- Obligate 2 million hectares of state and national land to housing provision
- Ensure devolution of authority to ensure local challenges are met with local solutions





**Water and Sanitation:** Following the collapse of the agriculture sector, urban migration created tremendous pressure on water and sanitation infrastructure. This pressure created water shortages and overloaded systems causing significant health risks such as lack of access to clean drinking water and water-borne diseases. Water inefficiencies also cause tremendous losses and drive up operational costs. To address these challenges and guarantee the provision of clean and affordable water, an MDC government will:

- Improve drainage and sewage networks to create a clean water system
- Ensure local officials have the authority and resources to meet local needs
- Solve the Matabeleland water problem once and for all through speedy finalisation of the Mtshabezi and the Zambezi water projects



## Part IV: Delivering Quality and Affordable Health Care

### Ensuring a healthy future for our children

Prior to MDC forming the Inclusive Government, the health system had suffered a complete collapse with citizens having no access to medicines, shortage of doctors and nurses due to the “brain drain” effect, the inability of the government to hire necessary medical personnel, and severely dilapidated hospitals and medical equipment. Zimbabwe must take care of its people. An MDC government will introduce an integrated Health and Social Security System to ensure a quality and affordable health delivery system. The MDC established access to basic and emergency health services as a basic human right in the Constitution and to meet this obligation an MDC government will:

- Introduce a national health care service and insurance system
- Ensure quality universal, maternal basic and emergency healthcare
- Provide free anti-retro viral medications and malaria prevention and treatment
- Unfreeze the hiring of nurses
- Attract and incentivise skilled specialised medical professionals to return to Zimbabwe
- Strengthen educational institutions preparing the next generation of medical professionals
- Launch a public awareness and education campaign on non-communicable diseases such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease





## Part V: Providing an Effective Education for All

Preparing the next generation of African leaders

*The MDC established access to basic and emergency health services as a basic human right in the Constitution.*

Prior to the MDC forming the Inclusive Government, the education system in Zimbabwe was under severe strain. Resources were scarce, teachers went unpaid and quit their jobs, and schools were in disrepair. Zimbabwe's culture and society deeply values education and this value must be reflected in our school system once again. To bring the educational system back to our societal expectation, the MDC will:

- Provide free basic education for all citizens in compliance with the Constitution
- Review working conditions and compensation for all teachers
- Restore professional status and dignity to the teaching profession
- Prioritise full access to education for the girl-child
- Improve the system for technical, vocational education training
- Reintroduce the grants and loans program for tertiary/university students
- Establish a system of bursaries and scholarships for disadvantaged students
- Investment in sport development in schools
- Establish a national language policy to promote and recognize indigenous languages



*Zimbabwe's culture and society deeply values education and this value must be reflected in our school system once again.*



## Part VI: Delivering Quality Social Services

Meeting the needs of the people through a more caring, effective, accountable, and transparent government

Following the economic collapse and subsequent lack of government revenue, as well as corruption, incompetence and abuse of power, the people of Zimbabwe have suffered through a full breakdown of government service provision. Social services, such as health, education, labour conditions, and local governance play a critical role in a functioning society and in creating a healthy, well trained, workforce protected from unfair or unsafe conditions. This workforce is an essential building block of a vibrant, modern economy that generates wealth and creates jobs.

**Social Security:** Following the economic meltdown, many Zimbabweans lost their pensions, social security or personal savings. The MDC is committed to alleviating this suffering and providing services to citizens in need. The MDC will:

- Establish a social grant to compensate pensioners for lost savings
- Reform the National Social Security Authority and require accountability for mismanagement, corruption, and abuse
- Create an unemployment benefit system
- Create a grant program to assist the disabled, elderly, orphaned children, and other vulnerable groups
- Ensure full compensation for pensions
- Demonetise savings lost in the hyper-inflation era

*Vulnerable Groups:*

**Special Needs and Disability:** People living with disabilities in Zimbabwe are not accounted for in terms of numbers and location as well as the forms of disability. In line with the new Constitution an MDC government will:

- Conduct a national audit of people living with disabilities by district and province
- Develop an early intervention service to screen disabilities in order to provide appropriate services for different forms of disability.
- Provide financial support through social security and welfare grants.
- Take measures to ensure people living with disabilities become self-reliant
- Protect persons with disabilities from all forms of exploitation, neglect and abuse
- Provide access to medical, psychological and functional treatment for people living with disabilities
- Provide people living with disabilities with state funded-education and training



**Orphans and Vulnerable Children:** At least 1 million children are orphaned in Zimbabwe. Violence and abuse of children has increased, with 60% of reported rape survivors being children, one in eight girls reporting being sexually harassed at school:

- Establish a National Child Protection and Safeguarding system that will respond to the social welfare needs of the most deprived and vulnerable children and families, especially the girl child.
- Support Community Care Workers and Volunteers through training so that they can complement government to intervene early to protect Vulnerable children in their Communities
- Provide financial support to person caring for vulnerable children through social security and welfare grants.
- Improve working partnership and collaboration with the private sector and civic society to protect children
- Reduce the ratio of social worker to child ratio from 1 : 50 000 in line with regional best practice so that care for the vulnerable citizens is improved



## Part VI: Delivering Quality Social Services

Meeting the needs of the people through a more caring, effective, accountable, and transparent government



**The Elderly:** The elderly in Zimbabwe constitute a significant part of our nation's vulnerable population, especially in rural areas. An MDC government will:

- Ensure that the elderly have reasonable care and assistance including health care as well as financial support through social security and welfare grants.
- Provide additional support to the elderly with the extra-burden to care for orphans

**Local Government:** The provincial and local government system in Zimbabwe has suffered from extensive politicization and lack of, or poor quality service delivery stemming from over-centralization of power by the Local Government Minister and uneven resource allocation and development. The MDC government will focus on improving service delivery and realigning authority by:

- Creating a zero-tolerance environment for corruption
- Introducing legislation outlining the devolution of authority to local governments
- Harmonising local government laws to conform to the new Constitution
- Prioritising the improvement of service delivery
- Reinstating the institution of the Executive Mayor
- Protecting the independence of non-partisan traditional leadership
- Re-introduce strict guidelines and standards on city and town planning

*The MDC will create a zero-tolerance environment for corruption.*





## Part VII: A 21st Century Labour Force

### Protecting fair wages and fair working conditions



Zimbabweans deserve a living wage. Workers in Zimbabwe too frequently are victims of political violence and abuse in the workplace. Impunity and lack of accountability perpetuate this abusive behaviour. The MDC is committed to ending this cruelty within the labour force and creating an environment in which a fair day's work is fairly compensated without fear of violence or mistreatment. To create a better working environment, the MDC will:

- Establish a Social Contract between the employee and employer in which the government plays an arbiter role in dispute resolution
- Equal opportunities, treatment, and pay for women and people with disabilities
- Harmonise labour laws with the new Constitution
- Protect the right of workers to strike
- Protect collective bargaining rights
- Introduce a simplified dispute resolution system
- Bring Zimbabwe's labour terms and conditions in line with international standards
- Fair conditions and reliable compensation for public servants
- Reform and decentralise the National Social Security Authority to improve worker welfare
- Improve workplace health and safety
- Build a Housing Insurance Fund through the creating a Pension Fund for civil servants
- Establish an Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) to support the temporarily unemployed



## Part VIII: Defending the People's Rights and Interests

A caring, effective, accountable, fair and transparent government  
committed to serving every citizen

The MDC was the driving force in the formation and adoption of the Constitution and is committed to its defence and full implementation. This historic document ensures the protection of the citizen's rights and guarantees each individual will live free from fear of his or her government. Over the last three decades the relationship between the government and the people disintegrated into one of predator and victim. This relationship must never again be a part of our society. The relationship between an MDC led government and the people will be based on trust, accountability, and transparency protected under the rule of law and guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and Constitution as the supreme law of the land.

**National Healing:** Following years of oppression and multiple human rights atrocities, including Gukurahundi, Operation Murambatsvina, Operation Makavhotera Papi, and other state-sponsored violence, the time has come to heal and work together to bring a brighter future for the children of Zimbabwe. To remember the victims of these atrocities while looking to the future, the MDC government will:



- Introduce a law to establish the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission in accordance with the Constitution
- Establish a compensation fund for victims and survivors of the atrocities
- Launch a respectful victim identification and reburial program
- Construct a national monument to memorialise victims
- Establish a Conflict Prevention Committee

**Constitution, Parliament, Justice, Legal Affairs:** Zimbabwe has suffered from extensive abuse of power at the hands of a few within the Executive manipulating the law with impunity. The MDC will govern transparently and in accordance with rule of law by:

- Increasing citizen participation in the Parliamentary process
- Conducting a review of the justice system
- Modernising the Parliament by strengthening the capacity of the portfolio committees and professional staff
- Establishing the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and appoint a new Attorney General
- Establishing the Independent Complaints Commission





**Gender and Women Empowerment:** The MDC is fully committed to gender equality and equity in all areas. An MDC government will promote the full participation of women in all spheres of society on the basis of equality with men. The party recognises that women have historically been disadvantaged by cultural, religious and societal norms, which must be eradicated. The MDC will pursue positive measures to ensure correct gender discrimination and imbalances built over time from past practices and policies. In line with the new Constitution an MDC government will:

- Establish an independent, well-resourced, functional and effective Gender Commission to execute its constitutional mandate
- Ensure that women have equal representation in all institutions and agencies of government at every level in line with the goal of achieving “50-50” representation
- Ensure that women have equal access to resources, including land
- Promote equal opportunities for women in political, economic and social spheres
- Enforce labour laws that ensure the protection of women at the workplace, including equal pay for equal work
- Strengthen deterrent laws that punish offenders who perpetrate gender-based violence, including domestic violence, sexual violence and politically-motivated violence against women
- Ensure that all laws, customs, traditions and cultural practices that infringe upon the rights of women are eradicated



**Youth Development:** Zimbabwe has a highly youthful population constituting approximately 53% percent of the total population and a delayed demographic transition. However, high unemployment means our youth remain weakly integrated into the mainstream economy. Further, we realise that over the years our youths have suffered both as victims and agents of political violence. In order to ensure that our youths are actively participating in the economy and play a more developmental role, an MDC government will:

- Depoliticise the Zimbabwe Youth Council and the Youth Development Fund
- Implement business development support programs for young entrepreneurs in partnership with the private sector
- Improve vocational training institutions to promote entrepreneurial development in order to broaden youth participation in the economy
- Increase investment in education at all levels for girls, adolescents and young females, both in formal and non-formal environments
- Implement programmes to rehabilitate youths abused as agents of political violence
- Strengthen youth participation in community and civic decision making
- Support youth leadership development programmes

*The MDC wants the Diaspora to be a part of rebuilding our country.*

**Diaspora Reintegration:** Approximately four million Zimbabweans have left the country because of political turmoil, the economic collapse or targeted disenfranchisement at the hands of Robert Mugabe and ZANU PF. To achieve reintegration of the Diaspora into Zimbabwean society, the MDC government will:

- Encourage inward investment
- Protect the right to dual citizenship
- Recruit individuals with needed skills into the civil service
- Facilitate money and technology transfer
- Promote policies for skills return
- Protect the right to vote for the Diaspora





## Part IX: A Security Service for All Citizens

Building a professional Security Service protecting all citizens with honour, integrity, and respect

Members of the Security Services have for too long been asked to perform their duties with outdated equipment and for little pay. Zimbabwe must have a well-equipped security service whose members receive reliable, competitive salaries and adequate training. The MDC government will instil respect for human rights and the rights of the citizens while ensuring protection for the people rather than the political party by:

- Exercising Parliamentary oversight of the Central Intelligence Organization
- Establish a National Security Council to coordinate security related actions
- Requiring and enforce a Code of Conduct for all service members
- Introducing a citizen protection law in accordance with the Constitution
- Re-building a relationship based on mutual respect between the citizens and members of the Security Services



## Part X: Conclusion

The Movement for Democratic Change has a comprehensive plan to give your children back their future. We will unite the people and govern responsibly. We will re-engage in the international community and bring back investment and create 1 million jobs by 2018. We will ensure all Zimbabweans benefit from the country's natural resources. We will invest in infrastructure so you can build your business. We will rebuild our schools and hospitals to ensure your children have a brighter and healthier future. We will remove the people's fear from government and security services and the guarantee the protection of the rights of every citizen by committing to defend your Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Together, we can accomplish these goals and realise our vision for a better Zimbabwe. We ask for your vote for Morgan Tsvangirai and the MDC to bring HOPE back to Zimbabwe.

***A New Zimbabwe — The Time is Now!***





*The Time is Now!*

# *A New Zimbabwe The Time Is Now!*

## **Message to the People of Zimbabwe**

“This election represents a crossroads for our country. Over three decades ago, we engaged in a liberation struggle and were successful. Since then, we have experienced political and economic turmoil, international isolation, and severe hardships for our families because of unemployment, unprecedented hyperinflation, the high cost of living, lack of food, and decline in health care and education services. Zimbabweans deserve better. Zimbabweans deserve a government that cares and works for the people.”

*Morgan Tsvangirai*  
*President*



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