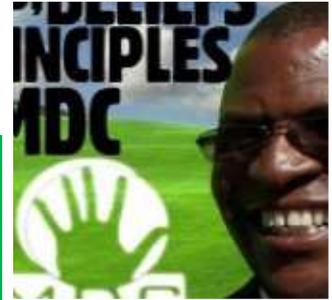


Movement for Democratic Change
2013 HARMONISED ELECTION

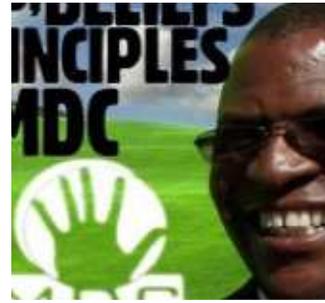
MANIFESTO

*-Actions for Devolution –
-Devolution is the new revolution!-*



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Foreword

This country needs to move away from centralization to devolution of power in which local communities determine their destiny. The sad past of this country can be blamed mainly on over concentration of power on one person in which policy and decision making excluded the generality of the citizenry. This can be changed!

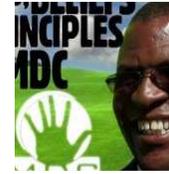
The future of Zimbabwe is in your hands now. You can no longer have an excuse of having a dysfunctional government taking lead in your lives. Movement for Democratic Change has argued consistently that the prosperity and well being of Zimbabweans lies not only in our ability to maintain high industrial productivity, but also being able to govern ourselves at community level. Control of our economic, social, political, legal and technological life at the lowest level of governance is the essence of devolution.

This 2013 Harmonised Election Manifesto is a set of interlocking policies that, when implemented together, make a real difference in people's lives over time. As MDC, we have never had a full chance to govern and show what we can do except for a few posts. Nonetheless, the few councillors, Members of Parliament, Ministers and Senators who have been part of the National Government Unity since 2009 have shown immense capacity to deliver. It is only your vote in this election that can elevate the party to full National, Provincial and Local Governance so that once more Zimbabweans can regain pride.

The policies outlined in this Manifesto are a window to what MDC can do. If you vote for us, you are choosing prosperity, wealth, jobs, affordable health, quality education, fairness, justice and effective participatory local governance. Do not condemn Zimbabwe and your own lives to another five years of misery and poverty, corruption, violence and unemployment by voting for other political parties.

The choice is yours. Make the right choice. Vote for President Welshman Ncube, MDC Green councilors, Members of Parliament and Senators in the 2013 Harmonized Elections. This is the time to make devolution work. Devolution is indeed the new revolution!

Regards,
Professor Welshman Ncube
Movement for Democratic Change



1. Our Vision as MDC

Our vision is that of being the largest principled, democratic party that develops and implements sustainable political and economic solutions to Zimbabwe.

2. Our Mission as MDC

We have a mission and a mandate to make Zimbabwe a leading African democracy, characterised by people centered social development and economic growth.

3. Introduction

We had a problem!

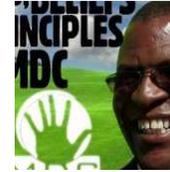
Due to an absence of **devolved** a system of government , excessive centralisation of power, high levels of corruption, politicisation of public institutions, awkward institutionalised policy and widespread bad governance - the past three decades have triggered the virtual collapse of our public service delivery. This has led to declining growth in industry, disempowerment of people and total disregard of the rule of law. With that, the nation has also experienced unsustainable levels of poverty, escalated unemployment rates, inequality and mass brain drain while the rift between people and government has widened.

What the MDC Government will do

The MDC proposes a national policy framework for reconstruction of Zimbabwe anchored on devolution of power. The MDC is convinced that devolution of power is the only way to foster prosperity in the country. It aims to ensure that local communities our national policy framework for sustainable economic transformation will eliminate the prevailing status quo and usher in popular social democratic values and principles. We shall focus on devolving governance and take government to the people so that citizens define their own economic, political and social destiny. We shall decentralize all leadership and administration from a concentrated structure so as to address issues of local employment, opportunities and ensure that civil service and public infrastructure works. This will include:

- Locally - driven economic productivity
- Value addition on the Zimbabwean commodities like diamonds and tobacco
- Proper utilisation of the country's natural resources
- Proper utilisation of the currently dormant or underutilized human capital
- Participative economic development
- Stabilisation of the country's international relations in order to create markets and attract international partners
- Creation of a stable environment and opportunities that attract foreign direct investment
- Reviving industry and national infrastructure for full productivity
- Creation of a user-friendly legal and political environment that allows free choice and pursuit of business goals, jobs, decent remuneration, and retirement benefits for labour
- Respect, acknowledgement and legal protection of private property rights
- Revitalisation and strengthening of industry as the basis for economic resuscitation.

- Motivation and utilisation of the Zimbabwean Diaspora to play a more defined and structured role in the promotion of Zimbabwe and national development
- Promotion of the use of all local languages as a means of promoting diverse thinking and ideologies as well as tapping latent skills from the previously-marginalised communities.



4. Our **ACTIONS** for Devolution and Sustainable National Transformation

Idle promises!

The previous government promised much but acted on very little. This is why Zimbabwe is now considered a poor country endowed with unlimited resources!. We are convinced that the absence of a devolved system of government is one of the key causes of the misery that this country has been facing.

*What MDC **ACTIONS** mean*

Access to resources and equity, public offices, power, free choices and justice. **C**ontrol of our destiny, welfare, local power and decision-making mechanisms, **T**ransformation of communities and strengthening livelihoods of all Zimbabweans. **I**nitiative for wealth, job creation, social security and equal opportunity. **O**rganization of all public institutions to effectively and efficiently deliver services. **N**ew Technologies for propelling the country into digital age through science, mathematics and engineering. **S**ustainability of the agenda on life, the habitat, the environment, and national policy programs.

The MDC **ACTIONS** is the practical way of making devolution work !

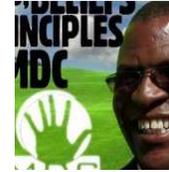
*Why the MDC wants **ACTIONS**!*

- For the last three decades, government has focused more on Harare at the expense of evenly-distributed or decentralized national development.
- An absence of devolution has attracted government and commercial activities and major corporations, good schools and better services to one or two cities at the expense of other regions.
- The so-called Growth Points have mainly been centres of retail business, social relaxation and pleasure through music functions, liquor outlets and butcheries rather than job creation and quality living.
- An absence of devolution of services and jobs has triggered congestion of human capital, traffic and services to the major towns and cities where citizens want to enjoy already existing structures of comfort and convenience.
- This has resulted in overcrowding, strained water and sewerage service delivery, poverty, prostitution, corruption, disease and crime.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

MDC will empower citizens through a devolution process where any ordinary citizen can have an input into the decisions affecting her or his life.

The MDC is the only party to call for genuine devolution of administrative functions and public services for the following advantages:



- Saving money and time by walking to the nearest government offices. Thus, no more taking time off to travel to a major city for documents like a passport, driver's license, birth certificates, road permits and liquor licences.
- Creation of trust and elimination of corruption and red-tape as local service providers connect with small numbers of stakeholders.
- Communities benefit from local resources and economic activities in their areas.
- Industrialisation of rural areas and creation of jobs by value addition of local raw material and natural resources.
- Promoting democratic, participatory and accountable exercise of political power.
- Fosters national unity by recognizing diversity.
- Creates opportunities of self-governance and self determination,
- Protects and promotes the interests and rights of minorities and marginalized communities.
- Spending decisions taken at local levels create more efficiency and impact because they come with practical relevance.
- Promotion of local languages and cultures as tools for social and economic development.
- Easy monitoring and evaluation of public service delivery processes.
- Through direct service provision to local structures, citizens will cease to become mere statistics as they will be considered real stakeholders with feelings.
- Leaders and public office bearers will become more accountable and efficient for fear of disappointing local stakeholders who wield power.

5. Our ACTIONS for Devolved Effective Local Governance

What the problem was

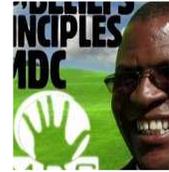
The main problem that has caused the local governance system to be dysfunctional in this country has been the absence of a devolved system of government. Local authorities and municipalities were not only controlled by an Act of Parliament but also subject to the whims of a vindictive Minister. This meant council could neither operate effectively, nor take good decisions on behalf of rate payers and residents. On many occasions, elected Councillors were fired; central government interfered needlessly with councils business resulting in service delivery paralysis. Dry taps, potholes, piles of garbage, communicable diseases and corruption are the hallmarks of Zimbabwe municipal governance today!

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

Through effective devolution as promoted by MDC in Chapter 14 of Zimbabwe's new constitution, our party shall encourage diverse stakeholder participation on major decisions while breaking the previously resented 'walls' between public leaders and citizens. This is how:

- Local communities will be encouraged to be part of local and provincial governance.
- There shall be power of self-determination as located and identified by locals through meaningful devolution of power to the locals.

- Reducing bureaucracy and red tape, through an efficient and effective decision making process guided by appropriate information technology.
- Regular stakeholder communication between the Local Authorities and the communities.
- There shall be public disaster and emergencies task forces at community level to address floods, bad weather and food shortages funded directly by the government through the National Emergency Fund.
- Local citizens shall be capacitated to state their local needs and priorities so that they coordinate with designated leaders through local and provincial governments.



6. MDC ACTIONS for Progressive Labour and Employment Practices

What the current challenges are

Because of the absence of a devolved system of government decision making on labor matters have not been swift and this has not been good for both the workers and the industry. A devolved system of government will ensure that the workplace is a comfortable home for all. The decimation of industry and commercial farming by ten years of bad governance, impunity and lack of rule of law resulted in high levels of unemployment. Moreover, the few Zimbabweans employed in the country are subjected to vindictive and unfair labour practices. This causes stress, absenteeism, exploitation and unfair labour practices. It is a labour market of underutilised skills and heavily skewed towards employers.

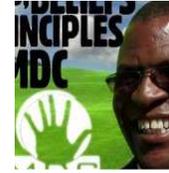
*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

A devolved, revived and vibrant labour market through vibrant industrialisation is an opportunity for an MDC government to:

- Ensure workers and employees are empowered to associate freely, assemble freely and negotiate market rates for their wages and salaries.
- Local and provincial governments will ensure labour best practices, workplace health and safety standards are adhered to.
- Local human skills capacity will be given priority in order for labour to take advantage of local resource exploitation.
- All investments will be encouraged to give priority to locals while workers will be encourage to take up shares in local companies.
- Collective bargaining, strikes and action will be managed effectively via tripartite social contracts.
- Collaboration between workers, local, provincial governments and employers will be encouraged especially on international workers days and other such commemorations.
- All efforts will be taken to ensure workers are remunerated fairly in order to balance the interests of workers, employers and investors especially in managing prevailing cost of living.

A new Social Security law will be put in place so that workers who retire maintain at least 30% access of their previous work benefits i.e. a livable pension and access to basic medical care. Every citizen over the age of sixty will be entitled to free public transport, subsidised water and electricity and also access to free basic medical care in public health institutions.

7. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Industrial Development



What the current challenges are

The absence of a devolved system of government has caused many companies to abandon operations in all cities for the capital. This has destroyed industrial production in many areas. Coupled with this has been the fact that Zimbabwe continues to be perceived as a high risk country, especially with regard to security of private property. The alternative potential engines of growth and development, micro-enterprise in the informal and small medium sector have been consistently challenged over the years while the policy framework to proactively support these key sectors has remained inconsistent. This has resulted in de-industrialisation, flight of capital and subdued foreign direct investment. In most cases, this 'flight of capital' is not only outward bound, but also directed towards Harare. Most towns and cities 'outside' Harare are ghost centres afflicted with abject poverty. Redcliff and Bulawayo are testimony to this.

MDC industrial ideology

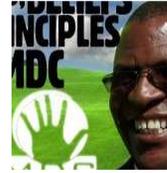
Any meaningful government onslaught on the disturbing levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment must be based inter-alia on a concerted increased, productivity and effective devolution program that lays emphasis on the re-industrialisation of Zimbabwe as an enduring base for employment creation, capital formation, increased capacity utilisation and the generation of income. An MDC Industrial Development Policy that is guided by devolution principles is particularly sensitive to and influences other critical policies of government including investment policy, fiscal and monetary policies, international relations and labour policies among others. In such an agenda, any policy should not be oblivious of the interests of the ordinary citizen. As such, the effective realignment of Zimbabwe's relations with trading partners, key global economies and international funding lines with a view to attracting and retaining Foreign Direct Investment and significant bilateral agreements for technology transfer will be necessary and conditional to effective re-industrialisation. Policy integration and consistency with international good governance practice will be key as guided from the standpoint of any ordinary citizen's voice that has been tapped through a devolved agenda.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

The following will therefore be part of the IMDC industrial development agenda:

- Deliberate government focus on devolved economic growth and increased productivity and fair national competitiveness for sustainable development.
- Deliberate strategy of halting capital flight from Bulawayo and other smaller towns, attracting and retaining new significant business investments and promoting industrial parity and growth.
- Effective regional lobby and championing collective SADC approach to economic development through a comprehensive SADC Regional Industrial Development Policy for increased information sharing, regional trade and increased investment.
- Effective industry strategies for stemming the decline in employment and increasing and sustaining employment opportunities.
- Developing effective policy support and promoting policy innovation through a sound, institutional Research and Development capacity for best practice benchmarking and the development of a unique, evidence-based industrial and economic model suitable for Zimbabwe.

- Improved access to and affordability and reliability of infrastructure services for industry firms and households
- Enhanced economic regional integration, cooperation and trade through expanded cross border trade infrastructure development- improved efficiency of all border entry points, new regional gateways and improved regional communication networks.
- Increased financial investments in infrastructure by lowering risks facing private investors.
- Promotion of value addition and local beneficiation as a way of ensuring maximum benefits from the natural resources.
- Develop increased knowledge and skills in technology and engineering with a view to installing, operating and maintaining 'hard' infrastructure networks in Zimbabwe.
- Applying devolution as an anchor of increased productivity and economic growth.
- Effective research and the values and principles of environmental sustainability, climate change and active pursuit of alternative, renewable energy; energy efficiency and conservation as well as product re-cycling.



8. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Growth-oriented Mining

What the current challenges are

The absence of a devolved system of government has seen local communities fail to benefit from their God given natural resources. For instance there are communities like the Chiadzwa who have plenty of diamonds but still live in abject poverty while other communities far way benefit from their natural resources. This is the sad story of many communities in Zimbabwe.

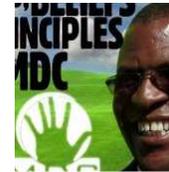
Mining is one of the top growth drivers and employer in Zimbabwe. Ordinarily, its revenue base must be able to drive the resurgence of Zimbabwe's crumbling infrastructure. The tragedy is that for the past ten years, corruption, greed, incompetence, policy intimidation and poor accountability have diverted mining proceeds to non fiscal silos. This means even if Zimbabwe is one of the top platinum and diamond producers in the world, its citizens will remain poor because only a few beneficiaries of political patronage are pocketing the proceeds. Moreover, such shady deals make it difficult to impose value addition, exploit resources on behalf of communities and channel benefits to developing local infrastructure. The pervasive talk of expropriation of mining shares in the name of indigenisation has worsened the situation.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

In order to drive an effective devolved growth-oriented mining program:

- The MDC will strive to ensure that proceeds from national minerals are invested in infrastructure development that is hinged on a devolved agenda to equitably distribute benefits and burdens at national level in any project.
- Mining companies will be encouraged to fight for tax credits and incentives based on their investment in local community education, health, social and infrastructure sectors.
- The Mines and Minerals Commission will be made to account for every transaction relating to mining extraction, marketing and sales of minerals in the interests of shared benefits from a devolved national plan.
- Treasury will have a firm hand on mineral sale proceeds so that there is transparency in all transactions.

- Policies will be put in place for mine employees to be empowered and decently remunerated and insured against major risks.
- Policies will be put in place for mine employees to be empowered and decently remunerated and insured against major risks.
- It will be critical to ensure that all mining investment is sustainable, so that mines remain within acceptable environmental management standards to preserve the ecological balance



9. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Sustainable Social Transformation

What the current challenges are

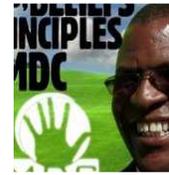
As a result of an over centralized system of government and at the peak of Zimbabwe's isolation and economic meltdown, government virtually abdicated its mandatory duty to ensure accessibility and affordability of basic social services to the ordinary citizen. The absolute failure to fulfill and protect the citizens' right to education, to health care, to housing and water manifested in the virtual collapse of social service delivery throughout Zimbabwe. The humanitarian crises of Zimbabwe have sometimes attracted comparison with nations at full scale war. Such harsh social conditions have struck fear in the hearts of Zimbabweans and exposed society to a life that is short and brutish. More significantly - the most vulnerable communities, the elderly, women, youth, children and those that ordinarily lack access to power and decision-making - have been reduced to woeful and undignified standards of livelihood and living.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

- Provision of quality, affordable and accessible education matching the current and future skills gap at local, provincial and national level.
- Accessible, quality and affordable health delivery system that assists in maintaining a healthy nation, reducing infant mortality rate and increasing general life expectancy.
- Competitive, quality, affordable and accessible recreation facilities and public parks and theatres to keep the youth engaged and away from the temptation of drugs and petty crimes.
- Promotion of state-wide competitive sports disciplines through proper and equitable resource allocation that benefits all communities, sound and stable administration and national teams' selection based on youth progression scheme and competency levels.
- Affordable, clean, quality and accessible water, clean air and related environments as well as sanitation facilities that assist to promote the good health, comfort and well-being of all citizens as guided by a devolved action plan.
- Promotion and utilisation of all of Zimbabwe's sixteen languages and cultures as tools for national cohesion and identity and opening doors of national benefits to the previously-marginalized societies who have been prejudiced through their political, regional, religious or tribal affiliations.

10. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Gender and Women's

Rights Practices



What the current challenges are

A quick look at women leaders in public institutions tells a sad story of the prevailing male domination within our public institutions and private corporations. Permanent secretaries in government, Ministers, Judges, Professors, Vice Chancellors, Corporate Directors and various other roles still tell a story of a Zimbabwe that has a long way to go in empowering women as breadwinners and real leaders that make decisions and recognized national policy. Despite the rulings in courts and legislative aspirations, women are treated as second class citizens. Stereotypes and paternalistic traditional attitudes reinforce this negative state of affairs. Over the past years, credible policies on women empowerment have been designed in terms of regional and international thresholds, yet more needs to be done, especially that there are guarantees of gender parity in our new constitution.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

There are four key areas of intervention where MDC has a keen interest in responding to prevailing needs, challenges and concerns of women. This will be done through legislation that provides a legal framework for participation of women in governance and economic prosperity. This will be done through ensuring that women achieve 50/50 status in all national processes.

- **Feminine Hygiene products**

Conceited efforts will be made for disadvantaged women and girls to access affordable, at best free kits to cater for personal hygiene needs at local level. This will be supported by regular sex education for high school children to enhance tolerance and appreciation of the feminine gender.

- **Empowerment**

Enforcement of constitutional provisions of women empowerment through equal opportunity will be another MDC priority, especially at community level. A legislatively designed and mandated quota system will be enforced in every conceivable sector.

- **Affirmative Action**

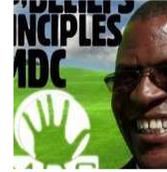
The MDC shall encourage women to explore social and business opportunities that have been previously dominated by men. There will be incentives for women to participate in areas like management, leadership, military, mining, agriculture and construction. There will also be some leeway to promote women in sports to represent the nation in all categories.

11. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Sustainable Green Environment

What the current challenges are

Zimbabwe is a signatory to hundreds of environment conventions and attends as many regional and international conferences. There is a battery of supportive legislation, private and public institutions in unison with these commitments. However, the decade of impunity, state sponsored disregard for environmental regulations, the disastrous land expropriation program and indiscriminate mining by political cronies has taken Zimbabweans backward. Desertification, deforestation, air/water pollution, 'poisoned' ground water, and siltation are

second nature. Corruption in urban municipalities resulted in collapse of service delivery manifested by garbage dumping and burst sewerage pipes while the dysfunctional ZESA has caused widespread abuse of woodlots. Clearly, local communities and local authorities are totally detached from the worldwide green movement.



*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

Green Policies

Zimbabwe has abundant natural resources that include wilderness, arable land, forests, minerals, and surface and ground water. Almost 15 per cent of Zimbabwe is under some form of statutory protection within the Parks and Wild Life Estate or State Land. Zimbabwe's forestry resources cover approximately 66 per cent of the total land area. The MDC realizes the need to drive the economy through a clear Green Policy that aligns communities with prevailing regional and global trends. With such a Green Policy, citizens can be assured of better quality water, conserved soil and clean air since pollution regulations will be enforced on human and corporate citizens. Every citizen will be encouraged to play a part in conserving the environment, maintain a pristine surrounding and manage waste. The MDC will work to protect total environment without undermining the local environmental conditions and traditional indigenous knowledge of sustaining natural resources. We will work with local communities, making sure those environmental hazards and human-induced hazards that may negatively affect the environment are prevented. MDC will implement devolved environmental by-laws to secure life supporting functions of the environment, reduce risks and vulnerability and seek to introduce local mechanisms that foster adaptability of natural systems for self recovery.

Sustainable renewable energy

Given its abundant sunshine, Zimbabwe should harness the sun to address electricity power and light deficits. MDC will encourage incentives and tax credits to private companies and homes that invest in long-term solar projects. Local, provincial and central government departments will be mandated to adopt and enforce solar-powered water heating and lighting.

Re-forestation

A devolved national tree planting program will be re-ignited and professionally monitored. Timber and paper consumers will be mandated to replenish or 'adopt' woodlots, while paper recycling will be encouraged by supporting investment in that sector.

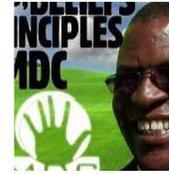
Urban Waste Management

The MDC will introduce a devolved feasible waste management system centering on households, educational institutions and corporations. A key strategy is that of structured, practical state of the art competency to collect refuse, dump or re-cycle waste in designated zones with a futuristic approach that is environmentally friendly and cost-effective. Communities shall have a say in the garbage management in their environment. Biogas will be collected from the biodegradable materials at established dump sites and processing plants. Such a scientific process will help eliminate waste while creating more energy and jobs along the process.

Human Waste Management

The MDC shall enact laws that protect the environment from human waste and garbage disposal. A devolved agenda at community level shall restore citizen responsibility over waste management. Actions against carelessly discarding trash, spitting in public, defecating and

urinating in public shall be enforced by a combination of ordinances and public advocacy. The MDC government shall ensure readily-available dust bins, clean and well-maintained public toilets with running water in every marked zone in cooperation with stakeholders. Long distance travelers will have easy access to toilets, rest areas and park tables, benches as well as rubbish bins on the highway. Shopping centres shall be mandated to have accessible toilets for their customers and passersby to reduce pollution and promote human dignity.



Clean Air

A devolved effort through a task force on standard emissions control shall monitor industrial emissions, milling company emissions, bush fires and vehicular pollution to ensure adherence to global standards on clean air quality.

12. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Clean Water Delivery

What the current challenges are

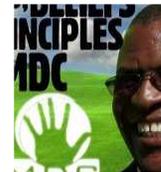
Despite being surrounded and traversed by some of the largest rivers in the region; never mind a more than average five-month rainy season, only a small percentage of Zimbabwean households have access to drinkable pipe water. The tragedy is compounded by poor public water planning, corruption in local authorities, nauseating politicking and skewed water investment priorities. As a result, most cities, towns and growth-points experience frequent water cuts, heightening the possibility of communicable disease at the same time threatening the viability of industry and commerce.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

An MDC government is alert to that clean water is a priority for all citizens and not only urban citizens as the current culture promotes. The Zambezi River to the north and the Limpopo River to the south form Zimbabwe's borders with Zambia and South Africa, respectively. The country has 20 million megalitres of total annual renewable available freshwater. The water is largely replenished through rainfall and then runoff in rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs, aquifers and freshwater aquifers and freshwater aquatic systems such as wetlands. There are seven catchments in the country, namely Manyame, Mazowe, Gwayi, Runde, Sanyati, Save and Mzingwane. The country relies on surface water resources for 90 per cent of its requirements while groundwater supplies remain 10 per cent. The estimated ground water resources available for exploitation in Zimbabwe are approximately 8 million megalitres.

An MDC devolved water management system shall guarantee citizens clean piped water of the highest World Health Organisation standards. Urban and rural households shall be exposed to revolutionary rain water-harvesting methods, while municipal and provincial governments will be encouraged to seek water supply partnership with private investors and international agencies. Public budgets will be requested to have water investment components and strict regulations will be put in place to preserve ground water and eliminate river pollution. There will be drastic action to remove water management from dysfunctional public institutions to ensure that Zimbabweans have access to water from its large rivers like Limpopo, Zambezi, Odzi, Tokwe and Save. Our MDC government will empower Environmental Agencies to enforce and police

anti-siltation and river pollution at the same time ensuring that water catchment areas and wetlands are preserved.



13. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Quality Education

Delivery

What the current challenges are

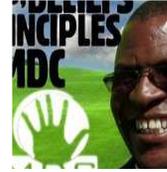
Much praise has been fettered on Zimbabwe's so-called 'high education standards' and 'ninety something percent literacy' and how Zimbabwe's human capital is much sort after in the world. There is truth in that rapid post-independence infrastructure expansion and enrollment at all levels was a boon. However, a combination of factors including the State's twenty-year obsession with defence spending, a widening rural/urban divide, the conveyor belt approach and totally irrelevant academic curriculum have contributed to the decline of standards. The post 2000 economic meltdown not only put the cost of education beyond most Zimbabweans but also reduced investment in education infrastructure and learning materials. State-sponsored violence, plummeting work conditions and suppressed industrial action caused the highest emigration of qualified teachers in the history of any country. Colleges and universities are poorly staffed and expensive while learning materials are scarce. Student accommodation is either none existent or squalid, while thousands of graduates churned out are either unemployed or unemployable. State paranoia and an obsession with control have completely destroyed student activism. Zimbabwe's poor performance on the global sporting stage is symptomatic of poor or non-existent support systems at primary and sport academy development levels. But help is on the way!

What the MDC ACTIONS will do

Using the devolution agenda that enhances the new constitution's emphasis on rights to education, the MDC will revitalise the education system and lay emphasis on the following:

- Ensuring that constitutional provisions on affordable quality education are implemented.
- Encouraging not only private-public sector participation in education, but also affording local communities a chance to participate effectively in school and college governance.
- Equal opportunity for all stakeholders through registered and acknowledged community needs on educational inputs and expectations.
- Investing in academic literature, e-learning, libraries and laboratory equipment.
- Emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to suit local community needs especially in previously deprived regions.
- An aggressive education affirmative action that focuses on the girl child, women, the poor, the socially-disadvantaged, people with disabilities, orphans and other vulnerable sections of society.

- Restoration and enhancement of the professional dignity of the teaching career through decent and competitive working conditions.
- Promoting sport and cultural development in primary schools and offering incentives to community-based sporting academies.
- Develop and capacitate a robust and effective Education Research and Development Function that generates knowledge and evidence-based education data.
- Provoking and informing the education conversation to facilitate modern education technologies and knowledge innovations based on international best practice.
- Developing comprehensive strategy for affirmative provision of infrastructure and education support services- Medium Term and Long Term programmes including mobile laboratories, mobile libraries, special incentives for teachers in remote, rural schools-specific national educational strategy for children with disabilities.
- Allowing for organised, unrestrained and legitimate on campus student activism that nurtures future leadership and participation in governance.



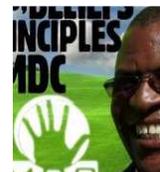
The MDC government will resuscitate vocational and technical education to ensure it is directly linked to our government's industrial policy. There will only be one Ministry of Education but with highly professional education secretaries to each cater for basic, primary, tertiary and vocational education. Every student who qualifies will be admitted in a university or college of their choice and where necessary, with State assistance.

14. MDC ACTIONS on Devolved Quality Health Delivery

What the current challenges are

The absence of a devolved health system clearly caused the collapse of the health delivery systems in the country. The MDC acknowledges the significant health services policy interventions in the 1980s that saw remarkable improvements in health conditions. But the over centralization of power on individuals can be traced as one of the root causes of the collapse of the sector. The health service delivery gap between rural and urban areas narrowed. Nutritional status improved, access to primary preventive and curative services increased substantially, particularly for rural communities. There was a marked decline in communicable disease-induced mortality. But a combination of bad governance and public neglect, corrupt practices, the drought, falling real incomes, reduced access to primary health care services compounded by HIV and AIDS ensured that the boom of the 80s turned into an increasing health care gloom. Now a host of communicable diseases such as malaria, TB and diarrhea; high infant mortality and low life expectancy pervades the health situation. Food insecurity, poor incomes, grossly inadequate and inequitable distribution of health resources, ignorance and skewed and

discriminatory government policies explained the health trap of the early days. This is compounded by: unsustainable levels of unemployment and poverty; lack of effective sustainable financing and cost recovery for public health delivery; insufficient accommodation of indigenous knowledge systems and traditional herbal care approaches; weak participation of the private sector in the sector; lack of comprehensive integrated regional HIV and AIDS policy approaches; massive deficits in drugs, professional staff and health care infrastructure and a glaring lack of visible community and civic participation in national health care delivery strategies.



*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

The MDC governance and devolved service delivery framework will guarantee health care sustainability, responding effectively to the conditions of virtual collapse and widespread dysfunction in health care infrastructure. A National Health Care Strategy founded on new, innovative ways and approaches to sustainable long-term funding and resource mobilisation for the health sector will be implemented. We will fulfill, protect and promote the constitutional right of all Zimbabwean citizens to have access to affordable basic health care services.

MDC will promote the increased role and contributions of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS), traditional medical interventions and the value of herbal medicines to increased choice and health care diversity. Green lifestyles and/or a society wide value system that give priority to holistic health living standards: effective family hygiene and green diets and community-driven initiatives will be encouraged. In addition:

- Community input in healthcare awareness, promotion and monitoring will be encouraged, including community testing centres on pandemics and epidemics.
- Create easy access for anti-retroviral drugs and sex-protection aids that are aided by government subsidies.
- The fulfillment, promotion and protection of the right of all citizens to health and mechanism for sustained focus on women, children, the elderly, disabled and vulnerable sections of society.
- Investing in child immunization programs and centres for disease awareness and control.
- During draught periods, introduce mobile food programs in all primary schools nationwide to promote comfort and interest in education.
- Encouraging nationwide entrenched culture of preference for natural, traditional food sources, health nutritional and physical practice and hygiene-conscious community.

15. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Public Transport

Service Delivery

What the current challenges are

Because of the absence of a devolved transport system, Zimbabwe's public transport management system, including supportive infrastructure is the most disorganized in the region. In the past thirty years, there have been several ministries, parastatals and institutions dedicated to the public transport sector. But because of bad governance and misplaced priorities, the sophisticated infrastructure that had survived a war quickly disappeared, replaced with a dysfunctional national railways, potholes and anarchy on most city roads. Municipalities were overwhelmed by gangster-type private operators while vehicle inspection and standards completely disappeared, swamped under a cloud of corruption. The cost to the economy has been devastating: railway paralysis pushing heavy loads onto the national trunk roads thus trebling cost of freight; life-threatening accidents, congestion on urban roads and slowing down import and export business. Commercial and small-scale agriculture has suffered, while passengers to rural areas either have no transport, or operators shun gravel roads. The once thriving DDF, national passenger and cargo airline were decimated by inefficiency, corruption and state-induced patronage. Zimbabwe's public transport delivery system is, quite frankly, a national disaster!

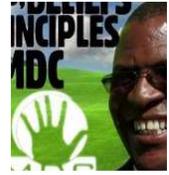
*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

An MDC devolution agenda will first restore the institutional framework that plans, organises, implements and evaluates progressive, modern day transport systems. This means involving experts, community leaders, public officials and private investors in public transport dialogue facilitated by both local and provincial authorities. This must result in a National Public Transport Network project that will revitalize the sector and inject innovation and investment in line with the MDC Industrial Policy. Best practices from RSA, Hong Kong and USA will be applied.

An MDC government will revamp the transport sector in the following manner:

- A concerted effort to support the replacement of aging and unreliable fleet of public forms of transport that include decrepit buses, trains and airplanes.
- Regulate private commuter omnibus operators to provide safe and reliable transport to ensure urban commuters access safe public transport with competitive rates and high margins of safety.
- Encouraging municipalities to learn from and adopt public transport systems as practised in Cape Town, New York and London.
- Ensure the NRZ and Air Zimbabwe adopts professional standards at the same time allowing private investors to participate. The role of the State will be minimised to protect these two companies from patronage and political abuse.
- Private/Public partnerships will be put in place to ensure long term investment in by ways and highways.
- Government will impose strict standards for licensed public commuter and commercial transport operators to ensure world-class service delivery.

- Disadvantaged citizens – especially the physically challenged and the elderly – will be protected by legislation to ensure easy access and use of public transport facilities.
- Partnerships with reputable transport consultancies to design environmentally-friendly systems will be promoted while rural communities will be encouraged to work with local and provincial authorities to set up Rural Transport Support depots.



16. MDC ACTIONS for Progressive International Relations Program

What the current challenges are

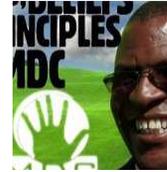
Because of over concentration of power on a select few as a result of absence of a devolved system of government, Zimbabwe has been tarnished by the defiance of the rule of law, violations of international law, and defiance of regional bloc recommendations. As a result, our foreign policy is characterised by defensive denial. Due to continued hostile relations with, or lack of trust from, other nations, Zimbabwe has been gradually descending into isolation. Some such ‘behaviour’ that has tarnished our country’s image are: flouting of international conventions relating to journalists, the media and peaceful demonstrators; repressive laws and heavy handedness effected through AIPPA and POSA; Gukurahundi, commercial farm invasions, Murambatsvina and electoral violence; selective application of the law; and the millions of citizens in Diaspora exile.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

The first thing an MDC government will do to restore our country’s international relations is to implement all new provisions that enhance constitutionalism in Zimbabwe. Democracy, justice, fairness, respect of citizens and allowing them to effectively participate in local, provincial and national governance is the only entry point towards taking Zimbabwe back into the community of nations. MDC will follow this up with:

- Implementing a foreign policy measured in economic rather than military terms.
- Pursuing a “civilian” or a “commercial” approach rather than a “warrior” or “militaristic” belligerent approach to regional and continental affairs.
- Striving to establish Zimbabwe as a leading and economically powerful regional and continental state.

- Play a leading role in moulding SADC to become a cradle of prosperity, unique political stability, and innovation supportive of regional and global order, peace and justice.
- Ensuring that even in the context regional collective diplomacy, Zimbabwe's national interests remain unique and loudly distinct.
- Ensuring that Zimbabwe's foreign policy is in harmony with regional desires and ideals peculiar to the region.
- Recognising that regional peace is pivotal to the protection of regional politico-economic interests and upholding regional foreign policy practice guarantees regional peace.
- Reintroducing Zimbabwe as a rehabilitated civil government with effective diplomatic channels that respect and uphold international relations.



17. MDC ACTIONS for Progressive and Productive Land Use

What the current challenges are

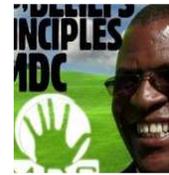
The MDC identifies overconcentration of power on a few individuals because of the absence of a devolved system of government is one of the key causes of land imbalances and subsequent problems. The MDC however concurs that land ownership between 1890 and 1990 was skewed against indigenous black Zimbabweans. This is an undeniable historical fact. There was need to redress this unfavourable situation where 15 million hectares were in few hands, but it was necessary to use universal methods that promote constitutionalism, justice and fairness. MDC does not agree with land invasions that disenfranchise the rights of other citizens, taking lives and unfairly displacing private property owners and labour. This is the picture of 'land reform' as implemented between 1998 and 2013. The result: Zimbabwe's international isolation; a drastic decline of output from 3.7 million tonnes to less than 1.7 million tonnes; two million citizens under constant threat of starvation; an annual US\$700 million food import bill; 300 000 unemployed farm workers; 4 000 white citizens deprived of right to approach the courts; massive deforestation in former commercial farms; a 90% increase in wild life poaching; a 60% collapse of agro-based industry and related job losses pointing towards 80% formal unemployment; millions of children displaced from 'proper' rural to makeshift farm schools. To add salt to injury, only a few hundred political connected cronies each own more than five farms with access to unlimited farming inputs. Thousands of peasants in former commercial farms have no access to finance or security other than an 'offer letter'.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

An MDC government whose ideology is guided by fairness and justice will seek to de-racialise land ownership so that every Zimbabwean who wants to own land is afforded that opportunity. This means a full Land Audit managed by the new Land Commission being empowered to expose corruption, multiple farm ownership and causes of non productivity. Where possible, all commercial farming land will be restored to the property market so that deserving citizens get title deeds. Our progressive land policy will also focus on:

- Restoring constitutionalism into land reform.
- Promoting research on short maturity variety seed /draught resistant crops to mitigate the effects of shorter rainy seasons.

- Ensuring investment and training of local communities in water harvesting, irrigation and dam usage.
- Ensuring that the infrastructure of agriculture is revolutionized so that rural, small and large scale farmers have access to electricity, all season roads and water.
- Enhancing productivity with locally based extension officers [maDhomeni] who have intimate knowledge of local soil and climate structures.
- Ensuring that private sector partnership with government improve agricultural financing.



In the main, an MDC government will look at land from a perspective of enhanced property rights, wealth and job creation, local beneficiation and empowering local communities to minimise food insecurity. Each local authority and provincial government will be requested to draw a Food Security Work Plan which fits in with relevant climate specific agriculture support and disaster management program.

18. MDC ACTIONS for Progressive Youth Advancement

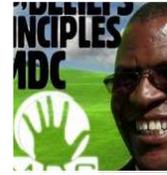
What the current challenges are

The absence of a devolved system of governance has vastly affected the ability of youths to play a meaningful role in the governance processes of this country. This is despite the factual reality that more than fifty-five percent of our country consists of youths. Thus, the MDC government recognises the futility of excluding them from the local, provincial and national governance agenda. Traditional stereotypes of Zimbabwe society reserved decision making power and authority at the family, community and national levels to the adult male. The role of youth was to implement decided policy in accordance with strategies set by adults. The emergence, in recent history of young people as factor and force in social change, politics and development has been met with significant reluctance, doubt and sometimes outright disdain by traditionalists. During the Mvukela/Chimurenga war, young people were mobilised and routinely used by organisations to mobilise community support and providing military personnel. Post-independence youths have been routinely sucked into tension-filled politics that perpetuate the role of rubble-rousing and intimidating citizens of a different political persuasion or ideological point of view. In the past ten years, State policy and institutional frameworks of the country have tended to churn out ill-educated, ill-groomed, idle young people who become political fodder in periods of social and political activity. Unemployment and ineffective vocational and training institutions have not made the situation any easier.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

Having embraced devolution of power the MDC will embrace the importance of youths, our government first port of call is to restore their dignity and vibrancy. This will be actioned through comprehensive strategies for positive youth engagements and the development and restoration of opportunities and social infrastructure for continuous skilling and talent development. We shall encourage communities to embrace a government-designed devolved empowerment deal that will see youths make meaningful decisions on empowering themselves, identifying common goals that help their lives and strike common future goals that address skills, disease, delinquency, drug issues and sport.

Our government will make institutional provisions and infrastructure for effective protection and promotion and continuous development of the talents, skills and capabilities of young people mainly in governance and leadership, academic careers, sports, arts and culture. The systematic capacitating, leadership development and integration of young people into significant governance and public sector decision making positions and the progressive creation of opportunities for employment and entrepreneurial development in an MDC government priority.



Other aspects of MDC government youth intervention:

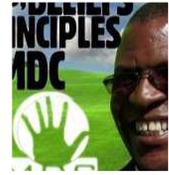
- A Youth Development Policy clearly articulating distinct, significant community-based, local and provincial programmes.
- Zimbabwean youths undergoing non-partisan, comprehensive national youth development training on the founding values of volunteerism, patriotism and the founding principles of nationalism.
- Programmed, systematic participation of youths in education, sports, theatre, music and arts as means of livelihood.
- The systematic capacitating, leadership development and integration of young people into significant governance and public sector decision-making positions and the progressive creation of opportunities for employment and entrepreneurial development.
- The deliberate development of infrastructure, resources and capacitating of vocational training and skills development institutions/schools in all provinces to expand youth opportunities and options and to create a robust national bank of technical and artisanal skills and competences.
- The deliberate design and scaling up of nationwide incentives and effective policy support for youth creativity, innovation and social enterprise in all spheres of life as a key economic pillar.
- Comprehensive government strategy for restoration of economic stability and meaningful investment for generation of employment opportunities for young people.
- Private/public partnerships for Youth Centres nationwide to facilitate talent production, indoor games, sports and theatre arts and skills development with the help of assigned government coaches, mentors, careerists, tutors and counselors.

19. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Media, Information and Communication Practices

What the current challenges are

The monopolisation of airwaves and the public media by a small section of the population can be directly traced to the absence of a devolved system of government. Because of the absence of a devolved system of government the history of the media in Zimbabwe is one of statutory control, repression, restrictive legislation and executive overregulation - partisan pandering generally reflective of state paranoia, limited political space and a deep seated aversion for unfettered press freedom and genuine participatory democracy. Evidence is that media serves the interests and puts across the views and strengthens the political and economic privileges of the elite, the government of the day and politically connected. The newsrooms and broadcast

studios are manned and dominated by journalists whose world view invariably mirrors those of the State and owners.



Over the years, meaningful growth and development of the media sector has been slow, with limited diversity and high entry barriers owing both to adverse political and economic conditions. An environment of stringent bureaucratic requirements has ensured limited competition to state broadcaster- Zimbabwe Broadcasting Authority, frustrating the possibility of effective media competition and negatively impacting the quality of media products and services. The resultant quality of journalism has seen a disturbing loss and decline of public confidence in the media. The violent clampdown by the State in the run up to the 2000, 2005, 2008 and 2013 election, routine arrests, imprisonment and harassment of journalists and the shutdown of media houses deemed to support opposition political ideology irreparably damages the reputation of the media sector.

It is against such an adverse backdrop that the MDC government considers a strategy for wholesale national media transformation to be an absolute necessity and to be the epicentre of national participatory governance and democratic change. As a major pillar of governance, the media is not yet adequately structured to effectively promote, support and force public institutions to demonstrate diversity, equality, fairness, public accountability, equity and transparency which are the party's fundamental values to drive the realisation of human rights.

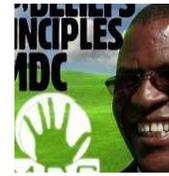
*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

The MDC government will utilize devolution principles to re-introduce freedom of information to facilitate free flow of information through responsible and accountable community-based journalism. We insist that rights of all citizens to free expression be guaranteed and protected by the Constitution of Zimbabwe. The MDC upholds the value of media regulation in so far as it governs ethics, promotes professional conduct and protects the reasonable right of individuals to privacy, but it is the role of the media to implement this function. Our government will encourage Research and Development in order to facilitate media competition in an open media market. Media must be effectively deregulated, free and disencumbered of undue censorship, interference and control by the Executive arm of the government. The ultimate value of public accountability, the pursuit of transparent governance and the pulse of the conscience of the state effectively abode with a robust private and public media. Expanded media circulation ensures that all forms of media are accessible and affordable to all sections of society in particular rural communities' access and their active participation.

In particular the MDC will strive to implement the following media agenda:

- Secure individual liberties and progressively expand the democratic space through provisions for a robust, free and diverse private and public media.
- Improved quality of media products and services accessed by citizens through effective investment in media and Information and Communications Technology infrastructure development, accelerated cyberspace connectivity and increased private sector investment and competition.
- Secure sustainable media balance, fair practice privacy rights and best practice media ethics benchmarks through a constitutionalised, independent, professional and non-partisan reformed Zimbabwe Communications and Media Commission.
- Effective decentralisation and de-urbanisation of the media and media policy so as to increase the media reach to all and particularly rural communities and improve the participation of all sections of that society in a free media space.

- Encouraging adherence to global standards of good governance and media that best provide a benchmark for our media policy and practice.
- A realization that media is a function of an entrenched national culture of effective communication and documentation based on systemic and continuous generation, management and dissemination of quality information within and among institutions across all sectors of society.
- Encourage expanded media circulation ensures that all forms of media are accessible and affordable to all sections of society in particular rural communities' access and participation.



It is the position of MDC that comprehensive media reform is sustained through effective media Research and Development to keep pace with global trends.

20. MDC ACTIONS for Devolved Sport and Recreation

What the current challenges are

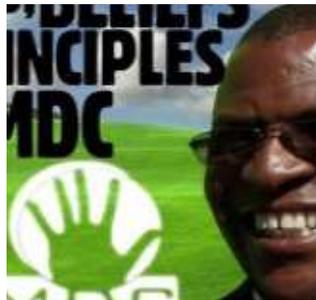
Through a devolved system of government the country will exploit the potential and expertise of all Zimbabweans including those in marginalised communities to contribute to the sporting glory of the country. This is important. At one stage in the 1990s, Zimbabwe was a major player on the Olympic stage. Our country has produced outstanding sportspersons, some of whom have won honours at Olympics through boxing, cricket, athletics, tennis and soccer tournaments. It does not take a great deal of imagination to conjure up names like Proud Kilimanjaro, Tim Price, Peter Ndlovu, Andy Flower, Samukeliso Moyo, Byron Black, Victor Olonga, Fabian Mubaya, Norman Mapeza, Brian Dzingayi, Biggie Tembo and of late Kirsty Coventry. Zimbabweans like Tommy Sithole were ushered to high office in Olympic management – only because the country had citizens and corporations that invested in sport. The State itself has a battery of institutional entities that are meant to administer sport. However, due to the overall economic meltdown, poor planning and outright incompetence, sport administration institutions like ZIFA have been infiltrated by politicians who have literally destroyed sport. Central government, since 2000, became obsessed with political survival, building ‘defence colleges’ and importing guns instead of investing in talent development. Our sports arena together with its promising potential has faded into oblivion. Put simply, the current government and to a great extent – a weakened private sector – has lost the interest in sports development. Zimbabwe has been found challenged in almost all sport disciplines through regional and international competitions. Resultantly, the national performance at the international events like the Olympics, have continued to deteriorate at dismal capacities in the last three decades.

*What the MDC **ACTIONS** will do*

The MDC is aware that sporting and recreational infrastructure alone without a sustained ‘human supply system’ at kindergarten and primary school level is useless. That is why our government will ensure that a strong culture of mentoring that begins with infusing sport and recreation in school curriculum, strengthen teacher training in all Olympic disciplines is initiated. Local and provincial governments will be encouraged to seek private partnerships in developing

centres of sporting excellence while private companies and individuals who invest in youth academies will receive tax credits and rebates. Sporting equipment will attract no duty while all sports associations and schools will be requested to have competitive junior leagues for all age groups.

An MDC government will set aside substantial budgetary provisions for national teams, while any company or individual who invests in a national team will receive tax credits and rebates. There will be an affirmative action to seek bilateral agreements with international centres of sports excellence, teams and coaches while attachments of talented citizens will be encouraged. A centre for Olympic excellence will be set up in every province manned by professionals.



Movement for Democratic Change
**Sizanqoba – Tichakunda-
Titjakunda-Tulaasumpuka-
Tobudilila-Venda-Sotho-
Tshangani-Xhosa**

We Shall Overcome and Win!

“Actions for Devolution-Devolution is the new revolution!”