

JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION



VOTE OF THANKS

BY

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND WAR VETERANS
AFFAIRS,**

HONOURABLE O.C.Z. MUCHINGURI-KASHIRI, MP

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL OPENING
OF THE CHINHOYI COURT COMPLEX**

3 SEPTEMBER 2021

SALUTATIONS,

I stand before you with a deep sense of honour, privilege and humility, to propose a Vote of Thanks to **YOUR EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE, DR. EMMERSON DAMBUDZO MNANGAGWA** and to distinguished and valued invited guests who have been able to join us this morning.

May I express deep gratitude to you **YOUR EXCELLENCY**, for accepting the invitation and having taken time off your many responsibilities to be with us here today to officiate over this ceremony.

From your address this morning **YOUR EXCELLENCY**, I could not help but marvel at the fact that you have walked the journey with the Judiciary and have always been ready to celebrate key milestones with them. This has been your trait- you are a leader who is prepared to listen, appreciate and attend to the issues affecting the people of Zimbabwe. You have lived to your promise to be a listening President and your availability is clear testimony to that, but we do not take your presence for granted. If anything, your presence at this and other

administration of justice related occasions has always reassured us of your commitment to the improvement of the justice delivery system which has a positive and meaningful impact on access to justice for the citizens of Zimbabwe.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, your address has laid due emphasis on the importance of an effective and efficient judiciary that is independent and accountable and which is there to protect the fundamental human rights of our people. Your address has laid the foundation for everyone with a sense of justice and I am sure will serve as an inspiration to future endeavours aimed at improving justice service delivery. **YOUR EXCELLENCY**, every speaker today adverted to the Government's economic blue print in the form of **Vision 2030** which is then operationalised by the National Development Strategy 1 (**NDS 1**). Clearly, these policy documents speak to infrastructural development as the panacea to the turning around of the economy. With this trajectory, turning the nation into an upper middle class by 2030 is indeed a reality. With your visionary leadership **YOUR EXCELLENCY** we are certain that we will reach this cherished destination.

I also wish to express our deep sense of appreciation to the **Vice President of Zimbabwe and Minister of Health and Child Care, Honourable General (Rtd) Dr. C. G. D. N. Chiwenga** who has also taken some time off his busy schedule in order to be part of this event. We thank you **Hon Vice President** for your remarks and especially for the manner you introduced the Guest of Honour. You were able to put us into proper perspective on the contribution made by the Guest of Honour in pursuit of justice for our people.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, allow me to also express gratitude to the **Chief Justice, Honourable Luke Malaba**. It is through your inspired leadership **Chief Justice** that we have been able to witness life changing initiatives taken by the Judicial Service Commission. The journey that we have been told which the JSC has travelled from the time it became separated from the Ministry of Justice is indeed an impressive one. You are modernising our courts and ensuring that our people are able to access justice close to their homes.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the work done by the **Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs** and his team for the invaluable administrative and technical support that they provide to the courts and the **Minister of Finance and Economic Development** and his team as well for financing the construction of this beautiful court complex. It is heart-warming that such a huge project was wholly funded by our very own Treasury.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, the project we are celebrating today would not have been possible without an efficient, effective and dedicated team. In this regard, allow me to thank the **Minister of Local Government and Public Works** and all the experts in the Ministry who supervised the construction of this court house and provided technical support, **the Secretary of the Judicial Service Commission** and his team who were up to the task and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to see the successful completion of this complex and **Hualong Construction**, the contractor who constructed the complex.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, I was heartened to see the multiplicity of services that are offered at this Court complex where we find the High Court, the Magistrates' Court, the Master of the High Court, the Sheriff of the High Court, offices of the National Prosecuting Authority, the Zimbabwe Republic Police, a robing room for legal practitioners, a well-equipped library, a staff canteen and a staff clinic. This is the first time we have witnessed such a multi-functional Court complex in this Country. I wish to congratulate the **Judicial Service Commission and the Secretary, Mr Walter Chikwana** for coming up with such an innovative idea and I hope it will be cascaded to other Courts in the Country.

To the **Minister in charge of the Mashonaland West Provincial Affairs and Devolution**, we appreciate the warm welcome and generous hospitality.

Special thanks go to the Director of today's ceremony, **Mr Walter Chikwana** for ably steering the programme this morning.

I wish to thank all our service providers for the work you have put together to come up with such a beautiful event.

Before I close, **YOUR EXCELLENCY**, allow me to express gratitude to all the guests who have travelled from near and afar to celebrate this iconic milestone in the administration of justice. Your presence is testimony that you are dedicated to the cause of justice in this country.

I THANK YOU ALL