The MDC believes that the people of Zimbabwe retain the right to decide what they want to see in their Constitution, just as they were aware of what they wanted when they turned out in their millions to contribute to the first draft of this document, an MDC official said.

MDC will not recognise Chihuri’s appointment

The MDC will not accept or recognise the re-appointment of Augustine Chiwenga as the Police Commissioner-General, President Tsvangirai has said.

President Tsvangirai said Chiwenga was a Zanu PF party appointee.

“This is nothing personal but it has everything to do with abiding by the laws of the land. I have made it clear to Mugabe that he is in breach of the Constitution and that I and the party I lead will not recognise Chiwenga’s appointment as legitimate,” said President Tsvangirai while addressing journalists at his Munhumutapa offices.

He said the discord in the inclusive government has been amplified by the lack of sincerity by Mugabe and Zanu PF.

“Mugabe has gone on to re-appoint the Police Commissioner-General in spite of the Constitutional provision that the two of us must agree on such appointments.

“Secondly, the Police Services Commission, which must make a recommendation to the President, is yet to be regularised and it is clear that the so-called re-appointment was un-Constitutional and against our agreement as Principals at our meeting of 6 February 2012,” said President Tsvangirai.

He said it was clear that not only was the re-appointment unconstitutional and unprocedural, but it also shows lack of sincerity on the part of Mugabe.

“We cannot have a President who takes a position with fellow Principals and acts outside that position and the Constitution that he swore to uphold.

“Let me put it this way. We have a President who indicates left and turns right,” said President Tsvangirai.

“Has he undermined our collective position and agreement as Principals while he directs his functionaries to execute directives that are at variance with our common position? The question is, Can the real Mugabe stand up?”

He said Mugabe continued to live in the past, forgetting that this is shared responsibility.

“He has continued to talk of his own personal powers, either to appoint or to call for elections, despite the fact that Amendment 19 is clear that we share executive authority and that he and I must agree,” said Tsvangirai.

On his recent visit to Chiatura diamond fields, President Tsvangirai said with more transparency and addressing of issues such as the civil servants’ salaries.

“I visited both the mining sites and the displaced villagers at the Arda Tranzau Estate. I was especially touched by the plight of the villagers.

“There is no direct benefit to the people whose lives were disrupted and on whose traditional land this treasure is being mined,” said President Tsvangirai.

“Those diamonds will mean nothing to the country if they fail to transform people’s lives, starting with the Marange community. The further we dig, the further the democratic dividends can be shared. If we continue to mine without sharing the benefits, it is an abuse of trust. We must ensure that we do not simply re-enact in the mining sector the failed land policies of the past. The Marange people have lost their rights by being part of the failed land policies that are being continued to date. It is time for the state to compensate the Marange people for the time they lost and to make things right.”

He said the MDC was ready for elections provided the necessary reforms which are demanded in Zanu PF Ministries are implemented.

“There is nothing spectacular about a particular clause or section in the draft. What is important is the process and it is a continuous process and is out of order to present an issue to the media or public.

“The process must be private until finished. The Herald is undermining the process and pushing the Zanu PF agenda.”

Hon. Majome said Zanu PF is terrified of the process, and is therefore trying to discredit it. It even wants to monopolise debate surrounding the constitution through The Herald. She challenged the public to stand forthwth and refrain from maintaining a stronghold on public media.

The spokesperson also urged Zanu PF and the public media to let Copac do its work without hindrance.

People’s Constitution irreversible...

...as Zanu PF wages a war on the people through its mouthpieces, Herald and ZBC

Hon Douglas Mwonzora, the MDC Spokesperson said it is wrong for The Herald to assume the position of convener of public debate on whether the issues captured in the so-called draft are pro-Zanu PF or relevant to the Zimbabwean population or not.

Zanu PF has, through its mouthpiece, The Herald, been trying to derail the constitution making process. Firstly, they published a supposed national report in their discredited publication under the letterhead of Copac, then Zanu PF leaked the purported draft to Zimbabweans to ignore allegations which addresses the people’s concerns wants to hijack the people’s constitution, he said.

“Zanu PF forgetting that the ‘draft’ is merely campaigning for an election that has no mandate nor understanding to publish, manipulate public discourse and misinform the people which will cause mayhem.

After large numbers of citizens have expressed their desire to have a Constitution which addresses their concerns, the Zanu PF leaked the purported draft to the public at large. The draft is not qualified or authorised, neither is it to be released and commented on, the Herald would run out of newpaper!” he said.

Hon. Mwonzora said the People’s Party of Excellence refuses to allow Zanu PF that Copac has overhauled the draft Constitution.

Copac spokesperson and the MDC secretary for Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Hon. Jessie Majome said Zanu PF is well informed to the extent that they are able to define a Constitution that represents their interests.

She said the misleading reports are as a result of Zanu PF’s strategy to gag the Constitution-making process, manipulate public discourse and misinform the people which will cause mayhem.

“Drafting of the Constitution is a process and not an event. Zanu PF through The Herald should not be involved in a process in which they are not the only stakeholders.

The Herald has no business, authority, mandate or understanding to publish, analyse or comment on any document purported to be a draft Constitution.

“The failed political party is attempting to manipulate the Constitution-making process from The Herald. The Select Committee is the only legal entity able to present the draft,” said Hon. Majome.

Responding to allegations that cluses to do with presidential term, dual citizenship, homosexuality, land reform and devolution of power had been altered, Hon. Majome said whoever was leaking information has lost it and received a backlash as the public likes the draft constitution, she said.

There is no such thing as freedom of expression. Freedom of expression is freedom to express one’s views, not to misinform the people which will cause mayhem.

“We will soldier on and ensure that we hold a free and fair poll by creating an environment that will guarantee the security of the person, the security of the vote and the security of the people’s will.

“So only after the key reforms have been implemented will the President and I agree on a date for elections. This is the Constitutional position and this is the position of the GPA, which is fully guaranteed by SADC and the AU,” he said.

The President said there were some concerns in Zanu PF who are afraid of a poll.

“Cowards refuse to implement reforms that will result in a free election. Cowards beat people to coerce them into supporting them. Cowards are afraid of facing me in an election. Their best bet is to field a tired candidate because they believe he is the only one who can stand against Morgan Tsvangirai,” he said.

The Real Change Times
The Official Mouthpiece of the MDC
Tuesday 28 February
MDC Information & Publicity Department, Harvest House, 44 Nelson Mandela Ave, Harare, Zimbabwe
Issue 095 2012

The people’s struggle for real change: Let’s finish it!!
Our shaky inclusive government is now three years old.

This negotiated settlement which, if it had been implemented in its totality and spirit, could have done enough to facilitate the normalisation of our situation has been a let-down.

Regrettably, we have witnessed the subversion of civilian authority by the security forces. Put simply, we are now under an undeclared military state.

Our friends in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region, who through South Africa facilitated the formula that the inclusive government had organised meetings where Zimbabwe features prominently, thus working in an effort to help us find a lasting solution. We must appreciate their effort.

But what have we done ourselves as Zimbabweans, who should shape our own destiny for a better tomorrow?

The problem is that, some players in the inclusive government, Zanu PF to be precise, have never been sincere from day one. It was a “buy-time” mentality to give the former ruling party some breathing space, so to speak.

According to Article II [Two] of the Global Political Agreement (GPA), the signatories agreed to a declaration of commitment by three political parties in the inclusive government, that there should be unquestionable co-operation between the principals. It says:

“The parties hereby declare and agree to work together to create a genuine, viable, permanent, sustainable and nationally acceptable solution to the Zimbabwean situation and in particular to implement the following agreement with respect to the creation of a new government. The parties agree to:

1. work together on the basis of an inclusive government under an independent president. This will require that all the current political and economic situations and charting a new political direction for the country.

Let’s rebuild our country: Hon Moyo

(As one of the three arms of the State, Parliament is the foundation on top of which the whole country relies largely on how its members conduct themselves as they carry out their duties. MPs must guard Parliament’s independence relies on every day through our partisan media.

The work of APNAC would not be complete if it did not encourage its own members to promote and foster the principles of decentralised government, democracy and participation.

The formation of APNAC in 1999 came at a time when Africa was grappling with the thinker and corruption in the private and public sectors.

The birth of APNAC was well-received by the political parties in Zimbabwe, as it is in the establishment of the APNAC Zimbabwe Chapter by parliamentarians to fight corruption.

The objectives of APNAC are commendable as they address the issues that members of the political parties encountered in the fight against corruption. Today, APNAC members are individually no longer have influence on numerous sectors of government.

We have seen their increased involvement in the political parties’ formulation process and its expenditure thereafter by the parties and its institutions.

Therefore I encourage APNAC Zimbabwe to extend its fight against corruption to all sectors of the community, particularly parastatals and private individuals,” said Hon. Moyo.

From the above scenario, it is hard to conclude that the formation of APNAC was working together for the purpose of creating a peaceful society.

It is important to point out from the onset that Zanu PF which used to enjoy exclusive powers since 1980, was forced by circumstances to share power with other political parties, hence the signing of the GPA on 15 September 2005 which culminated in the formation of the inclusive government on 11 November 2009.

Negotiations between MDC, Zanu PF and the Ndebele faction took centre stage. It is unfortunately true that some of the task are still inconclusive. More disturbing is the realisation that even on those agreed upon issues, nothing has happened in terms of implementation.

Yes, we would have agreed that our political leaders are working together for a better Zimbabwe if by now the issue of Governors had already been resolved, if Public Order and Security Act (POSA) and Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) as repressive as they are, had been done away with, if the application of the rule of law in this country would remain one, the reptile will never change, let alone to something else. The truth about Zanu PF is known, the same for MDC.

Those who are hired to provide jokes at a funeral, those who can joke about anything to make people laugh, may perform their duties well and leave the public with a smile; however, they will not take away the fact that there is a funeral.

Zanu PF will never gain votes because of所提供的 corruption and sometimes unproven allegations.

As for the so-called political analysts who include the flip-flop Jonathan Moyo, Godfrey Chidret, Laben Nguni, Chris Mutsvangwa, Jonathan Kadzura, Caesar Zvayi, to name but a few, let them continue to crack jokes, telling us that the Emperor is dressed even when he is naked. History will judge them accordingly.

Now the former ruling party is directing its arsenal towards Copac in its effort to derail the constitutional making process.

It has never been serious about the idea of a new constitution and therefore, we are not surprised. Zanu PF is trying by all means to make sure that the new constitution is not in place so soon that elections can be forcibly held using the Lancaster House agreement of 1979.

The so-called political analysts including the war veterans have been lined up to rubbish the drafters and discredit the drafting committee.

Are we going to see Zanu PF pull out of the inclusive government so as to give credence for the holding of elections even without a new charter?

Or are we going to see an unalike alliance of the principals of the Constitutional Assembly (NCA) in an effort to help us find a lasting solution to the whole country. Nothing everything else fails? Whatever the situation, no election should be held in Zimbabwe without the new constitution first.

As for Michael SATA’s comments, let him be told that history is fond of repeating itself, one country at a time who outrightly rejected to be apologetic for its conduct to him after he was elected the president of Zambia and he might be forced to apologise to Zimbabweans when the time comes.

It was without doubt that the Prime Minister of this State, who is the subject of Morgan Tsvangirai’s "a puppet of the West", will not stop to anything.

As a word of advice, our police force should not be trigger-happy and happy, they should not be provocative in their discharge of duty or else one of these days, the situation is going to go out of hand.

Let us be reminded that it is always a small fire which one country in the country - the vendor issue triggered a revolution in Tunisia recently.

Let us not fool ourselves that what was happening in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and

Zanu PF hooligans jailed for murder

From Page 1

Zanu PF has tried to use all sorts of dirty tricks in a bid to stifle the Constitution making process but has failed.

In July 2009, the sunset party led by Savour Kanhure, Patrick Zhuwao and Joseph Chinotimba disrupted the Constitution Making and All Stakeholders’ Conference held in Harare.

This was followed by several disruptions at various meeting points, one, a member of the public died after having been assaulted by Zanu PF’s blood-thirsty supporters for contributing at an outreach meeting in Mbare, Harare.

In January this year, war veterans, at the installation of Zanu PF hijacked a press conference, which was held at the party’s headquarters, demanding an end to the whole process.

This was also strong in Parliament which the party was made to mandate to carry out the exercise by the courts.

Meanwhile, Copac has released a stance strongly on the progress of the constitution making process. In the statement signed by its chairpersons, Justice Karwi said the three guilty due to overwhelming evidence against them.

Tendai Savanhu, Jim Nkusa and Kudzanai Shuvubhi were convicted by the Harare Magistrates Courts of stealing cattle from the late Madzimati. They detained him for three days, despite his plea of innocence.

They later handed him over to police, where police demanded he tell them where his cattle went. Despite pleading innocent.

Justice Karwi found the three guilty due to overwhelming evidence against them.

Justice Karwi sentenced the three to three years in jail each.

The court heard that Mabika was interrogated in the same manner three days later; he was beaten to death by his two accomplices, Peter Mabika, 29, and Innocent Mwebi, 37, whom they accused of stealing cattle from a Zanu PF base commander in Zaka.

No more flawed elections!

“The Constitution Select Committee Copac, would like to inform Zanu PF that the principal political parties have produced the first draft proposal of the new constitution for Zimbabwe which they are now reviewing with assistance from technical experts.

The draft proposal is work in progress until it is approved by the public. No suggested positions in the first proposal can be taken as final.”

The statement also makes it clear that once the draft constitution is in place, the will be no room for the creation of all vernacular languages as well as Braille and will be made available to all Zimbabweans to comment on. The report “All Stakeholders’ Conference held in Harare.

We urge all Zimbabweans to exercise patience and give the Select Committee and the team of experts the necessary time,” said Justice Karwi.

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Hon Tapiwa Mashakada took over the Ministry of Economic planning and investment promotion in June 2010 which he calls the Software of Government. He says he is the Chief planner of government.

“My ministry is two legged as it is responsible for economic planning as well as investment promotion.”

As soon as he assumed duty, his ministry came up with a blue print to develop the country. It consisted of representatives of political parties to the CPA, labour, academia, civic society and others which helps government in giving evidence based policies.

When Hon Mashakada took over the ministry he had to deal with the negative perceptions that had been created about Zimbabwe being an unsafe investment destination. There was a lot of beaurocratic red tape and delays which stifle business. There was a need for his ministry to act quickly and it permits so Hon Mashakada introduced a “one stop shop investment centre”.

This helped reduce the time an investor would wait for a license from forty nine working days to five working days.

The investment centre had by December 2011 processed applications worth $6 billion. Saviour Kasukurwe’s indigenisation programme is undoing some of the good that Hon Mashakada has achieved as investors have decided to play the wait and see game.

The talk of elections has also been cited as one other reason why the investors are waiting.

Hon Mashakada’s ministry has held several roadshows to market the country as a safe investment destination both regionally and internationally with one due to take place in South Africa in March this year.

Source markets for Foreign Direct Investment have been visited for example, Shanghai China, Hong Kong, Singapore, China, England as well as Perth in Australia.

The roadshows have generated a lot of interest as showcased by the number of business delegations that have visited after the roadshows. Extensive consultative forums were held with the business community and the general populace it is the spirit of active participation of the people in government policy formulation which is what the people expects from their government.

The round table is helping the ministry identify the statues that hamper investment so that these can be amended.

The minister cited Indigenisation Act and the Immigration Act which he labelled fascist that gives too much power to immigration officials as some of the statutes that hamper investment.

Hon Mashakada has also spearheaded the signing of Investment Protection and Promotion Agreements with regional partners like Botswana.

As a nutshell, this minister is on the drive to create jobs in the country which will effectively deal with the unemployment and poverty levels that currently characterises Zimbabwe.

MDC Ministers in action

Hon Greenbate Dongo

In his constituency, Hon Greenbath Dongo conducted far reaching consultations with the residents to find out those areas that needed immediate attention.

“The water problem arose at every turn so our priority was in water provision. Every other project we did was in accordance to an area’s top priority issue. In some areas however, we were blocked by Zanu PF members, especially in the nine rural wards. We only managed to work in one of the wards,” he said.

Project: Painting of classroom blocks

Verine: Dzudzuwa Primary School, ward 18, Cost: US$2 676.00.

The school headmistress, Mrs Alice Muzondo said the school was lacking better after the repainting and was hoping the MP would ensure the toilets and teacher’s houses are also painted.

“We are happy about the development. We also wanted electricity but what we were charged was way out of line so our next priority area was picked. We are glad we have a better looking school, but yes, we will still hope to get electricity and a borehole close by,” said Mrs Muzondo.

In this area, it was difficult to get through with the project as Zanu PF members in the area wanted to block the repainting. After much debate on the issue, they allow the process to continue.

Hon Dongo said: “They were afraid it was a way to get the MDC in the area, but this is a misconception largely located in Zanu PF. They forget that in the 2011 elections a voted MP, he ceases to be a political party based representative, but a representative who accepts that the projects will benefit every child, regardless of their political party the parents subscribed to.

“As you know, Zanu PF is a violent party, so they are scared of the changes as the government’s money for their constituencies to their constituencies.

“It was a hassle, but then we were adamant that they have more computers but with the money we had, we were only able to purchase four computers,” said Hon Dongo.

At least US$ 2 799.00 was spent on building materials in ward 6, and a further US$422.00 from Chiremba Primary School. TC Hardy Secondary School received four computers from the MDC, to augment the ones they had. These cost US$ 2 480.00.

“The whole school was using three computers. We are working on ensuring that they have more computers but with the money we had, we were only able to purchase four computers,” said Hon Dongo.

“Every time, provision of this commodity is a problem then. We spent US$5 175.00 for Tarisa road and Chiremba road,” said Hon Dongo.

The residents hope development will continue until it influences the growth of industry.

“We had to also fix the road - Tarisa Road, which was in bad shape and this prevented public transport from accessing the area, so in order to ease the problem on residents and public transporters, we felt we could reconstruct the road and it is now functional. It needs regular maintenance, but at least we were able to solve the problem. We spent US$ 175.00 for Tarisa road and Chiremba road,” said Hon Dongo.

The residents hope development will continue until it influences the growth of industry.

“We have to jobs and a good future. If this area will improve as long as we depend on part time jobs. We want the constituency development fund to translate into capital from which we are able to invest in business ventures and get jobs for our children,” said Mai Ropa, a resident of Damafalls.
Hon. Thokozani Khupe, the MDC Vice President who is also Zimbabwe’s Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) has been honoured with an African Achiever’s award for service to Democracy and Women Empowerment.

Since her appointment as the DPM in February 2009, Hon. Khupe has set her focus on improving the quality of life of women and has been at the forefront of the 50:50 representation in Parliament. It is her belief that unless women are represented in Parliament, their issues will remain unresolved.

Issues such as gender budgeting and access to equal opportunities can be addressed if women are equally represented in Parliament since this is where budgets are passed and laws are made.

DPM Khupe held the first ever Women’s Economic Development Summit that was supported by many non-governmental organizations such as SIDA, CIDA, USAID, DFID and Netherlands Embassy.

This women’s National Summit came up with a document known as the Women’s Economic Development Plan that identified the various sectors of our economy, namely tourism, mining, agriculture and in agriculture in which women can actively participate.

Through her “Meet the Deputy Prime Minister’s Forum”, Hon. Khupe has managed to create a link between her office and women from all walks of life. This has given her the opportunity to clearly understand women’s issues and work towards finding solutions. In her capacity as the Goodwill Ambassador for the Campaign on the Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality, the DPM has advocated for the removal of user fees for pregnant women.

Since the unveiling of the US$450 million health sector fund by the developmental partners and US$10 million set aside by the Ministry of Finance for the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, it will not be long before Zimbabwe’s pregnant women access pre- and post-natal care which was not available.

She has donated to orphanages, old people’s homes, prisons and hospitals.

In September 2010, Hon. Khupe was elected the President of the Global Power Women Network Africa.

This is a network of women of influence in Africa that seeks to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS prevalence among women and girls and also to promote programmes that give women economic emancipation. Recently, the DPM went public about her breast cancer condition, thereby creating much awareness on the various cancers that affect women. The DPM still urges women to visit hospitals for mammograms and other early detection of cancer can save lives.

The African Achievers Award is an innovative project by CAAASKUK.

The award recognises successful and confident Africans who unselfishly invest their time and talents towards building a stronger community.

The award categories range from: business and entrepreneurship, arts and culture, community services and education, leadership and excellence, among others.

It is a recognition of those that have contributed to the development of Africa.

The first recipient of this prestigious award was Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobel Peace Laureate and former Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town in South Africa.

2012 a watershed year – President Tsvangirai

The year 2012 has been dubbed a watershed year by President Morgan Tsvangirai.

The president said this while addressing an organising workshop in Harare to chart the way forward for 2012.

He said this is the time when the Party can see Canaan, the Promised Land, but we need to be careful not to assume that it has arrived. President Tsvangirai said this while addressing the same workshop earlier. Hon. Moyo called on the provincial leadership to safeguard the MDC brand at all times.

“The leadership you should not allow the destruction of the brand MDC,” he said.

He said the president although the people of Zimbabwe are resilient and still believe in the MDC despite the challenges that the party has faced in the past, there is need for the MDC to project itself as a brand that the people and the international community can invest in.

President Tsvangirai said when the party was formed in 1999, the people were united in the knowledge that the country needed to take a new direction which was different from that which Zanu PF was taking.

“They took men and women of conviction to take on Zanu PF in trying to change the establishment,” he said.

He urged leaders to reflect on their loved ones who have died in this struggle for real change.

The president said there are some who will fall on the wayside due to unforeseen circumstances adding that that was the nature of a struggle.

He said the MDC by forming the inclusive government took a strategic move.

He expressed satisfaction with what the organising department was doing in its efforts to educate and conscientise the provincial leadership and the grassroots.

“I urge you as leaders to be fearless and courageous and to seek knowledge as this helps you in knowing your roles and responsibilities,” he said.

He said the MDC national leadership needs to be strong.

“Clearly Zanu PF has embarked on a provoke and disperse strategy against the MDC,” he said.

He urged members not to be provoked and to remain steadfast against Zanu PF machinations.

He said members must not be provoked into taking unprepared action which will lead the party astray.

“Zanu PF wants the inclusive government to collapse so that they can call for elections without implementing critical reforms before going for elections in order to guarantee that the country holds free and fair elections,” he said.

“We should gear up for the election. This means the leadership has to find each other to create unity of purpose. Without this, our desired goals will not be achieved,” he said.

However, Hon. Moyo said before the elections are held the MDC would first ensure that there is an enactment of a new Constitution, a new voters’ roll, security sector, electoral and media reforms.

Zimbabwe also needs to comply with SADC political governance standards for free and fair elections and put in place mechanisms to ensure that violence will not be a factor in the next elections.

Hon. Moyo called on the provincial leadership to come up with a consolidated work plan that will guide the party ahead of the coming elections.

“I know that the provinces have particular disparities which have to be dealt with differently and we have to come up with a plan that strengthens the party as the weakness of one province is the strength of the party as a whole,” he said.

He urged the provincial leadership to remain disciplined and focused in order to lead the party to victory in Zimbabwe to Canaan, the promised.

“In any serious organisation, there is need for seriousness, disciplined and focused conduct. The behaviour of leaders, in whatever capacity, affects the MDC. We need to lead by example,” he said.