The Real-change Times

Movement for Democratic Change
A Party of Excellence!

Tuesday 24 July
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Issue 116 2012

Zimbabwe makes history

History was made on 18 July 2012 which will enter the annals of history. The much-awaited and long-awaited draft Constitution was finalized in Harare.

The draft Constitution was drafted under Article VI of the Global Political Agreement (GPA), which acknowledges that it is the fundamental right and duty of the Zimbabwean people to make a Constitution by themselves and for themselves.

The draft Constitution has several very significant improvements for the people of Zimbabwe. The primary focus for the 1979 Lancaster House Constitution currently in use, was to transfer power from the colonial authority to the people of Zimbabwe.

The chairperson of the Select Committee on the new Constitution (Copac) and MDC National Spokesperson, Hon Douglas Mwonzora, said this week, that the process of coming up with the new draft Constitution had been very successful under very difficult circumstances characterised by endemic mistrust.

“The draft Constitution is now in place and will be made available to the public shortly,” said Hon. Mwonzora.

“Copac now expects to have convened the Second All Stakeholders’ Conference by the end of August. At this conference, we expect Zimbabweans to fully participate in the discussions on this draft which is the outcome of the outreach process,” he said.

In the founding provisions of the draft Constitution in Chapter One, the draft clearly states that every citizen has a right to vote and to be voted for. As long you are born in Zimbabwe, you are a citizen over the age of 18 years has a right to be a citizen over the age of 70 years, people over the age of 21 years, any man, and any woman. “As long you are born in Zimbabwe you will remain a citizen of Zimbabwe even if you relocate to another country. Aliens are allowed to vote and to be voted for. A specific voter registration exercise is going to be opened for them as they have been marginalised for the past 32 years,” said Hon. Mwonzora.

The delegation was now in place and will be made available to the public shortly. The new draft Constitution is now in place and will be made available to the public shortly.

On Devolution - there is going to be devolution of power. The provincial government will be appointed by the government at every level, and must be head of government at provincial level. Senators will be members of the provincial council. Harare and Bulawayo will not have provincial governors but executive mayors.

The issue of 50:50 gender representation is tackled in Chapter Seven, where 60 women from the country’s 10 administrative provinces will be appointed into Parliament giving the women more representation.

On citizenship, there is dual citizenship for every Zimbabwean born in the country.

“Because we are in Zimbabwe you will remain a citizen of Zimbabwe even if you relocate to another country. Aliens are allowed to vote and be voted for. A specific voter registration exercise is going to be opened for them as they have been marginalised for the past 32 years,” said Hon. Mwonzora.

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On political rights, every Zimbabwean is allowed to vote or join any political party of their choice and this automatically removes the draconian Public Order and Security Act (Posa) while all political parties should have equal access to the media including the public media during the election period. ZEC is mandated to make an announcement of the National Assembly votes immediately after the votes have been counted although for the Presidency it is within five days as the counting is national. The President will be sworn into office on the ninth day as there is a provision for seven days meant to challenge the results if there are any challenges. And if there are challenges to the Presidency, the challenge should be filed within 14 days at the Constitutional Court.

The issue of political parties fielding double candidates will also be a thing of the past as each political party will have a senior official who will sign the nomination papers for each contesting candidate.

“This prevents the issue of double candidates. Anything else is invalid,” said Hon. Mwonzora.

Chapter One deals with the issue of State security services (forces). The defined security forces are; the defence forces, police, correctional services (prisons) and intelligence.

“These are the only security services in Zimbabwe. It is important in that no one can have their own militia forces and that deals with your Chipanganos etc. All security services in Zimbabwe are state owned and accountable to the people,” said Hon. Mwonzora.

It’s game on in Mashonaland West – Hon. Biti

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The MDC will not be deterred from holding its district rallies despite the sustained harassment and wanton disruptions of its meetings especially in Mashonaland West province. MDC Secretary General, Hon. Tendai Biti has said.

At least 10 MDC members had to seek medical treatment after they were assaulted by rowdy Zanu PF members at a sanctioned MDC rally at Marumahdadzira growth point on Sunday.

Hon. Biti who was expected to address the rally where hundreds of party members had gathered described Zanu PF actions as barbaric.

The MDC members who were injured in the disturbances are; Oppah Makwenya, the Youth Assembly national representative for the province, Grace Makanjera, the provincial Youth Assembly spokesperson, Willard Madzima, Zvimba West district secretary, Gilbert Zachus, Voster Kamutse, Susan Berebende, Lucia Nzwere, Obert Phiri, Andrew Tembo and Luckson Makone.

Hon. Biti said the wanton attacks are retrogressive and callous signs that Zanu PF is afraid of the impending by-elections and national elections.

“These violent and unruly disruptions are an unacceptable trend that must be stopped immediately. These disturbances in Zvimba West are an indication that Zanu PF is not only scared of the next by-elections and elections, which the MDC will resoundingly win,” he said.

Known State security agents led by one major Mutimuzakwa of the Zimbabwe National Army and Emmanuel Tandi, a Central Intelligence Operative were leading the Zanu PF thugs during the disturbances. Maggie Hoshiki, an opposition Zanu PF councillor in the area was part of the group of hoodlums.

When the Mashonaland West Provincial leadership approached the police seeking assistance, the police officers where unco-operative saying they had instructions from the Zvimba Rural District Council to bar the MDC rally.

Hon. Tendai Biti expressed outrage at the disruption saying the MDC will not bow down to Zanu PF fascist tendencies.

“We will not cower, we will not stop. Every party should be able to sell its ideas to the people. Zanu PF has nothing to sell to the people so they have resorted to violence and barbarism to close political space,” Hon. Biti said.

He said Zimbabweans deserved freedom and denounced the use of violence to deny them these freedoms.

“Zimbabweans are aware of Zanu PF tactics to try and hang onto power. The people of Zimbabwe deserve to be respected, their rights and freedoms honoured, their security protected and their dignity restored,” he said.

“The fascist way of handling the people is evil.” Hon. Biti said.

The provincial Youth Assembly vice-chairperson, Malthin Mukusha, who was caught in the violent crossfire said it was Zanu PF’s tactic to disrupt the MDC meeting but was convinced it would not work.

“When we got to the venue in the morning, we found the Zanu PF

The people’s struggle for real change: Let’s finish it!!
by Nito Moyo

All things fall apart in Zanu PF
Zanu PF leadership has at last, admitted that the former ruling party is a sinking ship. This came out at the party’s Central Committee meeting in Harare which resolved to disband fortnightly, its district coordinating committees (DCCs) across the country. This decision came after the party’s den of violence threatened its manufacturer to the extent of relinquishing it into the dustbin of history. It is a wake-up call to this same party that the evils unleashed on the people of Zimbabwe are now haunting it.

Zanu PF leader, Robert Mugabe found the going tough to bring together the party he has controlled since he toppled Ndhabanji Sithole and is still trying to come to terms with the situation. For the first time, Mugabe publicly admitted that all was not well in the party and that the degree of violence he is dealing with has been awful of was indeed, destroying its masters.

For a long time, the party’s heavyweights have been secretly trying to topple each other, albeit using lower party structures while the party’s leader remains well. The leadership chose to deal with the weak structures instead of facing each other as it is the one which commands its own revenue. In 2004, Jonathan Moyo masterminded what became known as ‘The Tshihotsho Declaration’. Although this was planned at the highest level of the party, Moyo and a few were sacrificed leaving the real perpetrators behind the Declaration in the party. Since its formation, Zanu PF has seen enemies everywhere, even within its hierarchy. During Mugabe’s years in detention, he together with other political detainees plotted against Ndhabanji Sithole and as they came out, they were at it again in Harare after the death of Herbert Chiweda, which led them to change base to Mozambique.

Robert Mugabe’s love for power saw the arrest of more than 600 fighters and 50 commanders in Mozambique. Wilfred Mhando, better known by his nom de guerre as Dzinhishe Machuntra was one such victim of Mugabe’s heavy-handedness plotted against those to oppose him. Over the years, those who challenged Mugabe suffered intimidation and were regarded as outcasts. In 1998, Dzikamu Maraire told Mugabe that the people of Masvingo were fed up with his leadership and was supposed to go. He was excommunicated from the party and reduced to a beggar until he pleaded with his king and king-maker. Behind Maraire’s utterances were big names like the late Edisson Zvobgo who was not even reprimanded.

Since the expedition of Edgar Tekere, many in Zanu PF have been calling for repression from crimes from behind the scenes for fear of victimisation. They failed to choose a system between communism and democracy but allowed violence and intolerance to control their party. It is however, too late now to tame this demon of violence which the party has nursed since its inception.

The action by Zanu PF’s central committee is just a sign of desperation by people who have outlived their usefulness. It is common knowledge that the inflighting in Zanu PF emanates from the politburo and central committee and to blame the DCCs is very unfair and incriminating.

The decision was ill-aimed as the affected people will find a way to make whoever engineered the move to pay back. Remember, the DCCs have been the chefs who have been pulling the strings behind the scenes. 

The move by the party to start thinking of getting the DCCs to an end is grossly motivated by this organ and so they could turn the tables on anyone who threatens their political life. They have lived like kings and to wake up one day to find that their beacon that has crumbled is unacceptable to them. They want to know what will happen to those who engineered the move who caused their demise.

Faced with an electoral defeat in the coming elections, Zanu PF has no choice as to how it can win back the hearts and to wake up one day to find out what will happen to the faction leaders who caused their demise. The only way it can win back the hearts is to agree to a multiparty dispensation with the same terms laid by the 2013 elections.

All things fall apart in Zanu PF
Things fall apart in Zanu PF

Zimbabwe is faced with an unemployment rate of 90% and the value of diamonds in Chiadzwa area of Manicaland is worth more than a billion dollars. The Zimbabweans want to disband the DCCs, especially after more than a decade of scouring economic pain began to happen to the faction leaders who caused their demise.

It is projected that if the industry is fully exploited, 50% of the production should contribute 10% to the global diamond market. However, after a decade of full exploitation and trading, those figures have not reached 5% of what was expected and are now expectedly fading away.

Zimbabweans hoped that the going will change their lives. Now, reality is dawning that unless they take their own destiny in their hands, without doubt shows that there is a pre-determined plot to understate the value of the world market, and they are now expectedly fading away.

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In recent times, there have been many allegations of diamond funds going missing. According to reliable sources, the amount of royalties that have been remitted are at a much lower level than expected as to what was anticipated at the mining field. This has raised suspicions of theft, corruption, connivance and collusion to take away the proceeds.

A close following of statistics released by both the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development about projected output and royalty leaves many to believe that this is a shocking disparity of figures. The legitimacy of these projected figures by responsible officials has come under heavy criticism as it shows that there is a deliberate ploy by Zanu PF to distort and underestimate the amount of diamond proceeds with an aim of looting the revenue for personal gain.

It is sad that while the country is bleeding due to a plague of acute economic crisis, low FDI and massive unemployment, Zanu PF is looting the national resources to the extent of for a selfish agenda. Instead of walking the talk about economic recovery, Zanu PF has chosen to deny the masses the right to equitable distribution of the country’s wealth.

The MDC Youth Assembly condemn such corrupt practices and disparities in revenue collection by relevant authorities with all their pound of flesh and we are demanding accountability by mining firms from the mining department sale of the diamond. To improve accountability, ZIMRA should stop working in isolation along the diamond production chain as it is the custodial of Zimbabwe’s revenue. We are also requesting the release of credible statistics about diamond proceeds.

It is said Zimbabwe is expected to rack $600million from diamond revenue and a maximum of 45 million carats are likely to be produced in the year. However, it is also claimed that a single mine, ANJIN has the capability to produce the same output in 3 months.

We demand transparency in Diamonds

Moreover, this clearly shows that there is massive exercising of powers by Zanu PF in order to enrich its elite few. The accuracy of figures released by relevant authorities has come under the spotlight. A closer analysis of events leading to the announcement of this year’s budget shows that initially, a budget of 3.4 billion was set but after KPCS certified ANZIN trading status, the budget was changed to 3.9 billion.

This shows that 600milllion was expected from ANZIN stockpiles only and if these are excluded, the expected revenue from diamonds is a shocking disparity of figures. The legitim of these projected figures by responsible officials has come under heavy criticism as it shows that there is a deliberate ploy by Zanu PF to distort and underestimate the amount of diamond proceeds with an aim of looting the revenue for personal gain.

We also condemn the involvement of Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) in mining activities. These soldiers must stay in the barracks and protect their citizens, not visa versa. The involvement of ZNA in mining activities has been done at the expense of the youth who represents the future. The move to include ZNA clearly shows that Zanu PF is against the agenda of youth upliftment and is characteristically, anti-people.

Moreover, the people of Zimbabwe are demanding accountability in parlour talk of sale and marketing of these precious gems.

The demand for accountability in parlour talk of sale and marketing of these precious gems.

The integrity of the ZMDC board is also questionable as it is led by President’s Musiambwa who happens to be a Zanu PF sympathiser and denigrated lawyer. The syndicate of Masihaumbwa and Musesini, Albert Mproyo can be traced way back to 1995 as they were all found in the firm of Trade and Commerce. Then, Mproyo appointed Gushan Chidzonga as the chairman of the ZMDC to investigate financial affairs of these organisations. 

Sadly, the move is being blocked by Zanu PF as most of its members are part of the syndicate of Masihaumbwa.

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On behalf of the youth of Zimbabwe, MDC Youth Assembly Secretary for Information and Publicity - Clifford Chidocho’s claim to own the party and being more Zanu than others. This latest development has robbed them of a last chance to loot before power goes to the people, come elections.

Voters’ corner

“Voter registration shall be conducted on a continuous basis so as to keep the voters rolls up-to-date.”Zimbabwe Electoral Act, Part 4 Section 17A Subsection (1).

Mashonaland East Province

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>PHYSICAL ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Registry</td>
<td>Cor 2nd Street, Morris Avenue, The New Government Complex Marondera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. District Registry</td>
<td>District Administrator’s Complex, 256 Rugazi and First Street Marondera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Marondera Hospital sub-office</td>
<td>Corner 2nd Jaguar Road and Fourth Street, Marondera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Dzahiri sub-office</td>
<td>Dzahiri Rural Service Centre Marondera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. District Registry</td>
<td>District Administrator’s Complex, Chikomba.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Chiredzi sub-office</td>
<td>Marvingo/Harare Road Chiredzi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. District Administrator’s Complex</td>
<td>Goromonzi Rural District Service Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Marondera sub-office</td>
<td>Ruwa Clinic, Ruwa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. District Registry</td>
<td>District Administrator’s Complex, Hwedza.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Chinohwe Hospital sub-office</td>
<td>Marondera Hospital sub-office Marondera.</td>
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<td>16. Hwedza Hospital sub-office</td>
<td>Hwedza Growth Point, Hwedza.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Chinotu Hospital sub-office</td>
<td>Kotwa Growth Point, Mutzi.</td>
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The Election Resource Centre (ERC) is a non-profit making electoral institution which service the needs of electoral stakeholders in Zimbabwe.

Contact Details: 021-632-514, 086-521-1566, 086-715-676. Email: info@erc.zw.

Follow us on Twitter @erczimbya; Facebook: @ERCZIM; Instagram: @ERCZIM.
President Tsvangirai has described the struggle for democracy in Zimbabwe as an extra-ordinary struggle by ordinary people keen to create a new culture and a new country with new values.

He made the statement last week at an address at the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo, Japan under the topic; "Democratization in Africa".

President Tsvangirai who is also Zimbabwe’s Prime Minister said the people of Zimbabwe wanted; “A new Zimbabwe with a legitimately elected government and in which the ordinary citizen will be free to pursue and live their dream. With everyone’s support and prayers, that new a Zimbabwe is possible within our lifetime”.

He said that as Zimbabwe prepared for its next elections to be held in 2013, it was important for the people to support the call for a free and fair election in the country in which the people’s will is respected and protected.

“I urge all of you to be ambassadors of democracy, torch bearers for a peaceful environment in our country, enabling citizens to cast their vote without hindrance. The people of Zimbabwe would greatly benefit from a global campaign to end violence and to ensure a clean last week of our country,” said President Tsvangirai.

His call for peace was made at a time when Zanu PF is reactivating its military and some partisan State agents to disrupt MDC public meetings, especially in Masvingo, Bulawayo and Edward Park.

“I urge you all to support SADC and the regional effort in stabilising the situation in Zimbabwe so that the people in our country are allowed to choose their own government without violence and intimidation. I call upon every one of you to stand by us in this deliberate move by Zanu PF to make sure that we become global citizens ready to defend peace and democracy everywhere,”

“The struggle against apartheid and indeed the new global pressure against repression, terrorism and violence everywhere on the globe is evidence that the world will no longer stand and watch while people elsewhere are brutalised and killed,” said President Tsvangirai.

He told the delegates that democracy alone without jobs and wealth creation was meaningless.

“I also wish to state that democracy and democratisation alone uncluttered by a meaningful change in people’s lives is dangerous. Democracy must be underpinned by wealth creation, jobs and food security,” he said.

“Democracy is universal and as Africa, we cannot accept to be sovereign but with a minimum threshold of democracy and basic freedoms.

“Let me hasten to say from the outset that the struggle for democracy in Africa has been piecemeal, pedantic and painful. From Tanger to Table Bay, from the coast of Gabon to Mozambique, Africa’s story has been a painful and sad narrative. It began as a story of subjugation and foreign domination by colonial powers that sought to suppress people, to subjugate them, to pillor their resources and tocurtail their rights,” said President Tsvangirai.

He bemoaned the misfortune of Africa that some of its leaders have helped to confirm and to entrench the negative stereotype of a continent of political violence, conflict, disease, hunger and war.

“They have pilfered national resources, pick-pocket the collective people’s wealth that their ears to the loud national demand for democracy and good government. They have personalised national situations, perfected the art of political patronage and undermined their own legacy, said President Tsvangirai.

He said this culture had brought about the spring revolutions when nations and their people became impatient with repressive leaders.

“It is sad that what began as a march towards democracy has been negated by internecine conflict and a reversal of that march as characterised by the events in Egypt and Libya. But whatever the current developments, the situation in those countries is the same as the one the people of Zimbabwe should pursue with their brave march towards democracy,” said President Tsvangirai.
Youths play a critical role in the next elections

The next election will be won on labour as part of the food-for-work programme but the two headmen went and intimidated villagers against attending yesterday’s meeting to map the way forward.

He said if the by-elections are to be held, there are to save as a test case for Zanu PF’s grip on power as what happens on election day when the party lost in a referendum.

Those who have names of perpetrators of violence in your constituencies feel free to phone or write to MDC Information & Publicity Department, Posta: 84 7707 Home: 84 8199 Tel: 84 8198 MDC Information & Publicity Department, Harvest House, 4th Floor, 44 Nelson Mandela Avenue, Harare.

Jailed MDC activist transferred to a private hospital

The transfer of Garwe to a private hospital has haunted the trial of Rhoda Vava in the High Court until he recovers because the court cannot sit in the absence of one of the suspects.

The application for Garwe to seek private treatment was made last week and the court had to visit him at the Harare Central Prison Hospital to ascertain his condition.

Meanwhile, police last week recovered ten 50 kg bags which were part of a Grain Loan Scheme consignment of twenty five of grain that had been stolen by Muvudzemiri. The other ten have not been recovered.

What is further disturbing is that when they inquired about the culprit, they received threats from Saviour Kankuwere and Dhlomo Kus, the council chairman as arresting the Zanu PF supporters.

Meanwhile, stadium manager, a chairman of the disbanded DCCs has been identified as an accomplice in the Zanu PF activities.

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