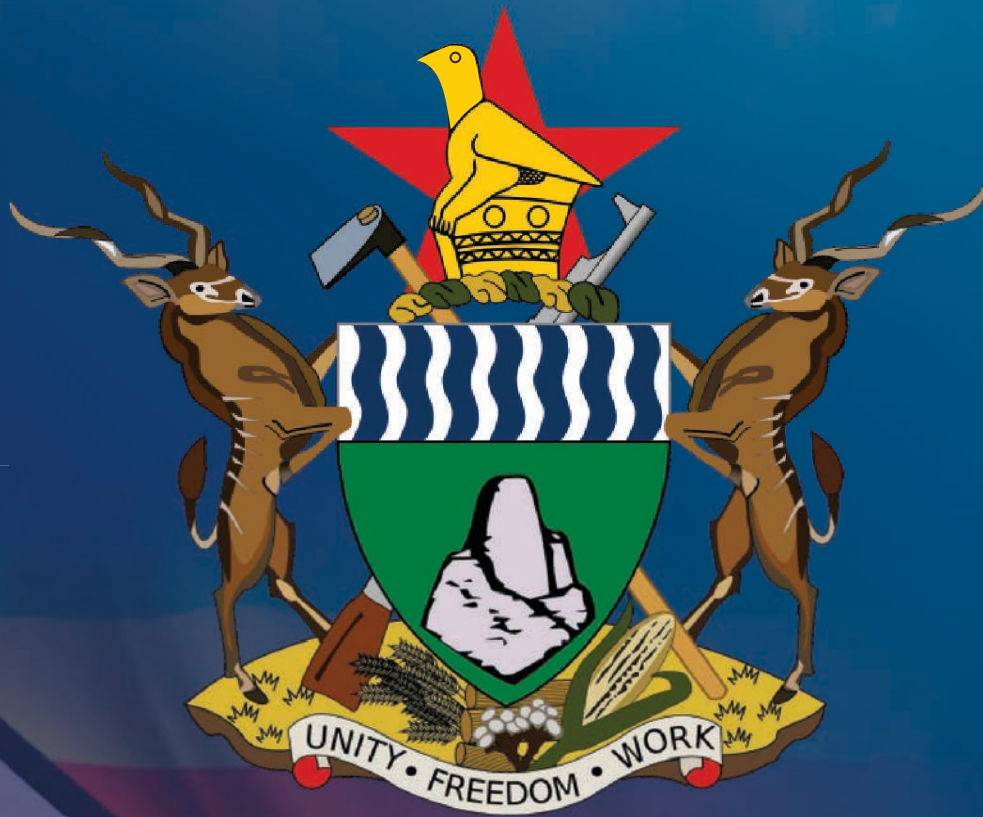


FOREIGN RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY



ZIMBABWE

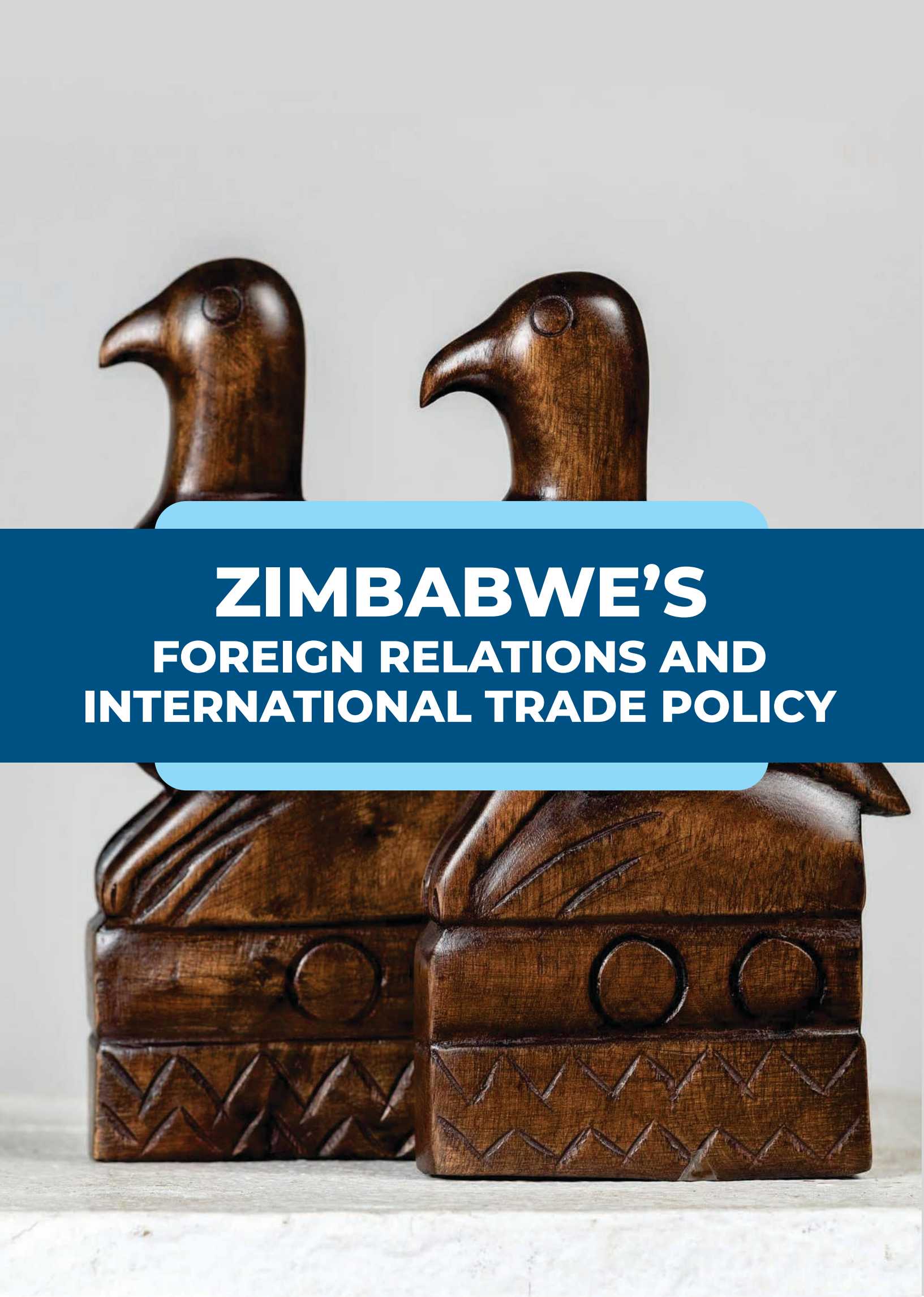
FOR THE INTEGRITY, DIGNITY & PROSPERITY OF ZIMBABWE

11/11/2019



ZIMBABWE

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The background image features two dark brown wooden bird sculptures, possibly doves, positioned on top of two large, intricately carved wooden blocks. The blocks have a series of circular indentations and a zigzag pattern at the base. The entire scene is set against a light gray background.

ZIMBABWE'S FOREIGN RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY

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FOREWORD



Consistent with the collective aspirations and determination of the people of Zimbabwe to achieve a sustainable, just, free and democratic society in which people enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives, Zimbabwe launched a long-term national vision as a guiding framework for national development. This long-term vision guides the implementation of national development strategies at home and abroad.

Pursuant to the national vision, Zimbabwe has adopted six pillars/goals as guiding principles for its Foreign Policy. This Policy provides a framework for international engagement informed by national priorities, and committed to creating opportunities for the well-being of all Zimbabweans.

Zimbabwe's Foreign Policy embodies the collective aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe and sets out how the nation interacts with the international community. It is a guideline and a manifestation of our national values, that draws inspiration from our Constitution and the Doctrine on Foreign Relations and International Cooperation. It encapsulates our resolve to advancing human needs and the protection of national interests.

This Policy is grounded on Constitutional provisions and inspired by the conviction that *Nyika inovakwa nevene vayo/Ilizwe lakhiwa ngabanikazi balo/* a country is developed by its people. The Foreign Policy reflects the values, needs, and ambitions of Zimbabweans. It is meant to safeguard the country's national identity while fostering innovation, investment, and international cooperation.



Zimbabwe is committed to: building partnerships that promote prosperity and fulfilment of the aspirations of its citizens; peaceful co-existence with other nations; dispute resolution by peaceful means; and participate in an international system that protects and respects the sovereignty of other nations.

His Excellency Cde Dr E.D. Mnangagwa

President of the Republic of Zimbabwe



PREFACE



It is our belief that form follows function and a correctly configured Foreign Affairs and International Trade system shall lead to the protection of National Interests. The Foreign Relations and International Trade Policy guides the philosophy that directs the development of the form and configurations of Government as it executes the mandate of implementing laws and policy decisions that leads to the establishment, enhancement and promotion of a sustainable,

just, free and democratic society in which people enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives.

The principles and values that underpin our foreign policy are derived from the Doctrine of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation based on the values and principles that govern foreign relations as codified in the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe's foreign policy is a reflection of our domestic policy and the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs and International Trade is the conduit through which domestic aspirations and National Interests are advanced and promoted in the world. We affirm that Zimbabwe's conduct in the international sphere is guided by this policy.

Hon. Prof. dr. A. Murwira

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade



SECRETARY'S STATEMENT



The inception of the Second Republic, dawned a new chapter of strategic economic diplomacy that provided a robust foundation for the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs and International Trade to aggressively facilitate the promotion and expansion of trade in quality goods and services.

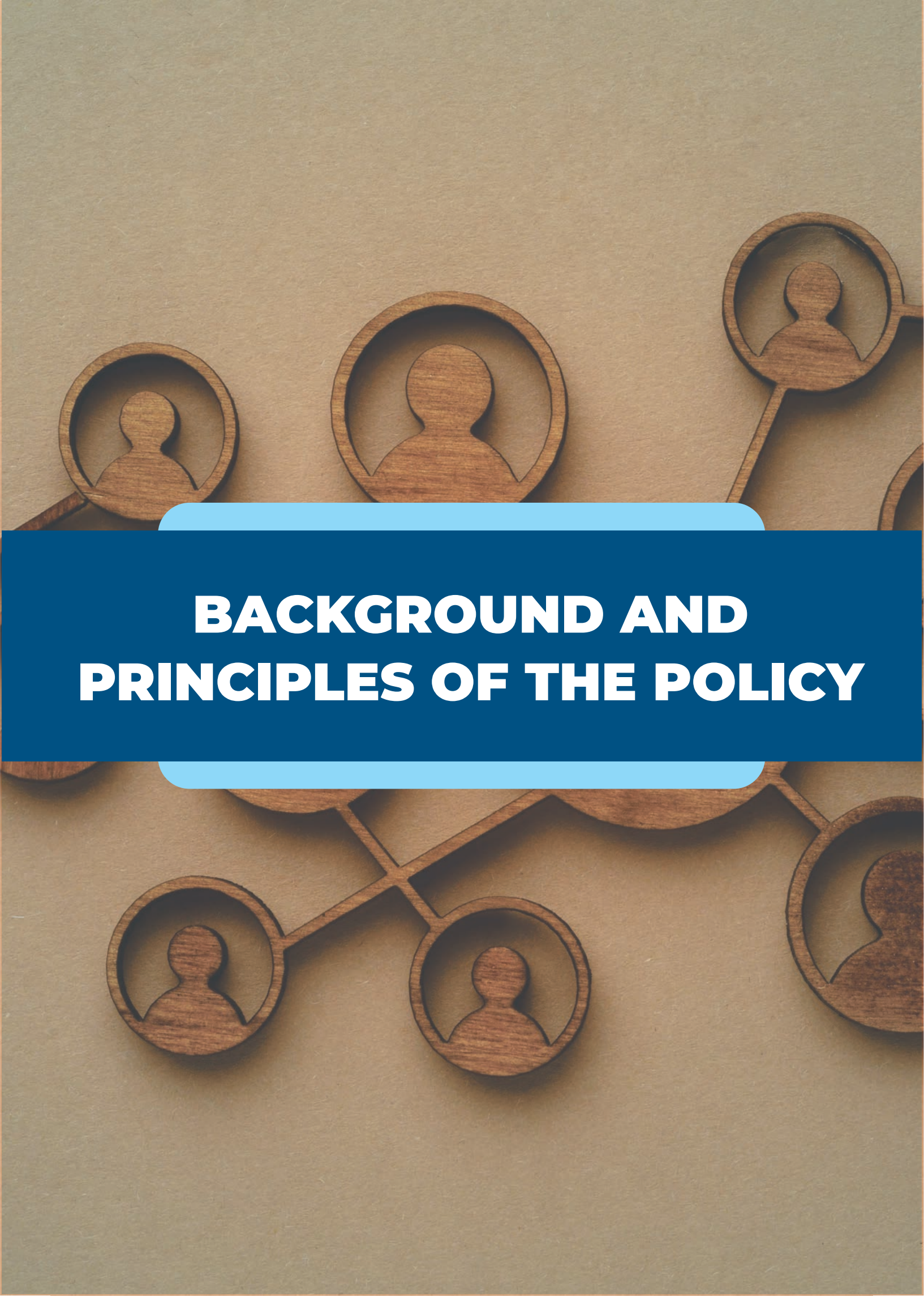
This Foreign Policy provides a general guideline for foreign relation officials to execute their mandate efficiently. Anchored on this Foreign Policy, guided by six goals and 57 policy statements, the Ministry will successfully implement a comprehensive suite of programmes towards achieving national objectives. The programmes encompass; 1) local production promotion, 2) international trade and investment promotion, 3) international tourism promotion, 4) education, scientific and technical cooperation, 5) political cooperation, security and strategic analysis, 6) consular services and the protection of citizens abroad, 7) socio-cultural diplomacy and 8) policy, administration and governance.

Pursuant to Zimbabwe's National Interests, foreign service officials shall be guided by the dictates of this Foreign Policy in ensuring the realization of national objectives. The Foreign Policy shall guide the correct configuration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in its bilateral and multilateral interactions and engagements for the ultimate goal of realising a society that is prosperous, happy and has fulfilling lives.

Ambassador A.R. Chimbindi

Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Trade





BACKGROUND AND PRINCIPLES OF THE POLICY

BACKGROUND AND PRINCIPLES OF THE POLICY

- 1. Strategic Blueprint:** This Foreign Relations and International Trade policy serves as a strategic guide to advance the nation's sovereignty, security, and prosperity in a dynamic global landscape. The policy also guides how Zimbabwe interacts with and reacts to the external or international environment with the objective of promoting the integrity, dignity and prosperity of its people.
- 2. Constitutional Foundation:** As enshrined in section 12 (1) of the Constitution, Zimbabwe's Foreign Policy (hereinafter referred to as the Zimbabwe's Foreign Relations and International Trade Policy or the Policy), is anchored in the primacy of the national interests of Zimbabwe; adherence to international law and the peaceful resolution of disputes; peaceful co-existence with other nations; settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, underpinned by mutual non-interference and respect for self-determination.
- 3. Promoting Multilateralism:** Section 12 (2) of the Constitution further mandates Zimbabwe to promote regional and pan-African solidarity, accelerating economic and political cooperation and integration through bodies such as SADC, the African Union, and the United Nations. This Policy reaffirms Zimbabwe's role as a proactive advocate for African solutions to global challenges and a catalyst for continental unity.
- 4. Founding Values:** Principally, this Policy draws strength from the bedrock principles of Zimbabwe's liberation legacy that include: Uncompromising defence of national sovereignty and resistance to external coercion; Promotion of sustainable development, food security, and stability as pillars of national progress; and Commitment to an equitable international order that prioritizes the needs of developing nations and amplifies Africa's voice in global governance.



- 5. Strategic Imperatives:** To realise the foreign policy objectives, Zimbabwe shall: Prioritize economic diplomacy to expand trade, attract investment, and secure technology transfers that drive industrialisation; Advocate for reformed multilateral systems that reflect contemporary realities and address historical imbalances; and leverage partnerships with nations and institutions that align with Zimbabwe's developmental aspirations and respect its sovereign choices.
- 6. Implementation of Doctrine:** Zimbabwe's Doctrine on Foreign Relations and International Cooperation provides the implementation principles of this Policy. This in turn provides the framework designed for dignified international interactions, advance the needs of Zimbabweans, promote national interests, while ensuring sustainable development, peace, and shared prosperity in Zimbabwe and around the world. This Policy operationalises Zimbabwe's foreign relations through principled pragmatism. Zimbabwe stands ready to engage as a confident, dignified partner rooted in its heritage, focused on its future, and committed to a shared African destiny.





THE POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PHILOSOPHY



THE POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PHILOSOPHY

1. The base philosophy of Zimbabwe's foreign relations and international trade policy is that of being a reflection of the domestic policy meant to advance the integrity, dignity and prosperity of Zimbabwe within a conducive and enabling international environment (figure 1). This Policy is thus the means to achieve a sustainable, just, free, and democratic society where citizens enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives.

FOREIGN POLICY : REFLECTION OF DOMESTIC POLICY

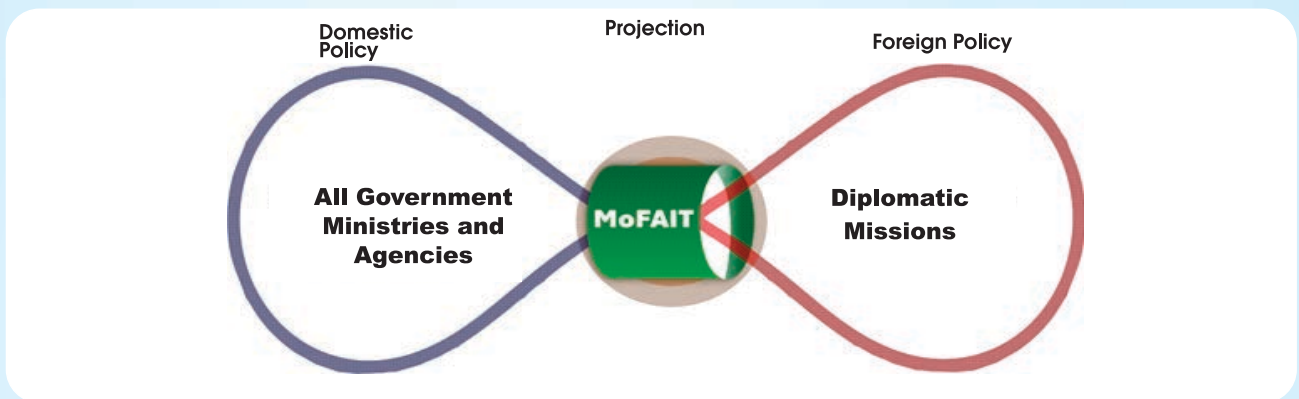


Figure 1:

2. This Policy serves the aspirations of Zimbabweans. It is an instrument for national development, the protection of national interests, and for fostering peace, stability and prosperity. This philosophy of self-determination dictates that foreign engagements must align with the aspirations, needs, and values of Zimbabwe.
3. The implementation of this policy is guided by Zimbabwe's Doctrine on Foreign Relations and International Cooperation. The Doctrine states that: (i) Zimbabwe's strength lies in its heritage and that Zimbabwe's developmental success lies in the hands of its people (Nyika inovakwa nevene vayo/Ilizwe lakhiwa ngabanikazi balo/A country is built by its people);(ii) Zimbabwe is committed to



overcoming colonial mindsets by the liberation of the mind in its interactions with other countries; (iii) inclusivity is central to Zimbabwe's development agenda, as enshrined in section 13 of the Constitution ; (iv) Zimbabwe shall peacefully coexist with other countries, settle international disputes by peaceful means and collaborate with all nations consistent with the Friend to All and Enemy to None; (v) Zimbabwe is ready to engage in economic partnerships and establish itself as a competitive hub for commerce, innovation and trade (Zimbabwe is Open for Business); and (vi) Zimbabwe shall forever be a Sovereign and Independent State (Figure 2).

ZIMBABWE'S DOCTRINE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Figure 2:



4. This policy is implemented with the matrix of bilateral and multilateral cooperation frameworks that enhance cultural, economic, and political integration for the well-being and progress of Zimbabwe and humanity. Through this implementation approach, Zimbabwe asserts its rightful place as a responsible member of the international community by engaging constructively while defending its national interests.





POLICY VISION AND GOALS



POLICY VISION AND GOALS

Policy Vision

To create a peaceful, secure and responsive international environment in which Zimbabwe can thrive in all spheres of human endeavour.

This vision is designed to guarantee the integrity, dignity, and prosperity of Zimbabwe through fostering an international environment that upholds dignified interaction based on mutual respect, mutual benefit, and mutual responsibility among all sovereign nations. It is designed to uphold the principle of the Sovereign equality of nations in the conduct of international relations and trade.

Goals of the Foreign Policy

Zimbabwe's Foreign relations and International Trade Policy is anchored on six goals:

1. Promote a Peaceful and Secure International Environment for Zimbabwe's Development;
2. Facilitate Local Production for International Markets to Promote Trade;
3. Promote International Tourism for Zimbabwe's Prosperity;
4. Design and implement a robust foreign service architecture;
5. Foster International Cooperation in Education, Science, Technology, Innovation and Culture; and,
6. Promote and Protect the Interests of Zimbabwean Citizens Living Abroad.

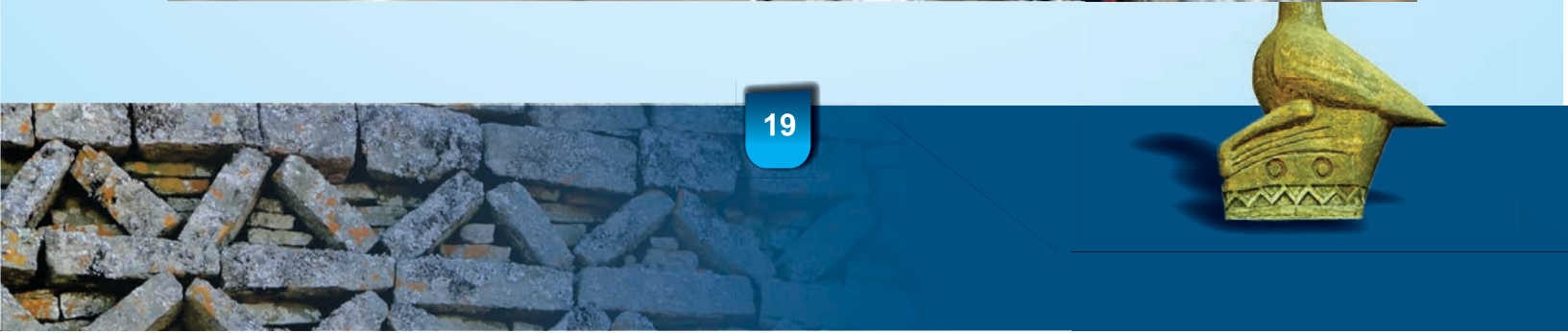


National Objective:
Prosperous, Happy and Fulfilling Lives

Zimbabwe's Foreign Relations and International Trade Policy

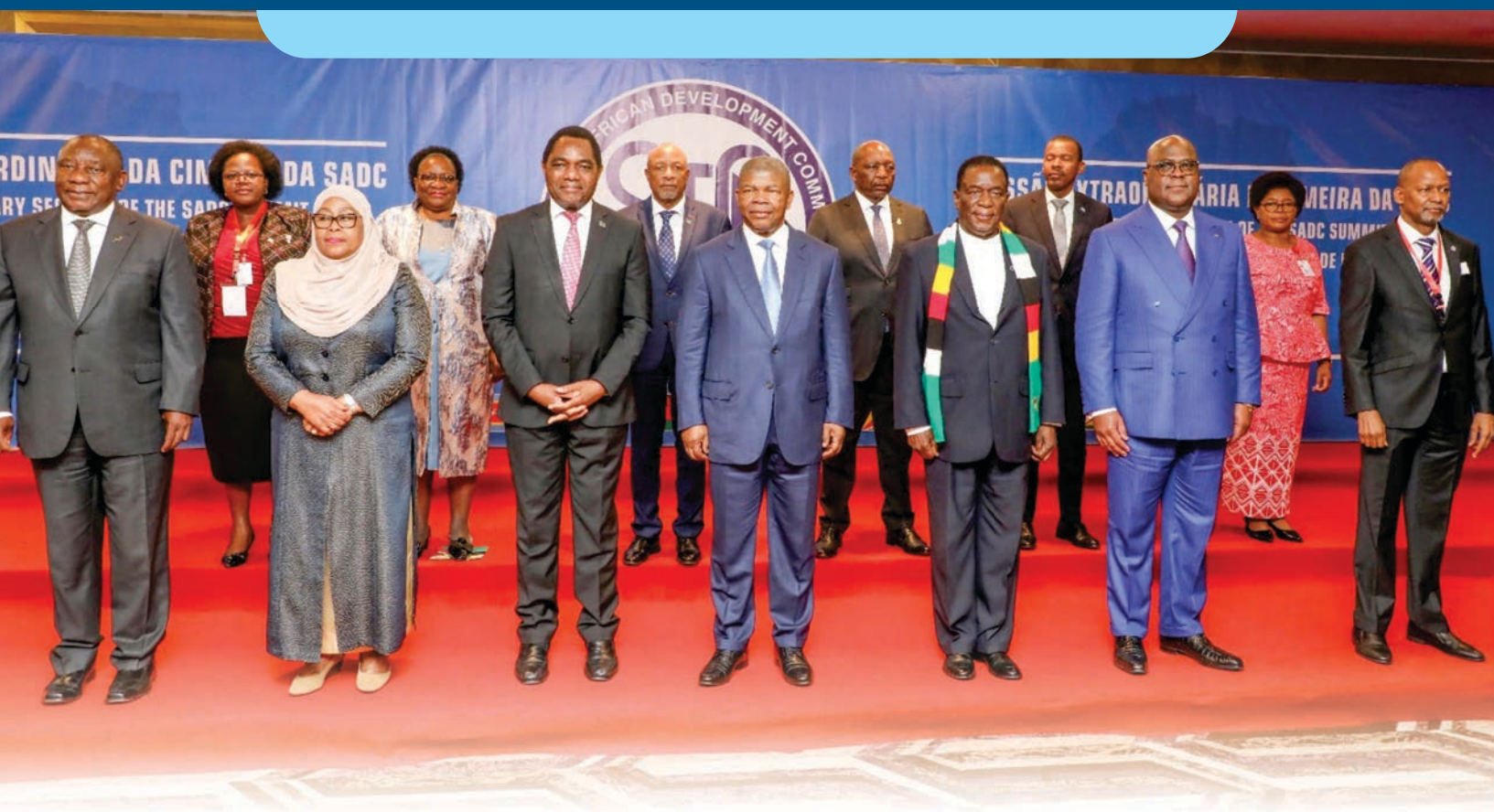
Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5	Goal 6
Promote a Peaceful and Secure International Environment for Zimbabwe's Development	Facilitate Local Production for International Markets to Promote Trade	Promote International Tourism for Zimbabwe's Prosperity	Design and implement a robust foreign service architecture	Foster International Cooperation in Education, Science, Technology, Innovation and Culture	Promote and Protect the Interests of Zimbabwean Citizens Living Abroad

Heritage





GOAL 1 PROMOTE A PEACEFUL AND SECURE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT FOR ZIMBABWE'S DEVELOPMENT



1 PROMOTE A PEACEFUL AND SECURE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT FOR ZIMBABWE'S DEVELOPMENT

A peaceful and secure environment is essential for the country to thrive. This is guided by Section 12 of the Constitution, which mandates Zimbabwe to pursue peaceful coexistence, the peaceful settlement of international disputes, and collaboration with all nations. In enhancing the country's commitment to engagement and re-engagement, Zimbabwe shall strategically position itself to participate in regional and international organisations that advocate for peace, security and the well-being of humanity.

In order to promote a peaceful and secure international environment, Zimbabwe shall adopt specific policies. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Adopt and maintain a non-adversarial posture in its bilateral and multilateral engagements;
- ii. Maintain the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries;
- iii. Participate in the development and implementation of international agreements and treaties that contribute to global peace and security;
- iv. Maintain a defensive military posture and develop a peacekeeping architecture;
- v. Participate in the resolution of international disputes through peaceful means;
- vi. Establish Zimbabwe as a diplomatic hub for peace and security by developing appropriate programme, physical/digital, human capital, legal and financial infrastructure;
- vii. Establish an early-warning diplomatic system to monitor potential global threats to peace and security;

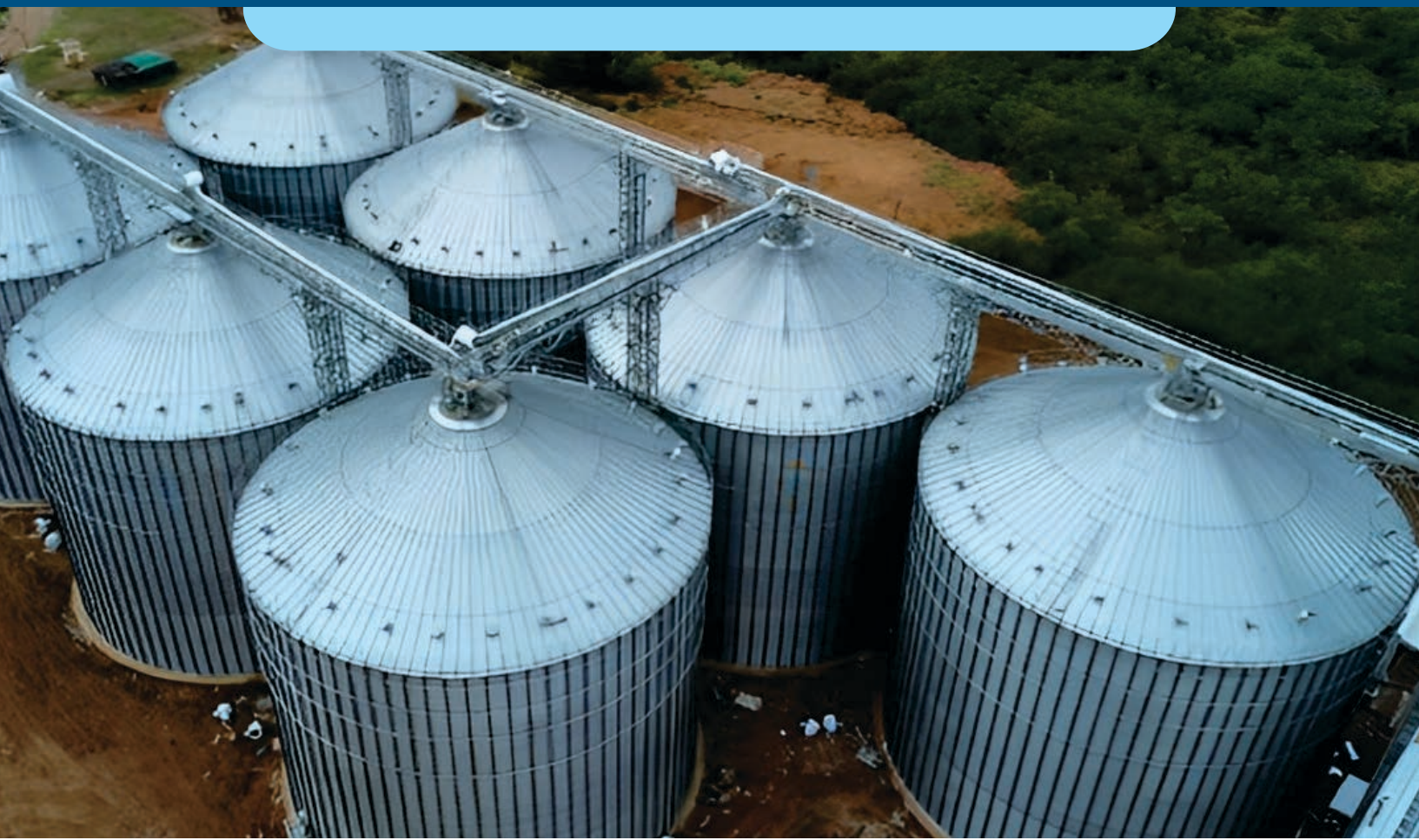


- viii. Facilitate representation and participation of Zimbabweans and Africans at all levels in international bodies that stand for peace and humanity; and,
- ix. Advocate for the development of a fair architecture of international bodies e.g reform of the United Nations Security Council.





**GOAL 2 FACILITATE LOCAL PRODUCTION
FOR INTERNATIONAL MARKETS
TO PROMOTE TRADE**



2

FACILITATE LOCAL PRODUCTION FOR INTERNATIONAL MARKETS TO PROMOTE TRADE

Trade is a key driver of economic growth and development, it plays a pivotal role in enabling the country to produce goods and services in our areas of comparative advantage based on heritage (minerals, soils, cultural traditions, historical sites, natural landscapes, indigenous knowledge, arts, flora and fauna). Promoting local production for international markets serves as a critical driver of economic growth and development, enabling Zimbabwe to secure a competitive edge in global trade, strengthen industrial capacity, and build resilience against economic shocks. Through promoting local production, Zimbabwe shall strengthen productivity, stimulate innovation, generate employment opportunities and enhance value addition, and in-turn creating positive ripple effects throughout the economy.



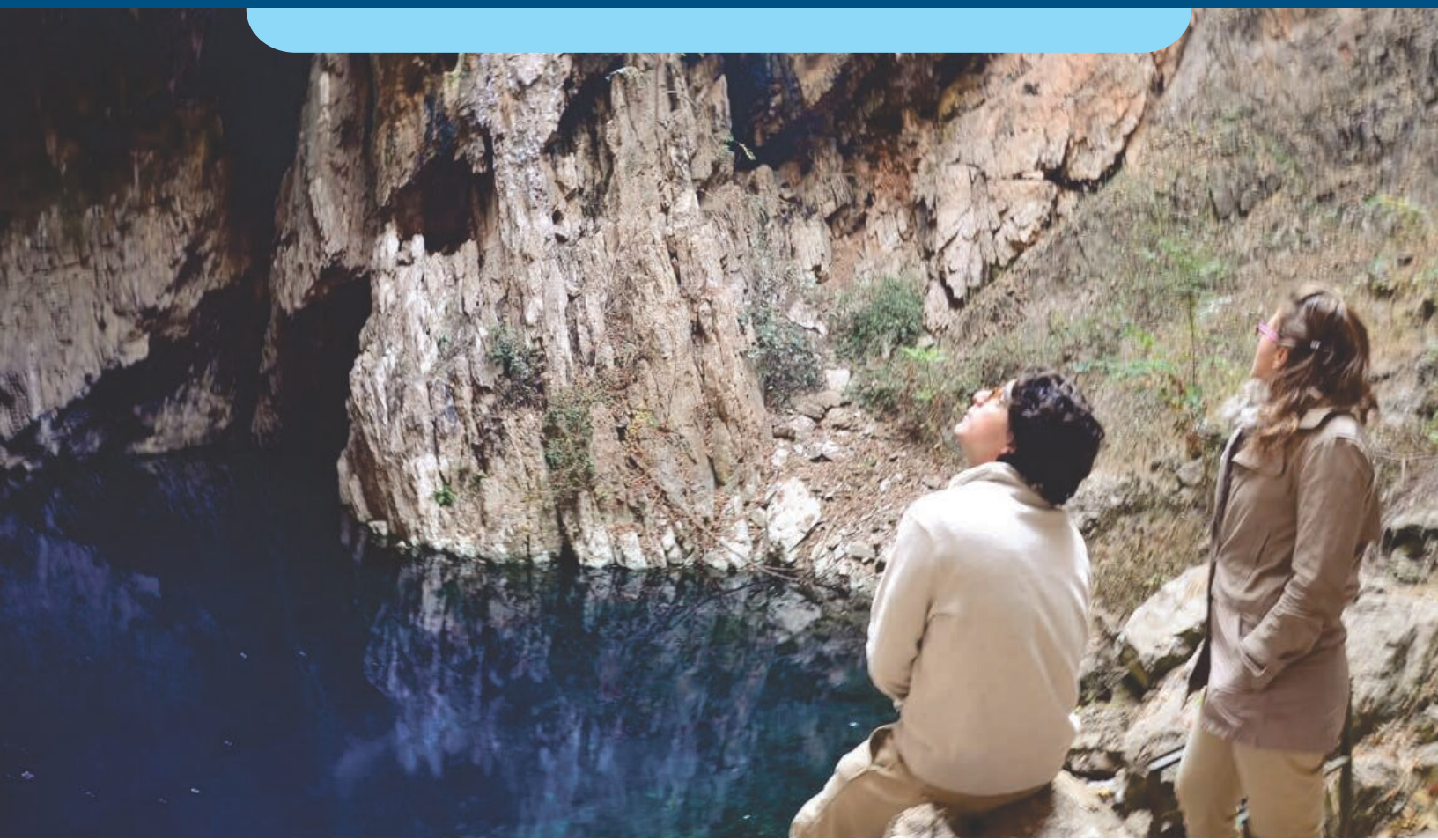
To this end, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Promote the establishment of local hubs to support product improvement and quality assurance for export markets e.g through ZimTrade;
- ii. Strengthen engagement in regional trade agreements to expand market access for locally produced goods e.g SADC, COMESA and AfCFTA;
- iii. Facilitate the modernisation of transport and other logistics infrastructure to reduce export lead times and costs;
- iv. Establish export hubs and warehousing facilities to enhance distribution and access to international markets e.g through ZimTrade;
- v. Expand Export Processing Zones (EPZs) to new regions to decentralize industrial growth and create export-ready goods;
- vi. Facilitate the aggregation of small-scale producers into cooperatives or export consortia to achieve economies of scale and meet international demand;
- vii. Promote the use of reduced non-tariff barriers and streamlined customs processes to facilitate the seamless flow of goods in order to boost trade;
- viii. Strengthen value chains by fostering collaboration among producers, processors, and exporters to achieve seamless production and enhanced product quality;
- ix. Develop e-commerce platforms and digital export tools to directly connect local producers with global buyers;
- x. Facilitate industry modernisation and retooling to enhance productivity through policy support and investment; and,
- xi. Develop and promote a niche market focus through leveraging unique product characteristics.





GOAL 3 PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FOR ZIMBABWE'S PROSPERITY



3

PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FOR ZIMBABWE'S PROSPERITY

Zimbabwe's tourism and hospitality industry is one of the main contributors towards national development. Zimbabwe's Foreign Policy stands as a strategic handshake with the Tourism and Hospitality Industry Policy (2025-2030), underscoring a deliberate and coordinated approach to enhancing the country's global visibility and appeal. This synergy between foreign policy and tourism reaffirms Zimbabwe's commitment to positioning itself as a premier, competitive, and sustainable tourist destination—one that upholds international best practices and showcases the nation's rich cultural heritage, diverse wildlife, and natural beauty.

Tourism remains a cornerstone of Zimbabwe's economic growth. On average and over the years, tourism has been ranked among the top three contributors to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), highlighting its significance as a key platform for international engagement. To maximize the sector's potential, Zimbabwe is prioritising strategic initiatives such as infrastructure development, robust destination marketing, streamlined visa processes, and the promotion of heritage-based tourism. Leveraging its global diplomatic presence through a network of Embassies and Consulates, Zimbabwe is committed to advancing these efforts to elevate its status on the world tourism map. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:



- i. Facilitate the Ministry responsible for Tourism and Hospitality to host and participate in regional and international tourism events to boost international tourist arrivals;
- ii. Develop marketing approaches that attract world brands in the tourism and hospitality industry to invest and establish themselves in Zimbabwe as a way to boost international tourism;
- iii. Adopt and deploy robust utilisation of information and communication technology approaches in order to grow the international tourist arrivals;
- iv. Facilitate international and domestic private sector investment in the tourism and hospitality industry; and,
- v. Promote the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) concept through active bidding to host international conferences, exhibitions and high-level meetings, with the aim of positioning Zimbabwe as a competitive destination for business tourism and economic cooperation.





GOAL 4 DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A ROBUST FOREIGN SERVICE ARCHITECTURE



4

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT A ROBUST FOREIGN SERVICE ARCHITECTURE

A robust foreign service architecture is essential to advancing national interests and global standing for the integrity, dignity and prosperity of Zimbabwe. An appropriate foreign service architecture enables Zimbabwe to participate and influence the international environment for the attainment of dignified development and prosperity. To this end, a well-designed foreign service architecture rests on a well-thought, streamlined domestic and international institutional infrastructure and processes. In this context, the operationalisation of a well-designed foreign service architecture is vital for effective diplomacy, global competitiveness and the successful implementation of Zimbabwe's national objectives. A well-configured foreign service architecture conforms to the principles that are critical for Zimbabwe's development aspirations.

Pan-African outlook and global presence: Zimbabwe shall lay a foundation for a modern, dynamic, principled and mature foreign service, that is anchored on Pan-African principles in order to maintain a comprehensive global presence as provided for in section 12(2) of the Constitution. This strategic and forward-looking initiative prioritises the Africa first principle starting with the immediate neighbourhood (Southern Africa), recognising that Zimbabwe's peace, security, prosperity, and future are inseparably linked to the region's stability and progress. By deepening bilateral and multilateral partnerships rooted in African solidarity, mutual respect, and shared growth, Zimbabwe aims to foster regional stability and advance inclusive, people-centred development. In implementing this principle, Zimbabwe shall take into consideration the critical role of communities living along the border areas as catalysts for regional integration.



Additionally, Zimbabwe's priorities include integrating into the global architecture with the intention of fostering a common global future of collective security, peace and prosperity. In this context, Zimbabwe shall design and implement a foreign service that reflects its commitment to a just, inclusive and equitable international order grounded in multilateralism. To this end, Zimbabwe shall establish a network of embassies and consulates to constitute a comprehensive global presence outside of Africa. Although the principle is to be physically present worldwide, Zimbabwe's engagement shall prioritise countries, regions and international organisations that traditionally seek to share strategic relations with Zimbabwe. Based on the Doctrine of friend to all and enemy to none, as well as Zimbabwe is open for business, Zimbabwe seeks comprehensive global integration in order to realise its national objectives. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Establish and maintain a strong presence in Africa by establishing a robust network of embassies and consulates across the continent starting with Southern Africa ;
- ii. Advocate for simplified trade rules and measures to enhance Zimbabwe's export competitiveness in global markets;
- iii. Promote the development and maintenance of a comprehensive network of road, air, rail and sea transport corridors linking Zimbabwe to the rest of the world with priority given to linkages within Africa as a way to deepen trade, as well as enhancing regional and continental integration;
- iv. Promote full regional integration starting with Zimbabwe's immediate neighbourhood with special focus on communities around borders through the establishment of joint economic, social and cultural activities, e.g., transfrontier parks; and,
- v. Strengthen collaboration with Global institutions including those under the United Nations.



Domestic and International Institutional Infrastructure: In order to support the national objective of creating a society that is just, free and prosperous in a peaceful and secure world, the design and maintenance of a robust domestic and international institutional infrastructure is critical. In the domestic environment, the systemic and organisational environment constituted by a domestic institutional framework that include a dedicated ministry responsible for the foreign service and its requisite departments and supporting institutions accompanied by well-coordinated processes and procedures. Internationally, it is important to participate in the setup, support and maintenance of global institutions that stand for peace, security and prosperity including the United Nations and its agencies. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Design and establish a dedicated comprehensive domestic foreign service institutional framework including a well-configured ministry, supporting departments and agencies, with robust procedures;
- ii. Develop and implement structured coordination mechanisms between the foreign service and other Ministries, Departments, Agencies and institutions for a focused, purposeful, coordinated presence of Zimbabwe in the international environment;
- iii. Institutionalise Zimbabwe's influence abroad using a network of institutions that include ZimAid, Centres for Disease Control (CDC) and other related scientific and cultural institutions;
- iv. Design and implement trade promotion institutional architecture e.g. ZimTrade and trade logistics infrastructure and network of trade warehouses for Zimbabwe's prosperity;



- v. Nurture competent foreign service officers equipped with diplomatic and technical skills that enable them to serve the national interests in the international environment;
- vi. Develop and implement a recruitment and training system for experts to support critical pillars of the foreign service that require specialised knowledge to enhance foreign service effectiveness;
- vii. Develop a robust legal and regulatory framework to support a foreign service that delivers the integrity, dignity and prosperity of the nation guided by the Constitution of Zimbabwe; and,
- viii. Purposefully participate in the establishment, support and maintenance of regional and international organisations that stand for peace and well-being, collective security and prosperity including those under the United Nations and its agencies.

Physical and Digital infrastructure: To anchor her global presence, deliberate investment in the design and construction of modern foreign service physical and digital infrastructure at home and abroad is critical. To this end, Embassies and Consulates are extensions of Zimbabwe's territory and therefore, their design, upkeep, and visibility reflect the values, culture, and image of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe shall therefore, ensure that diplomatic missions are modern, secure, and accessible facilities. While Diplomatic Missions provide the working space, secure digital networks ensure enhanced implementation of decisions and coordinated responses when required. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:



- i. Construct, furnish and maintain modern Diplomatic Missions that enhance Zimbabwe's image abroad;
- ii. Establish a secure, interoperable digital platform to connect Head Office of the Ministry responsible for foreign affairs and international trade diplomatic missions in real time; and,
- iii. Continually modernise the Information and Communication Technology digital infrastructure linking all foreign service establishments at home and abroad.

Foreign Service Financing: Finance is a strategic pillar of an effective foreign service. The ability of Diplomatic Missions to advance national interests is linked, inter alia, to its financial strength. A well-resourced and financially agile foreign service enables the state to act with credibility and efficiency. To ensure a well-financed foreign service, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Facilitate adequate resourcing of Diplomatic Missions and the accompanying strategic institutions; and,
- ii. Develop robust funding for Diplomatic Missions and the accompanying strategic institutions for purposes of advancing the national interests.





GOAL 5 FOSTER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND CULTURE



5

FOSTER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND CULTURE

A good education system must lead to industrialisation and modernisation through fostering the production of goods and services. To this end, the wealth status or economic development status of any nation is generally a reflection of the nature of education in that nation. Our approach therefore follows Design Thinking where Human needs are at the centre of our Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development. Thus, through international cooperation in education, innovation, science and technology development, we promote true transformation and development by forging strategic partnerships that promote exchange of expertise in various sectors of the economy.

To ensure Zimbabwe's Education System results in production of goods that satisfy its own people first before trading with the international community, Zimbabwe transformed its education system, to focus on its heritage, through the Heritage-Based Education 5.0 design.

Zimbabwe continues on the drive to leverage cultural diplomacy to showcase local innovations, arts, and creative industries on the global stage. This includes innovation in the creative sector (music, arts, film) as a means to promote cultural identity and economic growth. To this end, Zimbabwe shall:

- i. Promote the collaboration with other countries in education, technology, research, and innovation to tackle pressing issues, to achieve shared goals;
- ii. Promote investment in heritage-based research, innovation, technology and creative industries;

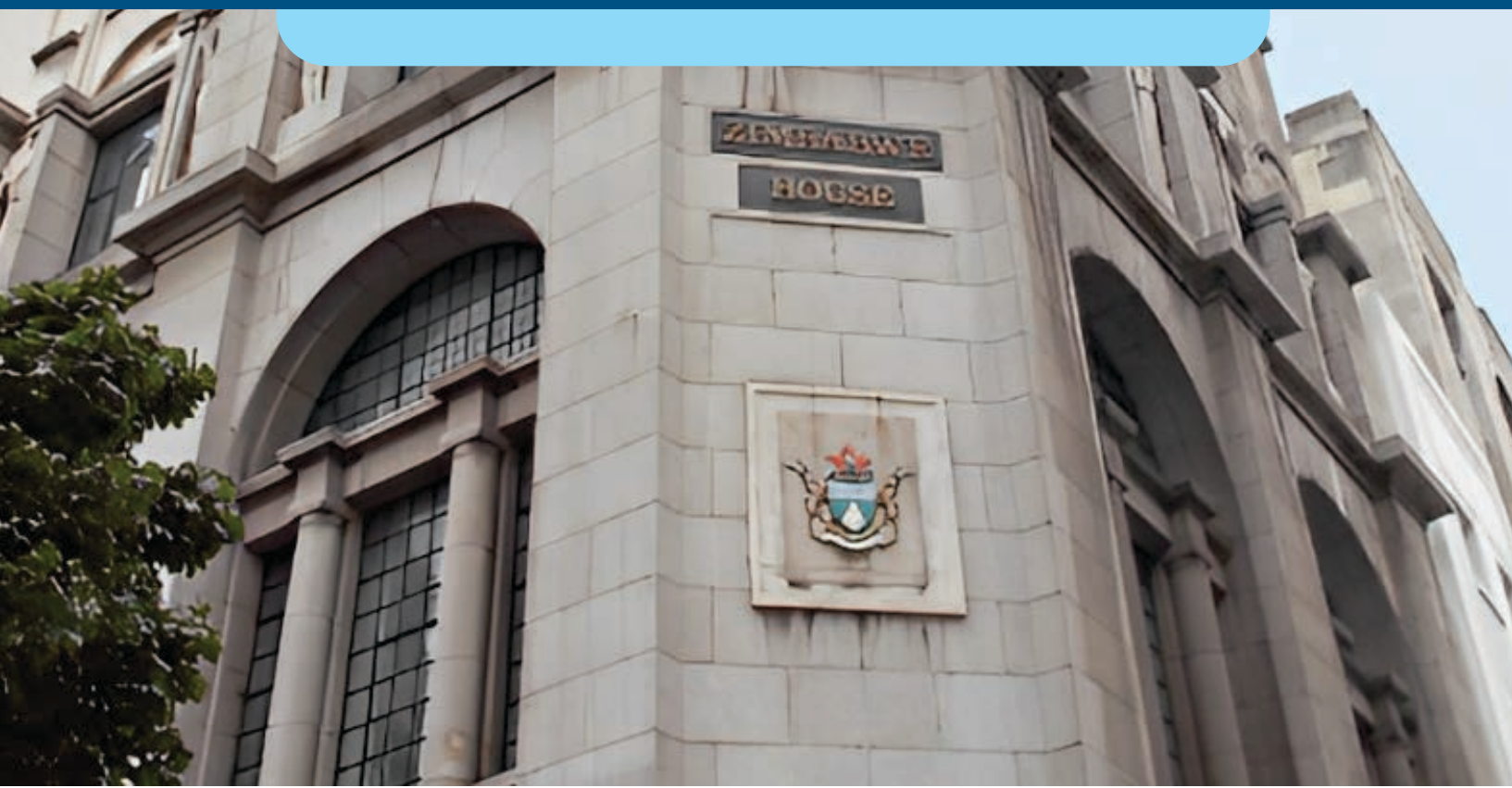


- iii. Facilitate partnerships with all countries and organisations in heritage-based innovation to share best practices and technology;
- iv. Facilitate international academic and technical partnerships, scholarship programmes, student and faculty exchanges, and institutional linkages with global centres of excellence in education, science, and technology;
- v. Facilitate cultural diplomacy that promotes Zimbabwean arts, music, film, and heritage e.g developing a network of traditional music such as Mbira, Marimba and Muchongoyo;
- vi. Promote the participation of local institutions in international science, technology, innovation and cultural expos and programmes; and,
- vii. Develop and implement a scholarship programme for international students to study in Zimbabwe (study in Zimbabwe programme).





GOAL 6 PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF ZIMBABWEAN CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD



6

PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE INTERESTS OF ZIMBABWEAN CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD

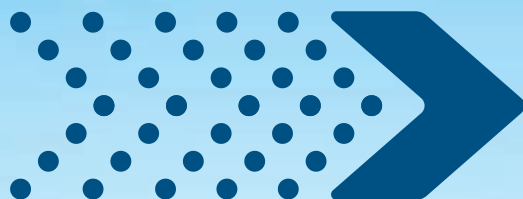
In accordance with Section 35 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, the State has a fundamental obligation to safeguard the rights, dignity, and welfare of its citizens, both within and beyond its borders. Further, section 35 (3) (a), (b), (c) mandates the State to provide protection and essential documentation services to all Zimbabweans including those residing abroad. Zimbabwe shall ensure that no citizen or region is left out of the development process. The policy shall ensure the welfare of citizens living abroad and promote their effective participation in national development.



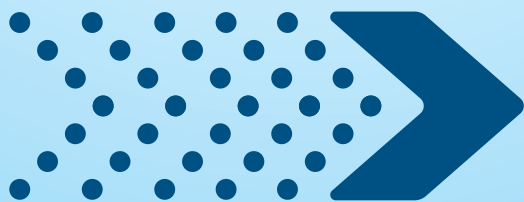
To achieve this, the Government through its Embassies and Consulates shall:

- i. Strengthen the provision of consular services, ensuring efficient responses to the needs of citizens living abroad;
- ii. Strategically locate Embassies and Consulates in all regions of the world that are populated by Zimbabweans to ensure accessibility and/or easy access;
- iii. Institutionalize and strengthen the system of consular services at every mission to ensure the protection of Zimbabwean citizens living abroad;
- iv. Strengthen consular services in emergencies, repatriations, natural disasters or conflicts e.g deployment of rapid response mechanisms for crisis situations;
- v. Establish and maintain a database of citizens living abroad in line with Section 35 of the Constitution;
- vi. Advocate for the rights of Zimbabwean citizens abroad facing legal and all consular related issues in foreign countries; and,
- vii. Equip embassies and consulates with the resources, training, and staffing necessary to implement consular-focused policies effectively and responsively.





**WAY FORWARD AND
MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**



WAY FORWARD

To address the six main goals of this Policy, a total of 57 specific policies have been developed. For each of these policies, specific actions shall be designed and developed and this shall include detailed monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. These policies are aligned to the national vision of becoming an empowered upper middle-income economy or better. It is intended that strategic plans and annual budgets shall be guided by the policies detailed herein. In implementing the intentions of these policies, systematic prioritisation from time to time is important as a way to efficiently utilise state resources.

This policy shall be implemented to produce intended impacts as a function of the extent of the resources allocated. It is therefore imperative to develop an implementation plan which clearly defines roles and responsibilities of specific Ministries, Departments and Agencies, as well as the time frames. Overall, the ever-changing and dynamic environments require constant monitoring and evaluation.

Policy Implementation Framework

Zimbabwe's Foreign Relations and International Trade Policy will be executed through a results-driven, multi-stakeholder framework that harmonises national priorities with global opportunities. Guided by constitutional principles and the liberation ethos, the following measures will operationalise our six strategic goals:

- 1. Programme Infrastructure;**
- 2. Human Capital Infrastructure;**
- 3. Physical/Digital Infrastructure;**
- 4. Legal Infrastructure; and,**
- 5. Financial Infrastructure.**



Programme Infrastructure

To achieve this, we shall implement the following programmes:

- i) Local Production promotion;
- ii) International Trade and Investment promotion;
- iii) International tourism promotion;
- iv) Education, scientific and technical cooperation;
- v) Political cooperation, security and strategic analysis;
- vi) Socio-cultural cooperation;
- vii) Consular services and the protection of citizens living abroad; and,
- viii) Policy, administration and governance.

Human Capital Infrastructure

This will be reviewed by need, e.g. reforming diplomatic training curricula to emphasise economic diplomacy, digital governance, and negotiation skills.



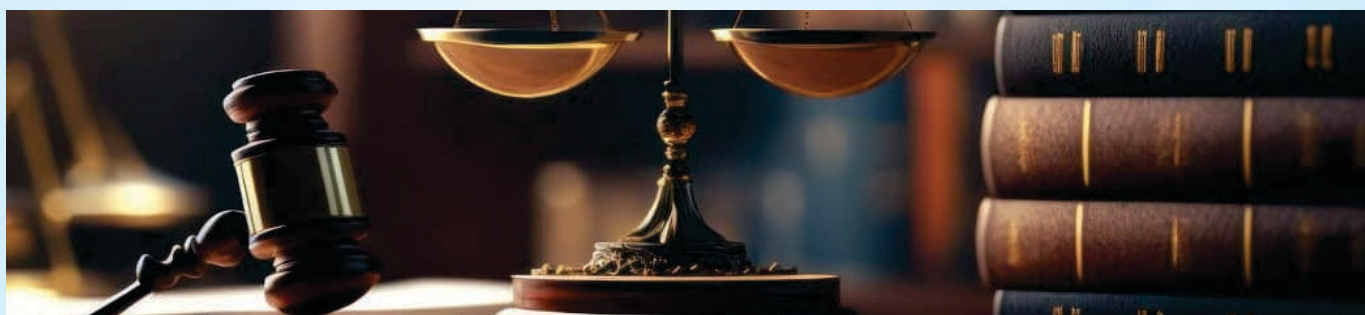
Physical/Digital Infrastructure

Infrastructure will be reviewed and upgraded in line with the delivery of the 6 goals including physical infrastructure development programmes at our missions, digitalisation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and enhanced development of logistics infrastructure among others.



Legal Infrastructure

A new law to implement the Policy will be crafted and promulgated. Reviewing and updating bilateral/multilateral agreements will be ongoing. Other amendments and new regulations may include visa regimes, e-visas and aligning diplomatic postings with national development targets.



Financial Infrastructure

Zimbabwe is a sovereign nation and shall sponsor all its programmes. This will be explored with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies with the goal to enhance incentives for export-oriented industries and Small and Medium Enterprises; as well as de-risking exporting ventures.

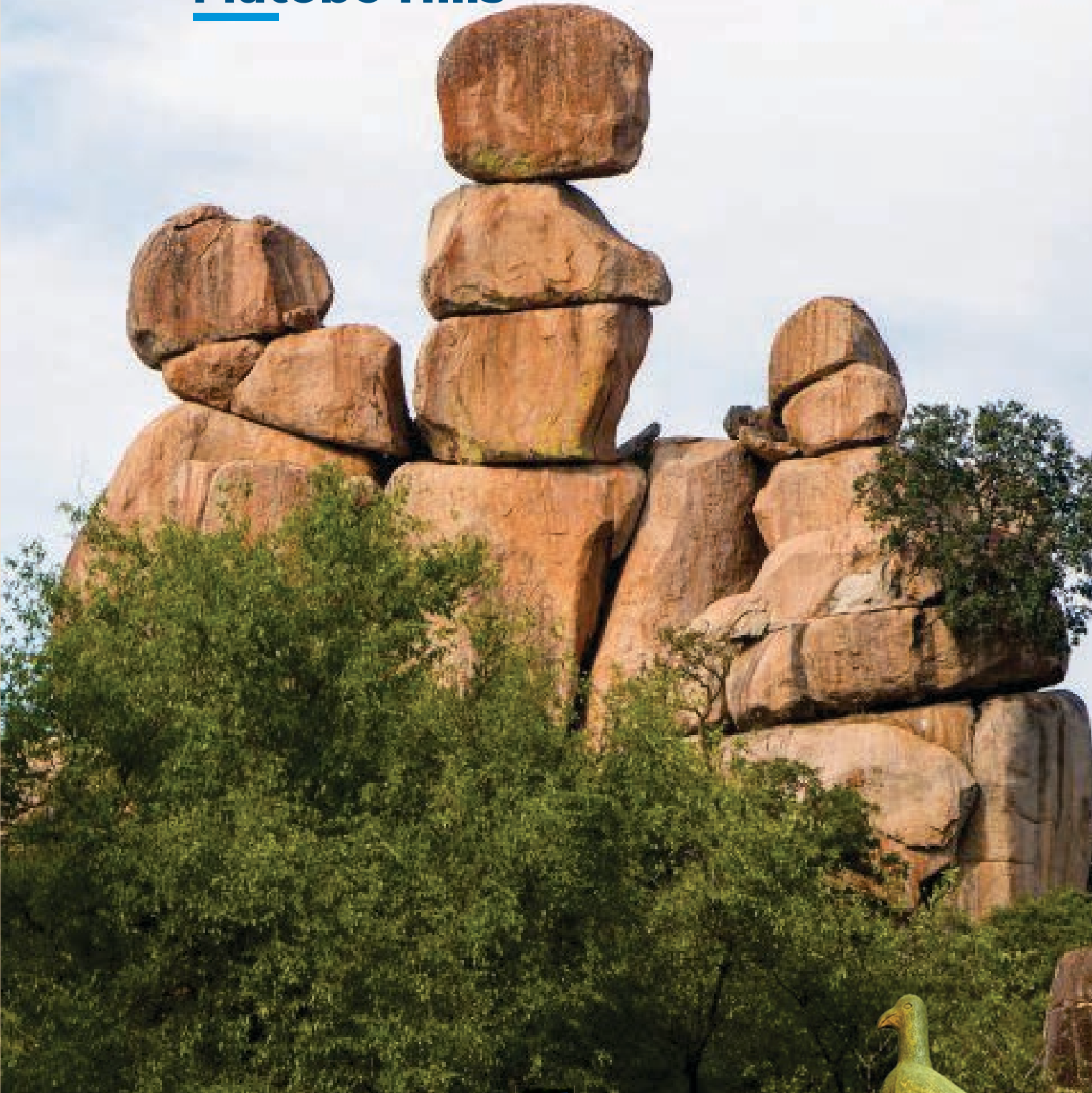
In conclusion, Zimbabwe shall pursue these measures with unyielding resolve, ensuring that every diplomatic action, trade partnership, and international engagement translates into tangible progress for our people. By blending innovation with tradition, and sovereignty with solidarity, we will secure our place as a respected, influential actor in the community of nations.



Victoria Falls



Matobo Hills



HERITAGE BASED PHILOSOPHY



FULFILLMENT OF HUMAN NEEDS





ZIMBABWE

FOREIGN RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY

FOR THE INTEGRITY, DIGNITY & PROSPERITY OF ZIMBABWE

HERITAGE • DIPLOMACY • TRADE • DIASPORA • PROSPERITY