

HERITAGE • DIPLOMACY • TRADE • DIASPORA • PROSPERITY



# DOCTRINE

## OF ZIMBABWE'S FOREIGN RELATIONS & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Chimurenga chepfungwa  
Umvukela wengqondo  
Liberation of the mind



Friend to all and  
Enemy to None



Zimbabwe is open  
for business



Nyika inovakwa nevene vayo  
Ilizwe Lakhiwa Ngabanikazi Balo  
A country is built by  
its own people



Zimbabwe will forever  
be a Sovereign and  
Independent State



Leaving no one and  
no place behind



FOR THE INTEGRITY, DIGNITY & PROSPERITY OF ZIMBABWE

# THE DOCTRINE



**Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo/  
Ilizwe Lakhiwa Ngabanikazi Balo/  
A country is Built by its own People**



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Liberation of the Mind**



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and Independent State**



# HERITAGE BASED PHILOSOPHY



# FULFILLMENT OF HUMAN NEEDS



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# FOREWORD



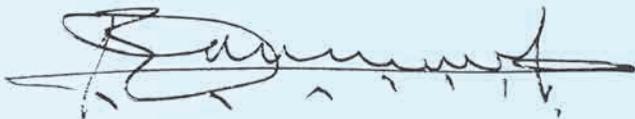
**His Excellency, President  
Cde Dr. E. D. Mnangagwa**

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, the Second Republic launched a long-term national vision as a guiding framework for national development. Such long-term vision statements shall continue to guide the implementation of national development strategies into the future as the foundation for sustainable socio-economic transformation.

This has necessitated the development and adoption of a Doctrine of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation that serves to guide the development of policies that are innovative, effective and reflective of Zimbabwe's values and aspirations. Zimbabwe's long-term vision inspires this Doctrine of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation which serves as a guide on how Zimbabwe shall ensure the integrity, dignity and prosperity of its people in the process of managing foreign relations. The Doctrine also underpins the incorporation of peaceful and inclusive representation and development in the international system.

This Doctrine spells out the reference points and or parameters that are cardinal for safeguarding the integrity, dignity and prosperity of Zimbabwe and these are; (1) Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo/Ilizwe Lakhiwa Ngabanikazi Balo/a nation is built and developed by its people a proclamation underpinned by the conviction that self-reliance, self-determination and our heritage is essential for Zimbabwe's development. It emphasizes that our strength lies in our heritage (our God given resources and our people). (2) Chimurenga Chepfungwa/Umvukela wengqondo, or the liberation of the mind, which urges us to liberate ourselves from the

vestiges of colonial thought. We shall cultivate a mindset that embraces innovation, critical thinking, and empowerment, ensuring that our development is both meaningful and reflective of our heritage; (3) Friend to All and Enemy to None which reflects our commitment to the supremacy of diplomacy as a means to peace and development in the international system; (4) that Zimbabwe is Open for Business which speaks to our readiness to engage with the international community and our preparedness to welcome investors and entrepreneurs who share Zimbabwe's aspirations for sustainable development; (5) Leaving No One and No Place Behind. This emphasizes our dedication to inclusivity, ensuring that every Zimbabwean has access to opportunities and resources. It also emphasizes on addressing disparities, unequal representation in international institutions and uplifting communities, all which is essential in creating a society that thrives on equity and shared prosperity; and (6) Zimbabwe Will forever be a Sovereign and Independent State which reflects on our history and the lessons learned. This encapsulates our resolve to protect our sovereignty and integrity, dignity and prosperity by asserting our rights to self-determination and progress.



**His Excellency Cde Dr E.D. Mnangagwa**  
President of the Republic of Zimbabwe

# PREFACE



**Honourable Minister  
Prof. dr. A. Murwira.**

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 Doctrine of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation 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 doctrine shall be a guide to the codification of Zimbabwe's foreign services and international trade policies. The principles and values that underpin our foreign policy shall be derived from this doctrine 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/National Interests are advanced and promoted in the world. We affirm that Zimbabwe's behaviour in the international sphere is guided by this doctrine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Murwira', written over a light blue background.

**Hon. Prof. dr. A. Murwira**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

## SECRETARY'S STATEMENT



**Ambassador  
A. R. Chimbindi**

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 Doctrine of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation provides a general guideline for foreign relation officials to execute their mandate efficiently. Anchored on this doctrine, the Ministry will successfully implement a comprehensive suite of programmes towards achieving national objectives, these programmes encompass; 1) local production promotion, 2) international trade and investment promotion, 3) international tourism facilitation, 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 Doctrine in ensuring the realization of national objectives. The Doctrine shall guide in the correct configuration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in its implementation of Zimbabwe's foreign policy whose ultimate goal is to have a society that is prosperous, happy and has fulfilling lives.

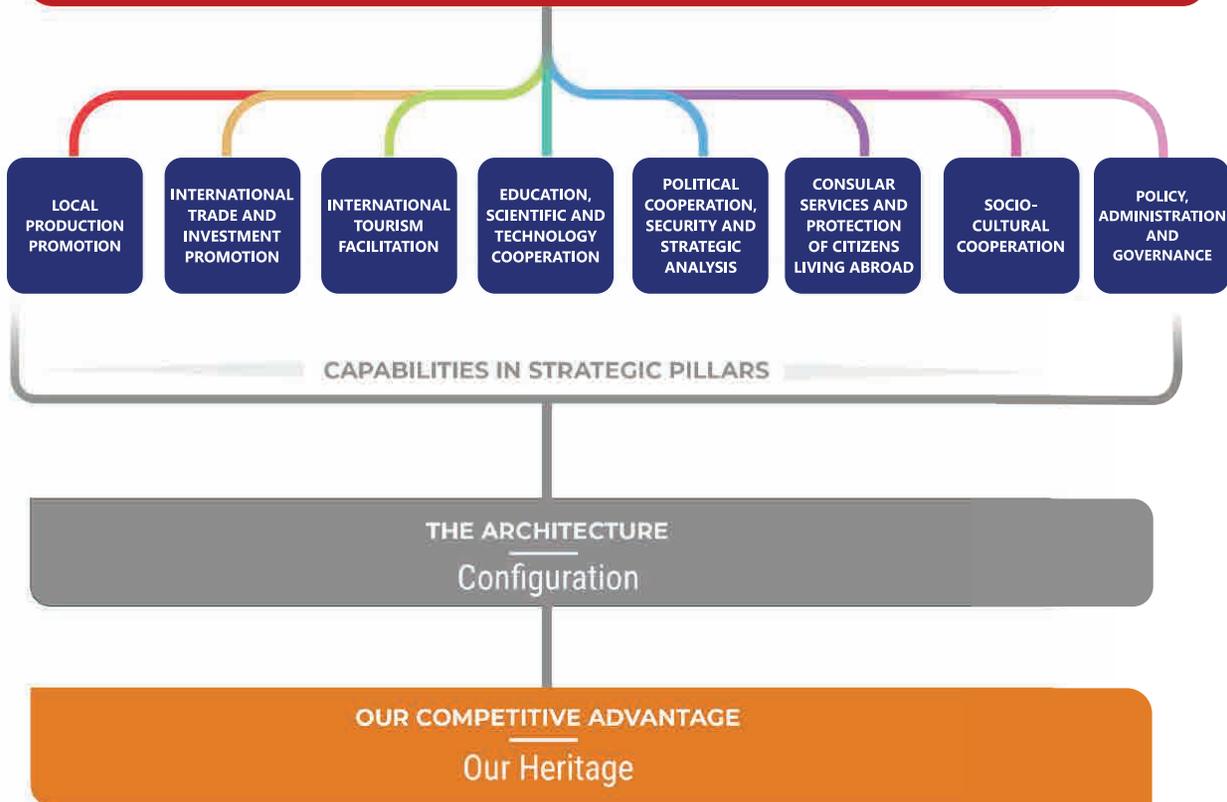
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.R. Chimbindi', written in a cursive style.

**Ambassador A.R. Chimbindi**  
Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Trade

# THE DOCTRINE SEEKS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

## NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives.



# INTRODUCTION



PROMOTING LOCAL PRODUCTION

# Introduction

1. This doctrine is a set of general guidelines for Zimbabwe's foreign policy which are based on decisions about our international relations. Zimbabwe's foreign relations doctrine aims to guarantee the integrity, dignity, and prosperity of its people through upholding mutual respect, mutual benefit, and mutual responsibility among all sovereign nations. This doctrine is therefore appropriately founded on parameters or points of reference that Zimbabwe shall: Be Friend to All and Enemy to None; Leave No One and No Place Behind; Be Built by its Own People; Be a Country Open for Business; A Knowledge-Driven Society; and Commit to Preventing Neo-Colonialism.

2. Section 8 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe (hereinafter referred to as the Constitution) instructs the State and all its institutions to implement laws and policy decisions that lead to the establishment, enhancement and promotion of a sustainable, just, free and democratic society in which people enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives. Prosperity and happiness can only be achieved if a nation is productive and satisfies the following human needs, food shelter, water, transport and communication, sleep and innovation. This is the basis of His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe's formulation and pronouncement of our national Vision. In the same spirit, Section 12 (1) of the Constitution, provides that Zimbabwe's Foreign Policy must be based on the principles of:

- the promotion and protection of the National Interests of Zimbabwe,
- respect for international law,
- peaceful co-existence with other nations, and
- the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means.

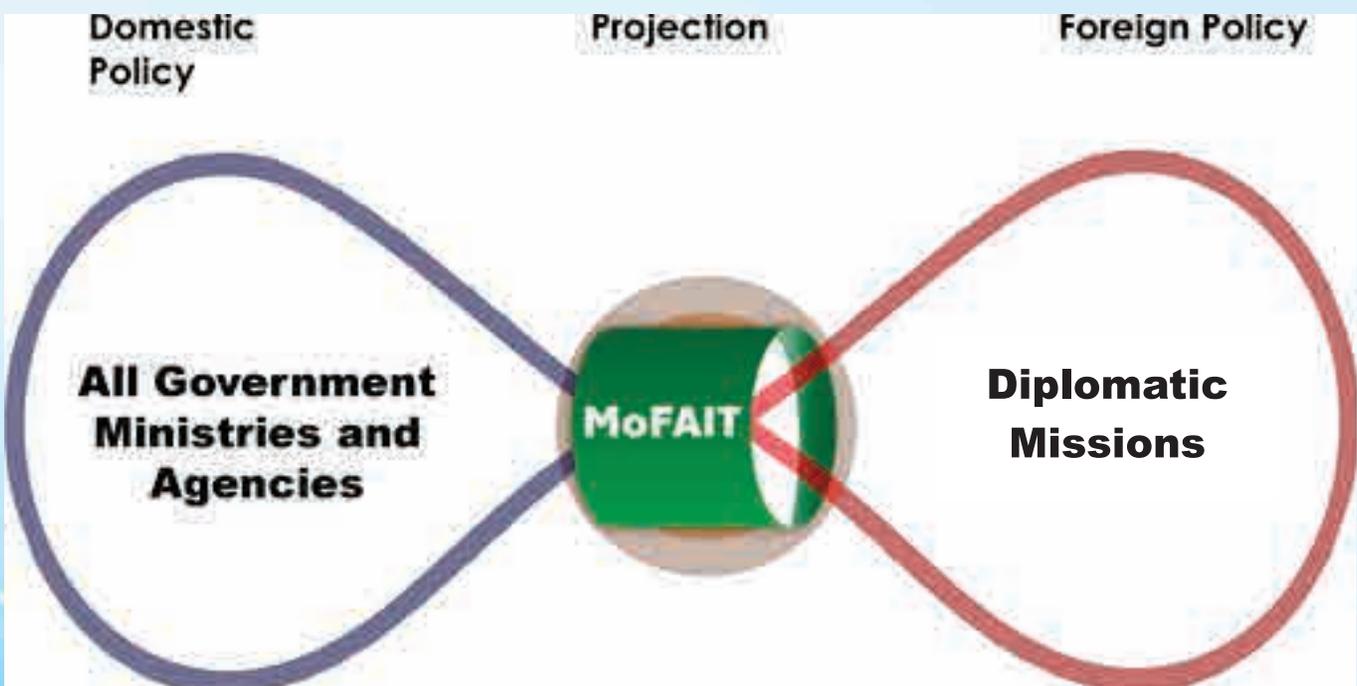
Furthermore, subsection (2), provides that, the State must promote regional and pan-African cultural, economic and political cooperation and integration and

must participate in international and regional organisations that stand for peace and the well-being and progress of the region, the continent and humanity.

3. Zimbabwe's doctrine from which foreign policy is derived is a common statement that is used to interpret or operationalise a complex concept of nation building, national development and culture of action and reaction. This doctrine is anchored on founding values and principles that are provided for in Section 3 of the Constitution that generally include respect of the values of Zimbabwe's liberation struggle; the protection and enhancement of national sovereignty, security, peace and stability; national development; food security; and fostering of regional and international cooperation that shape an international system in which Zimbabwe can thrive. Anything that enhances Zimbabwe's well-being is within the national objective, otherwise it is regarded a threat.

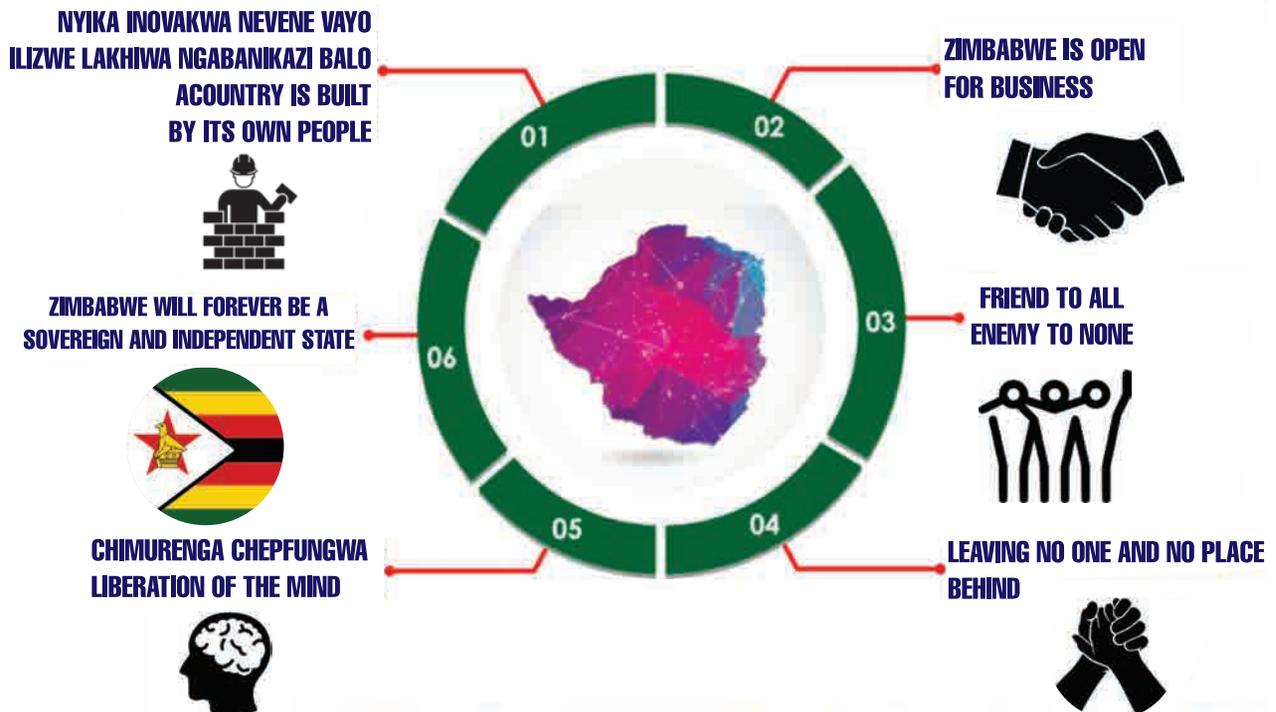
4. The doctrine provides that Zimbabwe's foreign policy shall be a reflection of domestic policy and the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs is a conduit through which Zimbabwe's domestic aspiration and National interests are advanced and promoted in the world.

#### FOREIGN POLICY : REFLECTION OF DOMESTIC POLICY



5. Zimbabwe manages its foreign relations in a manner that ensures the integrity, dignity, and prosperity of its people. The Government of Zimbabwe therefore pursues a balanced approach in managing foreign relations, prioritizing its citizens' needs while engaging constructively on the global stage. Emphasis is therefore on 6 reference points or general guidelines that Zimbabwe has adopted to guide its foreign policy. These are: (1) Zimbabwe is a Friend to All and Enemy to None; (2) Leaving No one and No place Behind; (3) Nyika inovakwa Nevene Vayo/Ilizwe lakhiwa ngabanikazi balo/A country is built by its own people; (4) Zimbabwe is Open for Business; (5) Chimurenga chepfungwa – Liberation of the Mind; and (6) Zimbabwe will forever be a Sovereign and Independent State.

## ZIMBABWE'S DOCTRINE



**NYIKA INOVAKWA NEVENE VAYO  
ILIZWE LAKHIWA NGABANIKAZI BALO  
A Country Is Built By Its Own People**



## Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo / Ilizwe Lakhiwa Ngabanikazi Balo

### A country is built by its own people

We the people of Zimbabwe, ...Resolve by the tenets of this Constitution to commit ourselves to build a united, just and prosperous nation, founded on values of transparency, equality, freedom, fairness, honesty and the dignity of hard work.

6. Zimbabwe shall continue to transform its society and foster heritage based self reliance including economic diversification. The self-reliance ethos shall continue to empower Zimbabwe in shaping own futures and in addressing own unique challenges while effectively leveraging external support and investment . Commitment to building own society significantly enhances Zimbabwe's effectiveness and sustainability of development initiatives. This sense and mindset of ownership fosters accountability and ensures that initiatives are aligned with local needs and priorities. Zimbabwe's heritage in form of land shall drive the transformation of society through its full utilisation that include Agriculture, Mining, Infrastructure, Tourism among others.



7. Zimbabwe shall continue to aim for self-reliance, based on a long-term vision that ensures the sustainability of development efforts. This results in building local capacities, institutions, and infrastructure that will continue to function independently. This promotes domestic resource mobilization, fostering a

stronger economic base and reducing dependence on, and attracting more appropriate international cooperation.



8. Zimbabwe shall continue to transform its society and increasingly become heritage-based. It is expected therefore that foreign relations and international cooperation will increasingly align with, respect and incorporate local cultures, practices, and knowledge systems, delivering more effective and accepted innovations, solutions, products and services. Zimbabwe's development strategies have to be better suited to its unique challenges and opportunities, addressing issues in ways that resonate with Zimbabweans. By fostering heritage-based self-reliance, Zimbabwe shall continue diversifying its economy, reducing vulnerability to external shocks and increasing overall stability.



*President meeting with Diaspora*

9. Zimbabweans shall continue developing their own country, build own institutions, thereby increasing resilience to external shocks and acquiring adaptive capacity. Building own nation and own institutions translates to greater

self-reliance and greater resilience to external shocks, such as economic downturns or global crises. This resilience helps ensure that development progress is maintained even in challenging circumstances.



**10.** In order for people to enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives, Zimbabwe shall prioritise local production, thereby strengthening its domestic economy, creating jobs and enhancing its capacity to engage in global trade. As the country develops, self-reliance, self-determination and locally available resources are essential components of Zimbabwe's development. Locally available resources include flora and fauna, land, water, minerals and human capital and these constitute Zimbabwe's heritage. The development agenda will be achieved if citizens put to good use the resources available in their communities, that is their heritage. Zimbabwe shall therefore leverage its heritage for economic growth and development. Details on each heritage component are discussed below.

**11.** Zimbabwe has more than 60 minerals that range from base metals, energy minerals, precious minerals and rare earth. The commercial viability of these minerals has been demonstrated over the years and shall be benefited before export, creating jobs and enhancing revenue generation, thus improving the socio-economic livelihoods of citizens.



**12.** Zimbabwe's true wealth lies in its people, whose resilience, innovation, and skills are the driving force behind the nation's progress. No country can develop beyond its resource capacity and what it knows. The country has significant potential because of its human capital, with a high literacy rate which is being leveraged through heritage-based Education 5.0 to drive innovation and industrialization, so as to enhance economic growth. Heritage Based Education 5.0 seeks to align education with national development goals, fostering graduates who are not just job seekers but creators of solutions and industries.

**13.** Furthermore, Zimbabwe has part of its population of citizens abroad (diaspora) from which it shall harness knowledge and specialised skills. This will increase levels of endogenous entrepreneurship through new opportunities in the private sector, improve human capital development through philanthropic work and ultimately poverty reduction as the diaspora communities invest into their motherland. Zimbabwe's diaspora is an asset, embodying the doctrine of Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo on a global scale.

**14.** Zimbabwe's flora and fauna is an enabler towards sustainable development and economic growth. Flora and Fauna offer opportunities for multiple sectors that includes tourism, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and timber and furniture manufacturing industries, making Zimbabwe a competitive player in the global market. Flora and fauna is the basis of our food, medicine, furniture and the means of production, thus our heritage is the source of our livelihood. Preservation of flora and fauna is a collective responsibility of all citizens.

**15.** Zimbabwe's flora and fauna enhances economic growth, creates jobs and promotes regional integration while prioritising cultural preservation, environmental sustainability and community inclusivity.



From raw coal to refined bitumen and finally a road that drives transformation



**FRIENDLY TO ALL AND  
ENEMY TO NONE**



## **Friend to all and Enemy to None**

**16.** The Constitution obligates Zimbabwe to peacefully coexist, settle international disputes by peaceful means and collaborate with all nations as provided for in Section 12(1)(c) and (d). It reflects the country's obligation to maintain friendly relations and develop strategic partnerships while avoiding adversarial posture. His Excellency the President's doctrinal pronouncement underscores Zimbabwe's historical journey and its aspirations and trajectory for fostering peace, mutual respect, and cooperation on the global stage. Zimbabwe shall prioritize international engagement and reengagement, that reflects a commitment to forging new partnerships and revitalizing international relationships.

**17.** Zimbabwe shall aim to be friends to all and enemy to none and shall shape its foreign policy through a combination of non-alignment, active diplomacy, multilateral engagement, and a strong emphasis on mutual respect and cooperation. Such an approach emphasizes building positive relationships with all nations while avoiding a confrontational posture. By focusing on inclusive relationships and addressing global challenges collaboratively, Zimbabwe enhances its standing in the international community while promoting peace and stability. This approach creates an environment conducive to addressing shared challenges effectively.

**18.** Zimbabwe shall engage in proactive diplomacy to foster dialogue and understanding among nations, and involve regular diplomatic visits, participation in international fora, supporting peace initiatives through mediating, facilitating and hosting peace talks.

**19.** Zimbabwe shall prioritise its participation in international and multilateral organizations to promote collective decision-making and cooperation on global issues. In this regard, Zimbabwe shall advocate for and support international initiatives that promote peace, security, and development, reinforcing its

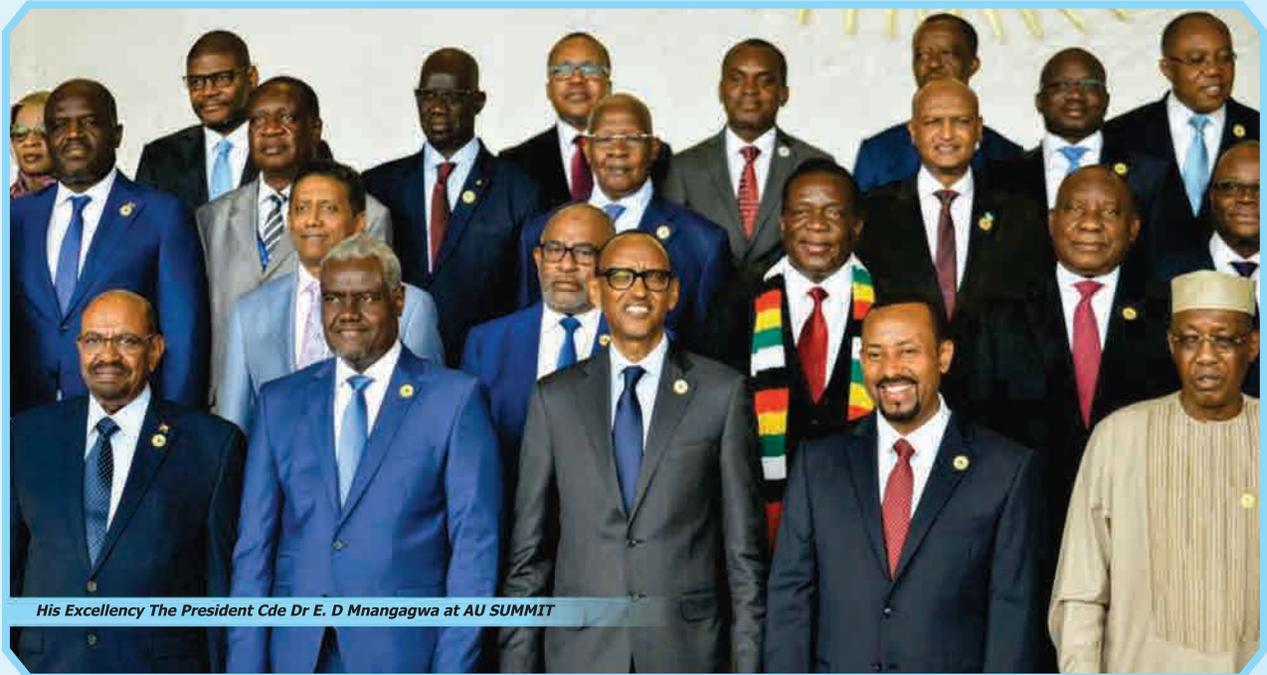
commitment to a cooperative global order. Zimbabwe shall establish and maintain trade relations with all countries, ensuring that economic ties are not overly dependent on any single nation or bloc. Zimbabwe shall also provide development assistance where appropriate and able, and engage in economic cooperation projects with various nations to strengthen ties and promote goodwill. Part of the agenda is also promoting cultural exchanges, educational programs, and tourism to build mutual understanding and respect among nations. Zimbabwe shall also engage in humanitarian efforts and development projects in various countries, positioning itself as a friend and supporter rather than a competitor.

**20.** Zimbabwe shall uphold respect for sovereignty and diversity, and adhere to a policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. Zimbabwe shall also maintain a defensive military posture that emphasizes self-defense and peacekeeping rather than aggressive military expansion. Zimbabwe shall contribute to international peacekeeping missions to help stabilize conflict regions, showcasing a commitment to global peace.

**21.** Zimbabwe shall engage in international cooperation to address global challenges such as climate change, health crises, and poverty, promoting a sense of shared responsibility. Similarly Zimbabwe shall continue to collaborate on issues of education, technology, research, and innovation to tackle pressing issues, reinforcing the notion of friendship and shared goals.

**22.** In order to advance national interests, and ensure the attainment of a developed society, Zimbabwe shall continually consolidate its existing relations while forging new relations and attracting investments that are mutually beneficial. Zimbabwe shall prioritize establishing and maintaining robust bilateral and multilateral relations. These relations will be geared towards fostering trade, investment, technology exchange, and capacity-building, aligning seamlessly with the doctrinal reference point of "Leaving No One and No Place Behind."

23. Section 12(2) of the constitution obligates Zimbabwe to collaborate, integrate and participate in international and regional organisations that stand for peace and the well-being and progress of the region, continent and humanity in pursuit of national interests.



*His Excellency The President Cde Dr E. D Mnangagwa at AU SUMMIT*



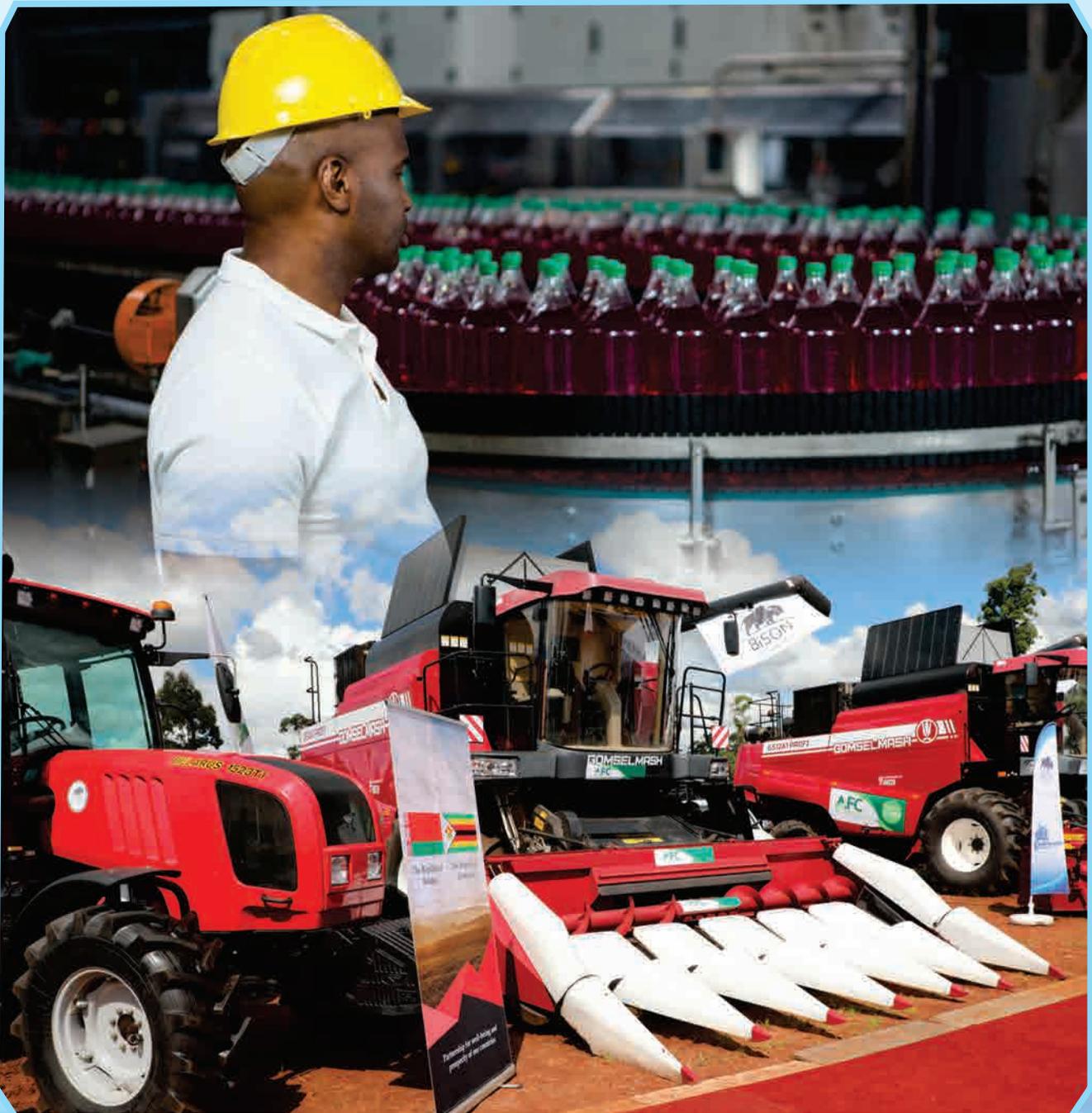
# ZIMBABWE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS



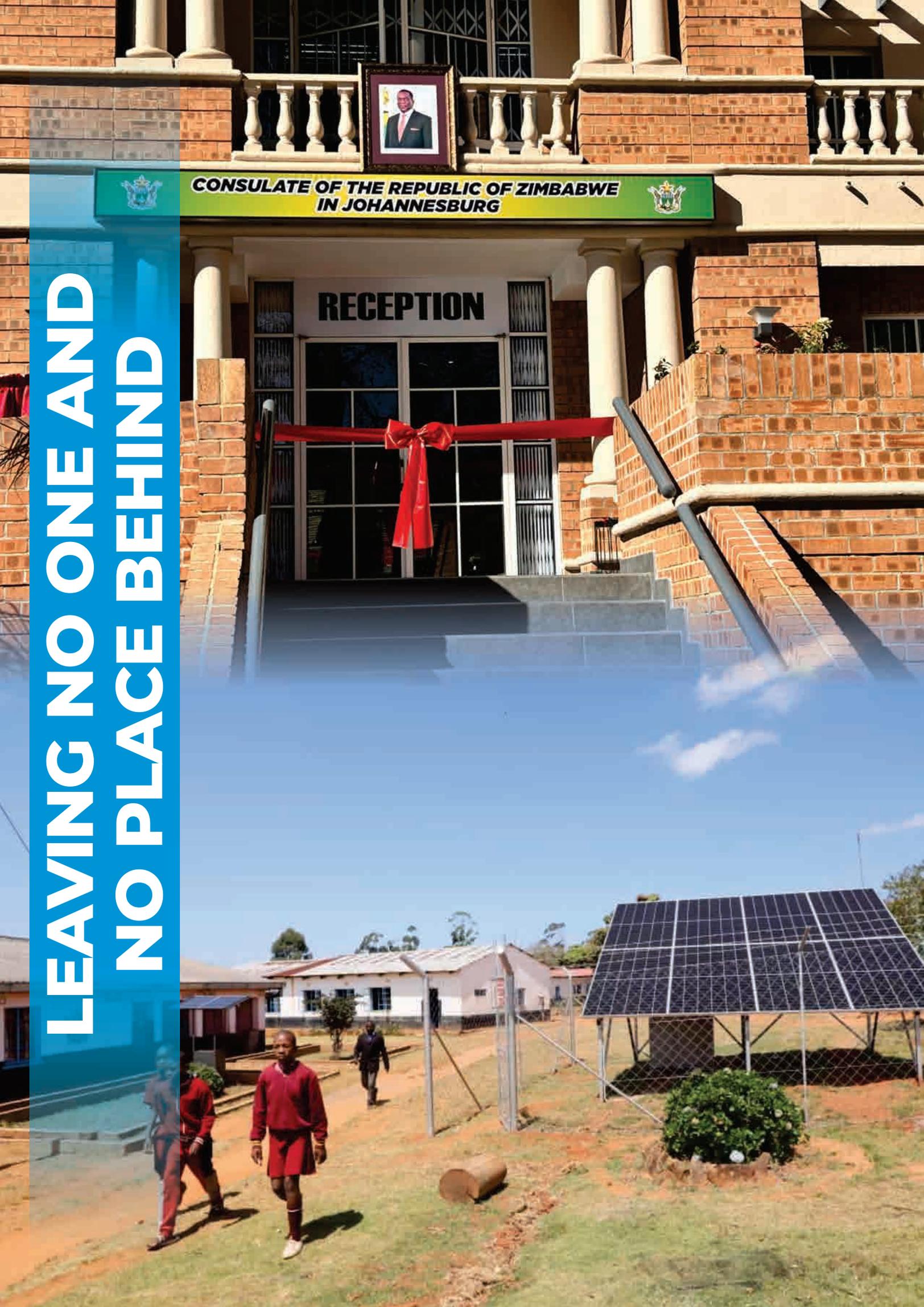
## Zimbabwe is Open for Business

- 24.** Under the transformative vision of the "Zimbabwe Is Open for Business" doctrinal reference point, Zimbabwe shall brand itself as a premier destination for international investment. This reference point signals a nation ready to engage the global community, fostering robust economic partnerships and establishing itself as a competitive hub for commerce, innovation, and trade.
- 25.** Zimbabwe's doctrine shall focus on national development (economic diplomacy), which directly aligns with Section 13 (1) (b), (c) of the Constitution. This section mandates the state and its institutions to drive rapid agricultural, commercial, industrial, technological, and scientific advancement, while also fostering the development of industrial and commercial enterprises. This strategic pivot is designed to: (1) Accelerate economic development and growth, (2) Generate employment opportunities across diverse sectors, (3) Attract domestic and foreign investment through a competitive regulatory framework and (4) Boost trade by enhancing local production and service provision.
- 26.** The "Zimbabwe Is Open for Business" reference point and general guideline champions economic revitalization by consolidating existing relations with all nations, and forging dynamic new alliances. These efforts aim to integrate Zimbabwe into the global economic community, presenting the country as a reliable, stable and innovative partner on the international stage.
- 27.** Zimbabwe shall be open for business, and adopt the appropriate foreign policy that facilitates trade, investment, and economic collaboration. Zimbabwe shall actively seek and negotiate trade agreements with other nations and regional blocs. Zimbabwe shall be a member of regional blocs. Zimbabwe has to create a favourable environment for foreign cooperation by ensuring political stability, providing legal protection for investments. The Government shall establish and strengthen investment promotion agencies to market the country as a destination for business and investment.

- 28.** This doctrine promotes Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) especially for investment in infrastructure, transportation, energy, communication networks among others. Regulatory frameworks shall be developed to improve and simplify business operations, reduce bureaucratic red tape, and protect property rights.
- 29.** Zimbabwe shall establish more institutions for education and skills training, including investments in education and vocational training to develop a skilled workforce that meets the needs of the nation that are requisite for national transformation. .



# LEAVING NO ONE AND NO PLACE BEHIND



**CONSULATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE  
IN JOHANNESBURG**

**RECEPTION**



## Leaving no One and no Place Behind

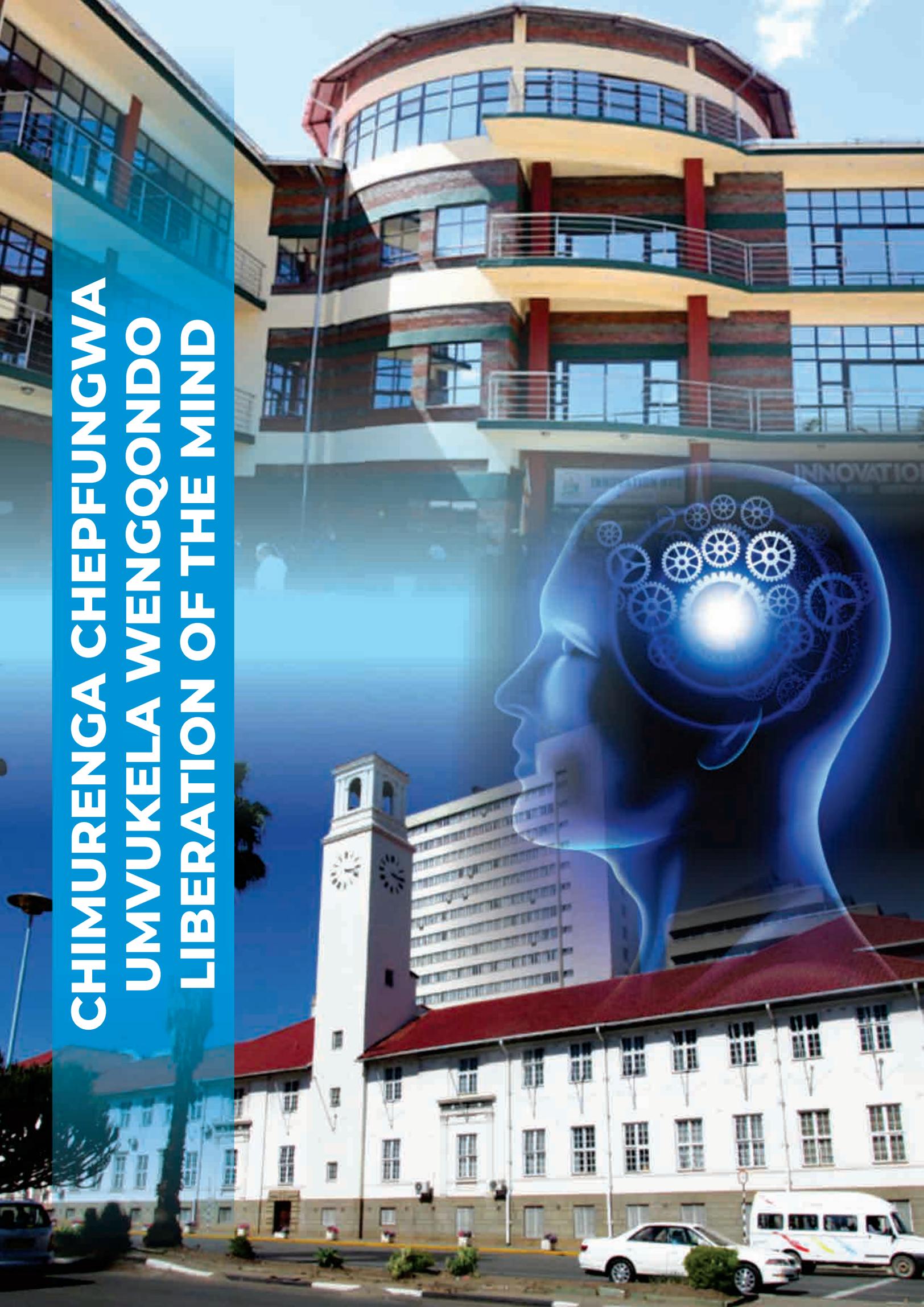
- 30.** Zimbabwe's challenge and opportunity continues to be dissolving the structural character of the dual economy that has unavoidably kept Zimbabwe and all other African economies in the middle income trap. Zimbabwe's opportunity is attaining Upper Middle Income status through an inclusive industrial upgrading strategy that will see Zimbabwe busting through the middle income trap and proceeding to be the first African Lion Economy – a fully industrialised high income society.
- 31.** Leaving no one and no place behind shall be the general guideline and reference point in search for economic solution to un-orthodox structural transformation occasioned by the dual economy and middle income trap. This is through mass uplifting and integration of the majority of the population, mostly rural, into the manufacturing, industrial and commercial processes of the modernizing part of the economy.
- 32.** Zimbabwe shall pursue inclusive social and economic transformation enhanced by smart foreign policy and economic diplomacy. Zimbabwe shall therefore adopt dual strategies of developing the domestic industrial markets while also linking the economy to export markets, with rural industrialisation accelerating the growth of the domestic production and domestic market for industrial goods and services.
- 33.** The whole of government approach is rooted in the principles of devolution, decentralization, and proactive international collaboration, Zimbabwe shall ensure that no citizen or region is left out of the development process. Devolution and Decentralization shall be key in achieving equitable growth as it empowers local communities to take ownership of their development journey. Anchored in Section 13 (1) (c) and (d) of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, it highlights the importance of promoting industrial and commercial enterprises to empower citizens and achieve balanced development between urban and rural areas. Further, Section 35 (3) (a), (b), and (c) operationalizes this doctrine by mandating the State to provide protection and essential documentation services to all Zimbabweans, including those residing abroad.

- 34.** Guided by the constitution, the doctrine emphasizes balanced economic growth through strategic investments in industrial and commercial enterprises across all regions. Special attention is given to ensuring equitable access to resources, opportunities, and services, bridging the rural-urban divide and promoting national unity.
- 35.** To amplify Zimbabwe's influence on the global stage, Zimbabwe shall continue to lobby for reforms and representation at all levels in relevant international organizations. These efforts not only enhance Zimbabwe's voice in global governance but also seek to make these institutions more inclusive, accountable, and responsive to the aspirations of all nations. Priority shall be given to advocating for fair representation of African countries, equitable resource allocation, and policies that drive sustainable global development.
- 36.** Recognizing the invaluable contributions of Zimbabweans abroad, Zimbabwe shall prioritize engagement through diplomatic missions. These missions, guided by Section 35 of the Constitution, play a central role in safeguarding the rights and dignity of Zimbabweans living abroad. Public diplomacy campaigns shall foster stronger ties with Zimbabweans abroad, encouraging their active participation in national development initiatives, such as investments, skills exchange, and cultural exchange.
- 37.** Zimbabwe shall ensure that citizens abroad have clear avenues to contribute meaningfully to national socio-economic growth, whether through remittances, technology exchange, or collaborative projects in key sectors. By creating an enabling environment, the State reaffirms its dedication to empowering citizens abroad and protecting their interests as an integral part of the nation's fabric.



*Chirichoga Primary School in Nemamwa Masvingo*

**CHIMURENGA CHEPFUNGWA  
UMVUKELA WENGQONDO  
LIBERATION OF THE MIND**



## **Chimurenga Chepfungwa / Umvukela Wengqondo (Liberation of the Mind)**

- 38.** Chimurenga Chepfungwa, which translates to "Liberation of the Mind," represents a vision of a knowledge-driven economy in Zimbabwe. It emphasizes that what we see today in Zimbabwe—the developments, the achievements, and even the challenges—are products of ideas, knowledge and skills. These elements, forged through a collective vision, have the potential to define the nation's progress. True liberation, therefore, goes beyond political freedom; it is the liberation of the mind, a consciousness that understands that leaving no one and no place behind is essential, and that *hakuna masaramusi* (there is no magic) in our pursuit for national growth.
- 39.** To carve Zimbabwe's place in the world, transformation of the mind is important. To this end, transformation of Education is vital for the nation's future within the context of the world. Heritage-based Education 5.0 shall emphasize the unique values, traditions, and philosophies of Zimbabwean and African societies.
- 40.** The importance of this heritage framework lies in its ability to shape local production, innovation, science and technology. By grounding progress in heritage, Zimbabwe shall develop and improve local industries, bolster its export capacity, and make its economy competitive on the global stage through comparative advantage.
- 41.** The operationalization of Chimurenga Chepfungwa requires institutions that are dedicated to the creation and recreation of Zimbabwe's heritage-based thought processes. These institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, shall work to promote Zimbabwean identity, and scientific, technological production processes. These efforts are crucial in building a society where people are united by their heritage.
- 42.** Chimurenga Chepfungwa calls for a radical shift in the way Zimbabweans think about their development. By embracing a knowledge-driven society rooted in Zimbabwe's heritage, the country shall forge a path towards sustainable growth and prosperity. The doctrine promotes the idea that decolonization of thought through the promotion of indigenous knowledge, heritage-based education, and self-awareness—is key to achieving full liberation. The future of Zimbabwe depends on a conscious, intentional effort to shape a society that knows its identity and values built on the strength of its heritage.

**43.** Zimbabwe has created an environment for Chimurenga chePfungwa that nurtures innovation, fosters economic growth, and advances the overall well-being of its knowledge-driven economy and society. The driving philosophy is modernisation as opposed to westernisation or easternisation. This is primarily imbedded in the realisation that there is no political independence until economic independence is achieved, based on Zimbabwe's comparative advantages. The necessary ingredients and elements of this mindset are integrated into the foreign policy doctrine by leveraging its unique revolutionary strengths and opportunities while positioning itself as a competitive player in the global economy.

**44.** There shall be increased allocation of government resources to support heritage-based research and development initiatives and innovation, encouraging partnerships between universities, research institutions, and the private sector. Innovation hubs and incubators foster the creation and support startups and entrepreneurs, providing access to funding, mentorship. Zimbabwe's work is re-configuring towards high production and productivity, manufacturing and modernising the economy. This is supported by implementing programs that encourage continuous learning and skill development to keep the workforce adaptable to changing technologies and socio-cultural circumstances.

**45.** Zimbabwe is open to partnerships with all countries and organizations known for their domestic and heritage based innovation ecosystems to share best practices and technology. This is enhanced through digital infrastructure, including broadband access, to facilitate connectivity and access to information for all citizens. The push is in encouraging the adoption of new technologies in sectors to improve productivity and service delivery.

**46.** Zimbabwe shall continue 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. This is a push for greater collaboration between the Government, private sector, and civil society to tackle societal challenges through innovative solutions. This includes support for social innovation and enterprises that address local challenges through innovative business models. The doctrine also pushes for implementing policies that encourage the use of data analytics in all sectors so as to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

**ZIMBABWE WILL FOREVER BE A SOVEREIGN  
AND INDEPENDENT STATE**



## **Zimbabwe will forever be a Sovereign and Independent State**

- 47.** Zimbabwe stands as a proud and sovereign nation; its identity forged through the resilience and sacrifices of its people. The reference point and general guideline that “Zimbabwe will forever be a Sovereign and Independent State”, is a commitment to self-reliance, dignified international engagement, and realizing the nation's potential.
- 48.** Zimbabwe shall continue to demonstrate its commitment to: (1) Anti-Colonial Solidarity: Advocating for decolonization of Zimbabwe's institutions, (2) Land Reform and Sovereignty: Reaffirming economic independence through equitable land redistribution, (3) Sovereignty First: Prioritizing national autonomy in all foreign and trade policies, resisting economic or political coercion, (4) Mutual Respect and Non-Interference: Upholding equality among nations and respecting Zimbabwe's internal affairs and (5) Pan-Africanism and Regional Integration: Contributing towards the establishment of a united and prosperous Africa through participation in the African Union (AU), Southern African Development Community (SADC), and other regional bodies.
- 49.** Zimbabwe will forever be a sovereign and independent state is a call for sovereignty, dignity, and progress. Through strategic partnerships, innovation, and leveraging its inherent strengths, Zimbabwe shall become a society in which people enjoy prosperous, happy and fulfilling lives. To this end Zimbabwe shall through all means safeguard its sovereignty, directly or indirectly. The foreign relations doctrine therefore emphasizes its sovereignty, promotes self-reliance, and ensures that its interactions with the global community are based on mutual respect and benefit, thereby mitigating the risks of re-colonization.
- 50.** Strategic management of international relations dictates that Zimbabwe shall always assert its national sovereignty and national interests. Emphasis is on the importance of national sovereignty and self-determination in all diplomatic engagements, making it clear that external influence should not infringe upon the country's autonomy. Conversely Zimbabwe shall adopt a policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries while firmly resisting

external pressures. Cultivating relationships with all countries, and avoiding over-reliance on any single foreign power is vital.

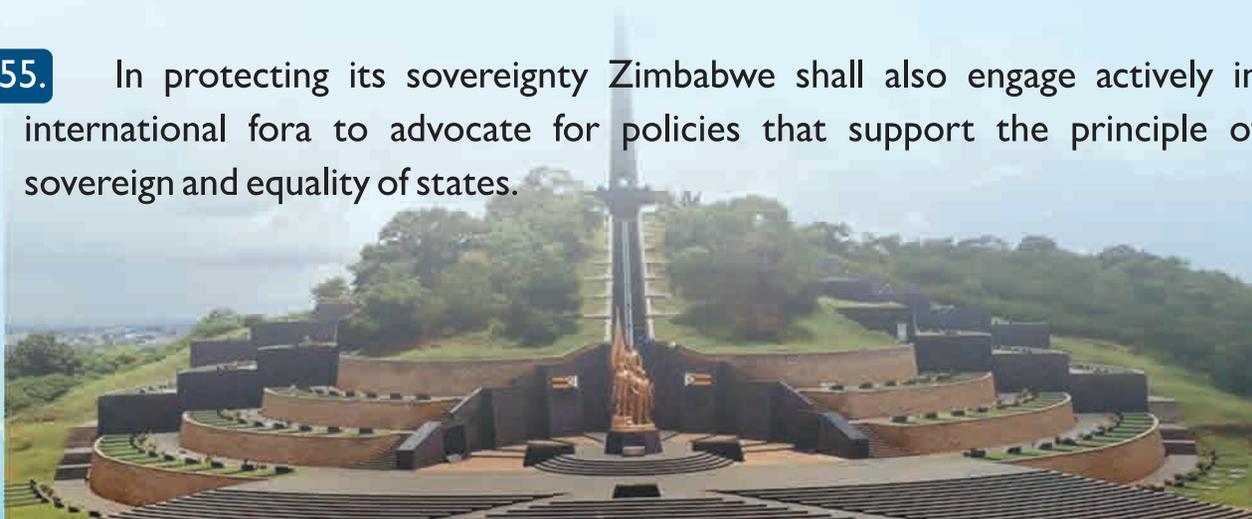
**51.** Zimbabwe shall value and strengthen ties with neighbouring countries through membership to regional organizations so as to foster solidarity and collective security. Zimbabwe values economic independence and invests in key sectors to reduce dependency on foreign goods and services, encouraging the growth of local businesses and industries through favourable policies, investment in infrastructure, and access to financing.

**52.** Zimbabwe shall emphasize the importance of local culture, history, and identity in foreign relations, promoting cultural diplomacy that showcases the country's cultural heritage. This shall be buttressed by fostering educational programs that prioritize natural heritage including local knowledge systems while encouraging partnerships with foreign institutions that respect the country's values and sovereignty.

**53.** Zimbabwe shall invest in national defense and security architecture to protect its sovereignty and national interests. This includes engaging in regional security frameworks to address shared threats, enhancing collective security without compromising national sovereignty.

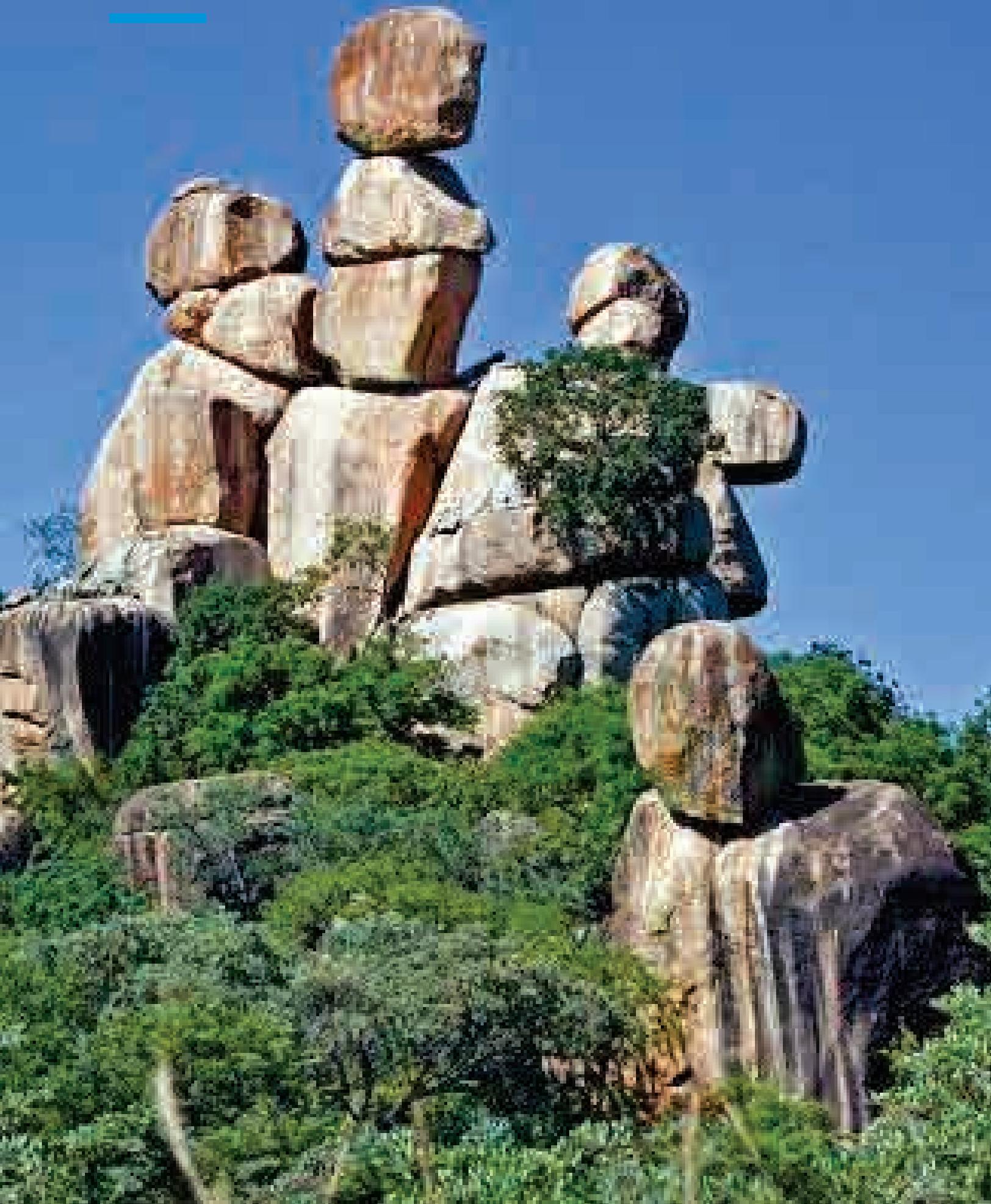
**54.** Sovereignty also requires prioritizing sustainable development policies that protect natural resources and promote environmental stewardship, reducing dependency on foreign cooperation or exploitative agreements. This includes encouraging community involvement in development projects to ensure that local knowledge and needs are prioritized.

**55.** In protecting its sovereignty Zimbabwe shall also engage actively in international fora to advocate for policies that support the principle of sovereign and equality of states.



# Matobo Hills

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# Victoria Falls

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# Great Zimbabwe

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# THE DOCTRINE





**Nyika Inovakwa Nevene Vayo/  
Ilizwe Lakhiwa Ngabanikazi Balo/  
A country is Built by its own People**



**Friend to all and Enemy to None**



**Zimbabwe is Open for Business**



**Leaving no one and no Place Behind**



**Chimurenga Chepfungwa/  
Umvukela Wengqondo/  
Liberation of the Mind**



**Zimbabwe will forever be a Sovereign  
and Independent State**



# DOCTRINE

## OF ZIMBABWE'S FOREIGN RELATIONS & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



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Leaving no one and  
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HERITAGE • DIPLOMACY • TRADE • DIASPORA • PROSPERITY

FOR THE INTEGRITY, DIGNITY & PROSPERITY OF ZIMBABWE