



ADDRESS

BY

**THE PRESIDENT,
HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. E. D. MNANGAGWA**

AT

**THE NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION
WITH
HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
AND
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS ACCREDITED
TO ZIMBABWE**

HARARE

5 MARCH 2026

Director of Ceremonies, Ambassador A. R. Chimbindi;

Vice President, Hon. Gen. (Rtd) Dr. C. G. D. N. Chiwenga;

Vice President, Hon. Col. (Rtd) Dr. K. C. D. Mohadi;

Minister of Defence, Hon. O. C. Z. Muchinguri-Kashiri;

Minister of State for Harare Metropolitan Province,
Hon. C. Z. Tawengwa;

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade,
Hon. Prof. A. Murwira;

Honourable Ministers;

Chief Secretary to the President and Cabinet,
Dr. M. Rushwaya;

Chairman of the Public Service Commission,
Dr. V. Hungwe;

Senior Government Officials;

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of the
Republic of Rwanda, His Excellency J. Musoni;

Your Excellencies, Heads of Diplomatic Missions and
International Organisations;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my pleasure and honour to welcome you, to our Annual New Year's Reception. Allow me, on behalf of the Government and people of Zimbabwe, and on my own behalf, to extend to you, Your Excellencies, and through you, to your staff and families, our sincere, New Year's greetings, albeit belatedly.

Your presence affirms the enduring bond of friendship, partnership and cooperation that Zimbabwe enjoys with your respective countries. We value our relations and remain committed to nurturing bilateral and multilateral partnerships grounded on mutual respect, sovereign-equality and shared prosperity.

In order to deepen interaction with your Missions, it is important that we hold regular engagements towards accelerating trade, investment and socio-economic initiatives, my doors are open.

Your Excellencies;

The past year was marked by steady progress in our national development agenda. My Administration is firmly on course towards the realisation of Vision 2030.

The ongoing reforms to further strengthen macro-economic stability, improve the investment climate, enhance transparency and promote private sector-led growth are yielding positive results.

The National Development Strategy 2, launched last year, prioritises accelerated industrialisation, infrastructure development, food and energy security, digital innovation and value addition. It is around these central themes that our respective jurisdictions should deepen cooperation.

Our message is clear and remains consistent: **‘Zimbabwe is open for business.’** We stand ready to welcome investment and partnerships from across the world, which are fair, transparent and align with our national, socio-economic and political interests.

Ultimately benefits for all our peoples are central and guide our policies.

So far, the 2025-2026 summer cropping season is promising to result in a bumper harvest, which will go a long way to consolidate our food security position. Regrettably, our SADC region continues to experience severe flooding, due to climate change. During the current season, parts of Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa were not spared.

The prevalence of climate change induced natural disasters call for greater cooperation towards mitigation and adaptation strategies that build greater resilience, especially at community levels.

Going forward, we call for strengthened multilateral cooperation, predictable climate financing and equitable solutions that recognise the vulnerabilities of developing nations to the vagaries of climate change.

On its part, Zimbabwe continues to invest in building resilience and adaptive capacities, strengthening early warning systems, promoting climate-smart agriculture and empowering communities.

Your Excellencies;

Global shifts in development financing and cooperation have challenged many countries in the global south to re-assess strategies for sustainable economic growth. Zimbabwe remains grateful for partnerships that have supported our development, modernisation and industrialisation journey.

We are determined to scale up domestic resource mobilisation to bridge the funding gap as well as to venture into new innovative models that recognise our unique circumstances. Lasting investments and collaboration to sectors, such as agriculture, infrastructure development, green energy, health and the environment, are welcome.

My Administration will continue to play its part to consolidate the gains we have realised together and establish new cooperation frameworks. These must be based on respect, the principle of sovereign equality of states and non-interference in our internal affairs.

I express our profound gratitude for the backing of regional and continental institutions, including SADC and the African Union, in advocating for the removal of illegal sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe. We are encouraged by the constructive dialogue underway with various international actors. We believe that differences should always be minimised for a better future for all of us.

Your Excellencies;

Our philosophy “**Zimbabwe is a friend to all and an enemy to none**” is an enduring principle guiding our foreign policy, reflecting our readiness to work with all Member States in the comity of nations.

My Administration recognises that credibility and predictability are essential ingredients for restoring investor confidence and unlocking new lines of financing. In this spirit, my Government's ongoing engagement with International Financial Institutions, under the Arrears Clearance and Debt Resolution Process, is progressing well. We are taking concrete steps towards fulfilling our financial obligations.

Similarly, the stabilisation of our economy and its integration into the global financial and trade system are continuing. We welcome your support in these endeavours.

Meanwhile, the Zimbabwe Diaspora, in your respective countries is playing a vital role in our national development through remittances, investment and skills transfer. We appreciate the hospitality extended to our citizens abroad. Their contributions further cements the relationship between Zimbabwe and host countries, reflecting the inter-connectedness of our societies.

As we look ahead, people-to-people relations and cultural exchanges should not be neglected in our diplomatic interface.

Your Excellencies;

At the multi-lateral level, Zimbabwe remains anchored on the principles of the United Nations Charter, including the sovereign equality of states, peaceful settlement of disputes and collective security. In this regard, I reaffirm Zimbabwe's candidature for a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for the period 2027 to 2028.

We are grateful to those countries who have endorsed our bid. We count on the invaluable support of your respective governments for our candidature. Zimbabwe stands ready to serve within the UN Security Council with dedication, integrity and resolute obligation to a more peaceful, just and secure world.

Your Excellencies;

This year marks a renewed opportunity for collaboration. Let us continue to work together to deepen diplomatic ties, expand trade relations and promote cultural exchange. Our shared aspirations for prosperity and peace, binds us together as partners for progress and the realisation of the United Nations development goals.

Zimbabwe is a partner that can be counted upon to foster inclusive growth, strengthen governance and ensure lasting peace, unity, security and stability.

In conclusion, I once again thank you all for the transformative partnerships and synergies that my administration enjoys from your respective jurisdictions, more so, as we navigate the complex opportunities and challenges that beset our world.

You, our esteemed diplomats, are builders of bridges; Hence, the people and Government of Zimbabwe count on you to submit objective and constructive reports to your capitals.

These must facilitate good relations between Zimbabwe and your countries and help to create a world where every nation thrives in harmony.

I now invite you, your Excellencies, to join me in a toast:

- To your good health and that of your families;
- To strengthened friendship and cooperation among our nations;
- To global peace, security and development.

Finally, here's wishing us all, a prosperous and successful 2026, **Cheers.**

God bless you all.

God bless Zimbabwe.

I thank you.