



**ZIMBABWE**

**REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST OF  
HONOUR**

**BY THE**

**MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
DR. SEKAI. I. NZENZA**

**AT THE**

**COMMISSIONING OF THE FERTILIZER BLENDING  
PLANT AT ZIMPHOS**

**5 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Your Excellency, The President and Commander in Chief  
of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Dr E.D. Mnangagwa;**

**The Vice President and Minister of Health and Child Care,  
Hon. Gen. (Rtd) Dr. C. G. D. N. Chiwenga;**

**Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural  
Resettlement, Hon. Dr. A. J. Masuka;**

**Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon.  
Professor M. Ncube;**

**Minister of Mines and Mining Development, Hon. W.  
Chitando;**

**Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National  
Housing, Hon. J. Moyo;**

**Minister of National Housing and Social Amenities, Hon. D.  
Garwe**

**Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development,  
Hon. F. Mhona**

**Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. R. Modi;**

**Other Deputy Ministers, here present**

**The Chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee  
on Industry and Commerce, Hon.J. Sacco**

**Members of Parliament here Present,**

**The Chief Secretary to the Office of the President and  
Cabinet, Dr. M. J. M Sibanda**

**Deputy Chief Secretaries, here present,**

**The Permanent Secretary for Industry and Commerce, Dr.  
M. Sibanda,**

**Other Permanent Secretaries here present,**

**Senior Government Officials;**

**The Chairman, Mr.W. Makamure, Directors and Staff of  
Industrial Development Corporation of Zimbabwe  
Limited,**

**The Chairman of Chempex Board, Dr T Utete Wushe**

**The Acting General Manager of the Industrial  
Development Corporation of Zimbabwe, Mr E. Tome;**

**The Acting CEO of Chempex Corporation Limited, Mr J.  
Chigwende**

**The General Manager of Zimbabwe Phosphate Industries  
(Pvt) Ltd, Mr P. Nyakudziwanza**

**Management and Staff of Zimbabwe Phosphate Industries  
(Pvt) Ltd**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is my singular honour to welcome you all at this momentous occasion, to witness the official commissioning of the New State of the Art Fertilizer Blending plant here at Zimphos.

**Your Excellency**, what we are witnessing today is a true testimony of the bold policies and strategies which have been employed under the National Development Strategy 1 by the Second Republic. Indeed, the fertiliser value chain players have heeded to your clarion call, **of increasing production and robust localization of fertiliser production to enhance national self-sufficiency**.

In this regard, the local industry is already re-positioning itself to fulfil the fertilizer supply gaps and meet the food security needs of our nation, under the National Enhanced Agriculture Productivity Scheme.

**Director of Ceremonies**, Let me express my sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Industrial Development Corporation of Zimbabwe (IDCZ), for organising this auspicious event.

Indeed, this is a key milestone, which has come at an opportune time as we are currently ceased with preparations for the forthcoming 2022/23 summer cropping season.

**Your Excellency**, Zimphos has adopted a technology upgrade and retooling strategy and this has come at a time as we are anticipating to receive above normal rains. This indeed presents immense opportunities for agricultural diversification and bumper harvests for both local consumption and exports of food surpluses.

I am advised that the operationalization of this plant and other pipeline capital projects here at Zimphos, will go a long way in satisfying the national basal fertilizer requirements of 400 000 tonnes per annum. Thus, we stand to benefit from huge foreign currency savings of over US\$ 250 million, as we localize the beneficiation of our local phosphates.

This investment approach and venture by IDCZ, marks a great stride towards the growth trajectory that we seek to attain, of **‘Becoming an Upper Middle Income Economy by 2030**, under the Stewardship of Your Excellency.

Furthermore, let me hasten to say that the capital projects such as these will guarantee improved fertilization application rates per hectare for higher yields. We are still lagging behind in terms of fertilizer usage, as it is estimated that on average , the African continent uses 50kgs per hectare compared to 200 kgs per hectare in developed nations.

**Your Excellency**, In line with the Second Republic ‘s thrust of ensuring a private-sector led economy, let me confidently say that, IDCZ has stood to be exemplary through its subsidiaries. Today, we are witnessing IDCZ’s innovative contribution to the localization of the fertilizer value chains. This augers well with our import substitution drive and our quest to increase national Gross Domestic Product, investment and employment.

Further the downstream effect through expansion of mining operations at Dorowa by Zimphos, is also in sync with our devolution and rural industrialization thrust, thus ensuring that marginalized communities are developed.

**Ladies and Gentlemen**, There is no doubt that IDCZ is already fulfilling our expectations and *walking the talk* through

strengthening the fertilizer value chain as we seek to structurally transform our economy.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I now have the honour and privilege to introduce our Guest of Honour, His Excellency, the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Dr. E. D. Mnangagwa.

Please allow me to present to you a brief history of His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

His Excellency, the President is a lawyer by profession. He has served in Government since 1980 and has over the years, held a wide range of portfolios.

He has previously served as Minister of National Security, Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Speaker of Parliament, Minister of Rural Housing and Social Amenities and Minister of Defence.

He previously served as Vice President and Second Secretary of the ruling ZANU PF Party. He is a seasoned farmer and a

great states man who lately led a successful Special Programme on Maize Production for Import Substitution, widely known as Command Agriculture, now known as the National Enhanced Agricultural Productivity Scheme.

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

His Excellency, the President believes that sustainable economic recovery and development can be enhanced through appropriate incentives across the entire economic spectrum, and by urgently addressing the various challenges affecting businesses operating in Zimbabwe. The commissioning of the fertilizer blending plant we are witnessing here today is an atomy of his visionary and pragmatic leadership.

His Excellency, the President has successfully championed the re-engagement process and created a conducive business environment for both local and foreign investors. He has ensured that Zimbabwe is positioned to leverage on its resource endowments and plays its pivotal role in the sphere of domestic, regional and international trade.

**Distinguished Guests; Captains of Industry and  
Commerce; Ladies and Gentlemen;**

It is now my pleasure and honour to invite His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. E. D. Mnangagwa to deliver his address.

**Your Excellency, Sir**