

ZITE

ZIMBABWE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR AT A GLANCE

65TH EDITION



MAY 2025

info@moic.org.zw | www.mic.gov.zw



65TH EDITION OF THE ZIMBABWE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR AT A GLANCE

BY

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

HON. NQOBIZITHA MANGALISO NDHLOVU

MAY 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ZITF AT GLANCE TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Acronyms.....	1
Executive Summary.....	2
Introduction.....	3
ZITF International Business Conference.....	5
Connect Africa Symposium.....	7
Rural Industrialisation Indaba.....	9
Research for Industrialisation and Economic Recovery Conference.....	11
Exhibitors and Tourism Night.....	12
Digital Economy Conference.....	14
ZITF Innovators Forum and Hackathon.....	15
ZITF Scholastica Indaba.....	15
Zimbabwe – India Business Session.....	17
Zimbabwe – Mozambique B2B Forum.....	18
ZITF Diplomats Forum.....	19
Welcome Cocktail (In Partnership with the British Embassy in Zimbabwe).....	20
ZITF Charity Golf Challenge.....	20
ZNCC Business Luncheon.....	21

List of Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
AfCFTA	Africa Continental Free Trade Area
BMO	Business Management Organisations
COMESA	Common Market For Eastern And Southern Africa
CZI	Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries
FICCI	Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce And Industry
NDS2	National Development Strategy 2
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
IBC	International Business Conference
SEZ	Special Economic Zones
TFTA	Tripartite Free Trade Area
UN	United Nations
ZITF	Zimbabwe International Trade Fair
ZNCC	Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce
ZNIDP2	Zimbabwe National Industrial Development Policy 2
ZIRGP	Zimbabwe Industrial Reconstruction And Growth Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Zimbabwe's industrialisation drive is gaining momentum with the Government and Private Sector working hand-in-glove to stimulate economic growth and development. The 65th Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) provided a platform to showcase our nation's industrial and commercial capabilities that play a pivotal role in attracting the much needed investment.

As part of Industrial Development Policy, the Government launched the Zimbabwe Industrial Reconstruction and Growth Plan (ZIRGP) 2024 - 2025 to address immediate challenges and capitalise on existing opportunities as Government prepares the economy to align with the National Development Strategy 2 and the Zimbabwe National Industrial Development (ZNIDP) Policy 2.

The Government is leaving no one and no place behind as it incorporates the private sector in: promoting competitiveness, combating smuggling, counterfeiting, addressing high costs of doing business, encouraging value addition and beneficiation and leveraging on strategic regional and international trade agreements such as the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

It is imperative to note that this year's 65th Edition of the ZITF provided a generous platform to converge with industries, commercial entities, captains of industry, development partners and other stakeholders to address trade policy and regulation, rural industrialisation, informalisation, quality compliance, innovation, technology transfer and research.

More work needs to be done as now the focus shifts on implementing the resolutions and partnerships founded before, during and after the ZITF Indaba's and Conference resolutions.

INTRODUCTION

The 65th edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF), held from 21 to 26 April 2025, marked a significant milestone in Zimbabwe's pursuit of industrialisation and economic integration. Operating under the theme "Industrialisation: Crafting an Integrated Economic Landscape," ZITF 2025 provided a dynamic platform for businesses, policymakers, and innovators to engage in meaningful dialogue, forge partnerships, and explore opportunities for growth.



The President Of The Republic Of Mozambique,
H.E Daniel Francisco Chapo Addressing Delegates During The 65th Edition Of The ZITF



Tour of stands: The President of the Republic of Mozambique,
H.E Daniel Francisco Chapo receives a gift from Mr. Bongani Mguni,
An artist from Plumtree. Looking on is The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe H.E Dr. E.D Mnangagwa.

This year's fair witnessed an unprecedented level of participation, with **574** exhibitors up from **517** in 2024, including a notable **89** first-time exhibitors compared to **71** in 2024.

The event attracted **8 179 business visitors**, a significant increase from the **7 934** recorded in the previous year, highlighting the growing importance of ZITF as a premier business networking hub.

A particularly encouraging trend was the surge in private sector participation, with **368 companies** exhibiting, representing **59%** of the total exhibitors – a substantial increase from the 298 companies (45%) in 2024. This strong private sector presence underscores their growing confidence in the Zimbabwean market and their commitment to driving industrial growth.



The President of the Republic of Mozambique H.E Daniel Francisco Chapo, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe H.E Dr. E.D Mnangagwa, the Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu and ZITF Board Chair Busisa Moyo share a lighter moment with exhibitors.

The ZITF exhibition which aimed to inspire collaboration, investment, and innovation was officially opened by His Excellency President Daniel Francisco Chapo of the Republic of Mozambique. This further emphasized the regional significance of the event and the importance of cross-border collaboration for economic prosperity.

The six-day event featured a series of high-level conferences and seminars, bringing together experts and stakeholders to discuss critical aspects of industrialisation.

This booklet encapsulates the key resolutions arising from these pivotal discussions, providing a framework for future action and collaboration.

KEY EVENTS OF 2025 ZITF EXHIBITION

ZITF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The International Business Conference (IBC) was held on 23 April 2025 under the theme “Revitalising Industrialisation for Zimbabwe’s Economic Resurgence”. The event was officially opened by the Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Hon. Dr. General (Rtd) C.G.D.N. Chiwenga. In his keynote address, he reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to supporting and safeguarding private sector players and SMEs.



The Vice President Hon. C.G.D.N Chiwenga was the Guest of Honour at the 2025 International Business Conference (IBC)

The flagship conference was attended by 792 delegates including Government officials, Business Membership Organisations, Industrialists, Investors, Captains of Industry and Commerce, Development Partners, and Academia. The event spotlighted traditional sectors such as textiles, steel, agro-processing, as well as emerging industries including lithium-ion battery assembly and pharmaceutical manufacturing.



Delegates listening attentively during the International Business Conference. This year's IBC was highly subscribed with a staggering 796 delegates

The conference featured concrete proposals from the EU on green chemicals partnerships, Japan on biotech transfer, and China on joint “smart factory” pilots, signaling strong international commitment.

Conference Resolutions

i. Establish Tripartite Public-Private-Academic Councils- The Ministry of Industry and Commerce, in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development and relevant private sector bodies (e.g., CZI, ZNCC), will establish Tripartite Industrialisation Councils at the national and provincial levels. These councils will identify priority R&D projects with commercial potential, facilitate the development of pilot plants, and secure funding for scaling up successful initiatives.

ii. Strengthening Public-Private-Academic Dialogue- Develop and implement a formal framework for regular and structured dialogue between the Public Sector, Private Sector, and Academia. This framework will include bi-annual national forums, sector-specific working groups, and an online platform for continuous engagement. The dialogue will focus on policy formulation, implementation, and monitoring.

iii. Positioning Bulawayo as an Innovation and Manufacturing Hub- Develop and implement a comprehensive "Bulawayo

Reindustrialisation and Innovation Plan." This plan will include the designation of Special Economic Zones, upgrading of infrastructure (rail, energy, water), promotion of targeted industries, and the establishment of innovation hubs and technology parks.

iv. Support for SMEs and Private Sector Development- Launch the "SME Empowerment and Growth Initiative." This initiative will focus on improving access to finance, formalisation, providing business development services (training, mentorship, market linkages), reducing regulatory burdens, and promoting technology adoption among SMEs.

v. International Collaboration and Investment Mobilisation- Establish sector-specific platforms to facilitate international collaboration and investment. These platforms will target key sectors (e.g., agro-processing, mining, pharmaceuticals) and will involve trade missions, investment conferences, joint ventures, and technology transfer agreements.



Vice President Hon. K.C.D Mohadi was the Guest of Honour at the 2025 Connect Africa Symposium

The fourth edition of the Connect Africa Symposium was officiated by the Honourable Vice President Col. (Rtd) K.C.D. Mohadi on 24 April 2025 under the theme of “Industrialisation & Economic Integration: Strengthening Africa’s Resilience,”. It served as a pivotal forum for charting a course towards enhanced Continental prosperity. The discussions keenly highlighted the transformative potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in harmonizing crucial standards, dismantling obstructive non-tariff barriers,



Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. Ngobizitha Mangaliso Ndhlovu giving remarks during the Connect Africa Symposium

Hon. Vice President K.C.D. Mohadi emphasized the decentralisation of industrial capacity to provinces, complementing the EU’s €2 billion Global Gateway investments in transport and digital infrastructure.

Resolutions

I. Deepen Regional Economic Integration- Leverage the AfCFTA and TFTA frameworks to expand intra-African trade, investment, and employment.

- ii. **Harmonize Trade and Digital Policies-** Standardize rules of origin, digital regulations, and trade standards to improve cross-border commerce efficiency.
- iii. **Develop Industrial Parks and SEZs-** Promote the creation of Special Economic Zones and regional value chains to drive sustainable industrialisation.
- iv. **Accelerate Infrastructure and Energy Investment-** Increase investments in transport corridors, renewable energy, and digital infrastructure to support industrial growth.
- v. **Facilitate Technology Transfer-** Encourage knowledge and technology transfer to support local innovation and industrial competitiveness.
- vi. **Enhance Trade Finance Access-** Convene meetings with Financial to explore mechanisms for expanding access to trade finance for SMEs and businesses engaged in intra-African trade and regional value chains.
- vii. **Trade Finance Instruments-** Develop and promote awareness programs among businesses on available trade finance instruments and facilities offered by institutions like Afreximbank.
- viii. **Identify and Prioritize Value Chain Development-** Establish a joint national task force (comprising representatives from relevant ministries and Business Member Organisations) to identify and prioritize specific value chains with high potential for regional integration under AfCFTA and TFTA.
- ix. **Formulate and Implement the National AfCFTA Strategy-** Develop a comprehensive National AfCFTA Strategy
- x. **Business Forums-** Organize forums bringing together businesses and policymakers to discuss opportunities and challenges related to leveraging AfCFTA and TFTA for the identified value chains.
- xi. **Ensure Governance and Inclusion-** Establish anti-corruption frameworks and community stakeholder boards to promote peace, citizen inclusion, and accountability.



Ministers of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution giving presentations on the economic outlook in their respective provinces with reference to rural industrialisation initiatives

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce, in collaboration with the Office of the President and Cabinet and other line Ministries, convened the Rural Industrialisation Indaba on 22 April, 2025, under the theme “Inclusive Growth, Industrial Roots: Unlocking Zimbabwe’s Rural Potential.” The conference brought together 378 participants, from Government Ministers, Industry leaders, Bankers, Academia, Development Partners, and Local Authorities, to chart a pathway for harnessing rural areas’ economic potential.



The Rural Industrialisation Indaba was well attended by Government departments, Captains of Industry and Commerce, development partners, private companies, Investors and media.

Conference Resolutions

i. Provincial Value Chain Mapping- Implement Provincial Value Chain Development Programs. These programs will involve detailed mapping of existing and potential value chains in each province, focusing on agro-processing, mining, and tourism. The mapping will identify key actors, infrastructure needs, and market opportunities.

- ii. **LED Strategies-** Develop Local Economic Development (LED) strategies with harmonised ease of doing business indicators to enhance business environments.
- iii. **Establishment of a Provincial Industrial Fund-** Create a dedicated fund to support rural entrepreneurs via industrial parks.
- iv. **Enhanced Inter-Agency Coordination-** establish a high-level inter-ministerial committee and coordination mechanisms to improve collaboration among MDAs involved in rural development.
- v. **Community-Level Governance-** Develop and implement supportive governance frameworks that empower traditional leaders and local authorities to champion eco-adaptive, market-aligned, and culturally sensitive industrial initiatives.
- vi. **Spatial Development Initiatives (SDIs)-** ensure that Spatial Development Initiatives (SDIs) and Feeder Investment Projects (FIPs) are effectively integrated into provincial, national, and regional development strategies.
- vii. **Community-Driven Industrialisation-** Promote local participation in global value chains and inclusive agro-industrial processing, through initiatives like the One-village one product strategy
- viii. **Empowerment and Shared Value-** Revisit the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment framework to promote Corporate Shared Value (CSV) and embed developmental tools such as the Material Equity Framework, and local stakeholders and the diaspora to co-own global value chains.
- ix. **Innovative Partnerships-** Foster collaborations leveraging foreign, diaspora, and indigenous knowledge.
- x. **Alignment with the 5th Industrial Revolution-** develop a strategy to ensure inclusive growth by integrating emerging technologies and innovations of the 5th Industrial Revolution (e.g., AI, IoT, blockchain) into rural industries.
- xi. **Implement Targeted Training Programs for Rural Skills and Capacity Development-** designing and implementing targeted training programs in areas such as agro-processing, renewable energy technologies, digital skills, and business management.
- xii. **Promoting Technology Adoption-** Prioritize innovation to keep rural industries competitive globally.
- xiii. **Infrastructure Improvement-** Focus on upgrading roads and energy supplies to facilitate market access through the implementation of the Energy Compact and other supporting developmental strategies.

xiv. Inclusive and Sustainable Growth- Foster a rural economy that is both inclusive and environmentally sustainable.

xv. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Rural Industrial Development: Establish a clear, transparent framework that promotes and incentivizes innovative public-private partnerships, fostering effective collaboration between government and the private sector to accelerate rural industrial development, infrastructure, and capacity building in line with broader national and local development goals.

xvi. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Frameworks: Incorporate mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

xvii. Data Systems: Establish integrated data management systems as a way of tracking progress, ensuring transparency, and making evidence-based decisions in rural industrialization efforts.

xviii. Accountability Frameworks: Develop robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms across all administrative levels.

RESEARCH FOR INDUSTRIALISATION AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY CONFERENCE

The inaugural Research for Sustainable Industrialisation and Economic Development Indaba, held on 23 April 2025, served as a crucial platform to bridge the gap between research, innovation, and industrial application. Officially opened by the Vice President of Zimbabwe, Hon. Gen. (Rtd.) Dr. C.G.D.N. Chiwenga, the Indaba brought together a diverse group of participants, including Government officials, Academia, Diplomats, Industry leaders, and other key stakeholders.

Presentations showcased groundbreaking advancements in areas such as lithium battery technology, mining reagents, and fibre-modified tar, highlighting the potential of local resource utilization and technological innovation to drive industrial growth. Expert-led panel discussions focused on strategies for effectively translating research findings into tangible industrial solutions and fostering mutually beneficial regional partnerships.

Conference Resolutions

i. Strengthen Industry-Academia Collaboration- Enhance partnerships between tertiary institutions and the industrial sector to ensure that research outputs are practical, innovative, and aligned with national development and industrialisation priorities.

ii. Promote STEM-Driven, Solution-Oriented Research- Focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields and develop research that directly addresses Zimbabwe's economic challenges.

iii. Commercialize Research Outputs- Prioritize the commercialization of research findings, forming partnerships with the private sector to facilitate project funding, scaling, and market entry.

iv. Replicate Successful Research Models Nationally, Success stories such as Lupane State University's Goat Production Project and Midlands State University's Coal-to-Tar Initiative were endorsed as models for nationwide replication.

v. Support Emerging Sectors and Homegrown Innovation- Increase investment in strategic sectors such as local lithium battery production

EXHIBITORS AND TOURISM NIGHT

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality jointly hosted The Exhibitors and Tourism Night Dinner, making emphasis on the "Whole of Government" approach fostering inter-ministerial collaboration.



This event highlighted the mutual benefits of aligning efforts between industry and tourism to drive Zimbabwe's economic growth. Deputy Minister R. Modi emphasized that industrial development enhances the tourism sector by attracting investment, improving infrastructure, and expanding services that support tourism activities.



Deputy Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry Hon. T. Mnangagwa delivers his remarks during the Exhibitors and Tourism Night

Deputy Minister T. Mnangagwa noted that tourism plays a vital role in promoting local industries by increasing demand for Zimbabwean-made goods, thus stimulating domestic production and value chains.



Delegates networking during the Exhibitors and Tourism Night

Conference Resolutions

- i. Strengthen Inter-Ministerial Coordination:** Reinforce collaboration between ministries to implement joint programmes that align industrial and tourism development objectives.
- ii. Leverage Industrial Growth to Boost Tourism:** Recognize industrial investment as a catalyst for tourism expansion, particularly through infrastructure and service development.

- iii. Promote Local Product Integration in Tourism:** Encourage the use of locally manufactured goods within the tourism value chain (e.g., furniture, textiles, crafts, food), thereby increasing local market access for producers.
- iv. Adopt the "Whole of Government" Approach in Economic Policy:** Institutionalize cross-sectoral planning and policy implementation to foster inclusive and sustainable national development.

DIGITAL ECONOMY CONFERENCE

The Digital Economy Conference, themed “Digital Synergy: Crafting Connected Economic Futures,” emphasized the critical importance of universal rural internet connectivity in driving inclusive development across Zimbabwe. The conference highlighted that without full connectivity, rural communities’ risk being left behind in the digital economy

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

- i. Accelerate Investment in Digital Infrastructure-** Prioritize and scale up public and private sector investments in broadband and ICT infrastructure, especially in rural and underserved regions.
- ii. Reform Policies to Enable Efficient Broadband Rollout-** Review and streamline existing regulatory frameworks to facilitate faster deployment of broadband services across the country.
- iii. Promote Collaborative Connectivity Models-** Endorse the use of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and community-led initiatives to deliver sustainable, affordable, and locally relevant internet access solutions.
- iv. Mainstream Digital Inclusion in National Development Strategies-** Ensure digital inclusion is integrated across all sectors of Zimbabwe’s development agenda, with specific attention to education, health, agriculture, and trade.
- v. Establish a National Digital Inclusion Framework-** Develop and implement a national framework with clear indicators to monitor and track progress on digital inclusion and ensure accountability.

ZITF INNOVATORS FORUM AND HACKATHON

This year's edition ran under the theme "Driving Innovation for Economic Transformation". The forum focused on empowering innovators to transform prototypes into impactful, market-ready solutions.

Fifteen start-ups and university spinouts pitched practical, field-ready solutions in agriculture, energy, fintech, and waste management. Prototypes like solar-powered irrigation sensors and biogas digesters were prioritized. Six academic labs signed MoUs with industry partners to co-fund pilot deployments, affirming the mantra: "No research without a route-to-market."

Conference Resolutions

- i. Commercialise Innovation-** launch a national "Innovation-to-Market" program. This program will provide targeted support to innovators to move beyond prototypes and develop commercially viable solutions for identified real-world challenges.
- ii. Establish Support Structure-** Create incubation hubs, mentorship programs, and funding mechanisms to scale innovation into sustainable businesses.
- iii. Foster Academia-Industry-Government Collaboration-** facilitate the creation of sector-specific innovation clusters, bringing together academia, industry, and government to align innovation efforts with national priorities in sectors such as agriculture, fintech, and energy.
- iv. Institutionalize Innovation Platforms:** Formalize the Innovators Forum as a recurring platform to identify, support, and reward impactful innovations that drive economic growth.

ZITF SCHOLASTICA INDABA



Delegates pose for a photo during the Scholastica Indaba

This year's edition was held on 24 April 2025 under the theme "Heritage-based Education as a Catalyst for Industrialisation," calling for a radical reimagining of Zimbabwe's education system to align with national industrial development goals. The Indaba served as a premier platform for showcasing innovations and trends in education, training, and career development. This year's theme emphasized the urgent need to reimagine Zimbabwe's education system to better support industrial growth through culturally grounded, future-facing learning approaches.

The EU Ambassador Jobst von Kirchmann promoted the "Silani Tinemi EUwithYou" campaign, funding women-led agritech prototypes, while French Ambassador Paul-Bertrand Barets highlighted Digital Africa's Fuzè programme for youth tech start-ups.

Conference Resolutions

i. Integrate Heritage into Education Curricula: Promote local culture, values, and indigenous knowledge systems as foundational pillars in national education.

ii. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Fund - Establish an AI-Driven Education Innovation Fund to support the development and implementation of AI-powered learning solutions.

iii. Heritage-Inspired Innovation- establish Heritage-Inspired Innovation Hubs at selected universities and research institutions. These hubs will provide resources, mentorship, promote research and development rooted in Zimbabwe's heritage to produce unique, locally relevant technologies and solutions.

iv. Develop Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Education- Develop integrated entrepreneurial ecosystems within educational institutions. This will involve establishing start-up incubators, entrepreneurship programs, and mentorship initiatives, as well as fostering partnerships with industry to provide students with real-world experience and facilitate the commercialization of their ideas.

v. Develop a National Education-Industry Alignment Strategy - develop a National Education-Industry Alignment Strategy. This strategy will redesign education policies and programs at all levels. It will involve forecasting future skills needs, developing industry-relevant curricula, promoting work-based learning, and establishing mechanisms for ongoing dialogue and collaboration between education and industry.

ZIMBABWE-INDIA BUSINESS SESSION

The Zimbabwe-India Business Session was held on 22 April 2025 under India's "Focus Africa" initiative. This high-level bilateral engagement aimed at strengthening economic ties between Zimbabwe and India, building upon a foundation of historic cooperation and shared development goals.



Conference Resolutions

- i. Organise B2B and B2G Meetings-** Zimbabwe Business Member Organisations and India Business Member Organisations will jointly organize sector-specific business-to-business (B2B) matchmaking events focusing on manufacturing, agriculture, mining, pharmaceuticals, and ICT
- ii. Joint Feasibility Studies-** Conduct joint feasibility studies within the next six months for potential industrial partnerships, particularly in value addition of agricultural and mineral resources, and the establishment of pharmaceutical manufacturing units in Zimbabwe, leveraging Indian expertise and technology.
- iii. Joint Investment Forums-** Organize a joint investment forum bringing together policymakers, government officials, and business leaders from both Zimbabwe and India to discuss investment opportunities, policy frameworks, and success stories.
- iv. Implement the MoU Between ZNCC and FICCI-** ZNCC and FICCI to designate focal points within their respective organizations to oversee the implementation of the MoU and facilitate regular information exchange on market trends, trade regulations, and potential business opportunities
- v. Conduct Trade Missions-** ZNCC and FICCI will jointly plan and execute at least one inward and one outward business delegation or trade mission, focusing on the identified priority sectors

vi. Develop Database of Potential Joint Venture Partners- Establish a joint database of potential joint venture partners, allowing businesses from both countries to register their interests and capabilities.

vii. Mobilize Indian Investment into Zimbabwe- Expand on the current US\$600 million committed investment, with a view to increase Indian business participation in Zimbabwe's economic landscape.

ZIMBABWE-MOZAMBIQUE B2B FORUM

Facilitated by ZimTrade and Mozambique's APIEX, the forum focused on enhancing trade facilitation, industrial collaboration, and regional connectivity between Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Resolutions

i. Corridor Mapping- Establish a joint technical committee to conduct a detailed mapping exercise of the Beira, Maputo, and Nacala port-to-Bulawayo corridors. This mapping will identify bottlenecks, assess current infrastructure capacity, and propose specific upgrades.

ii. Prioritized Action Plan for Rail and ICD Upgrades - Develop a prioritized action plan with timelines and responsible parties for upgrading identified rail network sections and establishing at least two strategically located inland container depots (ICDs) in Zimbabwe. This plan will include exploring funding options and engaging potential investors.

iii. Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings - Initiate quarterly joint stakeholder meetings (including logistics companies and customs authorities) to monitor the progress of corridor improvements, address emerging challenges, and share best practices in trade facilitation.

iv. Business Matchmaking Sessions to Foster Bilateral Trade- Organize sector-specific business matchmaking sessions

v. Joint Working Group to Explore Sustainable Energy and Manufacturing Collaboration - Establish a joint working group on sustainable energy and manufacturing. This group will conduct feasibility studies for leveraging Mozambique's gas reserves and Zimbabwe's industrial expertise, identifying potential joint venture projects and outlining the necessary regulatory frameworks.

vi. Project Proposals for Joint Industrial Ventures Under Development- Develop specific project proposals for at least two joint industrial projects in the identified strategic sectors, outlining investment requirements, potential benefits, and implementation timelines.

vii. Joint Value Chain Analysis to Identify Collaboration Opportunities- Conduct joint value chain analysis for key sectors (based on existing industrial strengths and trade flows). This analysis will pinpoint opportunities for collaboration and mutual benefit.

viii. Cross-Border Business Integration Workshop Planned for Key Sectors- Organize a joint workshop involving businesses from both countries in the identified key sectors. The workshop will focus on identifying specific opportunities for integrating their operations, creating cross-border value chains, and enhancing regional competitiveness.

ix. Framework for Information Sharing and Business Linkages to be Established - Develop a framework for information sharing and business linkages, creating a platform (e.g., an online portal or regular business forums) to connect businesses and facilitate partnerships across the value chains

ZITF DIPLOMATS FORUM

The ZITF Diplomats Forum, held on 24 April 2025 was attended by 256 participants from 38 countries. The 2025 ZITF Diplomats Forum reinforced ZITF's role as a vital Pan-African platform for regional cooperation. Key discussions focused on strengthening sustainable diplomatic partnerships to drive Africa's economic development. Delegates, including ambassadors from Ethiopia and Tanzania, reaffirmed support for initiatives such as the North-South Corridor, cross-border power pools, and SME trade facilitation. Deputy Minister Hon. Sheillah Chikomo emphasized the need for "people-centred diplomacy," stressing environmental conservation such as safeguarding Mount Kilimanjaro's watershed as essential to sustainable growth.

Resolutions

i. Promote Regional Integration for Economic Growth- Strengthen cooperation among African states to boost infrastructure development, trade expansion, and sectoral advancement.

ii. Foster Sustainable Diplomatic Partnerships- Encourage long-term, strategic alliances to support shared development goals and economic resilience.

iii. Enhance Policy Alignment and Cooperation- Align regional policies to facilitate cross-border collaboration, regulatory harmonization, and joint development initiatives.

iv. Support Investment and Peace Through Diplomatic Dialogue- Maintain ongoing diplomatic engagement to promote peace, inclusive growth, and investment-friendly environments in line with continental priorities.

WELCOME COCKTAIL (IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN ZIMBABWE)

The Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) Company in collaboration with the British Embassy hosted a Welcome Cocktail to strengthen bilateral engagement between Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom.

Resolutions

- i. Strengthen UK-Zimbabwe Economic Relations-** Establish a joint UK-Zimbabwe High-Level Working Group on Economic Cooperation, organize a series of sector-specific roundtables, and develop a joint communication strategy
- ii. Enhance Trade and Investment Opportunities-** Collaborate to organize an investment promotion roadshow in the UK, identify and disseminate a list of priority investment projects in Zimbabwe's key sectors to UK businesses
- iii. Leverage Duty-Free Market Access-** Conduct a series of workshops and training programs across Zimbabwe to educate Zimbabwean exporters on the requirements, standards, and opportunities available under the UK's Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) and the EU's Everything But Arms (EBA) initiative.
- iv. Foster Collaborative Platforms-** Jointly organize a high-level business forum or seminar at the next ZITF, focusing on specific themes aligned with Zimbabwe's development agenda and offering a platform for UK and Zimbabwean businesses to explore collaborative opportunities.

ZITF Charity Golf Challenge

The Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. R. Modi officiated at the ZITF Charity Golf Challenge held on the sidelines of the 65th edition of the ZITF. The Charity Golf Challenge is a key event blending sport with philanthropy. The tournament brought together business leaders, industry professionals, and golf enthusiasts, fostering networking and collaboration in a relaxed setting.

In his remarks, Hon. R. I. Modi, emphasized the significance of the event as a platform for forging partnerships and driving industrial growth. He highlighted the collaboration between the public and private sectors, underscoring its importance in shaping Zimbabwe's economic future. Hon. Modi also commended the ZITF Company for maintaining this charitable tradition, which aligns with its corporate social responsibility goals and contributes to community development.

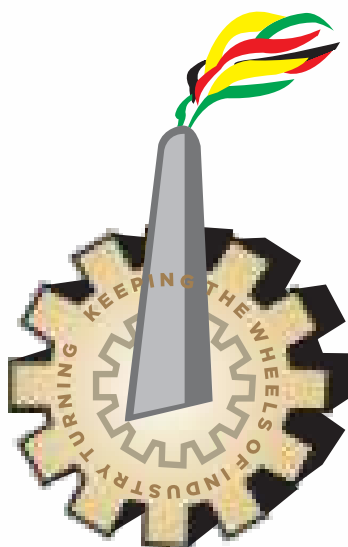
ZNCC Business Luncheon

The ZNCC Business Luncheon was held alongside the 65th ZITF. The event focused on addressing challenges facing local businesses, including global tariff wars, competitiveness, and the rise of informality impacting industrialisation.

It brought together stakeholders from Government, the private sector, and development partners, featuring keynote contributions from the Ethiopian Ambassador, UN Zimbabwe coordinator, Bulawayo Mayor, and CZI CEO. Highlights included a panel discussion and the launch of the ZNCC Women's Mentorship in Practice Program to empower women in industrialisation.



Thank You!
Obrigado!



**MINISTRY
OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE**

**13th Floor, Mukwati Building
OR Tambo & SV Muzenda Ave
Harare**

**0242 707 540 | 700 472
www.mic.gov.zw
Email:info@moic.org.zw**

“Moving the Economy up the Value Chain and Structural Transformation”