



Government of Zimbabwe



MINISTRY
OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

The MILESTONE

2025 ISSUE

MAGAZINE



Inside this issue:

NCC HOLDS FIRST SUMMIT



Client Service Charter

This Client Service Charter serves as a commitment by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) to clients through the provision of high quality standards.

The Ministry has adopted a citizen-centric approach towards service delivery in line with best practice procedures and Quality Management System (QMS). The Ministry staff have been trained to behave and act in a manner that enhances organisational competence and upholds client's rights.

The Ministry commits to continued adoption of modern day technologies in order to improve service delivery and accessibility at all times. In line with Vision 2030, the Ministry continues to consult all stakeholders and clients on programmes, activities and policy to enable the creation of an inclusive economy that grows leaving no one and no place behind. We therefore commit to:

- Timely Services
- Professionalism
- Transparency
- Accessibility
- Confidentiality
- Resolution of Complaints

The full version of the Client Service Charter is in document format and can be accessed on our Ministry website:

www.mic.gov.zw. We value your feedback, contact us on **info@moic.org.zw** or call us on **0242 704839**.

Thank You





Editor's Note



Coline Dzavakwa

Dear Reader

Happy Holidays from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce team.

As we wrap up another year, we want to extend our warmest wishes for a joyful festive season and a prosperous 2026.

A lot has taken shape since the implementation of the Zimbabwe Industrial Reconstruction and Growth Plan (ZIRGP) 2024-2025.

A lot of milestones have been registered and we are glad that the ZIRGP implementation has opened up opportunities for serious investment and growth. A number of manufacturers have heeded the call by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa to join hands and build the economy brick by brick, factory

by factory. Indeed, we all agree that *"Nyika Inovakwa Ne Vene Vayo"*.

We are also thrilled that the economic policies spearheaded by the Second Republic have made a huge impact in the economy and a number of stories in this edition will explore how the revitalisation, re-tooling and reconstruction of the value chains have brought growth. Conversation is now around Rural Industrialisation, as the nation shifts towards exploring the potential embedded in our rural economy. Community Share Ownership and Empowerment frameworks have been reviewed and exciting times lie ahead. The private sector is taking the lead in driving economic recovery and growth, innovation and job creation as the nation pursues inclusive industrialisation.

Our team of writers and analysts will provide you with actionable insights, data driven analysis and thought provoking commentary to help you make informed decisions and stay ahead of the trends in the economy.

Once again, thank you for supporting us on each edition and we look forward to your feedback as we grow the conversation on the economy.

Enjoy.

Design & Layout

Courage Chakubva : +263 777 322 031/ Email: ctchakubva@mic.gov.zw
Communication & Advocacy Officer, Ministry of Industry and Commerce

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National Foods Limited assert pole position in manufacturing sector.



Group Photo: Seated, His Excellency, President Dr. E.D Mnangagwa (centre), Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu (second from right), Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Harare Metropolitan Province, Hon. C. Tavengwa (extreme left), National Foods Limited (NFL) Board Chairman, Mr. E.Manikai (second from left) and National Foods Limited CEO, Mr. M. Lashbrook (far right). Standing, Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. R.I. Modi (third from right), Deputy Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, Hon. V.P. Haritatos (second from left), Chairman of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Industry and Commerce, Hon. C. Chiduwa (4th from left), Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe (extreme left), Mayor of Harare, His Worship Jacob Mafume (extreme right), Finance Director, NFL, Mr. L. Nyandoro (3rd from left), Public Relations Officer, NFL, Ms. M. Mutemererwa (4th from right) and Managing Executive, NFL – Cereals BU, Mr. W. Kapfupi (2nd from right).

National Foods Limited is the country's largest food manufacturer producing a wide range of basic goods that are on demand and consumed locally in large quantities. They also manufacture a wide range of animal feed that has seen them dominate the market.

In an investment aimed to reduce the import bill on pasta, biscuits and cereals, National Foods commissioned three plants in an event presided over by His Excellency the President Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa.

The plants include a large scale breakfast cereals extrusion plant, a biscuit manufacturing line and a pasta facility.

The modern breakfast cereal plant targets a capacity of a staggering 800 tonnes per month and costing USD 7 million. The plant will consume 15 000 tonnes of maize per year.

The Biscuit Manufacturing Plant has the capacity to produce 1 300 tonnes of a variety of biscuits per month.

The US\$6 million Pasta Plant produces 1 200 tonnes per month and will go a long way in reducing the import bill. Currently, Zimbabwe consumes around 5 000 tonnes of pasta per month.

This is all in line with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce's strategic partnerships with the private sector in reconstructing the economy.

The Guest of Honour and President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Cde Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa was impressed by the huge investment and said that the three plants are a testament of the company's commitment to its role in complementing Government's efforts to consolidate national food and sovereignty as well as accelerate agro-industrialisation".

"The commissioning of the new plant marks a new chapter in the food processing sub-sector, driven by innovation and technology" he added.

The President also said, "I acknowledge and thank our investors, partners and all stakeholders whose support and confidence made the venture possible."

"My Government stands ready to continue improving the ease of doing business environment in line with our mantra, 'Zimbabwe is open for business,'" the President also remarked.

The President commended the Government, private sector and especially farmers for making produce that feed the nation and stimulate manufacturing and economic growth.

The commissioning was attended by Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Captains of Industry, Diplomats and many other stakeholders who came to witness a giant in the food processing industry grow bigger and better.

As a token of appreciation, the President as Guest of Honour was given a 30 tonnes truck load of a variety of National Foods products that he will distribute to charity.



"My Government stands ready to continue improving the ease of doing business environment in line with our mantra, 'Zimbabwe is open for business'"

President Mnangagwa Commissions USD 22 Million Mega Market Flour Milling Plant



The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, H.E. Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa, tours the flour processing plant.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, commissioned the USD 22 million Mega Market Flour Milling Plant in Mutare, a major investment that further cements Zimbabwe's progress towards industrialisation, job creation and food self-sufficiency.

The new plant, with a production capacity of 300 metric tonnes of wheat per day, marks a significant boost to the agro-processing sector and provides a ready market for local wheat farmers. It is part of Mega Market's broader expansion drive, which includes a USD 2.8 million 4.5MW solar power plant, a USD 1 million noodles manufacturing plant and a USD 1 million trailer assembling plant in

Mutare.

Mega Market currently employs over 920 people and commands a 30% market share across its various product lines, which include maize meal, flour, rice and other Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCGs).

Speaking during the commissioning ceremony, President Mnangagwa commended Mega Market for its impressive growth trajectory and contribution to Zimbabwe's industrial development agenda.

"I congratulate Mega Market for the success milestones since you entered Zimbabwe's business arena. The decision by Government to confer National Project Status to this entity is paying dividends," said the President.

He applauded the company's commitment to local production and value addition, which he said aligns with the Government's vision of transforming Zimbabwe into an industrial hub driven by local investment.

"The investment by Mega Market in the wheat milling project being commissioned today comes at an opportune time when our country continues to realise record wheat harvests. Growing the overall milling capacity is of great significance as we ready our country for expanded agro-industries," he said.

President Mnangagwa underscored the economic benefits of the project, highlighting its potential to create jobs, reduce the import bill and spur gross domestic product (GDP) growth.

"These include the creation of new jobs as well as contribution to the reduction of the import bill and GDP growth, among others. Well done," he said.

The President also praised the company's forward-looking investments, noting that the additional projects under implementation demonstrate confidence in Zimbabwe's economy and supportive policy environment.

"It is impressive that, as Mega Market, you have lined up additional multi-million dollar projects which include a Solar Plant and Trailer Assembling Plant, among others. You can count on my Government to give you the requisite support," he assured.

In conclusion, President Mnangagwa urged other players in the manufacturing and industrial sectors to emulate Mega Market's example by expanding into regional and international markets. "Going forward, I urge players in our manufacturing and other sectors to take advantage of the immense opportunities available in international markets, riding on Zimbabwe's membership in SADC, COMESA and the African Continental Free Trade Area," he said.

The commissioning of the Mega Market Flour Milling Plant stands as a testament to Zimbabwe's commitment to promoting local investment, production, and employment, reinforcing the nation's drive towards achieving Vision 2030 — an upper-middle-income economy built on industrial growth and inclusive prosperity.



ZITF 2025 records strong private sector presence



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

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

This year's fair witnessed an unprecedented level of participation, with 574 exhibitors as compared to 517 participants in 2024. A notable 89 first-time exhibitors registered this year compared to 71 in 2024. The event attracted a whopping 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. This is 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 ZITF exhibition inspired 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, that brought together experts and stakeholders who discussed critical aspects of industrialisation and came up with key resolutions providing a framework for future

action and collaboration.

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.



The Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Hon. Dr. C.G.D.N Chiwenga officiated the 2025 International Business Conference.

In his keynote address, he reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to supporting and safeguarding private sector players and SMEs.

The 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.

The Rural Industrialisation Drive was also on the ZITF 2025 agenda with Government working tirelessly to motivate economic activities in rural Zimbabwe. 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.

ZITF 2025



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

Another historic milestone was the Exhibitors and Tourism Dinner held jointly by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality. This event highlighted the mutual benefits of aligning efforts between industry and tourism to drive Zimbabwe's economic growth. Deputy Minister R. I. Modi emphasized that industrial development enhances the tourism sector by attracting investment, improving infrastructure, and expanding services that support tourism activities.



Hon. R.I. Modi, the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce. (Top) and Hon. T. Mnangagwa, Deputy Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry (Below)



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.

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.

NCC holds first Summit



H.E. Dr. E.D. Mhangagwa, The President of Zimbabwe, receives a token of appreciation from NCC Board Chair Mrs. Patience Chimuka (far right), as the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu (far left), observes the proceedings.

Hearty congratulations go to the National Competitiveness Commission for successfully hosting its inaugural summit in Bulawayo in February. The Summit was held under the theme, “Building Sustainability Towards Enhanced Productivity and Competitiveness in Zimbabwe”. Policymakers, the public, private sector, academia, non-state actors and international experts from India and Mauritius graced this historic event that culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute for Competitiveness India and NCC to collaborate and undertake exchange programmes on competitiveness. A great number of Cabinet Ministers attended and highlighted how much their Ministries are doing to improve competence in order to better serve the public. The summit also looked into Government procurement framework and urged to increase efficiency but also promote Buy Zimbabwe.

Issues regarding power generation to meet demand, transport and infrastructure support were also cited as key competitiveness enablers, hence policy makers were implored upon to improve these for productivity and create resilient economies. Zimbabwe being agro-based, was urged the acceleration of implementation of climate smart agriculture.

The designation of some areas in Zimbabwe as Special Economic Zones was applauded than leaving the task to already crippled local authorities and businesses to invest in these areas. The Guest of Honour, His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. E.D Mhangagwa, delivered his keynote address touching on productivity and competitiveness issues in the country. He however approved that the Summit be held every year until we realise a prosperous, empowered and upper middle income society by 2030.

Zimbabwe's Iron and Steel Industry Reawakens After Years of Decline



The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Dr. E.D Mnangagwa shares a lighter moment with the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu

Zimbabwe's iron and steel industry is staging a strong comeback after decades of contraction that followed the collapse of Ziscosteel. Once the backbone of the sector, Ziscosteel folded under the weight of illegal sanctions, forcing the country to rely heavily on imports and saddling the economy with a growing import bill. The fallout rippled across the value chain, with institutions such as the National Railways of Zimbabwe losing business and thousands of jobs disappearing.

The dawn of the Second Republic marked a turning point. Under the "Zimbabwe is Open for Business" policy championed by His Excellency President Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, fresh investment flowed into the sector. China's Tshingshan Group committed US\$1.5 billion to establish the Manhize Steel Plant, now operating as Dinson Iron and Steel Company (DISCO).

DISCO began production in 2024 through an integrated steel plant, positioning Zimbabwe to shift from being a major importer of iron and steel to a future exporter. The project has already created thousands of direct and indirect jobs while accelerating skills and technology transfer. At full capacity, the plant is expected to generate over 10 000 jobs.

The revival comes at a critical time as Zimbabwe undertakes major infrastructure developments, including Hwange Units 7 and 8, the New Parliament Building, the Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport upgrade, Kariba South Expansion and the Victoria Falls International Airport upgrade—projects that demand reliable, locally produced steel.

To sustain growth, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce spearheaded a review of the Iron and Steel Industry Act (Chapter 14:11), aligning it with global competitiveness standards. This process culminated in the inaugural Iron and Steel Indaba held in Kwekwe on 12 December 2024, officially opened by President Mnangagwa.

Beyond production, DISCO has invested in community development in Manhize, upgrading schools, health facilities, roads and bridges. With Zimbabwe having imported 146 000 metric tonnes of iron and steel products in 2020, according to ZimStats, the industry's revival signals a decisive shift toward self-sufficiency, industrial growth and economic resilience.

Government calls Mining Sector to increase value addition and beneficiation



The Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Hon. Dr. C.G.D.N Chiwenga (centre), the former Minister of Mines and Mining Development, Hon. W. Chitando (second from left), the Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Bulawayo Metropolitan, Hon. J. Ncube (second from right) and the Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu (far right) and the President of Chamber of Mines, Mr. John Musekiwa (extreme left), sing the national anthem.

The Mining sector is one of the leading Gross Domestic Product contributors in the nation accounting to a total contribution of 12% and generating an upward of 70% of the country's export earnings. Government under the Second Republic has designated the mining sector as a key driver of economic growth providing incentives like lower corporate tax and royalties to support the industry.

According to the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (Zimstats 2023), the mining sector employed over 200 878 people accounting for 6.2% of the nation's formally employed population. Of late, the sector is also creating significant employment for a number of

artisanal miners across the provinces.

This year's 27th edition of the Mine Entra saw a number of stakeholders come together and discuss beneficiation and value addition from 8 to 10 October 2025. The Mine Entra attracted over 240 exhibitors and ran under the theme, Beyond Extraction: Sustaining the Future of Mining. The theme was deliberately chosen to emphasize the importance of moving beyond extraction of resources and instead focus more on sustainability and fostering community empowerment and development.

Addressing delegates during the Official Opening Day, Guest of Honour and Acting



The Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu presenting during Mine Entra 2025

President, Hon. C.D.G.N. Chiwenga said the expansion of our mining industry must not come at the expense of our environment and communities. He added that the Government will introduce stringent regulations and oversight mechanisms to root out corruption, illicit trading and leakages pointing out that such vices erode public trust and deprive citizens' access to national wealth.

"We are challenging all responsible authorities and agencies to put in place mechanisms that enhance transparency in licensing, monitoring and enforcement". He assured that a new framework aimed at cleaning up the sector include regular audits, whistleblower protection and community engagement. The VP also added that Government under the Second Republic remains open to investors from all corners of the world who share our values of responsibility, transparency and shared prosperity.

The Minister of Mines and Mining Development, Hon. W. Chitando urged stakeholders in the mining sector to promote local manufacturing of inputs and products ensuring that more value is retained in the country. The Ministry

of Mines conducted audits to establish compliance within the sector. Miners are expected to adhere to regulations and register with ZIMRA and EMA for Environmental Impact Assessments. These audits will ensure responsible mining practices.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu also attended and spearheaded the nexus between the Mining and Manufacturing sectors. He acknowledged the mining sector contribution to the manufacturing sector GDP growth and urged stakeholders to start prioritizing community development initiatives to allow value chain beneficiation and economic expansion.

The Minister said the growth of the mining sector will enable the manufacturing sectors to rebound and also grow significantly. Minister Ndhlovu added that this growth is important for the growth of the Local Content. The Ministry established a Local Content Committee to further strategise and develop an implementable framework to produce locally and competitively.

Minister Ndhlovu said the aim is to entrench the mining sector into the local content strategy. He added that the local Content Committee will create a digital platform to upload their processes so that Government is able to determine the level of local content embraced by institutions. He said, "Our observation and expectation of the close relationship between the mining sector and the manufacturing sector should see the economy realise more out of the mining industry".

Minister Ndhlovu added that in NDS2 mineral value addition is identified as critical and therefore we emphasize sustainable resource utilization for national benefit as key. "There is a lot that can be done as we mine such that mining becomes a business for the investor and the country. In our coming ZNIDP 2 we position mineral value addition at the core of the industrialisation agenda" the Minister echoed.

Minister Ndhlovu singled out Zimplats as a company that should be rewarded for

investing and supporting the growth of the economy. Zimplats has setup local enterprises and identified entrepreneurs manufacturing consumables for Zimplats. Going further, Cabinet pronounced that the Economic Empowerment and Indigenization Amendment Bill will be aligned to the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce was part of the exhibitors at this year's Mine Entra edition and forged synergies with the players in the mining sector and pushed for the growth of the Standards Development Fund database compliance, awareness, enforcement and regulation of the Consumer Protection Act and the role of legal metrology in improving competitiveness in the mining sector.



Top, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Exhibition Stand #MineEntra2025. Bottom left, the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Development, Hon. F. Mhona (centre) visited the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Exhibition Stand. Below right, the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. R.I Modi interacting with exhibitors at the Ministry stand.



Govt Pledges Quick Reforms to Spur Jobs and Investment



The Vice President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Hon. Dr. K.C.D Mohadi

Government has reaffirmed its commitment to building a vibrant, investor-friendly business environment by cutting red tape, promoting innovation, and supporting enterprises that drive job creation, Vice President Dr Kembo Mohadi has said.

Addressing delegates at the Zimbabwe Federation of Industries and Commerce (Zimprosperity) Annual Awards in Harare, Dr Mohadi — represented by Industry and Commerce Minister Mangaliso Ndlovu, who was in turn represented by Mr Dayford Nhema — said Zimbabwe's economic future lies in harnessing its people, culture, and natural resources while embracing the transformative power of modern technology.

"As we celebrate your outstanding

achievements, we recognise the pivotal role you play in shaping Zimbabwe's economic landscape," he said.

Dr Mohadi applauded local industries for their resilience during challenging economic periods, noting that business leaders had remained innovative and forward-thinking.

"Zimbabwe's economy has faced significant challenges in recent years, but your resilience and determination have been a beacon of hope. Despite the difficulties, you have continued to innovate, invest, and push the boundaries of growth. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we salute your dedication to making Zimbabwe a great nation again," he said.

He said the event's theme, 'Fostering a Health-Based Economy anchored on Industry 4.0 and NDS2', was in perfect alignment with national development priorities.

"We envision Zimbabwe leveraging its rich cultural heritage, natural resources, and human capital to drive sustainable economic growth and development. Industry 4.0 presents us with unprecedented opportunities to transform our economy, enhance productivity, and improve competitiveness," he said.

Dr Mohadi challenged industry to be front-runners in adopting emerging technologies and driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution, describing Vision 2030 as both ambitious and achievable.

"We aim to propel Zimbabwe into an upper-middle-income economy, and your contributions are crucial in realising this goal. By embracing the principles of Industry 4.0, we can create new opportunities for economic diversification, job creation, and inclusive growth," he added.

He noted that the awards showcased leadership, innovation, and excellence within the private sector, urging companies to continue raising the bar.

"As Government, we are committed to creating an enabling environment that supports business growth and development. We will continue to work tirelessly to improve the business climate, reduce bureaucracy, and provide incentives to encourage investment and job creation."

Congratulating the winners, he said:

"Your success is a reflection of your hard work, dedication, and passion for excellence. May your achievements inspire others to emulate your example and contribute to the growth and prosperity of our nation, Zimbabwe."

Dr Mohadi also called for adherence to national values of integrity, teamwork, and excellence.

"We must continue to work together, leveraging our collective strength, to build a more resilient, competitive economy. Let us reaffirm our commitment to fostering a heritage-based economy that celebrates a unique cultural identity and harnesses the power of technology to drive sustainable growth. Together, we can achieve greatness and make Zimbabwe a prosperous and thriving nation again," he said.

Dr Mohadi, emphasised that embracing value addition and Zimbabwe's cultural diversity would enable local industries to command stronger regional and global market presence. He added that the shift towards Industry 5.0 was critical for competitiveness.

"By adopting technologies like AI, blockchain, and the Internet of Things, we can increase productivity, efficiency, and innovation across the various subsectors of our economy" he said.

He reaffirmed Government's commitment to building a resilient, skills-driven, upper-middle-income economy.

"Together, we can empower businesses, develop skills, attract investment, and create an economy that benefits all our citizens," he said.



Ministry Gears Up for ISO 9001 Certification



Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe

Editor: What measures or activities are being carried out by the Ministry in order to get ISO 9001 certification and the target?

Permanent Secretary Dr. T.U. Wushe (PS): The Ministry in collaboration with the Standards Association of Zimbabwe undertook awareness campaigns at Head Office and nine Provincial Offices on the importance of standards and ISO 9001:2015 certification in enhancing the quality and competitiveness of the Ministry. This was done to ensure everyone is on board.

The Ministry ISO Steering Committee was set up, with representatives from all Departments, the Committee spearheads the whole process and they have undergone a number of trainings which include ISO 9001:2015 Documentation and Root Cause Analysis.

The Ministry's ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS) Policy statement is now in place which aims to enhance customer service experience, enhance process efficiency and effectiveness on its mandate delivery.

The Ministry is finalizing the protracted process of developing ISO 9001:2015 aligned documentation and departmental procedures.

The Ministry is targeting to be ISO 9001:2015 Certified by end of 2025 and everything is on course.

Editor: Are there challenges faced in getting ISO Certified? What are the challenges and remedies proposed?

PS: There are no major challenges so far, the senior management and Ministry officials strongly support the project. The Ministry ensured that there are enough financial resources for the project, and officials are excited and looking forward to the ISO 9001: 2015 Certificate by end of 2025. But as expected with such programs which involve a change of culture, it may take considerable time for everyone to become fully invested in the process.

Editor: If the Ministry gets ISO Certified, what does this mean to Industry, Ministry and Consumers?

PS: ISO 9001:2015 Certification will be a huge milestone to the Ministry as it comes with a lot of benefits to the Industry and Consumers which include:

- Enhanced formalisation of MoIC policies and procedures
- Improved service delivery
- Improved client satisfaction
- Improved quality management at MoIC
- Improved image of MoIC
- Enhanced consumer protection
- Enhanced uptake of ISO Quality management systems by Industry and other government departments.

Urgent call for churches to promote consumer education



The Permanent Secretary, Dr. T.U. Wushe poses for a group photo with representatives from the Pastors for Economic Development organisation (Pastors4ED)

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce recently went into a pact with Pastors for Economic Development in a move aimed at introducing consumer education and awareness in the churches. The Permanent Secretary Dr. T.U. Wushe underscored that the Ministry is more than willing to partner the church by taking advantage of established networks and communication

platforms that are vital in disseminating knowledge on consumer protection.

During a meeting held recently, Dr. Wushe highlighted that the Ministry is responsible for promoting ethical behaviour in the market through encouraging fair trade. He also emphasised that the Ministry deeply respects the pivotal role played by the church. "You are not just spiritual guides, you are pillars of your communities, offering counsel and support in many aspects of life. We believe that the principles of fair trading, honesty and responsibility that are deeply embedded in your teachings align perfectly with the Ministry's goals of consumer education", he added.

The Ministry is deeply concerned by the proliferation and infiltration of backyard production of illicit, smuggled, counterfeit and underweight products in the market. This has significantly exposed consumers to harmful, defective and substandard products that compromise the health and safety of the public.

Of late, the market is flooding with cheaper substandard products in all sectors including the textile and clothing industry, food and beverage industry, electrical appliances, chemicals and even medicine.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce has since taken decisive action and efforts to curb the proliferation of smuggled and counterfeit goods is at an advanced stage. Cabinet directed the Ministry to establish a Taskforce on Business Malpractices to roll out comprehensive compliance inspections throughout the country. So far, the Taskforce has utilised a whole of government system to address offences associated with currency manipulation, use of uncalibrated and un-assized fraudulent scales, unlabelled goods, expired products

amongst a host of other offences.

To date, the Ministry is pleased to report that invigorated surveillance and enforcement nation-wide has led to the inspection of 2343 business premises resulting in 231 prosecutions. The Taskforce has issued 270 compliance notices and the total number of seized products rose to 4408.

Minister for Industry and Commerce, Honourable Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndhlovu urged businesses to have in their possession valid operation licences from the requisite licencing authorities, receipt of goods purchased for resale; reserved sector certificates, Tax Clearance Certificates and proof of duty payment for those selling imported products to avoid being found on the wrong side of the law.

The Taskforce has been praised for conducting compliance inspections and several private sector players have chipped-in with resources, information and manpower. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce Deputy Director for Communication and Advocacy, Mr. Coline Dzavakwa said that there is potential to work together towards building a more informed, empowered and protected consumer landscape.





The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu

Call for honest performance review

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce conducted its periodical assessment of performance through a two-day Mid Term Strategic Review held end of July in Kadoma. The Ministry is keen to come out top five on Performance Contracting ratings this year.

The Minister, Hon. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndhlovu addressed staff and heads of parastatals and said this is a moment of early reflection and re-alignment of the Ministry's shared vision and set objectives. He said the Ministry is dedicated to Zimbabwe's economic transformation adding that the Ministry stands at the heart of economic resurgence. He added that the workshop arrived at a time

when the Ministry is laying the ground work for the National Development Strategy 2 and the Zimbabwe National Industrial Development Policy 2.

During the workshop, the Ministry recognized outstanding performance by awarding the Worker of the Month prizes for May and June 2025. For May, Mahoso Arnold was crowned the Winner, with Ian Kuwa as the First Runner-Up and Mukanga Memory as the Second Runner-Up. In June, the Worker of the Month award went to Kubadya Silent, while Masarirevhu Tanonoka secured the First Runner-Up position and Mutara Taurai was recognized as the Second Runner-Up.





Nestlé Zimbabwe commissions fourth roller dryer

The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu commissioned the fourth roller dryer

Food and drink processor Nestlé Zimbabwe has commissioned a new roller dryer, adding to an existing series of three at the company's cereals manufacturing plant.

A roller dryer is an industrial machine that uses heated rollers to dry materials by applying pressure and heat, effectively removing moisture. It is commonly used in food processing and other industries to dry various substances, including liquid or paste-like materials, and can also be applied to drying tuberous and bulbous crops.

The commissioning ceremony was presided over by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndhlovu, as part of Nestlé Zimbabwe's ongoing plant expansion project, which aims to significantly increase production. The installation of this fourth roller dryer represents an investment of US\$7 million, a move applauded by the Government as a positive response to its call for greater private sector participation in national economic growth.

Hon. Minister Ndhlovu commended Nestlé Zimbabwe for this initiative, noting that the investment will enable the company to better meet local demand while supporting export markets across the region and beyond. He further highlighted that such developments align with the objectives of the Zimbabwe Industrial Reconstruction and Growth Plan (2024–2025).

Nestlé Zimbabwe continues to stand out among local manufacturers investing heavily in the country's economic transformation and the national vision of achieving an Upper-Middle-Income Society by 2030. The new roller dryer is expected to boost cereal production capacity by over 35%, strengthening the company's ability to meet growing market demand.

Nestlé Zimbabwe produces the popular Cerevita cereal, a household breakfast brand. The company's continued investment and expansion underscore its commitment to growth, innovation, and job creation. The introduction of Roller Dryer 4 not only enhances cereal production capacity but also improves supply chain efficiency—allowing Nestlé to respond faster to market needs and maintain a reliable supply for both local and export markets.



ISO 9001 QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (QMS) POLICY STATEMENT

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC) is mandated with promoting the development of vibrant, sustainable and globally competitive industrial and commercial enterprises, through the provision of enabling policy and regulatory framework. In order to enhance customer service experience, process efficiency and effectiveness on its mandate delivery, the Ministry is committed to developing, implementing and maintaining robust Quality Management Systems (QMS) based on the ISO 9001 Standard. The MIC is, therefore, committed to the following pillars:

- i. Mandate Delivery** – Ministry shall facilitate and promote the development of sustainable, innovative, inclusive, competitive industrial and commercial enterprises that are regionally and globally integrated in order to enhance economic prosperity. A customer centric culture, as documented in our Client Service Charter, shall be central to our mandate delivery.
- ii. Compliance** – in its operations, the MIC shall comply with the Constitution of Zimbabwe, relevant national Statutes and Regulations as well as any international treaties to which Zimbabwe is a signatory. Key compliance issues shall include, but not limited to; rule of law, human rights, climate change, cultural diversity, good governance and global citizenship.
- iii. Stakeholder Engagement** – the MIC shall effectively engage and consult relevant key stakeholders in order to determine and meet their requirements and expectations. This shall be key in the development of solution-focused policies and industrial growth strategies.
- iv. Measurable Objectives** – Zimbabwe has anchored its Strategic Planning Process on the Integrated Results Based Management (IRBM), to ensure the attainment of development results (outputs, outcomes and impacts). Our QMS, therefore, is designed to utilise performance information, through setting of measurable objectives at relevant levels. The aim is to improve decision-making and programme/project performance, with a broader aim to boosting national productivity, competitiveness and efficiency levels in both industrial and commercial sectors.
- v. Competence** – all persons working for and/or on behalf of the Ministry shall be competent on the basis of education, induction, training and experience to participate fully in the implementation of this QMS Policy. To that end, Policy Statement shall be maintained as documented information, communicated and made available to all relevant interested parties as necessary.
- vi. Continuous Improvement** – the MIC shall pursue continuous improvement in perpetuity. This shall be achieved through implementation of the process approach, i.e., stakeholder needs identification, inclusive development and implementation of relevant planned interventions, continual performance reviews and evaluations, and, implementation of corrective measures to identified QMS gaps.

Dr. T. U. Wushe
Permanent Secretary for Industry and Commerce

Hon. M. N. Ndhlovu
Minister of Industry and Commerce

Date: 05 March 2025

Local Content Strategy Cornerstone for Economic Development



The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu

The Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndhlovu rallied companies in the manufacturing sector to produce local brands and propel the Buy Zimbabwe Campaign to greater heights.

Speaking during the ZimBrands Awards, a brain child of the Buy Zimbabwe Campaign, Minister Ndhlovu said in a speech read on his behalf by the Permanent Secretary Dr. T.U. Wushe that, "The Government through the Ministry of Industry and Commerce is advocating for the production and consumption of locally made products in order to stimulate the economy towards Vision 2030".

"I am proud to see the impact of local brands on our economy," he said. Minister Ndhlovu added that the ZimBrands Awards do not honour excellence in local production alone but also reinforce Zimbabwe's commitment to build a resilient economy through home-grown initiatives. Minister Ndhlovu reiterated that such brilliant initiatives foster the localisation of value chains, which puts the economy at an advantage by growing the economy and creating jobs.

Turning to the smuggling and the proliferation of counterfeit products on the market, Minister Ndhlovu assured Industry that Government remains committed to addressing the concerns of local producers by in combating smuggling and counterfeit goods that threaten the integrity of the market.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is the Chair of the Taskforce on Business Malpractice and is currently overseeing a two pronged approach on anti-smuggling and anti-counterfeit that involves education-awareness campaigns and enforcing compliance through a whole of government agencies approach.

Minister Ndhlovu also spoke about the effect of having a stable exchange rate. He said, "I am pleased to report that the recent liberalisation of the exchange rate has provided the much-needed lifeline for our retailers and wholesalers, enabling them to navigate the challenges posed by past disparities in the exchange rates which made the pricing of their goods such a daunting task!".

The Awards lived up to expectation, with some walking back to the office as winners whilst some went back to the drawing board to fill the gaps. Above all, the competition in all categories was stiff as all the nominated companies are playing a huge role in growing the economy in the manufacturing sector.

National Foods Limited, which recently commissioned three pasta, biscuits, and cereal plants, walked away with heads held high after scooping the leading Mealie Meal Brand Award through Parlenta. They also took the Leading Fast Moving Consumer Goods Award, leading Snacks Brand through King Kurls and leading Baking Products Brand through Gloria Flour.

Zimplot walked away with the Leading Local Brands in agricultural equipment production whilst the Leading Local Brands in Chemical and Fertiliser Production went to the Zimbabwe Fertilizer Company ZFC.

Mining Conglomerate Zimplats won the Mining Company Supporting Local Business. Meanwhile, the Leading Biscuits Brands Award went to Proton, the Marondera based bread and biscuit manufacturing giant. The Animal Feed Manufacturing sector went to Profeeds, who battled it out with Feedmix and others. Zimgold were not to be outshined as they

scooped the leading Cooking Oil Brands Award.

Nestle Zimbabwe took to the podium with the Leading Cereal Brands through Cerevita. Nestlé Zimbabwe recently commissioned a US\$7 million Roller Dryer, adding another milestone to their gallery.

The Leading Detergents Brands went to Trade King's through Boom. Chibuku Breweries took pole position in the Leading Sorghum Alcoholic Brand through the popular Super out-pacing Scud and Nyathi.

Schweppes walked away with an award for Mazoe Orange Crush. Edgars took the Leading Clothing and Textile Brands Awards out matching Jet and Waverly Blankets, respectively.

The winners marked their territory as bigger brands and will enjoy the limelight until the next ZimBrands Awards. Minister Ndhlovu congratulated all the winners and thanked them for the hard work. He urged those who wish to win to scale up their efforts as we all work to build the economy towards a prosperous upper middle income society by 2030. The full list of winners and runners up can be accessed on the Ministry of Industry and Commerce website www.mic.gov.zw



Zimbabwe Celebrates World Metrology Day



Zimbabwe joined the global community on 20 May 2025 in commemorating World Metrology Day under the theme “Measurements for all times, for all people,” marking the 150th anniversary of the Metre Convention signed in 1875. The event, held at Chigovanyika Shopping Centre in Chitungwiza, highlighted the importance of accurate measurements in trade, industry, and consumer protection.

The event was attended by key institutions, including the Scientific and Industrial Research and Development Centre (SIRDC), Consumer Protection Commission (CPC), Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ), Consumer Council of Zimbabwe (CCZ), Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP), Zimbabwe Weighing and Measuring Instruments Association (ZWMIA) and Chitungwiza Town Council.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce, through the Trade Measures Department, reaffirmed Zimbabwe’s dedication to upholding international measurement standards to ensure fair trade and consumer rights. The Ministry is also finalizing the Legal

Metrology Bill, which will establish the Legal Metrology Agency to enforce measurement compliance nationwide.

Consumers were educated on avoiding short-measurement scams in markets, fuel stations, and supermarkets, understanding labelled quantities on packaged goods, reporting discrepancies in measurements to authorities and the role of metrology in health, safety, and economic growth.

Many shoppers at the event expressed appreciation for the awareness drive. “I always suspected some vendors were cheating us with incorrect scales, but we now know where to report fraud,” said Mrs. Tendai Moyo, a local trader.

“This initiative has come at the right time. Accurate measurements protect both buyers and honest businesses,” added Mr. John Sibanda, a Chitungwiza resident. The Ministry urged all Zimbabweans to recognize metrology’s role in economic growth and consumer protection.

“Let us support metrologists, inspectors, and researchers who ensure fairness in trade. Together, we can build a more transparent and just marketplace,” said Mr Tawedzera Muwani, Trade Measures Inspector.

The celebrations were commemorated cognisant of the fact that Chitungwiza shopping complexes are among the places where goods and products are sold without proper packaging, weighting and labelling. The Ministry acknowledges that this has been exacerbated by the rise of the informal sector.



Illegal trading affecting competitiveness



The Zimbabwe Industrial Reconstruction and Growth Plan (2024–2025) is being implemented with a focus on addressing some uncomfortable but necessary issues—topics that may, at times, face resistance from the emerging market of self-proclaimed entrepreneurs.

As the economy strives toward industrialisation and expansion, it has become apparent that certain individuals and businesses exploit these developments by taking shortcuts aimed at deceiving unsuspecting consumers. This has resulted in the proliferation of counterfeit products, smuggling activities, and multi-tier pricing of goods in the marketplace.

In response, the Government, through Cabinet, established the Taskforce on Business Malpractice, chaired by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The Taskforce has since set up a Command Centre at the Ministry's Head Office, complemented by provincial committees to coordinate enforcement efforts across the country.

To date, a cumulative total of 3,779 businesses have been inspected, 419 prosecutions finalised, 402 compliance notices issued, and 4,816 goods seized.

ZIM, Toyota Connected & Pegara Japan Sign Strategic MoU at Expo 2025 Osaka



The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Dr. E.D Mnangagwa

President H.E. Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa witnessed a landmark signing ceremony at Expo 2025 Osaka, where the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T. U. Wushe, signed on behalf of the Minister, Hon. N. M. Ndhlovu. The agreement, concluded with Toyota Connected Corporation and Pegara Japan, marks a major milestone in advancing Zimbabwe's industrial modernization agenda and strengthening bilateral cooperation with Japan.

Toyota Connected Corporation (TCJP), renowned for its extensive expertise in data analytics and digital solutions, together with Pegara Japan, which has established strong capabilities in deploying advanced technological solutions, will collaborate with Zimbabwe under the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The MoU is designed to promote advanced digital transformation and operational efficiency by leveraging cutting-edge technologies to automate and optimize business processes. This is expected to reduce production costs while improving overall quality across key sectors of the economy. Zimbabwean enterprises, particularly in the manufacturing sector, are also set to benefit from Toyota's globally acclaimed Kaizen methodologies, which will help minimize waste, improve on-site operations, and raise the competitiveness of locally produced goods.

Beyond enhancing industrial efficiency, the partnership is anticipated to stimulate corporate earnings and broader economic growth through improved productivity and product quality, which in turn will drive revenues and profitability. The introduction of technologies such as artificial intelligence, drones, and robotics will further enable Zimbabwe to tackle pressing social

challenges, while simultaneously fostering innovation across industries.

Importantly, the agreement positions Pegara Japan as a bridge between Zimbabwe and a wide network of Japanese companies, officially strengthening its role in facilitating investment and industrial collaboration. This move is expected to accelerate joint business ventures and attract fresh investment into Zimbabwe's key sectors.

Through this public-private collaboration platform, local firms will have greater opportunities to enter into technical partnerships and explore new business ventures. This will not only enhance Zimbabwe's innovation ecosystem but also expand the country's export capacity and international competitiveness.

Speaking after the signing, officials emphasized that the agreement represents a forward-looking partnership that aligns with Zimbabwe's Vision 2030, promoting industrial growth, job creation, and sustainable economic transformation.



The Permanent Secretary for Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe (right) signs the MoU on behalf of the Zimbabwe Government. Below, delegates singing the national anthem.



Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Consulted on Draft ZNIDP 2



The Minister of Industry and Commerce Hon. N. Ndhlovu (seated centre) poses for a group photo with Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Industry and Commerce members and Ministry officials.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce held a consultative meeting with the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Industry and Commerce at the Harare International Conference Centre (HICC), as part of the ongoing process to refine the Draft Zimbabwe National Industrial Development Policy (ZNIDP 2).

The engagement follows the commencement of provincial consultations, with the Ministry now widening its outreach to include Parliament in shaping a robust and inclusive industrial development roadmap.

In his presentation, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu, outlined the objectives of ZNIDP 2, stressing its centrality in revitalising Zimbabwe's industrial sector and fast-tracking the attainment of Vision 2030 targets. He highlighted that the draft policy seeks to boost competitiveness, drive value addition, and promote sustainable growth across key economic sectors.

The Portfolio Committee commended the Ministry for adopting an inclusive approach and provided critical feedback to strengthen the draft policy. Members emphasised Parliament's role in ensuring that the policy framework is practical, people-centred and aligned with national economic priorities.

Speaking after the session, officials underscored that such engagements are vital in ensuring ZNIDP 2 evolves into a transformative blueprint that can accelerate industrialisation, enhance resilience, and position Zimbabwe as a competitive player in regional and global markets.

The Ministry will continue consultations with stakeholders to finalise ZNIDP 2, ahead of its official launch later this year.

ZNIDP 2

David Whitehead: Reviving Zimbabwe's Textile Legacy Through Resilience and Innovation



Kadoma Plant

In an exclusive interview, Thomas Mangozho, Plant Engineer at Kadoma-based textile manufacturer David Whitehead, offered a rare glimpse into one of Zimbabwe's most resilient and ambitious industrial stories. Once a sleeping giant, the company lay dormant for nearly two decades before being officially recommissioned in 2022 by the President Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa, marking a significant milestone in Zimbabwe's industrial revitalisation journey. With millions of dollars in planned investment, David Whitehead is not only rebuilding its production capacity but also reaffirming its position as a cornerstone of the nation's textile sector.

At the heart of its operations lies an impressive 95% production efficiency, even under the strain of persistent load shedding. The company's production floor hums with activity and purpose — a testament to both ambition and scale, setting a new benchmark for productivity under challenging conditions.

"Yarn is 350 tonnes per month, knitted fabric 40–45 tonnes, mutton cloth 25 tonnes and twine 30 tonnes," revealed Mr. Mangozho

A large portion of this robust output is supplied to sister companies within the Agri Value Chain Zimbabwe Group (AVCZ), though the products remain available to the wider market. Behind this success is a committed workforce of 200 employees, whose skill and dedication fuel the company's ongoing expansion. As its key client in the agri value chain prepares to ramp up operations, David Whitehead is already gearing up to scale its production even further.

"If our sister company in Chegutu goes full throttle — because this is where we supply most of our products — demand will force us to push to 400 or even 450 people," said Mr. Mangozho,

Despite setbacks such as last year's poor

Dr. T.U. Wushe (left), Permanent Secretary for Industry and Commerce, during a tour of David Whitehead Textiles in Kadoma with Mr. Thomas Mangozho (right, in blue worksuit).



cotton harvest caused by drought, the company's strategic foresight has kept operations steady. Owning its own ginneries, David Whitehead has been building cotton stock for years, guided by a long-term vision of expanding deeper into textile manufacturing.

"The investor was into ginning but had a vision — one day he wanted to move into textile manufacturing, so he was stocking locally. He was also doing ginning for Cottco and importing from Zambia," Mangozho explained.

David Whitehead has also invested in contract farming, distributing seed to support local farmers and strengthen its cotton supply base — a move that not only ensures consistent input but also uplifts rural livelihoods.

Yet, the journey is not without hurdles. Chief among them is the influx of second-hand clothing, which continues to undermine Zimbabwe's textile industry.

"You go to Harare, to Mupedzanhamo — everywhere it's second-hand clothing," lamented Mangozho. "I don't know what systems government can come up with so that the textile industry survives."

Adding to this is the high cost of local cotton, which remains disproportionately expensive despite being grown in Zimbabwe.

"Our cotton is among the best on the Liverpool Stock Exchange," Mangozho, noted. "Can't government create a policy so that local industries, since this is locally grown cotton, pay a fair local price?"

Despite these headwinds, David Whitehead continues to stand tall — sustained by strategic planning, strong local partnerships, and a commitment to operational excellence. With resilience at its core and a clear vision for the future, the company is well-positioned to reclaim its place as a powerhouse in Zimbabwe's industrial landscape.



Edgars Stores Tours Step in Style Ahead of Strategic Partnership Signing

Under the theme “Cotton to Clothing Value Chain Collaborations,” Edgars Stores Limited conducted a familiarisation tour of the Step in Style Garment Manufacturing Complex in the Tilcor Industrial Area, Chitungwiza, as part of efforts to strengthen partnerships within Zimbabwe’s textile value chain.

The engagement culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Edgars Stores Head Office, marking a key milestone in fostering collaboration between large corporates and small to medium enterprises (SMEs) in the clothing sector.

The landmark event was attended by representatives from the Office of the President and Cabinet, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises



The visiting delegation



Step in Style Factory

Development, and members of the Junior Council. Also present were officials from the Harare Chamber of SMEs, Chitungwiza Municipality, and Edgars Stores senior management, including its Quality Assurance team.

Harare Chamber of SMEs Seke-Makoni District Chairperson, Mr. Hatiwande Hama, described the collaboration as a “potential game changer” that embodies the power of partnerships between established formal retailers and emerging SME manufacturers.

“This engagement is more than just a factory tour — it is a bold step toward building a homegrown cotton-to-clothing value chain that uplifts entrepreneurs, creates jobs, reduces reliance on second-hand imports, and supports formalisation,” said Hama. “If all goes well, Step in Style may soon become an official supplier to Edgars, Jet, and Express Stores — a major breakthrough for local industry.”

Edgars Stores Group CEO, Mr. Saviours Mushosho, highlighted that the initiative is part of Edgars' strategy to strengthen local production and promote affordable, locally made clothing for Express Stores.

"By working with SMEs, we aim to boost production and provide quality, affordable alternatives to imported second-hand clothing," he said. "SMEs are agile, innovative players who can revitalise the textile sector and transform it into a competitive, export-oriented industry that drives inclusive growth."

Step in Style Director, Mr. Chesani Jaidi, underscored the importance of empowering SMEs as a sustainable way to counter the influx of smuggled second-hand clothing. "While the second-hand clothing trade benefits individuals, it does little for long-term economic growth," he said. "Supporting local SMEs builds sustainable jobs and strengthens our national manufacturing base."

Mr. Jaidi also shared his entrepreneurial journey, reflecting on the challenges and resilience required to build Step in Style into a thriving enterprise. He called on government and stakeholders to enhance support for SMEs through access to finance, infrastructure, and policy incentives. "With the right backing, SMEs can become engines of industrial transformation and employment creation," he said.

The event concluded with a shared sentiment among participants that the Edgars–Step in Style collaboration is more than a business partnership — it represents a strategic catalyst for national industrial revival and inclusive economic growth across Zimbabwe's textile value chain.



MINISTRY
OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

"With the right backing, SMEs can become engines of industrial transformation and employment creation," - Chesani Jaidi

Ministry of Industry and Commerce Showcases Industrialisation Drive at ZAS 2025



Staff from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce pose for a group photo

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce successfully showcased its strategic role in fostering industrialisation during the 115th edition of the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show (ZAS 2025), held in Harare from 25 to 30 August 2025 under the theme “Fostering Industrialisation to Bridge Agricultural and Community Development.”

The Zimbabwe Agricultural Show, an annual platform promoting agricultural development and strengthening sectoral linkages, attracted over 500 exhibitors, including international companies. This year’s edition was officially opened on 29 August by His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa.

At the Ministry stand, which recorded over 600

visitors, departments and parastatals under its purview—including the Trade Measures Department, Standards Development Fund (SDF), Consumer Council of Zimbabwe (CCZ), National Competitiveness Commission (NCC) and the Consumer Protection Commission (CPC)—demonstrated the Ministry’s industrialisation and commerce initiatives, while also highlighting the critical role of legal metrology in ensuring fair trade, accurate measurements, competitiveness, and consumer protection across key sectors such as agriculture, mining, manufacturing, and retail.

The Ministry created a dynamic platform to interact with farmers, agribusiness owners, students, policymakers, and industry leaders, reinforcing the “Catch Them Young” mantra

to inspire future professionals.

Exhibitions enhanced the visibility of legal metrology services, underlining their importance in fair trade, consumer protection, and quality assurance within the agricultural sector.

Engagements underscored how accurate measurement systems support the objectives of the National Development Strategy (NDS1 and NDS2) and contribute towards the attainment of Vision 2030.

The show also provided opportunities for legal metrology authorities to conduct compliance checks and raise awareness on regulations that safeguard consumers and promote competitiveness.

The Ministry described its participation as a resounding success, noting that it provided an opportunity to enhance visibility, build capacity, and disseminate critical compliance information to stakeholders.

“The show demonstrated the importance of industrialisation as a bridge between agriculture and community development. It allowed us to showcase the role of accurate measurement and consumer protection in building a fair and competitive marketplace, ultimately contributing to national economic prosperity,” the Ministry said in a statement.



REFUSE, RESIST & REPORT: Ministry Tightens Grip on Integrity in Public Entities



The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu (right) leads the signing of the Integrity Pledge.

In a bold step towards strengthening governance in the Second Republic, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce has embarked on a landmark initiative to entrench integrity and accountability within State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) under its purview.

At a ceremony led by the Minister, Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu, board members of SOEs signed Integrity Pledges before the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC). The SOEs include National Competitiveness Commission (NCC), Competition and Tariff Commission, Consumer Protection Commission (CPC), Consumer Council of Zimbabwe (CCZ), Zimbabwe International Trade Fair Company and Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (ZISCO).



Board members reciting the integrity pledge

The signing signals the Ministry's commitment to building robust, efficient, and trustworthy public entities that drive industrialisation and economic transformation.

“You are pledging to uphold accountability, to be answerable for your performance, your decisions, and the resources entrusted to you...”

“And you are dedicating yourselves to professionalism, to govern your enterprises with the same rigor, strategic vision, and efficiency demanded by the most competitive private sector entities and the citizens,” said Minister Ndhlovu.

The Ministry underscored that corruption often manifests in subtle forms, such as deliberately complicating access to services or products in order to solicit bribes. The Integrity Pledges are therefore designed to eliminate such practices and ensure that citizens and businesses are served with fairness and professionalism.

“Let me be clear, signing this pledge is the easy part. The true test begins when you leave this room. It will be tested in every tender you award, in every contract you sign, in every expense you approve, and in every decision you make that pits personal convenience against national duty,” said Minister Ndhlovu. This development is expected to accelerate the attainment of Zimbabwe's Vision 2030, with integrity positioned as the cornerstone of industrialisation and economic prosperity.

The Ministry called on the public to embrace the national anti-corruption thrust by refusing, resisting, and reporting corrupt practices whenever encountered.



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Ten Year Strategic Plan to Address Growth in Sugar Industry



The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe

The sugar industry in Zimbabwe is one of the major contributors to the Gross Domestic Product accounting to a contribution of 1.4%. Government under the Second Republic is looking at increasing beneficiation and value addition in every sector in order to achieve the much needed prosperous and empowered upper middle-income society by 2030.

In the spirit of leaving no sector behind and fostering inclusive transformation and growth, the Ministries of Industry and Commerce and Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development co-chaired their first joint Consultative Workshop to present the Zero Draft Zimbabwe Sugarcane Industry Development Strategy (2026-2035) at Palm Lodge Chiredzi. The Ministries are pursuing a collaborative, cross-ministerial approach deliberately designed to decisively address constraints in the sector and enable players to fully transform by unlocking their potential.

The sugar industry is currently faced with low on-farm productivity, outdated milling equipment, limited molasses feedstock, inadequate irrigation and power infrastructure, high production costs, limited access to affordable finance and regional competition.

In a bid to enhance competitiveness, the two Ministries aim to review all factors impeding growth, with the first step being a consultative workshop held to develop a strategy for addressing



Delegates following proceedings

constraints and harnessing opportunities. The sector currently employs an upward of 30 000 workers in the mainstream production and downstream support sectors. This makes the industry the second-best employer after the Government. There are a total of 1,200 out-growers contributing a significant 43% of the national cane output. Collectively, the out-growers produce 400,000 metric tonnes of sugar annually, valued at over USD 380 million, from an installed capacity of 600,000 metric tonnes.

During the Consultative Workshop, the Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and Water Hon A. J. Masuka gave a timeline and instructed that the draft stakeholder input for the Zimbabwe Sugarcane Industry Development Strategy (2026-2035) is expected by Friday 17 October 2025. The draft will be further circulated to all stakeholders for one week pending final submission on Friday 24 October 2025.

The Workshop was attended by Hon E. Chadzamira, Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution-Masvingo Province, Hon Dr A. J. Masuka, Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, Hon Deputy Minister Y. Simbanegavi, Deputy Minister of Energy and Power Development, Sen. Mavenyengwa, Dr. T. U. Wushe, Permanent Secretary for Industry and Commerce, Dr A. Pazvakavambwa, Secretary of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Chief Directors, Mr Kondo, CEO Zimbabwe Sugar Association, Directors in the Sugarcane sector and representatives from different companies in the sector.

The sugar industry is currently supported by two main sugar mills, Triangle and Hippo Valley who possess a combined capacity to crush over 3.5 million tonnes of sugar cane per annum. There are small holder cane farmers who are augmenting the big players and Government, through the ten-year Zimbabwe Sugarcane Industry Development Strategy (2026-2035) will provide initiatives and lasting solutions to enhance their productivity.



A sugar manufacturing plant in Chiredzi



Zimbabwe's Industrial Boom: New Factories, Jobs and Growth Transform Provinces

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe

Zimbabwe's industrial landscape is undergoing a remarkable transformation, with a surge of new investments across the country reshaping the economic terrain. From manufacturing and mining to agro-processing and renewable energy, both local and international investors are driving projects that are creating jobs, boosting exports and revitalising communities.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. T.U. Wushe, said the wave of investments reflects growing confidence in Zimbabwe's industrialisation and economic recovery agenda.

"The investments we are witnessing across provinces are a clear sign that our industrialisation and value addition strategies are working. These projects are creating employment, increasing production and positioning Zimbabwe as a competitive regional player," said Dr. Wushe

In the capital, major companies have stepped up industrial activity. National Foods rolled out three state-of-the-art processing plants worth US\$22.7 million for cereals, pasta and biscuits, creating 300 jobs. Nestlé Zimbabwe injected US\$7 million into a new roller drier that boosted production by 35% and expanded exports to Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique, while Nutriblend Fertilizers commissioned a new blending plant valued at US\$150,000,

employing 70 people.

Across the country, similar developments are taking shape. Pro Feeds is re-energising Bulawayo's manufacturing sector with an US\$8 million investment in a poultry and piggery stock feed plant, signalling renewed momentum in the city's agro-industrial hub.

In the eastern highlands, timber and solar ventures are expanding rapidly. Allied Timbers upgraded sawmills worth US\$800,000, and Border Timbers invested in a US\$960,000 sawmilling plant alongside an 810kW solar project employing 151 people. Mega Market has launched three projects — a 2MW solar plant, a truck and container hub, and a trailer assembly factory — with a combined value of US\$4.5 million. Other investors, including Electrosales (US\$3 million timber plant), Taguta Stone Crushers (US\$1.5 million) and Komo (US\$5 million pine resin factory employing 100 workers), are also boosting industrial output.

Large-scale investments are also reshaping Mashonaland West, where West International Holdings Zimbabwe is developing a US\$1 billion cement plant expected to create more than 2,000 jobs. Ronchell Trading is setting up a US\$27 million rhino and ceiling board factory in Norton, while Huaxin Cement has commissioned a US\$15 million plant in Mt Hampden, already producing high-grade cement for the local and export markets.

In the Midlands, Global Union Alloy has invested US\$2.7 million in new ferrochrome

furnaces producing 225 tonnes daily and employing 85 workers.

Dinson Colliery Company in Matebeleland North expanded its coke oven battery with a US\$20 million investment, expected to produce 55,000 tonnes per month and provide nearly 1,000 jobs. Meanwhile, Prospect Lithium Zimbabwe is anchoring Mashonaland East's industrial growth with a US\$233 million lithium sulphate and power plant that employs 1,200 people. The province is also seeing growth in agro-based industries, with Proton Bakery investing US\$1.5 million to increase production to 180,000 loaves a day, employing 1,560 workers. Surrey has committed US\$2 million to meat processing and solar projects, while Edurate Investments upgraded its flour plant with a US\$1 million outlay.

In Mashonaland Central, African Preserves invested US\$200,000 in a solar-powered baked bean plant, Panvert Investments established a US\$825,000 limestone processing plant. Orange Ville is setting up a US\$500,000 juice processing plant in Beitbridge, Matabeleland South, expected to employ 250 people.

Dr. Wushe said these investments demonstrate how Zimbabwe's industrial policy is driving inclusive growth.

"Each province now has a unique industrial footprint contributing to national transformation. This is the practical impact of Zimbabwe's industrial policy in action," he said.

From new factories to solar plants, Zimbabwe's provinces are rising — one investment at a time — fuelling innovation, job creation and sustainable industrial growth across the nation.



Huaxin Cement



Pro Feeds



National Foods



West International Holdings

Government Expands Reserved Sectors to Empower Zimbabwean Citizens



Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N. M. Ndhlovu

The Government of Zimbabwe expanded the list of Reserved Sectors under the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Act [Chapter 14:33], adding five new areas exclusively designated for Zimbabwean citizens. This move, effected through the Finance Act No. 2 of 2024, is aimed at strengthening citizen participation in key economic activities and ensuring that local communities benefit from the nation's resources, in line with Section 13(4) of the Constitution.

The Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Act, enacted in 2008, empowers indigenous Zimbabweans by promoting their ownership and control of certain businesses and sectors. Initially, the Act reserved twelve sectors for Zimbabwean citizens, including retail and wholesale trade, passenger transport services, bakeries, estate agencies, advertising, grain milling, and artisanal mining.

In November 2024, following extensive consultations with stakeholders, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion approved the inclusion of five additional sectors. These are haulage and logistics, pharmaceutical retailing, shipping and forwarding, customs and clearing and borehole drilling.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon. N. M. Ndhlovu, said the expansion reflects government's continued commitment to inclusive economic empowerment and sustainable local enterprise growth.

"The addition of these five sectors is a direct response to concerns raised by local entrepreneurs about unfair competition from

foreign-owned businesses," said Hon. Ndhlovu. "Government listened to these voices and acted decisively to ensure that Zimbabwean citizens have greater access to opportunities in areas where they have capacity and potential to thrive."

Hon. Ndhlovu further highlighted that the latest amendment builds upon the reforms introduced through the Finance Act No. 1 of 2018, which broadened participation from "indigenous citizens" to all "citizens of Zimbabwe."

"This evolution of the policy framework demonstrates government's commitment to balancing empowerment with inclusivity, while safeguarding national interests and promoting fair competition," he added.

He said the Reserved Sectors framework remains an important pillar in advancing Zimbabwe's vision of an empowered, self-sustaining economy.

"By strengthening local ownership and participation, we are nurturing homegrown industries that contribute to employment creation, value addition and sustainable development," said Hon. Ndhlovu.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce continues to collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and other stakeholders to ensure that implementation of the Reserved Sectors policy supports the national goal of achieving an upper-middle-income economy by 2030.

Wellness & Fitness



Top, Ministry of Industry and Commerce sports team pose for a group photo during the 2025 Inter-Ministerial Festival in Bulawayo. Below, Ministry staff participating in tug of war.





Ministry of Industry and Commerce football team (in yellow) during the Inter-Ministerial sports festival in Bulawayo.





Ministry of Industry and Commerce volleyball (top, in white uniform) and netball (bottom, in white uniform) teams during the Inter-Ministerial sports festival in Bulawayo.





The Ministry of Industry and Commerce celebrating and supporting the various Ministry teams during the Sports Festival.



Company Visits: Hon. N.M. Ndhlovu, Minister of Industry and Commerce



National Foods



Davipel



Bronzepels Investments



Blue Ribbon Foods



Bata Shoe Company



Trade Kings



Khayah Cement



PPC



Quest Motors



Gwanda Community Economic Empowerment Trust

Editorial Team



Coline Dzavakwa



Courage Chakubva



Lethokuhle Ntini



Ruvarashe Masitire



*Maria Ruth
Chinyani*



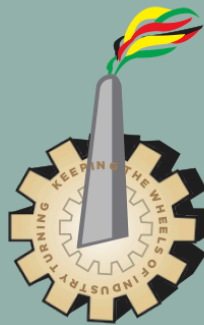
Gibson Tsoka



Alyseos Hlabiso



Mary Madzimba



MINISTRY
OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Website: www.mic.gov.zw

X account: @Min_of_IC

Phone: 0242-707540 791823, 702737, 702733, 700472

Email: info@mic.gov.zw