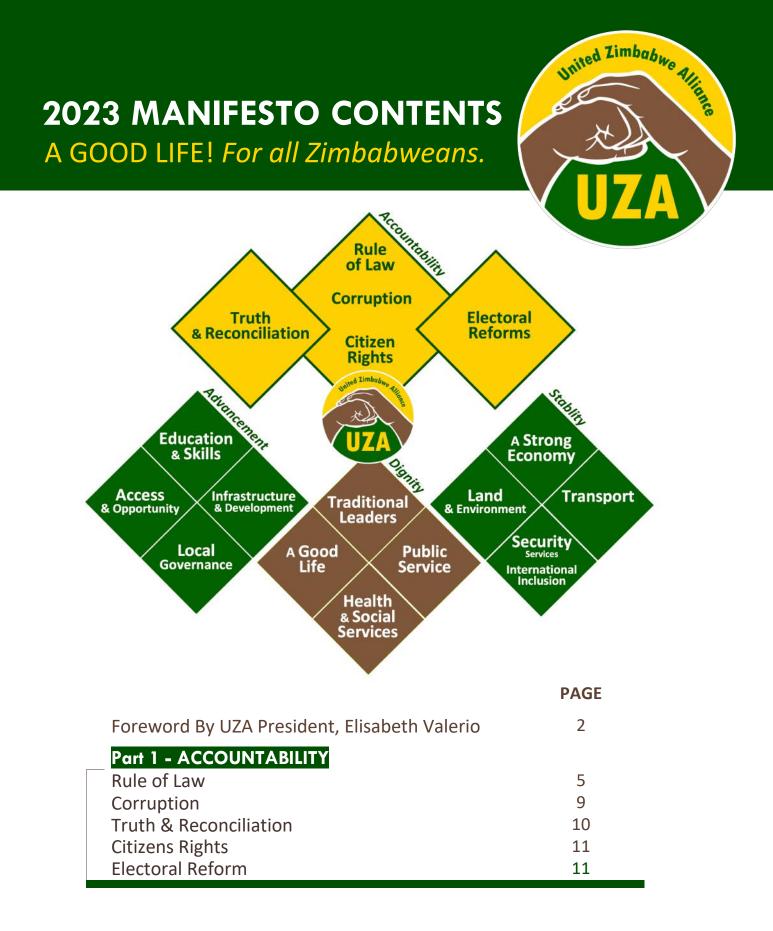
# **PART 1 ACCOUNTABILITY**

# **UNITED ZIMBABWE ALLIANCE** 2023 MANIFESTO NATIONAL ELECTIONS

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## ACCOUNTABILITY ADVANCEMENT DIGNITY STABILITY



# UNITED ZIMBABWE ALLIANCE 2023 MANIFESTO

### Foreword by UZA President, Elisabeth Valerio

Forty-three years after Zimbabwe attained her independence in 1980, the country has degenerated into a sorry state. The ruling party ZANU (PF), the party that has been at the helm from day one has betrayed the values it stood for. Forgotten are the sacrifices made by veterans of the war for our country's liberation.

Zimbabwe attained independence from the British in 1980 following a bitter struggle that claimed thousands of lives. In its 1980 manifesto, ZANU (PF) stated that its aim was to liberate Zimbabwe from bondage and establish a nationalist, socialist Pan-Africanist and democratic Republic. Diversion from the noble objectives is a result of the ruling party being afflicted by arrogance born out of a culture of entitlement vested in the rhetoric of having masterminded the liberation struggle.

Zimbabwe with a population of approximately 16 million citizens now has upwards of 80 percent of its adult population in the informal business sector. Corruption has cascaded from the high echelons of government to the ordinary man and woman on the street. Despite having a highly diversified mining industry which boasts of close to 40 different minerals, Zimbabwe is ranked among the 50 poorest countries in the world.

Zimbabwe was once a source of inspiration to Africans and the world over. Ours was one of the most promising African nations that by now should have achieved strides towards economic development and social emancipation. We could have been an example of what is possible for other African nations. Yet sadly, 21st Century Zimbabwe is a nation under siege from a government that has long lost the mandate and credibility to preside over its people. The once revered regional breadbasket has been reduced to a nation of second-rate citizens with neither rights nor quality of life. *Those who are neither hungry nor sick hussle unto death - or in capitulation our own citizens flee the borders of their beloved country, Zimbabwe*.

Zimbabweans are now pawns in a political game pitting a heartless ruling party against hapless opposition leaders that themselves have also exacerbated Zimbabwe's demise. Our people deserve better! It is not just the elite who deserve to be rewarded. What about our teachers, nurses, low-ranking army and our police officers? What about the dignity of our war veterans - and the entire civil service that needs looking after?

#### United Zimbabwe Alliance (UZA)

Formed on 29 May 2021 by Zimbabweans, the United Zimbabwe Alliance (UZA) is a grassroots political party that seeks to *reclaim Zimbabwe for Zimbabweans* and build a vibrant society that benefits every man, woman and child. UZA has a national package for Zimbabweans, a package that will accommodate the needs and aspirations of all Zimbabweans. UZA principles and values are adequately captured in our party slogan, *Let's Unite*, as we build Zimbabwe!

We are calling upon all citizens to see beyond the ZANU PF political gimmicks of dolling out cars and helicopters to selected sections of the population at the expense of our starving nation. UZA will not use piece-meal methods of pacifying sections of Zimbabwe's civil service - nor will we selectively parcel out goodies to some members of Zimbabwe's population while the rest succumb to abject poverty!

Our party will uphold the independence of the judiciary and the separation of powers to ensure that all citizens are equal before the law. We are committed to championing the engagement of all people of Zimbabwe for the protection and realisation of national unity, dignity, posterity, and justice, ensuring that every citizen is treated fairly and given an equal opportunity to prosper.

To move Zimbabwe forward, UZA presents a vision for a brighter future for our country. Guided by four overarching themes: *accountability; advancement; dignity* and *stability* - we have outlined our policies and how we will address the key challenges facing our nation. Our manifesto is not a mere document, it is a four-part resource for citizens enlightenment and a contract between UZA and the people of Zimbabwe. *It's a promise that UZA will deliver* if the citizens give us the mandate to govern the nation of Zimbabwe.

UZA has a holistic approach to the economic and social challenges facing our nation. We are good stewards of our environment, preserving our nation's wealth for the benefit of our people. We will create an environment for active participation by all in public affairs and nation-building towards the achievement of sustainable economic growth commensurate with our natural endowments. We will promote and support scientific research and innovation! We believe in strengthening the financial sector, promoting industrial development, and creating a vibrant and robust tourism industry for our country.

Zimbabwe can become a nation where innovators and entrepreneurs achieve more. A land in which jobs are plenty and businesses succeed. But it takes an accountable and transparent government with the capacity for advancement and budget transparency, leaving no room for frivolous activities, wastage or corruption. It takes sound fiscal and monetary policies and sustainable development plans.

UZA guarantees a country with a solid economy and a stable currency, where our value-added exports reach the global marketplace, the manufacturing sector and industries thrive, our gold, diamonds and abundant natural resources are exported, added value and proceeds are channeled into the national purse for the benefit of the majority. We will enhance the natural capital of Zimbabwe which includes renewable and non-renewable resources such as minerals and energy, forests, water and fisheries.

UZA will protect the political, cultural, religious and racial tolerance, freedom, dignity and social well-being of all people of Zimbabwe affording everyone the same basic rights to free speech, association, congregation, workshop, and to vote. UZA supports a politically plural Zimbabwe espousing constructive engagement of all political parties in good governance and plural politics for the good of the nation.

We oppose unjustifiable and entrenched privilege and inequality. We reject all forms of prejudice and discrimination based on colour, race, religion, disability or gender. We will ensure a much greater role for women and youth, placing them at the forefront of leadership and policymaking.

UZA will secure the future and heritage of the people of Zimbabwe through responsible custodianship and sustainable economic empowerment of all citizens with equal access to economic resources as well as freedom and security of enterprise, social justice and unconditional respect for property rights and entrepreneurial rights.

The time is fast approaching for registered Zimbabwean voters to make a momentous choice that will determine the future of our nation. I encourage all of you, my fellow Zimbabweans, to vote wisely - choose UZA as your party in the upcoming elections. *Zimbabwe cannot be a colony again!* 

Vote for me as your President. Vote for your future!

Elisabeth Valerio President, United Zimbabwe Alliance (UZA)

### **1. RULE OF LAW**

#### What UZA Says About Rule of Law

We believe the law should be observed by all regardless of stature. We are against weaponisation of the law. All legislation enacted by the UZA government shall seek to promote lawfulness, maintenance of peace and the prosperity of our country.

#### Background on the Erosion of the Rule of Law in Zimbabwe

Rule of law supports the equality of all citizens and prevents the arbitrary use of power. The creation of laws implies that no one in society is above the law, not even government officials. Zimbabwe is not in a good space when it comes to the state of the country's rule of law. For 37 years our nation was under the authoritarian rule of the now-late Robert Mugabe. Mugabe unleashed the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade on civilians in the Midlands and Matabeleland regions in 1982 resulting in the death of thousands of people.

There was hope for a better future after a military revolution in 2017, but unfortunately it was not to be. Human rights advocates and organisations from across the globe have since called on the Zimbabwean government and institutions to respect the rule of law highlighting that, despite claims of reform, President Emerson Mnangagwa's administration is responsible for ongoing and grave violations of fundamental human rights. Basic rights such as peaceful gatherings and free speech have witnessed restrictions. Nothing much has changed in Zimbabwe regarding respect for human rights and the rule of law. Instead, the situation appears to have deteriorated.



#### Facts About Rule of Law in Zimbabwe

In 1982, thousands of civilians in Midlands and Matebeleland were massacred in a genocide. The perpetrators were never punished. The victims were never compensated and many of their families remain physically and emotionally scarred. For years, some of their children even struggled to gain access to official documents such as national identification cards or birth certificates.

After the Presidential elections in 2018, uniformed soldiers fired gunshots at civilians who were protesting delayed election results. Mnangagwa later appointed the Motlanthe Commission of Inquiry, which found that six people died and 35 others were injured by state security forces. Five years later, the commission's recommendations have not been implemented.

Journalist Hopewell Chin'ono, and opposition politicians Fadzayi Mahere and Job Sikhala were arrested and charged with **publishing or communicating false statements prejudicial to the State**, yet in October 2013, Zimbabwe's Constitutional Court held that Section 31 (a) (iii) of the Criminal Law Codification Reform Act, under which the accused persons were arrested and detained, was unconstitutional.

#### What UZA Will Do About the Rule of Law

Too many individuals are now floating above the laws in Zimbabwe due to selective application of the laws. UZA will change the direction of government and restore the rule of law. There will be no discrimination before the law, of any person regardless of race, gender, skin colour or political or religious affiliations. We will ensure that all citizens are treated equality and impartially before the laws and our country's courts.

#### UZA shall:

- Correct deviations from the constitution and enact legislation in consultation with citizens, in the interest of our nation.
- Safeguard the human and entrepreneurial rights of every citizen.
- Ensure the protection of private and public property as well as enterprise.
- Protect the human rights of every person in police custody, in remand and awaiting a trial, or in prison serving a sentence.
- Put in place strict measure to ensure that public officials adhere to the laws of Zimbabwe.

#### **Separation Of Powers**

Chapter 1 Section 2e of the Constitution of Zimbabwe states that the principles of good governance, which bind the State and all institutions and agencies of government at every level in Zimbabwe include observance of the principle of separation of powers.

The doctrine of separation of powers states that for a free and democratic society to exist, there must be a clear separation between the three branches of government, namely, the Executive Branch (the President, Vice-Presidents and Ministers); the Legislature (the Senate and House of Assembly) and the Judicial Branch (judicial officers and the courts over which they preside). If one of these branches encroaches upon the functions of the others, freedom and the rule of law are jeapardised.

On paper, Zimbabwe has one of the best systems of governance with a clear separation of powers entrusted to the three arms of the government which are the judiciary, the legislature and the executive. A few amendments introduced through parliament betray the will of the people as espoused by the 2013 constitution, and the clear cut in the functionaries of the different arms of the government.

#### Shortcomings in Legislative Oversight & MPs Failure to Engage Constituents

A proper parliamentary system is one in which each member of Parliament seeks the views of the citizens in their constituency and brings these views to parliament for debate. The focus of the legislature should not be on the views of their political party. Rather, what they bring to the parliamentary floor should reflect the views of their constituents. Parliament must focus on true parliamentary representation and should not support legislation without first consulting their constituents. Furthermore, development within their constituencies should not be part of their scope and focus.







#### Examples of Executive Interference with the Judiciary in Zimbabwe

**1982,** after a judgment against the government in a matter involving the Yorke brothers, the then Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe, is recorded as having responded: "The government cannot allow the technicalities of the law to fetter its hands in what is a very clear task before it, to preserve law and order in the country ...We shall therefore proceed as the government in the manner we feel is fitting.. and some of the measures we shall take are measures which will be extra-legal".

**October 2000,** Professor Jonathan Moyo, then Information Minister criticized High Court judge, Justice Chatikobo, whom he accused of "dispensing night justice" having granted an interdict after hours.

A new radio broadcasting company, Capital Radio, had sought urgent protection from the courts against Moyo who wanted to seize its equipment. The police disregarded the High Court order.

There were no charges of contempt of court against Minister Moyo.

**October 13, 2000,** regarding the Capital Radio case, Moyo was reported to have written to the then Judge President, Justice Godfrey Chidyausiku, registering "government's disquiet over High Court ruling in the Capital Radio saga". This resulted in the High Court instituting investigations into the conduct of Justice Chatikobo who had granted the interdict giving Capital Radio protection against a search by the police.

**November 2000,** Joseph Chinotimba, a war veteran, led a group that invaded the Supreme Court to purge the judiciary of judges who were regarded as being unfavourable towards the Fast Track Land Reform Programme.

Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa was forced to retire in March 2001 after Chinotimba's group threatened the integrity of the courts and the safety of the judges.

At the time, a Supreme Court judge was quoted as having said, "I was told very politely and very nicely that I should go - take my leave and go, otherwise anything could happen. It was said very frankly that they didn't want me to come to any harm". He was referring to a meeting he had with the Justice Minister, Chinamasa, during the upheavals.

**August 2, 2002,** Zimbabwe Independent quoted President Mugabe as having said the government would not obey judgments that it regarded as "subjective". "We will respect judges where the judgments are true judgments".

The comments were made in reference to a case in which Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa had been convicted of contempt of court by Justice Blackie, then a High Court judge. Mugabe said, "A judge who sits alone in his house or with his wife and says this one is guilty of contempt, that judgment should never be obeyed".

This was a statement signaling that the government would be at liberty to select which judgments to obey and which ones to ignore.

**2004,** when Justice Majuru, then of the Administrative Court, ruled in favour of the ANZ, publishers of the Daily News, and when the order was later confirmed by Justice Nare, the then Minister of Information, Moyo, responded by saying that the judgment was merely academic and could not, therefore, be enforced.

7

#### **Historic Record on Separation of Powers**

Zimbabwe does not have a good record of observing the separation of powers. Section 164 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe states that courts must apply the law and Constitution "impartially, expeditiously and without fear, favour or prejudice". This is a key component of a free and democratic society.

#### Facts About Separation of Powers in Zimbabwe

**14 May 2021,** a high-profile case involved the renewal of the term of office of Chief Justice Luke Malaba. Three High Court judges presided over urgent applications seeking declaratory orders pertaining to constitutional amendments which extended the tenure of the Chief Justice and other judges of the Supreme Court and Constitutional Court.

- The High Court declared that the extension of tenure was not applicable to the incumbent Chief Justice and other superior court judges, in line with section 328(7) of the Constitution.
- The government of Zimbabwe disagreed with the judgment and filed two separate appeals.
- The Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC) responded that the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary explain that the term of office of judges shall be adequately secured by law, and judges must have guaranteed tenure until mandatory retirement age or the expiry of their term of office.

The Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) bill has been highly criticised by some as retrogressive and having serious repercussions for the holding of democratic, free and fair elections in Zimbabwe. It has been said the bill potentially opens the door for over-regulation and interference in the activities of NGOs working in governance, electoral education and human rights among others. Critics have said the bill will:

- Cause Zimbabwe to lose US\$1 billion annually.
- Be used to thwart the efforts of those working to redress unfair restrictions on political rallies and peaceful assemblies as well as those working against political violence and human rights violations in Zimbabwe.
- Threaten the right to freedom of association.
- Target civic space leaders and their organisations as they may be deregistered or reconstituted with huge implications on civic space and the safety and security of activists in Zimbabwe.
- Weaponise and entrench the impunity of the ruling party Zanu PF and prohibit citizens from holding government accountable.

#### What UZA Will Do About Separation of Powers

UZA will ensure a clear separation of powers that promotes the autonomy of the judiciary.

#### The UZA government shall:

- Restore the powers of the courts and the autonomy of the judiciary to pass sentences without the undue interference of politicians.
- Abolish constitutional amendments that award undue powers to the sitting president, including but not limited to the ability to hand-pick judges.
- Ensure that parliamentarians consult their constituents and carry out their legislative duties.
- Review controversial bills such as the PVO bill and ensure citizens participation when such bills are being reviewed.



## 2. CORRUPTION

#### What is Corruption?

In Zimbabwe corruption is affecting all facets of society - from government officials to civil service and citizens in general. Corruption typically involves bribery. It is a form of dishonesty aimed at the gain of illicit private paybacks or personal benefits. It is an abuse of power or a criminal offence, undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with authority or influence. The effects of corruption are economic stagnation and poor foreign investments as it exacerbates inequality, poverty, social division and environmental crisis while eroding trust, democracy and development.

#### Transparency & Accountability

UZA recognizes that corruption across Zimbabwe is robbing citizens of efficient service delivery. The problem lies not only in the lack of efficient monitoring systems and accountability, but also in the dearth of public officials with strong moral character, honesty and integrity. The Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) was established constitutionally and has clear guidelines for addressing corruption in Zimbabwe, yet corruption has taken root and service delivery in most towns and cities has vastly declined. Corruption and lack of accountability and transparency are among the main causes of poor service delivery.

#### Facts About Transparency & Accountability in Councils and Local Government

- Harare, which was once dubbed the Sunshine City, now resembles a huge dump site as rubbish heaps go for months uncollected and water supplies in most suburbs have become erratic.
- In **2021,** ZACC arrested Mutare City Council Deputy Mayor and 11 other councillors for unprocedural reviewing upwards their travel and subsistence allowances.
- March 2022, ZACC nabbed two senior Chegutu Municipality officers over a litany of corruption allegations.

#### What UZA Will Do About Corruption

UZA will work to stop endemic corruption and the lack of accountability, particularly among public institutions entrusted with safeguarding the interests and resources of Zimbabweans.

#### The UZA government shall:

- Carry out an uncompromised, comprehensive audit of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission to assess its effectiveness and address issues relating to oversight.
- Strengthen ZACC's capacity to promptly and judiciously carry out timely investigations and prosecute all allegations of corruption.
- Prohibit politicians who are found guilty of bribery and corruption from standing as candidates in any subsequent election.
- Ensure that ZACC is able to operate without political interference. UZA shall not make any excuses for corrupt public and private office-holders.
- Ensure that whistleblowers are well protected.
- Implement life-style audits.



## 3. TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

As a government in waiting, UZA understands that a country's economic growth requires stability. To tackle Zimbabwe's many issues and pave the way for a better society Zimbabweans will need to come together from all backgrounds, including men, women and youth. Relentless entrepreneurial minds, diverse skills and the ideas of our citizens will be required.

Everyone must be included in the building of a strong economy for our country. We need new jobs and more opportunities for all citizens - but, before we can expect real stability as a united and purposeful nation, we must face the troubling realities of our nation's history. Our country's wounds have not yet healed.

#### Facts About Peace, Reconciliation and Truth Telling

In the 1980s, Gukurahundi claimed thousands of lives in Matabeleland and the Midlands provinces. Families were displaced and so many women and children were left widowed and orphaned. Former President Mugabe said it was a moment of madness.

Since 1999 to date, political violence has claimed lives whose numbers are yet to be determined. Many citizens lost their loved ones, while some have lost limbs and sustained life-threatening injuries. Others lost their properties and entire livelihoods due to political violence and persecution.



#### What UZA Will Do About Truth & Reconciliation

UZA believes reconciliation rather than retribution could help Zimbabweans to put the dark chapters of the past years behind them.

#### The UZA government shall:

- Carry out an urgent review of what the National Peace & Reconciliation Commission (NPRC) has achieved with a view of finding out if there are any shortcomings. Extensive consultations will be done with the affected populace as part of the review.
- Quickly address any shortcomings that are identified through the NPRC review process.
- Rehabilitate and guarantee state assistance for victims of past crimes as a means of restitution for their prior economic and social status. The affected families will be economically equipped and prepared for adequate self-reliance and self-sufficiency. Material support will be made available for training, education and business ventures benefitting the victims and their families.





UZA 2023 Manifesto National Elections

### 4. CITIZEN RIGHTS

The fundamental rights of the citizens of Zimbabwe are defined in Chapter 4 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe. The State and every person, including juristic persons, and every institution and agency of the government at every level must respect, protect, promote and fulfill the rights and freedoms set out in the Constitution. These rights include but are not limited to the right to life; the right to personal liberty; the right to human dignity; the right to personal security; freedom of movement; labour rights; political rights; the right to education; the right to healthcare; marriage rights and the right to food and water.

#### What UZA Will Do About Citizens Rights

The United Zimbabwe Alliance is committed to upholding human rights, as enshrined in the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

#### The UZA government shall:

- Education: Guarantee all citizens and permanent resident of Zimbabwe the right to free primary school education. We will ensure that citizens have a right to State funded adult basic education. We will also ensure that every person has the right to register and establish independent educational institutions of reasonable standards.
- Inheritance: Carry out a complete review of all inheritance laws. Women in Zimbabwe face perennial battles with relatives over inheritance. Our country's laws recognise civil, customary and unregistered customary marriages.
- Freedom of Expression & Association (Particularly within the political space): In consultation with the citizens of Zimbabwe, review all draconian laws to ensure that no citizen should be unjustly persecuted for political reasons.
- **Labour:** In consultation with the citizens of Zimbabwe, review all existing labour policies and laws that are retrogressive and insensitive to contemporary social and economic systems. UZA will ensure the good welfare of all employees in Zimbabwe.
- **Pensions:** Investigate insurance and pension schemes and grant citizens the option to contribute to any pension fund of their choice.
- **Property Rights:** Respect property rights and protect private investments.
- Water & Food: Take reasonable legislative and other measures to achieve the progressive realisation of every person's right to safe, clean and potable water; and the right to sufficient food as required by the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

### **5. ELECTORAL REFORM**

Elections in Zimbabwe have been the subject of contention and protracted legal action due to irregularities and a general lack of trust among political players. Our electoral system has been a victim of political patronage for years. ZANU PF has maintained a stranglehold on the electoral system, and this has impaired the independence, efficiency and integrity of electoral officers.

Electoral accountability will be one of our greatest priorities as the United Zimbabwe Alliance. Issues raised during elections and found to be relevant must be included in electoral reforms. The freedom of every Zimbabwean relies on the credibility of our elections. We must enact electoral reform and ensure transparency and accountability for a genuinely credible electoral system that promotes and protects the rights of every Zimbabwean and ensures the vote and will of the people - *not the influence of a few corrupt individuals.* 

#### **Facts About Electoral Reform**

**Delimitation:** Most voters do not understand the delimitation, a process which takes place every 10 years to divide the country into constituencies and wards for electing the 210 constituency seats in the National Assembly and the Councillors seats in local authorities.

The 2023 delimitation process has been regarded as highly riddled with manipulation of electoral boundaries and allegations of gerrymandering. It has also been reported that the delimitation process was not sufficiently consultative and participatory. The irregularities in the delimitation report already bring into question the credibility of the election before it is held.

Delimitation should be conducted after population census and statistics data has been completed. (Section 161 of the Constitution)	In the 2023 delimitation exercise, ZEC disregarded the 2022 population census data when it allocated the number of constituencies per province.
<ul> <li>As part of the delimitation process, constituency boundaries must provide for: <ul> <li>an equal number of voters registered in each constituency</li> <li>a variance of no more than 20% more or fewer registered voters than the other such constituencies or wards</li> <li>a list of the wards and constituencies, with the names assigned to each and a description of their boundaries</li> <li>a map or maps showing wards and constituencies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The 2023 delimitation report gazetted by President Mnangagwa: <ul> <li>did not meet the requirements of Section 161(11) of the constitution of Zimbabwe</li> <li>included cases of greater than 20% variance in several constituencies</li> <li>did not clearly indicate the boundaries for the constituencies and wards</li> <li>did not include maps to show the ward and constituency boundaries</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### **Privacy of Electoral Data:**

An issue of concern to many Zimbabweans are the SMS messages sent to a large number of citizens purportedly coming from President Emmerson Mnangagwa in which he appeals for votes in the forthcoming elections.

- ZEC is the only likely source of the personal data used in the exercise. Availing such information for any other use other than what it was intended for is a clear violation of the rights of the citizens.
- The data which included phone numbers of individuals was personalised and based on constituency segmentation as per the voters' roll, and possibly in breach of the Act, which governs the use of personal biometric data.
- In response to an inquiry by media organisation, the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ) assured the public that it would investigate the alleged violations on the Cyber and Data Protection Act. Part of the statement from POTRAZ read: "In accordance with section 6 (1) (g) of the Cyber and Data Protection Act (Chapter 12:07) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act'), the Authority hereby acknowledges the receipt of your complaint on alleged violations of the Act and shall be opening an investigation in terms of section 6 (1) (f) and (h) of the Act.

**Out of Area Voting:** While ZEC allows electoral officers deployed outside their areas of voting to exercise their right through postal voting as defined in Section 72(a) of the Electoral Act, the rules different when it comes to the ordinary person outside the borders and in the diaspora.

#### What UZA Will Do About Electoral Reform

UZA is highly focused on sustainable solutions to the challenges we face as Zimbabweans. We are advocates for quality and inclusive governance in Zimbabwe's political system. There should be no anomalies or discrepancies that introduce bias or lack of confidence in the electoral system. In the context of elections, sustaining Zimbabwe's democracy relies on the credibility of our country's institutions. The framework must be improved, particularly regarding ensuring transparency and public access to all phases of the electoral processes and identifying a clear path for resolving disputes.

#### The UZA government shall:

- Depoliticise ZEC as a matter of priority.
- Introduce e-voting for citizens in the diaspora and ensure they are granted suffrage.
- Avail at no cost, the voter's roll and comprehensive, inclusive, accessible voter education resources to all eligible voters throughout the year.
- Expand provisions to ensure the participation of stakeholders in the delimitation process.
- Assess why some provinces have higher voter registration numbers than others to determine if voter registration and voter education is being carried out sufficiently and efficiently in all provinces including in under-registered provinces. UZA will further ensure that a renewed registration drive is undertaken to enhance registration in under-registered provinces.
- Implement data driven processes to elucidate migratory patterns which currently are not clear. It is unknown how many citizens living outside the borders of Zimbabwe return home to vote. Also, more and more displaced populations are moving closer to urban areas, and many who migrated out of the country return to urban areas.
- Link boundary delimitation to registered voters not population census and statistic data. The Constitution of Zimbabwe bases delimitation on the number of registered voters. Low levels of registrations therefore result in a loss of seats and affect citizens' representation in Parliament.
- Make provisions to ensure that women have equal and meaningful representation and participation in all facets of governance. This has not been the case in Zimbabwe where we currently have just 33.2% female representation in the National Assembly.
- Create an environment that is conducive for peaceful, free, fair and credible elections.
  - $\circ~$  We will have zero tolerance for political violence.
  - $\circ$  We will respect, promote and protect human rights and judicial Independence.
  - We will enhance conflict resolution mechanisms and introduce automatic disqualification for any political party proven responsible for electoral violence.
  - Any party candidates accused or suspected of violating electoral laws by intimidating opponents will be automatically disqualified where such allegations are substantiated.
  - Any political parties and candidates engaging in verifiable acts of violence and destruction to property will be banned from political activities for an indefinite period. Where a party candidate is implicated in such violence, the party will be liable to hefty penalties such as loss of parliamentary seats or voting rights in parliament, heavy fines payable with immediate effect and any other determined penalties.
  - Where the outcome of an election is disputed, this will be investigated, and an outcome determined within a reasonable time.

- Review the process for appointment of non-political ZEC office bearers with the involvement and concurrence of all political and civic players, thereby ensuring transparency and fairness in the elections.
- Create a comprehensive legal framework by reviewing urban and rural council Acts that are not aligned with the Constitution as they contain provisions that allow the President to divide local authority into wards.
- Ensure that provisions are put in place for handling elections related complaints/appeals.
- Support a politically plural Zimbabwe and constructive engagement of all political parties in good governance.
  - $\circ~$  Ensure that all parties are given fair and uninterrupted campaign time and space.
  - $\circ~$  The use of state media will be made available to all parties without pre-conditions.
- Correct anomalies in the voters roll. Further data analysis needs to be done regarding ghost voters particularly where the following has been observed:
  - o same addresses but voting in different wards
  - o duplicate IDs
  - $\circ~$  registered voters that are over 100 year
- Expand provisions to ensure ZEC carries out its mandate to educate the public after boundaries are set, thereby ensuring that there is no confusion about where to vote.
- Avail adequate funding and resources to enhance the capacity of ZEC to ensure absolute independence as an electoral commission.

