



**REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS AND  
NATIONAL HOUSING**

**HON. J. MOYO**

**ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF LUPANE MAGISTRATES  
COURT**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

## **SALUTATIONS,**

**Honourable Chief Justice, Distinguished Guests Ladies and Gentlemen,** once again we are back to commemorate yet another milestone and a feather in the cap of the collaboration between the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing and the Judicial Service Commission in the completion of the Lupane Magistrates' Court.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic came with significant challenges as well as opportunities for growth, collaboration and the determination to take decisive and concrete steps towards digitisation and decentralisation of the court system to increase access to justice. As such, the Chief Justice of Zimbabwe, Honourable, Mr. Justice Luke Malaba and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC), through their **Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025** have comprehensively outlines the strategic objectives that enable the JSC to fulfil its constitutional mandate of ensuring the efficient and effective administration of justice in Zimbabwe through

embarking on a myriad of projects aimed at achieving this goal.

**Honourable Chief Justice,** as the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing we have a core mandate to facilitate infrastructural development in Zimbabwe. As such, we play a fundamental role in ensuring access to justice through the establishment of courthouse infrastructure including all key and ancillary facilities that expedite and ease the administration of justice.

As a Ministry, we have created synergies with the JSC having had a track record of successful collaborations such as the construction of Chinhoyi Court Complex and the new Commercial Court at Bristol House. It must be noted, however, that the completion of these projects was not without its fair share challenges, which included delays arising from the COVID-19 lockdown regulations as well as financial constraints. We were not deterred, instead finding innovative and sustainable responses to the encountered challenges.

**Honourable Chief Justice, Ladies and Gentlemen,** astride and in alignment with the National Development Strategy 1 (2021 – 2025) (“NDS1”) pursuant to the objective of Inclusive Governance and Socio-Economic Development our Ministry is tasked with the construction of new infrastructure across all sectors with an overall aim of achieving good governance and service delivery including the justice delivery system.

Furthermore, the NDS1 stipulates the devolution and decentralisation of local governance structures which is being led by the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing. It is also in the same vein that we have been collaborating with the JSC in its court system decentralisation exercise through the provision of technical expertise in the building of the courthouses. More so, the Ministry has been supervising the construction of courthouses ensuring that it is done in adherence with the prescribe standards while facilitating the sustainable use of resources.

**Honourable Chief Justice,** all of the above, is contributing towards the Vision 2030 which envisions “... a Prosperous &

Empowered Upper Middle Income Society by 2030.” This can only be achieved through a cohesive and collaborative effort in order to enhance governance and judicial systems.

**Honourable Chief Justice, Ladies and Gentlemen,** as I stand here beaming with pride, I say to the multiple stakeholders who contributed in making this day a success, well done and congratulations. I hope we continue on the same collaborative path in order to ease and facilitate access to justice, infrastructural development as well as socio-economic development in Zimbabwe.

**I Thank You.**