



**WELCOME REMARKS BY THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR  
MATABELELAND NORTH PROVINCE  
THE HONOURABLE R. MOYO**

**ON THE OCCASION OF**

**THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF LUPANE MAGISTRATES'  
COURT**

**AT MATABELELAND NORTH PROVINCE**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

## **SALUTATIONS**

**Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,** it is indeed an honour to welcome you all to the occasion of the official opening of Lupane Magistrates' Court. The people of Matebeleland North would like to formally welcome you to Matabeleland North Province and in particular to its provincial capital, Lupane.

This official opening of Lupane Magistrates' Court is not only important to us as a province, but for Zimbabwe as a whole. This modern court house you have built for us fits right in with all the beauty within this province. We are a province that prides itself in being a home to things that are beautiful- from the Victoria Falls, Hwange National Park, Binga and now this court.

The official opening of this court is symbolic of a number of things. Firstly, it is a win for access to justice for the people of Lupane. For a long time, Matebeleland North was lacking in terms of judicial infrastructure. For that reason, this development is a great mile stone for the people of our province. The court house is a self-contained building, boasting of two court rooms, offices and holding cells for prisoners. Secondly, the completion of the court house is indicative of the Judicial Service Commission plans to enhance access to justice to all persons through the decentralization of courts and digitization of all the courts through the Integrated Electronic Case Management System (IECMS). These two developments, combined, will positively alter the face of justice in our province and elsewhere in Zimbabwe.

**Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,** the official opening of this court is in line with Vision 2030 where we are striving as the people of Zimbabwe towards a Prosperous and Empowered Upper Middle-Income Society by 2030. We are guided by the Vision 2030 policy document and the National Development Strategy 1 in our pursuit of Vision 2030. I applaud the Judicial Service Commission for playing its role as all of that which we celebrate today is what the President, His Excellency, Dr E. D. Mnangagwa identified as strategies towards the Vision 2030. As duty bearers we all have an obligation that we lead the whole of Zimbabwe to the achievement of all its aspirations and vision. This is the essence of the leadership roles that we occupy.

**Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,** the completion and commissioning of the Lupane Magistrates' Court is also

consistent with the spirit of devolution and decentralization of services being championed by the Second Republic. The Second Republic has identified various institutional infrastructure which should not lack in all our ten provinces. Courts have been identified as one such institutional infrastructure which should be available to support the functioning of any devolution arrangement. The Judicial Service Commission, under the leadership of Honourable Chief Justice, has played a pivotal role in decentralizing courts in all the provinces. This is evidence of the adopted solid rule that no one and no area should remain behind.

As Matabeleland North Province we offer our most profound gratitude to the Honourable Chief Justice and the Judicial Service Commission for their commitment in ensuring the completion of this project. The Ministry of Finance has also

played its role by prioritizing this project by allocating necessary resources in both the construction phase and the furnishing stage. Not forgetting the role played by the Ministry of Local Governance, Infrastructure and National Housing which was responsible for laying the bricks, among other important undertakings, towards the celebrations of this day. Such a kind of collective effort is commendable and must be the rule of the day if Zimbabwe is to fulfill its ambitions.

**Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,** I extend to you a warm welcome to Matabeleland North Province. I hope that apart from celebrating this tremendous milestone in the history of justice delivery, you will take time to enjoy the peace and tranquility of our province.

**I THANK YOU**