

THE ZIM GLOBAL MEDIA WEEKLY REVIEW

AN AFROCENTRIC VOICE

The Zim Global Media Weekly Review | Issue 46 | 16 October 2026 - 17 October 2026

Edition period: 16 October 2026 to 17 October 2026

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Zimbabwe, Africa and the world in focus

President Mnangagwa's 23rd National People's Conference Address puts implementation
the centre of Vision 2030

23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference Opens in Chinhoyi as Focus Shifts to Vision
2030 Delivery

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Politics

President Mnangagwa's 23rd National People's Conference Address puts implementation
the centre of Vision 2030

October 17, 2026 . Takasununguka Ziki

CHINHOYI, Zimbabwe: President Mnangagwa's 23rd National People's Conference Address
reinforced the need to transform political resolutions into measurable development
outcomes, with economic growth, agricultural productivity, industrialisation,
empowerment and national unity emerging as central priorities in Zimbabwe's journey
towards an upper-middle-income economy by 2030.

Addressing delegates at the 23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference in Chinhoyi,
President Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa outlined a development agenda that p

greater responsibility on party structures and leadership to ensure that the resolutions adopted at the conference translate into practical programmes that improve the livelihoods across the country.

The message reflects the conference theme, From Resolutions to Economic Development and Deepening Economic Empowerment, and calls for a stronger connection between political decision-making and tangible progress.

The President emphasised that conference resolutions should not be mere statements of intent. Instead, they must be supported by clear implementation plans, measurable targets and practical interventions that address the needs and aspirations of the citizens.

The emphasis on implementation comes as Zimbabwe advances into the second Strategic Development Strategy 2 (NDS2) period, covering 2026 to 2030, with the nation's vision of a prosperous and empowered upper-middle-income society.

For communities, businesses and households, the ultimate test is whether national development priorities translate into improved opportunities, stronger purchasing power, reliable infrastructure and access to essential services.

Economic growth and stability remain key priorities

In his address, President Mnangagwa highlighted the expansion with the country's gross domestic product reportedly increasing billion in 2017 to US\$66 billion.

GDP per capita was also reported to have risen from about US\$ reflecting the economic expansion outlined in the presidential address.

The President further cited economic growth of 8.3 percent in 2025, approximately 5 percent projected for 2026.

These figures were presented as indicators of progress under the transformation programme. Sustaining that progress, however, requires investment in productive sectors, improved business confidence, capacity and policies that support both established enterprises

Inflation and currency stability also featured prominently in the report. Inflation was reported to have declined to 2.8 percent, signalling price stability.

For households and businesses, sustained price stability is particularly important because it helps consumers plan expenditure, enables enterprises to operate effectively and creates a more predictable environment for investment.

The President also reported that annual exports had expanded to more than US\$20 billion in 2017 to more than US\$20 billion.

Expanding exports remains important to Zimbabwe's efforts to strengthen domestic production and reduce vulnerability to ext

The next stage of economic transformation will depend on the increase the value of its exports, diversify its export markets and materials are processed locally before reaching international m

Fiscal discipline and confidence in the economy

President Mnangagwa also highlighted Zimbabwe's reported p review of the International Monetary Fund's Staff-Monitored Pr country had met quantitative targets and structural benchmarks

Fiscal discipline is an important component of macroeconomic government spending, revenue collection and financial manag investment conditions and the availability of resources for publ

Maintaining that discipline while financing infrastructure, social productive-sector development will remain a significant policy challenge.

The conference's economic agenda therefore places emphasis on investment, ensuring that economic growth creates opportunities for farmers and young people.

Zimbabwe's Vision 2030 ambition will require more than positive growth indicators. It will also depend on the quality of growth, the distribution of opportunities and the capacity of industries to create sustainable jobs.

Agriculture remains central to food security and rural development.

Agriculture featured prominently in the presidential address, with a target to grow by 6.9 percent and strategic grain production estimated at 1.5 million tonnes.

The figures underline the importance of farming to Zimbabwe's incomes, manufacturing and broader economic performance.

President Mnangagwa called for the continuation and strengthening of the Pfumvudza/Intwasa agricultural programme during the 2026 election campaign, with increased production remaining a priority.

The programme promotes conservation farming practices designed to increase yields through efficient land preparation, moisture conservation and the use of improved agricultural inputs.

For smallholder farmers, improved access to inputs, extension services and reliable markets will remain essential to translating agricultural growth into higher yields and sustainable household incomes.

Zimbabwe's agricultural transformation agenda also extends beyond crop production. Irrigation development, livestock production, agro-processing and access to markets can help communities generate income throughout the year, reducing dependence on seasonal rainfall.

The President's emphasis on rural industrialisation reflects this broader vision of economic growth and job creation in the countryside.

development.

Boreholes, Village Agro-Business Units, irrigation schemes and facilities are expected to play a central role in transforming rural productive economic centres.

When supported by reliable infrastructure, access to finance and initiatives can help farmers move beyond producing raw commodities to packaging and marketing finished products.

This approach also creates opportunities for young people to engage in transport, agricultural services, food processing and distribution.

The wider challenge is to ensure that rural development programmes include long-term planning, adequate resources and effective monitoring that extend beyond individual projects.

Empowerment must create productive opportunities

Youth and women's empowerment emerged as another important address.

President Mnangagwa called for expanded access to productive skills development, markets and employment opportunities.

The focus reflects the need to ensure that economic growth is participation in productive activities.

For young Zimbabweans, empowerment must translate into opportunities, practical skills, establish viable enterprises and secure meaningful

Access to finance alone is not sufficient. Entrepreneurs also need electricity, affordable production facilities, business development to customers.

Women, who play a significant role in agriculture, informal trade, and other economic activities, require opportunities to expand their enterprises, improve productivity, and participate more fully in formal economic activity.

The President also stressed the importance of extending employment opportunities to people with disabilities and veterans of the liberation struggle.

This emphasis places inclusive development at the centre of the economic transformation, reinforcing the principle that economic transformation should benefit all sectors of society.

Effective implementation will require programmes to be designed to address the barriers faced by different groups, with transparent selection criteria and measures of impact.

The objective should be to expand productive participation, strengthen the private sector, and create opportunities for people to contribute meaningfully to the economy.

Industrialisation and investment to drive economic transformation

The presidential address also highlighted the importance of attracting foreign investment, expanding manufacturing and increasing value

Industrialisation is critical to Zimbabwe's ambition of building a modern economy that creates employment and generates higher-value

The country possesses significant agricultural and mineral resources. The benefits depend partly on how much processing, manufacturing and value-added activity takes place locally.

Expanding value addition can create opportunities across the production chain, from farmers and miners to manufacturers, transport operators, engi

Investment in industrial capacity must therefore be accompanied by improved infrastructure, predictable policies, access to finance and a business environment that encourages innovation and enterprise development.

Small and medium-sized businesses also have a role to play in supply larger industries, develop local products and create jobs

At the same time, technological transformation is changing how President Mnangagwa called for policies that respond to artificial technological advancements and changing global economic co

The growing influence of artificial intelligence presents opportunity productivity, modernise public services and strengthen business

However, these opportunities also create a need for investment infrastructure, technical education and skills development to private enterprises for a changing economy.

Zimbabwe's industrialisation agenda will increasingly depend on natural resources, technological innovation and a skilled workforce

Unity, discipline and people-centred governance

Beyond economic policy, President Mnangagwa underscored the importance of discipline and constitutional processes within ZANU PF.

He called for continued recruitment and mobilisation through party branches and affiliates, while emphasising collective responsibility in advancing the organisation's development agenda.

The President's message was that party resolutions should address the needs of facing citizens rather than serve narrow personal interests.

This places responsibility on leaders and structures to remain accountable, identify development priorities and ensure that decisions are followed up with action.

The emphasis on people-centred governance also reinforces the need for accountability in implementing programmes, particularly those related to economic and community development.

National unity and self-reliance were presented as essential for continued development. The President called on Zimbabweans to support their country, with national interests taking precedence over divisions.

Climate resilience and family values

Climate change and disaster preparedness also featured in the President's speech, with the President calling for increased investment in drought mitigation and climate adaptation.

For Zimbabwe, climate resilience remains closely linked to food security, availability, rural livelihoods and the sustainability of infrastructure.

Investments in irrigation, water harvesting, drought-resistant crops and early warning systems can help communities withstand increasingly unpredictable weather.

The President also expressed concern over marital violence and its impact on human life and stronger family values.

The message highlighted the importance of peaceful households, trust and respect within families as part of the wider social foundation for national development.

Chinhoyi's liberation heritage and the road to 2030

The address also invoked the historic 1966 Battle of Chinhoyi, a key moment in Zimbabwe's liberation struggle.

President Mnangagwa called on Zimbabweans to draw inspiration from those who fought for independence, renewing their commitment to national development and prosperity.

The reference connected the country's liberation heritage with its current development ambitions, placing national self-reliance and collective responsibility at the core of the vision for 2030.

the development agenda.

As the 23rd National People's Conference concludes, the cent resolutions must be judged by their implementation and their in

Zimbabwe's pursuit of Vision 2030 will require sustained econo agriculture, stronger industries, technological advancement and communities across the country.

Ultimately, the success of the conference agenda will depend o outlined by President Mnangagwa translate into measurable im incomes, food security, investment and access to essential ser

The challenge now is to turn the conference's resolutions into a action, with clear responsibilities, measurable targets and cons

For Zimbabweans, the significance of the presidential address only by the ambitions it sets out, but also by the tangible result villages, towns, businesses and households as the country adv

Read online:

<https://zimglobalmedia.co.zw/president-mnangagwas-23rd-national-conference-puts-implementation-at-the-centre-of-vision-2030/zimglobal/>

23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference Opens in Chinhoyi
2030 Delivery

October 16, 2026 . Takasununguka Ziki

CHINHOYI - The 23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference opens in Chinhoyi on October 16, 2026, with thousands of delegates expected to converge for the 2030 Delivery Technology for a major political gathering centred on economic growth and the implementation of national development priorities towards Vision 2030.

His Excellency, President Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa will inaugurate the conference in his capacity as ZANU PF President and First Vice President, a significant moment in the party's annual programme as Zimbabwe enters the implementation phase of the National Development Strategy 2030.

The conference is being held under the theme, "From Resolution to Action: Consolidating Economic Development and Deepening Economic Transformation towards Vision 2030," a message that places emphasis on translating policy commitments into tangible outcomes.

outcomes that can be measured across the country's economic

With preparations at the Chinhoyi University of Technology well advanced, the gathering brings together party representatives from across the country to discuss organisational priorities, economic transformation, empowerment and the implementation of resolutions adopted at previous conferences.

The emphasis on results gives this year's conference particular significance as it pursues its ambition of becoming an empowered upper-middle class.

The country's development trajectory is now guided by NDS2, which covers the 2020-2030 period and seeks to accelerate economic growth, industrialisation, infrastructure development and inclusive participation in the national development process.

The 23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference therefore comes at a time when the relationship between political commitments and practical development is increasingly important.

The central question confronting delegates is how policy direction can be translated into

increased production, expanded economic opportunities, improved better livelihoods for ordinary Zimbabweans.

President Mnangagwa has consistently emphasised the importance of agriculture in contributing to national development. In his address to the party's 10th National Session of the Politburo on 13 October 2026, the President announced that the conference would underscore the need for conference deliberations to produce concrete policies that would affect the economy and the quality of life of the people. ?

That message provides an important framework for the discussion of the conference where the conference theme places implementation at the centre of the national development agenda.

Economic development is expected to remain a major consideration for the government in sectors that underpin Zimbabwe's productive capacity. Agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure, tourism and technology all have the potential to contribute to strengthening the economy, creating employment and expanding businesses and communities.

Agriculture remains a strategic pillar of the national economy, ensuring food security, rural livelihoods, agro-processing and export earnings. Key areas for focus include irrigation development, mechanisation, access to markets and

addition are among the areas that can strengthen the sector's development.

For rural communities, the success of economic development lies in practical improvements such as reliable water supplies, access to schools and health facilities, agricultural support and opportunities to participate in productive activities.

The conference theme also highlights the importance of deepening economic activity. This involves ensuring that Zimbabweans have meaningful opportunities to establish enterprises, access productive resources and benefit from the country's natural wealth.

Women, young people, small-scale entrepreneurs, farmers and rural districts are important participants in this process. Their ability to access skills development, technology, markets and business opportunities ensures that broadly the benefits of economic growth are distributed.

Economic empowerment also requires an environment in which businesses can compete and contribute to national production. Supporting domestic industries, encouraging local procurement, promoting value addition and supporting large businesses and smaller enterprises can help expand participation.

value chains.

These priorities are closely connected to NDS2, which provides Zimbabwe's development agenda between 2026 and 2030. The foundations established under the National Development Strategy emphasize on accelerating economic transformation, improving and ensuring that development initiatives deliver measurable b

The conference also comes at a time when the implementation of resolutions is expected to receive attention. Political conferences provide an opportunity for delegates to review progress, identify challenges and set priorities for the next phase of work. Their practical value, however, depends on whether adopted resolutions are followed by clear resources, coordinated implementation and effective monitoring.

For ZANU PF, the emphasis on moving from resolutions to results is to strengthen the connection between the party's policy direction and development objectives. It also places responsibility on political leaders that decisions made at national level are communicated and translated at provincial, district and community levels. Infrastructure development remains another important area with high priority on the agenda.

Roads, electricity, water systems, telecommunications and public services are the foundation for economic activity and improved public services. They can support businesses, connect producers to markets and improve public services.

At the same time, infrastructure programmes require sound planning, proper procurement, proper financial management and consistent supervision. Projects are completed to the required standards. The delivery of services depends not only on announcing projects but also on completing them and ensuring that communities receive the intended benefits. Industrialisation and value addition are equally important to Zimbabwe's economic ambitions. Processing more agricultural produce and manufacturing goods can create additional economic opportunities, support manufacturing and domestic supply chains.

A stronger productive base can also help local businesses compete in international markets.

The conference's focus on economic empowerment therefore is in line with the national objective of building a diversified economy that creates jobs and expands opportunities for citizens. Achieving this will require close cooperation between Government, the private sector, financial institutions, civil society organisations and communities.

ZANU PF's organisational responsibilities are also likely to remain unchanged. Party structures play a role in communicating policies and programmes and gathering feedback from communities. Effective leadership and grassroots structures can help identify obstacles to implementation and improve the responsiveness of development programmes.

The broader national development agenda also requires accountability. To produce meaningful outcomes, progress must be assessed against realistic timelines and measurable indicators.

This makes monitoring and evaluation essential to determining whether the party is delivering their intended economic and social benefits.

Vision 2030 remains the overarching national ambition, while the current five-year framework through which development priorities are being implemented. The conference offers the party an opportunity to reinforce these objectives and ensure that political decisions can support the country's development programme.

As delegates assemble in Chinhoyi, the conference theme places emphasis on the need for the party to remain united and focused on the national development agenda.

practical meaning of development. For communities across Zimbabwe, the ultimate goal is to be ultimately experienced through improved livelihoods, productive employment opportunities, reliable public services and infrastructure that support economic activity.

The gathering also provides a platform for reinforcing unity of purpose as it considers the priorities that will shape its work during the next phase of the national development programme.

President Mnangagwa's expected official opening will formally inaugurate the deliberations, with delegates facing the task of considering how the government's commitments can be translated into action across the country.

The significance of the 23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference will be measured beyond the proceedings at Chinhoyi University of Technology. The success will depend on the quality of the resolutions adopted, the clarity of the implementation plan and the ability of responsible structures to deliver measurable results.

As Zimbabwe advances through the NDS2 period, the ambition for growth will increasingly be judged by the outcomes achieved in farms, factories, schools, health facilities and communities.

The message behind "From Resolutions to Results" is clear: more than policy commitments. It requires sustained implementation, coordination, accountability and an unwavering focus on outcomes.

With Chinhoyi ready to host the gathering, attention now turns to the decisions that will emerge from the 23rd ZANU PF National People's Conference. Those decisions will contribute to Zimbabwe's economic development agenda towards 2030.

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<https://zimglobalmedia.co.zw/23rd-zanu-pf-national-peoples-conference-as-focus-shifts-to-vision-2030-delivery/zimglobal/>

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