

Parliamentary Monitor

A Weekly e-Newsletter Published by the Parliamentary Monitoring Trust of Zimbabwe



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Ordinary Voices

Xtra-ordinary Impact

To me , what is needed is to give MPs guide-lines of what to do with the funds, and some projects management skills. I hope we will soon hear about an mp who invested in an income generating scheme, where the 50k was seed money, and now it could have doubled to 100k.—

Cathbert Tapiwa Mashonganyika

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The Bottom-line

As it stands, you want to disagree into an elections with dire consequences!

Whose ELECTIONS?



Their days are numbered and one should expect that by May we have a referendum. It is this referendum that should give us the way forward. I am told that there are some among us who do not want elections this year. Kana varipo, endai muno-joina MDC

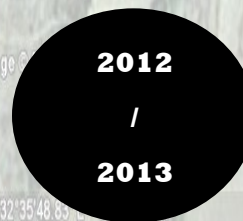
We continue to work towards the next election, albeit with sharp differences over the nature and complexion of that election. There has been slow movement on reforms as our colleagues view any reform as equivalent to conceding power. For us, reforms are a fulfilment of what we agreed upon and signed up to, both in the GPA and in the roadmap that was facilitated by Sadc.

There are things that we agreed on in the Global Political Agreement and those things should have been implemented and one of the key things is a new constitution which should guarantee free and fair polls, not like the situation with the 2008 election results which were held for one month. We don't want such a situation. How could people take 30 days failing to add votes. Failing to do simple arithmetic, which a Grade Two pupil can do?

Let us all be wary of the machinations of President Robert Mugabe who is intent on leading this country into yet another bloodbath reminiscent or worse than the run up to 27 June 2008 election run-off



Free & Fair?





Village Observer

I was told to go on sabbatical. At least for a fortnight, The Team, as the Parliamentary Monitor volunteers like to call themselves, said. I was a bit hesitant. Many things came to my mind. Maybe it's a polite way of easing me out. Maybe they are finally broke. They have been running the thing on a shoe-string personal budget, thanks to the new technologies. Then I received a call, asking if I could deliver my next article by the Tuesday end of day deadline. What a relief. But I was still to get a topic. I wanted to tackle the constitution, but hey, it is a soaked topic. Very few new angles. Then as I was struggling, sitting in a wheelbarrow, an old tractor passed, blowing billowing dust. It was faintly marked, DDF. Then I remembered a time when the District Development Fund was the in thing. Talk of boreholes, they were in, roads, they were there, bridges, yes there are cases where roads and bridges are taken separately like now, they did them. Then they began to stutter, wobbling towards fulfilment of duties and then whack, they petered out. This was a department, whose administrative structure has been a problem for any public administration student. The questions were:

Which ministry administered the fund
Who was overall in charge and how did they execute their duties
Who funded the fund and how
How accountable was the fund

And the answers were very confusing. Then I started to look at what DDF and the Constituency Development Fund had in common. DDF was founded at a time when a) the country had just gained independence b) it was a very developmental state c) we had or were moving towards one party state c) there was a convergence of donors who wanted to assist the new state. Those who recall would tell you they remember the logos of developmental partners on the DDF vehicles and tractors of course. The work of DDF is there for us. What is DDF up to now? Has its role been taken over by CDF? Would it have made sense to say, instead of using Members of the House of Assembly as the custodians of CDF, let us use the DDF structures? After all they are already present in the districts. One minus would have been that DDF was not present in urban districts. Then the issue of control. Who would have controlled the projects under DDF? Remember DDF takes the administrative district as a unit. CDF uses the constituency as a unit. I was start-

ing to wonder. What is the problem of our local governance structure? What model are we using? Is it yielding results? If DDF was a success, as some would want to claim, why has it been by passed under CDF? And by the way how much was allocated to the Fund in the current budget and how are they accounting for it? How much is being used for administrative purposes? When was the last time you saw a DDF tractor at work? Then it dawned to me that in as much as I was against CDF, there were very few options for a more accountable manner. With the MPs, it was better. There is no bureaucracy though there may be bullying as we are seeing now. It I thus, my moment of enlightenment, that I realised that we needed not, sorry for the cliché, throw the baby and the bath water. CDF 2.0 should come. We have seen the problems. the greedy MPs have learnt. Zimbabweans have once again been cheated but as we say, we may be intelligent in retrospect but we will not be cheated twice. We are still a long way from a perfect system like that one used in Kenya, where there is a properly constituted and decentralised implementing agency working with the MPs. We may get to that point but in the meantime, I am a new convert of CDF 2.0.

Letter to Politicians: **ON ELECTIONS**

Elections? What elections? Whose elections? For an anarchist, "They would have banned elections if they worked!"

We may not be anarchists but ordinary Zimbabweans, crying out to be heard when it comes to issues that affect us. We may have ordinary voices, but these have extra-ordinary impact. It is in this vein that we have decided to write another letter, this time to the politicians who are engaged in a mortal combat over when and how to go for ballot again. As Zimbabweans, disturbed by talk of elections and the anxiety and panic it has caused us, we seek to address you on significant issues we feel should be looked at.



Our argument is premised on the supposition that elections are necessary but not an end to democracy. There are other tenets which we will not address as we should be short since most of you have tight schedules. We do not doubt the necessity of elections, they give us the chance to punish or reward public officials. Elections also keep elected officials on their feet. As such, we are always eager to cast ballots. However, when you talk of elections this time around, we are not as eager as we should be. Maybe it is because of the past. But another thing that worries us is the discord we have seen in the call for elections. These are elections for Zimbabweans and we strongly believe

that the nation cannot go in with such discord. It may not be too harsh to say the discord at your level may cascade to our level and you are sowing seeds of disharmony and violence. We are not to prescribe but suggest that as leaders of this country, why not come to a common ground with regards to elections. We have more things tying us than tearing us and the elections issue should be taken not as a mortal combat but a time for rewards and punishments. We urge you, like you did three years ago, to come together and agree on something to save and serve this Great Nation. As it stands, you want to disagree into an elections with dire consequences!

Virtual Public Gallery



Using Social Media to Monitor Parly

PMTZ's facebook group Parliamentary Monitor is an interactive virtual public gallery where instead of being spectators, citizens raise issues and seek solutions. As part of the integration of the social media platform and this e-newsletter, we take excerpts of some of the posts on the facebook group and share with others.

Precious Shumba

Honourable Engineer Elias Mudzuri, the Member of Parliament for Warren Park says he used his CDF towards the following; Building of 22 people's market stalls (broken down as labour and building materials- US\$15 456; six Boreholes and bush pump drilling and installation- US\$25 750; all public toilets repairs in Ward 15- US\$4 721; Warren Park Polyclinic- Purchase Of Generator & Capri Top Freezer US 2 100, and total toilet repairs US\$1 304 bringing his total expenditure on the project US\$51 229, 59 including bank charges)

Like · · Unfollow post · 11 hours ago

Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza and 2 others like this.

Nyamutatanga Makombe If all MPs were to, @ least show us this, then we will know something was done. This is the first step towards transparency. If one doubts, then it will be possible to check. Unlike buying trucks!

13 hours ago · Like · 1

Precious Shumba And to imagine that some of the MPs in Harare used hate language when confronted on the usage of the CDF.

12 hours ago · Like

Matongo Alois Very impressive achievements. I hope the constituents participated in these projects right from the planning stage. Transparency begins from planning and choosing of projects right through to the reporting stage! That is what is known as participatory approach in community development parlance. If the participatory approach was used I would give Honourable Mudzuri's performance a tripple A rating!

12 hours ago via Mobile · Like · 1

Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza Well done Mudzuri but maybe my problem in the expenditure is your prioritisation. How does health which i believe to be critical get such a small allocation? But at least you showed some transparency.

12 hours ago via Mobile · Like

Tabitha Mutenga Ricky i think the major health issues in Harare right now are diarrhea diseases so good water and sanitation (boreholes and sewer repairs) will prevent outbreaks especially in high density suburbs which are the epi-centres of these outbreaks, well done Honorable

11 hours ago · Like · 1

Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza Tabitha Mutenga, thanks for bringing that dimension. I

am covered, well done to Hon!

11 hours ago · Like

Russo Rusere and the CDF allocation was \$50 000, what does simple auditing tell us?

10 hours ago · Like · 1

Luckson Musindo There are a number of challenges in the Energy industry. Can the Honorable be part of the think tank because he is electrical and over the year exp.... is

10 hours ago · Like · 1

Tau B Ndoro Can residents from Warren Park confirm the validity of this breakdown?

7 hours ago · Like

Cathbert Tapiwa Mashonganyika With the wisdom of hindsight, we all have suggestions about what he could have done better. But to me, this is a good start. I am sure there is room to do better, like focus in other areas, but let's not forget that some of the things should be done by the line ministries. To me, what is needed is to give MPs guidelines of what to do with the funds, and some projects management skills. I hope we will soon hear about an mp who invested in an income generating scheme, where the 50k was seed money, and now it could have doubled to 100k. Weldone Hon Mudzuri.

7 hours ago · Like · 1

David Chicco At least there is accountability.

Well done Mudzuri. Hands up

7 hours ago via Mobile · Like

Kudakwashe Bhadharai WHETHER TRUE OR FALSE (I MEAN THE BREAKDOWN) BUT THE PRINCIPLE OF TRANSPARENCY IS HIGHLY COMMENDABLE. THANX MDARA ELIAS. ITS JUSS BEING EXAMPLERY. IT SHOULD BE A LEARNING CURVE TO ALL PARLIAMENTARIANS THAT THEY CAN GO AHEAD AND PUBLISH THEIR USAGE OF CDF.

5 hours ago · Like

Thupeyo Muleya

If any of you were to be elected President of the country how many ministries would you come up with and why?

Like · · Unfollow post · Sunday at 17:13

Pmt Zimbabwe and 3 others like this.

Foadk PF Gidi 13

Sunday at 17:23 via Mobile · Like

Thupeyo Muleya eeh Gidi and yo reasons?

Sunday at 17:24 · Like

Foadk PF Gidi Mine wont b a 'tug of war' Government like the one we have now, it wil b a one party govt that shal not spend more on unnecessary baggage.

Sunday at 17:30 via Mobile · Like

Andrew Kunambura 12, to cut gvt spending

Sunday at 17:30 via Mobile · Like

Raymond Chamba Just 7 Ministries and Ministers no Deputy Ministers. Some of these wasteful ministries will simply be Directorates. Our government is too big and bloated for so small a country and an economy.

Sunday at 17:31 via Mobile · Like

Peter Gwai Dzama In a tiny country like Zw 13 ministry wl do wonders some ministries are to b combined to come up with robust ministries

Sunday at 17:32 via Mobile · Like

Foadk PF Gidi Dr Chamba, hello my brotha. Its good meeting you on ths platform afta meeting in Chitwn 3years ago. I agree wth u, we have a wasteful govt. Imagine; Minister, deputy, permanent sec, principal directors A B C and many otha officials jus to fit in all comrades and kins.

Sunday at 17:40 via Mobile · Like

Raymond Chamba @Foadk. Thanks my brother. There is also no need for more than two roving aides to the Minister. If u find yourself needing more security its all the indication you need to know that you're messing up.

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Sunday at 17:47 via Mo

Feedback? info@pmtz.org



Hon Edward Takaruzo Chindori-Chininga

Just to let all my friends that i am out of hospital and not recovering at home after a fatal accident. thank you for your support and encouragements. more details are on my main facebook. i cant wait to go back to work. thank god for blessing and saving me. greatly regret that a wife, a mother, who happens to be my friend wife passed away on the accident scene. she was in the other twincab. may the lord give her peace and blessings in his holy hands Like · · Unfollow post · 21 March at 10:06 near Harare

Reward Mushayabasa, Tanzikwa Guranungo, Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza and 10 others like this.

Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza We thank God for preserving your life MP, we wish you a speed recovery. We miss your contri-

bution on this platform.

21 March at 10:14 via Mobile · Like **Paidamoyo Muzulu** we are delighted to know that you have made such a quick recovery. hope that the healing would be double as fast and we see you soon on the benches on the committees or in the house. 21 March at 10:32 · Like **Veneranda Langa** But, hon, you just posted you are not recovering. Its an error I suppose We want you back coz you are a talented chairman, committees are nothing without you. I am sorry about the loss of the woman you talk about on your post. Only God knows the answers. 21 March at 11:02 · Like **Kudakwashe Bhadharai** Thank God you are ok honourable. We wish you a prompt recovery 21 March at 11:29 · Like **Douglas Mwonzora** Hie Hon. Chindori, It is great to hear from you. I am delighted

that you are out of hospital and recovering at home. I am sorry for the loss of the lady but God always has His plans and there is nothing we can do about it. Please take care and may the lord bless you. Douglas Mwonzora Sent from my iPad 21 March at 11:52 via **Cathbert Tapiwa Mashonganyika** Welcome back Hon Edward Takaruzo Chindori-Chininga. There must be a reason the lord kept you among us, I hope you will be strong enough to resume your job. 21 March at 12:43 · Like · 1 **Ruzvidzo G Manyika** Welcome back Honourable Cde Chindori-Chininga. 21 March at 14:50 via Mobile · Like **Addmore Makunura** So sorry to hear about the loss of your beloved Hon. May her soul rest in eternal peace. We still thank God you are safe and hope his Holy Spirit will give you heavenly comfort going forward. Welcome back!

From page 2

bile ·

Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda 8 only.

Sunday at 18:37 · Like

Gerald Tichatonga Rubaya 15 wil carry e day w deputies n defence n education Sunday at 19:04 via Mobile · Like

Viniel Deredza Dziva mayb 20 chete Sunday at 19:24 · Like

Albert Chigokora Just one big Ministry of Anti Zanu pf.

Monday at 07:49 via Mobile · Like

Reward Mushayabasa 10... 12 hours ago · Like

Tau B Ndoro You would bunch ministry of media information and publicity with the ICT ministry and the communications of the transport ministry. You would also bunch economic development with industry and commerce and you would also merge regional integration with foreign affairs, you would also merge state security with home affairs, you would merge housing and social amenities with infrastructure development and min of public works; the ministry of education would be one; the list of mergers is endless my friend. 9 hours ago · Like

Luckson Musindo NO MINISTERS, NO DEPUTY, NO PERM. SECS'-- advice of a one national state office with Directors who

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will be

controlling these ministries, eg-- electricity, oil, gas and water becomes NATIONAL ENERGY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT headed by a Director who is an engineer, who will be advised by managers. NATIONAL HEALTH AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT headed by a medical doctor who will be advised by provincial managers. buildings, roads, rural and urban planning becomes NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT at least six department only. who will be reporting to the MPs'. the MPs' will report back to the people in their constituencies. the performance of Directors and their departments will be audited by professional state auditor.

9 hours ago · Like · 1

21 March at 15:01 · Like

John Makamure This is very good news indeed. Mwari ngaarumbidzwe. Hope to see you back in Parliament soon.

On 3/21/12, Hon Edward Takaruzo Chindori-Chininga

21 March at 15:56 via Mobile · Like

Calvin Mdzingiri Get well soon we admire your work across the divide may the lord take care of all your problems. We have you in prayers

21 March at 20:10 via Mobile · Like

Nyarai Kachere So delighted you are back Hon Edward Takaruzo Chindori-Chininga...real work now begins

21 March at 21:09 · Like

Charles Tmj Dube Wish u a quick recovery, comrade.

Reward Mushayabasa Get well soon, Cde..

Elizabeth Nerwande Kambeyu I am so sorry abt the death of your wife, may her soul rest in eternal peace. I wish you speed recovery.

11 hours ago via Mobile · Like

Loyce Chitongo May God give you comfort at this time of great need. May your wife have eternal rest.

11 hours ago via Mobile · Like

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