



MATEBELELAND NORTH ECUMENICAL ELECTION COVENANT

Christians and peace loving citizens of Matebeleland North united under the banner of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches join together to call for a peaceful, free and fair election in 2018. For Zimbabwe's sake we shall not cease to pray fervently for peace, justice and prosperity. No more shall we allow Elections to be a source of bloodshed and division in our Province.

On Governance issues,

All companies operating in Matebeleland North must give back to the community through transparent and accountable Corporate Social Responsibility policies that benefit the whole community instead of a few individuals.

We ask the Registrar General to consider setting up a passport office in Matebeleland North as it is the only province without such an office.

We ask local companies such as ZPC and Hwange Colliery to do more to empower local graduates when employing candidates. Students from Matebeleland North should be given first preference when seeking attachment positions.

Leaders must address the problem of stray animals and livestock in local towns in the Matebeleland North province as they are destroying crops and damaging properties.

The allocation of residential stands should be done in a fair and transparent manner without corruption.

Residential stands should be affordable to the general public and should reflect the realities of the cost of living and poverty in Matebeleland North.

On service delivery

We demand the provision of quality, safe and portable drinkable water for all Residents Matebeleland North

We suggest a reduction of the cost of electricity as part of the benefits we should enjoy in Matebeleland North since this province is the one which is responsible for providing electricity to the national grid

Burst sewer pipes should be attended expediently to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases.

Refuse must be collected timeously and disposed effectively.

We demand rehabilitation of community houses that are currently dilapidated.

The colliery hospital should be upgraded and its capacity increased to meet the needs of an ever growing population in Matebeleland North.

On economic issues

Local investors in the retail sector should be encouraged and incentivised to resuscitate the retail sector in Matebeleland North.

The old Hwange - Victoria Falls highway should be rehabilitated to facilitate the smooth flow of business in the province.

On Political Parties

We want political leaders who are God-fearing and honest.

Public officials should be qualified, competent, and non-corrupt people who can lead the people justly.

Elected officials together with other appointed public officials should serve the interests of the people instead of serving their own personal agendas. As such No political leader should politicise the issues being faced by the people in Matebeleland North.

We further demand all political parties to be committed to a free, fair, peaceful, transparent and credible election.

On ZEC

The independence of ZEC should be guaranteed and no political party should be allowed to compromise this independence.

ZEC should endeavour to announce election results within the stipulated time-frame.

All polling stations must be sufficiently equipped with necessary resources and professional staff to facilitate easy voting, furthermore, voters roll must be made available to all political parties before elections.

On Media

All media outlets should report fairly without fear or favour. As a result, no media outlet should spread propaganda, rumours, hate speech or false news meant to incite tribal resentment and violence.

As the church we commit ourselves to preaching the gospel of peace and tolerance. We shall continue to pray for peace in our country and contribute positively towards peace building and National unity.

'This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.' (1 John 5 verse 14 -15)

