

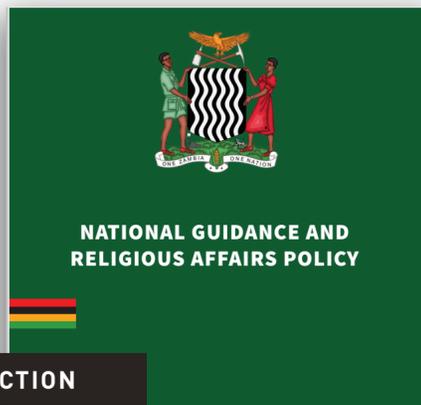
ANALYSIS OF THE NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS POLICY INFOGRAPHIC

PREPARED BY FEBRUARY 2021



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INFOGRAPHIC



INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of National Guidance and Religious Affairs launched the National Guidance and Religious Affairs Policy on the 30th of June 2020. The overall objective of the Policy is to **enhance the application of national values, principles and ethics in individual, institutional and national affairs** as well as to actualize the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation.

How the Policy relates to the Constitution of Zambia

The preamble to the Zambian Constitution declares Zambia as a Christian nation while upholding a person's right to freedom of conscience, belief or religion. Article 8 of the Constitution outlines the following as national values and principles of Zambia:



VISION

The vision of the National Guidance and Religious Affairs Policy is **“a value-centred, united and prosperous Zambia”**.

RATIONALE

The Policy strives to address identified constraints to Zambia's development process and to bring about the **necessary change in mindset that will lead to greater social cohesion, patriotism, national unity and social economic development.**

BINDING CONSTRAINTS TO ZAMBIA ATTAINING DEVELOPMENT AND THE ROLE OF MIND-SET CHANGE

The 7NDP identifies a number of binding constraints that limit the developmental potential of the country. These constraints can be categorized as economic or social and include the following:



THE NEED FOR A POSITIVE ZAMBIAN IDENTITY THROUGH MIND-SET CHANGE

Creating a positive Zambian identity will require;

- ✓ Identifying the negative attitudes, values, norms and cultures that impact this identity.
- ✓ A paradigm shift towards a culture that transforms these negative value systems into positive ones that are centred on patriotism and constitutionalism.
- ✓ Every citizen **transcends their tribal, political, religious and socio-cultural identities to one that unifies all**, is tolerant towards one another and is supportive of the national developmental agenda.

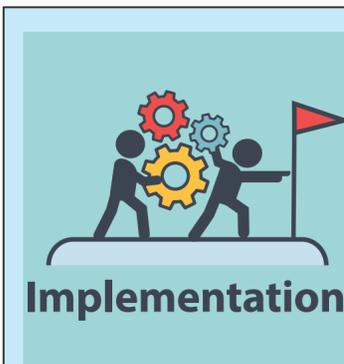
NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS POLICY OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES

The main objective of the policy is to enhance the application of national values, principles and ethics in individual, institutional and national affairs as well as actualise the Declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation.

The policy has 6 specific objectives. These are:

1. To promote adherence to national values, principles and ethics.
2. To provide national guidance for ethical and inclusive conduct of institutional and national affairs.
3. To promote good governance at various levels.
4. To facilitate the actualization of the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation.
5. To provide and strengthen the operational capacity and institutional framework for the application of national values and principles as well as management of Christian and religious affairs.
6. To provide for the monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms on the application of national values and principles and the actualisation of the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation at the national, provincial, district and sub-district levels.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT THE POLICY?



- Various stakeholders will have to commit to the policy's objectives and operationalise strategies within their field of work through their Service Delivery Charters and Code of Conduct.
- Enhanced awareness of the national values and principles. The greater the awareness of the national values and principles, the more mainstream they will become and the more likely the Policy will effect change.
- Every citizen should take ownership, embrace and demonstrate national values and principles.
- Early exposure to national values and principles amongst children in the school curriculum is particularly essential in breeding a sense of ownership. In this respect, the main-streaming and inculcation of national values in pre-primary and primary schools as well as other early learning institutions will be critical.
- Promoting platforms for religious engagement and participation of the church and religious bodies has a major role to play in the fulfilment of the policy.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is need for the Ministry of National Guidance and Religious Affairs to deepen their use of various forms of media such as social, print, audio and television to disseminate information. **This is in order to promote an awareness of national values and principles in Zambia.**
- There is need for the Ministry of National Guidance and Religious Affairs to establish a means of identifying and rewarding individuals from various stakeholder groups who embody national values and principles well. Identifying and rewarding such individuals may promote further compliance with the values.
- PMRC calls for a mindset education programme to be established as well as for the national values and principles to be inculcated in the school curriculum.
- PMRC urges all Government agencies and stakeholders to operationalize the principles held in the National Guidance and Religious Affairs Policy through the alignment of their institutional Code of Conduct and Service Delivery Charters as a means of supplementing Government efforts in building a sound national character and positive work culture.
- There is need for every Zambian citizen to take ownership of the national values and principles as well as to sensitize their fellow countrymen and women on their role in upholding them and the benefits thereof.