



ZAMBIA'S 58TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday 24th October, 2022

PMRC joins the rest of the country in celebrating Zambia's 58th Independence Anniversary. Independence Day provides us as a nation with time to celebrate our independence and freedom. It is also a day we pay tribute and remember our national heroes who fought and sacrificed their lives to secure our independence and national sovereignty.

This year, we celebrate the country's 58th independence anniversary under the theme "*Promoting Inclusiveness towards a Sustainable Social Economic Recovery*". Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and post COVID-19, the Government has shown commitment towards accelerating the country's economic recovery. In so doing, the Government has continued to preserve the liberties and freedom for all citizens as well as work towards improving the welfare of the people.

Government recently launched the Eight National Development Plan (8NDP), which is the country's medium-term blueprint designed to unlock the country's potential in all sectors of the economy for sustainable, holistic and inclusive national development. As

Government aspires to ensure economic growth, it will pursue growth that transforms the people's livelihood. Therefore, this year's theme is timely, as inclusiveness is key to building a great and prosperous nation that we all can rely on and be proud of. Inclusiveness also entails the provision of equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized.

The country's economic discourse can not be achieved with Government's aspirations alone, there is a dire need for a multi-sectoral approach. Therefore, as we celebrate Mother Zambia, PMRC urges all key stakeholders, including the general citizens, to take centre stage in ensuring we achieve our nation's development agenda. PMRC also calls for the inculcation of a positive mindset shift as the wealth of society is created by the collective efforts of citizens. If citizens do not have a culture of hard work and sacrifice, there would be minimal economic progress the country can make in spite of progressive policies.

Lastly, as we celebrate our independence, let's remember to love one another, maintain peace and tranquillity, and share with our young generations the importance of this day.

PMRC wishes you all a Happy Independence Day.

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others”.

-Nelson Mandela-



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