

**Press Statement** 

25 May 2014

## A CALL TO ACTION ON AFRICA DAY

-Alignment of laws with the new Constitution by all relevant ministries and parliament as a priority, with civil society and the broader public exerting pressure and scrutiny

-Fostering a culture of respect for rights of all people, particularly those most marginalised and vulnerable

-Resources must be sustainably used to the benefit of all communities in Zimbabwe, particularly the most under-developed communities, and related to this, the current scourge of corruption must be meaningfully tackled and eradicated

-Inclusion of all Zimbabweans in national and local programmes, activities and discussions about our past (through an effective National Peace and Reconciliation Commission), how the country is governed, our common future, and the leadership that is required to take us forward

-Constitutionalism is key to developing common positive national values, respect for rights and strong, effective and accountable institutions

-Anti-impunity programme must be put in place to ensure all perpetrators of rights violations are held to account

-Diversity of opinion, information and thought strengthens a society - there is need to meaningfully free the media, widen access to information, and allow freedom of speech, thought, conscience, assembly and association

-Appointment of an Attorney General independent from the National Prosecuting Authority is urgent and essential

-Youth (and particularly young women) are the present and future of our nation - they need to be nurtured, and provided with meaningful opportunities to contribute to national issues for the development of our nation

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