

CHIREDZI RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME REMARKS ON THE OCCASION OF THE COMMISSIONING OF COUNCIL PROJECTS

20 APRIL 2017

Hon. Minister of Rural Development, Promotion and Preservation of National Culture and Heritage:
Cde Abednigo Ncube

Hon. Minister of State for Provincial Affairs for Masvingo Province: Cde Mahofa S.

Distinguished guests from our Head Office

The Provincial Administrator for Masvingo Province: Mr Fungai Mbetsa

Members of the Provincial Development Committee here present.

All the Political leadership here present

Our District Administrator

Fellow Councillors

Chief Executive Officers here present

Members of RDDC

Our esteemed stakeholders here present

Comrades and Friends

All protocol observed.

It gives real pleasure to welcome you to Chiredzi District, on the occasion of the commissioning of our road equipment, and other related projects. I am quite delighted that the commissioning has finally been done, after several postponements, due to circumstances beyond our control.

All of you are welcome, and I individually extend to you the freedom of our district. Enjoy the warm hospitality of our district as diverse as it is. Chiredzi district consists of two local authorities, the Town Council area where we are now, and the Rural District Council which is the bigger district area. The town is the administrative centre of the district, offering higher order goods to the rest of the district's populace.

The RDC is the main planning and development authority for the district. It is composed of 32 wards, with land use categories comprising communal, resettlement, Conservancies, National Parks, urban and Estates. The district is mainly in Region 5. It has 2 International boundaries.

With Mozambique and South Africa to the East and South –East respectively, two Provincial boundaries with Manicaland and Matebeleland South, and 5 District boundaries with Chivi, Mwenzezi, Masvingo,

Zaka and Bikita Districts. It is arguably, the biggest District in the Country in terms of geographical extent. With a population of about 280 000 (as per 2012 census projection) it is also one of the most populous Districts in the Country.

It contributes greatly in terms of the Country's economy, with sugar industry being its back bone, followed by the wildlife and tourism industry. There are also smallholder farmers, communal farmers concentrating on sorghum and other smaller grains. Cotton and citrus are also grown commercially, with cotton ginning being a notable contender.

So as you follow the proceedings taking place here today, we expect you to take part of your time to visit our several tourist attractions that include luxurious lodges and hotels like the famous Pamushana, the vast expanse of cane fields and the wild Gonarezhou National Parks and conservancies. Our District offers excellent environment for investment and potential business development. Please come back to Chiredzi for some lucrative investment deals with our several public and private institutions.

Ladies and gentlemen, my role is to welcome you to Chiredzi District. I welcome you.

Thank you.