

## **ZIMBABWE CABINET**

### **EIGHTEENTH POST-CABINET PRESS BRIEFING**

**9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2026**

Today, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2026, His Excellency the President, Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa chaired the Eighteenth Cabinet Meeting and the following issues, among others, were considered and approved:

#### **1.0 UPDATE ON THE 2025/2026 SUMMER MARKETING AND 2026 WINTER PLAN**

Cabinet noted and approved an update on the 2025/2026 Summer Crops Marketing and 2026 Winter Production Plan, as presented by the Minister of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Water Resources Development, Honourable Dr. Anxious Jongwe Masuka.

Based on the Second Round of Crop, Livestock and Fisheries Assessment Report, the country is expecting a surplus strategic grain reserve ranging between 550 945 metric tonnes and 964 945 metric tonnes. Currently, Government stocks held at the Grain Marketing Board as at 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2026 stand at 156 603 metric tonnes.

Additionally, GMB also holds a total of 70 865.60 metric tonnes, being third party grain stocks since the completion of the AI-powered silos and

subsequent offer of commercial storage services directly or through the Warehouse Receipt System.

A total of 1 928 505 hectares under maize has been harvested to date, with a volume of 2 824 110 metric tonnes. A total of 528 076 hectares of sorghum has been harvested to date, yielding 323 002 metric tonnes. A total of 56 562 hectares under soyabean has been harvested, giving 119 067 metric tonnes.

As at 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2026, a total of 127 214 metric tonnes of crops comprising maize, soyabean, sorghum and sunflower had been formally marketed, compared to the 78 265 metric tonnes marketed at the same time in 2025. There is a 63% increase in the marketed crops.

As at 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2026, GMB had settled 100% of its US\$ obligations and 82.73% of ZiG payments, with ZiG 50 192 313.52 outstanding. Transporters are still owed ZiG 192 000 000.00 from 2025.

A total of 309.795 million kg of tobacco has been sold to date, at an average price of USD 2.51/kg. This reflects a 14% increase in volume and a 25% decrease in the average price, compared to the previous seasons. Tobacco production has been on an upward trend since 2010. However, the average price has fluctuated over the years. Tobacco exports remain firm, with, cumulative tobacco exports as at 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2026 reaching 102.50 million kg valued at US\$642.61 million at an average price of US\$6.27/kg.

Sesame buying has commenced, with merchants offering producer prices ranging from US\$0.60/kg to US\$1.00/kg. To date, 17 buyers have been registered. The Agricultural Marketing Authority (AMA) has confiscated 13 000kg in Chiredzi and Mbire in an operation intended to discourage smuggling of the crop. The Zimbabwe-China Protocol for sesame is being pursued so that Zimbabwe can directly export the high value crop to China.

Regarding Wheat Production, the targeted hectarage is 125 000 hectares, out of which 113 503 hectares has been planted to date, translating to 91% of the targeted area.

Barley production remains focused on supplying the brewing industry, and a total of 7 000 hectares has been contracted.

A total of 243 850 metric tonnes of Irish potato production is expected from the 9 000 hectares planted. To date 92 400 metric tonnes has been produced from 3 300 hectares, at an average yield of 28 metric tonnes per hectare, compared to the 26 metric tonnes realised in 2025.

## **2.0 2026/2027 SUMMER CROPS, HORTICULTURE, FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION PLAN**

Cabinet noted and approved the 2026/2027 Summer Crops, Horticulture, Fisheries and Livestock Plan as presented by Honourable Vice President Gen. (Rtd.) Dr. C. G. D. N. Chiwenga as Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Food Security and Nutrition.

The 2026/2027 Summer Production Plan seeks to guarantee national food security against the backdrop of unprecedented compound pressures including the 80% probability of a Super El Nino-induced drought and heightened fuel and fertilizer prices. Cabinet adopted among others, the following measures:

- i. implementation of an enhanced Strategic Grain Reserve purchase system;
- ii. use of the new Artificial Intelligence powered-silos for enhanced Strategic Grain Reserve through strategic purchases;
- iii. accelerating Climate Smart Agriculture interventions including irrigation development and agro-ecological tailoring;
- iv. sustaining the Presidential Input Programme Gratitude collection;
- v. strengthening Early Warning and Advisory systems;
- vi. enhancing Farmer Education and Extension Services Capacity;
- vii. expediting the Sable Chemicals ammonium plant commissioning;
- viii. activating the Africa Risk Capacity sovereign insurance policy to cover drought-related losses; and
- ix. facilitating of duty-free importation of fertilizer.

### **3.0 REPORT ON THE RETREAT FOR SADC MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: 22-24 MAY 2026, SOUTH AFRICA**

Cabinet noted and approved the report on the retreat of SADC Ministers of Foreign Affairs held from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026 in South Africa, as

presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Honourable A. Murwira.

The Objectives of the Retreat were to advance the engagement and re-engagement strategy through finding solutions to the region's challenges and Pan African solidarity in line with Section 12 (2) of the Constitution.

The main focus areas of the Retreat were the following: Financing Regional Integration, Investment, Public Debt Management and Domestic Revenue Mobilisation; Industrialisation, Value Chains and Trade; Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics as well as Free Movement of People, Goods and Services; Energy, Oil, Gas and Mineral Resources; and Agriculture, Agricultural Inputs, Supply Chains and Food Security.

#### **4.0 REPORT ON THE OFFICIAL VISIT TO NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS: 3 JUNE, 2026**

Cabinet noted and approved the Report on the Official Visit by the Zimbabwean delegation to New York, United States of America for the United Nations Security Council Elections held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2026.

Cabinet noted with satisfaction, Zimbabwe's overwhelming election to the non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. The victory elevates the nation's global diplomatic standing, strengthens

African representation, and accelerates Government's international engagement and re-engagement agenda. Securing 182 out of 190 United Nations General Assembly votes represents a sweeping international endorsement of Zimbabwe's diplomatic approach. It challenges previous negative geopolitical narratives, positioning the country as a trusted partner within the multilateral system. With the victory, the two-year term will begin in earnest on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027.

The visit also provided the Zimbabwean delegation with an invaluable platform for bilateral and multilateral engagements with Member States and other strategic partners, in line with the engagement and re-engagement policy. More specifically, the platforms included the following: High-Level Open Debate of the United Nations Security Council; Meeting of Group of Friends on Global Governance; and Meetings with Kyrgystan, Portugal, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago; and Austria.

**I THANK YOU!**