

PROCLAMATION

by

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE EMMERSON DAMBUDZO MNANGAGWA, G.C.Z.M, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of Zimbabwe.

WHEREAS it is provided by section 110(1) of the Constitution that “The President has the powers conferred by this Constitution and by any Act of Parliament or other law”, including the common law relating to the prerogative powers of the President;

AND WHEREAS section 285(4) of the Constitution provides that elections of the President, Deputy President and members of the National Council of Chiefs must be conducted by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission;

AND WHEREAS the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has been notified of a vacancy in the National Council of Chiefs due to the death of Chief Ndube (Nonhlahla Sibanda), who was elected by the Provincial Assembly of Chiefs for Matabeleland South Province to sit in the National Council of Chiefs;

AND WHEREAS the filling of a vacancy is governed by section 37(5) of the Traditional Leaders Act [*Chapter 29:17*], which calls for the provincial assembly that elected such chief to the Council to elect another chief from among its members to fill the vacancy created; and

AND WHEREAS it is deemed necessary that in compliance with the provisions of section 159 of the Constitution, the provisions of Part X of the Electoral Act [*Chapter 2:13*] be applied, with any changes that may be necessary, to the filling of the said vacancy:

NOW, THEREFORE, under and by virtue of the powers vested in the President in terms of section 110(1) of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, particularly in relation to the sphere of the relationship between the President and the traditional leadership, I do hereby declare that—

Proclamation 1 of 2026

- (a) a by-election to fill the vacancy in the National Council of Chiefs for Matabeleland South Province shall be held on Saturday, 28th March, 2026, at the Government Building, Provincial Administrator's Boardroom, Gwanda, at 10 o'clock in the morning; and
- (b) the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission shall conduct the said by-election in accordance with section 285(4) of the Constitution and Part X of the Electoral Act [*Chapter 2:13*], which shall apply with any necessary modifications.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of Zimbabwe at Harare, this twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-six.

E. D. MNANGAGWA,
President.

By Command of the President.