PRESS STATEMENT BY HON J. G. MOYO MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORKS AND NATIONAL HOUSING ON THE CYCLONE IDAI DISASTER

Fellow Zimbabweans I address you today on a distressing situation occasioned by cyclone Idai. May I from the onset express my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved. May I further give assurances to the affected that efforts are being made to reach the marooned and others impacted by the effects of the cyclone.

Every attempt is being made to reach the marooned albeit the access challenges by both road and air. Low clouds combined with torrential rains and windy conditions are hampering rescue by air while the severely damaged road network has impeded access by road.

His Excellency the President E.D Mnangagwa has since befittingly declared that a State of Disaster exists in all cyclone affected areas in terms of section 27 (1) of the Civil Protection Act Chapter 10:06 of 1989. Accordingly, the acting President General (Rtd) Dr. C. N.G Chiwenga has directed that civil protection structures to undertake tasks that will give relief to the affected.
An appeal is being made to the nation, individuals, private sector and cooperating partners to support Government in responding to this catastrophe.

Whilst an exhaustive needs assessment will be undertaken when accessibility improves, in the meantime, it has been determined that the following items are required: tents, cooking utensils, plastic sheeting, water treatment tablets, clothing, blankets, food items and sanitary wear. The items can be received in Mutare at the Provincial Administrator’s office located at R. Mugabe Road corner Fourth Street or in Harare at 7th floor Makombe Building corner L. Takawira and Hebert Chitepo street. Donations in cash can be made to the National Civil Protection Fund.

I Thank you

16th March 2017