Press Statement by Hon. J. G. Moyo
Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing

Declaration of State of Disaster for the Cricket 3 and Jongwe Mining Cooperative (Formerly Silver Moon) Mining Disaster: Mhondoro-Ngezi District

Following the flooding of the mine shafts at Cricket Mine 3 and Jongwe Youth Mining Cooperative (formerly Silver Moon): Mhondoro District on 12 February 2019, where an estimated 60-70 artisanal miners are trapped, His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Cde E.D Mnangagwa has declared a State of Disaster in terms of Section 27 (1) of the Civil Protection Act, Chapter 10.06 which provides that, ‘if at any time it appears to the President that any disaster is of such a nature and extent that extra ordinary measures are necessary to assist and protect the persons affected or likely to be affected by the disaster in any area of the country, the President may, in such manner as he considers fit’, declare that, with effect from a date specified by him in the declaration, a state of disaster exists within an area defined by him in the declaration.
Currently, frantic efforts are being made to pump out the water from the flooded shafts before the retrieval of the victims. We express our profound gratitude to all corporate organizations especially Zimplats, Golden-Valley and Rio-Zim for the tremendous assistance in form of human resources and equipment rendered to the Mhondoro-Ngezi District Civil Protection Committee. However, it is clear that at Cricket 3 Mine where four (4) youths are suspected to have been trapped, it will take longer to retrieve the bodies considering the depth of the flooded mine.

An estimated cost of **US $200 000.00** is required to pump out the water, feeding bereaved families and teams on the ground, transportation and burial of the victims in their respective districts. Given the magnitude of this disaster, we kindly appeal to individuals, development partners and the corporate world for assistance in cash and kind.

All donations in kind are to be channeled to the Department of Civil Protection, 7th floor Makombe Building or District Administrator’s office (Mhondoro-Ngezi district) in Kadoma for purposes of accountability and transparency.

All donations in cash or transfers to be directed to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development account details are as follows:

Ecocash Biller Code: 140286

Bank: CBZ Bank Limited
A/C Name: CBZ Treasury 066
A/C Number 21537300017
Branch: Selous
Swift Code: COBZZWHA
Branch Sort Code: 6100

For further clarification with regards to cash donations kindly contact the Deputy Accountant General on the following details. Direct line: + 263 242 763027

Email: mkondomi@gmail.com
For any further enquiries you may contact:

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<tr>
<th>Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing (Department of Civil Protection)</th>
<th>Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Makombe Building, 7th Floor, Harare Cnr Leopold Takawira and Herbert Chitepo</td>
<td>New Government Composite Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cell: 0712236384 +263 242 791287</td>
<td>Cnr Samora Machel Ave/ Simon Muzenda Street</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Telephone: +263 763027</td>
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We would like to assure all those who will make their donations that they will be audited and accounted for to ensure that the donations will be used for the intended purpose.

In the same vein, due to some heavy downpours experienced in Chiredzi in particular and other low-lying areas, I appeal to all Civil Protection organizations as coordinated by our District Administrators and Provincial Administrators, Town Clerks, CEO’S, Town Secretaries in all local authorities in the 10 Provinces of Zimbabwe, to be on high alert. Currently, we are still assessing the extent of the damage of the floods in Chiredzi where we appeal to the Private Sector, Cooperating partners and well-wishers to assist, through our established systems, with food, fuel and other non food items.

May I also take this opportunity to appeal to all communities in low-lying areas to constantly check on their safety, heed early warning messages from responsible authorities and where possible to move to high ground.

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Hon J.G Moyo
Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing
Our Vision: Sound local governance and quality-built environment by 2030.