PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

Tuesday, 9th February, 2011

The Senate met at Half -past Two O'clock p.m

PRAYERS

(MADAM PRESIDENT in the chair)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MADAM PRESIDENT

2011 CALENDARS

MADAM PRESIDENT: May I advise hon. senators to collect their 2011 calendars from the Public Relations office at Pax House, Office No. 2, 3rd floor, South Wing.

SWITCHING OFF OF CELL PHONES

MADAM PRESIDENT: May I also remind hon. senators to switch off their cell phones at the commencement of business.

MOTION

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH: DEBATE ON ADDRESS

SENATOR CHIMBUDZI: I move the motion standing in my name;

That a respectful address be presented to the President of Zimbabwe as
follows:

May it please you, Your Excellency, the President:

We, the Members of Parliament of Zimbabwe, desire to express our loyalty to Zimbabwe and beg leave to offer our respectful thanks for the speech, which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

SENATOR KOMICHI: I second.

SENATOR CHIMBUDZI: Madam President, I would like to preface my response to the President's Speech by welcoming the candid assessment of the Nation provided by the President. The President clearly outlined our successes as a nation as well as the challenges that confront our country.

Allow me Madam President to respond to some sections of the President's Address, particularly agriculture. In his address, His Excellency, the President provided evidence that the Government of Zimbabwe has been consistent in providing measures aimed at empowering our farmers. Madam President, I would also like to acknowledge the President's concern with the level of preparedness going to agricultural seasons. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all farmers to desist from the culture of depending heavily on the government to provide them with the necessary inputs before
the start of each agricultural season.

Madam President, it is of great importance for farmers to be initiative and buy their inputs on time and to make proper use of the farm machinery supplied by the government so as to ensure greater crop production and improve our food security status. I would like to take this opportunity to call upon farmers, small scale and large scale, to rise to the challenges and complement the government's efforts towards ensuring sustainable food production. I also call upon farmers to adopt the production of various traditional small grains to complement the production of maize.

It is my hope that we, as a nation, will be in a position to see a reduction in the importation of food and witness increases in food production, supply and exports so as to be in a position to generate the much needed foreign currency. We need to restore our status as the breadbasket of the region.

**Infrastructural Development:** Madam President, infrastructure such as transportation and communication networks drive productivity and economic growth by making it easier and therefore cheaper to do business. Well maintained infrastructure fuels economic development through facilitating access to new resources and raw materials and enhancing the
mobility of final products, workers and consumers. Countrywide, our roads are in a very poor state. This problem needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency as many innocent lives are lost daily on these roads. In my constituency the project to repair the Ruya-Mukumbura road which links Mount Darwin to Mukumbura border post, has been suspended due to lack of adequate funding. The completion of the project is set to bring about a lot of economic benefits to the district as well as to the country due to improved accessibility to and from the border post.

Energy

Madam President, His Excellency the President mentioned that in this session, we will see the enactment of the Energy Regulatory Bill, which seeks to establish an Energy Regulatory Authority. I hope the introduction of this Bill will see the improvement of the energy sector. At present, Small-Scale farmers' productivity is being hampered by continuous power cuts, which disrupt the irrigation of crops. There is also need to invest in renewable energy such as solar and wind for the generation of electricity. Adequate energy provision acts as the heart of economic development. We should encourage investment by the private sector by seriously looking at the
issue of tariffs, which is one of the reasons for lack of investment in this area.

Gender Equity

Madam President, I would like to turn to the issue of equal gender representation in politics and other levels of decision making. His Excellency the President mentioned that government, through the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, is in the process of coming up with a Women's Council to co-ordinate implementation of women's empowerment programmes in this country. We also welcome the setting up of the Women's Development Fund. However, a lot still needs to be done in line with the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development. Female representation in Parliament has improved, but is still a far cry from the fifty percent target.

Madam President, in conclusion, I would like to urge all honourable Senators to work hard for the development of our nation. We should use this forum for national dialogue, where we freely express our people's concerns and offer possible solutions. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT: I would like to thank the hon. Senator Chimbudzi for introducing this very topical and very important issue
which I can call a 'core' issue. I would like to bring to the august House that Zimbabwe has approximately 6000 people whom we can categorise as commercial farmers; both newly and resettled. What I want to bring to light is that the government of Zimbabwe bought over 15 000 tractors and presently, less than 3 000 farmers have benefited. If we put 6 000 farmers and 15 000 tractors, each farmer should have got 3 tractors. Most of these farmers are using hoes, what we used to call kurima nechibhakera. It is a great concern to me and I am bound to ask; where did the 15 000 tractors go?

MADAM PRESIDENT: Thank you Senator Mudzingwa.

SENATOR CHITAKA: Thank you hon. President. Firstly I would like to congratulate Senator Chimbudzi on moving this motion and I want to commend the mover and seconder of this motion for reflecting the inclusive nature of their motions. I think we should see more motions like this one coming to this House.

This is the first President's Speech that I am sure, for the first time he was presenting and talking on behalf of all Zimbabweans irrespective of their political persuasion. For the first time in this 7th Parliament, it is the first speech that in my opinion reflected an inclusive nature of the dispensation
that we now have in both Parliament and in Government. –[AN HON. SENATOR: *Inaudible interjection*]– The speech was trying to make Zimbabwe move and work again. The speech was subsequently complimented by the Prime-Minister's government work plan which was designed...-[HON. SENATORS: *Inaudible interjections]*–

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** Order, Order, minimise your interjections please.

**SENATOR CHITAKA:** *Kana ndava kudzosera musazochema.* The speech was subsequently complimented by the Prime-Minister's government work plan which was designed to give facts and substance to the vision. –[HON. SENATORS: *Inaudible interjections]*–

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** Order, hon. members. You may continue.

**SENATOR DUBE:** On a point of order Madam President. I think we are debating on the issue that is only targeting the Presidential Speech and we do not have to give other examples.

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** Order, order, I do not hesitate because I am not presiding over a Chamber of hooligans. *Nemiwo munofanira kutaura sevanhu vanechiremera* since you are also well respected. I do not respect
interjections for the sake of interjections.

**SENATOR CHITAKA:** Thank you Madam President, my colleagues, time will come for you to listen to my speech. I was saying the President's speech was subsequently operationalised by the government's work plan as set up by the hon Prime Minister's to give effect and substance to the vision. The vision which was set up by the President was then translated into meat and born by the government work plan. Unfortunately, on hind sight since we are debating this noble speech, six months down the line, we then notice that a lot of what the President said in his speech has not materialised and some of it is being lured backwards. A lot of us had hoped that several of the Bills that were promised would be before this House but to date only a few have. I therefore urge the inclusive government to put into action what the President said in his speech. In particular, I urge that the freedoms and liberties of all Zimbabweans of all walks of life be protected. It does not help to give glowing speeches about our brothers and sisters when we fail to walk the talk and during the night we go and butcher those who do not believe in what we say.

Therefore, it is my sincere hope that when we go back, we re-read the
President's Speech and may be rededicate ourselves to what he really meant as a vision to Zimbabwe.

SENATOR DETE: Madam President, I would like to thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to present my response to the address made by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces, R.G. Mugabe on the occasion of the official opening of the Third Session of the Seventh Parliament of Zimbabwe. His Excellency touched on a number of issues affecting the day to day lives of the people of Zimbabwe.

Madam President, to touch just on a few of these issues, the President referred to:

- The people driven Constitution
- Agriculture
- Irrigation schemes
- Mining and Environment
- Media
- Women Development Fund
- National Healing
Consultative Outreach Programmes

Madam President, we have come to the end of our constitutional outreach programme, where we worked hard with total commitment. I want to thank all the outreach teams for a job well done, for working hard and achieving their goals. I want also to thank the team members for working cooperatively together as one family across the political divide.

Agriculture

Madam President, farmers are looking forward to getting their inputs for rains are already upon us. Farmers in my constituency are making a lot of noise for they need inputs as early as last month. So I am appealing to the Government to see that everything is in order soonest. We have plenty of dams in my constituency in Mazowe. These dams are just being used for fishing and less for irrigation. We can not be meaningful farmers without irrigation. I am appealing to the Minister of Agriculture to speed up with the irrigation master plan, noting also that we have boreholes that have collapsed that must be repaired.

Environment

Cases of burning of grass and cutting down of trees have to be taken to
court and deterrent punishment must be given to offenders. We need to protect our environment for future use by future generations.

**Media**

Our media must also go to remote areas and visit our people there and hear what the people say. They also want access to information.

**Women Development Fund**

I would like to thank the government for providing funds for women. However, the Minister of Finance should revisit the figures when making allocations, bearing in mind that women constitute 52% of the population.

**National Healing**

Much has to be done in order for people to participate in the national healing and reconciliation exercise. All stakeholders have to be involved and make their small committees at grassroots level. National healing and reconciliation is a very important exercise to the people of Zimbabwe. I thank you Madam President.

**SENATOR KABAYANJIRI:** Madam President, I would like to
preface my response to the President's speech by welcoming the candid assessment of the nation provided by the President. The President clearly outlined our successes as a nation as well as the challenges that confront our country.

Allow me Madam President to respond to some sections of the President's address.

**SADC**

In his address, His Excellency the President provided evidence that SADC has been consistent in providing unwavering support aimed at rebuilding our nation. Allow me to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency the President of South Africa, Jacob Zuma for his continuous support and mediation. The responsibility is now on us as Zimbabweans to remain united and work together for the development of Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe has in the past, continued to maintain and forge new strong and fruitful bilateral relations in the region.

**Constitution Making**

The Parliamentary Constitution Select Committee (COPAC) has successfully completed carrying out the nationwide constitutional outreach
programme, despite the fact that the process was delayed by financial
challenges. In the initial stages, COPAC received support from development
partners and the government also did its level best to support the process
despite having limited financial resources. I do believe that the citizens of
Zimbabwe have the capacity to continue with the constitution making process
regardless of the prevailing financial challenges.

**Stable Economic Environment**

In his address, His Excellency the President provided evidence that the
government of Zimbabwe has been consistent in providing measures aimed at
empowering our farmers. I would like to acknowledge the President's
concern with the level of preparedness going to agricultural seasons. May I
take this opportunity to encourage all farmers to desist from the culture of
depending heavily on the government to provide them with all the necessary
inputs before the start of each agricultural season.

Madam President, I would like to take this opportunity to call upon all
farmers, small scale and large scale, to rise to the challenges and complement
the government's efforts towards ensuring sustainable food production.
There is also great need for us to increase our national heard in order for us to
restore our status as the breadbasket of the region as well as a way of boosting our economy.

I also call upon the government to embark on irrigation schemes which are area specific, which focus on needs based approaches. In relation to this, there is also need to improve the billing systems of our utility companies and do away with the use of estimates which overcharge and undercharge some of the clients.

Madam President, the challenges facing our nation require urgent attention and resolve. I would like therefore to call upon all of us to support our government's initiatives to revive the economy. Zimbabwe, as we all know, is endowed with a lot of mineral resources. May I take this opportunity to urge the government to facilitate the localisation of mineral processing instead of continuing with the trend of exporting raw materials so as to maximise benefits from the mining sector.

Madam President, in conclusion, I would like to say that in the opening speech, His Excellency presented us with the challenges facing our country as well as the processes that the Government has put in place to confront these challenges. However, Government alone will not succeed in dealing
with all these challenges. I therefore encourage all hon. Senators to give serious consideration and assist the Government in alleviating these challenges. I call upon all hon. senators to work hard for the development of our nation. We should use this forum for national dialogue, where we freely express our people's concerns and offer possible solutions. I thank you.

**SENATOR MUTSVANGWA:** I want to thank Hon. Senator Chimbudzi for moving the motion on the President's speech on the official opening of the Third session of the Seventh Parliament of Zimbabwe.

The speech is another high water mark from a leader of renown at national, sub-regional renown as well as African and its diaspora. President Mugabe has also succeeded beyond any measures in projecting Zimbabwe and Africa on the international map. With the African positive economic growth bucking the negative to anemic growth in the developed world of the West, there is a palpable air of Afro-optimism that has debunked decades of pessimism. The president's speech exuded this aura of confidence about the prospects of the mother continent of humankind according to the science of genetics, the Genome project.

The President's speech covered new ground in encapsulating the
hopeful mood of the country as Zimbabwe scores one victory after another in the aftermath of the setting up of the Government of National Unity. The economy is once again growing at the enviable rate of nearly 6% per annum, a pace that will soon get into double digit. Zimbabweans, among Africa's best educated are now poised to exploit their abundant natural resources in agriculture, mining and tourism to usher in a period of manufacturing and service industrial growth at a pace that is way beyond the post independence boom and may look back to the golden years of the Great Zimbabwe glory of the Munhumutapa kings.

The President was rightly pleased about the promising prospects of the ongoing Constitution Outreach that is giving the populace an opportunity to write their own supreme law tailored to their specific national needs and characteristics. The exercise has another unexpectedly pleasant outcome. It is turning out to be a boon to the National Reconciliation Initiative. As leading figures in the Constitution’s Outreach, we are deriving ripples of pleasure in the cut and thrust of grassroots debate over major national issues. Even more exciting are resultant constructive compromises that are sure to find their way into the final product. This is an act of national building at its
The President rightly hailed the establishment as well as the wonderful on-going work of the Four Independent Commissions that are deconstructing the principal sinews of our democracy.

Mr. President, a country works at its best when all its human resources are harnessed to the supreme national effort. The idea of a Woman's Council is an idea that is as timely as it will be rewarding. It is bound to release more energy from this 52% grouping of our population leading to a new burst in the task of nation building. Zimbabwe will sure take the lead in fulfilling the SADC Gender Protocol of 50% women representation at all levels of national endeavour.

Various measures will be enacted to consolidate the very rapid recovery of our economy ushered in by the STERP programme. The improving capacity utilisation of industry, the increasing farm yields are good omens of imminent prosperity. They need to be underpinned by strong service delivery by our national utilities so that water, electricity, land transport and telephone are readily available as enablers of national economic activity.

With national savings facing challenges that are a hangover of the
financial difficulties of the recent past, the country has to redouble initiatives to attract foreign direct investment-FDI. The tantalising mineral base of bountiful diamonds, platinum, chrome, gold, coal, methane gas and other minerals are doing their bit to attract excitement from international investors. Most of these resources reserves are of a nature that would qualify the country of Global Mineral Olympic champions. Zimbabwe, with 25% to about 33% of global diamond resource is now the elephant in the rule where it collects about US$80 billion. The newspapers have been full of negative stories about surrounding attempts to inhibit Zimbabwe from selling its own diamonds. I am glad this is of the past and I urge all to take heart from the sheer size of our diamond endowment which is as intimidating to the detractors as it is enticing to the market. Such God given riches cannot be wished away. They belong to Zimbabwe. God gave them to Zimbabwe. The blues of negative publicity are soon to be of the past and we are sure on the road to the enjoyment for our long term prosperity. We have heard the President talking about it and even civil servants salaries being raised, not coming from IMF or the World bank but coming from our own resources.

Mr. President, fertile soils, no doubt about it, we do have abundance of
fertile soils in Zimbabwe, an ideal climate for that matter and all these are major attractions of foreign direct investments. Certainly those people who are serious investors will be coming to Zimbabwe. The emphasis on water saving irrigation cannot be over emphasised. With the global warming and erratic climate, it is folly to rely on natural rain in farming. We seriously need to see our irrigation improved, maybe the drip irrigation system which will not use a lot of electricity and does not use a lot of water, will enable the farmers to continue having green fields throughout the year. We need to go further and manage our crop and livestock production through our own year round calendar that is based on use of the latest ideas of affordable drip irrigation.

Zimbabwe also enjoys that voted tourist status of the seven wonders of the world – that is Victoria Falls. It is there and nobody can wish it away and it belongs to Zimbabwe. We also have the coveted Africa's Big Five animal attractions and those are world famous attractions in tourism. Again, we need to develop new resorts with an eye on the traveling Middle East class of new emerging countries like India, China and other Eastern countries.

Zimbabwe is indeed the infrastructure epicenter of the sub-region
organization which is called SADC. We are a hub of this region and it means we will have a population of over two hundred million which is a good thing for the investors. They can come here, start their businesses and sell to the rest of the region. The land transport arteries that will link Africa's south to Africa's north, the Indian Ocean littoral to and the Atlantic ocean littoral will all pass through Zimbabwe as the continent development gathers momentum. Already Zimbabwe's neighbours and regional allies Zambia and Mozambique are witnessing phenomenal investment such as the new copper ventures of the Copperbelt and the new coal mines of nearby Tete province respectively.

These exciting developments should make the attraction FDI much more easier to achieve when one factors in our well developed human resource base that can easily acquire new requisite skills.

It is in this vein that I much applaud the initiative for a new investment legislation to enable us to be a prime destination of FDI. I also want to edify the debate through the putting in place of policies and programmes that will make it easier for the Zimbabwean Diaspora to return and settle so that they can make their own contribution to national economic development. Well
crafted and focused incentives will help harness the many and varied skills they have acquired all over the shore to this noble effort.

Indeed, I would go further to call in the country to learn from the experience of other emergent economies like China, India, Brazil to adopt and improve the proven development concept of special economic zones and the one stop shop investment approval practice.

The economic benefits of our mineral resources need to be felt throughout the economy as well as by the communities that have the good luck to be in proximity to those exploited resources. It is unpalatable that a village like Selous in Mashonaland West is in intermittent darkness when it is in proximity to the everlasting light of Zimplats platinum smelter. This smirks of total absence of corporate community responsibility to the local people who will later have to live with the environmental degradation that comes with negligent mining practices.

Finally, as someone who has played her part in the telecommunications industry through the introduction of the first ever internet backbone of Zimbabwe in 1996, I am delighted by the initiatives of ushering Zimbabwe into the full and exciting age of digital communication. Suffice to say that if
the nation's knowledge base is not converted to digital format, it will not be readily usable. At the same time digital illiteracy will mean blindfolding the population out of global interaction in all spheres of human endeavour. Zimbabweans deserve better. The Senate shall play its part in fulfilling the noble initiative of the President. I thank you.

**THE GOVERNOR FOR MATABELELAND SOUTH:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 10th February 2011.

**MOTION**

**EFFECTS OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON ZIMBABWE**

Second Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe by the European Union – EU, the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (USA).

Question again proposed.

**SENATOR RUGARA:** Mr. President, fellow senators, I would like to add my humble voice on this very important debate that went on yesterday - in fact, that has been going on in our nation for quite sometime.
I want to take this time merely to make comparisons between now and the past. It looks like a number of people, including some of us, sitting here, have very short memories. I am not trying to look down upon anybody but am only trying to describe a situation that is prevailing. People having lived for 10 – 15 years under comprehensive, economic sanctions should know the difference between comprehensive sanctions and targeted sanctions – that one is a given. - [HON. SENATORS: Inaudible interjections] – Allow me to speak my mind, that is why we sit here. We do not have to be told what to say, otherwise we should not be here and we should not be representatives.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am going on. I want to take you back in history – what we experienced under the comprehensive sanctions, comprehensive is the term that I am going to stress upon, comprehensive, economic sanctions - they did a lot of things. The private citizens could not travel at all because they were under sanctions, but today, I do not have to mention that if you went to London, to Brisbane, to Washington DC, walk on the streets and speak one word in Shona and say, mhoroi. You will hear someone say, ah mabvepi?, which means our people have traveled. Today's national travel documents are attainable anywhere in the world. During the
economic sanction days, we could not travel beyond South Africa, that was working in cahoots with Ian Smith.

I know, if you were old at the time, you would have to go through an intricate way of getting a passport which was going to be a British passport because Ian Smith's passports could not be accepted, but today, our national Zimbabwean passport is accepted everywhere. Would you say that, that is comprehensive sanctions? I say no, no, no – there is a difference. I think, what we miss here is to see the tree from the forest or vice versa. We are crowding issues which should not be – what we have to see is to see the issue as it is. I have also heard people say that Zimbabwe will not be a colony again. - [AN HON. SENATOR: Inaudible interjections] – Allow me to speak my mind because I am free to say that and then I say, has that person been to the Kopje or has that person opened his/her pocket or purse to see how much economically this country is colonized? We are using the United States dollar which is the same thing as when we were a colony – we were using the British Pound. I say, do we see anything here? - [HON. SENATORS: Hear, hear] – because surely fellow senators … [SENATOR MARUMAHOKO: Those are strong facts!] - They are facts of life. Everyone here, you take
some money from your pocket – it has some American images, George Washington and all that yet you still believe you are not economically colonised – then you have got your reasoning upside down.

Take a walk to the Kopje, hear the languages that are spoken there – it is either Chinese or Nigerian and nothing else. Look at what you are buying there – that is economic colonisation. If you did not see it, know it now that we are still colonised and therefore, we must work to remove these shackles of colonialism because they go very far. Allow me to continue a little on those comparisons so that we can see the picture sharply and more clearly because we are clouded by political adage, political slogans, they do not bring food on the table. What brings food on the table is actually getting something done, something that is positive, something that is Zimbabwean, not foreign. I hate it - I lived in America for 10 years and I used the United States Dollar and when I came back home, I felt I was wrong, only to find the dollar is hanging on top of my head, that is terrible. So economically, I am not in Zimbabwe. Economically, all of us are operationally working in America. The next, after taking a walk to the Kopje, I said, are we in China and what part of China, are we in Nigeria, is it in Abuja or in some other
Ladies and gentlemen, we cannot be proud of that. What we have done really, in practice, is removing the British and replacing them with the Americans, Chinese and the Nigerians and they are our colonisers economically. If you want to refuse that, do so and then you will not have food on the table. What are you going to use to buy, you should use the American money to buy and you are a colony, mentally, practically and otherwise.

Mr. President, fellow senators, we have to do a few things. I would want to conclude and leave you with all these comparisons and nothing more than that. I have here listed a few things that I want to call stops, the things we must stop in order to move forward as Zimbabwe and develop as a nation. We are so much happy and gratified by saying we are sovereign, sovereignty does not mean economic subservience, it does not. That is not what I know, check in your dictionary if you want, it does not mean that. I want us to stop, first the violence that is disturbing the progress. I would want to say perhaps, those who are destroying the Chinese business area are trying to say that violently we do not want this. That is what they are saying, they are acting it,
they are not talking about it but are acting it. So, please let us stop the violence from wherever it comes. Violence does not mean physical violence only, there is verbal abuse which is violent, let us stop that and be gentlemen and ladies. That is the first stop.

Stop election fever, election syndrome where when people hear there is going to be an election, they are already in the electioneering gear to beat up opponents. That electioneering syndrome which is negative and violent, please let us stop it. This House – I do not want to call it august House because it is not doing much to stop it. Some of us are encouraging that, perhaps it is because they want to survive, if they were not violent, they would not be around. - [laughter]-

Ladies and gentlemen, fellow senators, I want to propose yet another stop. Stop the corrupt tendencies, whether in mind or in practice. This community, this nation is culturally corrupt, I want to say that – [SENATOR MARUMAHOKO: Culturally?] - Culturally yes because when corruption starts from the top, then you ask, we are the top, if you are corrupt, what about the 20 000 people who you represent? In my case, I represent more than that, my constituency, I have people who voted me and they are 22 000.
Some people who make so much noise about anything do not even have a vote, perhaps the one vote they have is their vote..

**THE GOVERNOR FOR MASHONALAND CENTRAL:** On a point of order. I am appealing to the contributing senator to confine himself to the proposed motion.

**SENATOR RUGARA:** I am sorry if it hurts, but when you are hurt, you will probably forgive me. I am sorry if it hurts somebody but I am trying to point out..

**THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:** The hon. senator should mention what is out of order.

**THE GOVERNOR FOR MASHONALAND CENTRAL:** I have been following up his speech, it looks as if he has diverted from the motion which is the issue of sanctions. He is now into issues to do with corruption, election fever and whatever. In my understanding, I think that has nothing to do with the current motion.

**SENATOR RUGARA:** I will continue and my thought of line is very clear. If you think again, you will find that all the stops I have mentioned will amount to our seeing sense and seeing that sanctions are not targeted
restrictions.

Lastly, before I stretch in other people's houses, I want to say again, stop sloganeering and jingling. You know, those attract hate.

Mr. President, finally I would like to thank the mover of this motion because he has made us think and try to see sense. We must all try to see sense and walk the talk and nothing else. Thank you very much.

THE GOVERNOR FOR MATABELELAND SOUTH: Thank you Mr. President. I would like to thank the mover of the motion Senator Georgias and the seconder Senator Dete. Mr. President, this motion, I am sorry that it makes people emotional. Mr. President, one of the hon. members who was debating now found it unnecessary for us to talk about senators in this august House. I want to say Mr. President, because we are concerned about what is happening on the ground, because these sanctions may be called in different names, like targeted sanctions, comprehensive, restrictive measures and so forth and so on, but they are sanctions. Who are these sanctions targeted at? I want to say they are targeted at Zimbabweans. They are targeted at the poor child, they are targeted at the poor woman, the poor man on the ground and the members who are in this House as well.
Mr. President, I would like to say Zimbabwe is a sovereign state. Being a sovereign state, it is not to be told by any other sovereign state how to deal with its matters. I have been hearing people Mr. President saying that these sanctions came about because there has been mentioning about other things that have been waiting until Zimbabweans take their rightful place of taking what belongs to them, to the majority of Zimbabweans which is land. I would want to find out Mr. President, whether hon. members who are in this august House were not affected by the Land Apportionment Act which was meant to deprive black Zimbabweans of their right to land? If they were not affected, lucky them. I am saying that because my parents were victims of that. I want to say history repeats itself. If Mr. President, having our land back, Zimbabweans have to be punished for that, that punishment one day will turn to be a blessing to them.

These so called targeted sanctions; when you look at the development that was taking place before these sanctions were called for, you would not be surprised to say the colonisers were not amused about how Zimbabwe was developing because as their colony, as somebody had said never in a thousand times, but in not less than 20 years, Zimbabwe had developed to
more than other countries that attained their independence before Zimbabwe, let alone mentioning the schools, clinics and so forth. I want to say just a fact, a reality, the education system in Zimbabwe was meant for a certain group of people. That is why there was one university, but because our President realised that Zimbabweans are a nation like any other nation in the world, how many universities were established before the sanctions, but here we are. I am talking like that because in my province, that is Matabeleland South, we were working together with government on the establishment of a state university, but because of sanctions, it has not been to reality, like in other two provinces, which is Mashonaland East and Manicaland.

If it were not for sanctions, each province would be having its state university. Are those universities for those targeted people or those universities are for our children? Is it not a deprivation of education for our children? I wonder how people view it. Why I am saying these sanctions are targeted to the poor people; I will look at our road network. Look at our infrastructure. If I would mention a few that could have been completed in my province, if it were not sanctions, those who come from the province even if they are on the other side of the table, they know that there are
projects that were started by our government which would have been completed throughout the country. Now here we are, because our government cannot get lines of credit like any other country. I wonder how hon members see it. Countries who have imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe are countries who think they are champions of human rights. To them Mr. President, the suffering of the people of Zimbabwe is what they call human rights.

I believe that to them a black person, I want to repeat that; to them if a black person is not suffering that is a violation of his or her own rights, but if the black person is suffering that is what is called human rights. People in Zimbabwe Mr. President, are not lazy people, they are not interested in handouts. I am surprised to hear people who are talking about some funding that is said to come through the NGOs and not through the government. I am surprised which of this funding will leave Zimbabwe being proud, except that this funding is given as handouts called humanitarian. What is humanitarian? People of Zimbabwe want to work for themselves. They do not want a collapsed infrastructure, they want their rural network so that they can be able to access their markets. They do not want these handouts. If Zimbabwe had its right like any other country to have lines of credit,
Zimbabwean people would be smiling now.

Mr. President, I am surprised because some of these countries believe that Zimbabwe is not a safe destination. They are talking of things like rule of law and of many other things. If Zimbabwe is not a safe destination – I have experience in my province where even without the authorities in that province knowing that there are people in that province, you hear that there is so and so in the province and they are giving out food or whatever and they go down in the rural areas. So if Zimbabwe is not a safe destination, how do they travel to each and every corner of Zimbabwe as and when they want? When we are talking of Zimbabwe, we should all think like Zimbabweans and not think as if we are foreigners because Zimbabwe got its independence in 1980 and it is here to stay – [HON. SENATORS: Hear, hear] – so for people to say this and that about the Chinese – if you go to the United States, there is China Town, why? If the Chinese can invest and have businesses in the United States of America, why can they not invest in Zimbabwe? It is unfortunate Mr President that there are people – [HON. SENATORS: Inaudible interjections] – Mr. President, I need protection because I take great exception.......
SENATOR CHITSA: On a point of order Mr. President. I think the hon. senator has diverted from talking about sanctions and now she is talking about businesses.

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is no point of order.

THE GOVERNOR FOR MATABELELAND SOUTH: Mr. President, sanctions are affecting our education system, our health system and the whole of our economy, that is why I am concerned about businesses. Not taking a lot of hon. senators' time, I urge all Zimbabweans to think and act like Zimbabweans. We are here today, tomorrow it is our children and the day after tomorrow, it is our great grand children, what will they think about us if we leave them under such a situation. I want to urge other senators, as Zimbabweans to put aside our differences as Zimbabwean family and call upon the withdrawal of sanctions. For Zimbabwe to prosper, it is Zimbabweans to make it prosper.

SENATOR KOMICHI: Thank you Mr. President. I want to start by thanking the mover of the motion for she has provided us with the platform to educate each other. It is paramount and very important for the other side of the House to listen very carefully and accept education on this topic. I would
like to start by saying one of the most important items that was raised in the motion is that the restricted sanctions were imposed because of the land. I would want to remind senators that the Zimbabweans from all political divides, the MDC’s and the ZANU PF, went into negotiations and signed the GPA which was signed by our three principals. One of the statement which is there is that land is irreversible and we all believe that. So it will be false to say that those people who had targeted sanctions on us are punishing us for taking land because as Zimbabweans we know that land is ours.

Again, I would like to remind hon. senator that the businesses in this country are trading across the whole world and the statistics are showing that goods send to America have actually doubled for the past three years, which means trade is there. So I disagree with that statement that says we have targeted restricted sanctions against some people in this country who are hardly less than 200. It is their businesses I think, which are targeted and themselves as persons that are targeted but the country at large is not targeted. The people of Zimbabwe are free to trade and do business with anyone of their choice. I think, what we must all believe and agree as leadership is to look at the root cause analysis rather than concentrating on making noise and
shouting about the symptoms. We are dwelling on symptoms rather than looking at the root cause. We have been given the opportunity to correct ourselves when we signed the GPA. That was the opportunity to correct everything that could be affecting us today but we have refused.

I want to remind people that sovereignty does not mean to be solitary, sovereignty today is intertwined because of the effect of globalisation. There is no way you can live in an island alone without talking to the other neighbour. That also applies to other levels of the country, there is no way you can do business alone, manufacture, dig diamonds and gold and sell to yourselves. We cannot do that. We dig and fetch diamond for ourselves and trade with Mozambique. If we do that, we should not forget that Mozambique is also a sovereign country, which means there must be communication between the two countries. We are living in a global village and must be sensitive to the feelings of our neighbours. We are being judged as Zimbabweans.

Whilst we say that we are a sovereign country, do we also recognise that there are other countries that are also worried about what we do in this country? If I know that flies are following me and if I continue to chase
away flies - as long as I have something that flies want on my back, the flies will follow me wherever I go. The only time that I will be free from the flies is when I wash myself. My fellow senators, Zimbabweans must wash their linen, something is wrong. I would like to hint to you on the things that are in the GPA. I want to prescribe the medicine for the Zimbabweans.

Let us have tolerance among ourselves. If we tolerate the political diversity in this country, it will be one tick down towards the removal of what we are calling targeted sanctions. We should stop wanton violence. Two and a half years into GPA, we still have hooligans that are moving with knobkerries, knives and guns in the city of Harare.

I want to remind you, the world today, Senator Georgias, is under satellite monitoring. The technology under ICT, you do anything under a tree, you will be picked up by the satellite. By yesterday, the international world watched the ZANU PF Youth’s wanton, marauding, picking up things and stealing things, we are judged by that. Nobody would phone China or Nigeria but under satellite monitoring, the Nigerians now know that their own kids in this country lost their DVD's and cell phones. We now live in the hi-tech age, we cannot hide what we do. Go anywhere, you
will be seen. It is not Senator Chitaka who has phoned China or Nigeria, it was the satellite because we are now a village, let us stop the violence. In the last 3 months there has been a survey where businesses cried about elections and saying no to elections.

All non-activists in this country want elections but they are afraid of them. They are afraid of elections because elections in Zimbabwe means death, rape, means violence and beating. Stop the militarisation of the villages. Go into the village, there is a soldier there with a shotgun in his pocket. Do any election preparation, you are shown a shotgun.

**SENATOR MAKUNDE**: On a point of order, is the senator sure that there is a soldier with a gun in every village in Zimbabwe?

**THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT**: Overruled

**SENATOR KOMICHI**: If we implement the GPA in its entirety today, the so called targeted sanctions will fall off automatically. If we implement those items, automatically there will be no targeted sanctions, that is the medicine. At the moment, there is no rule of law in this country whilst we have kids of 2 weeks old in cells in Mbare, non of those people who beat those kids are arrested. The people who are in the cells at the moment are a
prescribing medicine to the problem.

**SENATOR MANDABA:** On a point of order, the motion is on sanctions and not on violence. [HON SENATORS: *Inaudible interjections*]-

**SENATOR KOMICHI:** I have a list of solutions as a doctor and a solution to the problems, listen carefully. This country requires the freedom of the Judiciary. If the judiciary system is free, it will say on its own. If we give our police the freedom to act accordingly and arrest the violence perpetrators, this country will get the credit. If we make our state agents non-partisan, we will get credit as a country. If we stop using the media, ZTV, ZBC as a party organ and make it a national organ, we will have credit to this country. We do not have a choice hon. senators, we seem to agree that we cannot live without the help of the European, is it true? So, as Zimbabweans, let us implement the GPA, which we signed ourselves. The GPA has the signature of the State President, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister and without that being implemented, we will continue to cry. Thank you President.

**SENATOR MAKORE:** Thank you very much Mr. President. I want to start by thanking Senator Georgias for this important motion which he raised.
I want to compare two schools of thought. First of all, this country was colonized by the British and that was the main factor. As a result, there was a protracted war through which we now attained our independence. There are reasons why we went to war. We were seeking for our independence and we were seeking for our freedoms of expression, justice and association. This was a national project and the credit goes to all Zimbabweans, irrespective of parties that were so much active during that time. I particularly know that all that struggle was being waged by ZANU, ZAPU and all other independent persons who were the sons of the soil.

We got this independence as a project for parties that we wanted peace, prosperity and justice; we wanted equality and our freedoms. Senator Georgias, the reflection is very clear. When we get this independence we were very cognisant of the fact that the country was being ruled by the minority whites and we wanted the rule of the majority to take place and in the rule of the majority, we do not like to reapply some other values like that somebody is more important than the other, because that can undermine the equality and justice that we all fought for.

Because of the element where a few individuals, despite them being
black, taking over the same elements where the few individuals are more important than the other majority of the people, this undermines the independence. We understand there are those sanctions and we can call them and define them such as was defined by the government in any formula, but the purpose is, there is something else which we are missing.

That goes back to the first school of thought. I know how people were beaten by the Smith government. We participated in that and it was hurtful. Everyone was cursed overnight. If we see these elements coming again, this is where you will see the uprising coming about and this is where other countries begin to question our independence. We are not pointing fingers at each other, but we want everyone of us to view this with a mature and proper vision. We might cry and have squabbles here, but we will not deliver. We have to live a history to our people. A history of equality, justice; you name it.

I believe it is our right as Zimbabweans that elections should not be a war but a platform for choosing the leadership in our country. The credit of this independence does not go to an individual, so the ownership of the independence is not with the person or persons but with the entire Zimbabweans. These are the owners of this independence. We need to see
that expressed right on the ground and I know these targeted measures could hurt this country but nothing is inflicted on the nation which does not have its own consequences in terms of its effects, but be positive when looking at other areas. We are a blessed country with abundant resources which are of a wide variety. We talk of gold, diamond, platinum, coal, it is almost like somebody said that you do not carry coal to Newcastle. We have rich soils, the land. We have resources and such was mentioned in the earlier debate by one such permanent debater here. I do not want to mention the name. She knows herself. If we bind our resources and turn to production of the highest level, we can make Zimbabwe work again.

We must look at the positive and the negative. If we confine ourselves into negatives, we will not move. There are countries which experienced the same problems back like Rhodesia. You know the value of the dollar which we had when we got our independence. We did not know what a Rand was and the Pula. A pound was close to 80c of our currency. Talk of India, Libya, China who have been in the same predicament. When we talk of issues, we must not confine ourselves to partisan interests. We must project longer visions so that we emerge as a people. We do not want to be cry babies, we
are old. When I am seated here, sometimes I seem to be shy because of some contributions because I assume that the people in here are mature and we must set up reasonable ways to express our views.

I am calling for greater accountability where people pronounce corruption like a cancer because it is just existing in our cultures. Right now we have people who are doing qualitative jobs and they are not being paid because there is no money. We can not grow our factories and we can not productively utilize the land that we have. That is why, if you move in this country you will notice gapes and these are challenges to yourself. If you are a citizen of this country start with yourself. Are you producing or you are not. You should not blame anybody - when change comes, it is noticed and people will therefore benefit from the economy. It must not be a two way nor one way process.

**THE GOVERNOR FOR MATABELELAND SOUTH:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Tuesday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} February, 2011.

*On the motion of THE GOVERNOR FOR MATABELELAND*
SOUTH, the House adjourned at Twenty-Two Minutes past Four O'clock p.m.