

UNITED PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE (UPP)



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*Responses to the Good Country Questions for Possible Support
from the Good Country Membership Around the World*

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1.0 Preamble

I stand for President of the Republic of Zambia on the United Progressive People (UPP) ticket not as an ordinary person who wants to lead the country out of petty ambition, but as a man with a vision for Zambia and the community of nations. I stand for President as a man with a mission and a cause to direct the destiny of my country in the proper direction or trajectory for the benefit of not only Zambians but also the citizens of the world as well. We live in era of rising inequality that has assumed a momentum of its own around the world. It is my mission to even the odds that are heavily stacked against the ordinary citizens of the world.

Top on my agenda is human security in the world. The emerging concept of human security is a powerful revolutionary idea that forces a new morality on all through a perception of common threats to human survival. It is a concept which is emerging not from the learned writings of scholars, but the daily concerns of people themselves; from the dread of a woman that she may be raped in a lonely street at night; from the anguish of parents over the spreading drugs among their children, from the choked existence of prosperous communities in increasingly polluted cities, from the fearful suddenness with which terrorism can strike any life anywhere without any reason.

Therefore, global human security is basically a people's concept and a people's concern. It is reflected in the shrivelled faces of the innocent children, in the anguished existence of the homeless, in the constant fear of the jobless; in the silent despair of those without hope. I want to become a global leader who shall give hope to the world community.

2.0 Responses to the Good Country Questions

2.1 My Vision for Zambia's Role in the World

As President of Zambia, my vision is to reposition Zambia in the Community of Nations to collectively meet the tidal waves of challenges that incessantly pound on the Global Agenda from every part of the spectrum of human need and endeavour in the 21st century.

Issues of disarmament, environment (global warming), human rights, poverty eradication, HIV/AIDS, human trafficking, child labour, human conflicts in various parts of the globe, large-scale displacements of civilian populations, cybercrime, contemporary forms of racism, crimes of honour against women, the nexus of drug trafficking and many other such weightier issues, all of which transcend national boundaries require that Zambia plays her part under my Presidency.

A myriad of States is exercising military, economic, diplomatic, cultural and technological power in various continents. I believe that, together, we can face the realities of these challenges while being cognisant of the fact that the pace of these challenges is relentless.

To actualise this vision, I shall lead my country in working within the inter-governmental organisational arrangements that state members engage in for conversations or narratives, not in monologues, to tackle structural issues on the global agenda that have disowned respect for national boundaries. I shall also create a platform to work with various independent organisations that work towards a better world for all.

In the main, I shall ensure that Zambia regains her leadership status in international diplomacy in Southern Africa and a force for good in Africa and the world stage. I shall place high premium on having best relations with all countries in the world. ***I believe that peace anywhere in the world is peace everywhere in the world.***

2.2 What I will Do for the World as President of Zambia

I will work at the following three levels:

1. Intergovernmental Framework

- (a) I will innovatively lead my country to contribute to any international effort designed to enhance world peace and security. Hence, I will utilise international fora such as the United Nations, World Treaty Organisation, Commonwealth; African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States in our interaction with the Brussels-based European Union; African Union, Non-Aligned Movement and regional organisations like Southern African Development Community and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa. I will ensure that my government makes contributions through the following mechanisms:
- (i) Sending Zambian troops for peace keeping missions anywhere in the world;
 - (ii) Making financial, human and material contributions towards poverty eradication, reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation and enhancing carbon stocks, ending human trafficking, etc; and
 - (iii) Speaking as a voice of conscience to fellow presidents and world leaders on issues that affect humanity in the world; and
 - (iv) Lobbying and campaigning for gender mainstreaming and equal opportunities for women in intergovernmental organisations.
- (b) I will lead my government in joining the international community to fight the blood thirsty scourges plaguing international peace and security. I am gravely concerned with the rising spectre of terrorism in the world. To this end, I am aghast at the spectre of terrorism sponsored in the Middle East by Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) or Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and the emergence of terrorist groups like Boko Haram in Nigeria and Al Shabaab in Somalia;
- (c) I shall be an advocate for the reformation of the United Nations. The UN enjoys the unassailable credential of internationalism, and provides an independent voice in global affairs for all. The United Nations is ground-zero for, and crucible of, multilateral diplomacy and diplomatic activism. It stands unequalled as the primordial international public service institution to play host to the citizens of the world in their test of joint statesmanship. Thus, as President, I shall ensure that Zambia's article of faith in the United Nations is derived from the world body's efficacy as well as the Charter as indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.

Since its inception, the United Nations has played its role in various fields of human endeavour with remarkable success, but it could do far more if it were to be more adapted to the needs and circumstances of the 21st Century, and be uprooted from the smallness of the 1945 politics in which the UN was created by 52 countries. The United Nations was designed for a different world, less complicated world. I therefore note that the UN does not fully reflect the inter-governmental realities of the current age with a membership that has almost quadrupled to 193 countries. It must reform on a larger scale in order to remain a vital force in international politics.

Admittedly, the United Nations has undergone the process of reform in several areas but the remaining area, namely, the Security Council, is where the reform is most needed. The Security Council should, in terms of size and balance, be broadly representative of the realities of power in the modern world, much less the organic growth of membership. This calls for re-shaping the United Nations in ways not previously imagined, and with a boldness and speed not previously shown. I shall campaign for these reforms for the benefit of all the citizens of the world.

- (d) I shall strategically apply multilateral diplomacy to campaign for fairness in global trade opportunities. The aim will be to get the WTO regime to enact an equitable solution in which benefits of free trade will be extended to all the least developed countries. Unless least developed countries are convinced that globalisation truly does benefit them, the backlash against it will become irresistible. That would be a tragedy for both least developed and developed countries. I will advocate for equity in the WTO framework. For millions and millions of poor people, this could make the difference between their present misery and a decent life;
- (e) I will provide leadership to campaign against the arms race. Disarmament and international security are critical elements in the global strategy for world peace and security. Steps aimed at reducing the level of arms and curbing their proliferation not only makes the world a safer place by reducing the propensity for conflict, but also lessen the temptation for States to embark on costly run away arms races. The work of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation (NPT) regime is, therefore, of paramount importance. The unequivocal undertaking by the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, a reinvigorated effort to halt the global spread of nuclear weapons and a strengthening of the standards of governing the peaceful use of nuclear energy – all issues crucial to the security of the world citizenry, shall be my focus.

My government shall support global efforts to urge the pursuance of a general and complete disarmament in all its manifestations---nuclear and conventional, without let. General and Complete Disarmament would release billions and billions of finite resources currently spent on the arms race to be ploughed into humanitarian causes of socio-economic and infrastructural development. Thus, the opportunity cost of the arms race would benefit the common citizenry of the countries thus disabused of the arms race. That is the way of banishing the poverty of the arms race; and

- (f) I shall contribute to peace initiatives in the Middle East. The politics and diplomacy of the Middle East are of continuing common interest to all nations that cherish world peace and security. Its importance is defined by oil on which much of the world depends for energy. It is the heart beat of the world's industrial complex in its largest sense. Its problem(s) is defined by the age-old Arab – Israeli conflict whose core is the unresolved issue of Palestine.

As President of Zambia, I shall lead my government in creating the first ever international diplomacy initiative for peace and economic development. The initiative called New Initiative for Africa and Middle East Development (NIAMED) will be pioneered by my government and promoted within the African Union framework. The aim of the initiative will be to “Open a Highway of Peace and Development” from Cape-Cairo-Jerusalem. This initiative will seek to bring understanding and promote co-existence among all faiths (Jews, Christians, Moslems, Hindus, etc) so that Africa and the Middle East can focus on what is good for the people and this will eventually bring about the free movement of the people and goods from Cape-to-Cairo and Cairo-to-Jerusalem.

2. Governmental Framework

Since independence, Zambia has spent huge amounts of tax payers' money to support the following efforts, but not limited to:

- ✓ Political liberation of many African countries in SADC;
- ✓ Negotiation of peace between warring nations in Africa; and
- ✓ Setting up of refugee camps.

Therefore, I will lead my government in creating the first ever agency which will seek to put Zambia and Africa on the world map in efforts to give aid. Africa is known for receiving aid, but this must change – Africa must also learn to give within the limits of its potentialities and capacities. The agency which I will create shall be called the Zambia Agency for International Cooperation (ZAIC). This way, I shall implement a focused aid programme through which all contributions shall be channelled to support various interventions that are within Zambia's capacity to implement for the benefit of the needy around the world. The programme areas of ZAIC shall include:

- ✓ Sending Zambian professionals as volunteers to offer technical support to other countries that need technical assistance for accelerated development;
- ✓ Food aid to hunger stricken countries;
- ✓ Refugee support initiatives;
- ✓ Interventions to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation; and
- ✓ Initiatives to end human trafficking.

ZAIC will undertake some of the projects through local and international civil society organisations that shall be contracted to implement projects in foreign nations.

3. Individual Level

At individual level, I shall work passionately towards leaving a lasting legacy as the first leader in Africa to break away from the culture of building personality cults of "strong man" to a new culture of building strong institutions of democracy that put the destiny of nations in the hands of the people.

I shall open the door to international activists so that we can work together to make our world a better and safer place for everyone everywhere. To this end, I shall ensure that I am available to support progressive initiatives in my capacity as President and the citizen of the world.

3.0 Conclusion

It is evident from my submission that I shall seek to harness Zambia's collective bounty to achieve the highest prospects in all the fields of human endeavour, including foreign policy and the instrumentality of diplomacy. I shall, therefore, implement a well-focused foreign policy as the basis for rekindling of Zambia's vibrancy and hope so that our nation can once again play a leadership role that is all too familiar to us, and all too befitting to us, and all too essential to the world at large.

The main issue at stake for the entire world now is to invent new peace, democracy, international security and development paradigms that take into account the socio-cultural realities of nations, as well as the increased uncertainties in all spheres of human activities. Critical to this process, is the need to build and sustain democracy as a prerequisite to peace, security and development.

Building peace and democracy calls for examination of culture, structures and institutions of society, asking whether the problem lies in "faults in the system or the faultiness of the system". Culture and structures are interactive. Therefore, the current threat and difficulty must be transformed into challenge, cooperation and growth. New problems can be solved by individuals and institutions learning new attitudes and behaviours and acting in a spirit of solidarity and cooperation. Along with actions at the level of local and national institutions, actions on an international scale must be used to promote and pursue democracy, peace and international security for a secure and stable work.

This is my statement of belief and social contract to the world that shall define my leadership when I become President of the Republic of Zambia.