

**Key Note Speech During the Launch of the Christian Churches Monitoring  
Group Strategic Plan 2022-2026**

**Held on 30th June, 2022 at Taj Pamodzi Hotel - Lusaka**

**Delivered by: Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Chikoya- CCMG Steering Committee Chairperson**

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**CCMG Steering Committee Members**

**Caritas Zambia Executive Director**

**The Country Director- Diakonia**

**Government Officials and Representatives of Government Institutions**

**Cooperating Partners**

**Representatives of Political Parties,**

**Representative of the Electoral Commission of Zambia**

**Civil Society Organisations represented here**

**The Media**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, all protocols observed**

It is my singular honor and privilege to preside over the launch of the first ever Christian Churches Monitoring Group CCMG strategic plan for the period 2022 to 2026.

I congratulate CCMG upon achieving this key milestone which is a testament to how far this project has come since its inception when the church mother bodies came together in 2014 to give birth to what we are witnessing today. Since its inception CCMG has continued to grow from strength to strength it is my strong belief that this strategic plan shall support CCMGs mandate to strengthen genuine democratic electoral processes and encourage citizen participation in

democratic governance in Zambia through civic and voter education, non-partisan election monitoring, research and documentation, electoral reforms advocacy and capacity building of civil society organizations in democracy, elections and governance. In line with our vision for *A Just and Democratic Society*.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

I take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting CCMG in development of this strategic plan, Specifically, I extend my most sincere and special appreciation for the immense technical and financial support from our development partners towards the preparation and launch. It is our sincere hope that this Strategic Plan will fulfil the expectations of the CCMG Network members, staff, cooperating partners and the Nation at large. It is my expectation that this strategic plan shall guide CCMG to offer broader solutions to existing gaps in the electoral legal framework through advocacy on electoral reforms. This strategic plan server as a link between CCMG and government institutions. Their role will be to avail information to the programmes, provide policy guidance and trainings as well as to participate in the planned activities. On the other hand, these linkages provide us an opportunity to inform and influence government policies and decisions on the electoral processes.

### **Distinguished Guests**

This strategic plan takes into account possible networking and collaboration efforts with like-minded organisations and networks. The collaboration with these organisations is twofold; sharing of good practices and joint actions on commonly agreed activities.

The media is another key stakeholder in the life of the CCMG strategic plan. Your involvement throughout this strategic plan will be to provide CCMG with an opportunity for mass communication and building a critical mass of people advocating on electoral and governance issues that affect them.

And Lastly, my job here would be incomplete without appreciating the Civil Society Organisations, Non State Actors and government institutions and the Academia for supporting and collaborating with CCMG from inception. Our journey together is just starting. There is still more work to be to be if we are to achieve a Just and democratic Zambian Society.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is now my pleasure to officially launch the 5-year strategic plan, 2022-2026 for CCMG. God bless Zambia, God bless you all